



INTEREST GROUPS - DECEMBER 2025

Introduction to Interest Groups

The RWTO Mississauga branch is very active, with several interest groups.

We have much to offer, including groups such as beading, book club, bridge, duplicate bridge, euchre, bid euchre, gardening, genealogy, knitting, luncheon, Scrabble, walking, and Mahjong. Some interest groups are quite popular and have several subgroups—there are eight book clubs! Interest groups are a great way to meet new people and feel part of the organization. We are always looking to start new groups when we get enough members to sign up.

If anyone is interested in joining, inquiring if a space has opened up, or starting up a new interest group, please email Interests Group Convenor Clara G.

A sincere thanks goes to the 31 group convenors who have taken on the leadership roles needed to keep our organization active.

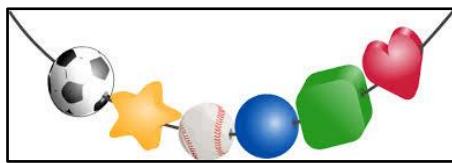
Clara Gigliotti (Interests Group Convenor)

INTEREST GROUPS "AT A GLANCE" - DECEMBER 2025

BEADING 1	Cynthia V.		
BOOK 2	Shelley D.		
BOOK 4	Jennifer R.		
BOOK 5	Sandra R.		
BOOK 7	Patti L.		
BOOK 8	Joanne K.		
BOOK 9	Janice M.		
BOOK 10	Bibi D-B.		
BOOK 11	Joanne J.		

BRIDGE 3	Dolores W.		
BRIDGE 5	Ann-Marie B.		
BRIDGE 7	Mary T.		
BRIDGE 8	Anne D.		
BRIDGE 10	Nancy S.		
BRIDGE-DUPLICATE	Judy D.		
BRIDGE-ROUND ROBIN	Margaret G.		
EUCHRE 1	Janet H.		
EUCHRE 6	Linda M.		
EUCHRE BID 1	Mary Y.		
EUCHRE BID 2	Bev S.		
GARDENING 1	Nermin F.		
GARDENING 2	Shirley D.		
GENEALOGY	Barbara G.		
GOLF	Linda H.		
KNITTING 1	Clara G.		
KNITTING 2	Elizabeth S.		
LUNCH 2	Michele R.		
LUNCH 4	Barb R.		
MAHJONG (AMERICAN)	Deb H./ Margaret G.		
SCRABBLE	Linda M.		
WALKING	Carole A.		

INTEREST GROUPS "IN DETAIL" - DECEMBER 2025



Beading #1

Convenors: Cynthia V.

When: Mornings (9:30 a.m.), every 1st Thursday of the month, September to June

Where: Each member takes a turn in hosting at her home.

Details: We have past projects to show as examples. Please feel free to bring any project ideas you may have.

Open for more people? Yes!

Pics of us:



Some of the beading work we have done





Book Club #2

Convenor: Shelley D.

When: Afternoons (between 12 noon and 1:00 p.m.), 2nd or 3rd Monday of the month, September to June.

Where: At Swiss Chalet in south Mississauga (2155 Leanne Boulevard).

Details: We are seven ladies. Members each recommend books in September that can be readily obtained from the library, a list is created, we vote on our top 5 choices and create our yearly list. If a person's book is selected, they are responsible for leading the discussion. Otherwise, people are randomly assigned to be the leader. We spend a lot of time discussing events in each other's lives—and discussing the book. It is not as serious or hardcore as I have heard book clubs can be.

Books we have chosen: We seem to focus on strong female leads. The Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon, The Dictionary of Lost Words by Pip Williams, Ragged Company by Richard Wagamese, The Teacher by Freida McFadden, The Retirement Plan by Sue Hincenbergs, When the World Fell Silent by Donna Jones Alward, The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah, Etta and Otto and Russell and James by Emma Hooper, Go as a River by Shelley Read, Becoming by Michelle Obama, Island of the Sea Women by Lisa See, The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes, Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmu, and The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides.

Open for more people? Yes!

Pics of us:





Book Club #4

Convenor: Jennifer R.

When: Noon, 2nd Thursday of the month, September to June.

Where: We all take turns hosting at our homes

Details: There are eight ladies in our group, and we lead lively discussions about our chosen book for that month.

Books we have chosen: None given

Open for more people? Not at this time.

Pics of us: None yet (we are too busy reading 😊)



Book Club #5

Convenor: Sandra R.

When: Afternoon (1:30 p.m.), last Wednesday of the month, September to June (except December).

Where: We mostly meet on Zoom, but occasionally at a member's house

Details: We have eight members and have been meeting for at least 20 years. We are proudly all in our 70s and 80s. After the Zoom session, the convenor sends out a letter outlining what we covered about the book.

Books we have chosen: Adrift by Lisa Brideau, Patient Number 7 by Kurt Palka, The Paris Apartment by Lucy Foley, Don't Let Him In by Lisa Jewell (we love any mystery by this author), Honor by Thrity Umrigar, My Favourite Mistake by Marian Keyes, Mrs. Van Gogh by Caroline Cauchi (historical fiction), The Berry Pickers by Amanda Peters and When the World Fell Silent by Donna Jones Alward

Open for more people? Yes, but please realize that we are in an older age bracket.

Pics of us: None yet



Book Club #7

Convenor: Patti (Patricia) L.

When: Afternoons, usually the 3rd Thursday of the month, all 12 months.

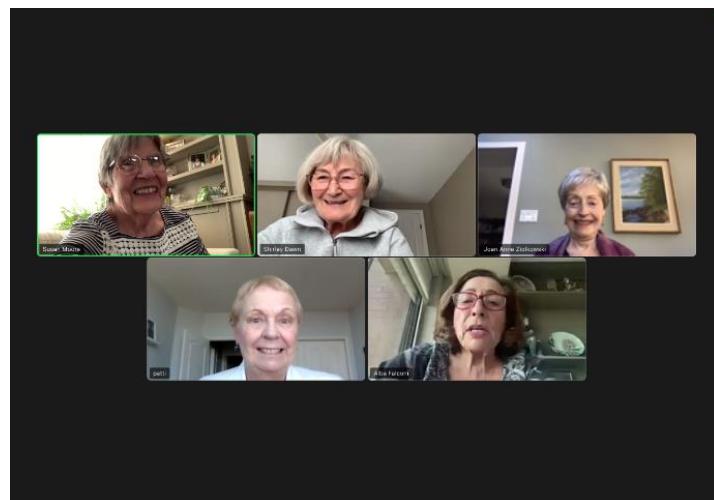
Where: Online, on Zoom.

Details: If you like reading books (kind of essential for a book club), we are the group for you. If you like to meet with other like-minded women from the convenience of your own home, we welcome you. The advantages of meeting over Zoom are many: if you have a sniffle, you don't have to worry about infecting others. If the weather is bad, we can still meet. If you are anywhere in the western hemisphere, you can still join the conversation. So, please feel free to join our merry group of readers!

Books we have chosen: None given

Open for more people? Yes!

Pics of us:





Book Club #8

Convenor: Joanne K.

When: Afternoons (1:00 p.m.), 4th Tuesday of the month, September to June.

Where: At the home of whoever is hosting the book talk that month.

Details: The host plies us with wine and food and then leads us in a discussion of the book. At our final meeting before our summer break, we meet one more time over food and wine to plan our roster of books for the upcoming season. We always choose our books together. Our book club has been together since 2011. With losses of loved ones and of one member, we find ourselves spending more time listening and supporting each other.

Books we have chosen: Our last three books: Nothing but the Truth by Marie Henein. Look Closer by David Ellis, and The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride. Our books are a combination of fiction and non-fiction and span a variety of genres, but we have a special fondness for historical fiction.

Open for more people? Not at this time.

Pics of us: None yet



Book Club #9

Convenor: Janice M.

When: Afternoon (1:00–3:00 p.m.), 3rd Tuesday of the month, September to June. June and December are social lunches.

Where: At the home of the group member whose book selection we are discussing.

Details: The member hosting leads the discussion. We have a good mix of social time and book time, and our discussions can be very lively. We have just welcomed a new member, but we are open to having another one.

Books we have chosen: We just finished discussing *When the World Fell Silent*, by Donna Alward, and are currently reading *Pachinko*, by Min Jin Lee, for January.

Open for more people? Yes!

Pics of us: None yet



Book Club #10

Convenor: Béatrice (Bibi) D-B.

When: Morning (10:00 a.m.), 4th Friday of the month, September to June (except December).

Where: Margaret Geare's condo library (warmer months). On Zoom (winter months).

Details: Each member chooses a book for that month and presents questions for lively discussion.

Books we have chosen: The Frozen River (by Ariel Lawhon), The Choice (Eva Eger), The Girl in His Shadow (Audrey Blake), The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store (James McBride), Hello Beautiful! (Ann Napolitano), Hold My Girl (Charlene Carr), Here One Moment (Liane Moriarty), I am, I am, I am (Maggie O'Farrell), Klara and the Sun (Kazuo Ishiguro), The Measure (Niki Erlick), The Maid (Nita Prose), The Life Cycle of the Common Octopus (Emma Knight), Our Missing Hearts (Celeste Ng), Remarkably Bright Creatures (Shelby Van Pelt), Still Life (Louise Penny), The Stolen Lady (Laura Morelli), Strange Sally Diamond (Liz Nugent) The Keeper of Stories (Sally Page), The Berry Pickers (Amanda Peters)

Open for more people? Not at this time.

Pics of us:



On a wintry day, we met on Zoom to discuss our latest book



Book Club #11

Convenor: Joanne J.

When: Afternoons (1:00 p.m.), 1st Tuesday of the month, all 12 months.

Where: At the home of the lady who has chosen the book for that month

Details: We are ten "Literary Ladies." Each month, one of us is responsible for choosing the book. She hosts the meeting, promotes lively discussion, and winds the meeting down with coffee, tea, and fabulous treats! We are never quiet in our discussions of the books and seem to always find a way to bring in a few current affairs! We always look forward to the next meeting!

Books we have chosen: The Women by Kristin Hannah, The Humans by Mark Haig, The Grey Wolf by Louise Penny, The Phoenix Crown and The Briar Club by Kate Quinn, One Plus One by Jojo Moyes, The Maid by Nita Prose, The High Road by Terry Fallis, Life after Life by Kate Atkinson, Say Nothing - A True Story of Murder and Memory in Northern Ireland by Patrick Rodden Keefe and most recently Son of a Critch by Mark Critch.

Open for more people? Not at this time.

Pics of us: None yet



Bridge #3

Convenors: Dolores W.

When: Afternoons (12:30 p.m.), 1st and 3rd Monday of the month, September to the end of May.

Where: We take turns hosting in our homes.

Details: We start with a dessert and then play three rounds of bridge. Some of us have played together for almost 30 years; others have been in the group for 10 years. One member knows the conventions very well, and when we forget, we ask her advice after the play of the hand. We pay convenient minors, Stayman, transfers, etc. We enjoy the game, but conversation is important between hands. We play for enjoyment—Betty reminds us, "It's just a game." We share information about daily living, support one another, and celebrate the positives in our lives.

Open for more people? Not at this time, but we always need substitute players who have a bit of bridge experience. When a member cannot continue, we invite a sub to play on a regular basis. If interested in subbing, contact Interest Group Convenor Clara G.

Pics of us:



We celebrate milestone birthdays by giving a flower bouquet. Marjorie and Margaret celebrated milestones in this photo.



Margaret hosted with her Black Forest Cake, joined by Leslie and Laurie.



Bridge #5

Convenors: Ann-Marie B.

When: Mornings (starting between 0:15-10:30 a.m.), every other Tuesday, all 12 months

Where: Online on Trickster

Details: We are at an intermediate level. We play online so members can play from wherever they are—at the cottage, on a Caribbean beach, driving home from Ottawa, wintering in southern climates, etc. If it weren't for RWTO, none of us would have known each other. We laugh a lot together, so we are not that serious ... we talk during play. Amazingly enough, we are also a support group for each other and share advice and stories. Most importantly, we meet for lunch twice a year in the spring and fall.

Open for more people? Not at this time. We use subs from other bridge groups, but new subs are needed and would be most welcome. If interested in subbing, contact Interest Group Convenor Clara G.

Pics of us: None yet (we promise to submit a photo next spring).



Bridge #7

Convenors: Mary T.

When: Mornings (9:30 a.m.), every Wednesday, all 12 months.

Where: Twice per month online, twice per month at a member's home in person.

Details: When we meet online, we first meet for a social time on Zoom and then two hours of bridge via Trickster. We learned to play from two wonderful RTWO members, Judy and Theresa. We have been meeting for about 19 years. We have developed into a close group, knowing we can depend on each other when one of us faces challenges. We are diverse in our bridge skills, but that doesn't get in the way. We support each other's play and enjoy each other's company.

Open for more people? Not at this time.

Pics of us: None yet



Bridge #8

Convenors: Anne D.

When: Mornings (9:30 - 12 noon), every other Thursday.

Where: At a member's home (we rotate).

Details: There are nine of us who meet for bridge and good conversation. What more could you ask for?

Open for more people? Not at this time.

Pics of us:



You're not seeing double ... we wanted to squeeze one more lovely lady in to show us all!



Bridge #10

Convenors: Nancy S.

When: Start at 9:30 a.m., the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month, September to June.

Where: At the home of the hostess (rotates) from September to December, and March to June. Online on Trickster from January to March to accommodate the long-distance or anxious travellers who would rather not contend with snowy conditions.

Details: We are gathering for our 13th Season following a year of lessons. Coffee and snacks are usually ready at 9:30 a.m. with a goal of beginning to deal hands by 10 a.m., but lively conversation frequently prompts delays. We switch partners every four hands, then break to enjoy the sandwich we brought, and the dessert provided by the host. We return to the tables for more card-playing until about 2:30. It's "high-stakes" competition: each player contributes a toonie, and the highest score wins the pot! This describes our routine from September through to December and from April to June.

Open for more people? Not at this time, but we always need substitute players who have a bit of bridge experience and who are happy to compete for a toonie. If interested in subbing, contact Interest Group Convenor Clara G.

Pics of us: None yet. Besides, our photos always look the same: a bunch of us standing over a spread of food and not a playing card in sight!)



Bridge - Duplicate

Convenors: Judy D.

When: Morning (10:30 a.m.), 2nd Tuesday of the month, all 12 months.

Where: Online on the Trickster app.

Details: We are a group of 10 ladies who love to play, and we include snowbirds! One member played on the beach in the Dominican Republic while sipping a cocktail! We meet in person every spring and fall for lunch at the Mediterranean Bistro in the Clarkson area of Mississauga.

Open for more people? Not at this time, but we often need substitute/spare players. If interested, contact Interest Group Convenor Clara G.

Pics of us: None yet



Bridge - Online, Round Robin

Convenors: Margaret G.

When: Monthly - it varies whenever groups are available

Where: Online Trickster

Details: Lots of fun online with keen players.

Open for more people? Yes!

Pics of us: None (because there are so many combinations of teams playing, we'd have to hire a professional to capture all of us)



Euchre #1

Convenors: Janet H.

When: Mornings (10:30 a.m.), the 3rd Monday of the month, October to June.

Where: We meet on the Trickster app.

Details: Euchre One is a long-standing group that started in the late 1990s and is still going strong! In September and June, we meet at a restaurant to enjoy a meal together. Without the interest groups organized by RWTO, we probably would have never met each other and shared the friendship and support that we have all enjoyed—some of us for over 25 years! Thank you, RWTO Mississauga Branch!

Open for more people? Not at this time.

Pics of us: None yet



Euchre #6

Convenors: Linda M.

When: Afternoons (1:00 p.m.), every other Thursday, all 12 months.

Where: At our members' homes, on a rotation.

Details: We have eight members, are fun and not competitive. We love all the goodies and recipes we share.

Open for more people? Not at this time.

Pics of us: No recent photos, as the ones I have were all ready in previous newsletters



Euchre - Bid #1

Convenors: Mary Y.

When: Mornings (at 9:30 a.m.), 1st Monday of the month, all months of the year.

Where: Sunset Grill restaurant

Details: We break for brunch and then continue our card playing. Our members enjoy good laughs as well as good card games.

Open for more people? Not at this time, but we often need substitute players. If interested, contact Interest Group Convenor Clara G.

Pics of us: None yet



Euchre - Bid #2

Convenors: Bev S.

When: Mornings (9:30 a.m.), 4th Thursday of the month, all months.

Where: Sunset Grill (near Cawthra and Lakeshore)

Details: We are welcomed at Sunset Grill by the wonderful staff. After a few games, we break for breakfast/lunch and resume play. We usually finish before 2:00 p.m. The day is always filled with fun, stories, and laughter. It's a great group of women.

Open for more people? Not at this time. But we are often looking for subs when members can't make a meeting. If you can play euchre, we can teach you bid euchre in a flash, so don't be shy! Come sub for us. You will enjoy the day! If interested, contact Interest Group Convenor Clara G.

Pics of us: None yet



Gardening Group #1

Convenor: Nermin F.

When: TBA by convenor.

Where: Garden centres, local gardens, and members' homes.

Details: We met for lunch in early Spring to plan for the 2025 gardening season. We went to the tulip festival in Niagara and the lilac festival at the Royal Botanical Gardens. In the fall, we met over lunch to plan for next year.

Open for more people? Yes!

Pics of us:



Getting our Christmas basket together as a group



Tulip fields galore!



Time to eat after the fresh outdoors



Gardening Group #2

Convenor: Shirley D.

When: Once or twice a month, April to October. The day and time vary, depending on the activity. We often also gather in November for a workshop. A tentative schedule is planned at our April session.

Where: At members' homes /gardens, nurseries, botanical gardens, or other locations, depending on the event.

Details: Members work together to plan and host a variety of events, including garden visits, workshops, and nursery visits.

Open for more people? Yes!

Pics of us:



Here we are, "decoupage" pumpkins (decorating a pumpkin by gluing paper or fabric onto its surface)



Genealogy

Convenor: Barb L. G.

When: Afternoon (starting at 1:00 p.m.), the 3rd Thursday of the month, every second month, from September to June.

Where: At a coffee shop (usually Panera's on Winston Park Dr., Mississauga)

Details: Our members are pursuing their family roots in a variety of locations, both in North America and on the other side of the Atlantic. We discuss our respective research progress, various problems, and "brick walls" we have hit, as well as genealogical and DNA topics in the news. Suggestions for avenues to pursue and individual family trees are shared. Some members have explored ways of preserving their genealogy trees and sharing them with others. We arrive with notebooks and papers about our family history and discuss various topics. Come prepared for lots of talking.

Open for more people? Yes!

Pics of us: None yet



Golf

Convenor: Linda H.

When: Mornings, every Thursday, from May until mid-October.

Where: Derrydale Golf Course, a 12-hole course located on Derry Road in Mississauga

Details: We love the game of golf, enjoy the fresh air and exercise, and we treasure the camaraderie. We encourage and support each other, regardless of skill level. We always have a great time! There are currently 8 members in our group. We welcome new members who are able to play, more or less, on a regular basis.

Open for more people? Yes!

Pics of us:





Knitting Group #1

Convenor: Clara G.

When: Afternoon, 2nd Wednesday of the month, September to June (not December)

Where: At each other's homes.

Details: Our group of 8 met for lunch at a local restaurant with our regular members and some new members for our first brunch and planning session of the year. It was a lively lunch as there were several changes and exciting projects discussed. We meet to share both our expertise and love of knitting.

Open for more people? Yes!

Pics of us:





Knitting Group #2

Convenor: Elisabeth S.

When: Afternoons (1:00 p.m.), 1st Tuesday of the month, from September to June.

Where: We take turns hosting each other in our homes.

Details: Bags of yarn, knitting needles, patterns, pots of tea, and platters of treats—that's how the women of this group enjoy our monthly meetings. We have bonded over our projects and a shared interest in the craft. Our skill levels vary, but we help and inspire each other with new ideas and fresh designs. We have enjoyed group trips to Mary Maxim and Lens Mills, and recently to the Painted Ladies of Grimsby, followed by lunch at the nearby Watering Can. Recently, we have been concentrating on charitable projects like prayer shawls, hats for local school children, and blankets for animal shelters. Our shared interest has led to close friendships and valued sources of support.

Open for more people? Not at this time.

Pics of us:



Painted Ladies houses in Grimsby



Some of our completed projects



Lunch Group #2

Convenors: Michele R.

When: At 12 noon, 2nd Friday of the month, September to June.

Where: In various restaurants. (Latest: Nov 14, 2025, at Cynthia's Restaurant, 2460 Neyagawa Blvd., Oakville)

Details: We meet at a variety of restaurants, chosen by our members. We enjoy trying new restaurants and revisiting our favourites. Our last lunch coincided with a member's birthday!

Open for more people? Not at this time.

Pics of us:





Lunch Group #4

Convenors: Barb R.

When: Afternoon (1 p.m.) on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, all months of the year.

Where: In various restaurants. Members sign up to host a lunch and select a restaurant for us to meet at.

Details: We have been meeting for about 14 years! Over the years, we have been introduced to new and unique dining experiences and have found some favourites. Members have come and gone, with three remaining original members. New members provide the opportunity to hear new stories and share creative discussion and advice. this is a wonderful group of 13 ladies to "do lunch with."

Open for more people? Yes!

Pics of us: None yet



Mahjong (American)

Convenors: Deborah H., Margaret G.

When: Afternoon (starting at 1:00 p.m.) on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month. Please RSVP so everyone knows how many people are planning to attend.

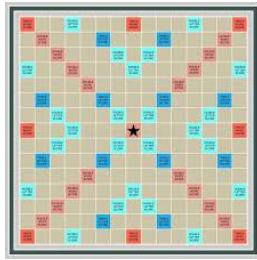
Where: Margaret G.'s condo library

Details: You do not have to be an expert player; we are all learning. Come with an open mind, and you will learn along the way. Some of us have honed our skills with online versions of the game ... but we are not competitive. Fun is the name of the game! Our saying is, "Being happy doesn't mean that everything is perfect. It means that you've decided to look beyond the imperfections..." Deborah H.

Open for more people? Yes!

Pics of us:





Scrabble

Convenor: Linda M.

When: Afternoon (starting at 1:00 p.m.) on the 4th Friday of the month. Please RSVP so everyone knows how many people are planning to attend.

Where: At the home of the lady who is hosting. Hostesses rotate monthly. The hostess provides snacks for the group.

Details: We are nine wonderful ladies who look forward to chatting, enjoying tea and treats, playing Scrabble, and laughing! We are non-competitive but love learning and improving at this beloved game.

Open for more people? Not at this time.

Pics of us:





Walking Club

Convenor: Carole A.

When: Mornings (10:30 a.m.) on Thursdays for 8 spring walks and 8 fall walks. Afternoons (1 p.m.) on Thursdays for winter walks (that run in 4-week sessions) starting in early November.

Where: Locations vary. Locations vary. Favourites: The Riverwood Conservancy, Erindale Park, Lake Aquitaine and Wabukayne trails in Meadowvale, The Waterfront Trail....many locations, 16-Mile Creek in Oakville, Lake Island Conservation Area in Orangeville, Crawford Lake, and many more.

Details: Volunteers in the group plan and lead a walk. They are responsible for greeting folks upon arrival, introducing folks to one another, knowing about the washroom and parking facilities, knowing the route well, and staying aware of the group. Carole does all the communication. Please RSVP so the leader knows who to expect. You can just "show up" for a walk.

Open for more people? Yes, always!

Pics of us:





Here are some of our recent walks

-End of Interest Groups Info-