# QUILT CONNECTIONS


## Edmonton and District Quilters' Guild Newsletter

Box 68004 70 Bonnie Doon Mall P.O. Edmonton, Alberta T6C 4N6 www.edqg.ca

Issue 388: March 2021


# March- Stephanie Hackney

### Batting: What's Inside Matters

Hobbs Bonded Fibers made a bold commitment to enter the quilt batting market in 1978. They have worked diligently to be the highest quality provider and leader in product development in the industry. At Hobbs Batting, they never forget that quilts are a gift from the heart – an expression of love, commitment, and caring for a specific recipient – or an expression of artistry and skill – artistry and skill that's submitted and judged in quilt shows and events around the world – or both.




**Stephanie Hackney,** Director: Sales & Marketing of Craft & Retail Products from Hobbs Bonded Fibers will cover such topics as how to choose the right batting content for your quilt, pros and (potential) cons of the various fiber types, recommended batting types for specific projects (art quilts, charity quilts, show quilts, bed quilts, etc.), the proper care and use of batting/quilts, and tips and tricks for best results. It's sure to be a batting education!!

**March 17 Guild Meeting**
**Zoom host at 7:00 pm, meeting begins at 7:15 pm**
**(watch for blast Monday, March 15)**



## BOARD 2020- 2021

| | |
|---|---|
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| Darlene Conroy | 780-914-3518 |

## COMMITTEES

| | |
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# March Musings



*Illustration by Henrik Grönvold*

The arrival of the month of March brings with it a sense of expectation, with its longer days and the official arrival of spring. This year it also heralds the hope of being able to soon visit with loved ones and friends again.

A year ago, the March EDQG meeting was cancelled, and little did we know at the time that we would be using something called “Zoom” and that we would be “zooming” to guild meetings, sew days, workshops, and retreats. I know that at first, we thought we would be back together in September, then January, then April and now, the Board has made the decision that we shall continue to “Zoom” until September.

Last year when this all began, I’m sure that few of us could have imagined that we would have speakers from around the world, Show ‘n Tell, a Quilt Show, a planned celebration of a Feature Quilter, be purchasing our 50/50 tickets, taking workshops, or meeting with our “bee group” without having to leave our homes. These activities have happened because members have accepted a challenge – to learn how to do new things, to organize these virtual activities, and to participate. We have been able to share time with our members who live at a distance and we know now that we will be able to stay connected in the future.

The February Show ‘n Tell provided us with a glimpse of the EDQG 2021 Quilt Show and with the deadline on March 22nd, I encourage everyone to review the categories, choose their entries, and complete their submissions. When the 2021 Festival was cancelled, the Committee volunteers sought another way to celebrate all of the wonderful creativity of our members. For those who have been reluctant to enter past shows, this is your chance to enter without worrying about the size being too big or people examining each stitch. There will still be precious ribbons, but you will be the judges this time.

My sense of expectation during “this” month of March is for a continuation of the fabulous EDQG activities we have experienced this year, for a Happy St. Patrick’s Day, to delight in the coming of spring and to enjoy a “retreat with a twist”!

Happy Spring from Susan Mooney!

*- Susan Mooney, EDQG Chair*

### Guild Meetings to Continue via Zoom

**The Zoom links will continue to be sent via e-blast two days prior to the guild meeting so be sure to check your email on the Monday prior to the regular meeting**. The link will also be posted on the Members Only Facebook page on the day of the meeting but remember, you must be signed in to see the page.

**"Zooming" for Your Bee Group**

The EDQG holds a Zoom license that allows us to host our monthly meetings, our board meetings, workshops, sew days, and retreats. Committees use the license to hold meetings to plan the many activities that are being organized to help everyone continue to feel connected.

The Zoom license is also used by several "bee groups" including Stitching Connection, Coffee Bee, Quilt Talkers and others. Do you belong to a bee group that would like to meet via Zoom? The EDQG license is available for your use. To get started, please contact chair@edqg.ca and we can help you get set up.

## Endowment ...

A video from award recipients has been posted on the Guild website, https://edqg.ca/2021/02/04/a-thank-you-message-from-recipients-of-the-quilters-guild-award/ and here is a note from Ashleigh Baird...

*Thank you for your generous support and commitment to helping students here on campus through your two endowment funds. Both Chloe and Han are recipients of the Edmonton and District Quilters' Guild Undergraduate Award. Both are passionate students who wanted to extend their sincere thanks through this video.*

*Please take pride in knowing that your generosity, kindness and continued support truly make a difference in the lives of our students here on campus.*

*Warmest regards,*
*Ashleigh Baird, Assistant Director, Office of Advancement, University of Alberta*

*- Linda Thorne, Director: Governance*




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# Budget 2021 - 2022

The **April 1**, 2021 to **March 31**, 2022 budget was determined by the Board and is based on our past year and our best information on what this next year will bring. We assumed that we would continue to meet virtually for part of the guild year and in person for balance of the year.

The budget is posted on the website. https://edqg.ca/wp/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Budget-2021-2022-final.pdf

From our membership fees, we enjoy program meeting speakers with the benefit of being able to have some national and international speakers using the virtual format.

We continue to support our Community Service projects and are fortunate to be able to supplement that by $500 which is a portion of the generous donation received from the Belles of Lac Belleville on the closing of their guild. We will have a virtual quilt show this year, and continue with the Prairie Rose Quilt Challenge.

Administratively, we will pay for the Zoom meeting subscription on a monthly basis and/or the meeting facility costs when we are able to meet in person again. We also have expenses for our website, post office box, membership cards and mailings, as well as the fees for our storage locker and insurance. The proposed budget continues to support our members by providing an education grant and a teaching grant and support our craft by being members of the CQA and FFAA.

All workshops, retreats, sew days, library and the banquet are planned with cost recovery in mind, where the income should equal the expenses.

We have budgeted a deficit of $2375 which, if it occurs, will be covered from past retained earnings. There will be no change to the membership fees for 2021-2022.

*- Dorothy Johansen, Treasurer*

## Spring Virtual Retreat

We are excited to offer an exciting first ever, Virtual Spring Retreat! Three special speakers have been secured to round out the three-day itinerary. (See February newsletter). We are happy to announce that registrations to date are enough for this retreat to proceed as planned, and we are hoping you will join us.

Please use the link on website for easy registration and payment (https://edqg.ca/2020/12/06/marchvirtualretreat/). The full agenda and information package will be sent to paid participants prior to the retreat. If you have any questions, please contact Darlene Stasiuk at retreats@edqg.ca.

*-Darlene Stasiuk, Retreats Chair*



## Community Services

I delivered seven **Discovery/Fidget quilts** made by Marg Hrynew to Eden House this week. Way to go Marg! Christine was very thankful and sent the following to be shared with our members.

*"Please extend our greatest thanks to your members that took the time to create an opportunity for wonder and imagination in the gift of the Discovery Quilts. They are simply amazing and it is truly remarkable to see the immediate impact that each of these lap/table quilts has on our residents in regards to sensory engagement. Calm emotions such as joy and peacefulness are just a few of the visible gains from interacting with the quilts.*

*With sincere gratitude on behalf of the Residents, Families and Staff at Eden House, I offer you a most heartfelt and humble thank you."*

*Kindest regards, Christine Pompei, Recreation Therapist, Shepherd's Care Foundation, Eden House*

**Request from Victoria's Quilts Canada**.

"Quilters are needed to join a planning committee to establish an Edmonton area Branch of Victoria's Quilts Canada (VQC) - https://www.victoriasquiltscanada.com
VQC provides handmade flannel-backed quilts to adults & children on their cancer journey in Canada.

We currently have two committed volunteers & 4 interested quilters. A local VQC Branch needs at least 5 committee members plus other support volunteers - Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, PR/Communications, Fundraisers, Fabric Coordinators, Quilt Request Coordinator, Quilt-making Coordinator plus many more quilters, non-quilters and quilt deliverers. Explore the possibility of joining by contacting mlmichetti@gmail.com or brendahaney382@gmail.com

We purchased 18 meters of **wide back fabric**, 9 m blue and 9 m grey as that seems to be the need for finishing charity quilts. Let me know if you need some. I still have some other yardage and a few kits to finish as well.

Happy quilting everyone! It is all appreciated!

*- Judi Coté, Community Services Chair*

**WANTED: Advice from people with experience creating large banners**

Barb Kitagawa and I would like to talk with you if you have been involved in designing or making large banners. We need your advice, knowledge, practical tips, websites or names of people who might design or make banners. We're not sure at this point how much help we might need!

We are looking at making two long banners to go on either side of a long, narrow window at the front of the sanctuary in Mill Woods United Church. We can send photos if you would like to see the set up.

Please contact Ethel Ray at 780-803-0474 or Barb Kitagawa 780-461-4762.

*- Ethel Ray, EDQG Member*

# Edmonton Virtual Festival of Quilts Show

Congratulations to Gerry Lee on winning the $1635 in the Raffle and thanks to everyone who supported the online 50/50 Raffle to raise funds for future quilt shows. Quilt show proceeds were $1150.37. Expenses to the Guild were 13.8%. With new changes regarding mailout of tickets, the future cost would be about 11.3% of total sales. The funds earned will be used to offset the cost to rent space for the Quilt Show. Below are the results for the poll done at the February Guild Meeting held on Zoom.

| | Yes | No |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Did you purchase a ticket for the online 50/50 Raffle? | 46% | 54% |
| 2. Did you share this link with friends or family? | 9% | 81% |
| 3. Would you support more online 50/50 raffles in the future? | 91% | 9% |
| 4. Will you buy a ticket if we have another online 50/50 raffle? | 88% | 12% |
| 5. When we meet in person, should we continue this online 50/50 raffle format? | 77% | 23% |
| 6. When we meet in person, do you want to have the cash 50/50 at the meetings? | 81% | 19% |

The Quilt Show Committee will discuss these results and make the decision whether to hold further online 50/50 Raffles. If we do, the online raffles will be spread over the next two years, leading up to June, 2023 when the next in-person Quilt show is planned.

With regard to the Virtual Quilt Show, the online entry form is up and waiting for your entries! https://edqg.ca/festival-of-quilts-2021/ Please try to have the best quality photos possible for your entries. Remember, you only need photos of your quilts, so if you have made any and have given those away, you can enter them in the show by simply getting photos of the quilts. You should have a headshot of yourself to include so we know who is the creator of the quilt. Each entry will have two slides, one for the full size, finished quilt and one for a closeup of the quilting, with the photo of the maker to go on the second slide. Wanda and Penny have been hard at work on the ribbons for the show. The first-place winners from each category, chosen by Viewers' Choice, will receive one of these beautiful works of art! Please contact us if you have any questions or problems.

*-Myrna Purser, Quilt Show Chair*



## 2021 Prairie Rose Scavenger Hunt

It is time to finalize your piece. But still there are exciting design decisions in wrapping up your piece. Binding or Facing? Hand Stitch or Machine Quilt? Your artist statement of 75 words or less. Attaching a label and hanging sleeve (4" is required). However, there are no decisions for you to make regarding the label. It should contain the following information:

- Prairie Rose Scavenger Hunt: It's All About _____ (insert your name here)
- Inspired by the art of Heidi Parkes
- The date your work was completed
- Your current City or Town

To be eligible for judges' comments and prizes, your piece is due by the third Wednesday of May to my address in Edmonton. Please send me an email at pastchair@edqg.ca for my address for delivery or to make alternative arrangements.

I do so appreciate your participation and look forward to receiving your exceptional interpretations of the challenge.

*- Kathy Strawson, Past Chair*

**Quilts of Valour – Canada** expresses their gratitude and a HUGE "Thank You" to the Edmonton and District Quilters' Guild for their wonderful support of our QOVC™ 3rd Annual National Sew Day. With EDQG members hosting, Kathy Strawson and Susan Mooney at the ready, and with the use of the larger room space that EDQG provided for the virtual gathering, it was an incredible experience. We tied in with Facebook Live to accommodate a final registration of 373 people. The ability to have quilters truly from Canada's coasts and boundaries all meeting in a 3-hour window will be a sew day event that will only be topped by an event linking actual sewing bees using social media rooms.

Thank you to those who gave us advice through the day and for the patience we saw as we delved into a new world of a virtual gathering of quilters! We had door prizes – with the coolest virtual Wheel of Fortune that had every registrants' names on it; we had live tutorials, recorded tutorials and lots of show and share. Thank you to all those quilters who attended the event and helped make it the success it was.

For anyone interested, we have the day's instructional presentations on our website https://www.quiltsofvalour.ca/resources.

Just a reminder, EDQG guild members Christine Orr and Todd Hussey are our QOVC Representatives – covering both west and east ends of the city.

Quilts and QOVC Hug Blocks are arriving, as we initiated two fundraiser/quilt encouragement opportunities at our sew day: https://www.quiltsofvalour.ca/what-s-new

My personal thank you to all of those who are supporting QOVC in so many ways.

*- Lezley Zwaal, Founder, Quilts of Valour – Canada Society*
*Member, Edmonton and District Quilters' Guild*

# PROGRAM

February was a busy month, with a presentation from Susan Purney Mark and two workshops by Dawn Piasta. Susan highlighted Iceland's amazing scenery, her tours of a sheep farm and wool processing shed, a visit to the fish leather factory and her own art created during her residency. Susan's presentation certainly inspired many members to find their own artistic residency when we can travel again!

In Dawn's Milagro workshop, she led us through several exercises to try different pencils and mediums to design our own fabric. The artistic ability of our members was very evident in their practice pieces. The following day, in the Bojagi workshop, Dawn showed how to create a piece of fabric with enclosed seams so that it can be used without layering. Participants explored a range of fabrics, from linen to sheer curtain samples to vintage linens, with stunning results.

Looking forward to spring, our April meeting will welcome Pat Archibald, who will join us from Edinburgh, Scotland. She will present *Design Tips for Inspired Quilts*, showing her creative process to producing thought provoking and award-winning quilts.

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**There is one more workshop opportunity this guild year.** Join Kim Caskey the mornings of April 17 and 24 for fun and creativity as you learn about and plan your own unique Temperature Quilt. Peruse many different Temperature Quilts for inspiration and motivation. The cost is $35 for members and $45 for non-members. Full details and the online registration form can be found on the EDQG website under **Program at a Glance/Workshops** (www.edqg.ca). Payments can now be made in the "Square Store" on the website.




Judy Elliott would like to thank all our members who participated in the February Photo Contest Show & Tell. All quilts shown were great! From the feedback received, it was a fun event for everyone. Seven members received ribbons in their categories, and as we had one extra ribbon, Judy and Kathy did a draw for it from the remaining participating entrants. Ribbon winners are Pauline Kratky, Kathy Strawson, Brenda Ramsay, Ann Schuler, Lois Miller, Sharon Rubuliak, Karen Schmidt, and Sheila Jones. Congratulations!

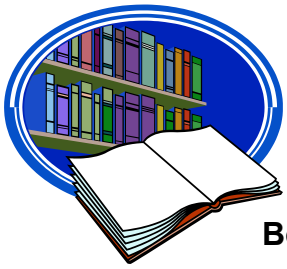
Our March meeting will be back to our traditional show and tell, so please send your photos to Judy (judym.elliot@gmail.com) by **Sunday March 14th**. We want your creations to be clear and crisp, so please send your photos in the highest resolution you can in .jpg or .jpeg format.

*- Hilary Lynas and Cynthia Kunkel-Bokovay, Program Co-Chairs*

## *A Note from Friends*

There are times in everyone's life when a note of celebration, appreciation, encouragement or other expressions of caring may be called for. The Communications Committee would like to respond to those.

If you are aware of a situation in a fellow Guild member's life that warrants such acknowledgement, please let us know by email: communications@edqg.ca



# Library

As we are not meeting in person, there are no library book raffle results to report, and with no raffle money, no books to purchase. I have been using the Library Report to highlight some of the books in the EDQG Library.

**Book Highlights for March: Icelandic Inspiration**

This month I was thinking of the talk by our February Zoom meeting guest speaker, Susan Purney Mark and her trip to Iceland for an art residency. I loved her photographs of the Icelandic countryside. The EDQG library has three books from an Icelandic born and raised quilter, **Gudrun Erla**. Gudrun now resides in the US, in Minnesota. She is the designer and owner of GE Designs, her pattern and book publishing company. Check out her website at https://gequiltdesigns.com/

- **Quilts of Iceland, 2017.** This book combines amazing quilts, spectacular photographs of Iceland, and favourite recipes of Gudrun's. A beautiful book to enjoy!
- **Table Talk: Runners, Toppers and Family Treats, 2011.** This is another book that combines beautiful quilt projects with Gudrun's favourite family recipes. It includes stories of Gudrun's family life in Iceland and how she caught the quilting bug. The projects are beautifully photographed and look like they would be fun to make when you need a small project to decorate your home or to give as a gift.
- **Strip Your Stash: Dynamic Quilts Made from Strips: 12 Projects in Multiple Sizes from GE Designs, 2015.** Gudrun loves using 2½ inch strips in her quilts. In this book she gives you stripping tips: how she collects, stores, and prepares her strips, tips on choosing backgrounds and controlled colorways. The quilts in this book have a modern look to them, again beautifully photographed, with illustrated instructions.

Even though we are not meeting in person, if you would like to borrow a library book(s), contact me, and we can make arrangements to get the book(s) to you.

*- Sandra Plouffe, Library Chair*

## *Focus on Fibre Art Association*

With determination and persistence in 2020, the Focus on Fibre Art Association Board coordinated numerous activities for and on behalf of members, despite health restrictions and shutdowns.

Currently a handful of committed volunteers are putting in many hours covering a lot of bases -- and they need help. We understand that not everyone is able to take on a leadership commitment, but with a dozen or so new volunteers taking on small jobs on the committees, the load for will be eased for those in leadership roles and FFAA will be able to survive and to thrive.

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As well, despite an ongoing search for replacement executive members, we are short of candidates for the next Board in February 2022; the only position for which there is a candidate is that of secretary.

The mandate of FFAA is to encourage, foster and develop excellence and appreciation of fibre as an art form among the community. The recent opening of the Focus on Fibre Art Studio opens the door to more opportunities for promoting skill development and showcasing the creativity of fibre artists through workshops and exhibitions.

We are asking all those who have benefitted from entering the biennial competitions since 1998 and from taking subsidized workshops since 2013 to step forward and contribute your time and talents to the future success of FFAA.

In addition, we are asking up-and-coming fibre artists (stitchers, felters, quilters, knitters, rug hookers, dyers, weavers and spinners) to volunteer on a committee as a way of participating in and strengthening the fibre art community that we all value and enjoy.

*-Vicki Robson, President, on behalf of the FFAA Board of Directors*
*780-440-2599 or vickir@telus.net*

## Shining the Spotlight




This month we highlight Dianne Firth,  a member of EDQG, and whose work was part of the Fibre Art Network story featured in the December issue of Quilt Connections.



**When did you begin quilting?**
My quilting journey began in the 1990's. Although my first self taught experience at appliqué went in the garbage bin, I never lost the desire to try again.

**What inspired you to begin quilting?**
I have always enjoyed seeing nice quilts, but I wasn't inspired until a trip in the late 1980's when we travelled to my Great Aunt Millie's home in Ontario. Set up right in the middle of her basement was a large quilt frame with a star quilt on it. I saw the scissors, thread, thimbles, and needles resting along the edges, and it came along with a lovely story told of how it was for their church raffle. That very quilt changed my life forever.

**Do you have a favourite type of quilt?**
My creative journey changes and so does the types of quilts I enjoy so to pick a favourite would be very hard. The artistic side of me craves the creative process of an art quilt but the traditional quilt centres my soul.

**How would you describe your quilting style?**
If I were to describe my quilting style, I would use the words sentimental and traditional while adding creative, fun, and fearless to the mixture in a pot that has an ever-changing flavour.

**Do you have a particular quilter who inspires you?**
Martha Cole and Carol Seeley are two people that mentored and helped me choose a path of playful but meaningful creation earlier on in my participation of the Fibre Art Network. Hilary Rice also had a strong inspiration on my work with her endless techniques. I also want to mention the influence of the wonderful women of my quilt bee group, Dixie's Chicks.

**Can you share a bit about your participation in the Fibre Art Network?**
The Fibre Art Network has been a group that I feel privileged to belong to. So many different views of artistic creation have been quite inspiring. The group has helped me to challenge myself to think about what I can accomplish by being fearless in my process. You never have to feel alone with all the generosity of the members of the network.

**Anything else you would like to share about quilting?**
Be fearless in your work. You have little to lose but will always gain something through the experience.

# Calendar of Events

Guild items are in **BOLD**

**2021**

**March**

- **Mar 15** **Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 9:30 a.m.**
- **Mar 17** **EDQG Monthly Virtual Guild Meeting: 7:00 p.m.**
- **Mar 22** **Deadline for Entry in EDQG Virtual Festival of Quilts Show**
- **Mar 23** **Coffee Bee Group Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- **Mar 26-28** **EDQG Virtual Retreat**

**April**

- **Apr 6** **Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- **Apr 17** **EDQG Workshop: Temperature Quilts (Part 1) 9 a.m. to 12 noon**
- **Apr 19** **Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 9:30 a.m.**
- **Apr 21** **EDQG Monthly Virtual Guild Meeting: 7:00 p.m.**
- **Apr 24** **EDQG Workshop: Temperature Quilts (Part 2) 9 a.m. to 12 noon**
- **Apr 23-25** **EDQG Virtual Quilt Show**
- **Apr 27** **Coffee Bee Group Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

**May**

- **May 1-2** **Edmonton Festival of Quilts 2021 Feature Quilter (Lois Miller) Show at FFAA**
- **May 4** **Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- **May 17** **Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 9:30 a.m.**
- **May 19** **EDQG Monthly Virtual Guild Meeting: 7:00 p.m.**
- **May 25** **Coffee Bee Group Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**



**June**

- **Jun 1** **Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- **Jun 16** **EDQG Monthly Virtual Guild Meeting: 7:00 p.m.**
- **Jun 21** **Stitching Connection Virtual Meeting 9:30 a.m.**
- **Jun 22** **Coffee Bee Group Virtual Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

**Stitching Connection**

Stitching Connection will be meeting via Zoom until the end of June, at which point we will re-evaluate the situation to decide where to go from there. We will be meeting on the usual dates, the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm and the third Monday morning at 9:30. Join us if you would like to participate in some show and tell and conversation! Let Ethel Ray know if you would like to add your name to our email mailout list: ethel.wellspring@gmail.com

**Coffee Bee Group**

The Coffee Bee Group meets on the Tuesday of the week after the guild meetings. Normally, we would alternate between two different locations, one on the south side and one on the North side of Edmonton, but with COVID-19, we are meeting virtually on ZOOM.

This is a group that gets together to talk all things quilting. Each year, we select a quilt pattern and make a quilt to donate to the EDQG charity. It is usually an easy to do pattern that doesn't require buying fabric, assuming you have a stash to draw from!

Best of all, this group is open to everyone and is "Drop In" – so no commitment! New Guild members are always welcome!

Please feel free to join us when and if you can. If you have any questions, please contact Myrna Purser at 780-464-9047 or email at quiltshow@edqg.ca

**Newsletter Submissions:** Email your submission to newsletter@edqg.ca . Please use EDQG Newsletter as the subject line. Your submission should include your name and contact information. We encourage submissions from members such as book reviews, articles about the accomplishments of guild members (Shining the Spotlight), upcoming events of interest to quilters, information on free patterns, websites, tips and tricks or new quilting ideas or techniques. We reserve the right to edit articles. If you are including photos with your submission, you must include information about the person or group to be given credit for the photo and confirmation of permission to publish the photos with your submission. We reserve the right to publish submissions without photos if the necessary information and permissions are not provided.

**Website Submissions:** email your submissions to the webmaster at webmaster@edqg.ca. The same rules apply to pictures submitted for posting on the website as apply to pictures submitted to be printed in the Newsletter

**Newsletter Ads:** email requests to Communications Chair: communications@edqg.ca

**Check the website regularly for additional news:** http://www.edqg.ca/




Deadline for submissions to the April 2021 newsletter:
Friday, March 26, 2021