

Buzzword June 2026 Issue

Beekeepers helping Beekeepers!

Sudbury and District Beekeepers' Association - 50 years!

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Voters were lured to the meeting with pizza! Thank you to Meghan and Justin for arranging this and everything else that made this meeting interesting and fun.

Summary of June 17, 2026 meeting

7:00 pm Welcome: Meghan and Justin

Approval of: May 2026 minutes:
moved/2nded by Joanne / Pierre

Agenda: moved/2nded by Otto / Paul

Election of Executive and Directors

Firstly, we would like to thank the executive and directors for their volunteer efforts over the past year. We thank Denise Zappel our past treasurer as she relocates from Sudbury.

Bob Dewar officiated the election and the following members accepted nominations and were acclaimed:

Officers:

President: Meghan Mitchell

Vice President: Justin Gervais

Secretary/Editor: Alasdair MacLeod

Treasurer: Laura Schmidt

Directors:

- Rose Aniol (*sharing a position again with Joanne Beauparlant with Paul as a bonus?*)
- Terry McIndoo (*new!*)
- Pierre Rossini
- Otto Rost
- Jennifer Scott (*new!*)

The role of directors involves assisting the officers as needed and bringing their ideas to the club. We were fortunate to recruit a couple of new members to the ranks!

Kahoot!

Attendees with smart phones participated in a live interactive beekeeping quiz! The tension in the room was palpable as participants jockeyed for top spot. First place went to Alasdair (me!) followed by Wayne and Joanne.



One question surrounded the **marking colours** for queen bees by year. 2026 gets White.

A mnemonic to remember:

Will You Raise Good Bees for years ending in:

- **White:** Years ending in **1** or **6**
- **Yellow:** Years ending in **2** or **7**
- **Red:** Years ending in **3** or **8**
- **Green:** Years ending in **4** or **9**
- **Blue:** Years ending in **5** or **0**

Queen rearing at home – Bob Dewar

Bob Dewar, who is retiring after many years of beekeeping, has continued in his experimental phase! Bob spoke to us about various methods for a backyard beekeeper to raise **quality queens**. He briefly showed the Nicot System. Systems like this are resource-intensive and yield more queens than a backyard beekeeper might need. Bob had previously spoken to us about using queens from swarm cells and relocating these to a small box.

Swarm cells yield generally higher quality queens than those resulting from supersedure or emergency cells. Timing of course has be just right in order to not lose the original queen.

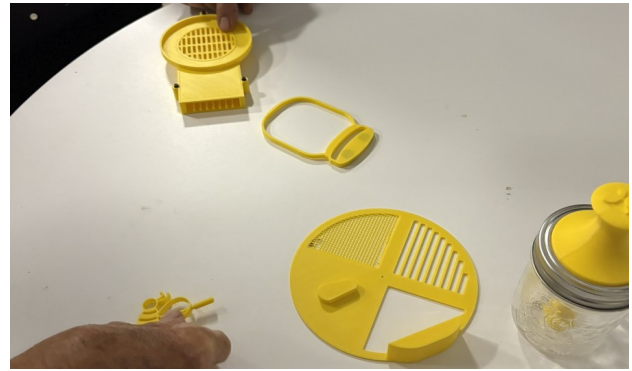
Bob modified a couple of boxes to assist in raising queens from freshly laid eggs. In one, the queen is restricted to a single frame for a couple of days. The frame with fresh eggs is then placed **horizontally** in a modified hive shim or extender above the top frames. The allowed the queen cells to be raised vertically, facing downward, which results in larger, higher quality cells. After 10 days, capped queen cells could be isolated using a queen cage embedded into the frame. If anyone is interested Bob still has limited inspected equipment for sale.



Members participated in a queen-spotting exercise!

Show and Tell

Otto presented the remains of a disassembled coffee maker. The hot plate proves useful for **wax melting**.



Some interesting 3D-printed items were on display

Swag draw!

This meeting had **multiple door prizes** from the Backyard Birder. Congrats to all the winners.

Upcoming Meeting

Our next public meeting is scheduled for **September**.

Memberships

Thanks to those who renewed their memberships! 12-month Memberships can be paid in person at the meeting or by e-transfer (*new address TBD*)

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

- Seniors or students \$15
- Individuals \$20
- Family \$25

Keep in touch with us!

On Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551619900921>

On the Web

SudburyBeekeepers.com

You can also email us at

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