



# National Newcomers Association

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## CANADA

### **Moving from Newcomers to Alumnae Ceremony**

Here we are at our last meeting of this membership year. We have welcomed many new members this year but as they say, “The good sometimes has to come with the bad or sad.” And, sad it is, to say farewell to some of our more, “experienced” members, as you end your time in NNC.

Approximately three or four years ago, you made a decision to join our club, hoping to make new friends and learn a little more about our city. You joined our activities and participated in many of our special events. Some of you took on coordinator roles. Some of you organized special activities. And some of you took on leadership roles. We have laughed with you. We have cried with you. Hugs have been shared, butts have been kicked and hands have been gently touched. Because of you and whatever role you played, our club exists and thrives.

So, tonight, we celebrate you! As you leave our club and, perhaps, move on to the Alumni club, we want to honour what you have contributed. We also want to wish you well on your journey, wherever it might take you.

The yellow rose represents joy, friendship and the promise of a new beginning. You permitted us to join you on your new journey in Nanaimo and we now give it to you as our wish for your happiness as you begin your next journey.

**(At this point, I address each person who is moving on with a few sentences regarding their personal contribution to the club or a funny story about their time with us as I present each with a yellow rose)**

So, to you, all of our friends, rather than focusing on goodbye, we will focus on the beautiful memories we have made together because within these memories of the past lies the hope and joy of the future.

**Thanks to Sue Davis, Nanaimo Newcomers Club who has generously shared this information.**

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