

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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## NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

Today (Nov 21):

Next Week (Nov 28):

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
Nov. 22: Laurie Anderson	Nov. 26: Matt and Lynda DeBruyn
Nov. 23: Lynda Lawrence	

## CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Tue. Dec. 12	Noon	AGM & Election of Officers	Bella Vita Restaurant
Sat. Dec. 16		Rotary Christmas Party	Clint & Cheryl Callison – <a href="#">10145 247B St, Maple Ridge</a>
Sat. Dec. 16		CP Holiday Train	<b>Train arrival</b> - Haney: 7:30 PM Pitt Meadows: 8:45 PM
Feb. 9-11		Presidential Peace Building Conference <a href="https://environmentandpeace.com">https://environmentandpeace.com</a>	Hyatt Regency Vancouver

## LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Libby Nelson read out the nominating committee's nominations for next year's directors and officers. Libby called for other nominations from the floor, and hearing none, advised that the following parties had been nominated for 2018/2019 meadow Ridge Rotary club year:

Vice President: Clint Callison  
 Secretary: Deborah Hyslop  
 Treasurer: Walter Volpatti  
 Club service: Adrienne Dale  
 Community Services: Mike Davies  
 International service: Eric Mollema  
 New Generations: Sharon Kyle  
 Vocational service: Matt DeBruyn

**Nominate yourself as President or President-Elect!**

Guests: Gord and Mary Robson, and Greg Lane

President's quote for the day:

*"Every cloud has its silver lining, but it sometimes difficult to get it to the mint"*

(Speaking of silver and the mint, are overworked coin makers at the Royal Canadian Mint the only people who are likely to strike because they want to make less money?)

Happy and Sad "Loonies" (aka "moola" or "dough"):

**Guest Gordon Robson** put two "10 spots" in the cup because he was 'just happy to be here'.

**President Libby** threw a "clam" in the Kitty, for the same reason.

**Mark Vosper** threw in a couple of "smackers", stating that he had attended a successful dinner to raise funds for the Mexican earthquake disaster on November 10. From their vantage point, they got front row seats to watch the firefighters put out the blaze of the old Mussallem Motors building on the corner of 223rd St. and the Lougheed Hwy.



**Ineke Boekhorst** found a “shekel” in honour of her trip on the weekend to Kelowna to visit her daughter and family, and warned anyone travelling in that direction to make sure they had good snow tires. She found some more “scratch”, and advised that, this year again as a fundraiser, the Club will be selling plants for Christmas. In addition to cyclamen, poinsettias can be purchased.

Our guest speaker, **Darrell**, threw in a “fin” just because we invited him.

Program: Darrell Burnham - Coast Mental Health

About Darrell:

Darrell is the Chief Executive Officer of Coast Mental Health Corporation (“Coast”), and has been a Rotarian for the past 25 years. He is currently a member of the Port Moody’s Rotary Club, and was our Assistant Governor in the years when Marco Terwiel and Lynda Lawrence were our club presidents.



About Coast:

Coast is a Vancouver non-profit society that runs 40 housing sites across Metro Vancouver. It also operates its residential Rehabilitation and Recovery Program out of the Hillside and Brookside cottages on the grounds of the former Riverview Hospital in Coquitlam. The program supports 15 women and 25 men with severe mental illnesses as well as addiction who are working towards recovery.



In Maple Ridge, Alouette Heights opened on Brown Avenue and 222nd Street as a transitional housing facility, where people entered with a plan of eventually moving into their own place after two years. It was run by the Alouette Home Start Society. As of last year, Alouette Heights had moved 74 people into permanent housing since opening. At that time, 16 of the 45 tenants had been there since the building opened. Last fall, it told B.C. Housing it would no longer manage the building. Coast took it over on March 1, 2017.

Darrell said the goal is to get people into their own place, often with the help of rental supplements, instead of living in the studio suites indefinitely. Usually, each year, between 10 to 20 per cent of residents in Coast Mental Health facilities move on to living independently.

Darrell advised that the number of homeless have doubled in the lower mainland since 2004. There are currently approximately 3,000 homeless people in that area. Prior to the mid-1990s, we did not see people on the streets of Vancouver. Now, they are everywhere. Also, the length of time that people are homeless is increasing, and there are a lot more people who are homeless for more than a year. When a person becomes homeless, if they can get back into a home within 30 days, they are less likely to remain homeless.

In BC, only 4% of homeless people are veterans (the percentage is much higher in the United States).

While only 3% of the population in British Columbia are aboriginals, one in three homeless people in Vancouver are First Nations peoples. In Maple Ridge, only 5% of the homeless people are aboriginals.

Statistics indicate that 17% of homeless people have no health problems. 40% have one health problem. More than 50% of homeless people have more than one health condition, including mental health issues.

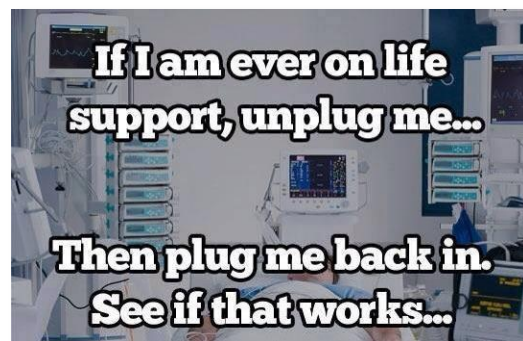
Asked whether it is true that people living on the street are reluctant to go into housing, Darrell said he does not believe so. He believes that without providing adequate housing, the problem will not be solved. One reason why 16 of the 45 tenants in Alouette Heights had been there since the building opened, it’s because there is a lack of facilities to allow them to move forward. Coast believes that there are three essential pillars of sustained recovery: housing, support services, and employment and education, and Coast works to provide all of these services.

50-50

President Libby pulled the six of hearts. “Aha, so you missed me again”, snickered the elusive Queen.



President’s closing quote:



Submitted by Laurie Anderson