

## WHAT IS ROTARY?

Rotary is what is known as a 'Service Club'. Under the motto '**Service Above Self**' Rotary club members work together to make our local communities and the world a better, fairer and more peaceful place. This may sound like a modern idea, but Rotary has been doing this for over 100 years!

Our activities include fundraising and volunteering. In simple terms we raise money so we can give it away to worthwhile projects and causes both locally and overseas.

Learn more about Rotary. See what we can do for you or what you can do for us. There is 1.2M Rotarians around the world, in over 160 countries. We welcome members from every culture, creed, race, colour and gender identity.

With your help and that of future generations, we will continue to work towards greater humanity, peace and understanding for another 100 years!

Oakville has three very active Rotary Clubs, as well as, a Regional Passport Club for members with less time. Youth interested in Rotary can volunteer at our many community and fundraising events and/or join an Interact Club in high school or a Rotaract Club if over age18.

### OAKVILLE YOUTH-FOCUSED ROTARY PROGRAMS

Every year, some of the local Rotary fundraising proceeds go to support the following youth programs:

### Oakville Rotary Education Awards

Every year, Oakville Rotary Clubs **give \$60,000 in bursary and scholarship awards** to about 30 grade 12 students to assist them with post-secondary education. Look online for applications and details.

#### Camp Enterprise

Annually In April, the Halton Rotary Clubs **sponsor 50+ high school students** to attend this wonderful residential **4-day finance and business leadership camp**. It is designed and delivered by local Rotary business leaders. Ask your guidance counsellor if you can apply.



# Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)

In May each year, Oakville Rotary Clubs pay for **6 emerging community student leaders** to participate in an intensive **6-day leadership camp experience**. Past attendees have described it as 'life changing'. It is definitely thought provoking and fun for the 30 participants. See the local Rotary Club websites for details and application forms.

### High School Interact Clubs

Interact is Rotary for High School students. While newer ideas such as 'Me to We' and other school based fundraising and social justice clubs are pertinent, few have the history, mentoring capabilities and more importantly, the leverage of Rotary. This allows even **a few committed high school students to actually make a difference** in the lives of others, both locally and internationally. Ask if your school has an Interact Club you can join.

### Rotaract

Rotaract is Rotary for young adults aged 18-30 years. It is run like a traditional Rotary Club but with modifications to suit the busy lives of early career professionals and the semester structured year of students. Some, but not all, Rotaract Clubs operate on the campus of Universities and Colleges. The Oakville Rotaract does not as it is open to anyone in the appropriate age group who is interested in volunteering. Organizing or **getting involved** in community and fundraising events or international service projects is all possible. While Rotaract also has the motto of **'Service Above Self'**, there is no doubt that being an active member can boost your personal and professional skills, as well as give you access to **valuable networking and mentorship** opportunities that can enhance your professional resume. Look for a Rotaract Club at your postsecondary institution when you graduate high school.

### YOUTH VOLUNTEER HOURS

Throughout the year, the Rotary Clubs in Oakville **provide numerous volunteer opportunities** and can provide the necessary paperwork for students' high school community service volunteer hours. Look for community event notifications in the Oakville Beaver, through your school guidance office, online through sources such as the Volunteer Halton Website, or on the Website or Facebook pages of the local Rotary Clubs.