

ROTARY LAKESHORE IN ACTION

Club Donates \$50,000 to Purchase Transportation Vehicle!

The Club is pleased to announce it has been able to provide a \$50,000 donation to Happy in my Home to support the purchase of a new transportation vehicle to help provide safe, affordable, and reliable rides for older adults and adults with disabilities across Niagara.

This donation highlights the growing demand for accessible transportation services and demonstrated how replacing the organization’s current leased vehicle would reduce operating costs and allow additional resources to be redirected toward expanded driver hours and increased ride availability. From January 1 to October 31, 2025, Happy in my Home delivered 10,211 rides across the Niagara Region, including 3,324 rides for residents living in St. Catharines. The new vehicle is expected to help provide an additional 48 to 60 rides each month for community members who rely on the service.

The program remains intentionally affordable, charging only 65 cents per kilometre for out-of-town trips and \$13 for local round-trip rides with up to two stops. These rates are made possible through the dedication of paid drivers and carefully screened volunteers.

The vehicle will be formally unveiled at 5:15 p.m. during the Rotary Club of St. Catharines Lakeshore’s 40th Anniversary Celebration on Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at Queenston Mile Vineyard in NOTL.



UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Jun 10, 2026
**Club Assembly/
Intro by New Member Judy DeCosta**

Jun 24, 2026
Pam Sharp
Niagara Children's Centre update



Rotary really needs those groups or society of people who share the same interest or beliefs and has a common goal, which is possible by fellowship.

BINGO VOLUNTEERS IN JUNE

We have two regular dates in June plus one more – all 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Mon June 1 - Anne and Marlene
Thurs June 18 - Sandi and Gary
Tues June 30 - Annette and Beth

We need two volunteers per session.

Reminder: you must come in your blue rotary shirt and black pants.

President's Report



May had several significant developments on our two major projects. Annette delivered a cheque to Community Services of Niagara's "Happy in my Home" program for the first payment of our \$50,000 commitment. This enabled Happy in my Home to take possession of the brand new SUV they will be using to transport older adults and adults living with disabilities, enabling them to live independently in their own homes. The other significant development is the signing of the agreement with the City of St Catharines to provide funding for the construction of a sun shelter at Berkley Park. Our \$30,000 commitment allows the City to proceed with construction next month. The shelter will be identified with "Rotary Club of St. Catharines Lakeshore" signage

On May 27th, the Youth Exchange Committee had a wonderful evening for all three St Catharines Rotary clubs to recognize our exchange students, including Yuuka Kubota and the host families who have taken such good care of Yuuka while she has been with us. The Fellowship Committee is hard at work planning our 40th Anniversary Celebration, and it is coming nicely into place for June 17th at the Queenston Mile Vineyard. On a sadder note, long-time members Eric Jones and Elaine Richard have tendered their resignations to the Club. Both have made significant contributions to the Club's success over the years, and they will be missed. We all wish them both well. On a happier note, I want to extend our heartiest congratulations to Sylva Okpara, who graduated from his Master of Management program "With Distinction". Well done, Sylva!

Food4Kids Update

Food4Kids Food Drive Generates \$4100!

The Club held its annual Spring Food4Kids Food Drive on Friday, May 29th at the Sobey's on Scott Street. Just over \$4100 in food and cash donations was raised!

Thanks to on-site volunteers Trish S., Bryan, Marlene, Patricia M, Janet, Ellen; Coral, Bruce, Shannon, Annette and Amy as well as our Drivers Anne, Gary and Sandi. Not to forget our Double Duty unpack, sort, count and shelf volunteers at the Food4Kids warehouse itself: Amy, Trish S., Marlene and Janet!



TAKE ACTION: WWW.ROTARYLAKESHORE.COM

Peace Pole Plaque Installed

The Peace Pole project at Charles Ansell Park is now complete with the installation of the descriptive plaque by the City. The plaque was created by new Club signage manufacturer Harris Signs. The mock-up of the signage is also shown below (*you will need to zoom in on screen to read it*).



A Peace Pole is an internationally recognized symbol of the hopes and dreams of the entire human family. Placed here on the Welland Canal, part of the St. Lawrence Seaway International waterway, it is standing as a quiet symbol of reflection and hope for peace on earth. A joint project between the Rotary Club of St. Catharines Lakeshore and the City of St. Catharines, the "May Peace Prevail on Earth" inscription on the Peace Pole has been written in English, French, Japanese, and Anishinaabemowin reflecting this universal message.

Rotary is a global network of 1.4 million neighbours, friends, leaders, and problem solvers who see a world where people unite and take joint action to create lasting change across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves. Founded in 1905, Rotary conducts global forums, hosts international peace symposiums, and advances peace through collaboration with the United Nations since its inception - all in the unwavering pursuit of worldwide peace and tolerance.



Schedules

Ronald McDonald Family Room (June)

June 4 Marlene
June 11 Patricia M
June 18 Anne
June 25 Morelle

Little Lending Library (June)

June 7	Patricia
June 14	Anne
June 21	Bob B
June 28	Ellen

June Plasma Donation Date

Our next donation date is Thursday June 25, 2026!
There are still open times available. Contact Beth at bethfleton@hotmail.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Make sure to mark these future club events on your calendars. You don't want to miss out on all the action and fun!

June 17, 2026 5:15 p.m.

Happy in my Home Vehicle Reveal
Queenston Mile Vineyard, NOTL

June 17, 2026

40th Anniversary Celebration

Queenston Mile Vineyard, NOTL
Cocktails & Entertainment: 5:30 p.m.; Dinner to Follow

June 25, 2026

Plasma Donation

Foundation Corner

St. Catharines Clubs Honour Seven Paul Harris Recipients!

The Rotary Clubs of St. Catharines; St. Catharines South and St. Catharines Lakeshore recognized seven local community leaders at their Third Annual Paul Harris Celebration Evening held at Amici's Banquet and Conference Centre. Six (**Marion Markarian; George Soilis; Scott Hill; Stephen Cooper; Mike Burtnik; and Justin Preston**) were recognized as Community Paul Harris Fellows (for individuals) and one (**Cat's Caboose - Ashley Rendall, one of owners, accepted on behalf of the full Cat's Caboose ownership group**) was recognized with a Community Certificate of Appreciation (for organizations) for their meritorious service.

Our Club was pleased to recognize Mike Burtnik and Justin Preston.

Mike Burtnik of Burtnik Printing quietly supports countless local organizations by providing essential printing services often at reduced or no cost – helping charities share their message and expand their impact. Beyond his business contributions, Mike is deeply involved in community initiatives, including the Niagara Golf Marathon, the Rankin Cancer Run, and the Community Care Holiday Food Drive. Each year, his annual pig roast collects significant food donations for those in need.

Justin Preston is a powerful voice for kindness, inclusion, and hope founding Rise Against Bullying, a global movement that encourages individuals to lead with compassion and embrace their uniqueness. Through school presentations, community events, and social media, Justin has inspired hundreds of thousands with his message be the change you want to see in the world.



(back row left to right) Mike Burtnik, Scott Hill, Stephen Cooper, George Soilis (front row left to right) Ashley Rendall, Justin Preston, Marion Markarian.

Clarice West Hobbs Contemplative Garden

Len Eddie Rock Signage Installed!

Thanks to donations collected by Randi Dyck another of our Sitting Rocks has been dedicated – this one in memory of Len Eddie. Harris Signs supplied the new style signage. We also took the opportunity to replace/upgrade the damaged Bob Morningstar sign at the same time.

In Loving Memory of

Len Eddie

25 Years of Support for Rotary



Rotary



St. Catharines
Lakeshore

TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE

YEAR END *and* 40TH *Anniversary Party*



WEDNESDAY
JUNE 17



COCKTAILS
5:30 – 6:30



WITH
ENTERTAINMENT



THEN
DINNER



Tickets are now available and can be purchased here:

[https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/
40th-anniversary-celebration-6](https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/40th-anniversary-celebration-6)



40
YEARS

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF SERVICE ABOVE SELF
GOOD FELLOWSHIP • GREAT MEMORIES • BRIGHTER FUTURE

AT
QUEENSTON MILE VINEYARD
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Thank You to Our Sponsors!

Fundraising Events



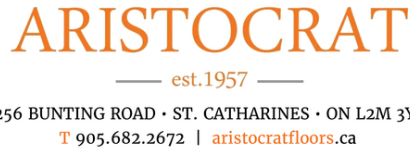
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