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| **EyeOpener February 22, 2022 – City of Camrose Update**  Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month    **This Meeting was via Zoom.** We opened with **O Canada by the Sultans of String.**    Odell read the **Acknowledgement of Treaty 6 Land:**  *We acknowledge that the Rotary Club of Camrose Daybreak is located on Treaty 6 land. This is the traditional territory and an ancient gathering place of many Indigenous peoples for thousands of years.*  *We recognize that we are all Treaty people and have a responsibility to become aware of our shared history, understand the Spirit and Intent of the Treaties and by doing so we can honour the past, be aware of the present, and create a just and caring future built upon Peace, Friendship, and Understanding.*    **Guest Speaker Harry introduced Agnes Hoveland from Camrose City Council. Agnes is in her third term on City Council. She had a career as a nurse at St. Mary’s, aided in forming the Camrose Community Cancer Clinic at St. Mary’s. She has been on many Community Service Boards including St. Mary’s, the University of Alberta Board of Governors, the University Senate and Messiah Lutheran Church Council. She is married with two children.**  She began her remarks by talking about Robyn Gray and the things she accomplished in Camrose as the Chief Librarian when Covid started.  She was accompanied by Patricia MacQuarrie, Camrose City General Manager of Community Development. Agnes spoke of the busy time the new mayor and city council have had with orientation sessions, tours of city facilities and workshops. In 2021 an office building was built in the west end and the new McDonald’s restaurant in the east end. There is a new Service Canada building, a new Medical Professional Building, and a new gymnasium for the Academy of Gymnastics being built this year. There are also plans for more residential developments.  Covid has affected everyone. Camrose had to lay off staff, the city recreational facilities were closed off and on according to provincial mandates. The Restrictions Exemption Program has now been lifted but some staff cannot be immediately replaced. This is particularly true of the new Mayer Swimming Pool, where they are having trouble finding lifeguards. Many of the lifeguards were Augustana students. Augustana returns to in person classes March 1 so this should help. There was a net loss of businesses from Camrose in the last two years, the number of businesses is the lowest in five years.  The city is entering into a four-year strategic planning process. There were 922 responses to the community survey. There will be several “Community Conversations” during the year covering: [Council Priorities & City Service Levels](https://www.ourcamrose.ca/year-of-community-conversations/widgets/112207/key_dates#34763), Business Roundtable, Arts and Culture, Environmental Sustainability, Community Building, Budget and the Camrose Police Service.  The 10-year Capital Plan continues with construction of the new Public Works Building, the upgrade to the Wastewater Treatment facilities and road improvement.    Comments included positive comments about snow removal and the maintenance of the walking paths.  Agnes was thanked for attending and will be sent a certificate denoting the vaccination of 30 children against Polio.    **Food for Thought John told us about possible origins of the phrase “the real McCoy”. Elijah McCoy was a railway engineer who invented an automatic oiler for railcars. There were inferior copies, so the railways staff began asking if this rail carriage was equipped with “the real McCoy”. The other possibility has to do with a brand of Scotch Whisky.** Larry will offer **Food for Thought** next week.    **Happy Bucks** for: finding his favourite Income Tax Program - Turbo Tax, the wonderful walking trails in Camrose, the skiing trails yesterday.    **Announcements** –   * Chase the Ace- The draw for the Handi-Van Society will take place tomorrow, ticket sales are slower than usual. The RCC will have the next two-week period designating the SOS - Service Options for Seniors. * There was a discussion of where the proceeds for our two-week period, March 9 to 23, should go. A brief discussion led to the designation of the Camrose and District Fish and Game Club—they have the paperwork completed; the Days for Girls project does not need funds now. * We continue to receive Memorial Donations for Robyn. $6,000+ has been received, to be used to fund the Imagination Library in Camrose. We were asked to consider whether we would like to add to the funds over the next three years. The RCC plans to fund 100 children per year for the next 3 years. The cost is $50 per child per year. * Craig Wendtland is willing to host a Gelato making social event in April. Members were asked to let Odell know if they are interested. 5 members expressed interest, if you were not at the meeting and are interested please let Odell know at [OdellOlson@gmail.com](mailto:OdellOlson@gmail.com). * We will oversee the joint meeting with the RCC in March. * The Casino continues to undergo repairs. The RCC announcements of meetings at the Casino are in error.   **Reminders of Upcoming Events**   * March 1 Harry has arranged for Anne Marie Robinson, Rotary International Scholarship recipient to speak. * The International Rotary Convention will be held in Houston, Texas June 4 to 8, 2022. It is presently being planned for in-person and virtual. Reduced registration is available until February 28. Downtown Houston hotels are still available. Consider attending. More information at [RIConvention.org](http://portal.clubrunner.ca/442/RIConvention.org).   **Alan led us in the 4-Way Test**.  **ROTARY JOINS LEADERS | ROTARIANS SHARE IDEAS | ROTARIANS TAKE ACTION** |
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