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| **EyeOpener March 29, 2022 – Response for Ukraine**  **Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month**  **This Meeting was via Zoom.** We opened with the Ukrainian National Anthem sang in New York by a Canadian.  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:** Jackie Lovely introducedJackie Armstrong Homeniuk, MLA for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville. She and her husband are long term residents of Vegreville and have raised 2 children there. She has experience as a journeyman hairstylist and in the insurance industry. She has owned a small business in her community for 34 years. She is on several caucus committees, the Premiers Council on Charities and Civil Society, the Skills for Jobs Task Force, and the Site Rehabilitation Program. She is the chair of the Advisory Council on Alberta Ukraine Relations.  Jackie explained the ties to the Ukrainian Culture on her mother’s side, her grandparents were immigrants from Ukraine that settled in the Chipman area. Her father was Irish. She married Joe Homeniuk from Mundare.  Ukraine has 44 million people, Canada has the third largest population of Ukrainian origin people, 350,000. The vast majority live in Alberta. The Premier initially gave $1 million dollars to the Canadian Ukraine Foundation. This was increased by another $10 million, $5 million to the Canadian Ukraine Foundation and $5 million to the World Ukrainian Foundation. She told us of a phone call this morning to a relative of a cleaning lady who told her of the number of cities that have been totally flattened by the Russians. People including seniors and mothers with children are trapped in these cities, surrounded by the Russian army with no safe way out.    She described the work of firefighters from the Edmonton area who gathered firefighting and hospital/healthcare equipment. She and her family were deeply moved when they visited the warehouse where it was being packed. The material was put on a plane to Romania and then trucked by the Red Cross into Ukraine. She later saw a gas plant fire where bunker gear from Edmonton was being used by firefighters as they fought the blaze. She mentioned the flight yesterday from Edmonton that took material to Ukraine and brought back 36 people from Ukraine. She noted that these are more “displaced persons” than refugees as they all want to return to Ukraine—they are here on work visas. Most of the people have fled to Poland, Romania, and surrounding countries in Eastern Europe. They are being offered placement in Italy, Austria, or Germany. There is concern that this does not lead to a “brain drain” from Ukraine. The situation is very fluid, constantly changing. She has been moved by the many people from many countries offering help as well as the cooperation of the Ukrainian people in together resisting the invasion—not “the Russians are coming” but “the Russians are leaving”. Universities in Alberta are offering students from Ukraine tuition-free continuation of their education. There was mention that the Camrose Refugee Group is sponsoring 4 families coming to Camrose. Odell will contact Yvonne Myrehaug to get further information.  She gave several examples of organizations where donations can be sent. The Rotary Club in Kiev, the Rotary Club of Southwest Edmonton and the Canada Ukraine Foundation are all working to help. The Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce has a form that you can fill out with resources you are willing to contribute to people from Ukraine who may wish to relocate to this area.  In response to a question about how this is affecting agriculture in the Ukraine she said that there is an attempt to negotiate a war-free green zone to allow agriculture to continue. Jackie was thanked for her presentation and given a certificate for the vaccination of 30 children against Polio.  **Happy Bucks:** For time in Mexico with his grandchildren.  **Rotary Foundation Moment**  Iryna Bushmina shares her experience with ERIC-Rotaract Europe mobilizing to help Ukraine. <https://on.rotary.org/3JjFRiW>    **Business**  **We discussed changing the number and format of our meetings in July and August. The following were brought up:**   1. **Less or no speakers** 2. **Meeting less than once per month** 3. **Social meetings like barbeques at our homes, meeting in the parks,** 4. **More joint meetings with the Rotary Club of Camrose or alternating weeks with the RCC** 5. **Vocational talks instead of speakers** 6. **Changing to evening socials with attendance of spouses instead of early am meetings** 7. **Attendance records revealed that there was little change in attendance through the summer.**   **Announcements** –   1. The Chase the Ace Draw for the Camrose and District Fish and Game Club was won by a lady from Stony Plain last Wednesday. The next draw will be for the benefit of 6th Camrose Traditional Scouting. 2. Gelato Social in April $60 per person for 3 tubs of Gelato, 10 am April 21 Thursday. There is still room for a couple of families. You may contact friends who may be interested then let Patrice know. 3. Our Bingo equipment appears to be sold to the CRE—awaiting some access issues from Eastlink. 4. There is a music concert with many local artists at the Augustana Faith and Life Chapel at 2 pm on April 2. Admission is by donation to the Ukraine.   **Reminders of Upcoming Events**   * Hybrid Meeting April 5—Safety starts here, $6 each, coffee provided. Constable Matt Rolfe and Zoe the Police Service Dog. * April 11 6 pm (6:15 if joining by Zoom) Joint Meeting with the RCC at Eats Restaurant in the Casino. Notify [camroserotary@gmail.com](mailto:camroserotary@gmail.com) by the Friday prior if you plan to attend for the meal. Coffee only will be $3. * The Board will meet by Zoom on April 12 at 8 am. * April 19 Karli Grove of the Flagstaff Scottish Club on “the Gathering of the Clans” * District Conference is May 27, 28 at Fantasyland Hotel. We have paid for five people’s registration. So far Alan, John, Morris and Odell plan to attend. * 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. Consider attending. Information at [RIConvention.org](http://portal.clubrunner.ca/442/RIConvention.org).   **Alan led us singing the *4-Way Test***.    **ROTARY JOINS LEADERS | ROTARIANS SHARE IDEAS | ROTARIANS TAKE ACTION** |
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