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| **EyeOpener May 24, 2022 Wheelchairs to Mexico**  **Youth Service Month**  **Note: the meeting of June 7 will not have any Zoom component. It will be in person only at Safety Starts here.**  **This Meeting was held in person in the “Safety Starts Here” Classroom with ZOOM on the screens. Alan led us in singing O Canada, Zoom participants were chided for not joining in.**  **Land Acknowledgement**  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.  **Happy Bucks** for: their cruise of the British Isles, their 54 Wedding Anniversary, their 45 Wedding Anniversary though they are in separate provinces, the summer weather, and the planting of gardens, being 72 years old.  **The Wheelchair Project in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico**  Chris told us how this project got started. She and her husband Don attended a meeting of a Rotary Club in Puerto Vallarta more that 20 years ago. They met Ivan, who spoke to the club in Spanish about DIVAC an organization her started to service the handicapped. He himself was quadriplegic from a diving accident at age 16. They asked if they could help. He asked them to come to his Rotary Meeting—his club was comprised mostly of his relatives. He told them he needed a bus. Later they happened to sit beside the owner of an Oilfield Trailer Company. When they told him of the request, he wrote a cheque.  They got a group of Rotary Club of Camrose members-Jerome Stetar, Bob Bell, Larry Sharuga and Don that obtained a decommissioned school bus that was checked out, reconfigured with a new driver’s seat and to comfortable bench seats. It was filled with used wheelchairs from AHS. They drove it to Mexico, there was a problem at the Mexican border but with creative documentation and an explanation they got it to Puerto Vallarta. DIVAC used it for a time but eventually obtained a smaller bus.  They continued to collect wheelchairs and ship them to DIVAC via Air Transat and Westjet until the charges for shipping made it cheaper to buy wheelchairs. They asked Sahakarini to join the project. Then Cliff Denham, who had a condo not far from the DIVAC building, was connected with Ivan through Ron Grue. Ivan found good, inexpensive wheelchairs made in China and with the help of Cliff Denham, the RCC and Sahakarini bought 32 wheelchairs. We watched a video of these 32 chairs being presented to the people chosen by Ivan and DIVAC from those who had applied for a wheelchair. The wheelchairs had a label with the flags of Canada and Mexico, DIVAC and the Rotary Wheel. The project is in jeopardy as the original participants age out of Rotary.  The Video may be watched at:  <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NY0jayj0FI9PDLXsDO3qy4eK9QG4ZONc/view?usp=drivesdk>  **Business**   * We discussed the social evening meetings for July and August. The Meetings will be held July 12 (Larry and Patrice), July 26 (Rob), August 9 (Alan) and August 23 (to be determined). Events will start at 6 pm. Hosts volunteered. The host will prepare meat or main course, participants will pay a set amount to cover the costs of the host. Participants will be encouraged to bring side dishes or desserts. Guests and RCC members will be welcome to attend. No business will be conducted.   **Announcements**   * Chase the Ace- Morris reported that the current draw which supports the Camrose Boys and Girls Club Summer Adventures Program will be drawn on June 1. The RCC will then be supporting the Fellowship of the Camrose Public Library Self-Checkout Kiosk project. Our project supporting Days for Girls will be next – June 16 to 29. A motion was passed to top up the proceeds to the DfG project to $1,000.   **Reminders of Upcoming Events**   * Flags may be returned from 3 pm to 5 pm on Wednesday May 25. * Next meeting Tuesday May 31 7 am Varghese bringing Greg King to present * June 7 Rob will have a representative of Centra Cam * June 13 Joint meeting with RCC Destiny Part 2 of the CMHA Recovery College * June 14 8 am Board Meeting via Zoom * June 21 John Stoddart and Morris regarding the Houston RI Convention * June 28 the Changeover Meeting was originally scheduled but Odell and Alan will be away so another speaker will be obtained, and the Changeover rescheduled. * Joint Executive Meeting on Thursday, June 2? Dan proposed this as a social event for both clubs outgoing and incoming executives. Odell will send out an email to see who can attend. * District Conference May 27, 28 at Fantasyland Hotel. Alan, Odell, Destiny, Rob, Morris will be attending. * 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). John is already in Houston.   **Rob led us in singing the 4-Way Test**.  **ROTARY JOINS LEADERS | ROTARIANS SHARE IDEAS | ROTARIANS TAKE ACTION** |
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