Rotary Club of Camrose Daybreak

EyeOpener September 15, 2020 Virtual Conference

September is Basic Education and Literacy Month

Odell opened the meeting for 9 members with the playing of *O Canada*

Motion Robyn Second Carol to hold meeting online, Carried

Rob related stages of the COVID-19 pandemic for **Food for Thought**. There was no expectation of this event at our New Year’s Eve parties. We started to hear about a ‘flu’ in China, nothing to worry about. Then Italy had cases, start to worry. Can it come here? Yes. 1,000s of Canadians around the world started coming home earlier than planned. Then they were told to come home. Then they could not get home.

14-day isolation, business shutdowns, sports shutdowns were happening while baking, sewing, gardening were new-found hobbies. Soon RVs, home improvement, cottages became popular. Our vocabulary gained new words/phrases: stay at home order, ZOOM, social distance, deep clean and the biggie – unprecedented.

After a few months reopening started, people engaged more, families visited, and support for small business grew. But no large gatherings, singing or many personal services were allowed.

Camrose has been lucky to date with few cases in the area and only one death. Unfortunately, complacency is settling in, especially among young people. Will a second wave hit that is worse than what we have experienced to date? To keep the Camrose bubble healthy, we need to be vigilant, wash hands frequently, social distance, wear a mask when appropriate and immediately follow up when we have symptoms.

Dean will offer **Food for Thought** next week.

**Happy Bucks**

* Morning Glory has more blooms inside shed than outside
* Taking mask off flung hearing aid on the ground, saw it and picked it up. Didn’t realize there was another part, but is being repaired
* Officers shot in Compton ambush have survived
* Started wheat combining but then it rained. Harvesting garden
* The canoes at the Rotary Youth Centre will get painted and annual flowers for next year
* Pipeline and gas-fired power plant builds have taken over all hotel rooms in Edson. Workers are buying houses and expect to be there for 2 years. 600 are involved in building the plant that will support 25 jobs when it opens and produces 8% of Alberta’s electrical needs
* Probus is hosting an in-person meeting at the Norsemen Inn
* Road trip with mom to a wedding in Victoria

**Announcements**

* Thanks Odell for the replacement door on the *Little Free Library* at Stoney Creek Centre. The oak frame will last considerably longer than the interior plywood one did
* 14 volunteers assembled 311 *Days for Girls* kits in 3 hours on Saturday
* Vegreville Rotary Club kicked off *Wine Survivor III*. Same formula as previous - registration $35 each, up to 60 teams of 5
* *Virtual Scavenger Hunt*, Camrose Rotary theme, being planned. Next meeting Thursday, September 17, 7 pm at Business IQ
* Announced at the *Vision 2020 District Conference* that our club achieved the *Rotary Citation* for meeting our 2019-2020 goals – thanks everyone

**Motion**

Moved John Second Cliff, at Board Meeting, that Alan replace Lisa (who has moved to the noon club) as auditor of the club’s 2019-2020 financials. Carried

**Vision 2020 Virtual District Conference Speakers**

* Alan Mallory – *Reaching New Heights*
	+ Alan related the climbing of Mount Everest with his father, sister and brother (his mother was to climb but suffered an ankle injury in a preparatory climb). Photos and videos illustrated the challenges of the climb. Relating aspects of the preparation, climb and problem solving to leadership qualities in Rotary enhanced the narrative. Mental toughness being more important than physical stamina was an interesting observation.
		- His challenge to us – What is your Everest?
* Dr Chris Brauer – *Creative Destruction*
	+ The presentation started with a technical presentation of nested S-curves in business. Watching alone at home you would likely pass up this presentation. Interest improved once he started talking about the Alberta Oil and Gas industry and the relationship between energy consumption and GDP or economic output – two measures that have been in lockstep for decades. The challenge he sees is decoupling these measures in a future where renewables will be unable to replace drops in fossil fuel use.
		- He has 3 challenges for us:
			* Be the Best You
			* Be 1% Better Each Day (37x better in one year)
			* Be a Lighthouse in the Storm
	+ Kathy Hawkesworth – *Your Legacy Your Way*
		- Rotary clubs and organizations form over 300 of the 86.000 charitable organizations in Canada. Rotarians are giving people but question what and when do I give. I could give through volunteering now and donate money in my will; I could give some money monthly, annually while I volunteer. Kathy suggests your first action should be to ensure you have a clear will. In your estate planning consider the tax implications of your estate. Would a 10% bequest that reduces your heir’s share by 5% be reasonable? Do you have stocks or mutual funds that would avoid capital gain tax while producing a 50% tax reduction make sense? If an endowment is of interest for immediate giving, can you make donations up to the threshold needed?
			* The Edmonton Foundation is offering a free Alberta law-based discussion of wills during Wills Week October 5th to 10th
	+ Valaria Rojas – *Project Amigo*
		- Valaria from Cofadias, Colima, Mexico was accepted into the *Project Amigo* program in Grade 6 and has graduated from university as a graphic designer. Working with migrant camp and rural youth *Project Amigo* provides the opportunity for education. Most youth leave school after elementary to work in the sugar cane fields or households to eke out a living with their family. For high school and university, funding is provided for transportation to and accommodation in Colima, meals, computer and internet access and supplies.
			* Valaria sees Project Amigo students repaying their opportunity by being the best they can be in family, school and community
	+ Valarie Wafer – Director, Rotary International
		- Valarie owned 6 Tim Horton franchises in Toronto and developed a strong interest in mental health issues. She talked about this year’s theme – *Rotary Opens Opportunities* – and the opportunities of the Rotary experience. She was in Rotary for some time when she became a Rotarian – On a service mission she was invited to be an observer at the back of the operating room during open heart surgery on a small boy. His family was very desperate for him to have the surgery. Valarie was called forward to see the surgeon repair the little boy’s heart – it was a life changing moment for the boy, his family and Valarie. She then proceeded to share how we can address the crisis of membership in North America by talking about our Rotary experience, ensuring club culture is welcoming and expose ourselves to Rotary beyond our own club by attending other clubs, district and international events.
			* Innovation in Rotary will happen at the club level. Don’t be afraid to try new ideas.
	+ Amy Smith – Youth Programs
		- Amy is a Global Grant Scholar that took her Masters in Development Practice at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia. She is now working with groups involved in working toward land acknowledgement in Australia. There are a myriad of indigenous groups and treaties have not been made. Currently there is a push to create agreements between tribes and councils. Amy traced her Rotary experience relating it to her view of development. As an Interact member in Calmar she saw development as social justice with a world view and was introduced to volunteering. In the UofA Rotaract club she saw the importance of outcomes and was exposed to the politics of decisions. The Rotaract Club of Edmonton fueled her interest in uncovering her indigenous Metis culture. It also initiated investigation of colonialism. During her studies, a major question was How do we measure development? An alternative to industrialization is the Rostow Model of Economic Development – Gross National Happiness.
			* Amy’s goal is to get an internship with United Nations Human Rights in Geneva.

**Reminder**

Next meeting September 25, 2020 7:00 am via Zoom. Odell will send invitations

Morris

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