

Rotary
Club of Grande Prairie Sunrise



New Member Handbook

Updated July 2024

Welcome to the Rotary Club of Grande Prairie Sunrise!



You have been invited to join Rotary, as your sponsor recognized you as a person of good character and reputation, a leader in your profession and in the community, with a desire to be part of our service organization.

As a new member, it will be through your own actions that you become a Rotarian, a term that means much more than just being a member of a Rotary Club.

On the following pages you will find information to help you get the most out of your membership, answer many commonly asked questions and, some interesting facts about the Grande Prairie Sunrise Club. Although your sponsor is your entrance to the Club, you are welcome to reach out to any of the membership for support and guidance, unless you have questions regarding billing and payments – please refer to our Club President, Janice.

What is Rotary?

Rotary is an international membership organization made up of like-minded people who share a passion for and commitment to enhancing communities and improving lives across the world. Rotary clubs exist in almost every country. Members change lives locally and globally. Connecting with other clubs to work on international projects that address today's most pressing challenges. Being a member is an opportunity to take action, make a difference, and create lifelong friendships in the process.

The Four-Way Test

The Four-Way Test has long served as an ethical guide for members to live by in their personal and professional relationships.

OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY OR DO:



The Objects of Rotary

These are Rotary's guiding principles. Understanding these puts your club experience into perspective and adds meaning to being a part of Rotary.

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Rotary Monthly Themes

- January Vocational Service
- February Peace and conflict prevention/resolution
- March Water and sanitation
- April Maternal and child health
- May Youth service
- June Rotary fellowship
- July New leadership
- August Membership and new club development
- September Basic education and literacy
- October Economic and community development
- November Rotary foundation
- December Disease prevention and treatment

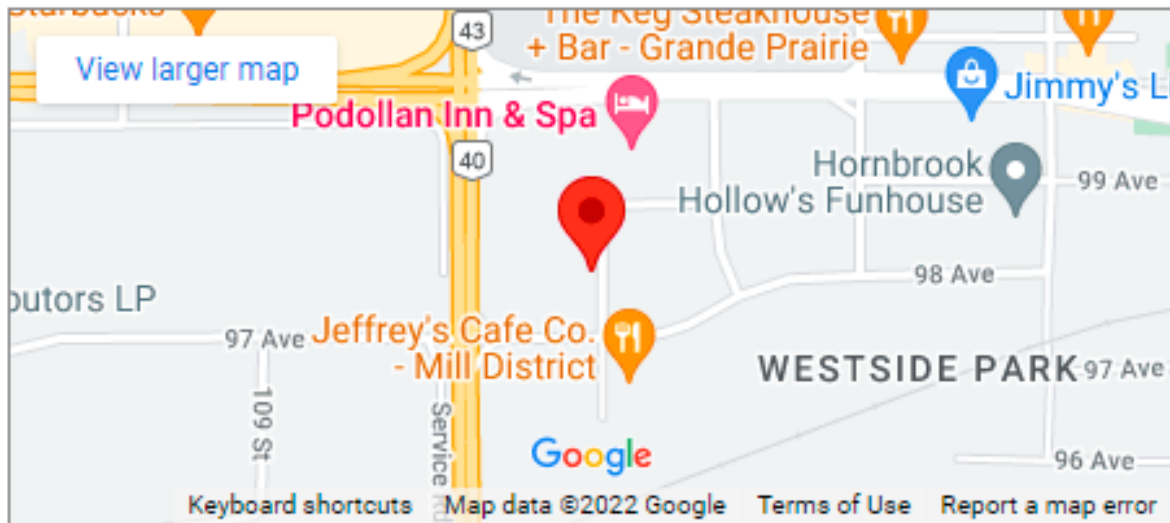
A Few Interesting Facts About Our Club

- The Grande Prairie Sunrise Club (#53331) was the third Rotary Club in the City of Grande Prairie
- We are known for being the most fun you can have on a Tuesday morning
- The Club Charter date is March 29, 2000
- Current membership of 31 active members, two honorary members, and one exchange student.

We are an energetic club and are very proud of the variety of service in our Grande Prairie community.

Meeting Information

Our Rotary meetings are held weekly on Tuesday at 7:15 am at the Holiday Inn, 9816 – 107 Street. Virtual attendance is available upon request. Every Tuesday after a long weekend is reserved as a casual meeting, and you will find us in the Sunroom off the restaurant.



Club Contact Information

Email: admin@gpsunriserotary.com

Mailing Address: PO Box 21367 Co-op Grande Prairie, AB T8V 6W7

Website: <https://www.portal.clubrunner.ca/467>

Club Fees

Fees for members of the Sunrise Rotary Club include the following:

- Rotary Dues are \$60.00 per quarter, billed quarterly
- Meal charges of \$16 per week (we are currently reviewing meal billing)
- One-time New Member Fee of \$30 to activate your official membership
- Optional fees – donations to the Rotary Foundation

Our Current Club Executive and Directors, Past Presidents, and Interact Clubs

Each has a specific area of focus and will be your resource for information throughout the year. Contact information for the current Board can be found on our Club Runner website:

[Home Page | Rotary Club of Grande Prairie Sunrise \(clubrunner.ca\)](http://clubrunner.ca)

Executive:

- President Janice Chomik
- President Elect Colby Dunham
- Secretary
- Treasurer Nevada Wafler
- Past President Tanya Ayre

Committee Chairs:

- Club Service Drew Rogers
- Community Service Lyneah Watson
- Membership Mona Grace
- International Service Clayton Grose
- Vocational Darren Young
- Foundation Connie Korpan
- Youth Service Kenzo Takeuchi
- Lottery Janice Chomik
- Outbound Exchange Kenzo Takeuchi
- Inbound Exchange Colby Dunham
- Small Allocations Nevada W/Colby D/Lyneah W/Drew R

Supported Interact Clubs:

- The Composite High School
- Charles Spencer High School

Past Presidents:

2000/2001	Lloyd Steeves	2011/2012	Mike O'Sullivan
2001/2002	Frank Appel	2012/2013	Milli Johnson
2002/2003	Colleen Tarrant	2013/2014	Jeff Keddie
2003/2004	William Hywell	2014/2015	Shirley McDonald
2004/2005	Greg Scerbak	2015/2016	Janice Chomik
2005/2006	Gladys Blackmore	2016/2017	Glen Tissington
2006/2007	Nicole McDonald	2017/2018	Sandra Impey
2007/2008	Colleen Tarrant	2018/2019	Dick French
2008/2009	Vernon Boyd	2019/2020	Frank Havies
2009/2010	Kylee Haining	2020/2021	Mona Grace
2010/2011	Tracey Vavrek	2021/2022	Jeff Keddie
2022/2023	Nevada Wafler	2023/2024	Tanya Ayre

Meeting Procedures:

Each week, Rotarians are assigned to the duty roster, which include:

Sergeant

The function of the Sergeant-at-Arms is to help maintain an orderly, dignified, and effective Rotary club meeting, one that will make the right kind of impression on club visitors and guests.

The Sergeant will be called upon at the beginning of the meeting to assign table order. (It is best to allow the presidents table / guest speaker to eat first so they can be prepared to run the meeting and provide their presentation. If the president and speaker are at separate tables you decided. The rest of the order is up to you.

Have a Sergeants Report prepared. Some people give a list of current events, some pick apart the "do's and don'ts" at a meeting, some have a "this day in history".

The goal of the report is to raise funds for the Rotary Foundation through fines and sometimes providing credits.

Have Fun with it.

Greeter

Start of Meeting

- 1) Arrive early to help set up the meeting room
- 2) Set up greeter table with:
 - a. badges
 - b. sign in sheet
 - c. visitor sign in sheet
 - e. 50/50 or Chase the Ace
- 3) Greet Rotarians and guests
- 4) Sell tickets

End of Meeting

- 6) Oversee ticket drawing
- 7) Help “take down” the meeting room

Anthem

Simple – begin the first note of the anthem – the club will promptly join

Giving Thanks / Prayer

Rotary is comprised of member from a wide range of religious faiths, and for that reason Rotary International recommends nondenominational meeting invocations that give no referral to beliefs of specific religions.

Paul Harris

Rotary started with the vision of one man — **Paul Harris**.

After setting up his law practice in Chicago, Harris gathered several business associates to discuss the idea of forming an organization for local professionals. He envisioned a place where professionals of diverse backgrounds could exchange ideas and form meaningful, lifelong friendships.

On 23 February 1905, Harris, Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele, and Hiram Shorey gathered at Loehr’s office in Room 711 of the Unity Building in downtown Chicago. This was the first Rotary club meeting.

“I was sure that there must be many other young men who had come from farms and small villages to establish themselves in Chicago ... Why not bring them

together? If others were longing for fellowship as I was, something would come of it.”

In February 1907, Harris was elected the third president of the Rotary Club of Chicago, a position he held until the fall of 1908. Toward the end of his club presidency, Harris worked to expand Rotary beyond Chicago. Some club members resisted, not wanting to take on the additional financial burden. But Harris persisted and by 1910 Rotary had expanded to several other major U.S. cities.

Harris died on 27 January 1947 in Chicago at age 78 after a prolonged illness.

His death prompted an outpouring of contributions from around the world and his name continues to evoke the passion and support of Rotarians and friends of Rotary.

Paul Harris Giving *Paul Harris Fellows*

Continuing the legacy of our founder, the Paul Harris Fellow program recognizes individuals who contribute, or who have contributions made in their name, of \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

The honor was established in 1957 to show appreciation for contributions that support our Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or an approved Foundation grant.

[Read more about Donor Recognition](#)

Paul Harris Society

The Paul Harris Society recognizes Rotary members and friends of The Rotary Foundation who elect to contribute \$1,000 or more each year to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus Fund, or approved global grants.

The purpose of the Paul Harris Society is to honor and thank individuals for their generous, ongoing support of The Rotary Foundation.

Rotary districts often honor new members of the Paul Harris Society by presenting them with a certificate and chevron at a district or club event.

More details regarding the Paul Harris Society can be found on the following website:

[Paul Harris Society | Rotary International](#)

Member Expectations

As a member of the Sunrise Rotary Club, you are encouraged to attend as many regular meetings as possible. We do not have a minimum attendance requirement, but your Rotary experience is what you make of it, so attending the meetings keeps you engaged and involved.

With that said, we recognize that this can be challenging with our busy schedules. If you miss a regular meeting, there are other ways you can make-up by:

- Attend the meeting at another club
- Attend a Rotary convention
- Work a shift for a Rotary service event such as The Dream Home, Cash and Camping, Cars for Christmas, Kettles, Ribfest, etc.
- Attend a club social event
- Attending a Rotary committee meeting

Once you have completed one of the above make-up activities, please let Val know.

As a special thank you to our members, we present those who have 100% attendance for the Rotary year with a pin in celebration of their milestone. We have many members who have had perfect attendance for every year they have been in Rotary.

Stay Informed

When you join the Sunrise Rotary Club, you will complete a New Member Enrollment Form, which is entered into the Rotary International system as well into our ClubRunner website. Once this is completed, you will have access to many sources of information about our Club, our District and Rotary International.

It is also important to understand how to locate any resources you may need from Rotary International, our District #5370 as well as our Club. You will be assigned a login for our ClubRunner website by District Office when you join



our club, and you will need to set up an account for Rotary International under the My Rotary section. Please record your login information somewhere safe as you will need it throughout your Rotary journey. More information about how to complete these steps are covered below.

Club Communication and Website Information

ClubRunner - <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/467>

This website contains information specific to our club and can be used by members to see meeting information, events, etc. It also provides important links to other clubs, our district and more. For information specific to your membership, such as your contact information, attendance, etc., you can login with your member account under the Member Login at the top right of the page.

ClubRunner App

This app can be downloaded to your phone for quick access to club information, such as your attendance, meeting information, contact info, etc. You will use the same login information as the ClubRunner website.

You can also locate club meetings anywhere in the world. Attending an out of town meeting is a great way meet fellow Rotarians and potentially collaborate on international projects.

District 5370 - <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/50012>

This website contains relevant information for our District.

My Rotary - [My Rotary](https://my.rotary.org/en) <https://my.rotary.org/en>

This website is full of resources and training to expand your Club and yourself on your Rotary journey.

Rotary International - <https://www.rotary.org/en>

This website contains all things Rotary. If you are looking for any information about Rotary in general, this is the site to check out.



Fireside

What do potential and new Rotarians want to know about? Who is Rotary? What do we do for the community? Or in the world-wide community? How much is Rotary going to cost me?

At a Fireside, we welcome new and potential Rotarians, along with our existing club members. We review your commitments, and how you can contribute in a manner that fits your personal schedule to ensure regular attendance... whether it's two hours on a Saturday morning to clean up trash on the road side, attend a committee meeting, help with a community project, or do a make-up locally or an on-line make-up. At the fireside, some of our past presidents and other long-time members share information about Rotary and can answer questions you may have about the club.

Induction

We induct all our new members officially into our club. At that time, our Membership Chair will give a brief introduction to the club and you will be presented with your Rotary Pin, as well as your Membership Certificate, Objects of Rotary and 4-Way Test plaques.

Classification Speech

This is a short presentation to introduce yourself to the club. You will be asked to speak about yourself, your family (if you so choose), your career and why you wanted to join Rotary. Speeches will be scheduled so you will have time to prepare.



Areas of Service

Rotary would be just another club, but our focus is the component of Service. Our motto as Rotarians is Service Above Self, and there are five Areas of Service which we focus on. They are Club Service, Vocational Service, Community Service, International Service and New Generations.

Club Service relates to the first part of the Object of Rotary; the development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service. This area focuses on the things we do in our club to help in function successfully. This includes items such as meeting attendance, fellowship and club events, our club Facebook page and website, and of course bringing great speakers and programs to our weekly meetings.

Vocational Service involves using our professional and business talents and resources to serve others. This area highlights the fact that Rotary was founded on the concept of networking and doing business with other Rotarians in addition to servicing society.

Community Service refers to the activities we undertake as Rotarians which improve our communities and serve the needs of those who may need our assistance. The projects undertaken in our local community are opportunities for every member to exemplify the Rotary motto "Service Above Self".

International Service relates to our unique opportunity and ability to impact the world through humanitarian service in other countries, to undertake projects designed to assist those in developing countries, to support relief and recovery efforts in the wake of disaster and to participate in programs that advance international understanding, goodwill and peace. Rotary also offers each of our members the ability to connect with people from all parts of the world through the International Convention, friendship exchanges and fellowships.

Youth Services relates to the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities, involvement in community and international service projects. There are also exchange programs that enrich and foster world peace and cultural understanding. This area also includes programs and projects involving young people under the age of 30, such as leadership and ethics training programs, Interact and Rotaract clubs and many more.



Club Events and Activities

Below is a comprehensive list and description of our club committees, events and activities that take place in our club throughout the Rotary year. As a new member, we wanted to give you an overview of these so you can start participating in any areas that you are interested in right away. This way you will get to know more of our members and start your journey as a Rotarian.

CLUB SERVICE EVENTS

These events are organized by the Club Service Director, an Event Champion or committee when needed. Most of the events are led by an Event Champion, however the fundraising events require a full committee as they are more involved at the organizing level, and also typically ask for volunteers on the day of the event.

Member social	Fellowship event held in September where members and their families can come out to Nitehawk and camp for a weekend. Saturday night there is a Family BBQ for all members, even those who do not camp, to join in for a meal.
Family Day at Nitehawk	Fellowship event held in March for a fun day at Nitehawk either skiing or enjoying the tube zone.
Golf Tournament	Fundraising event held in the summer that raises money to help support our club activities.
Guess Who's Coming to Dinner	Fellowship event held during the fall and winter months, where members are either hosts or guests of a fellow Rotarian for supper. The "guess" part is you don't know who is coming (if you are a host) or who you will be dining with (if you are a guest).
Merv Crouse Memorial Poker Tournament	Fellowship event held in April for all Rotarians to play a fun game of poker and meet members from other clubs.

Multi-club Christmas Party	Fellowship event held before Christmas for all Rotarians to come together to enjoy a meal, some Christmas cheer and entertainment.
Pool Night	Fellowship event held in March at Better Than Fred's for members to come together and play a fun pool tournament.
Presidential Changeover	Fellowship event held during the summer to celebrate the club president's year coming to an end with some fun.
Rotary Day	Fellowship event held in February where all the Rotary Clubs come together to celebrate by enjoying a lunch or event together.
Rotary District 5360/5370 Curling Bonspiel	Fellowship event held at the end of February where all clubs in the 5360/5370 districts are invited to attend a curling weekend at a host club's curling club, which changes locations every year. This is a great way to meet Rotarians from other clubs outside of Grande Prairie and is fun for all skill levels.
Scotch and/or Wine Tastings	Fellowship event held in the winter where members can enjoy a selection of scotches or wines and enjoy a meal together.

VOCATIONAL SERVICE EVENTS

These events are organized by the Vocational Service Director and a committee when needed. These events require the members to do such things as correspond with the schools or event contacts, to coordinate volunteers when required, etc.

Chamber of Commerce Small Business Week Luncheon	This is an event held in collaboration with the Grande Prairie Chamber of Commerce during Small Business Week in October. Our club hosts a luncheon which brings awareness of Rotary to the community and invites Chamber Members to join us for a meal and special guest speakers. We also present an award sponsored by our club and have a booth at the tradeshow during that week.
	This is a luncheon hosted by our club to which local area educators, staff and volunteers, nominated by their school, are invited to attend. The award recipients are then recognized at a ceremony and receive a plaque and certificate in honor of their commitment to Excellence in Education to their schools.
Growing the North Conference	This is a conference at which our club hosts a luncheon open to conference attendees and our club members to attend. We also have a booth at the tradeshow during the event.
Rotary Employment Partnership	This role is our liaison with the Rotary Employment Partnership, which is district initiative that helps connect individuals with developmental disabilities with potential employers within our community. The club member works with the District Representative to distribute information to our members and their businesses in the hopes of connecting potential employers with these individuals.

COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS

These events are organized by the Community Service Director or an Event Champion with a committee when needed. These events are our opportunity to volunteer in the community and we ask all of our members to participate in some way to make them a success.

Arbor Day	Community event held in May where our members work with local forest industry representatives to package tree seedlings, deliver them to grade one students in local schools and give a quick presentation.
Big Toy Box	Community event held prior to Christmas in conjunction with Big Country XX radio to gather, shop for and distribute toys to local area groups in need.
Food Bank Drive	Community event held in September at which hundreds of volunteers, organized by our local Rotary clubs, collect food from all over the city in teams, and deliver and sort it for the Salvation Army.
Indigenous Relations	This role is our club liaison with the Grande Prairie Friendship Centre. The club member would attend quarterly meetings, organize the volunteers to serve dinner on Tuesdays, build relationships within the indigenous community and keep our club informed.
Salvation Army Kettles	Community event held before Christmas at which our members volunteer to man a kettle to collect money for the Salvation Army.
Terry Fox Day	Community event held in September to commemorate Terry Fox by hosting a community fun run/walk to raise money for the foundation.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE PROJECTS

These projects are organized by a Club Champion, who report back to the International Service Director. Club members are asked if they would like to participate in the projects when an opportunity arises for them, which could mean driving an ambulance to Mexico, supplying books for a library, etc. The project below are our current ones, but could change from year to year.

Roatan	This project focuses on a variety of child and maternal issues in Cambodia. Some examples, are drinkable water equipment, sanitary products and training for women to start and operate a small business.
Ethiopia Support	This project focuses on collecting and shipping books, desks, etc. in containers to Ethiopia as well as raising funds to help students stay in school and finish University.
Highway to Mexico	This project focuses on the transport and delivery of emergency vehicles and equipment to Mazatlan, Mexico and surrounding communities. Rotary clubs in Grande Prairie, Edson, Fairview and Peace River purchase the vehicles to donate, as well as collect donations of retired emergency equipment to be delivered typically in March/April each year.
International Projects Committee	This committee meets as needed to evaluate, assist and organize international projects.

YOUTH SERVICES

These projects are organized by the Youth Services or an Event Champion with a committee when needed. These projects are all geared toward youth in our community and require the members to do such things as correspond with the schools or event contacts, to coordinate volunteers when required, send out paperwork and make travel arrangements, etc.

Interact Club	This role is our club liaison with the Grande Prairie Interact Club which our club sponsors. This club is a community-based service club for students aged 12-18, not unlike Rotary. Members of this committee help guide and promote membership within this club.
RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) and RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment)	This is an opportunity for student from local area schools to attend the RYLA and RYPEN events held annually. This member's role is to provide information to the schools, Interact and Rotaract clubs to inform them of the opportunity to attend these district events.
Youth Exchange Host Family	This is an opportunity for our members to host an international exchange student in their homes for approximately three months when they come for the youth exchange program.
Youth Exchange (Inbound)	This role is a member who will act as counselor for our inbound exchange student. The responsibilities include being a resource for the student and the host parents, as well as finding host families while that student is here.