



# Spinoфф

ROTARY CLUB OF WEST OTTAWA;  
Pardeep Ahluwalia, President  
January 8, 2019 Editor: Don Butler

Program: Decision on continuing the Mums for Thanksgiving fundraiser

## On duty

Greeters: **Ron Scott, Stu Picozzi**. Reception: **Hadi Mortada** Meeting fee/attendance: **Doreen Ide**. Past President's Draw: **Joan Heyland**.

## We gather

We assembled in the basement meeting room under the cathedral as we will now until spring.

At noon **President Pardeep Ahluwalia** asked us to serve ourselves and at 12:30 sharp he called the meeting to order. We sang O Canada led by Music Master **Rod Holmes** on keyboard and **Navin Parekh** gave us a thoughtful Buddhist grace i.a. inviting us to think gratefully of all the beings involved in providing our meal.

**Hadi Mortada** recognized guests Myriam Beauchamp and Meredith Mathews here with **Dirk Keenan**, Rotary Scholar Chloe Halpenny with **Joan Heyland**, and prospective member Baxter Willis. Also with us were Rotarians Jill Yarnell, Quinte Sunrise, Miriam Fraser, Nepean-Kanata and Glenn Agar and Jake Maarse from RC South Nepean. We sang them our Welcome Song, again accompanied by **Rod Holmes**

In the Past President's Draw **Joan Heyland** drew her own tickets twice but punctiliously disqualified herself both times and on the third try **Bud McGinnis** was the lucky winner.

## Announcements

**Caroline DeWitt** congratulated Jake Maarse on his Cash Calendar sales success. Remember to submit all the entry stubs as the draws would begin shortly. We will sell Calendars at Billings Bridge later this month; stay tuned.

**Brett Brooking** called for volunteers to sort shoes for Shoe Bank on January 12. Usual place.

## President Pardeep

- Birthdays: **Marilyn Letts**, January 10 and **Bill Rolph**, January 13.
- District Governor Martha Weaver visiting in February

- will be away and meetings will be chaired by **PP Linda Flynn** January 22, **PN Ali Pahlavani** January 29 and **PP Jean Bégin** February 5

### **Program: Continue Mums?**

**President Pardeep** listed the documents he had sent us including the opinion piece he had forwarded from non-member but lead Mums seller Brian Waters. He then said there would be no presentation but any who wished to speak on the subject could line up and do so. There would be a vote on continuing Mums at 1:15.

#### **Speakers:**

**Merv Letts**- Rotary Home board members surprised at cancellation of a program so important to other clubs and organizations. Merv would again drive for Mums and would help with admin. Rotary Home would supply 50 drivers.

**Ken Murray**- with Mums since beginning and seen workload increasingly carried fewer. If we continue every yes-voter must be ready to volunteer time,

**Joseph Redhead** - is prepared to chair for up to two years to allow time to find alternative fundraiser. Will need help with order processing and other pre-delivery work. Would plan to clear about \$40,000 for club. Will have a small management team- around six. Has a presentation on his plans if members ask to see it.

Jake Maarse –RCWO should be proud of Mums and it should continue. He and his club, South Nepean, will help more.

**Gaye Moffett** - Price should be raised, and someone should be hired to do some of admin. She knows people who could help find suitable employee.

**Larry Chop** - will again help with admin and driving. We need to look for new admin methods.

**Nigel Lever** – in 2018 the two Mums leaders worked the equivalent of 12 weeks, so admin needs to be and can be split. Credit card security is a ‘red herring’. His company charges over \$1 million per year with no problem and Brian Waters says none of his buyers complain,

**Andrew Young**- talked with credit card users and issuers and agrees there is no security problem. Will serve on the committee.

**Rocco Disipio**- Mums workload distribution “nature of the beast”. Alternative fundraisers e.g. golf tournaments, formal galas etc. have been successful in the past but now there is much competition in all of them. Nobody wants to take Mums because of burn-out. We must learn how to do it better. Get fundraiser experts to advise us. Let’s not cancel Mums until we have an alternative.

Miriam Fraser – has been helping WO with Mums for a long time. It is important to her Nepean Kanata club and they would be happy to help with the work.

**Brian Hartley**-he joined Rotary to be of service locally and internationally. Mums funds such service and he hopes Mums can continue,

**Alan Bowles**- Burn-out a Mums problem but must be managed. ‘Precipitous’ decision by Board to cancel leaves partners without a significant part of their budgeted income. It could isolate our club. He touched on need to brief supplier and said he would again do routing and drive this year.

**Clive Talbot**- Has seen many Rotary programs and waning of initial enthusiasm. Are we 'cheque writer' Rotarians or active in service? General calls for help not as effective as explicit requests to individuals (Editor note: Spinoff recruitment exemplifies that)

**Marcia Armstrong**-

As 2018 chair and order processor (a "killer job") she agrees 12 weeks about right. There were 153 separate orders, small and large. She feels that one person has to do this to keep control. Would minimum wage would attract a person able to do this? **Joe's** earning target of \$40,000 is more than in 2018. Given other problems how would this be achieved?

**Don Butler** asked at 1:15 that, before voting, we hear **Joe's** presentation. After a show of hands in support President **Pardeep** asked **Joe** to proceed

**Joe** reviewed the 2018 Mums campaign and then told us his committee would be smaller and more manageable than before with clear lines of responsibility. This reflected his experience in managing complex construction projects in different countries and his experience handling challenging aspects of the past two successful Mums campaigns. Experienced members have already committed to serve on **Joe's** team

**President Pardeep** then asked us to vote on continuing the Mums fundraiser or not. Most hands by far were raised for continuation of Mums with just a few for ending the fundraiser. So, Mums continues. And, responding to **President Pardeep** we endorsed **Joe Redhead** as Mums program chair. **President Pardeep** asked **Joe** to tell us January 15 who would be on the 2019 Mums for Thanksgiving committee.

**Rocco Disipio** thanked the club for deciding to continue Mums saying we would be a stronger club as a result.

**Marilyn Letts** observed, from her experience with other organizations, that some members needed guidance on how and when to volunteer. She would be prepared to help address this.

Then **President Pardeep**, in view of the membership vote to overturn the board Mums cancellation decision, asked for and received a strong show of hands confirming member confidence in the club board.

## **Happy Dollars**

**Nigel Lever** was appointed and collected from

-**Linda Flynn**, now alone as treasurer, was happy that **Brett Brooking** would take over posting to the club website.

-**Jen Ahde** put in \$20 to make up for a long absence from the club,

-**Stu Picozzi** was happy about his 4-year-old granddaughter

-**Alan Bowles** thought that the member disagreement with the board on continuing Mums had led to useful discussion. He was also happy at having had a good visit with his brother in England and renewing family contacts.

- **Clive Talbot** was happy that a young family connection in Australia was recovering well from a broken neck
- Jim Maxwell** put in \$20 for having forgotten to register for a Sally Ann Kettle shift
- Joan Heyland** told us that Rotary scholar Chloe Halpenny was now going to Oxford for a second degree.
- Bud McGinnis** put \$100 for reaching age 97 with \$3 for being given lifts to the meetings
- Bill Rolph** having reached age 80 and grateful for the medical treatment keeping him alive put in \$100
- Doreen Ide** was happy her granddaughter had won a contract to design letterhead for Estee Lauder.
- Caroline DeWitt** had enjoyed the Anthropocene Exhibition at the National Gallery

### **Meeting Ends**

**President Pardeep** closed the meeting with his reminder that Rotarians should be the Inspiration and to invite likely contacts to come to a meeting

### **Cash Calendar**

All the winner names for 2018 draws have been published in previous Spinoffs. Draws for 2019 will start in mid-January

### **Tuesday, January 15, 2019**

The Predictors for 2019:

**Rocco Disipio's** Royal Lepage colleague on Real Estate; **Cam Ross** on Finance; **Rocco Disipio** on Sports

Intro: **Graeme Fraser** Thanks: **Eric Armstrong**

Greeters: **Sabbie Duthie, Bill McIntyre** Reception: **Joseph Redhead**

Grace: **Luana Achihaei** PP Draw: **Andrew Young** Editor: **Rod Holmes**

Meeting fee/Attendance: **Doreen Ide**

### **Tuesday, January 22, 2019**

**Linda Flynn** Chairing

Peter Dalton and Christy Griffin: Bytown Brigantine Inc

Intro: **TBA** Thanks: **Jim McIntyre**

Greeters: **Ed Balys, Bill Rolph** Reception: **Dave Morton**

Grace: **Brian Foster** PP Draw: **Ron Scott** Editor: **Rocco Disipio**

Meeting fee/Attendance: **Mary Wattie**

