



SpinoFF

ROTARY CLUB OF WEST OTTAWA;
Pardeep Ahluwalia, President
23 June 2020 Editor: Jill Yarnell

On-Line meeting. Program: Committee final reports: Youth Service, Community Service_

❖ **We start**

- At 12:37 **President Pardeep Ahluwalia** welcomed us with the ringing of the ship's bell to the 42nd meeting of this Rotary Year; our 11th on-line meeting
- Spinoff editor - **Jill Yarnell**

❖ **O Canada:** Ginette Reno, author, composer, singer, and actress who belted out this version proudly while notably wearing her Montreal Canadiens sweater. Pardeep let us in on an interesting fact that O Canada was written to celebrate St. Jean Baptist day.

❖ **Moment of Reflection:** **Frank Cranton** noted that the pandemic affects our youth and suggested that the Rotary focus switch from polio eradication to helping our youth adjust to the pandemic and thus experience a brighter future.

❖ **Guests welcomed: Pres Pardeep**

- Elena Blagoslavova, president of the Rotary Club of Moscow East. She noted that the 78 clubs in Russian are one single district divided into 5 zones.
- From RC Orleans: DG elect, Fay Campbell and Area Governor, Theresa Whitmore, RC

❖ Happy birthday to

- **Ginette Thomas** - June 23
- **Brian Hartley** - June 25
- **Ron Doll** - June 26. Is donating \$82 to the club in recognition of his birthday
- **Merv Letts** - June 29
- **Jen Soucy** - June 29

❖ Announcements:

- New Rotary year starts July 1
Membership fees notices for 2020-21 have been emailed; as has a note about payment mechanisms from **Linda Flynn**. Do not send in payment before July 1, 2020
- President-Elect's Questionnaire - **Caroline DeWitt** asks that anyone who has not yet done to complete it asap PLEASE!! You will find ways listed there to choose to exercise your passion, your skills, and your interests. Also, could you please recommend some dynamic speakers.
- Acknowledgement of Club donation through the International Service Committee - **Clive Talbot / Navin Parekh** to KidsAid Trust, South Africa \$1000 in addition to the \$3000 donated earlier in the year. Dense population, desperately poor. **Clive's** sister in law established the charity to look after the AIDS-orphaned youngsters. Now children affected also by Covid. Charity disperses money to groups to prepare meals. Pro-bono auditors ensure very strict accounting, **President Pardeep** read out a letter

from KidsAid Trust which described various ways in which the money has been used to generate more donations and to keep the children engaged. Photos will be sent to **Clive**.

- **President Pardeep** announced that **Ed Balys'** daughter, Cece, passed away on June 12. Memorial donations to cancer charities welcome.
- **Jen Ahde** would go in for surgery June 23 and will have 6-8 weeks of recovery. **Joan Heyland** is sending a card on behalf of the club.
- You are encouraged to donate the normal meeting fee amount to your favourite charity, the RCWO Service Fund. to the RCWO Foundation. (And see above re Cece Balys)
- District On-Line Changeover, June 27 @ 11am - **Hadi Mortada**
- District On-Line Conference, Oct. 16-18 - **Hadi Mortada**. Sign up for the break-out sessions early because their attendance is limited
- 2020 Rotary Virtual Convention, June 20-26 - details of speakers and sessions, and registration at <https://www.riconvention.org/en/honolulu>; some session recordings are available on YouTube
- Tuesday June 30 will be our Club's virtual changeover to say goodbye to **Pardeep** as president and to welcome **Caroline DeWitt** as our new club president. It is also the fifth meeting of the month and thus Partners' Day. So next Tuesday so bring your partner online and something to toast our new **President Caroline** with.

RCWO Board Membership for 2020-21- Jean Bégin

- **Pres: Caroline De Witt**
- **Pres: Elect: Chris Wanna**
- **Pres. Nominee: Graeme Fraser**
- **Past Pres: Pardeep Ahluwalia**
- **Secretary: Dave Morton**
- **Treasurer: Linda Flynn**
- Directors: Community Service and Youth: **Robert Shaw Wood**
International service: **Henry Akanko**
Club Service and Fellowship: **Larry Chop**

Motion: Approval of the slate of officers. Seconded by: **Andrew Young** CARRIED

NB) **Linda Flynn** will step down from the position at the end of the next Rotary year so we are looking for a new treasurer.

Program: Final Committee Reports

Youth Service, Jill Yarnell

Due to our Rotary club's strong history of dedication to youth, the Youth Service committee was able to achieve the majority of the goals set out at the beginning of the Rotary Year despite the pandemic which disrupted the Interact Club and the Youth Exchange.

The majority of the programs culminate at the end of the school year and Committee members had to make extra effort to ensure that our school partners were able to achieve their commitments. The Youth Service committee participated in the Interact Club of Woodroffe High School, RYLA, the 4 Way Test Awards, two bursaries, a scholarship, and a Youth Exchange.

Interact Club meetings were held until March at which time school closures necessitated the cancellation of the remainder of the programs. Two students attended the virtual RYLA. Our Club agreed to run a Youth Exchange jointly with RCs Bytown and Ottawa Metro but it was postponed for a year. The outbound student was to go to Denmark and is interested in participating when the program resumes next

year. Bursaries and scholarships totalling \$2500 were awarded and will be presented formally in the fall. The Pallister scholarship will also be given in the fall. Four-Way Test awards have been given at our six elementary school partners.

[See YSC slide presentation appended to this Spinoff]

Questions: Answering **Rod Holmes Jill** recalled that the teacher guiding the Interact Club sometimes brings students to Club meetings and Four-Way test Award winners and parents are invited. Club members help chaperone the Woodroffe HS AWAKE program. **Jill** agrees that it is a good idea to have students attend our meetings when appropriate

Community Service, Dave Morton

Thanks for all of the suggestions from Club members. We acted on about half of them. We provide assistance to people and organizations in the community in a time of need. We avoid making donations to large charities and identify ones that are in greater financial need. The grand total of disbursements of \$22,295 went to a very diverse group of local organizations.

We assist the Cityview United Church annually in their provision of Christmas hampers for the Caldwell Community Center. We donated to the Rotary Home comforter campaign, to Kelly McKibbin for family medical expenses, to the Parkdale Food Centre, and to Cornerstone Housing for women. (As an aside, **Peter Fisher** has been donating the proceeds from mask sales to Cornerstone Housing for women.) We donated to The Ottawa Ski Hawks' ski program for the visually impaired and to Sir Robert Borden HS swim program for children who have autism. Mothers at the Youville center received a \$25 gift card each for The Children's Place but no bursary presented because there were no graduation ceremonies.

Many donations were made to food banks for COVID-19 needs. For front line workers' PPE needs, we donated to the Ottawa Hospital foundation as well as to Center 507 drop-in center. The Odawa Native Friendship Centre received both disposable and reusable face masks. Veterans' House (part of MFHI) is nearing completion and we donated toward the programing that will occur there. We also donated to Salvation Army pandemic service needs and to the Hit the Streets direct outreach to the homeless. Overnight summer camps have been cancelled so we donated to virtual camps at Christie Lake and Easter Seals of Ontario.

For next year we have received some suggestions already from Club members. We would like to have representatives of some of these recipients come to speak at our Club meetings.

Questions: **Ken Murray** -Would it be possible to have this Community Service summary as well as that from the International Service committee posted on our web site in the members only area?

Answers: **President Pardeep** 'Excellent idea.' Will organize it with the web master. **Dave:** will enhance the details for the web site.

Happy Dollars ("Your Personal Minute". Club members' comments, max. 60 secs)

- ❖ **Hadi Mortada** The District Conference is FREE!!! Everyone sign up. The aim is to have 500 participants.
- ❖ Guest Elena Blagoslavova invited our members to attend her club meetings and she had a special message in Russian for **Inna Flyazhenkova** who had lived in the same city as Elena did.
- ❖ **Andrew Young's** granddaughter made him a tie that says "Grandpa" for him to wear to the changeover meeting.
- ❖ **Sucha Mann** went to see **Ed Balys**. He and **Ed** swam 2 km at Kennedy Side Road near Constance Bay. **Ed** does that swim almost every day. Also, **Sucha** had installed an extra rain barrel to water his vegetables.
- ❖ June 23 was is **Bill Rolph's** 34th wedding anniversary. He is very happy about that but not that he cannot see his Grandchildren for a while.

- ❖ **Ken Murray** is happy that the Cash Calendar winner names will be posted soon as all his customers are winners >).
- ❖ Fay Campbell calls this time of online Rotary meetings the “COVID gift” because it gives us the chance to meet people all over the world.
- ❖ **President Pardeep** will attend a presidential changeover next week in Florida and Fay will be there too.

Meeting ends

President Pardeep reminded us that the June 30 meeting would be both the Changeover and a Partners’ Day and he reviewed responsibilities for the meeting. There were no meetings to follow and members raised no other items so President Pardeep again gave us his closing reminders-

- ❖ The strength Rotary and of our Club is in its members.
 - ❖ As we enter the new normal following the lifting of restrictions, there will be many people and communities in need of our help; we will need to be strong to provide that support.
 - ❖ We are Rotarians, and we are People of Action!
 - ❖ We are proud of the difference we can, we do, and we will make!
- and adjourned the meeting at the 1:56pm with the ringing of the bell

Cash Calendar

Information on winning entries will be published in a later Spinoff

Appendix: Youth Service Committee slide presentation

Tuesday, 30 June 2020 12:30pm

ChangeOver meeting. Also Partners’ Day
 Co-Chairs **Pardeep Ahluwalia** and **Caroline DeWitt**
 Editor: **Graeme Fraser**
 Moment of Reflection: **Carol Bell Thompson**

ZOOM meeting at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82444180906?pwd=aFNZdnpGRUN3VW9ZNkFidzdLM2JyZz09>

See **President Pardeep** message of June 28, 2020 for log-in details

LOOKING AHEAD: Tuesday, 7 July- **President Caroline DeWitt:** - *A vision for RCWO in RY 2020-21*