



Spino-ff

ROTARY CLUB OF WEST OTTAWA

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Marcia Armstrong, President
October 22 2024 Editor: Don Butler

This meeting was hybrid
(In person at **New Desi Zaiqa Restaurant**
Carlingwood Shopping Centre)

Program: Raymond Leury - Electric Vehicles and Climate Solutions

In-person: 30 members, 1 guest
Online: 22 members, 2 guests

Meeting Video: <https://youtu.be/ODFWY1xV3T8>

President Marcia Armstrong welcomed members to the 17th meeting of the 120th Rotary Year. She began by acknowledging the traditional and unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe people, sharing a reflection on how distancing from nature can harden our hearts. The guest speaker was Raymond Leury, President of the Electric Vehicle Council of Ottawa.

O Canada video sung by Michelle and Monique Creber with orchestration by Michael Creber. Canadian scenes

Announcements re World Polio Day October 24

President Marcia reminded us of Rotary's significant role in the fight to eradicate polio. She played a video message from Bill Gates, highlighting the progress made since Rotary launched the Global Polio Eradication Initiative in

1988 when 350,000 children world were paralyzed by polio each year. In 2023 it was down to 12.. Gates thanked Rotarians for their relentless efforts and emphasized the importance of finishing the job and told us about new tools to do it. But if polio is anywhere it can come back everywhere and it remains endemic in Afghanistan and Pakistan

Gord Leverton encouraged members to join the Polio Plus Society by pledging a US \$100 annual donation. The Club's foundation will match member donations up to a total C\$2,500

Presentation

Caroline DeWitt , for the Environment Committee, introduced our speaker, Raymond Leury, President of the Electric Vehicle Council of Ottawa (EVCO). Raymond bought his first EV 11 years ago and now devotes time to educating others about EVs and climate solutions.

Raymond started by giving an overview of the Electric Vehicle Council of Ottawa, a non-profit organization focused on promoting EV adoption and debunking common myths about electric vehicles. He explained that the internal combustion engine (ICE) is highly inefficient, with 80% of the energy in gasoline wasted as heat, while EVs operate at 75-90% efficiency, making them a far more efficient and environmentally friendly option.

One of the key benefits of EVs, Raymond noted, is lower maintenance costs. For example, brakes in EVs last 4-5 times longer than in traditional cars due to regenerative braking. Raymond shared his personal experience, mentioning that he didn't need to change the brakes on his first EV until it had reached 275,000 kilometers. Additionally, EVs have fewer moving parts, reducing the need for repairs and maintenance.

Raymond also highlighted the potential for vehicle-to-grid technology, which allows EVs to store excess energy and return it to the grid during peak demand. This could help balance the grid, especially as renewable energy sources like wind and solar become more common. He cited California's plans to mandate vehicle-to-grid functionality in new cars, suggesting that this trend will soon extend to Canada as well.

Raymond tackled concerns about battery life and charging infrastructure. He shared that the batteries in modern EVs can last over 300,000 kilometers and often outlast the cars themselves. He also addressed the perception that there aren't enough charging stations, showing maps of the extensive charging networks available across Canada, especially along major highways. This means that even with cold weather range loss you still get a reasonable distance and there is charging infrastructure to support the trip. Fires are much less frequent with EVs than with gasoline powered cars. EV sales may be down a bit right now but there is no reason not to expect normal growth, He concluded by dispelling fears about the environmental impact of EV batteries, noting that while lithium mining poses challenges, it is significantly less harmful than the continuous extraction and burning of fossil fuels. Furthermore, EV batteries are recyclable, and the metals used can be repurposed for future batteries.

Q&A Highlights:

- Raymond responded to a member's concern about installing EV chargers in condo garages. He explained that many condos are reluctant to invest in charging infrastructure, but there are pilot projects underway to help solve this issue. He reassured the audience that most condos have enough capacity to support EV chargers. **Beryl Puddifer** noted that getting a Flo charger could be an option.
- Plug-in Hybrids: In response to a question about plug-in hybrids, Raymond acknowledged that they were once a good compromise, but as battery costs have decreased, they now offer less value. He also pointed out that plug-in hybrids tend to pollute more than fully electric cars due to the frequent starting and stopping of their engines.

Caroline DeWitt thanked our speaker for debunking EV myths and told him of our donation to End Polio to mark his visit.

Club Business and Happy Dollars:

1. **Past Presidents' Draw:** The winning ticket was drawn by **Miriam Fraser** and **Gaye Moffett** was the lucky winner.
2. Resilience 1000 Update: **Hugh Williams** updated the club on his Resilience 1000 campaign, announcing that he had just five more

days to complete his goal of running 1,000 kilometers to raise funds for mental health.

3. Calendar Sales: **Susan Diening** urged members to sell more of the club's Rotary calendars, as they are a crucial fundraiser for community service programs. 2500 have been taken by sellers but she still has 1500 available. Taking some is fine but get them sold.
4. Soc and Rec: Tour of the Canadian Museum of agriculture and food Nov 16 If we get two more participants, we could have a guided tour. Price \$15 (\$13 for seniors). Let Lynn Fraser know by Nov 1. Otherwise self-guided visits cost \$19.50. Lunch afterwards at a pub on Preston Street.
5. Attendance pins in for **Lynn Fraser, two years.. Don Butler, six .: Jean Begin. Nine; Ken Murray 12 years; Brett Brooking, 13. Fred Christie, 17, Gord Leverton, 22 years,Susan Deining ,23 years. Jim Maxwell. 33 years John Kersley, 33 years.. And Rod Holmes. 41 years.** Zoomers should collect their pins at their next in-person meeting.
6. Christmas Program: **Gaye Moffett** called for more people to sign up to give 5 minute stories of Christmases they remember. Examples? Email **Don Butler** for a Spinoff of a past Xmas program

Closing:

President Marcia told us about the Oct 29 program where we would hear how athletes get their heads around what they're going to be doing. Adjourn.

Calendar winners

<https://rcwo.org/>

**Next Meeting - Hybrid
Tuesday, October 29 2024**

New Desi Zaiqa Restaurant
Carlingwood Shopping Centre
Luncheon at noon. Meeting at 12:30

Program: Dr. Kyle Paquette- Sports Psychology & Mental performance in sports.

Intro and thanks: **Jen Ahde**

Spinoff: **Don Butler**

For log on info for Zoom see invitation

