



The Celebrations have officially begun
ROTARY CLUB OF WINDSOR (1918) CENTENNIAL KICK-OFF LUNCHEON
Celebrating 100 Years of Service Above Self

After years of keen anticipation and planning, the Rotary Club of Windsor (1918) has finally started its centennial year celebrations. Yesterday's Kick-Off luncheon was a truly momentous occasion, and with close to 300 people in attendance, the feeling of excitement in the room was undeniable.

The event focused on the many projects Rotary Club of Windsor (1918) has made happen in the past as well as what they have in store for the future. We were reminded of local Rotary initiatives such as Easter Seals, the John McGiverny Centre, Maryvale, Art in the Park and many others, as well as international programs, like building infrastructures to help with delivering clean water to those who would otherwise have gone without in Africa, and helping to eradicate polio worldwide.

In terms of what the club has planned for 2018, Maureen Lucas, chair of the Rotary Club of Windsor (1918) Centennial Committee, explained that we're all "really excited about what the next year will bring". The committee wanted to focus on contributing towards legacy projects that would not only help both local and international communities, but that would have a lasting impact.

"It's our hope that the piece we're doing with the City of Windsor downtown on the riverfront will attract visitors from near and far, and that they're not just going to see a wonderful community project" says Lucas "but they're going to see Rotary as a partner with the city".

The audience was advised to mark May 12th in their calendars: In addition to the grand opening of the Centennial Plaza, also planned for that day is the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Centennial Hub (connecting trails across the county), as well as the Rotary Club of Windsor (1918) Centennial Gala. Rotary International President Ian Riseley and his wife, Past District Governor Juliette, will be guests of honor at the event, which will be held at the Caesars Augustus Ballroom. Past Rotary International Vice President Jennifer Jones will be emceeding the event.

Other initiatives planned for the upcoming year include scholarships, international projects, a speaker series and a museum exhibit to open in July as part of the club's centennial legacy projects.

Other highlights of the afternoon included the patriotic performance of "This Is My Home" sung by the Windsor Symphony Orchestra Choir and a powerful video screening of the club's history over the years.

Please click here to see the video depicting the history of the Rotary Club of Windsor (1918):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHONrVcB4dc&t=218s>

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