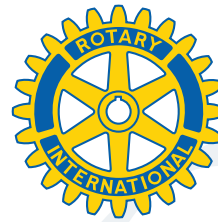


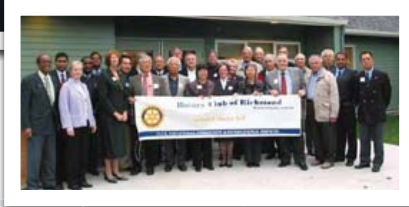
The Rotary Club of Richmond's 50th anniversary

The Rotary Club of Richmond celebrates 50 years of making a difference



The Rotary Club of Richmond celebrates

50 years
of Friendship and
Community Service



Clockwise from top left: Rotary Charter Members, MacDonald Beach project in 1979 and Rotary Hospice House.

In the last 50 years, the Rotary Club of Richmond has been instrumental in numerous community activities. These include major fundraising for the establishment of Rotary Hospice House on No. 4 Road and more than half a million dollars in direct donations to the Richmond Hospital Foundation.

More recently, the club organized a highly successful Tribute to Seniors Gala. This event raised over \$350,000 which benefitted Lions Manor, Rosewood Manor and Rotary Hospice House.

In addition to its support to the Richmond community over the years, the club has hosted international student exchange programs, and provided financial support to international projects such as the Refilwe Community Project in South Africa and Shelter Boxes for disaster relief.

The club will celebrate its accomplishments at a Gala Evening on April 15 at the River Rock Show Theatre. More than 350 guests are

expected to attend the event, which is being dedicated to Canada's service men and women.

Richmond Rotary is committed to continue its fundraising endeavours for the benefit of Rotary Hospice House, the Richmond Hospital Foundation and the community's youth. Rotary and all other service organizations depend on the community's support and are challenged with the void left behind after the death of Milan Ilich who was a major contributor. The Rotary Club will pay tribute to Mr. Ilich at its 50th anniversary celebration.

For ticket information see, www.clubrunner.ca/richmond.

Rotary is a worldwide organization of more than 1.2 million business, professional, and community leaders. Members of Rotary clubs, known as Rotarians, have a commitment to "Service Above Self" by providing humanitarian service, encouraging high ethical standards in all vocations, and helping to build goodwill and peace in the world.

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The Rotary Club of Richmond celebrates

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5:30pm



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Funds raised will assist scholarships, bursaries, Rotary Hospice House, disaster relief and many other Rotary endeavours.

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The Rotary Club of Richmond's 50th

Rotary Hospice House provides loving surroundings

The Rotary Club of Richmond has had many significant achievements over the past half-century, but one of its greatest was the opening of Rotary Hospice House in 2005.

In the early 1990s, Nancy Yurkovich had a vision of establishing a hospice as an alternative to hospital and home, a place where individuals and their families would be supported at end of life.

As a citizen of Richmond and wife of a Rotarian, Nancy took the club on a journey to make this vision a reality, hosting community forums, family surveys and visits to other hospices.

The Rotary Club of Richmond became convinced of the merit of this idea.

With the leadership of Chuck Albert and Tony Yurkovich, the club made a commitment to develop a free-standing community-based hospice.

The club invited the Salvation Army to partner on the project which resulted in joint capital fundraising activities, completion of a development plan for the hospice, the purchase of property, and the procurement



Rotary Hospice House opened in 2005 thanks to the fundraising efforts of The Rotary Club of Richmond.

photos courtesy of the Rotary Club of Richmond



of operational funding from the provincial government through Vancouver Coastal Health.

After many years of collaboration with leaders of the regional health authority, the Richmond Hospice Association and various community groups, they welcomed the first resident to Rotary Hospice House on

Sept. 30, 2005.

Lesley Hicks, whose father spent his final days at Rotary Hospice House, spoke of "the loving surroundings that have become a lasting memory for us."

"My dad was treated with such dignity, care and interest—he wasn't a patient, he was a guest in this lovely home. It didn't

matter how busy the staff were, they always found time to chat and to get to know my dad as a person...

"His suite was so comfortable—the furniture not at all like a hospital—much more like a tasteful hotel room. We immediately noticed the handmade quilt on his bed—such thoughtful touches."

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The Rotary Club of Richmond's 50th anniversary

Rotary has been a big supporter of the hospital

In 1966, Rotary Club of Richmond president Samuel Cohen had the privilege of being invited as the club's representative to the official opening of Richmond Hospital.

The donor plaque recognizing the club's contribution was installed on the door of ward 510. The ward was known as the "Rotary Ward." In 1968, the club purchased a cardiac monitor.

In 1981, president Ray Inouye challenged the club to raise \$150,000 for Richmond Hospital. This was significant because in the preceding years, the funds raised were generally \$10,000 to \$15,000 per year. The specific purpose was to acquire equipment for the Intensive Care Unit.

The first \$40,000 came from the generosity of four Richmond pioneers. Additional dollars came from reverse draw dinners, golf tournaments, art auctions, and donations from club members. The club raised \$125,000 despite the fact that a once buoyant economy declined. The club continues to support the hospital and to date, has contributed approximately \$350,000.

June 29, 2004 was the official launch of the Celebrate with Lights fundraising drive. The lights were symbolically turned on in the hospital's lobby. Funds raised from the Christmas Project were designated for the hospital's Palliative Care Unit and the Rotary Hospice House in Richmond.

Says Natalie Meixner, president and chief executive officer of Richmond Hospital Foundation: "On behalf of the doctors, nurses, health care team, patients, Richmond Hospital Foundation board of directors and staff, I am delighted to extend our sincere

congratulations to The Rotary Club of Richmond, as you celebrate 50 years of providing exceptional friendship and community service

throughout Richmond and beyond!

"Over the past 50 years the club has donated over \$350,000 to the Richmond Hospital.

You have helped fund so much, including cardiac monitors, ICU and Palliative Care equipment and upgrades just to name a few."



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The Hon. Alice Wong, P.C., M.P.
Member of Parliament for Richmond
Minister of State (Seniors)

Scholarships help local students

For many years, the Rotary Club of Richmond has awarded scholarships to high school students in School District No. 38 (Richmond).

It also set up a Kwantlen Polytechnic University endowment in

2006 after presenting a cheque for \$10,000, which was matched by the school.

Interest derived provides annual scholarships for students studying in the faculty of trades.

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The concept of volunteering was deeply embedded in me since being a Girl Guide in high school. Through years of volunteering, I realize I am the one who benefits the most by learning to appreciate what I have, to accept my strength and weakness, and to be more flexible in any circumstances. Being a Rotarian seems to be such a natural thing.

**I'm proud to join this big
family to have a chance to
participate in various projects.**

Lulu Shen
Account Manager
Fairchild Television Ltd.



The Rotary Club of Richmond's 50th anniversary

Charter Members

Morris Belkin, Bill Boivin, Les Bryan, Sam Cohen, Bob Everett, Dave Fouks, Wif Gladstone, Carlo Hansen, Ben Jones, Jack Later, Art Longridge, Ralph Miller, Jim McCracken, Hugh McCue, Norm McDonald, Don Newson, Andy Neilson, Alec Noble, Russ Spry, Alex Storie, Jim Storie, Ron Taylor, Peter Vandergraaf, Chuck Wong and Sid Zack

Congratulations to the Rotary Club of Richmond on 50 Years of Service.



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Club first met in the Skyline Hotel

Club has 50 years of community service

The Rotary Club of Richmond received its charter on April 12, 1962. Carlo Hansen was the charter president and the Marpole Club was the "mother hen."

The club first met in the Skyline Hotel and later moved to the Airport Inn, the King Wah Restaurant and back to Skyline Hotel. In 1975 a fire forced the club's departure to the Richmond Inn, where it stayed until June 1984.

Since that date, The Rotary Club of Richmond has held its meetings in a number of locations; Richmond Golf and Country Club, Radisson Hotel, Abercorn Inn, Four Points by Sheraton Vancouver Airport and now the River Rock Ca-



The Rotary Club of Richmond photo
The Rotary Club of Richmond received its charter on April 12, 1962.

sino Resort.

Over time, the club has been involved in many community projects. Through the years many projects were undertaken but alas, no photographs captured the moment and memories have faded.

Stories are told of building and donating playground facilities to Garden City School, giving a Comfort-Bus to Richmond Fire-Rescue, replacing a washed out 40-foot bridge for Heddy Rovenstein on River Road, and sponsoring students to Ottawa to participate in "Adventures in Citizenship."

Sense of Community is very strong with The Rotary Club of Richmond as shown with these few examples from earlier years:

- Donated furniture to Anglican Church to renovate a home for wayward boys
- Sponsored needy children to a summer camp, Camp Potlatch
- Sponsored Carla Horst as a candidate in the Salmon Queen Festival
- Donated money and time to help Junior Achievement
- Donated walkie-talkies to Richmond Ambulance Service
- Donated a bus to the YMCA for the Y-Bikers Program
- Sponsored a "Sportsman's Award Shield"
- Donated \$1000 to the Richmond Auxiliary Club
- Furnished a room at the Vancouver Cancer Lodge
- Repaired transmission of the Air Cadets' bus
- Donated two radio telephones to Paraplegics' Auction
- Participated in three sports awards for Richmond students
- Donated to Richmond groups, Mentally Handicapped, Youth Band, Care Team
- Donation of benches to Garry Point.

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Happy 50th Anniversary!

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Club meets Wednesdays

The Rotary Club meets on Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m. Each meeting features interesting program and visitors are always welcome.

Some notable speakers over the years have been Hon. P.A. Gagliardi, Herb Capozzi MLA, Bill Hughes of CKNW, MP Tom Goode, Mike Harcourt, Rick Hansen, Mayor Malcolm Brodie, ex-mayor Greg Halsey-Brandt, John Yap MLA and Linda Reid MLA.

The Rotary Club of Richmond's 50th anniversary



Richmond Review file photo
At The Rotary Club of Richmond's A Tribute to Seniors Gala at River Rock Casino Resort, then Rotary president Peter Raju (left) presented Milan and Maureen Illich with an award of appreciation.

Tribute to Seniors Gala raised \$350,000

The Rotary Club of Richmond's Tribute to Seniors Gala generated \$350,000.

The gala, held on April 20, 2008, recognized the significant contributions and sacrifices made by our seniors.

Club president Peter Raju was appreciative of the community's support.

The funds were used to upgrade facilities at Lions Manor, the Rosewood Manor and the Rotary Hospice House.

Among the donors that evening were Milan and Maureen Illich and Eugene Greczmiel and family, who donated \$100,000 each.

There was an additional anonymous donation of \$50,000.

Raju paid special tribute to Maureen and Milan for their support of many of the community's fundraising projects. Raju said that he was inspired by Maureen and Milan's kindness, generosity, and most importantly their appreciation for the work of volunteers and community leaders.

More than 300 guests, including attorney general Wally Oppal, gave Milan and Maureen a standing ovation as Raju presented a Swarovski sculpture as a token of the community's appreciation.

Rotary also presented Paul Harris Fellowship Awards to Patsy and Hilary Hui, John Nicolaou, Max Fugman, the late Ben Dayson, and Jim Ratsoy for their

community minded spirit.

Richmond-Steveston MLA John Yap praised the Tribute to Seniors Gala at the Legislature. "Today I would like to recognize the charitable work of a group of Richmond individuals. On April 20th I had the honour of attending the Rotary Club of Richmond inaugural Tribute to Seniors Gala, which was the brainchild of Peter Raju, the club's president. I ask the House to join me in thanking the Rotary Club of Richmond, Peter Raju, and all the Rotarians, sponsors and donors who helped to make this gala a tremendous success." arians, sponsors and donors who helped to make this gala a tremendous success."

Supporting the Richmond Christmas Fund

For more than 30 years, the Rotary Club of Richmond has contributed to the Richmond Christmas Fund.

This tradition was instigated by Rotarian Gordon McBurney, a member of Vancouver East Rotary Club, son of a Richmond pioneer, and a frequent visitor to the Rotary Club of Richmond. Years ago, Gordon reminded members of the need of many Richmond residents and challenged us to match his donation of \$100 to the Christmas Hamper Fund (as it was then known). The club responded by raising \$3,000.

Year after year, Gordon came to the club

in early December, reminded members of the need in Richmond, donated his \$100 and challenged the club to match it—and more! Although Gordon has passed away, the tradition continues, one which exemplifies the true spirit of Rotary "Service Above Self."

"Without organizations like yours, the Christmas Fund wouldn't be able to provide low-income families with a special holiday meal, or children with gifts under the tree," says Elizabeth Specht, executive director of Volunteer Richmond, which oversees the Christmas Fund.

Congratulations to the Rotary Club of Richmond on 50 great years!

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The Rotary Club of Richmond's 50th anniversary

Rotary offers clubs and programs for youth and young adults

Rotaract is a Rotary-sponsored service club for young men and women ages 18 to 30. Rotaract clubs are either community or university based.

"More importantly, I became connected with amazing people from various Rotary Clubs, Rotaract Clubs, and in the community – my mentors and partners as we carry out our mission of service. The Rotary Club of Richmond has been instrumental and

fundamental in providing me with this opportunity to serve the community – an opportunity for which I am very grateful," says member King-mong Chan.

The Interact Club of Richmond was chartered in October, 1995 under the leadership of Richmond Rotary president Helge Nielsen and Rotarian Philip Li as advisor. Charter president Frederick Li, son of Philip, and the 25 charter members became

the first Interact Club in the City of Richmond. The objective of this community based club is to induce a stronger link among the youth between ages of 12 – 18 in School District 38. The Club remained active into the millennium years.

•Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is Rotary's leadership training program for young people. RYLA participants can be ages 14-30.

The Pioneer's Pub management and staff wish to congratulate the Rotary Club of Richmond for 50 years of service to both the local and international community.



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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:

- The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- 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;
- The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world of fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Rotary mottos

"Service Above Self"
"One Profits Most Who Serves Best"

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