

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Virtual Meeting

President: Patrick Dobbyn
Secretary: Lynda Lawrence
Editor: Peter Boekhorst

Phone: 604-356-0923
Phone: 604-868-4674
Phone: 604-465-3392

[E-mail the President](#)
[E-mail the Secretary](#)
[E-mail the Editor](#)



AUGUST IS MEMBERSHIP & NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT MONTH

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

Aug 17: Dr. Jack Taunton
"Return to Exercise after COVID hospitalization and Slow Progression"

Aug 24: Chris Thompson
"Youth Exchange with an African Twist"

Aug 31: Peter Tam

OUR CLUB LAST WEEK'S MEETING:

Club president **Patrick Dobbyn** presided at the meeting held at Meadow Gardens Golf Club, and on line through Zoom.

Program: Becoming a Peace Builder Club – Roger Powley

Roger Powley gave a presentation about our club becoming a Peace Builder Club, and explained what that means, and what a peace builder is in a Rotarian environment. As stated by Roger and on the Rotary Action Group website, *Peacebuilder Clubs are a Rotarian movement creating energy and momentum for peaceful conflict resolution around the world, and commit to engage in dialogues and projects that promote positive peace both in their communities and across the globe. The Peacebuilder Club program is designed to enhance Rotary International's mission of, "advancing world understanding, goodwill and peace" through the promotion of programs and projects that align with our organization's Seven Areas of Focus – in particular, the first: Peace, Conflict Prevention and Conflict Resolution.*

As noted above, the goal is to promote positive peace both at the local and international level. One of the objectives of Rotary is *"the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service"*.

To do this, we have to know what peace is first. There are two kinds of peace, **Negative Peace** and **Positive Peace**.

Negative Peace is the absence of violence or fear of violence, and **Positive Peace** is the attitudes, institutions and structures that create and sustain peaceful societies.

How do we advance positive peace? It starts with one or more of these activities as shown on this slide:



There are various methods of achieving peace, including having a well-functioning government, equitable distribution of resources, free flow of information, etc. One area that could be looked at is peace with our indigenous nations. We need to ask ourselves, are there some projects around this peace wheel which we can start as Rotarians? We can use the Four-Way Test as a roadmap for our projects.

Rotary has a history of being involved in peace at the international level, as shown as follows:

Rotary's Peace Initiatives - 1921

At the **1921** convention in Edinburgh, Scotland, Rotarians agreed to incorporate **peacemaking** into Rotary's constitution and bylaws.



Rotary's Peace Initiatives - 1935

Rotary Convention – Mexico City

“When a good Rotarian crosses a borderline, he becomes an ambassador of goodwill. Ambassadors of goodwill will dedicate themselves to the eradication of misunderstanding.”



Rotary Peace Initiatives - 1945

49 Rotary members served in 29 delegations to the **United Nations Charter Conference** in San Francisco.



Today Rotary international maintains close relationships with many United Nations agencies, and our Rotary International United Nations representatives host an annual Rotary Day at the United Nations to celebrate this partnership for peace.

Why Should We Become a Peacebuilder Club?

- Be connected with resources for our club to consider
- Learn about the rich opportunities for Peacebuilding through Rotary
- Promote education and skill-building in peace and conflict prevention/resolution to our youth
- Help identify and encourage Rotary Peace Fellowships
- Raise community awareness about Rotary's peacebuilding work
- Take action to reduce the many facets of conflict in our communities

How to Become a Peacebuilder Club?

- Establish a Peacebuilder Committee.
- Become a member of the Rotary Action Group for Peace.
- Conduct at least one peacebuilding activity each year.
- Ensure that club projects consider the impact of building community, reducing conflict and moving towards positive peace.

To date **Roger, Laurie, Matt, and Ineke** have agreed to be on the committee (and **Adrienne** has also volunteered to be on the committee).

What is Possible!

- Educate others about the need to achieve positive peace.
- Partner with other agencies that embrace peace initiatives.
- Collaborate with UFV Peace and Conflict Resolution Centre.
- Host workshops on issues of conflict resolution and social justice.
- Promote school based efforts to eliminate school based bullying and conflict.
- Support projects that brings conflicting groups together.
- Celebrate the International Day of Peace (21 Sep).
- Encourage other Rotarians to embrace the concept of peace.

To educate others is our first responsibility and we could, for example, see if we can partnership with other agencies such as the University of the Fraser Valley, which has a Peace and Conflict

Resolution Centre that offers courses on this subject, and we could work with them in some capacity. Maybe our club can be the one that starts the initiative in District 5050 to have other clubs become Peace Builder Clubs, and educate them about what is required and how they do it.

Roger posed the question as to whether our club wishes to become a Peace Builder Club. Adrienne advised that she wished to join the committee, and Roger stated that other members are welcome to join.

Happy and Sad

Walter advised that 17 of the 27 members have now paid their club dues.

Guest **Gordon Robson** donated \$20 as it will soon be his 75th birthday (Question: was that happy or sad dollars?)

Fine Master: If you attended (either personally or virtually) and didn't wear your name tag, you paid a dollar - and an extra dollar if you didn't know where it was.

Announcements:

Due to the present heat wave and very poor air quality warnings for the next few days by Environment Canada, the Downtown Maple Ridge BIA is hereby cancelling the scheduled Aug. 14 Car Boot Sale.....and consequently "Rotary Garage Sale"

Unfortunately and beyond our control, we need to hereby cancel the event to protect all participants, clients, volunteers and staff.

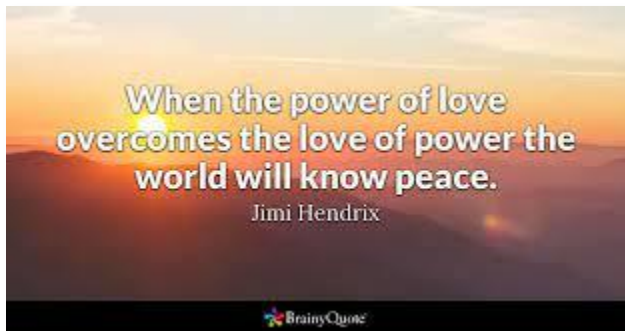
We will try to re-schedule event for early September and keep you posted.

The Rotary **Social Walk at Kanaka Creek Park** along the Fraser River will be held coming Sunday at 9 AM (not 8:30 AM).

Last week **Matt** and his wife **Lynda** and **Laurie** enjoyed the walk along the river, followed by a relaxing coffee and hot chocolate.



Closing Quote:



Submitted by Laurie Anderson