



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, combined Real-Virtual Meeting

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APRIL IS MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
Apr 05: Ken Holland	

UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

Apr 05: Chad Cowles - Maple Ridge's Community Social Safety Initiative	Apr 12:	Apr 19:
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RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Friends, one of my mantras in Rotary has been *do more, grow more*. I am sure you are adopting this mantra. *Do more*, as in bigger and impactful service projects, and *grow more*, as in increasing our membership.

There is so much excitement across the Rotary world about our Each One, Bring One effort. Everywhere I travel, club presidents, district governors, and Rotary

members — both veteran and new — express appreciation that their membership efforts are inspiring the Rotary world.

We are growing more, and I cannot wait to celebrate all of this success with you at the Rotary International Convention in Houston in June. There is still time to register and make your plans to join us. We are looking forward to a once-in-a-lifetime experience that will unite our members after far too much time apart.

As we *grow more*, we will have so much more opportunity to *do more*. April is Maternal and Child Health Month, a great opportunity for your clubs to consider what you are doing to support the health of mothers and young children. Improving access to care and the quality of care for women and children worldwide is an important focus for us and it also ties in very well with our Empowering Girls initiative. I appreciate the work being done by various clubs in this area of focus, and I would encourage you to think of ways to *do more*.

It has been so exciting to see Rotary members come together at the presidential conferences to share ideas about using our areas of focus to bring about big, lasting change in the world. The past and upcoming presidential conferences are looking at our new area of focus — the environment — and how our work to protect our planet must support our efforts to grow local economies, especially

in places with the greatest poverty. I also had the honor to speak at the 26th United Nations climate change conference in Glasgow, Scotland, known as COP26. This important meeting brought together nearly 100 heads of state and government over a two-week period to set new targets for fossil fuel emission. My call to action was to restore mangroves, a crucial ecosystem that can mitigate the effects of climate change in coastal areas. Already, countries across the world are showing great enthusiasm for this plan.

Our survival is at stake — the damage of environmental catastrophe is already upon us — and so, too, is our ability to lift the world's most needy out of poverty and offer them hope. We must find ways to protect our planet while sustaining the economic growth necessary to achieve our highest humanitarian goals.

This is a very exciting time in Rotary, a time when the world needs us most. As we *Serve to Change Lives*, remember that we are also changing ourselves. We are becoming the world's great change-makers and peacebuilders.

The world is ready for us. It's time to rise to that call.

Shekhar Mehta
President 2021-22

OUR CLUB LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Brenda Jenkins presided.

Guests:

Jim Michals - former club member

Warren Dale - (Adrienne's "better ½")

Cheque presentation:



Mike Davies presented a cheque to **Dwight Ballantyne** and **Denise Trottier** in the amount of \$3,250 in support of **The Ballantyne Project**, as presented to us at our March 15 meeting.

\$1,250 of that amount was donated by individual members so that each participant would have at least \$100 spending money while on the trip to the lower mainland.

Speaker: Trevor Crean - Heritage Gardens Cemetery
"Canada's First Sustainable Cemetery"



Trevor Crean – is a member of the New Westminster Rotary Club

As summarized on their web site: "The Crean family has been in the funeral and cemetery business for over 80 years. Across different cultures, beliefs and backgrounds, many families expressed a desire for environmentally friendly end-of-life options. We decided to take on the challenge of rezoning, developing and operating a cemetery, and became Canada's first Sustainable Cemetery, which offers green burial, traditional burial, memorial trees, beehive memorials and cremation. They created Heritage Gardens on 8.5 acres of land in South Surrey to provide families—and communities— with affordable, sustainable, eco-friendly burial space. Sustainability, to the Crean family, means:

- growing and donating food on unused property.
- giving away honey from our beehives to the families who have lost a loved one.
- standing with the Memorial Society and the Partners in Care Alliance, to enforce an ethical code of conduct when dealing with grieving families.
- being affordable- which is why our prices are less than half of other Metro cemeteries."



Trevor stated that their goal is to work with the family members and try to reflect how the burial reflects on the lives of the person they are celebrating, and to include the family in the process of the disposal of the body. Their aim is to provide a setting where the family would like to return to. As the site is 8.5 acres, there is currently a large amount of unused area. They have therefore put in a vegetable garden, from which they donate vegetables to a local food program. Clients can purchase a beehive in memory of the deceased, from which the family can collect honey each year. They plant 70,000 wildflower seeds every year throughout the acreage which the bees can pollinate. Trevor also advised that 90% of people choose cremation these days, so they have established for cremation gardens where the ashes may be put directly into the soil, and the family can have a memorial planting of trees or other plants, such as in the Willow Garden. This service is provided even if the cremation took place without their involvement. They try to "work with nature, not against it".

"One option offered is a Green Burial, a way to return to the earth with as little impact on the environment as possible. The term 'green burial' is often used interchangeably with [natural burial](#); the concept is essentially the same, however, green burial specifically adheres to a set of five principles, defined by the [Green Burial Society of Canada](#):

1. No chemicals being used in the preparation of the remains.
2. Casket or shroud made of locally sourced materials.
3. No permanent headstone (a simple bronze plaque may substitute).
4. Natural burial - the body placed directly into the earth.
5. Optimize land-use.

The main focus of these principles is to minimize the amount of resources, land, and energy consumed by funeral and cemetery arrangements. Embalming is not permitted; the body is instead wrapped in a simple shroud and placed in a container or casket made from sustainable and biodegradable materials. The shroud or casket is then placed directly into the earth, without any liner or vault"

"A marker of where we are laid to rest can mean so much to families. Some may think of a traditional grave marker as the only option but at Heritage Gardens we offer a variety of options that honour your life and are environmentally friendly. Your final resting place can now be within the roots of a tree that is planted especially for you. These are called Memorial Trees and they can be found in our Willow Garden. You can choose from trees, plants, or flowers for your final resting place, and a bronze marker placed in that garden. This marker will share the loved one's name, the record of

their life, and an epitaph of your choosing.” Many families love the symbolism of new life that is present from growing a tree memorial. A tree provides a substantial number of benefits to the environment and for mankind.”



“A future option (which is not yet available in B.C.) is alkaline hydrolysis (commonly known as aquamation or water cremation) as a sustainable and eco-friendly alternative to burial and cremation. The World Health Organization has recognized alkaline hydrolysis as a more ecologically-sustainable method of interment which provides an opportunity to avoid the damage caused by polluting carbon that is introduced to the air through typical cremation processes. Aquamation is achieved by using water and alkalinity at a high temperature to break down the remains over a period of approximately six hours in a stainless steel vessel. The result is a liquid that is free of any pathogens and able to be processed through normal wastewater systems. Aquamation replicates what happens to a body after burial over years in a matter of hours. Afterward, the bones are reduced to an ash-like substance and placed in an urn, just as if they had been cremated, with the family free to care for the remains as they see fit. In Canada it is currently only legal in Ontario, Quebec, and Saskatchewan, but the BC Ministry of Public Safety is currently reviewing alkaline hydrolysis as an acceptable option.”

Happy and Sad dollars, included:

Dave Rempel – he was born in the Ukraine, and is very sad to hear about what is happening in his place of birth and very thankful to be living in Canada. Dave and Sharon adopted their daughter Julia from Russia in January, 1996, and they were happy to have found Julia’s birthmother about seven years later. Dave has been told (by contacts in Russia) that their government are conscripting all males (eight years and older) into the Russian army-sponsored youth movement (similar to the Hitler Youth), thereby trying to introduce children in Russia to the government’s ideology and policy.

Lynda Lawrence - appreciative of Trevor Crean’s presentation, and happy to have communicated with Lila Terwiel who is now living at or near Cultus Lake (her daughter lives in Chilliwack).

Ineke Boekhorst is attending this weekend in Seattle with her daughter Marjolein to a training conference for new district governors, as Marjolein will be the District Governor in District 5060. (FYI, District 5060 covers a distance of 550 miles (890 km) from Clearwater, BC, in the north to Prosser, WA, in the south. Principal cities are Yakima and Wenatchee in Washington, and Kelowna, Penticton and Kamloops in British Columbia.)

Warren Dale - (who, along with former club member Kevin Nosworthy, is a director of the Maple Ridge Community Foundation) stated that both the Kanaka Liquor Store (located at 240th St. and 122nd Ave.) and the Maple Ridge Liquor Store (located at the Lougheed Highway and 207th St.) are donating 5% of all liquor sales to the “**Community Chest**”, which is part of the Maple Ridge Community Foundation. The Community Chest provides immediate and direct financial support for families and individuals facing a crisis, and Warren ask us to keep that in mind when making liquor purchases.

Today’s Quote:

**WHEN EVERYTHING
SEEMS TO BE
AGAINST YOU,
REMEMBER THAT
THE AIRPLANE
TAKES OFF
AGAINST THE
WIND, NOT WITH IT**

Submitted by Laurie Anderson