



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, combined Real-Virtual Meeting

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## MAY IS YOUTH SERVICE MONTH

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

### UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

May 10:	May 17:	May 24:
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### OUR CLUB LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Sharon Kyle presided.

Guest: **Kevin Stumph** - (a guest of Matt)



LinkedIn says Kevin works for Community Living Society as a Job Coach. "I support job seekers in planning for, and achieving, meaningful and integrated community-based employment. I work closely with the job seeker and employer to ensure the needs of both are met."

#### About the Community Living Society ("CLS"):

*CLS has committed itself to working with individuals with disability and their families to design the type and amount of support needed to help them increase their independence and realize their dreams. The CLS supports are intended to complement – not replace – the natural supports provided by family, friends and the community. Our CLS support team acts as a bridge for people with disability to make new friends, learn the skills needed to get meaningful work, live more independently and achieve personal goals.*

*Founded in the late 1970s by family members of children with disability, the CLS combines the values, leadership and advocacy of our past, with innovative and individual approaches to providing residential and community inclusion support services. We are funded by Community Living British Columbia (CLBC) and the Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Program through the Fraser Health Authority. All individuals supported at the CLS must be eligible for services through one of these two funders.*

Today's program was a business meeting, with reports from Directors:

#### **Walter Volpatti - Treasurer's report**

Walter reported that gaming funds will not be forthcoming if it shows that there remains in the account of the Club 50% or more of the expenses for the previous year. This can be a problem if the funds are committed but not yet paid out. For the next fiscal year, therefore, our club will not be receiving a gaming grant.

#### **Mike Davies - Community Services Committee**

Mike reported that all requests for funds from the club have been paid out except the request of the Hospital Foundation, which is still under review. In addition, the executive is considering supporting the Community Resource HUB, which provides tents and showers and other services, in the parking lot of the Baptist Church located on the Lougheed Highway and 222<sup>nd</sup> St., for the local homeless population. (See the April 12 issue of the Four Way Flasher for a detailed summary of what the HUB is all about). Our executive is in favour of supporting this project by purchasing a tent or tents, which would probably have the Rotary logo on them, but the amount of the contribution is not yet been determined.

#### **Matt Debruyne – Vocational Services Committee**

This year the committee has approved 9 bursaries, four of them in the amount of \$2,000 and five of them in the amount of \$1,000. The last of the \$1,000 bursaries, awarded to a needy and deserving student, was made possible by the generous donation of \$1,000 from Lynda Lawrence.

#### **Sharon Kyle - Youth Services Committee**

Sharon reported that three students are going to YAIL which will be held on June 17-19, and young adults between the ages of 18 and 30 will also be attending RYLA, which will be held at the Zajac Ranch between October 13-16.

### **Libby Nelson - Duck Race Committee**

This year's Duck Race will again be held online, and the first prize will be \$15,000 cash, and the second prize (donated by Rotarian Bryan Hutton of Canadian Tire) will be \$4,000.

### **David Rempel - Wine Fest Committee**

The Wine Fest will be held May 7 between 7 PM and 9 PM. 50 auction items have been donated, and all club members (except about 10) have purchased tickets.

Happy and Sad dollars included:

**Matt Debruyn** - with his wife **Lynda** - visited **Lila Jane Terwiel** at her new home at Cultus Lake. He also noted that the "laminated vaccination cards for seniors committee" (Matt and Warren Dale) gave these free cards to 400 seniors, which resulted in voluntary donations from appreciative seniors of enough money to pay for almost two Starfish Packs for a whole year.

**Mike Davies** – Paul Harris Committee - Our club will be giving a Paul Harris to a member of the **Golden Ears Sunrise Rotary Club**.

(This newest Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Rotary Club was formed due to the dedicated work and effort of its president **Urma Mollema**, and it meets at Meadow Gardens Golf Club weekly at 7:15- 8:30 am.)



Quote for the day:



### Citizens of the Year

Since 1991, the Maple Ridge Community Foundation has recognized local volunteers with the Citizen of the Year Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize and honour dedicated individuals who have made outstanding volunteer contributions to enhance the quality of life in Maple Ridge or to enhance the image of Maple Ridge in the larger community. Those contributions are broad-based, and may be in the areas of arts, culture, athletics, social service or business. A number of Rotarians have in the past been recognized as Citizens of the Year, including:

1998 - **Bonnie Telep**

2003 - **Betty Levens**

2009 - **Bob Thompson**

2010 - **Ineke Boekhorst** and **Mike Murray**

2014 - **Bob Schantz**

This year – 2022 – **Matt Debruyn** - another Rotarian from our club, was recognized as a Citizen of the Year. For those of you who may have missed it, Matt's daughter **Michelle Gill** posted on Facebook the following tribute to her father:



Well, he was a winner last night in the citizen of the year category!! .... So many people spoke to me and said how proud I must be tonight and how wonderful they think my dad is. They all shared stories of him and spoke about his character and integrity. It was so amazing to hear their praise and for him to be recognized for his huge caring heart. The thing is, I've always been proud of him and known how amazing he is. I'm so glad others see it too. He's bashful and doesn't always tell others about his work but he was so deserving of this award. He believes service and time are one's greatest gift and his whole life he has always done a lot of volunteer work. For instance, he raises thousands for Starfish backpacks that feed children in our community; he packs and delivers those backpacks regularly. He's raised thousands to buy brand new musical instruments for several schools in the Maple Ridge. He has fed the homeless and spoken to them with kindness and love. He's raised funds for sports equipment, fields, and playgrounds. He re-started a 4-way morality Test Program for the Rotary for grade 6/7 students to help them make better choices. For over a decade he taught it in schools. People liked it so much other Rotaries asked him to teach it to them so they could teach it in their schools. When I was a little girl, he became an uncle at large to a young boy named Dane who needed a father figure. He and my mother loved him as their own. He has volunteered in my classroom for years playing his violin for crepe breakfasts, reading and writing with kids, teaching them crib, or just connecting with them. He has also always supported and helped my friends in any way he could. He volunteers as a citizen on patrol, he helps seniors, and the list goes on. To say I was proud last night or every day would be an understatement. I was so happy to be by his side and to hear his humble speech. He believes volunteering is your greatest gift and expects the same from his family. He has always supported and loved me; even when I made that hard. He taught me to appreciate what we have, be positive, kind, and loving in this harsh world. Every day is a gift in his eyes, have fun and go love deeply. I'm so thankful my boys have this great man as a role model and their papa. Thank you, Maple Ridge Community Foundation, for your work and recognition of these 9 amazing finalists last night. There are some young people doing great things and I look forward to seeing what they continue to do. **Congrats dad** we love you so much.

❤️❤️ Michelle Gill

**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**