

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, combined Real-Virtual Meeting

President: Chili Yalamanchili Phone: 604-463-4851
 Secretary: Lynda Lawrence Phone: 604-868-4674
 Editor: Peter Boekhorst Phone: 604-462-0377

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



MAY IS YOUTH SERVICE MONTH

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
	June 2: Mark & Pauline Forster
	June 4: Brian & Sharon Bekar

UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

May 31 @ 5:00 PM: fireside at Matt's for a "Bonfire & a Bun".	June 7: Gary Bizzo Chamber of Commerce - Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows	June 14:
---	---	----------

Note: There will be no regular meeting on May 31 at noon, as we have a Fireside meeting at 5 PM!

OUR CLUB LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Lynda Lawrence presided.

Guests: Jim Michals and Chris O'Brian (plus speaker)

Speaker: **Flori Chaykowski** - the **Downtown Maple Ridge Business Improvement Association (BIA)**



Flori is the Executive Director of the Downtown Maple Ridge BIA. She previously held the positions of Executive director at the Chamber of Commerce for close to five years, Office manager at Hardbite Chips, a Client Relations Coordinator & Licensed Mortgage Broker at Mortgage Architects (a national mortgage brokerage), a Delivery Co-ordinator at Staples, as well as various positions at Petcetera Head Office.



The DMRBIA was officially launched in the Spring of 2007, with **Ineke Boekhorst** as its Executive Director, who served in that position until October of 2021, when **Flori** took over the reins. The BIA's purpose is to develop and manage programs designed to improve the business environment in the catchment area of downtown Maple Ridge through various cooperative projects including festivals, events, safety, security, banners, street design and furniture, garbage receptacles, cleanup, graffiti prevention, street and walkway lighting, and holiday decorations.

The BIA has the following committees:

Beautification & Revitalization Committee

The purpose of the Beautification & Revitalization Committee is to enhance and beautify the downtown core, through such areas as overall streetscape, litter pick up, benches, flower baskets, banners, murals, seasonal decoration, lighting, etc. The Committee develops programs and co-ordinates efforts with and between business owners, property owners, community groups, and the City of Maple Ridge. The Façade Improvement Program provides an opportunity for property and/or business owners to receive a grant towards Facade Improvement. The BIA will provide the labour to cover up graffiti, with the business owner pain only for the paint. Funding is provided up to 50% of the actual cost of an authorized mural, up to \$20,000 maximum. ("Taggers" generally do not painting their graffiti over murals.)

Events and Marketing Committee

The purpose of the Events and Marketing Committee includes two mandates, firstly to support events within the downtown area which significantly benefit businesses, including public festivals and private member-only functions.

Secondly, to promote and advertise the Association, its members and the Area.

Safety and Security Committee

This committee's mandate is to reduce crime and increase safety in the BIA Area, through relationships with the RCMP, the Maple Ridge Bylaws Department and private security organizations. The bylaw department will come to a place of business and give a safety and security check and pay a certain amount towards implementation of security programs.

Question: what is the difference between the BIA and the Chamber of Commerce?

The BIA is funded by a tax levy automatically imposed on all businesses within the catchment area, whereas the Chamber of Commerce is a membership organization operated and funded by members who voluntarily join the organization and pay dues. There are more than 500 BIAs across Canada. Chambers of Commerce, or Boards of Trade, as they are sometimes known, operate at all three levels of government – community, provincial and national.

Happy and Sad

The happiest dollars came from **Roger Powley**, who is celebrating, with his wife **Nancy**, their 44th wedding anniversary.

Even though Roger claims that “my wife said I had to be happy today”, you can't say he doesn't give a hoot about it because he put his money where his beak is, and donated one dollar for each of his 44 years with Nancy.

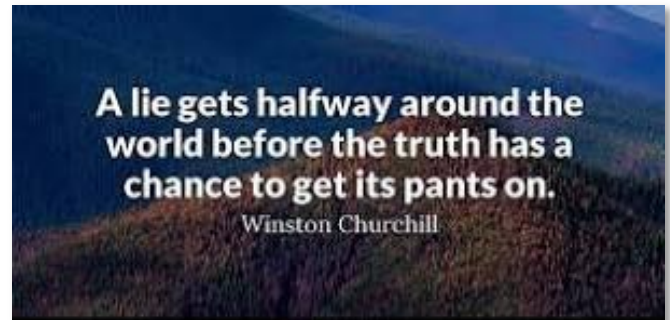


Approval of Club Funding

A majority of the club members in attendance at today's meeting approved a motion for the following expenditures:

- \$10,000 for **the Community Resource HUB**, for the purchase of a tent with Rotary logo for club recognition (branding). [The HUB offers refuge for the homeless where they can shower, eat, and get community service referrals.]
- \$6,600 for the **Hometown Heroes** program to replace banners.

Today's Quote (suggested by **Jim Michals**)



Submitted by **Laurie Anderson**