

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon

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## DECEMBER IS DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT MONTH

### Happy Birthday

### Happy Anniversary

Jan 4: Sharon Kyle & Ron Langley

### UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

Dec 20: Christmas Gift exchange

Jan 10: Chili and Chinni Yalamanchili  
Arranged Marriages

### LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President Chili Yalamanchili presided.



Today was a good day for our Rotary Club's Starfish Pack project. This program was launched by **Ineke Boekhorst** when she was president of our club in 2016, and it has been going strong since that time. The Starfish Pack Program started as a pilot project with six backpacks as a response to an Abbotsford teacher's cry for help. She was feeding many of her kindergarten students who are coming to school on Monday hungry. The hunger was affecting their moods and their ability to focus in class. But this was not just an Abbotsford problem, as many students across the province rely on school breakfast and lunch programs to "fill their tummies" on school days. But when it comes to the weekend, they don't have the food they need.

Starfish provides packs of two breakfasts, two lunches, two dinners and snacks to hungry students each weekend of the school year. As a result of this program, teachers have reported improvements in children's reading skills, math skills, ability to focus and to do partner work. Starfish is now expanded to dozens of cities. Ineke is still the engine behind this program in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows, and thanks to her hard work and that of her team, the Starfish program is helping to make sure that children in our two communities don't have to worry about weekend hunger.



The following organizations attended our meeting on December 13, and generously donated funds towards the Starfish Pack program which was struggling to meet its yearly budget of almost \$100,000:

### The Ron and Alma Jones Family Foundation: \$3,000

Presenting the cheque was **Sonya Jones** (wife of Scott Jones, the general manager of West Coast Toyota and West Coast Mazda) and **Michelle Jones-Ruppel** (general manager of West Coast Ford Lincoln and West Coast Nissan).

The Jones family has been a big part of the Founders Cup Charity Foundation which has donated to many charities over the past 25 years. The Jones family has continued this charitable giving by the formation of the **Ron and Alma Elma Jones Family Foundation**. Said Sonya, "We are so pleased to present this \$3,000 donation to the Starfish Pack Program which is near and dear to our hearts as it impacts children in our community. Thank you for everything that you do."



### Dominion Lending Centres EAP Primex Mortgages Inc: \$2,000



**EAP Primex Mortgages Inc** is a Pitt Meadows company that has a business address on Ford Road, Pitt Meadows. Presenting the cheque were mortgage brokers **Trish Pigott** (owner of the franchise), and **Tamra Anderson** (manager of underwriting). Trish has been in the mortgage industry since 2004 and is in the top 2% of all brokers across Canada. Tamra is a licensed mortgage broker and has been with Primex for over five years.

**The Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 622: \$1,100**

**City of Maple Ridge: \$1,150**

**City of Pitt Meadows: \$1,200**



Presenting these three cheques were the following:

**Neerje "Nina" Harvey**, president of CUPE Local 622

**Anji Rutquist**, recording secretary of Local 622

**Chris Gomez, Cynthia Ulrich (MR) and Monica Lang**

The Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 622, Maple and Pitt Meadows Municipal Workers Union, represents approximately 500 CUPE members, working in Pitt Meadows and Maple Ridge, who fix our roads, provide emergency care, test drinking water, connect us with library resources, run ice rinks, lead community workshops, and much more.

**Ineke** also advised that the following donations to support Starfish had been received within the last couple of weeks:



**Chances Maple Ridge: \$3,000**



**Prospera Credit Union: \$15,000,**

**Maple Ridge Community Foundation: \$5,750**



**Annual General Meeting of Meadow Ridge Rotary Club**

Today was also the AGM of the Meadow Ridge Rotary Club and of the Meadow Ridge Foundation (our Club's charity that is registered with CRA).

**Walter Volpatti** gave the Treasurer's Report of the Club and presented the financial statements, that were duly approved by the members.

The directors of our Club for the coming Rotary Year (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024) were elected, as follows:

President – **Brenda Jenkins**

Immediate Past President – **Chili Yalamanchili**

President Elect – **Laurie Anderson**

Secretary – **Libby Nelson**

Treasurer – **Walter Volpatti**

Director – Club Service - **Adrienne Dale**

Director – Community Service - **Mike Davies**

Director – International Service - **Ineke Boekhorst**

Director – New Generations - **Sharon Kyle**

Director – Vocational Services - **Mark Vosper**

**Meadow Ridge Rotary Club Record Keeping Process**

The Executive has defined a process for formal, annual record keeping for the Club (the management of which will be the responsibility of the Club secretary) which was approved by the members, as follows:

Records will be filed in the Rotary Club Drop Box, and will include, but not be limited to:

Club Constitution and Bylaws,

Legal documents and agreements,

Minutes of Annual General Meetings, with a copy of the Annual Financial Statements,

Minutes of Special General Meetings,

Annual Reports of Service Directors – preferably filed in July each year. The Community Service Director will include a record of Club Fundraisers and Club-sponsored events,

President's Report – as delivered/prepared to present at the Induction Ceremony of the new Executive, and Minutes of Executive Meetings.

**Annual General Meeting of Meadow Ridge Foundation**

The Meadow Ridge Foundation is the charitable foundation of the Meadow Ridge Rotary Club, registered as a charity with the Canada Revenue Agency and therefore able to give tax receipts for charitable donations. The AGM of this Foundation was also held on this date, December 13, 2022, and Walter Volpatti gave the Treasurer's report, and the financial statements were approved. In accordance with the bylaws of the Foundation, the directors and officers of the Foundation are the same persons who have been elected as the directors and officers of the Meadow Ridge Rotary Club.

**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**