

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon

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**MAY IS YOUTH SERVICE MONTH**

Happy Birthday		Happy Anniversary	
May 22:	Ineke Boekhorst	May 23:	Brenda & Al Jenkins
		May 25:	Alex & Barb Pope

**UPCOMING SPEAKERS:**

May 21:	Richard Simonson Guide Dogs	May 28:	Judith MacRae Elder Abuse	June 4:	Ineke Boekhorst Report on Belize
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**LAST WEEK'S MEETING**

President **Brenda Jenkins** presided.

Lynda welcomed **Brian Bekar** back along with today's guests.

Guests today – **Kristin Ignacz, Ivana Michael, Linda Vosper, Kevin & Deb Nosworthy, Angela Dundas, Leah Vidovich, Suisan Kenny** (Maple Ridge Foundation), **Gordy & Mary Robson**.

Brenda announced that we have Ineke's birthday coming up on May 22<sup>nd</sup> so we all sang "Happy Birthday" and did a much better job of the birthday song than we did with the national anthem.

There was a cheque presentation of \$1,500 to Kristin Ignacz for the Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan. The monies will be used for one of their digital learning centres. They have two centres – one in Afghanistan and one in Turkey. 60 children will benefit from this donation.



There were a number of charities that applied, but the Community Foundation wanted to support StarFish.

Happy & Sad Dollars

**Lynda** was happy about her trip to Hillsboro, Oregon last week to play pinball and is happy to live in Canada after finding a shell casing on the ground at a gas station along the way.

**Walter** was sad as he received his property tax bill this morning.

**Gordy Robson** was happy that his daughter Kira and her son are moving back to Maple Ridge. She arrives tonight. Gordy and Mary were happy to announce the birth of their 13<sup>th</sup> grandchild. Proud papa is Gord Jr.

**Matt** had a sad \$5 dollars as he was supposed to bring Lynda to the meeting and forgot.

**Leslie** was happy that his wife and daughter-in-law were in attendance. Sad because he had to be on his best behavior.

**Ineke** was happy about the Community Foundation donation.

**Kevin** had a happy \$20. Deb is recovering after her earlier health scare this year. Kevin is happy that the 3 volunteers from Community Foundation always show up for support for these presentations. He also shared that he had to stop his cancer treatments 2 – 3 months ago and that he's just been tested and the cancer has reduced in size. Great news!

**Ken** shared a frustrated \$5 dollars. His dad has dementia and is in a new home and it's been a bit of a roller coaster of emotions for his dad. One minute happy, then upset.



Kevin Nosworthy then presented a cheque to Ineke for the StarFish Program in the amount of \$5,000 which was a Founders Cup Grant.

Today's program was **Yousef's Who's Who**.

I cannot do Yousef justice with the notes I took. He's had such an interesting life.



Born in Shebin El Kom, El Monoufiia, Egypt, and moved to Lincoln, Nebraska when he was young. Was into sports – football, wrestling and is a strong supporter of the YMCA who made him feel welcome in a new country. Rode a bike in a tornado. Attended Lincoln NE High School. After 8 years in the States he went back to Cairo.

He studied political science and was hooked. Earned a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and a Master's degree in International Relations and worked in the field for a few governments. He was a lobbyist in Washington (out of Cairo). He was the US Department of State Information Assistant. Worked with various VIPs such as Bill Clinton, Barack Obama and for a while Condoleezza Rice was his boss.

He has lived and worked in several countries, including the USA, Egypt, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, and Canada. He married his wife in 2003 and had twin daughters overseas. They moved to Maple Ridge in 2010. Since arriving in Maple Ridge his son was born two years later.

He is an active volunteer in the community and has been affiliated with several groups including Scouts Canada, Hope for Freedom Mat Program and Operation Red Nose (he really loves to drive). He also serves on the boards for KidSport, the Friends in Need Food Bank, the Ridge Meadows Climate Hub, and the Ridge Meadows South Asian Cultural Society.

He was voted in as the first Muslim City Councillor in British Columbia in 2018. Currently, he's serving a second term as a City of Maple Ridge Councillor.

**Submitted by Lynda & Yousef**