



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon

President: Laurie Anderson
Secretary: Ineke Boekhorst
Editor: Peter Boekhorst

Phone: 604-816-6961
Phone: 604-462-0377
Phone: 604-462-0377

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



JULY IS MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH

Happy Birthday

July 10: Eric Mollema

Happy Anniversary

Upcoming Speakers:

July 09: Christine Blanchette
Host/NOVUS TV show "Run With It"

July 16: Bruce Pitt-Payne
Science/art of Investigative Interviewing

July 23: Leslie Michael
Who's Who

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

This was the first meeting of the 2024 – 2025 Rotary year. President **Laurie Anderson** presided, and wished everybody a "Happy Rotary New Year".

Announcements and Club Business

A successful Rotary Club operates largely through its various committees. All members of our club are asked to sign up for at least one (and preferably more) committees as soon as possible. A list of all committees will be distributed shortly.

July 17 – 21 - the **BC Summer Games** held in Maple Ridge this year, will soon begin and volunteers are needed. **Ineke Boekhorst** is on the Summer Games Committee in charge of volunteers for Ceremonies and Special Events Directorate, and club members are encouraged to volunteer with the games, even if just for an hour or two. Let's make this our club's first "hands on" community project for the new Rotary Year. Call Ineke, or go to the Volunteer Registration site for Maple Ridge 2024 BC Summer Games to register online as a volunteer. bcsummergames.ca

Ineke is also the Chair of the **Home Town Heroes program** for Maple Ridge. The MeadowRidge Sports Heroes Society which was established in 2006 is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to identify and honour individuals involved in athletics in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows within School District 42, who were members of local youth sport organizations, and who went on to achieve an international level within their chosen sport. Volunteers are also needed for the annual induction of our 2024 HomeTown Hero, which will be held in October, 2024.

Call Ineke and see how you can help.

Looking for a Secretary and Director on the board.

July 27 – Sat. 10am - a **Memorial Service** will be held for our past club member **Deborah Hyslop** at the Vancouver Unitarian Church. If any members of our club wish to attend and carpool to the event, contact Laurie for a ride.

Program: "Why Are old men grumpy?" - Presented by our own **Matt DeBruyn**

We were all pleased to have a thought-provoking, yet light-hearted, talk by Matt about what may be some of the causes of the "grumpy old man syndrome" [that actually has (or had) a clinical name which was referred to as "andropause"].

About Matt:



Matt raising Cain

[No other introduction of Matt was available (or is needed)]

[The following is an unauthorized "small 'L' liberal" interpretation of some of the several things that another octogenarian thinks Matt may have said.]

We often make unwarranted assumptions about people, of whatever age. For example, a grandparent may call to all his grandchildren playing in the backyard to come and enjoy some fun and games with him, and when one of them always fails to respond to his invitation grandpa may assume that the child is not

interested, only to subsequently find out the grandchild has a serious previously undiagnosed hearing problem. But one thing that can annoy Matt are the assumption that some people often make about old people simply because they are old, and can result in seniors being ignored and isolated.

Another thing that makes him grumpy is that decisions, which should be made in Parliament after healthy debate, are often not made by our elected parliamentarians. MAiD resulted from persons who said they wished to “die with dignity”, and when their demonstrations failed, they sued in court and received a judgement resulting in Medical Assistance in Dying. [Matt did not suggest he is against MAiD, but [me thinks, maybe] he was taking a poke at judicial activism, i.e., the tendency for judges to determine what must be done to rectify a wrong rather than the determination being made by our elected representatives.]

And Bureaucracy - that often stands in the way of getting things done - also makes Matt cranky. Remember the devastating fire that swept through Lytton almost exactly 3 years ago on June 30, 2021, and almost wiped out the entire town? Matt drove by it recently, and saw that not much has been done to rebuild it.

[Matt could have been thinking of, and plagiarizing, the words and lyrics from the musical “The Music Man” that opened on Broadway when Matt was just a teenager:



“Bureaucracy, don't you understand?

Friend, either you're closing your eyes to a situation you do not wish to acknowledge

Or you are not aware of the caliber of disaster.”



“Bureaucracy !!! oh, we got Bureaucracy right here in Lytton City -

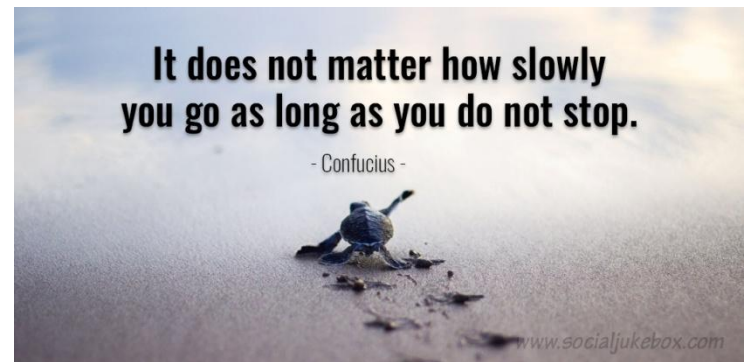
with a capital B and that rhymes with C and that stands for British Columbia.

We’ve surely got Bureaucracy, right here in Lytton City”.

Then there is the apathetic thing called apathy, that can not only make cool dudes like Matt become grumpy old men, but also result in unnecessary problems arising. Take the current housing shortage – which should have been obvious years ago when something could have been done about it. Or take the 2003 SARS outbreak. An independent inquiry was launched in Ontario to investigate the response to the outbreak and learn from the mistakes made. Unfortunately, Canada failed to apply recommendations made at that time to the coronavirus pandemic which hit us in 2020. Health care workers and others were put at risk as lessons from SARS were not applied to the Covid pandemic.

“The election in BC is less than 4 months away”, says Matt, “and some people don’t seem to be aware of it. We can’t have political or religious discussions at Rotary, but you can join us on our weekly Sunday morning Rotary walks on the dike followed by coffee at Blenz, where we solve many of the world’s problems!” [On the North Alouette Greenway north off 132nd Avenue at Park Lane, behind the Maple Ridge Equity Sports Center.]

President’s Age-Appropriate Quote for the Day:



Leslie’s Acute Observation of the Week:

**It must have been
a rough divorce**



Submitted by Laurie Anderson