



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon

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APRIL IS ENVIRONMENTAL MONTH

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

Apr 14: Dave & Sharon Rempel

Upcoming Speakers:

Apr 08: Laurie Anderson
Women in Rotary

Apr 15: Ineke Boekhorst
Belize Report

Apr 22: Ruth Lee
Pathfinders Youth Society

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A season of renewal

As the chill of winter gives way to the warmth of spring, we have an opportunity to rejuvenate our commitments to each other and to the communities we serve.

A shining example is the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland in Ontario, whose members support a program providing hot meals to people facing homelessness and food insecurity.

On any given evening, the Soup Shack run by Feed Windsor-Essex serves up to 130 people, offering nourishment and a sense of community and care.

Club member and Past District Governor Aruna Koushik got the club involved after seeing a news segment about the Soup Shack.

Koushik collaborated with club members to quickly approve the purchase of a stove, pots, and pans for its new permanent space. Soon after, club members met with the Soup Shack team, toured the new location, and presented a check for 3,000 Canadian dollars (about US\$2,000) to support its efforts. They also committed to volunteering their time to prepare and serve meals once the facility is operational.

This exemplifies how Rotary members can come together to address community needs, foster engagement, and make a tangible impact. By identifying opportunities for service and mobilizing resources, we not only support those in need but also strengthen our bonds with each other and with the communities we serve.

As we embrace the renewal that spring offers, let's take inspiration from the Windsor-Roseland club.

Consider these ways to reinvigorate engagement within your club:

- **Identify emerging needs:** Stay attuned to the evolving challenges in your communities. Engage with local organizations to understand where your club's support can make the most difference.
- **Mobilize resources quickly:** When opportunities arise, act swiftly. Leverage the skills and networks within your club to gather resources, from financial contributions to equipment to volunteer time.
- **Foster collaboration:** Encourage members to take initiative and collaborate on projects. Empowering individuals to lead and contribute their unique talents enhances engagement and drives success.
- **Commit to ongoing involvement:** Beyond initial contributions, pledge continued support. Regular service keeps members connected and reinforces the club's commitment to sustained impact.

By embracing these approaches, we can harness the energy of spring to renew our dedication to service and engagement. Let's seize this season as an opportunity to revitalize our efforts, strengthen our connections, and continue making a positive difference in the world.

This is *The Magic of Rotary* — transforming lives, inspiring hope, and creating lasting change for the communities we serve.

STEPHANIE A. URCHICK

President, Rotary International

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President **Laurie Anderson** presided.

International Committee Chair **Mark Vosper** noted the recent devastating earthquake in Myanmar, and recommended that our club donate money to purchase one or more **Shelter Boxes** (which includes tents and other survival equipment) that Shelter Box can send over to that region for emergency assistance. About one dozen of our members donated \$100 each which is enough to pay for one shelter box at a cost of approximately \$1200.

Program – **Daniel Baxter**, owner of Maple Ridge Funeral Chapel – talking about “the history of that funeral home”, “what happens when a loved one dies” and “planning ahead”.

(The following summary does not do justice to Dan's excellent presentation.)

Introduction of Dan Baxter

Dan was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and moved to the West Coast with his family at age 4. Upon graduation from the University of BC with a degree in Engineering, he served with the Canadian Armed Forces for 5 years including 3½ years under NATO command in Germany. Upon release from the military, he joined the family fire safety and security business where he worked operations and customer service. This was followed by 12 years consulting for various business clients. During a six-month contract with a private funeral and cemetery provider, Dan discovered a profession where he could have a lasting impact on the clients he served. This led to his decision to seek licensing as a Funeral Director.

The history of the Maple Ridge Funeral Chapel, situated at 11969 216 St, Maple Ridge, BC.



Long time Maple Ridge residents, Les and Eileen Osborn, opened Maple Ridge Funeral Chapel in 1964. Upon retiring in 1988, their daughters, Diane MacKenzie and Joan Gibson, continued the Osborn legacy of dedicated service.

Diane and Joan

In 2021, after 33 years of serving their community, Joan and Diane retired, and Dan Baxter purchased Maple Ridge Funeral Chapel and became a licensed funeral director. Two years after that, his daughter, Rachel, followed in his footsteps and is now in her second year of her apprenticeship to become a funeral director and embalmer.



Rachel and Dan

The funeral home building undertook renovations in 2024, but the original traditional chapel remained basically the same except for upgraded floor covering and colour of the cross shown in this picture.



The Osborn Chapel

What happens when a loved one dies

There are about 100 licensed “funeral providers” in the lower mainland, but not many “funeral homes” like Maple Ridge Funeral Home and Crematorium. “Funeral provider” is the broader term, encompassing businesses that offer funeral services but do not have a physical facility where services are conducted. There are only about 10 crematoriums in the lower mainland and 4 of those 10 are owned by large funeral service companies, which do not provide cremation services for those outside of their own group. Maple Ridge Funeral Chapel is one of those few facilities that has a crematorium that provides this service to other funeral providers.

The first step

When a loved one passes away, what do you do? You need to call a funeral home (“the first call”). There are rules for who can move the person's body and where it can be moved to, and if you make the first call to a funeral home, they can make the arrangements. Or a physician or coroner will tell you when the person's body can be moved. The only person who can allow a funeral director to move the body is the person named in the person's Will or the person authorized by the Cremation, Internment and Funeral Services Act.

If the death happens at home

If the person had an expected/planned natural death at home and a Notification of Expected Death in the Home was filled out by a physician or nurse practitioner, the person's body can be moved without talking to a medical practitioner or coroner. How long the person's body can remain at home depends on the circumstances.

If the death happens at hospital or care facility

If you use a funeral home, tell the hospital the name of the funeral home, and you may allow the transfer of the person's body from the hospital to the funeral home. Meet with the funeral director who will explain and talk with you about the process, and take information about the deceased and what services if any you want. If a person dies in the hospital or care facility, the body must be removed within two hours of the time of death.

Private transfer

If you want to privately transfer the person's body to a funeral home, crematorium or cemetery, you need to get a “private transfer permit”.

Unexpected death

If the death was unexpected, then phone 911 for advice. The BC Coroners Service investigates all unnatural, sudden and unexpected, unexplained or unattended deaths in British Columbia.

Planning ahead

Many families and individuals are making the decision to pre-arrange and pre-pay their funerals before they die. There are many benefits to doing so, such as:

- (1) reducing stress for your loved ones during a difficult time,
- (2) saving costs over the long term (prices are locked in), and
- (3) ensuring your final wishes are honoured.

Club and Community Announcements:



Maple Ridge Community Foundation will be holding its Citizen of the Year banquet on **April 12, 2025** at Meadow Gardens. [The president of that Foundation is our former club member Kevin Nosworthy, and Warren Dale is one of its directors.] To support this Foundation that does great work in our community, and to encourage our own club members to attend, our club will pay \$75 (one half of the ticket price) towards the purchase of tickets for members and their spouses. Our Club Services Director Adrienne Dale has tickets and will arrange for payment (or if you have already purchased a ticket, for reimbursement) of the club's portion of the ticket price.

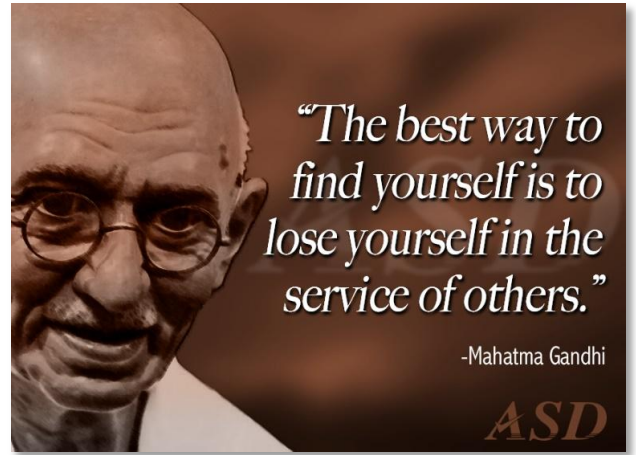
District Assembly at Kwantlen Polytech University in Surrey, **April 5, 8 AM to 3 PM**. There is still room to come, eat, and learn about Rotary (carpool ride is available). Those currently signed up to attend are **Claire, Sharon, and Alex and Barbara**. Our Rotary club will pay for cost.

District Conference in Tulalip, Washington - **May 2 - 4**. So far, only President-elect **Alex and Barbara, and President Laurie** have signed up to attend.

Wine Festival – PLEASE SELL TICKETS! – Available through rotarywinefest.ca or from Centra Lawyers Office (\$50 per ticket). We still need Silent Auction Items for this event which will be held on **May 14** at the SKY Hangar, at Pitt Meadows Airport. All Rotary members are asked to either donate a bottle of wine (or to donate \$20 to purchase a bottle of wine) for wine baskets to be sold at the event as a fundraiser.

Duck Race – August 10 – we need sponsors for the 2025 Duck Race - if you know anyone who could sponsor this fundraiser, please let the club know.

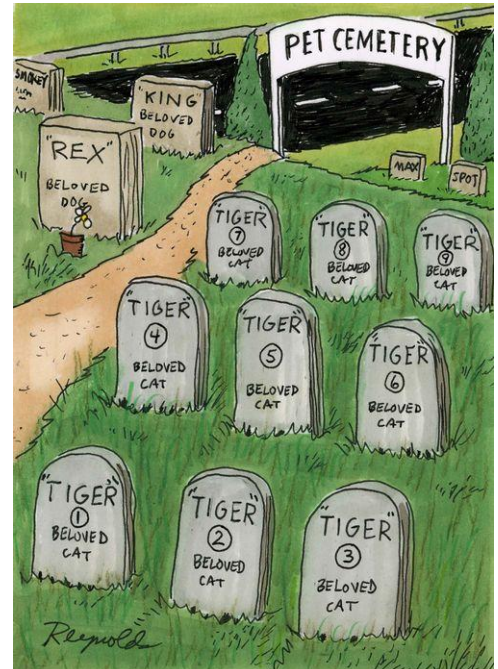
Quote for the Day:



Cartoons – for Cat Lovers



I THINK WE CAN DESCRIBE HARVEY IN ONE WORD.
CURIOUS.



Submitted by Laurie Anderson