



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon

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JUNE IS ROTARY FELLOWSHIP MONTH

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

June 30: Clint & Cheryl Callison

Upcoming Speakers:

June 24: Cops for Cancer

July 01: **No regular Rotary Meeting**

July 08: RYLA Student

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President **Laurie Anderson** presided
(for the last time in the 2024-2025 Rotary year)

Guests

Ray Peterson

Andy and Yvonne Berrisford

Program: **Laura Ribeiro** -
the Ridge Meadows Child Development Centre

About our speaker

Laura Ribeiro is the current Executive Director of the Ridge Meadows Child Development Centre. A registered speech-language pathologist by trade, Laura was the Director of Speech-Language Pathology at the Centre prior to assuming the role of ED. She practiced as a pediatric speech therapist for over 20 years, with a focus on children with complex needs, and holds a Master of Science from UBC's School of Audiology and Speech Sciences. Having held roles in a variety of publicly-funded programs in both Ontario and BC, Laura brings extensive clinical experience and perspective to her role as Executive Director of the Child Development Centre in addition to possessing a contagious passion and enthusiasm for the work carried out at the RMCDC. Laura is committed to the RMCDC's philosophy and mission and honoured to be able to serve the communities of Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, and the traditional territories of the Katzie and Kwantlen First Peoples.

The Ridge Meadows Child Development Centre Society (RMCDC)

is a non-profit, charitable organization serving the communities of Maple Ridge, Pitt Meadows, and Katzie First Nation. RMCDC provides early intervention, mental health, and family support services to children, youth, and their families. The RMCDC is a non-profit, charitable organization that has been serving the communities of Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows since 1989.

They are now located at 21755 Lougheed Highway, and provide no-cost intervention services to over 1,000 children and youth a year.

Its services include:

Early Intervention Program - supports for children and their families from birth to school-entry who have (or are at risk for) physical, neurological, or other developmental delays or disabilities.

Occupational Therapy - help children with self care skills (e.g., dressing, toileting, and grooming), perceptual development and sensory regulation, fine motor development, and play skills.

Physical Therapy - help children with their mobility and gross motor skills

Speech-Language Therapy - provide assessment and intervention in the areas of social communication, receptive and expressive language.

Enhanced Early Intervention Program - supports families who have children aged 0-6 that have mental health concerns and/or are at risk of developing a mental health diagnosis.

School-Aged Therapy Program - provides support to school-aged children who have complex needs that significantly impact their activity and participation at school, at home, and/or in the community.

Key Worker Services - provides support to parents and caregivers of children up to the age of 18 who are living with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and/or Complex Developmental Behavioral Conditions.

Respite Services Program - provides 28 families each month with funds for the temporary care of a child (aged 0-7 years).

Autism Assessments - is contracted to complete 30 assessments per fiscal year.

Funding

RMCDC is able to offer programming to children, youth, and families in the community at no cost through service contracts with the Ministry of Children and Family Development (its major source of funds), as well as contracts with School District 42 and the Provincial Health Services Authority. RMCDC does, however, rely heavily on donations from community donors, on grant applications, and on agency-based and other fundraising efforts to support the significant costs associated with this service provision, including costs for treatment materials, supplies, and administrative and operational costs. **They therefore ask Rotary to continue to consider RMCDC as potential recipients for Rotary fundraising events.**

Submitted by Laurie Anderson