



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon

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**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

JULY IS MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH MONTH

Happy Birthday

July 26: Yvonne Berrisford

Happy Anniversary

Upcoming Speakers:

July 22:

July 29: Yvonne Berrisford
Who's Who

Aug 05:

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President **Alex Pope** presided.

20 persons attended today's meeting, including speakers and guests.

Guests:

Juan Pennarrieta de Cordoua - from the Rotary club in the village of Pachacamac, Peru, in Rotary District 4455. Their Rotary Club is known for their work with a local nursery school, and for providing essential resources like clean water, sanitation, and educational facilities. Jaun's son lives in Maple Ridge. Jaun has visited our club at least once previously. He says, "I'd love to see more connections between your club and ours. I'd also like to join your meeting again (on July 29), as I'll be here then. I return to Lima on August 6."

[Pachacamac is located south of the Peruvian capital, approximately 40 kilometers from the center of Lima. It is an Inca archaeological site that retains its historical and cultural value. The Pachacamac temple and the structures that surround it continue to be an essential part of the tourist routes that stand out among the things to do in Pachacamac.]



Naunihal Brar- currently works in a managerial capacity for the law firm of his mother, Kirandeep K. Brar, who carries on her legal practice in Maple Ridge.

Also in attendance were **Chantal Despot** and **Andy and Yvonne Berrisford** who (along with Kathy Henderson) will be inducted by Assistant Governor Peter Tam as new members of Meadow Ridge Rotary on July 22, 2025. [Gordon and Mary Robson, charter members of our club, have transferred back from the Lahaina, Hawaii, club, and are now officially members of Meadow Ridge Rotary again.]

Program: Cops for Cancer:

police officers **Peter Westra** and **Karan Parmar**

What is Cops for Cancer? Cops for Cancer Tour de Coast 2025 is an annual event where police agencies and emergency service personnel cycle for 8 days along the coast of BC, raising money for childhood cancer research and support services at the Canadian Cancer Society. As a partnership between first responders and the Canadian Cancer Society, Cops for Cancer has raised millions of dollars to fund life-saving pediatric cancer research and support children with cancer and their families. Since the program's inception 28 years ago, it has grown into an incredible movement across the country that's changing the lives of children with cancer. It has raised \$56 million through Cops for Cancer cycling tours and fundraising events (such as head shaves). In 2024 alone, it raised \$2 million. Cops for Cancer is one of the largest funders of pediatric cancer research in Canada. Progress is being made – the pediatric cancer survival rates increase from 71% in the 1980s to over 83% today.

Who are Peter Westra and Karan Parmar? Sgt. Pete Westra and Cst. Karan Parmar are two local participants in the Canadian Cancer Society's 26th annual event, and are part of the Tour de Coast cycling team.

Sergeant Westra was stationed in Ridge Meadows for the past eight years, but is now stationed in Surrey. He has ridden with Cops for Cancer for the past four years. Constable Parmar is serving as part of the Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows detachment. Both Pete and Karan have lost family members to cancer.

The “Tour de Coast 2025” ride will be rolling from September 12 to September 19, 2025, with a September 16th stop in Maple Ridge. Through 9 days of riding, the tour will stop in Vancouver, Pemberton, Powell River, Richmond and all points in between. Although the ride takes place in September, the training and fundraising started much earlier in the spring. The fundraising goal for Tour de Coast is \$620,000 this year. The tour will visit 19 communities, and more than 50 schools along the way where they will give talks at school assemblies. The 37 riders will travel approximately 700 km over the 8-day period. Sergeant Westra said that the ride is “gruelling but very satisfying”.

[In addition to the Tour de Coast, there is an even longer “Tour de Rock 2025” where police agencies and emergency service personnel cycle for 14 days on Vancouver Island, cycling from Port Alice to Victoria between September 20 and October 3, 2025.]

Donations made to the Canadian Cancer Society through Cops for Cancer are used to fund life-saving pediatric cancer research and caring support programs like Camp Goodtimes in British Columbia (that is primarily located at the Loon Lake Research and Education Centre in Maple Ridge, BC, but also has programs in Shawnigan Lake on Vancouver Island). The Loon Lake facility is a permanent home for the camp and has been upgraded to enhance the experience for children and families affected by childhood cancer; and is provided at no cost to the families. The Camp runs year-round and is medically supervised. It costs the Canadian Cancer Society about \$2,000 to send one kid to camp.

Mark Forster said that during his time as the Grand Master of Masons (who donated to the cause) he visited Camp GoodTimes and personally saw the children afflicted with cancer and were close to the end of their lives. The camp is often the last chance for these children to camp with their family, and those running the Camp whatever they can to make it fun for every child, notwithstanding their condition. One child a wheelchair wanted to climb a rock wall and they went out of their way to lift the child up to accomplish this wish.

Each rider must take part in raising funds for the Canadian Cancer Society, which are designated towards Pediatric Research, and the running of Camp Goodtimes. There are fundraising minimums that each rider must raise in order to be able to take part in the official tour. Fundraising minimums must be met 100% by end of August. Along with fundraising, cycling training is another major component of being a rider for the Cops for Cancer cycling events. The Tours cycle 100-200 kms each day, over various elevations, and sometimes in less-than-ideal weather.

How to Donate:

Peter and Karan can be contacted, and donations can be made in their names, at:

Online donations can be made at support.cancer.ca Peter Westra on Tour de Coast Peter.westra@rcmp-grc-gc.ca

Online donations can be made at support.cancer.ca Karan Parmar on Tour de Coast. Karan.Parmar@rcmp-grc-gc.ca

Happy and Sad Dollars included:

Walter, whose brother is still fighting cancer, and whose treatment is giving him some relief.

Clint, whose daughter is doing well in her dance competitions.

Barbara, who along with Alex are getting a new travel trailer.

Brenda, whose son getting married.

Eric (who helped Ineke transport and dispose of a large heavy item during her move to a new residence, and was rewarded by a large bottle of spirits) quipped, “If Ineke asks for help, go for it”.

Club Announcements

July 22, 2025 will be the installation of four new members to our Club by our Assistant Governor Peter Tam. Let us have a good attendance to welcome them into our club:

Chantal Despot

Kathy Henderson

Andy and Yvonne Berrisford

Submitted by Laurie Anderson