

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon

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**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

OCTOBER IS COMMUNITY ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT MONTH

Happy Birthday

Oct. 29 Libby Nelson

Happy Anniversary

Upcoming Speakers:

Oct. 28

Nov. 4

Nov. 11

NO MEETING

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President **Alex Pope** presided.

Guests

Marilyn Sullivan, sister of Debbie MacRae.

Cheque Presentation

Community Services Director Mike Davies presented a cheque in the amount of **\$1000 to Trish Coft**, President of the **Maple Ridge Christmas Festival Society**, in support of the Santa parade and other festivities which will take place on Saturday, Dec. 6, 2025 4pm - 8pm.

The Society is a non-profit that plans and executes the community Christmas event for the city of Maple Ridge that draws over 10,000 people and engages the community at large to volunteer, host and implement plans laid forth for the Santa Parade, decorations, trees, food trucks, Christmas market, photos with Santa, special light displays and much more.



Program: Club Business Meeting – report to Club by Directors and committee chairs

Mike Davies - Community Service

With the discontinuance of the Starfish Backpack Program at the end of 2024, the balance of the funds collected in support of that program, namely \$51,000, was provided to the Food Bank to help those in need. \$8,500 was given to 8 other community organizations, including, but not limited to, the Salvation Army, Cops for Cancer, the Intergenerational Garden, the Hospice Society, and Christmas Haven,

(an annual Christmas Eve fully-catered turkey dinner, live music, kids' activities, and a gift from Santa, for those who do not want to be alone at this time of year).

Adrienne Dale - Club Service

Club events held or planned for this Rotary year include:

- The International Thanksgiving dinner held at the home of Adrienne and Warren on October 18 when 24 Rotarians and family members attended.
- The Pub Hubs held on the last Thursday of each month, with the October event being held at the the Ranch Pub and Grill and the November event being held at the home of Eric and Urma Mollema on November 27.
- On December 13 there will be a Christmas party at the home of Clint and Cheryl Callison and a Christmas present exchange of the last Rotary club meeting of this year to be held on December 16.

Walter Volpatti – Treasurer

Walter reviewed the financial statements, pointing out that the club has three accounts, namely, the Meadow Ridge Foundation account, the Gaming Account, and the Club general account. Bursaries are paid out of the funds which we received from the Provincial gaming/lottery fund, with a further grant of an undetermined amount coming in January, 2026.

Ineke Boekhorst - International Service

\$5,000 has been allocated to the Belize Project (Al Stjernegaard of the Port Moody Club will be attending our October 28 meeting to talk about the project and to pick up our donation). Malcolm Kennedy will also attend to discuss a project in Ecuador. We have contributed to the support of the purchase of Hippo Rollers (for transporting fresh water to remote villages in Africa), and for sanitary supplies for girls (also in Africa).

Planned projects include supporting Shelter Box, providing \$1,000 to the George Club in South Africa (regarding the Eiland Huis Care Facility - see below for an update by Andy Berrisford), and investigating support for an exchange student (possibly with the Court Moody Club).

Sharon Kyle – New Generations

We helped sponsor the Abbotsford Rotaract Club, and will asking them to give a presentation tour Club about their activities.

Brenda Jenkins – Vocational Service

We are funding 11 bursaries (which Walter delivered) and two bursaries for the fire departments of Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows.

Eric Mollema – President Elect

Eric wants to make hosting an exchange student a priority.

Mike Davies – History committee

Regarding the book commemorating our club's 30th anniversary (and which is now given out to all new members), Mike emphasized the importance of club presidents providing on an annual basis a synopsis of the club's happenings in the year of their presidency, so that the information will be available to enable a similar book to be produced in years to come. Eric Mollema, through his law office, will maintain such records as may be provided to him.

Eiland Huis Care Facility in Western Cape, South Africa –

Andy Berrisford

In 2016, Andy and Yvonne Berrisford (with Andy's brother and sister-in-law) went to South Africa and went back to the place where Andy grew up, and they visited a house that used to be a grocery store. It has now been converted to a home for severely disabled children. This home and contents were in serious need of help. Working with the Rotary Club of Port Moody, a Global Grant was obtained in the amount of US\$ 47,175. Andy returned to the home this past September, 2025, and found it is in even greater need of assistance. Title to the house and property is still in question, and that matter has to be resolved before an additional Global Grant is obtained. If all problems are solved and a further grant is obtained, our club has pledged to provide \$1,000 in support of the project.

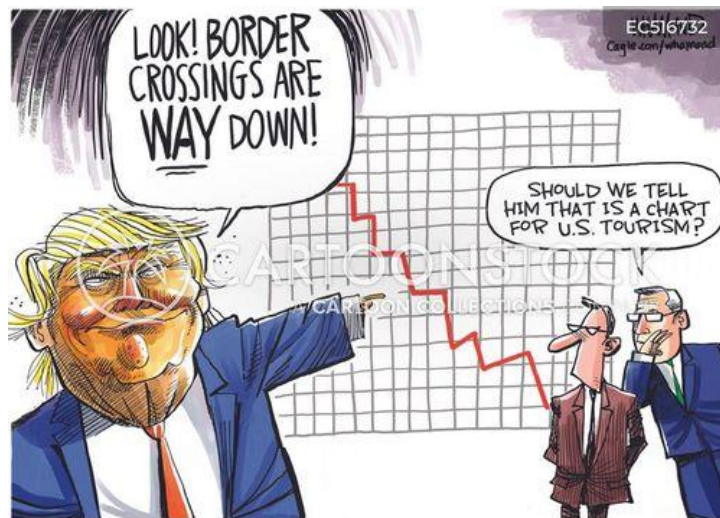
Happy and Sad Dollars included:

Mary Robson said Barenaked Ladies will be coming to Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows aboard the 27th annual CPKC (Canadian Pacific Kansas City) Holiday Train. The train will be stopping in Maple Ridge at 8 p.m., at the Port Haney Wharf on Friday, Dec. 19, and in Pitt Meadows at 9:05 p.m. the same night at the intersection of Harris Road and Advent Road. Now in its 27th year, the Holiday Train raises money and collects food across CPKC's extensive network in Canada and the United States **supporting community food banks.**

Clint Callison's daughter has now received her driver's license and will now be driving herself to school and dance lessons (leaving Clint and Cheryl with nervous growing pains?).

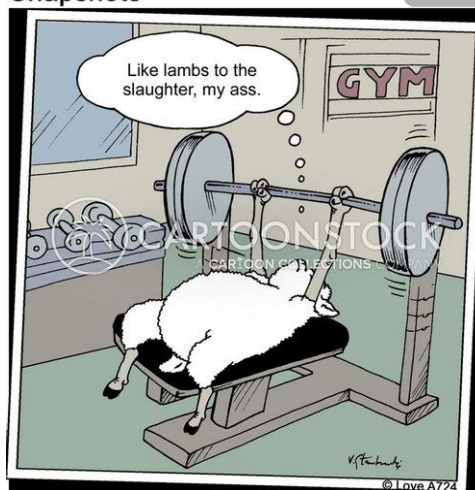


Gordon and Mary Robson have switched their Christmas vacation from Hawaii to Mexico at least for the next 3 years and 2 months.



Mary donated \$5 for the privilege of advertising that she has a supply of home-grown lamb for sale. Meanwhile, word has it that the parents of the surviving lambkins have other plans:

Snapshots



Club Business and Announcements

October 30 - Our Club's Pub Hub at The Ranch Pub and Grill - 21973 132 Ave, Maple Ridge.

November 4 – Our regular Tuesday Rotary Club meeting will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion (not at Meadow Gardens Golf Club).

November 6 - Dancing in the Ridge at The ACT Arts Centre – Brave members of our Club will again form a team to enter in the competition – DON'T MISS IT!

November 26, 2025 at 8 AM - the annual Dignity Breakfast put on by the Salvation Army will be held again, and our club has made a donation which will cover the cost of 8 or 10 members to attend the event. There may be one or more vacancies still left for those members wishing to attend.

November 27 - Our Club's Pub Hub for November – at Eric's home.

President's Quip for the Week

I was looking for a parking spot at Cosco last week. After driving around the parking lot for the third time, I said "Lord, I can't stand this. If you open up a space for me, I swear I will give up whiskey and go to church every Sunday".

Suddenly the clouds parted, and the sun shone on an empty parking spot. "Never mind," I said, "I found one".

Puns for the Week

- Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
- Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other: 'You stay here; I'll go on a head.'
- I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.

Submitted by Laurie Anderson