

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon



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NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

Happy Birthday		Happy Anniversary	
Nov. 22	Laurie Anderson	Nov. 23	Lynda Lawrence
Nov. 26	Matt & Lynda DeBruyn		

Upcoming Speakers:

Nov. 25	Mary Robson	Dec. 02	Patrick O'Brien, Thomas Bell	Dec. 09	No Speaker
	The Needs of the Food Bank at Christmas		Trump's Tariffs, how will these effect Canadians		AGM

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

President **Alex Pope** presided.
Cheque presentations



Mike Davies presented a cheque in the amount of **\$900 to the 1st Pitt Meadows Scouts** to assist them in the purchase of equipment. Accepting the cheque on behalf of the Scouts was **Beverly Coates**, who said that regardless of the issues facing young children these days, there is always a place for

them in Scouts Canada, from the youngest (in Beaver and Cub Scouts) to the older kids (in the Venturer or Rover program).

Mike also presented a cheque of **\$1,500 to School District 42, to support its after-school program.**



Accepting the cheque was **Hannah MacDonald, the program's manager.** This program, that is offered in collaboration with its community partners, is subsidized by our donation, and gives students a place to go after school where they can have safe and expanded educational, emotional, and physical learning opportunities, before their parents or guardians get home. Programs include such activities as football, yoga and archery.

Installation of our Newest Member **Ray Peterson**



Ray was introduced by Laurie Anderson (who was honoured to act as his sponsor), and President Alex performed the induction ceremony.

Ray Peterson was raised and born in Winnipeg, Manitoba. From 1968 to 1992, he was employed by an electrical wholesale company in Winnipeg called Amesco Ltd., where he worked for about 25 years. While so employed, he was transferred to Thompson, Manitoba for about two years, then to Thunder Bay, Ontario for about five years, and then back to the head office in Winnipeg, working his way up to be the company's General Manager.

In 1992, he decided it was time for a change in both career and climate, and moved to Vancouver, and opened a Western distribution centre for a Dutch fastener company called Metrican Fasteners, with its North American headquarters in Michigan. He located and leased business premises, hired the staff, and launched the business covering Western Canada.

From 1998 to 2002, he owned and operated a sign company. He then obtained a teaching certificate and taught in the Self Employment Program at Douglas College for 20 years, and was a business consultant to over 2,000 startups.

He also taught negotiations, sales and marketing, and Small Business Startup, at BCIT for 12 years.

Throughout all of this, he was not only very active in business, but also in charitable activities, including being the member and chairman of numerous boards. He has served as the president of the Thunder Bay and the Winnipeg Kinsmen Clubs, and is a lifetime member of Kinsmen. He is also the recipient of a Community Service Award from the city of Winnipeg. In the early 2000's, he was a member of the Rotary club of Burnaby for two years, and is happy to again become a Rotarian.



[As an aside, Laurie noted that Kinsmen (now, Kin) is an all-Canadian service organization, and it may be said that Rotary helped (albeit remotely) in the creation of Kinsmen. A young man named Hal Rogers came back from World War 1 as an injured veteran who had been gassed and wounded in that conflict.

Hal worked in his father's business in Hamilton, Ontario. Hal's father was a member of Rotary, and Hal wanted to become a Rotarian like his father; but at that time Rotary had a rule that only one member (who had to be a male) from each employment classification could belong to Rotary, and both Hal and his father had the same classification - so his application for membership was rejected. So, at the age of 21 years, Hal decided to create a new club, and he and a few other men started Canada's first Kinsmen club in 1920. "Kinsmen Club" is the original, male-only club, while "Kin Club" is a newer, mixed-gender club.]

Program: Barbara Pope's "Who's Who"



Barbara was born in Ontario, and came to British Columbia when she was 14 years old. Barbara's mom (Bridgitte Felch-Munro) met Barbara's stepfather about 30 years ago, and the family moved from Burnaby to Maple Ridge. Later, her parents moved to Bella Coola, where they lived for 16 years. (Her stepfather has since passed away.)

As a youngster, Barbara was heavily involved in five-pin bowling, and (beginning at the age of 12) in gymnastics – advancing through the various “bridge levels” both provincially and nationally.

[Google says: “In gymnastics, the term “bridge” is not a specific competitive level itself, but rather refers to one of the more gymnastics skills that are fundamental for many advanced gymnastic movements or body positions, typically introduced at the beginner stages of the sport. It is considered a fundamental shape necessary for developing strength, flexibility, and body control, eventually progressing to more complex skills. Learning the bridge gives gymnasts the experience of adjusting their body position while inverted and under strain.”]

Barbara became a teacher of gymnastics for over 25 years, as well as working in the cellphone industry. It was while working in the cellphone industry, that she met her future husband (aka Alex) who came to her place of employment (all decked up in his cycling gear) to install some data base services. And as they say, “the rest is history”.

Barbara related that they have been married for 30 years; and that their happy union has resulted in an immediate family of five - who are (alphabetically) Alex, Barbara, Casey, Danika, and Edward. At various times, the family also had dogs; first, Fergus (the Great Dane) and later, Joy (the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel). [We assume that, had Joy been a male, they would have named it George.] Today, despite Alex's allergies and in addition to their kids, the Pope household and extended Family currently consist of Barbara's mom Brigitte, one nephew, four dogs, and one cat.



The motto or guiding principle of Barbara (and Alex) which acts as her (and their) personal compass to help them stay aligned with what matters most in life, is: “WE MAKE IT WORK”.

Happy and Sad Dollars included:



Several members put up some happy bucks to say they were very happy to see that **Matt DeBruyn** (who will be undergoing surgery related to his cancer at the end of this month) was able to attend the meeting.

Pres. Alex Pope was two-thirds happy and one-third sad. As for the two-thirds, despite the fact that our dancing team of Rotarians did not win first place this year in “Dancing in the Ridge”, he was very happy with their performance and their enthusiasm in again putting the “fun” into this “fundraising” event for the Maple Ridge Community Foundation.

He was also happy that he and Barbara were able to drive their nephew to Bella Coola recently where Barbara's mom Bridgitte lived for many years (not to mention that their home now has an empty guest bedroom again – which we all guess will not be empty very long).

As for the one-third sad, Alex (who was BC Green Party Chair of the Leadership Contest Committee and Co-Chair of the Green Party's Provincial Council in 2025) was disappointed that he did not get re-elected elected as Co-Chair to the Provincial Council.

Clint Callison saw the movie "Playdate" on TV recently, and noted that it was filmed entirely in British Columbia, with many scenes filmed in recognizable places Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. [Note: The film was released on November 12, 2025, and is streaming exclusively on Prime Video. It was not generally shown on traditional television channels in British Columbia but was immediately available for streaming via Amazon's service.]

Brenda Jenkins "outed" Clint as being the person in the Duck costume in our club's Dancing in the Ridge performance on stage at the ACT.

Ineke Boekhorst was happy to report that the tap-dancing shoes which were purchased by the Club for the Dancing in the Ridge performance, were donated to the dance school that coached our team, so they can be used by kids taking dancing lessons who could not otherwise afford to buy them.

Fine Master

Libby Nelson was our Fine Master (or Fine Mistress?) this week and fined all those who continue to sing our national anthem using the words "True patriot love in all thy sons command". [Note: The words of *O Canada* were changed to "True patriot love in all of us command" on January 31, 2018, when a bill was passed to make the English version of the national anthem gender-neutral. This replaced the previous line, "True patriot love in all thy sons command," which was first introduced in 1913.]

Club Announcements

November 26 - 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.

November 27 - our Club's **Pub Hub for November** – at Eric's home (5:30 pm).

December 9 - the date of **the Club's AGM**, and election of the Executive for the coming Rotary year of 2026-2027.

December 13 - club **Christmas party** at the home of Clint and Cheryl Callison.

December 16 - **Christmas present exchange** at regular club meeting.

December 23 - our club's regular **Pub Hub** (location TBD).

ShelterBox Canada – **Ineke** reminded all members to make a donation to ShelterBox, and that Hurricane Melissa was the strongest landfalling storm in Jamaican history. Donations can be made by sending them via e-Transfer to our treasurer **Walter Volpatti**.

Presidents Closing Quote

A friend of mine lost three fingers on his right hand, so he asked his doctor if he would still be able to write with it. The doctor said: "Maybe, but I wouldn't count on it".

More Puns for the Day



Submitted by Laurie Anderson