



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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## DECEMBER IS DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT MONTH

**Today** (Dec 26): **No Meeting**  
**Next Week** (Jan 2): **After Christmas Holiday re-gift fun**

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
	Jan. 4: Sharon Kyle and Ron Langley

### CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Tue. Jan. 9	12-1:30pm	Speaker is RI Vice President <b>Dean Rohrs</b>	Meadow Gardens Golf Club, Pitt Meadows
Feb. 9-11		Presidential Peace Building Conference <a href="https://environmentandpeace.com">https://environmentandpeace.com</a>	Hyatt Regency Vancouver

### CHRISTMAS PLANTS FOR HOSPICE RESIDENCE

We delivered 14 Cyclamen and 4 Grinch Trees to McKinney Creek on Dec. 14, where they were received with open arms. All patients will have a Christmas plant with a Christmas card, which included a handwritten message from our Club, on their bedside table.

Thanks to everyone, who purchased plants to be donated to Hospice, they were certainly very much appreciated!



### CHRISTMAS PARTY AT CLINT AND CHERYL CALLISON

On Saturday Dec. 16 we had our Christmas party at Clint and Cheryl Callison's home. A big Thank You to our hosts!



Our hosts Clint and Cheryl (with Lorna Anderson in middle)



## LAST WEEK'S MEETING

### Guests:

- Brenda Jenkins** (guest of Lynda Lawrence)  
**Gregory Lane** (guest of Laurie Anderson)  
**Jordan Sheffield** (son of our guest speaker)  
**Irena Shantz** (honorary member of our club)

### Pres. Libby's quote of the day:



### Happy and Sad (“pay a dollar and you can holler”)

**David Rempel:** happy that his brother is now home for Christmas

**Pres. Libby Nelson:** sad that Betty Levens missed the Christmas party due to transportation mix up, but a happy dollar of thanks to Clint Callison and his wife Cheryl for hosting our club's Christmas party in their home on Saturday December 16th.

**Walter Volpatti:** happy that Ken Holland is on the road to recovery.

**Matt DeBruyn:** happy to be back in Maple Ridge for six weeks (before his return trip to sunnier climes); and happy that the Club will again be participating in introducing the four-way test to grade 4 students in the coming Rotary year.

### Program: Dr. Scott Sheffield: Indigenous participation in the second world war



About our guest:

**Dr. Scott Sheffield** is an Associate Professor of History at the University of the Fraser Valley where he teaches Canadian, indigenous, military, and transnational history. Although his campus is in Abbotsford, he drove all the way from Chilliwack to present his talk to us. For the last two decades, Scott's research has focused on Indigenous

contributions to, and experiences in, the Second World War in Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the United States. He is submitting a manuscript on this subject to Cambridge University Press this week. His next research project will explore the Second World War experience in British Columbia.

Dr. Sheffield spoke to us about the subject of his research, which examined why young indigenous people in their thousands volunteered for military service. It is estimated that the number of people from the indigenous communities who served in the war in the following countries was as follows:

USA 25,000  
New Zealand 16,000  
Canada 4,300  
Australia 4,850

In Canada indigenous peoples were barred from joining the Air Force or Navy, and therefore volunteered to serve in the Army. The vast majority of indigenous service men did so as volunteers, and not by conscription. There were many and varied reasons why these young men volunteered for military service. Those reasons included the following:

Some came from a culture where a person could seek status as being a warrior, and after returning from the war some joined indigenous warrior societies. However, some of those returning soldiers were not treated well by their own peoples. Although it was recognized that their service was necessary, they were sometimes considered to be socially dangerous and therefore ostracized.

Some joined because they wanted to protect their homeland and their people. They were very involved with “mother Earth” and needed to keep it free and protected.

In New Zealand, the Maori people often joined as it was a matter of honour to serve the country.

As indigenous people were often looked down upon, some young people volunteered to recover their good name and to show that they were as good as anyone else in the country.

Others recognized that joining the armed services was an economic opportunity. Most of the indigenous peoples were poor, and it was particularly hard (particularly in North America) to obtain employment and get ahead economically. Joining the armed services offered economic opportunity where they could earn money and send it back home to support their families.

Some joined simply because their buddies did, and they didn't want to be left behind. Others felt it was an opportunity for adventure and travel beyond their limited geographical homeland. Those who had fathers or grandfathers in World War I, joined to follow in the footsteps of family members and carry on what they considered to be an honourable profession. Others may have joined just on impulse.

And to many, volunteering for military service was a declaration of their right to belong to the mainstream of society, while at the same time being a declaration of their right to remain culturally distinct.

### 50/50

It appears that **Irena Shantz** and Pres. Libby may have got their tickets mix up, so when Libby's name was drawn, she gave the tickets to Irena. Alas, Irena pulled the 10 of Hearts, and the amount of the pot was thereby increased.

### President Libby's Closing quote for the day:

“Drive carefully.

It is not only cars that can be recalled by their maker.”

**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**