

The Four Way Flasher



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February 5, 2019

Website: MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

| Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--|
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| | | | | | |
| FEBRUARY IS PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH | | | | | |

Today (Feb. 5): Next Week (Feb. 12):

Libby Nelson - Who's Who

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

| Date | Time | Event | Venue |
|---------|----------------|--|------------------------------|
| Feb. 15 | 6 pm | Valentine dinner at Mark and Pauline Forster's | 11439 - 234A St. Maple Ridge |
| Apr. 27 | 7 pm – 9:30 pm | Rotary Wine Festival | ValleyFair Mall |
| Jun. 21 | | Installation of 2019/2020 Executive | |

RI PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In my travels over the past year, I've visited many strong, vibrant clubs and districts that are transforming their communities. When I attend their meetings, I can feel the energy. When I meet their members, I can see they are people of action. And when I look at their communities, I can recognize the impact of their work.

I've also visited communities with Rotary clubs that were hardly more than social clubs. It shouldn't ever be that way. Fortunately, there's a simple approach that I believe can help revitalize any club.

I'd like to challenge every Rotary club to come up with at least one high-impact service project. Each club already has the potential, the resources, to make it happen. It has the power to change people's lives — completely.

It doesn't take millions of dollars. One of the most transformational projects I've been a part of involved providing a Jeep to a group of midwives in Haiti. We had asked the midwives what we could do for them, and they told us they needed a way to reach expectant mothers in a remote part of the country. We supplied a Jeep, painted it pink, and put the Rotary logo on it. Three years later, we went back to see how they were doing. They were excited by the outcomes: They told us that the mortality rate for mothers and infants in that region had dropped by 50 percent. That's what I call transformational service.

But Jeeps don't last forever, and after eight years on the road, that vehicle was on its last legs. So we bought a pink Land Cruiser. It's still on the road, allowing the midwives to provide prenatal care to women in that remote region.

What makes a project transformational? It doesn't have to involve a lot of money, but it has to reach people and have a major impact in the community. That is the key, and that is where careful planning and thorough research come in. So do your research. Leverage your resources. Seek partnerships that can increase your impact. And then take action.

Of course, service is only part of what a strong club must offer. It must also have good speakers, provide leadership development, involve Rotaract and Interact, and bring value to its members and reasons to participate in Rotary events.

If your club is transformational and well-organized, everything else will follow. Members will be engaged, and new members will be eager to join you. Fundraising will be easier: People love to give when they see how their money is making a difference and when they know the organization is accountable. Your club will be vibrant, relevant, and alive — and it will *Be the Inspiration* to those within its ranks as well as to the community it serves.

Barry Rassin President 2018-19

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Invocation by Dave Rempel:

As Rotarians we have much to be thankful for. We are blessed with opportunities to serve. We have help. We experience support from our friends and family. Today we will receive nourishment. May we use it to focus on our motto: "Service Above Self"

Guests: Carla Janus

President's quote:

LIFE IS TO SHORT TO BE SERIOUS ALL THE TIME. SO, IF YOU CAN'T LAUGH AT YOURSELF, CALL ME.. I'LL LAUGH AT YOU.

Cheque Presentations:



Mike Davies, chair of our community services committee, presented a cheque in the amount of \$500 to purchase a dishwasher for the Breakfast Program at Davie Jones Elementary School in Pitt Meadows. Accepting the cheque was Michelle Davis, who is the principle of that school.

Between 8 AM and 8:30 AM each morning, food is provided for children who may not get a proper breakfast at home. Instead of the volunteers having to wash up the dishes by hand, they can now have a dishwasher which will allow them to interact with the children instead. Michelle also thanked the club for the Starfish Backpack program, as 5 families get the benefit of that program at Davie Jones Elementary.

The club also donated **\$500 to the Canada Day Event** to be held in the Maple Ridge. Accepting this cheque was **Kathryn Baird who is the Recreation Coordinator - Special Events and Volunteers**, at the city.

Maple Ridge celebrates our national holiday by bringing together thousands of people for a remarkable summer festival and ceremony in downtown Memorial Peace Park. The colour guard party leads a parade into the park at the

start of the formal protocol ceremony and awards presentations. Following this, three stages present arts, culture, music and dance, and the park is packed with a variety of fun activities including a Farmer's Market, a fire department community barbecue, food and artisans, children's games, informative community displays and allages family activities. A day full of fun ends with the crowd singing Happy Birthday as the festival comes to a close after a sensational celebration.

<u>Wine Fest</u>: **Libby Nelson** asked our members to let the Wine Fest committee know of any local food vendors, who may be willing to participate in this year's Festival.

<u>Announcement</u>: **Adrienne Dale** said that Friday, June 21, 2019 is the date set for the club's Installation Dinner. Mark it on your calendars!

Happy and Sad Dollars:

Matt Debruyn claims that he's sad because he will now be gone (south) until March 26, but claims to be happy that his wife **Lynda** played nine-hole golf and got three birdies in the game.

Dave Rempel claims that he's got a lot more than three birdies on his greens, and none of them are going south.

Ineke Boekhorst claims that she also went south (but only across the Golden Ears Bridge) with her grandkids to the swimming pool complex in Walnut Grove, as the Maple Ridge complex is closed for renovations, and all it cost was \$10 per family (in her case 5 people), and that it is a fantastic facility.

Speaker: Shelley Grogan, Director of Fund Development for the Maple Ridge /Pitt Meadows Community Services Society, on the topic of the Youth Wellness Centre ("YWC").

What is the YWC?

If you are a youth between the age 8-24 years old living with mental health or substance use challenges, the Youth Wellness Centre is a safe and supportive place for you. The Centre is located (or soon will be) at #4 – 22932 Lougheed Highway in Maple Ridge. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 1-6 pm there is a drop-in where you can see a doctor, counsellor, nurse and youth navigator for your mental and physical



health needs. We will help you connect with mental health and substance use programs and services in the community and can help provide you with helpful resources. The doctor is only available on Thursdays from 4-6 pm. You can visit the Youth Wellness Centre on your own, with a friend, or with a parent or caregiver. If you have a BC Services Card, bring it with you. If you don't, that's ok. Just come to the drop-in without it.

Shelley says that one in five children and youth, from all walks of life, experience mental health and/or substance abuse issues. In Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows, that means 4,000 young people. Too often young people and their families don't know where to get help. Now, there is a place where they can find the help they need when they need it, namely, the YWC.

The YWC operates on dollars raised through fundraising initiatives; donations will allow for the Centre to be operational, giving children and youth a place to turn to for help.

The new facility will be located where the Frogstone Grill Restaurant was previously located. The Hospital Foundation is donating \$250,000 to renovate the physical facilities, and \$250,000 have been put up as matching funds, which will double any donations that anyone, such as our club, wishes to donate.

A fundraising event "For the Love of Youth" will be held on February 9, 2019 at the Pitt Meadows Sky Hanger. To inspire your generosity, all net proceeds for this event will be matched by a magnanimous community up to \$250,000! This is your opportunity to double your impact in our community. This matching opportunity is for this event only. The funds raised will support the Youth Wellness Centre in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows that will soon be re-branded Foundry Ridge Meadows, complete with a bigger new space and a new building so we can help more kids. The goal for this event is to raise \$100,000 that will fund:

- New Building Costs
- Counselling services including: Anxiety, Addiction, Depression
- Youth Support Groups
- Parent and Caregiver Support Groups

(See below for the event poster)



President's Closing Quip



Submitted by Laurie Anderson

RIBBON CUTTING FOR LAITY VIEW ELEMENTARY PLAYGROUND THURSDAY JAN. 31

On August 28, 2018 the Laity View Elementary PAC received a cheque in the amount of \$20,000 to help build an all inclusive playground at the school. The very active PAC has worked hard to raise money to create the "Laity View Play For All Initiative", a playground for all ages, youth and adults, of all mobility levels and sensory requirements to be able to play together.

They say that it will be a great asset to the community because the school property is also used for sports clubs in the evenings and on the weekends. The neighbourhood is home to young and old and an accessible playground would allow for grandparents to enjoy playtime with their grandchildren.

Well, it was so far last Thursday. Our Club was invited to be present at the ribbon cutting. First there was a presentation in the gym and after that outside for the real thing.





More pictures are on our website