



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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## Cancellation of meeting venue change for Tuesday, May 28

On this date the club will be meeting at the usual place (Bella Vita Restaurant) and time.

### MAY IS YOUTH SERVICE MONTH

Today (May 28):  
 Next Week (June 4):

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
	June 2: Mark & Pauline Forster

### CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
May 29	5 pm – 7 pm	Pub Hub	<a href="#">Townhall Public House - #206-20690 Lougheed Hwy.</a>
Jun. 21	6 pm	Installation of 2019/2020 Executive	<a href="#">Meadow Gardens Golf Club</a>
Aug. 11	11 am	Rotary Duck Race	<a href="#">Maple Ridge Park</a>
Aug. 27	Noon	DG Brad Whittaker's Visit	

### LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Adrienne Dale conducted the meeting.

Today's quote: **There is a lot of difference between human being and being human. Very few understand it.**

Guests:

**Nina Fowell** - chair of Cythera Transition House Society

**Teresa Green** - executive director of Cythera Transition House Soc.

**Patrick Dobbyn** - soon-to-be new member of our Rotary Club

**Roger Powley** - current member of the Rotary Club of Kelowna (and soon-to-be new member of our Rotary Club)

Donations: by our club members to the Rotoract Club was \$120.

Happy and Sad dollars:

**Ineke Boekhorst** went kayaking on the Alouette River on Sunday with her grandchildren, and next week will be going to Holland to visit her family. Thereafter she will travel by train to Hamburg Germany where she will attend the Rotary International Convention.

**Brenda Jenkins** was happy for Ineke's trip (and gave a sad dollar for she wasn't going with her!).

**Matt Debruyn** stated that (although, due to bad weather, the bonfire social at his property had to be cancelled recently) they were going to try to reschedule that during some weekday evening in the second half of June. Regarding our club bursaries, last year all nine bursaries were given out; and this year eight applications had been approved and will be dispersed this coming June.

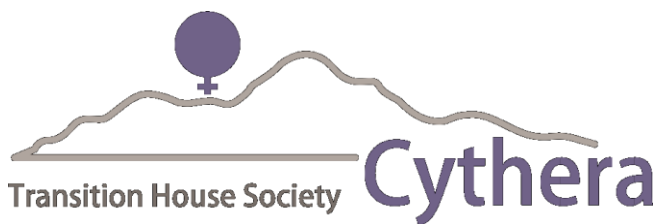
**Brian Bekar** was happy that we would be getting a couple of new members in the club in the near future.

Program: Teresa Green - Cythera Transition House Society



Brenda introduced **Teresa**, who has for the past 16 ½ years been with Cythera House, and prior thereto worked with the John Howard Society.

On April 23, 2019, Brenda introduced our speaker **Nina Fowell** as "superwoman"; today, she introduced Teresa as "**wonder woman**".



Cythera Transition House Society is a non-profit agency which was established in 1983, and is a registered charity. How important this is, is demonstrated by the following statistics given to us by Teresa:

*On any given day in Canada, more than 3300 women along with their 3000 children are forced to sleep in transition houses to escape domestic violence. Every night about 200 women are turned away because the transition houses are full. On average, every six days in Canada a woman is killed by her intimate partner. Approximately 2 to 6 children and youth in every Canadian classroom have witnessed some form of abuse in the home over the past year. Cythera House in Maple Ridge works with approximate 500 women a year.*

The **Mission Statement** of Cythera House is: *to achieve a balance of power in society which, we believe, will bring about an end to violence and abuse against women and children.*

The **Vision Statement** of Cythera House is: *Ending violence is a community responsibility.... Our community has a responsibility to provide a safe haven for victims/survivors.... Violence and abuse is rooted in power imbalances and is never acceptable when it involves or as directed at women and children....."*

Cythera will own and operate a 12 bed transition house, counselling centre, a thrift store and the Unique Boutique in Maple Ridge. Teresa Green advised that due to the redevelopment of the land upon which their current thrift store is located, the thrift store will be closed down in the near future until a new location can be found. The Boutique is located at 22362 Lougheed Highway. It does not take donations directly in the Boutique, but sells from its location higher-end products that are donated through the thrift store. In this way the Society gets a better return on the sale of these items.

*The Unique Boutique was created in 2011 as a high-end thrift store. The store often receives donations that have special meaning to donors — items that have been in the family for years or that have sentimental value. "Individuals come into the store looking for a place to let their items go.....They need the assurance that they're being handled with care and respect." Cythera Unique Boutique provides a place where donors know the precious items they are letting go of will translate directly into dollars and provide support to those who need it....We're here to generate money to support the safe house, the counselling centre and our programs. We are very clear and transparent about that.."*

The transition house provides a safe, supportive, temporary home to women and their children escaping imminent danger due to violence and/or abuse. It's transition house is only the first of many steps to a better life and a brighter future for these women and their children. This society is proposing a housing project which will enable Cythera to support its residents from the long-term, not just during their immediate challenge.

Cythera has a counselling/support program which will run parallel to his proposed housing program. It is a three-phase trauma intervention model which consists of:

Phase 1: The transition house, which provides safety and stabilization.

Phase 2: Once safety and stabilization have been achieved, Cythera addresses the deeper impact of trauma by processing the traumatic experiences.

Phase 3: Endeavours to reconnect the individuals with other persons and with "ordinary" life.

Ongoing support and counselling, both individual and group services, will be made available through its counselling centre, situated on site. Housing is the first step, but housing also needs a foundational program to make it a "community" for those living there. Traumatized women need more than just four walls – they need healthy relationships and community.

Closing Quote for the day:



If your wife wants to learn to drive, don't stand in her way.

**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**