

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

President: Adrienne Dale Phone: 778-242-5549  
 Secretary: Brenda Jenkins Phone: 604-816-6961  
 Editor: Peter Boekhorst Phone: 604-465-3392

[E-mail the President](#)  
[E-mail the Secretary](#)  
[E-mail the Editor](#)



## FEBRUARY IS PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH

**Today** Feb 25: David Zuvic - Positively Speaking Toastmasters Maple Ridge

**Next Week** Mar 3: James Buddy Rogers - Digital Marketing

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary

### CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Mar. 28	6:00 pm	30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of our Club's Charter	Meadow Gardens Golf Club
Apr. 25	7:00 pm – 9:30 pm	Rotary Wine Festival	ValleyFair Mall, Maple Ridge
Apr. 30-May 3		District Conference in Harrison Hot Springs	<a href="#">Harrison Resort</a>
June 6-10		RI International Convention in Honolulu	<a href="#">Hawaii Convention Center</a>

### LAST WEEK'S MEETING

**Adrienne Dale** presided at the meeting.

**Guests:** **Al Hogarth**, president of the Chamber of Commerce

**Presidents quote for the day:**

"If at first you don't succeed, go back and do what your wife says."

**Happy and Sad:**

**Dave Rempel** and his family have been building a house on their property for their daughter to move into. He got his building permit and is now happy that it is now completed to the stage where his daughter and her husband can move in.



(But he is not so happy that neither David nor Laurie Anderson can carry a musical note long enough to start the singing of O Canada.)

**Ineke Boekhorst** contacted former club President **Stan Wade**, who has indicated that he wishes to come to our club dinner in March to celebrate the 30th anniversary of our club's charter. As many members may be aware, Stan's wife Deborah Daniels died last May, and Stan misses her dearly.

President Adrienne told us a ferry tale without a fairy tale ending. **Adrienne and Warren** went to sea, and got stuck on the passenger vessel when it arrived at (or was leaving) Vancouver Island.

Their car wouldn't start, which was a real pain in the boat, and they had to be towed off. But what can you do when ship happens? Despite it all, they had a hull of a time!



**Guest speaker: Al Hogarth - Chamber of Commerce**

Al was the former mayor of Maple Ridge, is a realtor, and is now the president of the Chamber of Commerce. He congratulated our own Brenda Jenkins for winning the "Business Leader of the Year" award for 2019. Our local Chamber has 450 to 500 members, and speaks on their behalf for businesses. He was happy to say that they have an excellent relationship with the Maple Ridge Council and with the Pitt Meadows Council. Bill Dingwall, who is now mayor of Pitt Meadows, was Chief of Police in Maple Ridge when Al Hogarth was Mayor of Maple Ridge. The current mayor of Maple Ridge, Mike Morden, was president of the Chamber when Al was Mayor. Hogarth states that the municipal level of government usually affects us more directly than the provincial or federal government.



He and other Council members are aware that some members of the public (including Dave Rempel?) are not too happy with the construction approval process, and they are working to improve on that. Another concern is office space availability within the city. Over 23,000 persons leave Maple Ridge every day to go to work outside of the city.

The chamber has many benefits for the small business. For example, former Meadow Ridge Rotary Club member Kevin Nosworthy, who runs Avanti Planning Group, can provide health and dental insurance to its members through the Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan®, where you can get group benefits, from extended health to dental and vision care. (See below about Kevin).

He is pleased that the Chamber is now in downtown Maple Ridge, located in the old Gazette Building at 11777 - 224 Street. He is excited about what is going on in the Chamber. He hopes to bring on board to the Chamber the various home-based businesses which are in Maple Ridge. There is about 800 of them currently registered with the City, but there are probably many more than that who are unregistered.

In keeping with the President's Quote for the Day, Al's final comment was:



The Website of the Chamber of Commerce says this:

*The Chamber is a catalyst - a common vehicle mobilizing enlightened members from all segments of local businesses to work together to achieve and maintain a healthy and strong business community..... The Chamber advocates promoting businesses; monitors municipal, provincial and federal governments; and champions a sustainable business environment....*

*When you invest in your local Chamber of Commerce, you are investing in your own prosperity – both as a businessperson and as a member of the community. The Chamber of Commerce strives to increase its influence in the community, the relevance to business, and overall ability to represent the members. We regularly survey our members to better understand the needs and wants of the businesses.....The major benefit of membership in the Chamber of Commerce acts as the unified voice of businesses, including industry and professional firms. Chamber of Commerce also provide their members with value-added programs and benefits, available to only members (i.e. merchant services, comprehensive group insurance, gas discounts and couriers to name a few). The savings from these programs often offsets the cost of membership...A Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit organization designed to meet community or area needs. It is a voluntary organization of progressive individuals and businesses that work together to advance the commercial, financial, industrial and civic interest of a community*

*A board of directors runs the not-for-profit organization. The Board, serving as volunteers, governs the chamber by setting the policies and goals of the organization, and the Chamber Staff work with the Board to conduct the business of the Chamber.*

The website of Avanti says this:

**Kevin Nosworthy** spent 12 years with BC Tel Yellow Pages, where he won several sales awards. He joined Tony Defazio and Michelle Hansen in 1999 and became one third of DHN Financial team. In the summer of 2001, Kevin began marketing the Chamber of Commerce Group Insurance Plan and in June 2004, Avanti Planning Group purchased the marketing rights.

*With Kevin at the helm, Avanti Planning Group has won 5 different recognitions of Marketing Excellence, as well as an Outstanding Achievement award from the local Chamber. Kevin has held several positions with the Meadow Ridge Rotary Club. He volunteered his time with minor hockey.*

**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**