



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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## MARCH IS WATER AND SANITATION MONTH

Today

Next Week

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary

### CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

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

**Rotary meetings were cancelled commencing March 17, 2020, due to the Coronavirus.**

### SOME THOUGHTS DURING THE CORONA CRISIS

Our **President Adrienne Dale** emailed all Club members as follows:

*Hi All, I have been in e-mail contact with most of the members of the Club over the weekend regarding the recent developments with the corona virus and the impact on our club.*

*I am sending the e-mail, below, which I received from the DG late on Friday. Subsequent to that we had our President's message and directives from both the Federal and BC Governments. I have also just received an e-mail from District cancelling the District Conference. The Citizen of the Year Gala has also been cancelled.*

*In discussion with some of the board members and out of abundance of caution, we have decided to take the following steps to protect our members:*

- 1. Our luncheon meetings will be cancelled until the end of March 2020, where after we will review the situation.*
- 2. The Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> will be rescheduled to a time when we can set up some sort of teleconference calling.*
- 3. The Historic Committee has elected to postpone the club's 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Meadow Gardens have agreed to just hold our deposit until we can book again.*
- 4. The Wine Festival Committee has elected to postpone the event, as we will be more than 250 people. We will have to work out refunds etc.*

*Please think about possible projects we could get involved in over this time. I was thinking of assisting seniors with their shopping etc. I would welcome any ideas. I am also thinking that with the extension of the spring break, that our Starfish Backpack programme may need some help. Stay well and look after yourselves. Please stay connected with fellow Rotarians, especially those who will be on their own, while we all self-isolate. We don't want to lose the momentum we have built up this year so far.*

*Let's hope this will all be over soon.*

*Yours in Rotary,  
Adrienne Dale*

We also got this message from one of our newest members, **Chili Yalamanchili**:

*Hello All, I would like to put my name in assisting seniors with their shopping needs. Also, my wife works at Costco and in case any of the seniors / elderly need assistance with the much coveted Toilet papers / disinfectant wipes, please let me know and I can ask her to pick them up.*

*Chili*

Here are some thoughts from **Ineke Boekhorst**:

*Miss our weekly meetings and our social interaction during those familiar gatherings. Hoping you are all doing well considering the challenging and overwhelmingly devastated state of our entire planet.*

*I think there are still little positive things we can do, aside from cleaning up our house (I'm finding things that haven't seen the light of day for years!) Through the BIA, I received a message from an individual in MR, looking for a small grocery store that will still deliver in Maple Ridge. This was the message – but I think there are MANY people in the same situation:*

*“Are there any local Mom and Pop grocery businesses that do home delivery? This would be a great direction for businesses to take as many of us are bunkering down and not going out during this COVID crisis.”*

*Can we not somehow (in partnership with the BIA) arrange to have people order their groceries and pre-pay a small local grocery store (which the BIA can connect with), one of us picks up the groceries and delivers it to the front door of the person in need? We text them that the groceries are delivered; job completed. There is no need to have any physical contact with the person. I would be happy to arrange this and it could be an essential service for many, not able/willing to leave their home.....*

*I have not been able to assure continuation of the Starfish Backpack program after Spring Break for now. Burnett Fellowship Church has closed; meaning we lost our safe place for packing the backpacks and the volunteers, who pack and deliver. School will not re-open after Spring Break, so it will be a challenge to collect the empty backpacks and to distribute filled backpacks to the kids in need. This is always done by the school; we actually don't know who the receiving students are. One school PAC connected and is trying to make arrangements, but it doesn't sound promising so far! I will keep you posted.*

*Please be safe and be healthy everyone,*

*Ineke*

They say laughter is the best medicine, so here a couple of cartoons to cheer us up:



(I hope this one is not too macabre !!)



As Ineke said, Please be safe and be healthy, everyone.

**Submitted by Laurie Anderson**