



Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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JULY IS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ROTARY YEAR

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Aug. 9	Cancelled	Rotary Duck Race	Maple Ridge Park

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
	July 27: Laurie & Lorna Anderson

OUR CLUB LAST WEEK'S ZOOM MEETING:

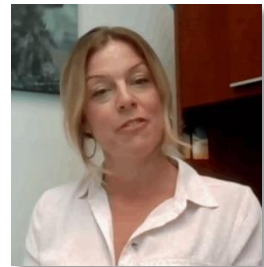
Pres. **Clint Callison** presided.

Guests:

Lindsey Willis, Executive Director of the Hospice Society

Roger Powley, member of the Haney Rotary club

Program: **Lindsey Willis** - The Ridge Meadows Hospice Society



About Lindsey Willis:

Lindsey, a long-time employee of the Ridge Meadows Hospice Society, replaced Mark Vosper as its executive director. Prior to taking over the reins, she served as coordinator of Palliative Support Services for 10 years. A newspaper article dated March 12, 2019 in the Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows News, at the time of her appointment, stated as follows:

"She's got lots of experience and was ready to move up," said society president Ineke Boekhorst. "She's very compassionate, very dedicated and enormously committed to the organization." Boekhorst added Willis is a long-time resident who knows both the city and the organization well. Her role has been recruiting, training and mentoring volunteers who support people through palliative care and bereavement. There are presently some 70 people who volunteer for the organization this way, and there are 80-plus others who work with the thrift store. Willis has a degree in psychology from UBC and began her career with Maple Ridge/Pitt Meadows Community Services as an outreach counsellor. "I made a shift when I had a significant loss in our family," she said. Willis was a volunteer counsellor with the hospice society before being hired for her present position and said the role has been a perfect fit for her. Over the past three years, there has been a large increase in referrals to the society for grief and bereavement programs and she wants to continue that growth.

Note: Adrienne Dale is currently vice-president of the Society, and **Ineke Boekhorst** (formerly president) is currently a director.



Lindsey stated that on March 17, 2020, when the Society closed its doors to the public because of the coronavirus, they had to look at its purpose or mission statement ("to offer support to persons and their families who are experiencing a life threatening illness and to offer support during the time of bereavement") and decide how to provide this support during Covid. The palliative care program had taken a hit in homes, hospitals, care facilities, and the McKenney Creek Hospice Residence. At a time when people needed it most, personal contact was severely restricted.

The McKenney Creek Hospice Residence is separate from the Hospice Society. McKenney Creek Hospice Residence is operated by the Fraser health Authority, and offers private rooms for people in the last weeks or months of life when care cannot be managed at home. The Society does not supply staff to McKenney Creek, but did provide grief and bereavement counselling to residents and family members. As a result of the virus, of the ability to visit at McKenney Creek had to stop, and the Society had to learn new ways to access the support.

The Society also took a financial hit when the Thrift Store had to close on March 18, 2020. 50% of the Society's revenue comes from the Thrift Store. Of course, other fundraisers such as their Oktoberfest was also lost. Online shopping was instituted for certain items at the Thrift store. The Store was reopened in June. When donations come in, they are set aside in a special area, without human contact for 72 hours. The donations are then sorted by the volunteers, and then put on sale.

The Hospice Society's executive and staff are very concerned about the effects of COVID on the community. At the McKenney Hospice Residence two visitors are now allowed per day, but not together.

When asked about the controversy at the Delta Hospice Society (which is losing its funding because it refuses to allow medically assisted dying at its facility), Lindsey advised that Delta is only one of two Hospice Societies which owns the facilities in which the Hospice Residence is located, and therefore it has some say in that issue. In Maple Ridge, the facility is owned by the Fraser health Authority and our Hospice Society has no say in that question.

Happy and Sad

Matt, Adrienne, and Sharon each contributed five dollars as they had a great time going "camping" together in their RVs (if that is really camping!) despite one of them being unhappy with the performance of one of their vehicles. **Laurie** paid five dollars to find out what that was about, and it turns out that Adrienne's motorhome has less power on the hills than Matt's and Sharon's pull trailers. (Anyone want to buy a slightly used motorhome?)



And it costed **Brenda** five dollars to find out about "omelettes in the bag" – i.e., put the contents in a plastic bag and boil the bag in water – and presto – cleanup is a breeze! (see a video on line – "[Omelette in a Bag](#)")

Clint is happy to have booked a camping spot at Surf Grove near Tofino, where (it advertises) "It is about slowing down. You tend to notice more here – like the smell of campfire, lush forest, salty ocean air.." (We will see if Clint agrees, when he returns.)

Fine Master

Ineke fined everyone who hadn't visited another Rotary club in the past year.

Rotary Toast

Patrick Dobbyn told us about the Rotary Club of Rio de Janeiro-Mercado São Sebastião, Rio de Janeiro, which along with 16 other Rotary clubs in District 4570 in Brazil supports up to 300 students from the surrounding slums who train weekly at a judo club, showing these young people a life beyond the violence and crime they witness daily in the "favelas" [a slum or shantytown located within or on the outskirts of the city]. Their performance changed radically with the involvement of the Rotary Clubs, which also, through a partnership with local food banks, provides boxes of food to the team and their families each month.

50/50 Fundraiser

Clint advised that this online 50/50 has been approved by the gaming commission. The online event will commence on August 12 and will last for two months. The fundraising committees of both our club and the Haney club are working towards coming up with a marketing plan which they will share with the club members in the near future. The draw has been approved for a maximum of \$150,000, with half of it going to the winner of the draw, and the balance of (hopefully) \$75,000 to be split between the two Rotary clubs.

Submitted by Laurie Anderson

MEADOW RIDGE ZOOM MEETING INSTRUCTIONS:

All members have to do, is click on [this link](#) Tuesday at noon. Give yourself a few minutes in advance.

The first time it will download the zoom app, which takes just a couple of seconds and you are in; it's that simple! Members can turn on their camera if they like, but don't have to.

Topic: Meadow Ridge Rotary Club Meeting
Every week on Tue, July 7 until Nov 17, 2020, at 12 Noon PT.

Join Zoom Meeting: Click the following link
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86123292506?pwd=T2xIS0JwaW43bEpMVWFuU24wZi9xUT09>

Meeting ID: 861 2329 2506
Password: 578913