

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

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SEPTEMBER IS BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary
Sep. 17 Adrienne Dale	

UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

Sep 15: Gary Thandi & Jesse Sidhu Moving Forward Family Services	Oct 13: DG Carol Tichelman
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OUR CLUB LAST WEEK'S ZOOM MEETING:

Pres. Clint Callison presided.



Program: Dr. Roger Powley – Who am I?

Rotary is one of Roger's many passions. He was formerly a member of the Rotary club of Kelowna (where he had his first retirement home) and the Haney club, and now is the newest member of our Meadow Ridge Rotary club. He has lived in Maple Ridge for two years.

Roger was born in the small town of Waterdown, Ontario which is located approximately 60 km west of Toronto. At that time, it had a population of only about 600 people. (Since 2001 Waterdown has been a community of the city of Hamilton.) His parent's home was built in the 1830s and, in the manner of the times, the horses were kept under it with the house above. Just at the back of the house was a sawmill where Roger managed to play as a child without maiming himself in the process. Milk was delivered by horse and buggy. It was here that Roger learned the value of family, community, friendship and hard work.

At the age of 13 Roger joined the cadets. **His first career**, in the military (infantry), spanned the years 1966 – 1987. Prior to leaving the military, he had approximately 150 people and \$100 million dollars' worth of equipment under his direction and control. It was in the military where Roger not only met his wife (who also served in the military), but also where he learned the value of teamwork and service to country.

Roger became "Dr. Roger Powley" by attending a University in Florida where he obtained his PhD. The next few years up until 1994 he was involved in restructuring Canadian Army occupations and became the creator of the "distance tutoring approach" to military training.

Between 1994 and 1998 Roger worked for (among others public and private ventures) the Hughes Aircraft Company, the major American aerospace and defense contractor founded in 1932 by Howard **Hughes** in Glendale, California. In this new **second career** he trained persons on how to deal with air traffic control.

Roger's **third career** was his academic life. In 1995, Roger started his own company called Innovative Training Solutions, which provides expertise and experience to institutions and clients who wish to expand their capability in Open and Distance Learning (ODL). Distance Learning reflects the physical separation of the teacher and students during the learning experience. Open Learning (or open education) supports the creation of open courseware and the use of open source tools. ODL methods and tools are being widely embraced by institutions in the developing world who are struggling to find inexpensive ways to deliver a quality education to their growing populations, and Roger's company has provided on-site services and workshops to clients in the United States, United Kingdom, Barbados, Trinidad, Jamaica, Antigua, Zambia, Mauritius, and Singapore.

He is a founding member of Royal Roads University (in Colwood, near Victoria, when it changed from a military college to a public college), and has worked for the universities of Athabasca, Florida, Calgary, Victoria, and the Walden University, which is an online for-profit University headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Another of Roger's passions is helping the veterans, whom he describes as being under-served, not only by government but also by their communities. While a member of the Kelowna Rotary club, he and that club got involved in VETS, that is to say Veterans Emergency Transition Services, which has evolved from mostly assisting homeless veterans to now also providing support to those veterans facing difficulties of any kind, including anything from the inability to afford groceries or power bill, or an emotional or mental health crisis. Roger is also a strong supporter of Prince's Trust Canada, established by Prince Charles (who said "I established

Prince's Trust Canada so that I could connect the accomplishments of my charities in the UK and across the world with organizations in Canada in order to make a difference in the lives of Canadians").

Another favourite charity (and one which he hopes our Rotary club could get involved in) is [Homes for Heroes](#), whose mission is to provide caring innovative and comprehensive solutions to homelessness among veterans.



As it says on their website, they are doing this by:

- *Building unique and affordable urban villages in major cities across Canada where homeless veterans will be able to successfully transition back into civilian life*
- *Providing the resources, services and training they will need to achieve the goal of living independently in the long term*
- *Our villages for veterans consist of 15 to 25 individual "tiny homes" arranged in a park-like setting. All homes face inward to facilitate peer-to-peer support. Each home is less than 300 square feet in size, but fully equipped with all the features of a larger home*
- *Each village also incorporates a central resource centre, counselling office, community garden and other amenities*
- *Residency in the village is transitional, with the goal of having each veteran leave the village and re-enter mainstream society, employed, stable and self-sufficient.*

Happy and Sad dollars, and Fine Master (aka the Sherriff)

Past Pres. Adrienne Dale advised that our Club received from Rotary International a Presidential Citation with distinction for its work in the last Rotary year. Adrienne, along with several other club members, gave happy dollars as all were very happy to learn about Roger and very glad that he has joined our club.

Roger Powley also volunteered to be the Fine Master, or rather the Club Sheriff for the day. Roger advised that in the Kelowna club the Sheriff would fine people who could not answer questions about their community, so today Roger fined everybody as no one could answer the following questions:

- who was the first settler in Maple Ridge?
Answer: Samuel Robertson, who worked for the Hudson Bay Company.
- Who was the first mayor of Maple Ridge?
Answer: Wellington Harris in 1874.

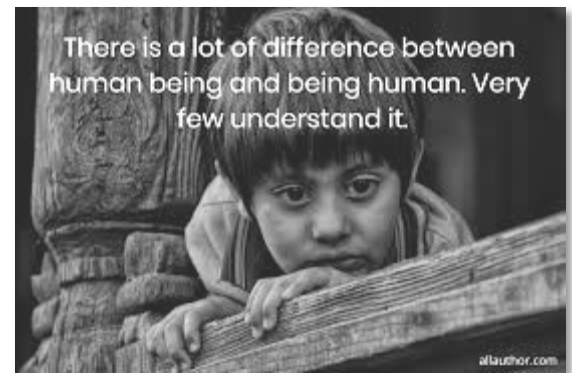
Announcements:

Ineke, chair of our international committee, advised that the Rotary Club in Holland (that we previously communicated with) has asked our club to join the [EndPlasticSoup foundation](#), which is the global initiative which started by Rotarians in Amsterdam to solve the plastic problem by working with all 1.2 million Rotarians to act to beat plastic waste. EndPlasticSoup is already supported by 3,500 Rotarians of 800 Rotary and Rotaract Clubs worldwide. The cost to join is €200, and Ineke hopes our club will join to help solve this environmental problem.

Our club's 50-50 online draw is now ready to be launched. President Clint advised that tickets can only be sold to persons physically located within British Columbia when the tickets are purchased. An email will be circulated to members giving further information, and the link to the website where tickets may be purchased.

Dick Drew, of the Haney club, has donated \$600 to the Backpack Program (thereby generating a \$200 tax receipt for each of his three adult children).

Presidents closing quote for the day:



Submitted by Laurie Anderson