

Meetings: Tuesday 12 Noon, Bella Vita Restaurant

President: Clint Callison Phone: 604-460-3650  
 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](#)



## NOVEMBER IS ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

<b>Happy Birthday</b>	<b>Happy Anniversary</b>
	Nov 26: Matt & Lynda DeBruyn

### UPCOMING SPEAKERS:

Nov 24: Maria Perretta Ridge Meadows Seniors Society	Dec 01: Kirsta Shaw Maple Ridge SPCA	Dec 08: Annual General Meeting
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### OUR CLUB LAST WEEK'S MEETING:

President Clinton Callison presided.

Program: RCMP **Constable Cory Russell** - Uniformed Community Response Unit (UCRS)

**About our guest speaker:** Constable Russell has been with the RCMP in Maple Ridge for 4 years now. He started off in general duty, and then went to the traffic safety division, and now is with the UCRS. Prior to joining the RCMP and moving from Ottawa to British Columbia, Constable Russell was involved in community matters, and was a Big Brothers volunteer, and was also a volunteer helping out with shelters for the homeless.



**What does the Uniformed Community Response Unit do?** The Uniformed Community Response Unit is composed of regular members of the RCMP. They are the team that is responsible for high visibility in the downtown core, a unit that helps coordinate a plan for people with mental health issues, and liaising with youth in our community. They utilize a collaborative approach with community partners to solve on-going safety concerns/problems, including repeat calls for service. Says Constable Russell, "we are proactive; we try to stop crime before it happens."

The Uniformed Community Response Unit deals with the following issues:

### Issues in Maple Ridge / Pitt Meadows

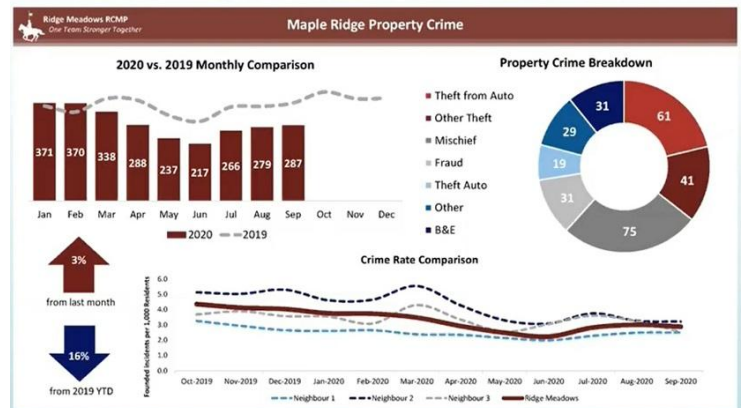
- Homelessness (Maple Ridge Specifically)
- Addiction (Maple Ridge Specifically)
- Unemployment with the Pandemic
- Petty crime rates (i.e. Theft from Auto, thefts, etc.)



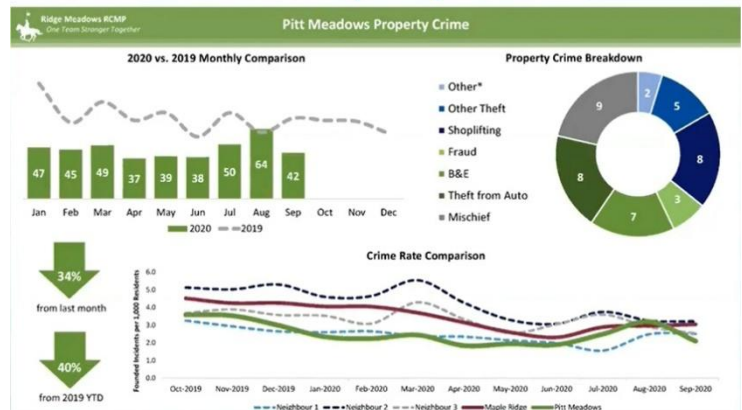
Constable Russell says that members of the

UCRS go to the homeless centres and the Caring Place and try to work with others in dealing with homelessness and addiction, which often includes people with mental health problems. The Covid pandemic has produced significant unemployment, which increases the stress and anxiety for a lot of people, and the RCMP receive a lot of mental health calls.

### Maple Ridge Property Crime



### Pitt Meadows Property Crime



(Click on pictures above to enlarge)

Constable Russell explained that these charts show the monthly comparison of reported petty property crime. The RCMP acknowledges that this crime hits ordinary working people, and they are trying to reduce the incidence of crime in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows.

## Ridge Meadows RCMP Community Initiatives

- Cops for Cancer
- RCMP in BC Safe Place
- Pack the Cruiser – Through the Food Bank
- ICBC Events
- MRSS Toy Drive



Constable Russell has taken part in **Cops for Cancer**, which is a program launched in partnership between police officers and other first responders across the country and the Canadian Cancer Society, to support children and families affected by childhood cancer. The inception of this program began with one police officer and has been growing rapidly amongst communities across Canada. Since 1997, the program has raised over \$42 million to fund life-saving paediatric cancer research and support programs. Constable Russell noted that, last year alone, the program raised over \$700,000. As one of the largest funders of paediatric cancer research in Canada, it has contributed to paediatric cancer survival rates which have increased from 71% in the 1980s to over 83% today.

**RCMP in BC Safe Place** is an initiative that sees businesses commit to becoming a shelter for people who are at risk of being harassed because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. A sticker in the window indicates a place where they will be welcomed, where they can call police, and wait until officers arrive.

**Pack the Cruiser** - a police cruiser is packed with donations of food for delivery to the local food bank.

**ICBC Events** - partnering with ICBC, the RCMP and ICBC personnel make presentations in schools, explaining to students such things as the process to get a drivers license, and the types of demerit points and fines which may be issued for bad driving, as well as safety issues.

**MRSS Toy Drive** - they work with the Maple Ridge secondary school aboriginal leadership team and collect toys for delivery to needy families and the food bank.

## Maple Ridge Rotary Club Initiatives

- Star Fish Program
- Community Foundation
- Boys and Girls Club
- Home for Heroes\*



Constable Russell hoped that the Uniformed Community Response Unit could partner with the local Rotary Clubs on some of the Rotary initiatives (listed above), and invited us to contact him if we wish to team up with his Unit with respect to these or any other matters.

### Questions from the floor:

**Ineke Boekhorst** (of the Downtown Maple Ridge Business Improvement Association) and **Lynda Lawrence** (of Lone Star Management Limited - which manages properties in the downtown core and runs the municipal parking lots) both stated that, from their observations, the crime rate is up in the downtown core, and small businesses are having a very difficult time dealing with it; that there are significant drug and mental health issues which cause these problems; and that many businesses just don't bother to report the crimes to the RCMP anymore as they feel it results in too much red tape and little or slow response from the detachment. Constable Russell stated he appreciated their feedback, and would convey it back to the RCMP. He also stated that the RCMP are now doing police "walk arounds" or foot patrols in the downtown area, and now have an online reporting capability which is easy and fast to use. If this online reporting were used, it would give the RCMP better access to crime statistics.

### Rotaract - Rotary Calendar

**Sharon Kyle** reported that she received an email from Phoenix MacLaren of the **Fraser Valley Rotaract Club** who advised that they have made up a Rotary Themed Calendar which is on sale for \$25 in order to raise money for the Rotaract initiatives. Sharon said she would email all members with the information, and hopes that we will support this young group of future Rotarians.

### Happy and Sad dollars

**Laurie Anderson** said that he appreciated the Remembrance Day program put on by Roger Powley at our last meeting, and upon hearing that the two uncles of Brenda Jenkins who became casualties of World War II, at the ages of 22 and 23 respectively, are the same ages of Laurie's grandchildren, it brought home in a personal way the message of just how young a lot of the soldiers were, who gave their lives in the service of our country.

Laurie also noted that the power went out in his neighbourhood in Pitt Meadows and that he therefore missed Constable Corey Russell's presentation. **[However, if any of us are unable for any reason to attend a meeting, note that Rotary meetings on Zoom are now recorded for our later listening pleasure!]** Libby, who also lives in Pitt Meadows, when asked about her situation, responded with the double entendre: "Oh, my power is out, believe me!"

Ineke Boekhorst mentioned our annual Christmas Plants for Starfish Packs sale.

As each year, every single penny we raise will be used for food in our Starfish Packs, so please be generous. Presently serving 120 hungry local kids every weekend in 15 local schools; we cannot do this without your assistance...Thank You!



We have 2 types of plant arrangements this year: one is a metal planter with Christmas Plants and the other option is a red tin with a 6" Cypress tree.

The little tree comes with or without little micro lights!

Both wonderful gifts for friends, family, neighbours, colleagues, employees, business associates, etc.... NOBODY to give to? If you'd like, you can also donate your plants to the McKenney Creek Hospice Residence and we'll deliver the plants there on your behalf before Christmas! Each year much appreciated by patients and staff.

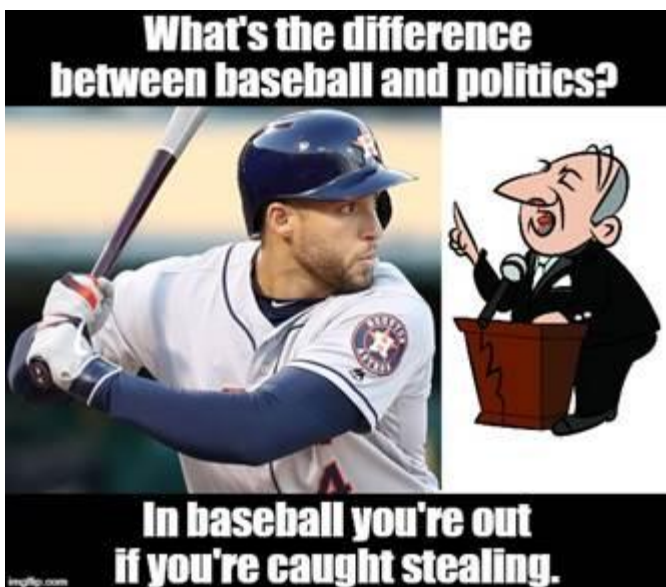
Cost includes a beautiful hand-made card and all taxes.

We will have plants available Dec. 7th or later for PU (or we can deliver in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows)

This year, due to COVID, we are only selling on line, so we are really depending on you to spread the word for us! PLEASE share on your personal facebook page, or tell friends and family about this important fundraiser

Please find attached poster / order form. Order online, email your order as soon as possible, or call Ineke (604-467-2420) if any questions.

President's Quote for the Day:



Submitted by Laurie Anderson

## Christmas Plants for Starfish Packs!



The Meadow Ridge Rotary Club presents our Annual Festive Christmas Fundraising Event, with 100% of PROFITS to the Starfish Program!

Project details: [starfishpack.com](http://starfishpack.com)

What is the Starfish Pack Program? Every Thursday volunteers pack 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners, snacks and 2 pieces of fruit into each pack to assist hungry elementary school children in MR and PM over the week-end. The Starfish packs full of food are delivered every Thursday or Friday to each participating school throughout School District #42 during the school year.

**Please support our Christmas fundraiser and surprise someone with a beautiful Christmas plant!**

7" Christmas Planter in Tin



\$30.<sup>00</sup> ea

Buy 3 or more: \$25.<sup>00</sup> ea

6" Cypress Tree in Red Tin



\$23.<sup>00</sup> ea

Buy 3 or more: \$20.<sup>00</sup> ea

6" Cypress Tree in Red Tin with micro lights



\$29.<sup>00</sup> ea

Buy 3 or more: \$25.<sup>00</sup> ea

*(Not exactly as shown - Includes Taxes and Christmas Card!)  
P/U or Delivery December 7 or later.*

These fabulous plants, provided at cost by Maple Ridge Florist, come with a handmade Christmas card for easy gift giving ..... just sign your name on the card and you're done!

Payment: cheque, credit card or e-transfer  
Call Ineke 604-467-2420 for p/u or delivery in MR/PM early December

**Rotary**  
Club of Meadow Ridge

100% of profits to Starfish program  
in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows

(Click on picture to enlarge)

You can download the order form [here](#)  
or view it on the next page.

# Christmas Plants for Starfish Packs!

The Meadow Ridge Rotary Club presents  
our Annual Festive Christmas Fundraising Event,  
with 100% of profits to the **Starfish Pack** Program!



We are selling beautiful **Christmas Planter** and **Cypress Tree in Tin**.



7" Christmas Planter in Tin  
(Not exactly as shown)

These fabulous plants, provided at cost by Maple Ridge Florist,  
come with a handmade Christmas card for easy gift giving  
..... just sign your name on the card and you're done!

*P/U or Delivery in Maple Ridge or Pitt Meadows December 7 or later.*

**\$30.<sup>00</sup> ea or \$25.<sup>00</sup> ea when buying 3+**



6" Cypress Tree in Red Tin  
(Not exactly as shown)

**\$23.<sup>00</sup> ea or \$20.<sup>00</sup> ea when buying 3+**

*Tree with Micro Lights*

**\$29.<sup>00</sup> ea or \$25.<sup>00</sup> ea when buying 3+**

**(Taxes included; receipt provided for your records if required)**

**ALL proceeds to Rotary's Starfish Pack Program!**

(Print form or save it and fill out in Acrobat Reader)

Please, complete form, email to Ineke: [iboekhorst@telus.net](mailto:iboekhorst@telus.net), / call 604-467-2420

Name: ..... Phone: .....

Date required: .....

1 or 2 Christmas Planters for \$30 ea. .... x \$30 Total: \$ .....

3+ Christmas Planters for \$25 each .... x \$25 Total: \$ .....

1 or 2 Cypress Trees for \$23 ea. .... x \$23 Total: \$ .....

3+ Cypress Trees for \$20 ea. .... x \$20 Total: \$ .....

1 or 2 Cypress Trees with micro lights for \$29 ea. .... x \$29 Total: \$ .....

3+ Cypress Trees with micro lights for \$25 ea. .... x \$25 Total: \$ .....

**Total number of plants:** ..... Please pay: \$ .....

Cheque  Credit  e-Transfer  to [iboekhorst@telus.net](mailto:iboekhorst@telus.net)