

# Maribeth Friesen Accepts the Call for Leadership

Story by Ed Kolybaba on Jul 12, 2018

Effective July 01, 2018, the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise will receive leadership from a new team, including President Maribeth Friesen, her executive of Huck Parfeniuk (President-Elect), George Pinches (Secretary), Susan McIntyre (Vice-President), Mike Crowley, (Treasurer), and Andy Griffin (Immediate Past-President), and a Board of Directors which includes Tom Ritchie (Club Service), Doreen Welsh (Fellowship), Stu Lang (New Generations), Brian Wrightson (Membership), Leslie Munro (Rotary Foundation) and Norm LeCavalier (Public Relations).



In accepting her call for the leadership of the Club, Maribeth Friesen addressed the Rotary International theme for 2018-19, "Be the Inspiration." "I truly believe that it is the act of inspiring or being inspired that leads to change – big or small; and that sometimes that change can happen quickly, sometimes it will be something that we will not even realize in our lifetimes," Maribeth offered. She added that "We never know where inspiration will come from next and we don't always see the outcomes of our inspirational acts. But, we cast our inspirational nets wide as Rotarians, because we believe in what we are doing."



Maribeth shared how Paul Harris was inspired more than 100 years ago which resulted in the beginnings of Rotary International. This inspiration has led to more than 33,000 clubs chartered and serving those in need in over 200 countries around the world. Today, while the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise, which was chartered in 1986, stands strong and continues to inspire its members; it is the members who inspire the club. In her concluding remarks, Maribeth expressed that “ it is the members who bring diversity, skill, passion compassion and most importantly humour” to the club and who together as a “Family of Rotary” make a difference and who enable the club to be successful and relevant.