

Maribeth Friesen Welcomed as a Member of the Club

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Maribeth Friesen, a former member with the Rotary Club of Lacombe Daybreak from District 5360, located in Alberta, was inducted into the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise on August 30, 2013. Maribeth was a charter member of the Daybreak Lacombe Club which was officially chartered in August of 2010; and as a member of that club she served on several committees. Club director Marion Henselwood conducted the induction ceremonies; while Ron Cannan, Maribeth's sponsor, shared Maribeth's career background and desire to serve as a Rotarian.



After returning to Kelowna in 2011, Maribeth commenced employment as the Chief Executive Officer with Brain Trust Canada. Recognizing the value of being a part of Rotary, she sought membership with the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise with the encouragement of club member Ron Cannan in June of 2013. When queried about her reason for returning to Rotary, Maribeth shared that the “values of Rotary resonate with me personally,” and “this club was the best fit for me both personally and professionally.”

Maribeth was born and raised in Edmonton, Alberta, where she received her elementary and secondary education and attained her Bachelor of Science (Family Studies) at the University of Alberta in 1987. She continued further post-secondary studies at the University of Victoria and graduated with a Bachelor of Social Work in 2004. Following graduation from UVic, she worked with a number of non-profit societies in British Columbia, including employment in the Okanagan with Brain Trust Canada from 1995-2002. In 2004, she married Gord and gained a step-son who is now 22 years of age.

Maribeth is passionate about music. She acquired an interest and a talent as a pianist and vocalist at an early age. She was active in these endeavours at the University of Alberta as a mixed chorus member and with various churches over the years. Presently, she focuses her passion for music with St. Pius Catholic Church in Kelowna. Of course, her interests and hobbies extend beyond music, to take in walking, swimming, reading, socializing and enjoying CBC as an avid listener.