

Club Focuses on Homeless During the Cold Winter Season

Story by Ed Kolybaba on Dec 21, 2017

Once again this year, the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise is partnering with 'Inn From The Cold' (IFTC) to provide food service for seven evenings over the winter season to the homeless within the community.

Club member Greig McPhee, who has been spearheading this initiative since its inception in 2012, has shared that club Rotarians will participate in providing meals by buying, preparing and serving on five occasions and in simply heating and serving pre-prepared meals for two other days, between December, 2017 and March, 2018. He adds that this is a great opportunity for our Rotarians to make a difference to the homelessness issue in our community this winter season.

Volunteering to serve a meal to the guests at IFTC, not only serves a worthy need but also, provides a 'hands-on' opportunity for the Kelowna Sunrise club members to contribute to the community. On average, 40 guests are served each evening.

Kelowna Sunrise Rotary has not only been providing and serving means on an annual basis since 2012. During this six year period, the club has purchased a new freezer and contributed to the renovations of their housing project here in Kelowna.



In their own words, the purpose of 'Inn From The Cold' Kelowna is to: "Provide overnight shelter for adults living on the street, offer an environment of respect, compassion and caring, and build relationships with individuals, agencies or groups to advocate for the needs of their guests.

McPhee expressed that "Serving others, who for whatever reason find themselves on the street, regularly reminds us how fortunate we are on our life journey and it (*also meets*) our Rotary motto of 'Service Above Self.'" Simply stated, this an act of social justice.