



## UPCOMING EVENTS



## FEBRUARY IS PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2021 – THE FUTURE IS NOW

CLICK ON THE LINKS BELOW TO GET MORE INFORMATION

- [District 7820 Systemic Racism Toolkit.](#)
- [The Story of Slavery in Canadian History at CMHR](#)
- [Resources in the Winnipeg Public Library](#)



### VIRTUAL DISTRICT 5550 CONFERENCE



MAY 14 – 15, 2021

### VIRTUAL ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION – TAIPEI 2021



JUNE 12 – 16, 2021



[WWW.CONVENTION.ROTARY.ORG/EN/TAIPEI](http://WWW.CONVENTION.ROTARY.ORG/EN/TAIPEI)



### VIRTUAL DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TRAINING SEMINAR



FEBRUARY 26, MARCH 12TH & 13TH 2021.

This Seminar will be offered virtually over 3 days.

President Elects, Club officers, AG's, Board members, and Rotaract reps are invited to attend.

Contact Signe Holstein at:  [signeholstein@hotmail.com](mailto:signeholstein@hotmail.com)



# HEALTH & WELLNESS:

Rais Khan:

It is with great sadness that we are informing you that Rais Khan passed away on Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021. Rais had requested that his family contact his friends at Rotary because Rotary was very important to him. Rais' son, Adam, said they are in the process of making funeral arrangements but have to work within Covid-19 restrictions.



 [https://passages.winnipegfreepress.com/passage-details/id-296114/KHAN\\_RAIS](https://passages.winnipegfreepress.com/passage-details/id-296114/KHAN_RAIS)



**Tatjana Brkic:**

We extend our condolences to Tatjana Brkic and family on the loss of her husband, Nedzad Brkic, on January 25, 2021. The obituary can be found at:

 [www.friendsfs.ca](http://www.friendsfs.ca)

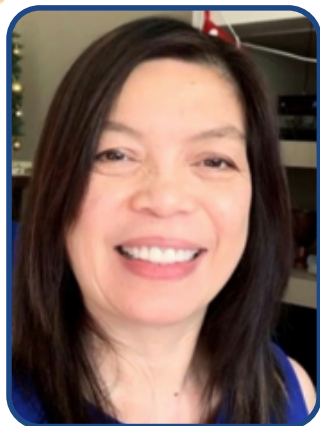


**Philis Akunne:**

We extend our condolences to Philis Akunne on the passing of her younger brother Engr. Kenneth Chiemeka Njoku on January 19, 2021, in Nigeria. He was laid to rest at his home town of Ishiuzor Village, Egbu Owerri, Nigeria on Saturday February 6th, 2021. He was survived by his parents and 4 siblings. Philis asked that we "Please keep my family in your prayers." Philis attended the funeral in Nigeria and will be returning to Canada this weekend (Feb 13-14th.)



## NEW MEMBERS



**Marites Lozano:**

Marites was born in the Philippines and came to Canada in 1996. She has a daughter, Alexandria and a son Genesis.

Marites is a Cardiology Technologist at HSC from 1997 to present. She enjoys baking, cooking, teaches yoga part time, and volunteers at church activities.

Her goal is to give back to the community by extending help to those in need and the less fortunate. She wants to be a part of an organization that connects people and renders service throughout the world.



# FUNDRAISING PROJECTS

**ARE YOU THINKING OF WARM SPRING WEATHER, GARDENING AND FLOWERS?**  
HERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BUY YOUR FLOWERS & PLANTS  
AND HELP FUND OUR ROTARY PROJECTS.

Our Rotary Club has teamed up with GLENLEA Greenhouses for a Spring Plant Fundraiser.  
\$\$\$\$\$ **Our Club will earn 10% – 25% of all sales.** If our purchases exceed \$2,500, our Club will receive 25% of all sales.

**Deadline for Orders April 15th** - don't wait too long or you may be disappointed when supplies of your favourite plant run out. Anyone can order and indicate they are supporting the Rotary Club of Winnipeg. So tell your friends, family and neighbours. Nothing better than working in the garden in the Spring!!

**DELIVERY MAY 29TH. SAVE THE DATE!!**

For further information, contact:



✉ NCOSWAY@MTS.NET  
☎ 204-792-6503

P.S. NANCY HAS ALREADY PLACED HER ORDER FOR OVER \$200 OF PLANTS



We aim to help you grow!

**SPRING FUNDRAISER**

www.glenleagreenhouses.com

**ORDER ONLINE UNTIL**

**APRIL 15th**

shop early to avoid disappointment

 Healthy
  Profitable
  Local
  Online

**WEBSITE:**

 **WWW.GLENLEAGREENHOUSES.COM**

1. Select "Support a Spring Fundraiser Group"
2. Place your order
3. When finished go to the cart page and select "to support and pick up at the Fundraising group"
4. Select the "Rotary Club of Winnipeg" on the drop down menu.

**Payment is directly to Glenlea Greenhouses by credit card or Interac E-transfer.**  
**THANKS FOR SUPPORTING THIS NEW INITIATIVE.**



## NEW FUNDRAISER #2

The Winnipeg Foundation is giving away 5 - \$1,000 grants each week. To enter for a chance to win \$1,000 go to The Forks and take a selfie at any of the 6 three coins signs and submit the selfie for a chance to win a \$1,000 grant for your favourite Charity – **the Rotary Club of Winnipeg.**

 <https://www.facebook.com/wpgfdn/videos/1131925530599711>



# OUR ROTARIANS



## IZZEDDIN (IZZY) HAWAMDA: THE KOFFEA

**Note:** Izzy explained to me that “the Koffea is the traditional Palestinian head dress. It has become a symbol of our struggle and resistance worldwide. For me, the koffea is the link between my roots and my heart. The collective story of my people shown on the face of my grandmother. The koffea is the proof that I am from that land and I am a witness.”

Izzy gave his permission for me to include this recent post from his Facebook page on January 12, 2021

“As a boy, the koffea meant the vivid connection between the land and me. It also demonstrated that the land and I share the same destiny as the land shaped who I am and it's not the other way around. During the olive picking season, as I walked into a land full of olives, I would see my family picking the olives gently as if they were in intimate conversations with the branches. After a long a day of picking olives, my grandfather would take his koffea off and use it as a cloth on the ground. My grandmother would take out our lunch and lay it out on the koffea. As a family of 12, we would sit on the ground and eat together under the olive tree. My grandmother would say that the koffea is the witness and the protector of the olives and we are here to be part of the story.

Living in Canada has been a constant reminder that my story is ignored. My story is written in Arabic, highlighted by years of struggle. So, I often find myself in a space where everything I knew about my world is challenged and miscommunicated. Many times, my story is gasping for air. I find myself fighting to reclaim my agency. My story is unique. It tells of the olive tree and it can be found on the walls of the old city. Being indigenous to Palestine has lent me a full and deep understanding of the power of my story. Today as a teacher, I invite my students to share their stories in my classroom, so I can learn from them and continue my own story



## ABDIKHEIR AHMED (ROTARY ALUMNI)

Abdi has a new Permanent Full Time position as **Executive Director, Aurora Family Therapy Centre**. Many of you will recall that Abdi is a former **Rotary Peace Fellow** who studied at the University of Queensland, in Australia. Abdi has been a speaker at our Club and spoke about his work as Director of the Immigration Partnership Winnipeg/ Social Planning Council of Winnipeg. (5 years)



## KAWSER AHMED:

New Global Grant approved for **“Female Adolescent Centred Education [FAE] for the Rohingyas in Bangladesh.”** (A Rotary Club of Winnipeg supported Global Grant Project)

The proposed objectives of the project are to provide: 1) a needs based education in the selected camps; and 2) inclusive education and life-skill training to 100 adolescent girls who are otherwise deprived of their right to education.

The project will address Sustainable Development Goals #4 (Quality education), and #5 (Gender equality) and at the same time help Rohingya adolescent children to achieve useful skills whether they live in Bangladesh or ultimately are repatriated to Rakhine.

Target group is adolescent children of age 12-18 at the ratio of 3:1 (female: male).

This project will be implemented with the support of Winnipeg Rotary Club in collaboration with Chittagong Rotary Club and a local NGO (Prantic Unnoyon Society).

**A Rotary Global Grant CG 2016381 was received in January 2021 for implementation of the project.**



Global Grant Project Financing	
Contribution by Rotary Club of Winnipeg:	USD\$7,500.
Matching Funds received from District Grants #5550, #5340, #5000	USD\$9,451.
Rotary Foundation World Fund	USD\$15,577.
Other Clubs Cash Contributions	USD\$4,751.
Total Funding	USD\$37,279.

### Note:

**CRRIC – (CONFLICT AND RESILIENCE RESEARCH INSTITUTE CANADA)**



<https://www.crric.org/>

### **Detailed Project Description:**



<https://www.crric.org/rohingya-child-education/>

### **Brief Bio for Kawser Ahmed**



<https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/political-science/faculty/kawser-ahmed.html>

## **ROB TISDALE – MY JOB AS “ASSISTANT DISTRICT GOVERNOR”:**

A District Assistant Governor serves primarily as a two way liaison between the District Governor and the clubs. Their primary function is to attend meetings of their groups of clubs at least on a quarterly basis.

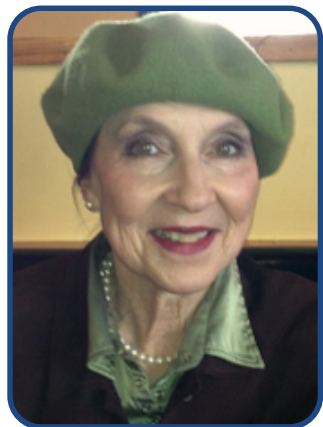
My clubs are Selkirk, Gimli and our club. They also attend quarterly meetings coordinated by the DGD and include the DG and PDG as well as two Training and Development meetings that are held for Club Presidents. They are also expected to attend District Conference as well as any special meetings of their clubs when a District representative is needed for special events.

From these meetings they maintain a familiarity with Rotary International's initiatives and the District Strategic plan. The AG's observe their clubs activities and advise when asked about any issues related to the strategic plan of the district and/or RI. They also ensure there is idea sharing between clubs. They report back to the DG on a quarterly basis with their observations regarding how the clubs are doing. The point of the whole exercise is to ensure clubs can still feel engaged with the District Board and to a certain extent, with RI.

AG's are experienced Rotarians who have served as a Club Board member, President and who have also served on various District Committees. My experience was as a Board member of our club and President in 1996/97

I served on the District Youth Exchange Committee, The Club's Centennial Committee (2001-2010), The Winnipeg/Montreal 2010 Bid Committee, The RI Host Committee for the RI Convention in Montreal 2010

Presently I am Co-Chair of **Rotary Adventure in Human Rights Committee** (2014 to present.)



## **SIMONE COHEN SCOTT:**

Simone is writing again. Below is a link to an excellent article on:

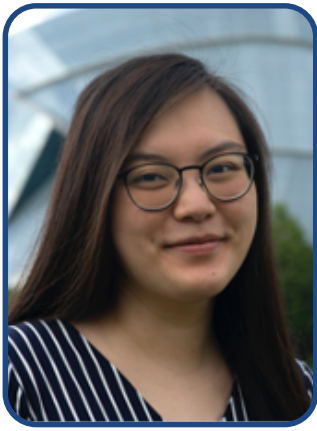
**Irwin Cotler: Canada's Special Envoy for Combating Antisemitism**

By Simone Cohen Scott

The Jerusalem Post, January 19, 2021 13:24



<https://www.jpost.com/jerusalem-report/irwin-cotler-canadasspecial-envoy-for-combating-antisemitism-655273>



## NINA LAM (ROTARY ALUMNI)

Nina spoke to our Club on March 11, 2020, about the **Youth Parliament Manitoba**. (This may have been our last in person meeting.) I recently communicated with Nina and received an update on her involvement with the Manitoba Youth Parliament and a **Testimonial about her Rotary experience**.

"I joined **Youth Parliament Manitoba** in December 2015, inspired by my experience with Rotary Adventures in Citizenship. After attending my first

session, I went on to serve two years on their organizing committee (first on the public relations team, then on the recruitment team) before being elected to the board of directors. In order, I served as the Director of Procedures, Director of Finance, Vice-Chairperson, and now Chairperson, where I lead the organization in its 100th year. I'm most proud of my behind-the-scenes work for the organization, which includes a redesign of the website, consolidating a closer relationship with the Association of Former Manitoba MLAs, and extensive database development to improve recruitment and community connections."

### Testimonial:

"My involvement in Rotary first started in 2015, when I was chosen by my school's (Fort Richmond Collegiate) **Interact Club** to attend the **Rotary Adventures in Citizenship** program in Ottawa. It was one of the first extra-curricular activities that I ever participated in, at a time when I was still figuring out my interests and what I eventually wanted to study in post-secondary. As part of the application process, participants were asked to write a short essay in response to the question, **"What does Canadian citizenship mean to you?"** My essay was about the freedoms guaranteed to individuals in Canada, which, out of over 200 participants, was chosen as the **Best Written Essay**. I consider Adventures in Citizenship to be the single experience that catalyzed my passion for politics and civic engagement.

In 2016, I joined my school's (Model United Nations Assembly) **MUNA club** and attended MUNA, where my partner and I earned the **Bert Friesen Award** for best prepared delegation. That year, I also took over my school's **Interact Club** as the president, organizing several fundraisers throughout the year in support of electricity access in Zimbabwe.

It is through these Rotary programs that I came to realize what I wanted to dedicate my life to: serving others and bridging inequalities. For this reason, I chose to pursue a B.A. in Global Political Economy at the University of Manitoba. During my time there, I was actively involved in student government and volunteered hundreds of hours as a student ambassador, peer mentor, and volunteer captain.

I am now currently a student at the Graduate Institute, Geneva, where I am doing my Masters in Development Studies. I hope to eventually work for an NGO in the field of human rights, especially for forced migrants, and/or community development to address poverty/inequality. When I pass by the United Nations headquarters in Geneva, I often think back to the time I had already been at the UN – except the assembly was held in a Canadian Mennonite University gym.

I would not be where I am today without the foundational experiences I gained from Rotary programs in the early stages of my professional development. I am a living testament to the incredible work that the Rotary Club does and how it changes lives. I can only strive to pay it forward and make an impact on others' lives as the Rotary Club has with mine."



- ✓ **Rotary Leadership Circle - Annual Report for 2020**

[www.youthagenciesalliance.com/reports](http://www.youthagenciesalliance.com/reports)

- ✓ **Economic Development Winnipeg – Quarterly Report on Progress Q4 – 2020 (October/November/December)**

[CLICK HERE TO READ IT](#)

- ✓ **The End of Nukes – Momentum is growing to rid the world of nuclear weapons. The United States should join the effort. Recommended by David Newman**

[CLICK HERE TO READ IT](#)

- ✓ **Elementary School Kids March For Peace, on September 17, 2017.**

- ✓ **This is a great video to make us remember what things were like before COVID-19.**

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH IT](#)

- ✓ **District 5550 Newsletter – February 2021 from DG Gailmarie Anderson**

[CLICK HERE TO READ IT](#)



- ✓ **The Winnipeg Foundation Centennial Celebration 2021:**

This on-line video is a collection of testimonials from a wide variety of programs supported by the Winnipeg Foundation. Our Club has received several grants from the Winnipeg Foundation

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH IT](#)



- ✓ **The Manitoba 150 Women - Trailblazers**

<https://www.nelliemcclungfoundation.com/mb-150-trailblazers>

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FRANK COSWAY  
EDITOR



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