

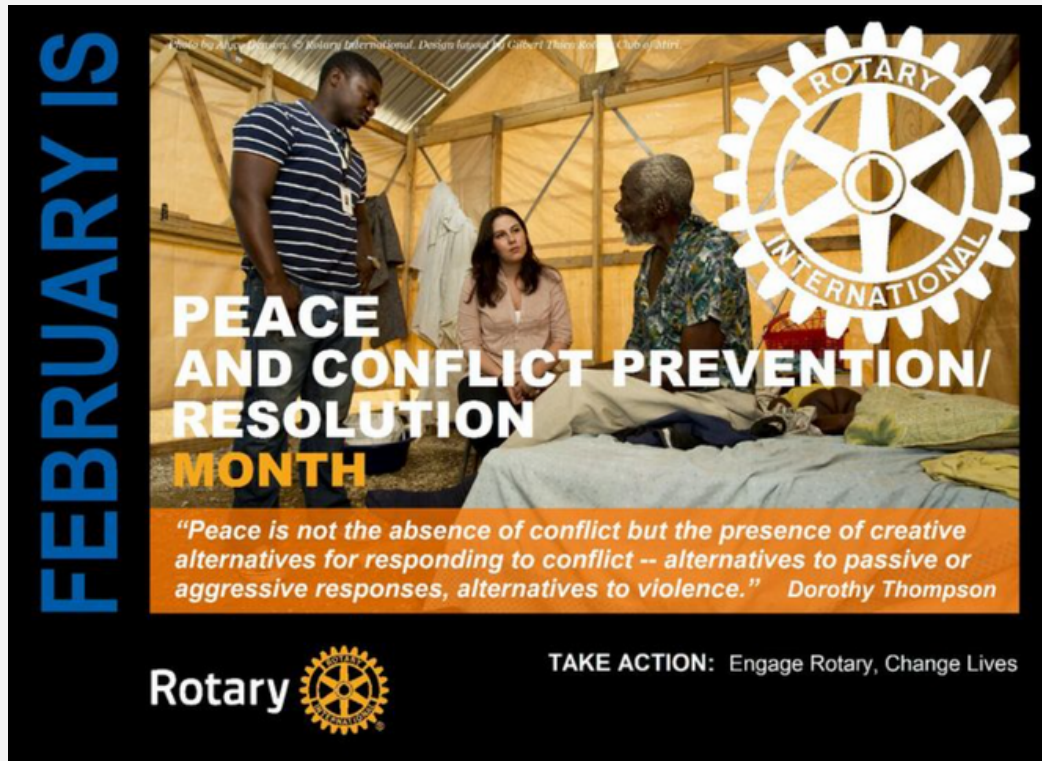


ROTARY CLUB OF WINNIPEG NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2024

Theme 2023-2024



The mission of Rotary is to "provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through [the] fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders".



February is Peace and Conflict Prevention and Resolution Month!

The month of February is very special in the Rotary calendar because it includes the anniversary of the first meeting of Rotary held on February 23, 1905, in Chicago. That day is now designated as the "**World Understanding and Peace Day**".

On February 23 Rotary celebrates the 119th anniversary of the first Rotary club meeting. This is an opportunity for Rotary clubs and districts to promote Rotary's public image.

IN THIS ISSUE

- UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS
- HEALTH, WELLNESS & CELEBRATIONS:
- NEW MEMBER
- LOCAL PROJECTS:
- HONOURING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (HIP)
- POSITIVE NEWS:
- SOCIAL MEDIA & LINKS

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS:

February 1 – 29, 2024, Black History Month, February is Black History Month in Canada, a time dedicated to recognizing the contributions, achievements, and experiences of Black people from coast to coast to coast. The 2024 Black History Month theme is “Black Excellence: A Heritage to Celebrate; a Future to Build.”

February 7, 2024, A Zoom Meeting (12:15 – 1:15 PM) Our Speaker will be **Caroline Flett**, reporting on the **Rotary Adventures in Citizenship, in Ottawa**. Each year our Club sponsors one student to attend with students from across Canada.

February 14, 2024, An In-Person Dinner Meeting & Valentine Day Celebration  at the **Winnipeg Winter Club** at 6 PM with Dinner at 6:30 PM. Tickets are \$25 by e-transfer to: accounting@winnipegrotaryboard.ca

Come and celebrate with your partner and friends. Photos to be taken in a Frame of Hearts, Chocolates & Flowers. Plus a time to hear about new projects and how you can be involved.

February 21, 2024, A Zoom Meeting (12:15 – 1:15 PM) Our Speaker is **Abdi Ahmed**, reporting on **Humankind International's work providing Early Childhood Education in the Dadaab Refugee camp in Kenya**. We support them annually. Last year's funds helped to provide Solar Panels for the school.

February 26, 2024, An In-Person Dinner and Fund Raiser hosted by the **Charlewood Rotary Club for Rossbrook House**. The event is being held at the **Caboto Centre at 1055 Wilkes Ave, 5:45 – 7:30 PM**. Tickets are \$60/ person and are available from cathy.skene@gmail.com or on the Charleswood Rotary Club Home Page. Our Club has supported Rossbrook House in the past. This is an opportunity to show our support to the Charleswood Club and Rossbrook House www.rossbrookhouse.ca

March 1, 2024, Bowling at 255 Tache, at 6:00 pm. Please notify Jeannette Brigit if you plan to attend at: jcbrigit@mymts.net

March 6, 2024, a Zoom Meeting at 12:15 – 1:15 pm. The speaker will be **Pam Hadder** from **Willow Place Women's Shelter**. We supported Willow Place with our Holiday Giving 2023

March 13, 2024, In-person Meeting with Rotarian **Ope Allen** speaking **Cyber Security & How to Keep Yourself Safe Online**, at the Winnipeg Winter Club, starting at 6:00 PM with Dinner at 6:30 PM.

April 12 – 14, 2024, District Leadership Seminar, in Russell, MB.,

May 10 – 11, 2024, District Conference – Hope & Mental Wellness, Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. Registration will be opening soon in February.

May 25 – 29, 2024, Rotary International Convention, in Singapore For more information, click on the link below.
<https://convention.rotary.org/en-us/registration>

HEALTH, WELLNESS & CELEBRATIONS:

Ronald Reider has a new position of **Senior Client Executive at Kilgour Bell Insurance**. With over 30 years of Insurance experience, he will be responsible for New Business Generation and assisting with Strategic Operational Initiatives. **Congratulations.**



Juhi Joshi recently received her Canadian Citizenship.

Juhi Joshi was born and educated in Vadodara, Gujarat, India with a Bachelor's degree in Architecture.

Got a chance to visit her brother in Dauphin, Manitoba and to travel throughout the major provinces for 6 months in 2017. The trip was quite pleasant and exciting so she was inspired to move to Canada. Then applied for permanent residency under the skilled worker overseas program through IRCC and moved to Dauphin, Manitoba Canada in March 2019. She worked as an Architectural designer/drafts person at Edifice Engineering (Dauphin) from 2019-2021 and moved to Winnipeg in May 2022.



Took building code courses at Red River College and is certified building code official for Part 9 (Housing). Currently working with the City of Winnipeg in the Planning and Permits department.

Juhi enjoys volunteering and decided to use the power of her time and experience to Volunteer with the Rotary Club of Winnipeg in December 2022.

Juhi was granted Canadian Citizenship on January 16, 2024. Congratulations!!



Humberto, Isa, Louise & (new baby) Olivia are now Canadian Citizens. **Congratulations!**

Embarking on a transformative journey, Humberto, Isa, Louise, and sweet baby Olivia share the warmth of their newly adopted Canadian identity after a remarkable voyage from Brazil. Grateful for the unwavering support of their Rotary friends throughout the years, the family eagerly anticipates reuniting to introduce their little ones and share the joy that now completes their family. This heartfelt update captures the essence of a resilient family finding a home and a community that has become an integral part of their extraordinary story.

NEW MEMBER:

Tchen Koffi Jocelyn serves as Fraud Specialist within the Risk Operations at Royal Bank of Canada - RBC. Tchen is responsible for delivering an exceptional client experience by supporting the clients with his strong analytical and inquisitive skills.

Tchen, leverages the combination of an inner personality and relevant experience and strengths accumulated along his curriculum over 20 years of wide-ranging technical and business sales experience with major IT and Telco vendors and also with mobile operators in Africa.

Tchen has extensive experience negotiating and processing complex and high-value government and commercial transactions, providing guidance and advice on sales strategy and project delivery matters, and serving as a trusted business advisor to senior management for the development and implementation of business strategy and management of key deals.

Tchen is the founder of the IT services integrator company Emeretel Expertises which operates in the Ivory Coast, with 30 direct and indirect employment.

Tchen is Holder of an MBA from IAE Paris and a Master's degree from the University of Paris Sorbonne. He is an IT Engineer from ENSIT School and also earned a Bachelor's in Electronics from Institut Félix Houphouet-Boigny of Yamoussoukro in Côte d'Ivoire.



LOCAL PROJECTS:

Willow Place Women's Shelter – Holiday Giving

Thank you for supporting Willow Place - Holiday Giving

On behalf of Willow Place, it is my genuine pleasure to extend our gratitude for your wonderful support with in-kind donations in December 2023. Your donations were received by us in early December and will benefit women and children seeking shelter with us. We understand that Rotarian Tsungai Mvingi recommended a women's shelter for support, and we would like to recognize her role as well. We know Tsungai (Sue) through our Manitoba Association of Women's Shelters membership.

Your club's remarkable and very generous collection of much-needed items has been a bright spot for Willow Place this December. Willow Place provides inclusive, no-cost support for diverse family violence prevention needs in Manitoba, and is the largest and most utilized support of its kind in Manitoba. Willow Place is experiencing increasing calls for support amid rising operational costs - in the past fiscal year we counted more than 13,400 stays in our shelter program, representing an increase of over 30%. We are also witnessing more acute abuses and complex needs among those we support daily. As such, your support was especially precious and meaningful to us. Aside from providing material necessities, your kindness encourages us in our work, reminding us that a caring community understands our work and wishes to help out.

We would like to wish each of you and your loved ones a healthy and happy holiday season, and best wishes for the coming New Year.

Sincere regards,

Pam Hadder

Oak Table Fundraiser – Music to Warm Our Hearts – January 26th.



Friday, January 26th, 2024 - The Satellite Club held a very successful and wonderfully entertaining event. They were raising funds for Oak Table. Thanks to all who attended and participated. Music was by **Rotarian Humberto Dantas** and the ECCO choir.



LOCAL PROJECTS:

Welcome to **Oak Table** by **Harvey Heather, Volunteer Coordinator**

Good evening and thank you all for coming here and a big thank you to Eva and the Rotary Club of Winnipeg Satellite Club for organizing this event in support of our guests at Oak Table. All of the proceeds of this event will go to providing food, resources, and services to our guests.

I would like to take just a few minutes to tell you a little about Oak Table.

Last year we served approximately 40,000 meals to guests, on average about 120 each day, to many who are unhoused, dealing with addictions, mental health, or other health and social concerns.

How would you like to have to ask a stranger for underwear, feminine products, or other clothing and toiletries? These are needed every day at Oak Table.

Each summer we take a group of guests out to Birds Hill Park for a beach day. When we asked them for emergency contacts we were amazed at how many did not have anyone... no friend, no family, no one they hang out with. That is when we realized that we need to build a sense of community with our guests and with each other. We have activities and programs that have guests interact with us and with each other, so when they leave, they have some support outside of Oak Table.

We set up art programs, foot care, haircuts, yoga, cooking classes, and chiropractic services. Last year, our volunteer chiropractor did over 400 treatments to help them feel better. How would you like to wait for up to 8 weeks to wash your clothes, or many days without a shower? We provide these basic services that many of us take for granted.

Through Just city we provide Just a warm sleep, a shelter program to keep unhoused folks from having to sleep outside in a bus shelter or behind a building. We have a housing program to find more permanent housing for our community members.

We partner with many organizations, including the WHRA, Access Fort Garry and mentorships with nursing and Social Work students. Our Indigenous Cultural Programmers work to support our Indigenous, Metis and Inuit communities with sharing circles and soon to start healing, mindfulness and meditation sessions to build toward reconciliation.

Each year we provided about 2500 dollars for bus tickets. These are all donated and is a lot of money, but not nearly enough to give everyone a ticket. We try to ensure we give them to folks for doctor or other appointments when it is freezing cold out like it has been recently, or to someone who is too weak or tired to get home. One of the hardest things I have to do is to say, I'm sorry I can't help you today.

One of the highlights has been our breakfast program on Fridays. This morning 41 guests came in, and sat down to linen tablecloths, napkins, and flowers. They are given a menu to choose what they would like from our donated food. It could be eggs, waffles, pancakes, cereal, fruit juices, and coffee or tea, all served as if in a fancy restaurant. Again, something many of us take for granted... a family dinner or a restaurant experience. One of our guests, in her 70s, said to me "I feel so special... This is like breakfast at Tiffanies! That is how we want to make all of our guests feel!

These are only a few of the initiatives we provide at Oak Table. Your support today, and hopefully ongoing helps us to continue to assist our guests. Thank you!

Harvey Heather,
OAK TABLE, Volunteer Coordinator
<https://www.winnipegrotary.org/>

HONOURING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (HIP)

Seal River Watershed Alliance Agreement - January 18, 2024

Check our Rotary YouTube channel as we had a wonderful presentation by Stephanie Thorassie, Executive Director of the Seal River Watershed Alliance on March 1, 2023. We supported the community with 2 canoes and water safety equipment. Congrats to the Alliance.

Details in the link - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9bICcLEk7iM>



POSITIVE NEWS:

Are you tired of hearing and seeing Bad News? Check out these websites which collect and share good news

- **Positive News:**

<https://www.positive.news> (from the UK)

- **Future Crunch**

<https://futurecrunch.com/> (from Australia)

LINKS:

Ripple Effect Program Quarterly Report for October 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

The Ripple Effect Program is a Basic Education and Literacy program in Guatemala, which includes building or renewing school infrastructure, including washrooms and kitchens, and providing furniture, supplies, computers and playgrounds, focusing on the primary grades.

<https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000050018/en-ca/files/sitepage/ripple-effect-program/2024-2nd-quarter-report/rep-second-quarterly-report-for-2023-2024.pdf>

Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group - ESRAG:

Rotary's 7th Area of Focus. Check out their website for new ideas and projects.

<https://esrag.org/>

<https://esrag.org/newsletters/> (subscribe to new Newsletters and check out past Newsletters)

<https://www.imembersdb.com/accounts/10614/Newsletter/0/01-2024%20Partnerships%20to%20scale%20RI's%20enviro-impact.pdf>

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS:

Please check out the following Social Media platforms for the Rotary Club of Winnipeg on **Facebook, YouTube, WhatsApp, LinkedIn, and Instagram.**

"Have you set up your **What's App Account yet?** Then you can join the Rotary Club of Winnipeg What's App group.. Contact Ope Allen (opeallen@googlemail.com to get the link.

facebook



*"Be the reason someone smiles. Be the reason someone feels loved and believes in the goodness in people."
Roy T Bennette.*

Rotary



TOGETHER WE SEE A WORLD
WHERE **PEOPLE** UNITE AND TAKE ACTION
TO **CREATE** LASTING
CHANGE ACROSS THE GLOBE
IN OUR COMMUNITIES AND IN OURSELVES

