



ROTARY CLUB OF WINNIPEG NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 28, 2023



● ROTARY MEETINGS | 12:15PM - 1:15PM ●

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 3, 2023 - Beyond Net Zero: [The Canadian Declaration on Human Trafficking Symposium](#) being held in Winnipeg at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

Human trafficking and forced labour slavery are at a record high in Canada. As part of a joint effort to fight the atrocities of human trafficking and forced labour slavery, the **Canadian Rotary Action Group Against Slavery (CRAGAS)**, and partners invite you to Beyond Net Zero: The Canada Human Trafficking Declaration.

Cost: \$75. (Bursaries are available to Registration) Space is limited so register by March 17th to secure a place. Guest speakers will include a survivors panel, representation from our Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIW), industry leaders from across the globe, and government and crime prevention sector members. Your attendance at this conference is paramount. By working together, we can strengthen systems that are essential to creating an environment where survivors are safe, have dignity, and thrive in their communities.

I look forward to seeing you at the conference as together we will listen to the stories of those who have survived and

what our role is in stopping human trafficking and forced labour slavery. If you have questions please do not hesitate to call me. (204-898-5227) Yours in service, Jeannette.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/beyond-net-zero-the-canada-human-trafficking-declaration-tickets-482725935267>

April 27, 2023 *Sip & Savour: A Primer in Wine Appreciation* at the Grant Park Liquor Mart Education Centre, located inside the Grant Park Liquor Mart, at the Grant Park Shopping Centre, 1120 Grant Ave. starting at 7:00pm until 9:00pm. The registration fee is \$50.

*"Proceeds will go towards the **1000 Survival Gardens** project. A portion of your registration fee will be eligible for a tax-deductible receipt, but the exact amount will depend on how many people attend. Should we fill all 32 seats, the receipt will be for more than half of the registration fee."*



- 1-ounce samples of approximately 10 different wines will be served – arrangements should be made for pick-up at the end of the evening, or plans made to book a taxi/uber to get home!!
- send registrations and payment by email to "saesp@mymts.net" (will deposit automatically)
- registrations open to members, family, friends, but is capped at 32 persons (if limit is reached a waiting list will be kept for any cancellations)

Thank you to Gary Dawyduk for coordinating this event.

May 11 – 14, 2023, *District 5550 District Conference* in Saskatoon
Click on link to Register www.rotarynutana.org

May 27 – 31, 2023, *Rotary International Convention*, in Melbourne Australia
Click on link for more information. <https://convention.rotary.org/en/melbourne>

WEEKLY ROTARY MEETINGS:

March 15, 2023 is a Zoom Meeting. **Janice Hamilton**, Executive Director of MCIC, speaking on "**Manitoba Council for International Cooperation**"

March 23, 2023, No Meeting

March 29, 2023 is a ZOOM Meeting with **Morgan Weinberg** speaking on "**An Introduction to Little Footsteps, Big Steps: Creating Sustainable Change for Children and Their Families in Haiti**" Morgan was awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship Award for Humanitarian Impact.

April 5, 2023, is a Zoom Meeting with **Barbara Lustgarten-Evoy**, Canadian Coordinator for **Rotary Action Group on Slavery & Human Trafficking** speaking on upcoming **Symposium on Anti-Trafficking** on April 2-3, 2023.

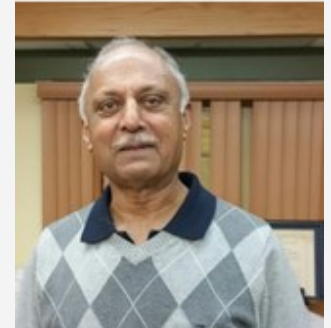
April 12, 2023, is an In-Person Meeting with **Joanne Pelzer** from **MTS Volunteers**



WATER PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY OUR CLUB:

Submitted by: Strini Reddy

The Chirasauta Water Project: Eight years ago we partnered with Dr Zephania Matanga (Canadian Multicultural Disabilities Institute) to help bring water to his remote village of Chirasauta, in south eastern Zimbabwe. Over a period of 18 months we provided water and sanitation education to numerous schools in Manitoba and enlisted their help to raise funds for the initiative. We were able to raise enough funds to drill a borehole, install a solar-driven pump and install a tank from which the residents of Chirasauta, as well as people from several neighbouring villages, were able to draw their water. Subsequently, we continued to raise funds to install 2 more tanks, one at the school and another at the site designated for the construction of a clinic. The clinic is now fully operational and serves the population of many villages in the area. The easy availability of water has also enabled the community to grow a substantial amount of food. **Impact:** 10,000 people now have access to water.



Sanitation Facility in South Africa: Six years ago, our partner Rotary Club of Hillcrest in Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa drew our attention to the dangers of open pit toilets as well as the limited availability of proper toilet facilities in the local school of Gillitt's Primary School. We worked with them on a Global Grant project to construct proper toilet facilities and hand washing stations for boys and girls in one of their neighbouring schools. **Impact:** Sanitary facilities were provided for 400 students, plus there was a significant increase in the attendance of girls after the construction of the new and safe toilet facilities.

iKhetelo Children's Village: Almost 3 decades ago Rotary Club of Hillcrest established the Makaphutu Children's Village in the Valley of Thousand Hills to care for AIDS orphans and vulnerable children. Now called the iKhetelo Children's Village it continues to nurture and educate the youngsters until they obtain a sufficient standard of education to enable them to stand on their own feet.

A few years ago, with the dry season getting longer, the water supply was shut off for several hours a day. We assisted with a Global Grant project to install a rain water harvesting system complete with a sophisticated water purification system. There is now an uninterrupted supply of clean water for the children and adults 24 hours a day. **Impact:** 200 students and staff have a continuous and adequate daily water supply

A neighbouring children's village, also supported by Rotary Club of Hillcrest as well as other Rotary Clubs, then requested the same kind of assistance. We assisted with another similarly successful Global Grant project. **Impact:** In addition to the other benefits the village was able to get its fire extinguishing system functional again.

Taweni Water Project: There was a full report on this water project in the January issue of the Newsletter. You may remember the large water tank that was installed on top of a hill and water was pumped up from the well at the bottom of the hill. **Impact:** This project provided 4,000 people better access to water, and reduced the work load of women who were hauling the water up the hill to their community.

HONOURING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES:

Update on Recent HIP Projects

by Strini Reddy

Blankets Request: We received a request for blankets from three of our partner communities. These were purchased and sent in mid-January along with some donated ones that HIP member Jean Oliver kindly collected in Selkirk.

Books: A shipment of 4,000 books was sent to **Tataskweyak (Split Lake)**. Another 1,600 books are on their way to **Little Grand Rapids** along with magazines, modelling clay, games, puzzles, stickers and crayons. This brings the total number of books sent to our partner communities to more than 30,000.

Sports Equipment: We completed the second round of collection of skates along with hockey sticks and equipment. A large shipment will soon be on its way to **Red Sucker Lake** via the winter road along with the 2 canoes that were requested by the community.

Day Care Supplies Donated: One of our friends recently closed down her Day Care Centre. She donated all her supplies, etc. to us and they will soon be on their way to **St Theresa Point**. The donated supplies will be shared with **Wasagamack and Red Sucker Lake**.

Partner Agencies: We have been reaching out to like-minded organizations to enhance our ability to increase our capacity to serve our partner communities. We recently connected with an organization called **Art for Aid** in Ontario and they have agreed to provide art supplies to our partner communities. We have supplied the necessary information to the communities and some of them already have shipments on the way to them. We are also in conversation with an organization called "**I Love First Nations**" which has a partnership with **Janome** (Sewing Machine Co.) and is helping remote communities promote sewing among the young people by supplying heavy duty sewing machines as well as the necessary materials. This is done with support from Rotary clubs and we will be seeking to connect with clubs who are already engaged so that we could work in partnership with them.

We approached the **Canadian Tire Jumpstart Foundation** to ask if they would entertain applications for sports equipment from remote northern indigenous communities. They have agreed to do so and we have encouraged the communities to submit applications for sports equipment for spring and summer programs. A couple of communities have already done so.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

HIP – Youth to Youth Engagement

March 25 & 26, 2023: Greeters at the Airport and Drivers with vehicles will be needed.

March 31 – April 1, 2023: On-call Volunteer Drivers will be required for unexpected needs.

For more details on these volunteer opportunities, please contact

John Melnick Talk or Text: 204-471-8816 or E-mail: jmel34229@gmail.com

Split Lake Apartment Fire & Our Response



On February 11, a fire in one of our partner communities, Split Lake, destroyed an apartment building leaving 49 people from 10 families homeless. We called to inquire how we could be of assistance. Our friends from the community informed us that sufficient donations of clothing had been received but there was a great need for housewares, cleaning supplies, bedding and groceries. With the generous support of our partner organization, True North Aid from Ontario, we quickly put together a shipment of the requested items and had them shipped to the community within 10 days of the fire.

If you have further question, please contact Strini Reddy at: sereddy@shaw.ca



INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS:

International Development Week by Gary Dawyduk

On February 7, 2023 the **Manitoba Council for International Cooperation (MCIC)** celebrated its first in-person kick-off, since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, to its annual International Development Week. The event was held at the Manitoba Legislature rotunda. (Our Rotary Club of Winnipeg is a member of MCIC and receives significant matching grant funding from MCIC.)

Several member organizations featured projects that have been supported with funding received through MCIC. This included a current project taking place in South Africa called "Beyond subsistence: Moving women and men from dependency to dignity through market gardens in South Africa" which has been jointly funded by our own **Rotary Club of Winnipeg**. This is a project which seeks to further entrench the valuable principles of the ongoing "1000 Survival Gardens" project, by providing motivated household leaders in the community of KwaNgcolosi (KwaZulu-Natal province) with the skills to grow food that will not only provide for their families but also generate an income through the sales of excess produce in nearby markets. Our South African local partner for this project is the Deep Rural Group in coordination with the **Rotary Club of Hillcrest**.



Rotarians Strini Reddy and Gary Dawyduk were in attendance, with Gary fielding questions and sharing information about the project during the event.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS:

A Fundraiser for the Oak Table, was organized by the Satellite Club on January 20, 2023.

Submitted by **Harvey Heather**, Site Lead at Oak Table. <https://oaktable.ca/>

My name is Harvey Heather. I am Site Lead at Oak Table, "A community of compassion and hope" located in Osborne Village, serving guests from all over the city since 1981.

I would like to take this time to give a heartfelt thanks to Eva and the Rotary Club of Winnipeg Satellite Club for organizing the evening of music and fun on Friday, January 20th. The music provided by Umberto was so beautiful and catchy, and the Ecco choir was so amazing, with such wonderful harmonies and lovely smiles by the singers. It brought such warmth to a cold January evening!

I would like to tell you a little about Oak Table, and how this fundraiser will continue to help us support our guests.

We serve lunch to approximately 120 people each day and provide supplemental food kits to meet the needs of our guests dealing with food insecurity. Last year we served over 31,000 meals. We anticipate we will serve over 40,000 meals in 2023.

With the help of the Rotary Club we will continue to provide guests with socks, underwear, toiletries, hats, handwarmers, blankets and backpacks. These are all things many of us take for granted, but are needed at Oak Table every day. Thank You to all who contributed!



We have yoga once a week and arthritis supports for those dealing with joint pain. We have support from Access Fort Garry and University of Manitoba 4th year Nursing students offering health and social services supports. We have supplied our guests with up to \$2,500 of bus tickets, all donated, but often not nearly enough to accommodate all of the requests for those without cars, bicycles or bus fare to get to medical or other appointments or to just have a warm ride on a freezing cold day.

We set up Art programs, music, foot care, haircuts and weekly chiropractic services.

We have thirty folks who stay overnight with us at Just a Warm Sleep who don't have secure housing, or no housing at all. There are folks who previously had to wait up to eight weeks to wash their clothes, or many days without a shower. That was the case before we moved to our new site almost two years ago. Now guests can come in for a warm sleep, a meal, have a shower and wake up to freshly laundered clothes. Most of us don't even have to think about these things, but many of our guests don't have these very basic privileges.

On Fridays we have a special breakfast for our guests. They make a reservation, are seated at tables with fresh linen table cloths, napkins and flowers. We offer menus for guests to choose their breakfasts from our donated food supplies, with eggs, cereal, yogurt, fruit, toast, coffee or tea and whatever pastries or other treats we have on hand. One of our guests who attended the breakfast for the first time told me "I feel so special... this is just like breakfast at Tiffany's"... this is another activity many of us take for granted... a family dinner or a special restaurant meal.

These are only some of the offerings we have for our guests. Your support enables us to continue to serve our guests with resources, hospitality, dignity and care.

Thank you again, for your kindness and generosity!

CLUB VISITS:

Ron Reider recently visited the **Rotary Club of Warner Robins, Georgia, USA**. The Home of Planes Trains & Heros. Warner Robins is known as an International City with people from all over the world who call it home and 52 different languages spoken. It has a major Air Force Base that provides international training for Air Force personnel from around the world.
<https://www.visitwarnerrobins.org/>



Nancy & Frank Cosway visited the **Rotary Club of Puerto Vallarta Sur, in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico**. They met Rolly Ayotte from Winnipeg St. Boniface & St Vital Club, and several other Canadians who were visiting for the winter. (Nancy is seated 2nd from the right in photo.)

Frank and Nancy met Arthur Fumerton who is a Canadian, but has lived in Mexico for over 20 years. Art is the Founder of the **Volcanes Education Project** in a near-by community. Nancy and Frank joined a tour of the Project after the Rotary meeting.
<https://volcanesproject.com/a-new-start/>



Prepared by Frank Cosway, Editor
Talk & Text: 204-294-7079
frankcosway@mts.net

Formatted by: Tsungai Mvingi
Talk & Text: 204-803-0168
tamvingi@gmail.com