

# Rotary Club of Winnipeg



## ROTARY NEWS, and MORE....

April 16, 2020

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

#### OUR FIRST VIRTUAL CLUB MEETING BY ZOOM:

On Wednesday April 8th we held our first virtual meeting by Zoom, attended by 32 people. District Governor Fred Wright and Assistant Governor Marcia Bilkoski attended as our guests, and they thanked us for the enjoyable experience.

We inducted two new members to our Club, **Ingrid Dowan** and **Izzeddin Hawamda**. Their bios and photos are included in the "New Members" section of the newsletter.



A very informative and well-organized presentation was made by **Nancy Cosway on RIBFEST 2020** which is scheduled for August 21st to 23rd.

A few announcements were made:

#### 1. District Conference.

An email was recently issued announcing the cancellation of the in-person 2020 District Conference. The District Conference will now be a one-day Virtual Conference, which will allow us to enjoy the excellent speakers, while maintaining and practicing Social Distancing.

Registration fee: Attendance is now only \$50, FREE for STUDENTS.

Date: SATURDAY MAY 23rd.

No travel time, No overnight stay and excellent Guest Speakers.

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND.

To register, just go to the District Conference website.

<https://www.crsadmin.com/EventPortal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?eventid=a412a70f-38e9-4ff8-b775-9200c96721cc>

#### 2. Our Club's Response to COVID 19:

Strini announced that help is needed in the community during these difficult times. **Our Goal is to raise \$3,500 which will be matched by \$2,500 from District 5550.** It has been pointed out that now we are not paying for lunches, perhaps those funds can be donated for these important causes.

We are seeking donations for **Winnipeg Harvest** and **Inspire Community Outreach**, to help people in our community who are struggling with paying for food and assisting children to keep up with their education on-line.

**Our Goal is to raise \$3,500 which will be matched by \$2,500 from District 5550.** It has been pointed out that now we are not paying for lunches, perhaps those funds can be donated for these important causes. (A message was recently sent out by Nancy Cosway letting members know how to donate.) **Current donations received are: \$1,955.**

3. Many **Happy Bucks** were promised.

4. **Our next Zoom meeting** is scheduled for Wednesday April 22nd at 12.15pm as usual. A Zoom link will be sent out a few days before the next meeting.

Thank you for keeping connected. Stay safe.

Roy P. Vallance, President.

## ROTARY & COVID 19:

### Rotary Adventures in Human Rights (RAHR) CANCELLED:

With all of the schools closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the RAHR organizers did not have an effective way of communicating with and recruiting students for the RAHR program in August.

### Rotary Club of Kinston, North Carolina (our Sister Club)

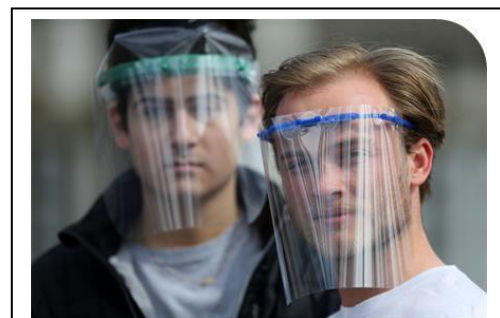
Kinston, is located in Lenoir County. Recent figures indicate that there are only 16 cases on COVID 19 in Lenoir County. North Carolina has 5,024 cases and 108 deaths. It appears that cases are relatively small and there is talk of relaxing some of the restrictions. (See links below).

<https://nymag.com/intelligencer/2020/04/crowds-gather-to-protest-social-distancing.html>

<https://www.kinston.com/news/20200413/nc-may-ease-covid-19-restrictions-if-outbreak-pace-slows>

### Local Company makes Face Shields for Health-Care Workers:

**Elly Hoogterp** reported that her son **Niels Hurst** and long-time friend **Alex Kroft** are using 3D printers to produce face shields for Health-Care Workers. For the full story, click on the link below.



Alex Kroft (L) & Niels Hurst (R)  
credit **The SUN**

<https://winnipeg.sun.com/news/news-news/two-winnipeg-university-students-shift-summer-business-to-help-create-ppe>

They also created a GoFundMe link for the project and raised over \$10,000 in a few days. The GoFundMe link is: [gf.me/u/xvitk7](https://www.gofundme.com/u/xvitk7) Click on the link for more details on the Face Shields and the current funds raised.

## COVID 19 - MUSIC:

### Voices Rock Medicine:

#### Women Physicians Choir from Toronto

Sings “**Rise Again**” (virtually)

A tribute to Health Care workers during these challenging times



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wuigee-AC-o>

## NEW MEMBERS:

### Marsha Brick-Cohen:

Marsha is the oldest child of Cynthia and Fred Brick. She has one daughter, Paula.

Marsha started working in the store at early age stuffing envelopes for the store’s early flyer mail-outs. She worked in the food service industry but at her last job she hurt her back so she decided to go back to school. She studied Commerce, Industry, Sales and Marketing at Red River College and this led to her working with her mother for over 12 years.

<https://www.marshabricksfinefurniture.com/>



At first it was bit of struggle as Cynthia had her way and Marsha had hers. Over time, they saw each other’s strengths and were able to find a way to work together as a ‘1 to 2 punch’. It worked very well, however, now she has to do both jobs.

Marsha writes a weekly column in the Winnipeg Free Press. This was started by her father, then her mother and now her. It was scary at first as she was writing under

Cynthia's by-line when she took sick, hoping she would get better soon and take it back. Sadly, that didn't happen so following in her parent's footsteps, she took over the column.

What most people don't know about Marsha is that she has dyslexia so she has a hard time with spelling and grammar. She always has someone check over the articles to help catch any mistakes. This column has given her more confidence and she can proudly tell others: "you can do anything."

One of her favorite pastimes is to listen to music live or on her vinyl records. She has a very large collection that she listens to regularly. She also enjoys cooking and loves having friends and family over.

### **Ingrid Dowan:**

Ingrid is a University of Winnipeg graduate obtaining a Human Resource Management Diploma and a Management Certificate in 2009. She currently serves as the Project Advisor, Event



Coordinator and Indigenous Recruiter with the Circles for Reconciliation (CFR) since April 3, 2017. She also sits on the Advisory Committee for the **Circles For Reconciliation** grassroots project.

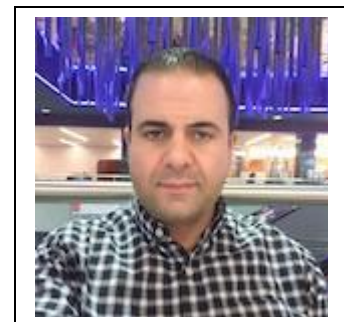
For the past five years she was volunteering with the National Aboriginal Day Selkirk Avenue Committee. Her assignment as the Volunteer Coordinator was to recruit up to 160 Volunteers depending on the location for this huge event.

Past employment opportunities have been in the community service sector; the last one was working with individuals re-entering society from correctional institutions and rehabilitation centres to gain employment or go back to school.

Thank you for this wonderful opportunity to become a Member of the Rotary Club of Winnipeg.

### **Izzedin Hawamda:**

Izzeddin Hawamda was born and raised in a rural village just outside of the city of Nablus in the West Bank, Palestine. He has lived in Canada for over 15 years and currently works as a high school teacher. He is currently working toward a PhD in Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Manitoba.



As a Muslim-Canadian, Izzeddin, along with a Jewish-Canadian, and a Quaker colleague have been speaking publicly about the power of dialogue and the importance of sharing, listening, and

respecting diverse perspectives and narratives. Izzeddin is also working to develop opportunities for Indigenous students and newcomer students to share spaces and stories in an effort to build bridges and break down the barriers.

## MESSAGES FROM ROTARY MEMBERS & ALUMNI:

### Youssef Mouzahem (Member)

I arrived in Jordan on March 5<sup>th</sup>. There was no COVID 19 at that time. Everything accelerated so quickly starting March 12. Now most airports and borders in all Arab and most European countries are closed till further notice now.

I have no idea when I can return to Canada. Got two calls from the Embassy here (which is closed) that they're still in the process of planning some repatriation flights for stranded Canadians, but nothing is confirmed yet.



My mom is recovering slowly, knee replacements take time to heal, the surgery was very good per her doctor.

I'm still working online as our company decided that all employees work from home so that is going well, except that morning team meetings are evening ones for me here!

I'm also communicating with all vendors and suppliers for our RIBFEST 2020 which I'm looking forward to, like every year.

I tried hard to join our Club virtual lunch meeting last Wednesday but the internet here didn't help at all. I've asked Eva to send my greetings and best wishes to everyone.

Hope everything is ok at your end. Stay safe and healthy, I'm super optimistic that this nonsense will end very soon and we will return to our humanity and celebrate life.

Happy Easter to everyone.

Frank: I checked with Youssef yesterday, and he is still waiting for a repatriation flight.

**Omo Fabarebo: (Member)**

After the COVID 19 situation abates, Omo will be moving to Montreal to work with **Paysafe**, an electronic payment company. We will miss his social media skills. We wish you all the best

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/omoniyi-fabs/?originalSubdomain=ca>



**Deepak Joshi (Member)**

Deepak was recently appointed Chief Administrative Officer for Rural Municipality of St. Clements, located north Winnipeg.

Deepak is an active member of the annual RIBFEST Planning Committee. He coordinates RIBFEST liaison with The Forks and all Security issues.

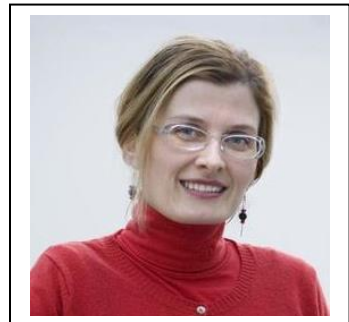


**Gentiana Collaku (Alumni)**

Gentiana is a former member of our Club and is now living in the Hamilton area.  
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/gentiana-collaku-6660b296/?originalSubdomain=ca>

I thank you for keeping me in the loop with news from your club. I also hope you and your family are doing well. The times we live in are unusual but we will try to focus on the bright side and handle the situation. It is an opportunity to reflect and grow emotionally and spiritually.

I have taken a leave of absence from my Rotary Club and will join again in summer. I also have been working as a public library employee which I do enjoy and am able to use some of my dispute resolution skills occasionally. My husband has been very stable in his employment journey. He works in the financial sector. I am originally from Albania, but pretty international considering the fact that I have lived and worked in different countries for the past 20 years.



I miss Winnipeg and think of it very often. Please share my best regards with your Rotary members.

Take care, Gentiana

## Linda Connor (Alumni):

Thank you for sharing the Rotary Newsletters. I really enjoy reading your informative and inspiring newsletters!

*Linda Connor*

Social Studies Curriculum Consultant  
Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment Branch  
Manitoba Education

## Caroline Quinn (Alumni)

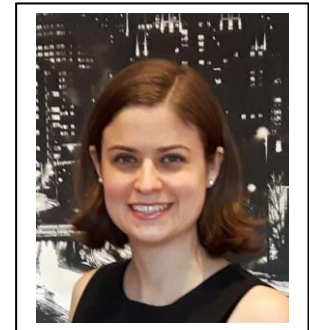
I haven't been by the club in a long time due to work changes, but I am appreciating your club update emails during this time. My husband and I both work at **St. Boniface Hospital**

If anyone is interested in volunteering, Shared Health has just put out this website for information about different volunteer opportunities:

<https://wrha.mb.ca/volunteer-services/covid-19-volunteer-screening/>

If you could share that in the newsletter it would be much appreciated. All the best to you and your family.

Thank you, Caroline Quinn



## ROTARY NEWS:

### **Humboldt Broncos Bus Crash – April 6, 2018**

- Second Anniversary – April 6, 2020 and
- Rotary Scholarship Fund

### **Rotary District 5550 – Humboldt Strong Scholarship**

In recognition and honour of the Humboldt Broncos players, staff and supporters who lost their lives or were injured in the April 6, 2018 accident, Rotarians from Rotary District 5550 organized a scholarship fund. **\$10,000** was donated by our District members and by Rotarians from across Canada in memory of this tragedy. The Scholarship Fund was established to recognize and support a Humboldt Broncos



hockey player who shows concern for others and demonstrates an attitude of “service above self”.

To be eligible for this Scholarship the player must be:

- A player who is playing with the Humboldt Broncos in his final year of junior hockey.
- A player demonstrates a commitment to his academic pursuits with a grade 12 average above 70% or have completed a minimum of 2 post-secondary courses.
- A player who has contributed a significant number of volunteer hours in the community while playing for the Humboldt Broncos.

**The recipient chosen by the Humboldt Broncos staff for the 2<sup>nd</sup> of five \$2,000 Scholarships is Logan Foster.** Logan is from Kamsack, Saskatchewan. This is his second year with the Broncos and he is one of the Assistant Captains, a leading scorer and has genuine positive attitude.



The Scholarship was presented at the Elgar Petersen Arena in Humboldt at 7:00pm on Saturday, February 15, 2020, by **Peter Neufeldt**, Past District Governor of Rotary District 5550.

## LINKS:

**What Do Countries With The Best Coronavirus Responses Have In Common? Women Leaders.**

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/avivahwittenbergcox/2020/04/13/what-do-countries-with-the-best-coronavirus-reponses-have-in-common-women-leaders/?fbclid=IwAR3An5x11GJUTGwAkGGOOnSPCeSLZG2ssg6EIPZAytCNIAGlcWgM5nYn4ILU#741cc193dec4>

**Rotary Voices – Ideas for Staying Connected During Social Distancing.**

<https://blog.rotary.org/2020/04/08/ideas-for-staying-connected-during-social-distancing/>

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