



Saskatoon Nutana
Rotary
 Club



February 14th, 2023

**February 2023 Theme:
 Peace and Conflict
 Resolution/Prevention**

**Program Chair:
 Asit Sarkar**

Date	Rotana Editor	Attendance	Cheer Captain	Speaker/Topic	Intro	Club Thanks
Feb 21	Norm Woodcock	Peggy Clark	Carm Michaelenko	David Katzman Conversation on Confronting Bigotry in the Community (Video presentation)		Brynn Campbell
Feb 28	Norm Woodcock	Peggy Clark	Peggy Clark	Dr. Amin Babaeghazvini Bioplastics		Joe Dierker

OPENING

President Candace welcomed all members to the Parktown and reminded us that we are on Treaty 6 territory and land of the Metis.

The singing of our national anthem and the 4 Way Test song was not amazing.

Candace then welcomed guests Maureen Torr from Saskatoon Club, Earl Newton from North Club plus our speaker Anthony Olusola.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Earl Newton read a letter from Bob Durston regarding Rotary International approval of the Global Grant for Joy's Centre Project.

- Maureen Torr updated us about Joy's Centre in Uganda. Maureen thanked all 5 clubs for participating in the project with a combined \$10,000 donation. She will present more details to the club March 28th. Maureen is asking for the club's help sponsoring children. The cost is \$35/month or \$420 a year per child. This money will provide food, school, accommodations and scholastic materials. They are in desperate need of 55 sponsors. You can contact Maureen for more details at joyhomeofhope@gmail.com. All donations are tax deductible through the Saskatoon Club. A sponsorship form is attached.

PROGRAM.

Nuru introduced Anthony Olusola who is the Executive Director of Truly Alive Youth and Family Foundation, to speak to the club on Black History Month.

The City of Saskatoon designated February as Black History Month. They also asked the Black community what they would like the theme of the month to be. “Our History, Ours to Tell” was this year’s theme. Black people have lived in Canada since the 17th century. First Black person to set foot on Canadian soil was Mathieu Da Costa who was later hired by Europeans to act as a translator between the aboriginal people and the European explorers. Others arrived in the 18th century fleeing enslavement from USA and Caribbean.

In 1908-1911, 1000 arrived in Alberta and Saskatchewan as homesteaders. In the 19th Century Black Canadians worked as porters. Other worked in import sectors like mining and farming.

Black people made many contributions to Canada’s victory in WWI and WWII, plus on the home front, Black women fundraised for the war effort to pay for the medical care, burials and births of community members.

The Black population now accounts for 3.5% of Canada’s total population. According to 2021 census 14.2 percent of visible minority in Saskatchewan were Black compared to 2001. The Black population of Saskatchewan numbered at least 4 per cent.

Since the 19th century, Black people have contributed to the Canadian labour market and worked in sectors like mining, farming, etc. Despite ongoing challenges, including discrimination and systemic racism, Black Canadians have excelled in sectors and industries across the country. 2021 census shows 22.4% of Black population had bachelor degree or higher and 66.6% of Black Canadians between 15 years and older are employed.

Black Canadians have served in politics at all three levels; federal, provincial and municipal. Black Canadians are rich in culture and heritage - traditional food, dance and music. They have shaped Canadian heritage and identity. (Ex. Saskatchewan African Canadian Heritage Museum).

There are still many challenges facing Black people including systemic racism, racial profiling of Black youth, and high rate of incarceration, disparity and uneven economic prosperity.

A quote from Maya Angelou – “Only equals can become friends”.

Karol Komar thanked Anthony for his excellent presentation.

CHEER CAPTAIN

Carm Michalenko as cheer captain explained how Saint Valentine was how Chaucer linked it to chocolate, love, etc. All members present donated towards Rotary Foundation. Great first job at cheer captain Carm!

The next meeting is February 21st at the Parktown.

PS – Thanks to Peggy and Candace for taking notes. Ed.

Officers

President - Candace Odishaw
Vice-President – Betty Ann Arscott and Peggy Clark
Past President -Mike Gramiak
Secretary – Jack Scott
Treasurer – Bob MacGillivray

Board members

Club Administration- Peggy Clark
Membership – Betty Ann Arscott and Karol Komar
Projects- Jim Gilles
Rotary Foundation- Ravi Chibbar and Lorne Braithwaite
New Generations – Michael Gramiak
Image Committee/Communication– Candace Odishaw

Rotary International

RI President – Jennifer Jones
District Governor – Fred Wright
Assistant Governor – Candace Odishaw

Contact Information

Rotary Club of Saskatoon Nutana
Club No. 1380
Founded May 31, 1961
P. O. Box 441, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L6
Club website: www.rotarynutana.org
Club Facebook Link: [\(11\) Saskatoon Nutana Rotary Club | Facebook](#)
Club email address: nutanarotary@gmail.com

Links

District 5550 <http://www.clubrunner.ca/portal/home.aspx?did=5550>
Rotary International www.rotary.org