

FORTARIAN

WEDNESDAY 28/01/2026 THUNDER BAY, CANADA

Meetings



2nd & 4th
Wednesdays



Dinner - 5:30pm
Meeting - 6:15pm



Daytona's Restaurant
965A Cobalt Crescent

2025-2026 Board of Directors

President:

Jodi Phillips

President-Elect:

Stephen Margarit

Past President:

Glenn Craig

Secretary:

Bev Knutson

Treasurer:

Dawn Sebesta

Directors:

Laura Craig

Laurie Etter

Bev Knutson

Dave Knutson

Nancy Patterson

Dawn Sebesta



Elaine Hansen
5580 District Governor



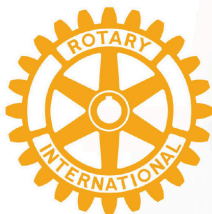
Jodi Phillips
Club President



Francesco Arezzo
RI President

01/04

Fort William
Rotary
Club



LAST MEETING

Dawn Sebesta introduced the speaker, Will Newton to update the Club on the activities of the Rotaract Club. Will was "standing-in" for the current Rotaract President MacKenzie Harder, who was unable to attend.

Will is a third-year student at Lakehead University. He outlined the current status of the Club. Like most clubs, while the membership is currently at approximately 20 persons, 8 to 12 regularly participate in the biweekly meetings, held Sunday evenings. The Club runs one social and one service event each month, usually with between 5 and 8 volunteers usually engaged.

The Rotaractors volunteer at the Dew Drop Inn every 4th Sunday at 9:30 in the morning. They have been crocheting waste plastic bags into sleeping pads.

Some other activities include participation in Peace Day, the Trash pick-ups, the Spooking Green Halloween fundraiser, the Santa Claus parade, RFDA, Radio Days, Rotary Youth Exchange panel, networking with Rotarians and other Rotary events.

They are planning a trivia event, with the date and location still to be determined.

Club turnover is a challenge, as when the students leave University or College they often move away or eventually gravitate to Rotary. As a result, leadership succession is difficult.



NEW MEMBERS

The Club, with President Jodi presiding, was pleased to induct 3 new members, who were all sponsored by Mary Ann Breton. Welcome to the Fort William Rotary Club!

Welcome

Amanda Coates



Kerry Kapush

Lori Kapush



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Correspondence

- A thank-you and update letter was received from the Salvation Army, outlining the results of the Christmas Kettle drive and Fort William Rotary's contribution to the effort.

Canada Club Anniversary Event

- This is being organized by Fort William this year. It will take place Saturday, February 21 between 1 and 4 pm in the RFDA meeting space. The event will be "dry", with catered Charcuterie and snacks. The event cost is \$30/person. Please RSVP to Dawn Sebesta.

Program Tasks

- Volunteers are required to fill meeting tasks. Due to a lack of response, the plan is to assign these tasks to individuals on a rotational basis. The selected individuals will be contacted directly prior to the meetings.

RYLA

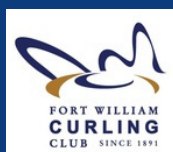
- Once again, the Club plans to support one or two young candidates for this program, depending on the success of fundraising efforts. One suggested fundraiser is a tour of Sleeping Giant pub based on a "tour for 10" prize donated by Nancy Patterson. Further information to follow.

Valentine's Social

- Our traditional Valentines social will take place Wednesday February 11 at the Fort William Curling club, starting at 5:30 pm. A Chinese Buffet will be served. Cost is \$32.00/person for the food. Drinks and gratuities extra.

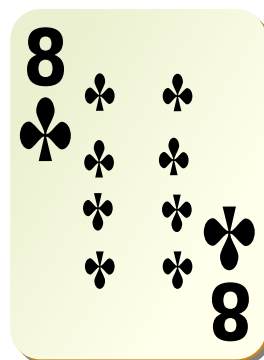
Next Meeting: Feb 11

Valentine Social
FW Curling Club
Chinese Buffet



QUEEN OF HEARTS

A total of \$64 in tickets were sold, adding \$32 to the pot. The pot is now at \$133. Unfortunately the Winner is a mystery as the editor was not at the meeting. But whoever they were did not have luck as they drew the 8 of Clubs.



THANK YOU

FW Rotarians went bananas at the RFDA. We'd like to THANK: Craig, Irene, Jerry, Jodi, Laurie, Mark, Mary Ann, Sante, Stephen, and new members (Welcome!) Amanda, Lori & Kerry.



THIS WEEKS' SCRIBE:



Dave Knutson


Upcoming Events



FEBRUARY
2
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Volunteering:
Shelter House

FEBRUARY
11
5:30 PM
Valentine's Social
Chinese Buffett @FWCC

FEBRUARY
21
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Rotary Anniversary
Canada Club Event

FEBRUARY
23

Rotary's 121st
Anniversary

FEBRUARY
23
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Volunteering:
RFDA

FEBRUARY
25
5:30 PM
Club Meeting:
BGC Tour

MARCH
2
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Volunteering:
Shelter House

MARCH
11
5:30 PM | 6:15 PM
Club Meeting:
Crush Coffee Co.

MARCH
16
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Volunteering:
RFDA