



The Fortarian

Apr 27, 2022

Rotary Club of Thunder Bay (Fort William)

2021/2022 Board of Directors

President: Dawn Sebesta
 Secretary: Stephen Margarit
 Assistant Secretary: Irene Sottile
 Treasurer: Erle Wheatley
 Assistant Treasurer: Sante Sottile
 President Elect: Fhara Pottinger
 Past President: Cynthia Judge
 Meets: 3rd Tuesday of each month,
 Zoom: 6.30pm

Website www.fwrotary.ca

Directors:
 Irene Sottile
 Robert Moore
 Sante Sottile
 Mary Ann Breton
 Bev Knutson
 Stephen Margarit

Allocations Committee

Chair: Bob Hookham
 Meets: 2nd Tuesday of each month,
 Zoom 12 noon.

Rotary House Lottery Committee

Chair: Dave Knutson
 Meets: 1st Tuesday of each month,
 Zoom 12 noon.

Semi-monthly Zoom Meetings

Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.
 Meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday

Mailing Address

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 Thunder Bay, ON
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Newsletter Editors

Erle Wheatley & Brian Phillips

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President Dawn chaired the hybrid meeting. Visiting Rotarians included Assistant District Governor Dan Brown and our Speaker Rotarian Gail Brescia. Guests included Raymond Nelson and Mark Breton. Joan Krisko played the National anthem.

Robert Moore proposed a toast to the Queen of Canada.

Mary Ann Breton acknowledged that the meeting was being conducted on the traditional lands of the Indigenous people of this region.

Rotarian Cindy Levanto-Kawahara introduced the evening's speaker, Gail Brescia, executive Director of the St Joseph's Foundation, who was providing a presentation about the Foundation and their ongoing relationship with the Fort William Rotary Club.



The Fort William Rotary Club has been engaged with the St Joseph's Foundation since 1992, having donated \$129,000 to date, the majority of which has been provided over the past 3 years (\$75K of the total).

The history of the organization has been chronicled in a number of books, three of which were circulated during the presentation.

The Sisters of St. Joseph have been working in Thunder Bay since 1884, responding to the needs of the community. Initially, they provided schooling

and educational services. When an unmet need for Hospital services was identified the Sisters raised the funds to build the original St. Joseph's Hospital and the current buildings are located on the original site.

While there are no longer any Sisters left in Thunder Bay, their service has been memorialized by a fountain recognizing the 140 years of service provided by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Sault Ste. Marie.

The most recent donations from Fort William were in support of a campaign to add a new Ultrasound capability and the funds provided were used in support of supporting equipment, consistent with the use of Lottery funds. 2023 will mark the 40th anniversary of the St. Joseph's Foundation, started originally to support the St. Joseph's Heritage and related facilities. Current areas of need in our Community include Mental Health and Addiction facilities, including a better detox centre. To guide the Foundation forward, the organization is undertaking development of a new strategic plan.

President Dawn thanked Gail for the very informative presentation. Fines: Bob Hookham acted as Fine master and was successful in extracting funds based on "Good news" and the origin of the phrase "raining cats and dogs" (apparently, they slept in thatched roofs and heavy rains drove them to seek shelter elsewhere).



Flag Presentation: Bob Hookham presented the Club with a flag from the Punta Gorda Rotary Club that he attends while on vacation.

Correspondence: President Dawn read a note of thanks from the Salvation Army, who indicated that \$2,798 had been raised during our shifts attending the collection kettles.

Reports:

Allocations Report: Sante Sottile reported that the final major donation from last year's Lottery had been made in support of Camp Quality. There is a small residual amount of \$3348 that remains to be distributed.

The finalization of the 2022 proceeds allocation will be the next order of business.

House Lottery Report: Co-Chair Robert Moore reported that approximately 14,700 tickets had been sold to date. This would equate to a net amount available for distribution in the order of \$260K, assuming that the expenses continue to be on budget. Volunteers are required to assist with the Open Houses each weekend.

Announcements:

District Conference Awards: At this year's (virtual) District Conference, our Club was recognized with the following awards:

- 1st Place - Fundraising (Clubs of 31-60 members)
- 1st Place - Inter Club Service
- 2nd Place - Public Image
- 2nd Place - Inter Organizational Service
- Recognition for our commitment to The Rotary Foundation Canada

In addition, Stephen Margarit was recognized with an award for his service to our Club, as the District "Distinguished Rotarian in the area of Club Service".

President Dawn thanked the Club and District Awards Committee for their work submitting the nominations for these awards.

Peace Day Committee –there will be a brief Committee meeting immediately following the Club meeting.

Social Meeting: There will be a social get-together May 4, 2022 at Wacky Wings 6:00 pm. Contact Irene Sottile for details.

RYLA: Sharon Badanai announced that there had been 8 applicants for RYLA this year. Seven of these individuals had been selected, with the remaining individual being an alternate. Sharon thanked Joan, Bob Hookham

and Dawn for their assistance in the interviewing and selection of the attendees. Fort William Rotary will be sponsoring three individuals to this year's event:

- Payton Douglas
- Jordan Humeniuk
- Meghan Chony





House Lottery Ticket Mailing Prep: There will be a brief work party to insert tickets into envelopes for mailing immediately following the Club meeting. Volunteers accepted.

The Lighter Side: Irene Sottile entertained the crowd with a “symptoms of Dementia” test. The number of individuals who under-performed shall remain undisclosed.

Meeting Adjourned.

Editor Erle

Scribe Dave



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