



# The Fortarian

February 24th, 2021

Rotary Club of Thunder Bay (Fort William)

## 2020/2021 Board of Directors

President: Cynthia Judge  
Interim Secretary: Stephen Margarit  
Assistant Secretary: Irene Sottile  
Treasurer: Sante Sottile  
President Elect: Dawn Sebesta  
Past President: Stephen Margarit  
Meets: 3rd Tuesday of each month,  
RBC Royal Bank, Board Room  
1159 Alloy Drive , 6.30pm

## Website [www.fwrotary.ca](http://www.fwrotary.ca)

Directors:  
Irene Sottile  
Robert Moore  
Mary Ann Breton  
Bev Knutson  
Jodi Phillips  
Jill Zachary

## Allocations Committee

Chair: Bob Hookham  
Meets: 2nd Tuesday of each month,  
Weiler Maloney Nelson Board Room 12 noon.

## Rotary House Lottery Committee

Chair: Dave Knutson  
Meets: 1st Tuesday of each month,  
Weiler Maloney Nelson, 12 noon.

## Semi-monthly Zoom Meetings

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

## Mailing Address

PO Box 10061  
Thunder Bay, ON  
Canada P7B 6T6

## Newsletter Editors

Erle Wheatley & Brian Phillips

## Meeting of February 24th, 2021

President Cynthia Judge welcomed everyone. About 21 Rotarians, including Honourary Member Diane Silen, were in attendance at this Zoom meeting.

Joan Krisko played O Canada on the piano. Solade Nicol gave the toast to the Queen.

President Cynthia advised that last Sunday, she and Stephen Margarit inducted a new Corporate member, George Jeffrey Children's Centre, represented by Cindy Levanto-Kawahara, Executive Director. The event was videotaped and shown at the meeting.

Tonight's speaker was Irene Sotille. Irene said that the Membership Committee thought it would be a good idea to provide an overview of our Club structure.



Stephen Margarit played a Fort William Rotary promotional video. A number of new ways of doing business have occurred over the past year: different forms of meeting and communicating including Zoom meetings, hybrid meetings, etc. Irene noted that many clubs have their meetings on Facebook where other Rotarians can join in. YouTube also has pre-recorded Rotary meetings. We still ran our Four-Way Test high school essay contest this year.

Irene pointed out that Rotary International's theme for the current Rotary year (2020-2021) is:

“Rotary Creates Opportunities”. The theme for 2021-2022 will be: “Serve to Change Lives”.

There are seven areas of focus and a different theme for each month:



### MONTHLY ROTARY THEMES

- ▶ AUGUST - MEMBERSHIP
- ▶ SEPTEMBER - EDUCATION & LITERACY
- ▶ OCTOBER - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
- ▶ NOVEMBER - ROTARY FOUNDATION
- ▶ DECEMBER - DISEASE PREVENTION
- ▶ JANUARY - VOCATIONAL SERVICE
- ▶ FEBRUARY - PEACE & CONFLICT RESOLUTION
- ▶ MARCH - WATER & SANITATION
- ▶ APRIL - MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH
- ▶ MAY - YOUTH SERVICE
- ▶ JUNE - FELLOWSHIP

Irene noted that we had recently developed a new banner for our Club featuring Mount McKay, Fort William Historical Park and an image of the Voyageurs paddling a canoe. Banners are given to visiting Rotarians.

Irene outlined the Board of Directors structure as follows:

- President Cynthia Judge – position is voted on each year by Past-Presidents
- Stephen Margarit – Secretary (Interim)
- Erle Wheatley – Treasurer
- Irene Sotille – Director, Club Service
- Robert Moore – Director, Community Fundraising
- Bev Knutson – Director, Community Service
- Jodi Phillips – Director, Public Relations
- Jill Zachary – Director, Rotary Initiatives
- Mary Ann Breton – Director, Youth Services

We have been very successful with a number of projects including the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual House Lottery and the Wilderness Discovery project. Net proceeds from last year's House Lottery were \$439,252.

We are part of District 5580 which has a total of 66 clubs. The Fort William, Port Arthur, Lakehead, and Nipigon clubs are the only four Canadian ones in the District. The other 62 clubs are spread across Minnesota,

Wisconsin, and North Dakota. Our Satellite Club meets on Mondays and focuses on 'hands-on' projects, such as Shelter House dinners, work at RFDA, Roots to Harvest, etc. Our annual membership fees are currently \$280.

Irene would like to see the Chair for each Committee do a presentation throughout the year to explain the functions of their Committee.

President Cynthia thanked Irene for her presentation and indicated that she will soon be asking members to volunteer on various committees.

Bob Hookham noted that the Allocations Committee will meet in March to consider a request from the MS Society to assist with funding to help local people in need.

Dave Knutson advised that we had received our licence for the House Lottery. The kick-off will be the week of March 8 with the media launch scheduled for March 11. The website for ticket purchase is nearing completion. Paper mail-outs will be significantly reduced this year, primarily to those who did not provide an email address.

President Cynthia reminded Rotarians of the virtual Anniversary get-together this Friday. There will be an auction of gifts-in-kind at the end of the evening, including a two-night stay at the Wilderness Discovery Centre.

Sharon Badanai advised that the RYLA program would be cancelled for this year. President Cynthia added that the "I Like Me" books program would also be cancelled.

President Cynthia adjourned the meeting.

Editor – Brian

Scribe – Dave McColl

Photos - Irene and Stephen

**Rotary**



**Rotary Opens  
Opportunities**