



The Fortarian

January 11th 2023
 Rotary Club of Thunder Bay (Fort William)

2022/2023 Board of Directors

President: Fhara Pottinger
 Secretary: Stephen Margarit
 Assistant Secretary: Cindy Levanto
 Treasurer: Dawn Sebasta
 President Elect: Irene Sottile
 Past President: Dawn Sebasta
 Meets: 3rd Tuesday of each month,
 Zoom: 6.30pm

Website www.fwrotary.ca

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

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 Hybrid Meetings

Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Daytona's
 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

THE FORTARIAN

January 11th 2023

President Fhara welcomed everyone to our first meeting of 2023! Members, led by Therese Lim, sang an a capella version of the National Anthem. Bob Hookham gave the toast to the King. Mary Ann Breton read the Land Acknowledgment. Guests at the meeting were Honorary Rotarians, Mark Breton and Diane Silen.

Dawn Sebesta introduced our speaker for the evening. Thera Chicoine is in charge of Member Relations for the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber, a non-profit organization, supports local businesses and individuals with the goal of advancing the commercial, financial, and civic interests of the city. The Chamber's services and programs are based upon the three pillars of advocacy, engagement, and empowerment.

The local Chamber is a member of both the provincial and federal Chambers of Commerce thereby allowing it to advocate to the different levels of government.

In the area of engagement, the Chamber develops relationships between business and community and between business and government. Members are kept informed and have opportunities to connect through social gatherings, educational events, trade shows, and a members-only online platform.

The Chamber has a variety of resources that can be used for professional development, staff training, and business growth. The Chamber also provides marketing opportunities such as e-blasts. Chamber members have access to business-level discounts as well as member-to-member discount.

Another service provided by the Chamber is Charity Connect that connects registered charities with members of the business community. Businesses may donate in-kind to charities and non-profits.

There was no Allocations Committee report. Bob Hookham presented the House Lottery Committee report. Planning is underway for an event to announce the opening of this year's Lottery. Dawn Sebesta will be the House Manager. After the announcements, K.S. Joseph collected Happy Dollars.

Announcements

A luncheon will be held on Thursday, January 19 commemorating 100 years of Rotary and Easter Seals Ontario. The event will take place at the Victoria Inn between 12:00 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person and can be purchased online. The guest speaker will be Casey MacKay, an Easter Seals Ambassador alumnus.

The Rotary Anniversary dinner will be held on Saturday, February 4 at the Italian Cultural Centre. The symposium will be at 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. The tickets are \$60.00 per person. Please RSVP to Dawn Sebesta by Friday, January 27, if you are interested in attending.

The club will be volunteering at RFDA on Monday, January 16 at 6:30 p.m. Please contact Stephen Margarit if you are interested.

On Saturday, February 11, Vibe Performance Academy will be hosting a Culinary Cabaret at the Valahalla Inn. Funds raised will be in support of George Jeffrey Children's Centre. Please go to the Academy's website for more information.

Sharon Badanai relayed greetings from Margaret Tollefson, whose husband, Franz, had been a member of our club many years ago.

For those members who drive a keyless vehicle, Solade Nicol can provide a protective device that can deter car thieves. There is no cost for this device.

Editor Brian

Scribe Bev

