



The Fortarian

June 9th, 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

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 June 9th, 2021

President Cynthia Judge welcomed everyone. About 14 Rotarians attended this Zoom meeting.

Joan Krisko played O Canada on the piano. Glenn Craig proposed a toast to the Queen.

Joan Krisko introduced our guest speaker, Rob Zuback.

Born and raised in Thunder Bay, Rob is a graduate of Lakehead University in the Honours Bachelor of Commerce program. He worked 18 years in the Advancement Department at Lakehead University, followed by six years with the Ontario Zone of the Canadian Red Cross. In 2015, Rob assumed the role of Director of Alumni & Development at St. Lawrence College in Kingston where he successfully managed a campaign that raised over \$12 million in three years, in support of capital improvements, student financial aid and equipment. Rob recently returned to Thunder Bay to fill the position of Director, Advancement, Communications and External Relations, at Confederation College.

Rob spoke about the Confederation College Lecture Theatre Campaign. Known as the Crawford C. McCullough Lecture Theatre, it was built in 1970, opened in 1971 and had 189 fixed seats added in 1973. It has had only minor cosmetic upgrades in the 1990's. Due to increased usage and accessibility issues, it has been determined that upgrades are warranted. Work on the facility will involve asbestos abatement, accessibility improvements, significant audio-visual and information technology upgrades, new seating, and Indigenous-themed aesthetic renovations. The project budget is around \$2 million. The goal is to raise up to \$600,000 over the next two years. Jim Madder, Past-President of Confederation College, will be coming to the local Rotary clubs soon to make presentations and provide more information about the project. Jim is also a member of the Port Arthur Rotary club.

President Cynthia thanked Mr. Zuback for his presentation.

Joan Krisko, in her role as Foundation Committee Chair, presented a Paul Harris + 2 pin to President-Elect Dawn Sebesta. Joan thanked Dawn for her contributions to the Foundation and acknowledged the donation of recognition points from Jerry Williams which assisted Dawn in achieving the PH+2 level (two sapphires).

President Cynthia advised of correspondence received and provided a few updates:

- several thank you notes received from Music Festival participants, thanking Fort William Rotary for their music scholarships
- thank you note from Glenn Craig (Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation) thanking Fort William Rotary for the significant multi-year commitment to the Cardiovascular Surgery Program. Vascular surgery procedures are well underway, and hundreds of patients are treated each year (e.g., repairing aortic aneurisms, saving limbs from amputation, and providing alternate treatments for dialysis). Glenn noted that he is proud of the ongoing partnership with Fort William Rotary.
- Irene Sotille's 98-year-old mother suffered a major stroke last Wednesday. Irene and Sante have been staying with her.
- The House Committee met a few days ago. People have been quite excited when they receive the phone call about winning one of the \$1,000 Early Bird prizes. We are now going to \$5,000 draws every two weeks.

Dave Knutson advised that he conducted his last meeting of the House Committee in his position as Chair. One report for 2020 will be completed by the end of the month, then the Committee will be managed by Bob Hookham and Robert Moore.

Robert Moore gave an update on the Allocations Committee. All the 2020 funds have been disbursed. Letters of application have been sent to local charities. Their requests are to be submitted to us by the end of June.

Cindy Levanto-Kawahara delivered the Lighter Side.



President Cynthia indicated that there is one more regular meeting in two weeks (on June 23) where she will provide a retrospective view of the past (COVID) year. On June 30, there will be a Passing of the Gavel ceremony. Hopefully, this can be arranged as an in-person event.

President Cynthia adjourned the meeting.

Editor – Brian

Scribe – Dave McColl

Photos - n/a

