



The Fortarian

March 8th 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

March 8th 2023

President Fhara chaired the hybrid meeting. Mark Breton (Honourary Rotarian), Mary Lim and Maureen Judge attended as guests.

The assembled Rotarians sang the National anthem, after which Mary Ann Breton proposed a toast to the King of Canada.

Sharon Badanai acknowledged that the meeting was being conducted on the traditional lands of the Indigenous people of this region and recognizing the Metis people and their contributions in the history of the area.

Presentation:

Therese Lim introduced the speakers for the evening, Kelli O'Brien, Kimberly Callaghan and Gail Brescia. Kelli O'Brien is the Chief Executive Officer of St. Joseph's Care Group following 30 years of clinical physiotherapy and progressive leadership experience in the health care industry. She holds a Bachelors of Science degree in Physiotherapy, a Masters of Science in Rehabilitation and is currently a PhD candidate at Memorial University. Kelli serves in a number of profession associations and groups focused on innovation and best practices in the provision of healthcare services.

Ms. O'Brien's presentation outlined the services provided by the St Joseph's Care Group as they support the concept of "Here for you when you need us"; including services in the field of Addictions and Mental Health, Senior's Care, Rehabilitation services and Palliative care. She outlined the challenges of a changing health care landscape requiring adaptation to new methods of providing services and securing funding.

Ms. O'Brien also reinforced the St Joseph's Care Group's commitment to Indigenous peoples in our Community and mentioned that their management team included a Director of Indigenous Relations and an openness to traditional healing methods.

As a major employer in our Community, the St. Joseph's Care Group focuses on:

- Learners (over 900 student placements),
- Recruitment (through partnerships with Academic institutions and participation in Provincial and Federal programs)
- Retention of current staff
- Development of the capabilities of their staff

Ms. O'Brien and Gail Brescia also reviewed the role of St. Joseph's Care Group Foundation and the partnership with Fort William Rotary and the Club's donations, which have assisted in funding the Care Group's equipment needs. To date \$129,000 has been and the Care Group representatives expressed its' thanks to the Club for this support.

Fhara thanked for the excellent presentation and solicited questions. When questioned regarding future needs, the St. Joseph's Care group indicated that they were working to present a list of priority items to the Club for its' consideration.

Fines: Brian Phillips devised a unique (but very effective) method of extracting fines from the assembled Club Members, with at least two people understanding the challenge.

Reports:

Allocations: Sante Sottile reported that the balance of last year's lottery had been disbursed to the charities listed in our Lottery Application and mentioned that the last installment of our \$120,000 commitment to the new Art Gallery had been paid.

House Lottery: Robert Moore reported that just over 40% of the tickets had been sold and that the first of the "Early Bird" draws was April 8, 2023.

Announcements:

RFDA support –Monday March 20th is the next date for Club members wishing to volunteer at the regular Club service evening at the Regional Food Distribution facility on Syndicate Avenue

Volunteering opportunity: During March and April, on Mondays and Wednesdays, volunteers are required to sell tickets for the Sportsman's Lottery in support of George Jeffrey Children's Foundation, Our Kids Count and RFDA. Shifts are 2 hours in duration, selling tickets at the entrance to the Canadian Tire Store in Intercity. Contact Cindy Levanto at George Jeffrey Children's Foundation 625-6052.

Bob Hookham announced that he had completed his term with the Wilderness Discovery Board of Directors and that this was also his last year as co-chair on the House Lottery. (Note: Bob has worked for over 25 years on the House Lottery which is a huge dedication of time and effort on behalf of the Club which is most appreciated.)

Robert Moore will continue as Co-Chair for the Lottery next year but that will be his final year. It will be necessary for others to step into this role and takeover should the Club wish to continue with the project.

Mandi O'Connor announced that her daughter had been accepted into the Bora Laskin School of Law –Congratulations Mandi!

Lighter side: Cindy Levanto entertained the crowd with three jokes that prompted much laughter.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

Robert Moore expressed his appreciation to the Hospital Foundation for their assistance in putting together e-mail blasts (two times in a week) which is a big help in the ticket sales

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm. Next Meeting's Speaker: Youth Exchange Student

Editor Brian

Scribe Dave

