



The Fortarian

May 12th, 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

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Thunder Bay, ON
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Newsletter Editors

Erle Wheatley & Brian Phillips

THE FORTARIAN

May 12, 2021

President Cynthia Judge welcomed everyone to the meeting. Joan Krisko played the National Anthem. Dawn Sebesta gave the toast to the Queen and Canada. President Cynthia then read the Land Acknowledgement.

Therese Lim introduced the guest speaker, Tracy Buckler, President and CEO of St. Joseph's Care Group. Tracy received a diploma in Nursing from Sault College, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Lakehead University, and a Master of Health Studies-Leadership from Athabasca University. She is a Certified Health Care Executive with the Canadian College of Health Leaders. Tracy has been in her present position as President and CEO since 2005, however, she is planning to retire soon. A number of milestones have been reached, during her time as President. St. Joseph's Health Centre, Sister Leila Greco Apartments, a new Sister Margaret Smith Centre, and the East Wing of St. Joseph's Hospital were opened. Hogarth Riverview Manor was expanded and the Centre for Applied Research was launched.



Tracy provided an overview of the programs and services offered by St. Joseph's Care Group. The organization has been serving the community since 1884. Services are offered at multiple sites and aim to fill gaps and unmet needs in the city. St. Joseph's provides addiction and mental health services, long-term care, seniors' housing and support, as well as inpatient and outpatient rehabilitative care. There are over 100,000 outpatient appointments, annually.

St. Joseph's has a commitment to Indigenous peoples. Paul Francis is the Director of Indigenous Relations. There is a traditional healing program that is integrated at all sites, an Indigenous health team, an Indigenous Health Education Committee, and an Elders' Advisory Council.

The slide features a title at the top, a book cover on the left, a bulleted list of commitments in the center, and a logo on the right. At the bottom, there is a small yellow speech bubble and the name 'N'DOO'OWE BENESI'.

Our Commitment to Indigenous Peoples

Widosem Dabasendowin: Walking With Humility
A Book on Indigenous Health and Healing
with Indigenous Peoples 2018 - 2020

Reporting on 'First Steps'

- Director of Indigenous Relations
- Traditional Healing Program Integrated in Care at All Sites
- Indigenous Health Team
- Indigenous Health Education Committee
- Elder's Advisory Council

N'DOO'OWE BENESI

From Cindy Levanto-Kawahara to... much better :)

Growing careers is a priority for St. Joseph's Care Group. The shortage of health human resources is growing. The organization aims to provide a positive experience for students, as there are currently over 900 placements annually. Immigration is also helping to provide more staff through the Northern Ontario Local Immigration Partnership.

COVID-19 presented a challenge to St. Joseph's with the situation changing rapidly over a short period of time. The first concern was to keep clients and staff safe. This was achieved through screening, the use of personal protective equipment, and infection protection and control. St. Joseph's was very successful in dealing with COVID-19. The organization also set up an isolation shelter that has

served over 1,300 people to date. This is for people who are not able “to stay at home,” or who have no home. The REDCap screening tool that was developed by St. Joseph’s, has collected nearly 2 million COVID screens across Ontario. President Cynthia thanked Tracy for her presentation.

Bob Hookham gave the Allocations report. The decision was made on the final dispersal of the remaining funds from the 2019-2020 draw. Dave Knutson gave the House Lottery report. The frequency of the draws will be changing in June when the prize amount goes to \$5,000. David is reviewing lottery expenses at this time and they appear to be lower than in the past.

Bob also announced that the cleanup that was to occur at the Wilderness Discovery Centre has been cancelled because of the extension of lockdown restrictions.

Cindy Levanto-Kawahara had us laughing with Lighter Side.

Gail Brescia, Executive Director of the St. Joseph’s Care Group Foundation, thanked the club for their support during this past year. Fort William Rotary first donated to the Foundation in 1994. Since that time, the club has given over \$100,000 to the organization.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

May 26: Progress report on club Visioning. President-Elect Dawn Sebesta outlines her Rotary year.

Editor Erle

Scribe Bev



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Scribe Bev

