



# The Fortarian

Nov 25th, 2020  
Rotary Club of Thunder Bay (Fort William)

## 2019/2020 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

**THE FORTARIAN**  
**November 25, 2020**

President Cynthia Judge welcomed everyone to the meeting. Robert Moore provided the National Anthem on his cell phone.

Since there was quorum, the annual general meeting that had been scheduled for this evening was held. All of the items on the agenda were addressed and accepted. **A copy of the Agenda is attached.**

President Cynthia then had the pleasure of inducting Diane Silen as an Honorary Rotarian. Joan Krisko talked about all of the assistance that Diane has provided toward the House Lottery ticket sales.

Mandi O'Connor introduced the three guest speakers for evening. They were Greg Chomut, a teacher at Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School; A. J. Haapa, Special Projects Coordinator for Northern Nishnawbe Education Council; and Sean Spenrath, First Nations Student Success Program Coordinator at DFC High school. They are also the three founders of the Wake the Giant project. The aim of this project is to promote inclusivity and cross-cultural understanding of Indigenous People.

Indigenous youth must leave their communities to attend secondary school in Thunder Bay. Many of the young people have never been to a large centre. Life in the city can be overwhelming and the young people can face harassment and other negative experiences. The Wake the Giant project assists the young people in transitioning into life in Thunder Bay by introducing them to the community. The goal of the education component is to make Thunder Bay a more welcoming community.

Local businesses can participate in the project by displaying a decal that identifies the business as an inclusive space for Indigenous youth. These businesses have received a Cultural Awareness Guide that educates and has resources for staff, customers and the community. Three hundred businesses have joined the project.

In September, the new students participate in a series of events to welcome them to Thunder Bay. They take part in the "Amazing Race" which orients the students to the city, making use of public transit. Students from other schools also take part in these events so they can learn about the experiences of Indigenous youth and develop new relationships. Student in Grades 7 and 8 from the northern communities

also participate. The students then take part in a series of workshops put on by businesses, individuals, and organizations in the community. The workshops are on a variety of topics such as music, cooking, and art. The students then participate in the Wake the Giant Music Festival. The festival features Indigenous and non-indigenous musicians.

The Wake the Giant project also sells T-shirts designed by Ungali Clothing Co. Proceeds from the sales support the project. All of the students are given a t-shirt.

The speakers donated seven copies of the multiple-award winning national best-seller, “Seven Fallen Feathers: Racism, Death and Hard Truths in a Northern City,” by Tanya Talaga to the club. President Cynthia thanked the presenters for the gift and for their informative presentation.

On November 14, Club member Gloria Bagley passed away. We extend our sympathy to her spouse, John Brodack. The club has given a donation to the Dew Drop Inn in Gloria’s memory.

Irene Sottile did Lighter Side and had us chuckling with her COVID –themed jokes.

### **Announcements**

Ten club members donated a total of \$250 toward the Foundation Challenge held in November. The club will match this donation so that \$500 will be given to the RI Foundation.

In late December or early January, a survey will be sent out. This will help the club to formulate the basis of the Visioning program that will take place at the January 27 meeting. The results of this visioning will form the basis of the 5-Year Strategic Plan.

Dec. 7: Shelter House meal

Dec 9: Club meeting on Zoom. It will be a winter holiday quiz.

5:30 p.m.: Socializing

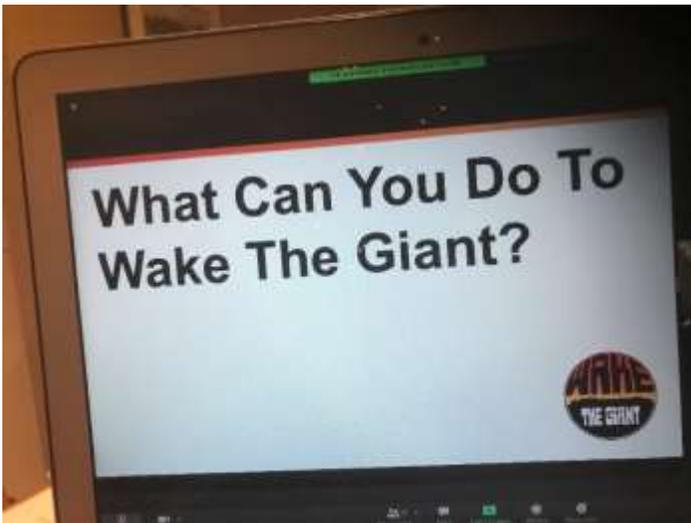
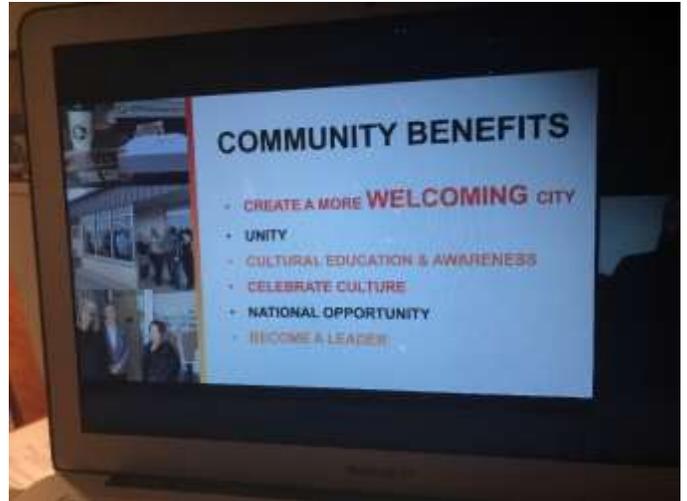
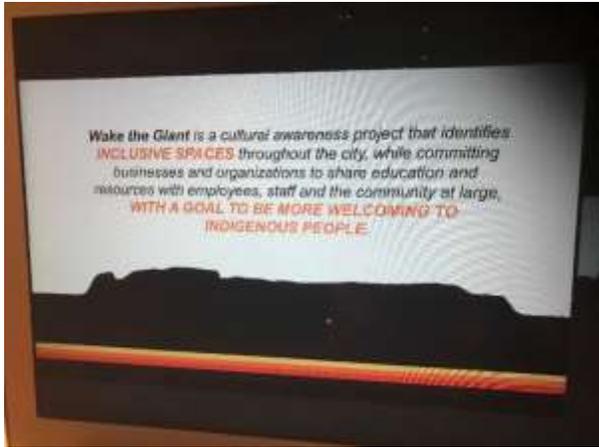
6:00 p.m.: Meeting

Dec. 13: Virtual Carol Sing (in partnership with Port Arthur Rotary)

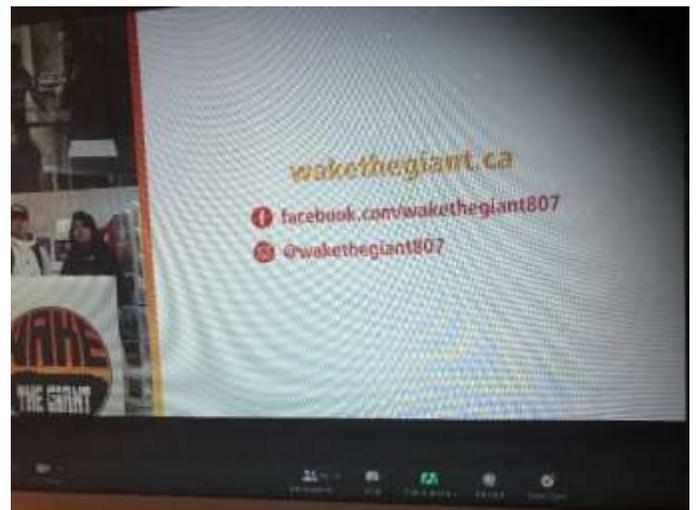
Dec. 14: RFDA work night

Dec. 16: Joint Canada Club Adult Christmas Party on Zoom (host Lakehead Rotary Club.) Volker Kromm and Sandy Krasowski will be cooking traditional eastern European fare.

Dec. 21: Christmas dinner at Shelter House.



**wake the giant**





**Editor Erle**

**Scribe Bev**



## Rotary Club of Thunder Bay (Fort William) Annual General Meeting

November 25, 2020  
6:00 PM  
Chicago Joe's & Zoom

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Minutes of the 2019 AGM
3. Election of Directors for 2021/2022

President	Dawn Sebesta
President-Elect	Fhara Pottinger
Past President	Cynthia Judge
Director 1	Mary Ann Breton
Director 2	Bev Knutson
Director 3	Irene Sottile
Director 4	<b>Stephen Margarit</b>
Director 5	<b>Robert Moore</b>
Director 6	<b>Sante Sottile</b>
4. Consideration of the Financial Statements
  - a. Club Treasurer's Report - Erle Wheatley/Sante Sottile
  - b. House Lottery Report - Dave Knutson
5. Waiving Appointment of an Auditor
6. Other Business
  - a. Decisions made by the Board of Directors
7. Adjournment