

The Fortarian October 28th, 2020

Rotary Club of Thunder Bay (Fort William)

2020/2021 Board of Directors

President:Cynthia JudgeInterim Secretary:Stephen MargaritAssistant Secretary:Irene SottileTreasurerSante SottilePresident Elect:Dawn SebestaPast President:Stephen MargaritMeets:3rd Tuesday of each month,RBC Royal Bank, Board Room1159 Alloy Drive , 6.30pm

Website <u>www.fwrotary.ca</u>

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.

Semi-monthly Zoom Meetings Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday

Rotary House Lottery Committee

Chair: Dave Knutson Meets: 1st Tuesday of each month, Weiler Maloney Nelson, 12 noon.

Mailing Address

PO Box 10061 Thunder Bay, ON Canada P7B 6T6

Newsletter Editors

Erle Wheatley & Brian Phillips

Meeting of October 28th, 2020

President Cynthia Judge welcomed everyone to the meeting. About 10 Rotarians attended in-person at the Victoria Inn while about 10 joined the meeting with Zoom.

Joan Krisko O Canada on the piano (via Zoom). Caesar Ogbebor gave a toast to the Queen.

President Cynthia announced that Fhara Pottinger had agreed to become President-Elect-Elect, following Dawn Sebesta who is President-Elect. Fhara's term as President will be July 2022 to June 2023. Dawn's term as President will be July 2021 to June 2022.

President Cynthia announced that there would be no Annual General Meeting this evening since nominations and voting need to take place for Directors, and we are awaiting the final results from the House Lottery. The AGM will now take place on November 25.



Mary Ann Breton introduced the guest speaker: Jennifer McGillivray, Advancement Officer at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM). Jennifer joined the meeting via Zoom.

Jennifer was born in Elliot Lake and studied theatre arts at York University. She has held leadership roles at Opera Hamilton, Festival of the Sound (Parry Sound) and the Sudbury Symphony Orchestra. Jennifer has also been a teacher and mentor, and is currently the President of the Rotary Club of Sudbury.

Jennifer talked about her current role in 'friendraising' activities for NOSM, which has campuses in Thunder Bay and Sudbury. The goal is to attract and educate doctors who are from the north, or want to live and work in Northern Ontario. She noted that 92 percent of NOSM MD students are from Northern Ontario. She also was proud of the fact that of 714 MD graduates, 475 have been female.

Each year, about 2,000 applications are received but the Ontario government has a limit on the number of seats, currently 64. The NOSM Community area covers about 90 percent of Ontario's land mass, which contains almost 800,000 people. There has historically been a shortage of healthcare professionals in the north, along with higher rates of suicide, chronic diseases, and obesity. NOSM is here to address those issues and others.

NOSM has a Physician Workforce Strategy with the goal of solving physician shortages in rural, remote, and indigenous communities, and helping to support the creation of regional clinical networks of care. The 'NOSM Challenge' will be launched on November 3. This will be an email that will contain a quiz about Northern Ontario, the NOSM and Northern Ontario health care. Winners can be eligible to have \$10,000 donated to their local hospital.

President Cynthia thanked Jennifer for her presentation.

President Cynthia had several announcements and updates:

At the September Board meeting, the following items were agreed to:



•Our club will join the other two Rotary clubs in signing onto the Anti-Racism & Inclusion Accord, an initiative of the City of Thunder Bay

Dave Murray will be made an Honorary Member
We will support Rotaract with \$250 toward their mask initiative, where they are providing COVID-19 masks to foreign students

- We will donate \$1,000 USD to a project in Bolivia for a new clinic
- The club provided \$500 to the Rotary Foundation in support of World Polio Day

President Cynthia thanked members for collectively raising \$1,284 that was sent to the Foundation for World Polio Day. She noted that for the first three weeks of November, for the first \$25 raised by a member for the Foundation, the club will match \$25. Mandi O'Connor provided Hallowe'en themed jokes for The Lighter Side.

A question was asked about honorary membership. It was thought that Rotary International had instituted a rule whereby members over 80 years old no longer were required to pay dues, and became lifetime members at that point. The Board will look into this and clarify for future consideration.

President Cynthia adjourned the meeting.

