



The Fortarian

Sept 23rd, 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

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 Sept 23, 2020

President Cynthia Judge welcomed everyone to the meeting. About 10 Rotarians attended in-person at the Victoria Inn while about 12 joined the meeting with Zoom. There was one visiting Rotarian, Dan Brown, Assistant District Governor, from the Nipigon Rotary Club.

Joan Krisko played The Star-Spangled Banner and O Canada on the piano. Dawn Sebesta gave a toast to the office of the President of the United States. Mary Ann Breton gave a toast to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada.

The guest speaker, who joined by Zoom, was Robert (Bob) McLean, District Governor.



Bob McLean is from the Central Lakes Rotary Club in Minnesota, where he held two terms as President, served on many committees and is proud of his 19 years of perfect attendance.

Bob spent an hour earlier with the FWRotary Board and said that he was humbled to see a club that was so active, creating tremendous impacts on the community. Bob said that he can't think of a time when Rotary is more relevant than the present, with so many challenges and opportunities. He talked about ways to expand Rotary membership through different approaches. Not everyone can attend dinner meetings, or breakfast meetings, for example. He encouraged our club to hold a Visioning meeting to discuss future directions and strategies, and to be creative about exploring new ideas and new ways to attract members. He talked about making membership meaningful and memorable ("M+M"), and that this should be the primary role of the club president. One of Bob's favourite quotes is: "Individually we can do little; together we can move mountains."

Bob asked a series of questions to a number of Rotarians in attendance, such as Why did you join Rotary? Why have you stayed? A common response was "I was invited." He encouraged us to remember that and to invite others to join. Bob noted that Rotary is in 220 countries with 1.2 million 'peace builders' in 35,000 clubs.

Bob outlined the different Mission and Vision Statements of Rotary International and the Rotary Foundation.

Rotary International Mission:

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

Rotary International Vision Statement:

We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

Rotary Foundation Mission:

To enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty

Bob encouraged us to think about four strategic priorities:

- Increase our impact
- Expand our reach
- Enhance participant engagement
- Increase our ability to adapt

Bob spoke about World Polio Day which is on October 24th as a way to raise awareness in the community.

Bob asked those in attendance to come up with Rotary's five core values:

- Fellowship
- Integrity
- Service
- Leadership
- Diversity

Bob encouraged us to begin or close our meetings with the Four-Way Test, as a constant reminder of its principles. He noted that there will be a District 5580 Conference in Bemidji, April 29 – May 1. The theme will be “Legendary Service”.

He concluded by saying we have a great club and he wished us an outstanding year.

President Cynthia thanked Bob for his presentation.

President Cynthia had several announcements and updates:

- an email will be coming out regarding potential candidates for Governor of District 5580
- the Canada Club decided there will be no Santa Claus parade this year due to COVID-19
- the Four-Way Test Essay Competition will go ahead
- the Peace Day Ceremony took place via Zoom on September 14
- an Ad-Hoc Committee has been established to look at ways of memorializing our members
- there will be no fines or 50/50 draws until further notice

- another survey will be coming out to all members
- we will be donating \$5,000 on top of the District Grant for the Wilderness Discovery Centre
- there are less than 1,000 tickets left on the house lottery

Irene Sotille provided jokes for The Lighter Side.

President Cynthia adjourned the meeting.

Editor – Erle

Scribe – Dave McColl

