



Nov 14th, 2018

The Fortarian

Rotary Club of Thunder Bay, (Fort William)

2018/2019 Board of Directors

President: Sante Sottile
Treasurer: Boris Cham
Secretary: Joan Krisko
President Elect: Stephen Margarit
Past President: Theresa Lim

*Meets: 3rd Tuesday of each month,
SJCG Hogarth Riverview Manor
Boardroom 300 Lillie St North, 6.30pm*

Website www.fwrotary.ca

Directors: Steven Beaucage
Glen Craig
Dave McColl
Dave Knutson
Sharon Badanai
Dawn Sebesta

Allocations Committee Committee

Chair: Peter Stetsko
*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.*

Weekly Dinner Meetings

*Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.
Airlane Hotel and Conference Centre
698 W. Arthur St. Thunder Bay, ON*

Note: For July and August, meetings will be on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday only.

Mailing Address

Thunder Bay, ON
P.O. Box 10061
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Newsletter Editors

Erle Wheatley & Brian Phillips

Meeting of Nov 14th

Karl Wahl was Sergeant-at-Arms for the meeting. There were no visiting Rotarians or guests. Since Joan was absent, Sharon Badanai led the club in the singing of the National Anthem. Craig Sandberg gave the toast to the Queen.

Steven MacDonald introduced our guest speaker, Crystal Pirie, who is the Senior Director for Indigenous Collaboration with the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre. Crystal supports the senior leadership team and Board of Directors by advocating for and engaging with the indigenous communities as well as with the provincial and federal authorities. This is in order to improve health delivery and equity outcomes.



Twenty-six percent of the population of northwestern Ontario is indigenous. Of the 133 First Nation communities in the province, sixty-nine of them are found in northern Ontario. Forty-five of these communities are considered non-isolated or semi-isolated. The other twenty-four communities are considered isolated

or remote. In these remote communities, the population faces numerous barriers. Many of the towns have boil water advisories. The housing is often inadequate and not suited for the environment. There is high unemployment and as a result of this, much poverty. Many of these communities lack the services taken for granted in the southern part of the province. Many people in the population also face language barriers.

As a result of these impediments, there are higher rates of lung disease, diabetes, amputations, cardiovascular disease, addictions, and suicide among those living in these communities compared to the rest of the province.

The colonial suppression of indigenous culture has also inflicted much damage. The Indian Act defined who an indigenous person was, where the person could live, where they could work, as well as many other restrictions on indigenous culture. At the Residential Schools, students faced sexual, mental, spiritual, and cultural abuse. At the Indian Hospitals, unauthorized sterilization and experimentation were performed on

patients while they were hospitalized. The '60s Scoop in which indigenous children were taken or "scooped" from their homes and placed in foster care in order to be adopted into "good" homes also had a lasting effect as many of the children were taken without their parents' permission. Many of them also did not need to be put into foster care.

The result of all of these barriers and oppression is that indigenous people have lost their customs, languages, freedom of movement, identity, parenting skills, traditional medicine practices, traditional leadership, sovereignty, lands and natural resources.

Many indigenous people, therefore, are afraid of doctors and afraid to go to hospital. Programs that have been inaugurated at TBRHSC in order to ameliorate the indigenous patient experience are interpretive services, links to resources, cultural sensitivity, discharge support, spiritual support such as smudges, sacred bundles, bedside ceremonies, traditional knowledge and practices, and tele-visitation with families. There are also indigenous patient navigation resource people working in the areas of renal, cancer, and emergency care.

The hospital has also entered into partnerships with various service providers. Hospital staff are trained to be culturally aware in working with indigenous patients. Ojibway language classes are given twice a year.

Irene Sottile was Fine Master. She collected Happy Dollars from everyone at the meeting. K.S. Joseph did the Lighter Side. Karl ran the 50/50 draw. Nineteen tickets were sold bringing the pot up to \$108. Steve MacDonald held the winning ticket but he did not pick that lucky lady, the Queen of Hearts.

Announcements

The Rotary Christmas Parade is being held this Saturday, November 17, beginning at 10:30 a.m. FW Rotary is looking after the Auditorium. We will be manning the barricades and giving out hot chocolate after the parade. All those volunteers working the barricades are asked to meet at the auditorium at 8:30 a.m.

The Rotary Adult Christmas Party will be taking place on Thursday, December 13 at the Regional Food Distribution Centre (RFDA), located at 577 Syndicate Avenue South. The cost is \$30 per person. The symposium begins at 5:00 p.m. to be followed by dinner at 5:30 p.m. Party participants will then be working in Santa's Workshop beginning at 6:30 p.m. Please contact Dawn Sebesta if you are interested in attending this party. The last day to sign up is Friday, December 7.

The Family Christmas Party will be taking place on Wednesday, December 19.

For photo's of the parade, go to [Facebook](#).

Ted Osesky

K.S. Joseph delivered the sad news that long-time member, Ted Osesky, had passed away in the morning. He was 93 years old and had been a very devoted Rotarian for 62 years. We wish to extend our condolences to his family. We will miss Ted very much.



His funeral service will be held on Monday, November 19, 2018, at St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church at 11:00 a.m. The visitation will be held on Sunday, November 18, 2018, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the chapel at Sargent & Son Funeral Home, located at 21 Court St. N.

Editor – Erle

Scribe – Bev Knutson

Photo's Irene

