

## **An Introduction to Rotary**

### **What Is Rotary?**

Rotary International is an association of Rotary clubs worldwide. It's made up of more than 35,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas. The members of these autonomous clubs are called Rotarians, and they form a global network of 1.2 million business and professional leaders, all volunteering their time and talents to serve their communities and the world. Individual Rotary clubs, in turn, belong to the global association called Rotary International.

### **Guiding principles**

These principles have been developed over the years to provide Rotarians with a strong, common purpose and direction. They serve as a foundation for our relationships with each other and the action we take in the world.

### **Object of Rotary**

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, encourage and foster:

- **FIRST:** The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- **SECOND:** High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- **THIRD:** The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- **FOURTH:** The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

### **The Four-Way Test**

The Four-Way Test is a nonpartisan and non-sectarian ethical guide for Rotarians to use for their personal and professional relationships. The test has been translated into more than 100 languages, and Rotarians recite it at club meetings:

### **Of the things we think, say or do**

- 1. Is it the TRUTH?**
- 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?**
- 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**
- 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?**

## **Rotarian Code of Conduct**

**As A Rotarian, I will:**

- 1) Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personnel and professional life
- 2) Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
- 3) Use my professional skills through Rotary to mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world
- 4) Avoid behaviour that reflects adversely on Rotary and other Rotarians

## **Avenues of Service**

We channel our commitment to service at home and abroad through five Avenues of Service, which are the foundation of club activity.

- **Club Service** focuses on making clubs strong. A thriving club is anchored by strong relationships and an active membership development plan.
- **Vocational Service** calls on every Rotarian to work with integrity and contribute their expertise to the problems and needs of society.
- **Community Service** encourages every Rotarian to find ways to improve the quality of life for people in their communities and to serve the public interest.
- **International Service** exemplifies our global reach in promoting peace and understanding. We support this service avenue by sponsoring or volunteering on international projects, seeking partners abroad, and more.
- **Youth Service** recognizes the importance of empowering youth and young professionals through leadership development programs such as [Rotaract](#), [Interact](#), [Rotary Youth Leadership Awards](#), and [Rotary Youth Exchange](#).

**Rotary Motto:           Service Above Self**

## **Polio Eradication**

Since 1985 **Rotary** has worked with its partners to reduce the number of cases of polio from 350,000 annually to 29 in 2018, and they remain committed until the disease is eradicated. The partners are the World Health Organization, UNICEF, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and national governments.

## **ROTARY'S AREAS OF FOCUS**

For more than 100 years, Rotarians have joined together from all continents, cultures, and industries to take action in our communities and around the world. With a commitment to achieving lasting change, we work together to empower youth, enhance health, promote peace, and most important, advance the community. While Rotarians can serve in countless ways, Rotary has focused its efforts in six areas, which reflect some of the most critical and widespread humanitarian needs:

- 1) Peace and conflict prevention/resolution
- 2) Disease prevention and treatment
- 3) Water and sanitation
- 4) Maternal and Child Health
- 5) Basic education and literacy
- 6) Economic and community development

## **Rotary Club of Stephenville Community Projects / Support**

- Rotary Music Festival
- Bath unit at BSG Long Term Health Care
- Skate Park
- Sir Thomas Roddick Hospital Foundation
- Stephenville Emergency Food Services
- Bay St George Status of Women Council
- Literacy Council (previously)
- Kindale Library
- Salvation Army Kettle Campaign
- Walk-a-Ways- Blanche Brook Park-The Rotary Place
- Community Youth Network (CYN) - Block the Bus
- Cancer (Local Activities-Terry Fox Run)
- Stephenville Cultural Development Committee -Friendly Invasion
- Stephenville Historical Society- Museum
- Stephenville Theatre Festival
- Rotary Sign- Corner of Carolina Drive and Route 490 (Katarina Roxon Way)
- Rotary Digital Sign (Town Clock) Corner of Main and Queen Streets
- Stephenville Winter Carnival- Senior's Luncheon
- Bay St George Sick Children's Foundation- Radiothon support

## **Member Expectations**

All members of our Club are expected:

- To use their skills and talents to make a difference in the community and across the world.
- To make their best effort to attend meetings regularly.
- To participate in Rotary events, activities, committees, service work and project planning.
- To aspire to club leadership or committee roles.
- To pay dues promptly. (2018-2019 annual dues are \$195 plus \$16 a week for the meal)
- To promote and encourage fellowship and the “Rotary family” concept within our club and with all Rotarians world-wide.
- To be a big-hearted, broad-minded person, a person of energy and action, a Rotarian.

## **Attendance**

- A minimum of 50% attendance at regular meetings is expected.
- Every effort should be made to make up attendance when a regular club meeting is missed. Any missed meeting must be made up within 14 days before or after the regular meeting.
- [Make-ups](#) can be made by participation in club events, committee meetings, attending a meeting at another club, attending an on-line meeting or doing on-line research on Rotary.
- The Executive may grant a member a [leave of absence](#) for a good and sufficient cause.

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