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**Congratulations to the Rotary E-Club of Steinbach, Manitoba, and to Mike Lynes as the first President.** This is the first E-Club in D5550. The last Club to be chartered in our District is the RC of Regina, Oskaya, chartered in July 2009. The detailed information about the new E-Club, including how to join this innovative club will be on the District website shortly.

#### Election & Reporting of Club Officers

This is a reminder to all clubs about the election of the 2018-19 officers. December 31, 2017 is the deadline for election of officers and February 1, 2018 is the deadline for reporting the officers to Rotary International.

#### Protecting Youth Program Participants

Now available in Rotary's learning center is a new online course, "Protecting Youth Program Participants". This course should be taken by all Rotarians working closely with youth, not only youth exchange, but also on Interact and RYLA. Encourage your club members to take the course and strengthen their youth protection knowledge and skills. You will find the course in the "Youth, Students, Scholars" category in Rotary's learning center.

**I wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season!**

**-Peter Neufeldt, District Governor 2017-2018**



#### BUILDING PEACE THROUGH ROTARY: **-One word at a time!**

This month's Word for Building Peace is "TRUST".  
"Trust is vital for healthy connections between human beings, whether it is within a friendship, relationship, family, nation, or our global community. All people want to be around people they can trust".

-Paul K. Chappell,  
The Art of Waging Peace

The Rotary value of **Service Above Self**, has been a key value for Rotarians to build bonds of **trust** around the world. Consider your opportunities to build even greater trust and to make an even bigger difference through Rotary.

-(Inspired by the 21st Century Peace Literacy Foundation)  
<http://www.21cplf.org/>

#### DECEMBER 2017 – DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT MONTH

**"Rotary supports activities and training that reduce the cause and effect of disease - the largest Rotary International project focused on this theme is PolioPlus."**

#### MEET THE D5550 BOARD – Allen Hillsden, District Secretary



Allen was born in Winnipeg, MB and joined Rotary while living in The Pas from 1967 to 1989. He was President of The Pas Rotary Club in 1970-1971. Moved to Regina in 1989 and joined the Regina Eastview Rotary Club and has been their Club Secretary for 21 years. Allen has been our District Secretary for the past 7 years and is a Major Donor.

Allen has been married to Grace for 50 years and they have two children, Michael and Angela and 7 grandchildren.

**CONFERENCE WEBSITE WILL LAUNCH THIS MONTH** and registration opens 15Jan2018 – more info to follow via emails



**BUILDING PEACE THROUGH ROTARY**  
DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2018



**SAVE THE DATE– MAY 24-26, 2018**



On November 14, we took 16 Rotary Exchange students to Churchill. When we arrived, we went to The Duke of Marlborough school. We presented the Principal (along with 20 students) a cheque for \$ 7500.00 from the Rotary Clubs in District 5550. They were very pleased to add this to their funds for their daily meal programs at the school. The groceries have been very expensive considering the fact that Churchill no longer has train service. The battle for repairs to the train tracks is ongoing and it is doubtful that service will be restored before next summer.

We spent two days in Churchill at the Northern Studies Center. We were given a tour of the old rocket range, a discussion on Polar Bears, and a visit to their study lab. They spent a couple of hours in town shopping for souvenirs and then were given a historical tour by the Parks Canada. We saw Polar bears, Arctic Fox, and Ptarmigan. They spent about three hours taking pictures of the bears interacting with the Canadian Eskimo sled dogs. Amazing to see the dogs and bears actually playing and the bears not harming the dogs. In the evening they were treated to two hours of fantastic northern lights.

This was our third year taking the exchange students to Churchill. Thanks to all those that donated, assisted with the trip, and to Calm Air for their consideration in making this trip affordable to the students. *D5550 YE Committee*





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## CONGRATULATIONS 2017 ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE GRADUATES



**Back Row:** Youssef Mouzahem, Winnipeg-Downtown; Cheryl Winger, Brandon; David Thorne, Selkirk, Facilitator Bob Durston, William (Hal) Brownlee, Winnipeg-Fort Garry, Facilitator Signe Holstein; Enver Naidoo, Winnipeg-Downtown  
**Front Row:** Facilitator Joanne Misner, Donna Alexander, Winnipeg-Downtown; Christine Hansen, Kenora; Mandy Kwasnica, Winnipeg-Charleswood, Bagula Namakobwa, Winnipeg-Downtown; Martin Labossiere, Winnipeg-Charleswood.

ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (RLI) was held in Winnipeg over 2 Saturdays – Modules 1 and 2A on October 21<sup>st</sup> and Modules 2B and 3 on November 25<sup>th</sup>. Graduates of RLI have expressed an increased knowledge of Rotary, confidence in their ability to share about Rotary Membership with potential new members, club engagement, interest in fulfilling small to large leadership roles for committees/executive and the sincere pleasure of sharing with other Rotary Clubs in their District. The interactive workshop format and the time to share best practices makes the days memorable and valuable. We hope you'll consider participating in a future RLI session!

## ROTARY DISTRICT 5550 POLIO PLUS CHALLENGE

After discussing a proposal for a Polio Eradication Challenge with me, Brenda has launched the challenge to raise \$75,000 for PolioPlus by the time of our District Conference on May 24/18. She tells me Saskatoon has already pledged \$20,000! What a great start! Let's make this the year that ends polio! I know other Clubs are also planning fund-raising events!  
 - Peter Neufeldt, District Governor 2017-2018



**\$32,263 as of Nov.30th**