

Rotary District 5550 Literacy Report, 2017 – 2018

Manitoba

Rotary Club of Brandon, MB: President Cheryl Wingert reports that this club has again been very active in the field of Literacy.

- Books, with Rotary bookmarks, are supplied to the WestJet bookshelf at Brandon Airport.
- Books are supplied to the Elspeth Reid Centre Youth Book Program.
- Books are also supplied to the Westaway Bay Outreach program of ERFRC, (Elspeth Reid Family Resource Centre).
- Books are provided to the BEEP, (Brandon Energy Efficiency Program), trades trainees who are working on their GED.
- The 82nd Squadron Air Cadets, who are sponsored by the Rotary Club of Brandon, receive books about airplanes and flying.
- Children in the “Caught in the Middle” Provincial program for children whose parents are divorcing also receive donated books.
- Teachers who attend the Rotary Club of Brandon Book Sales are given books at reduced cost, as are Daycares.
- Children who are brought to the Book Sales by Daycare workers receive not just 1, but 2 free books each.
- Evacuees from the Manitoba fires, who were staying in Manitoba hotels, received donated books.
- Books were also supplied to the Rotary Club of Brandon Sunset’s program, “Children of Inmates.”
- This club sent a total of 5 students to RYLA in August, 2017.
- This club sent one student to the Adventures in Agriculture program in Regina in November 2017.
- Internationally, this club donated \$2,500.00 to the Ripple Effect program, (funds designated to the Los Pinos project).
- WIS, (Westman Immigration Services), received encyclopedias, children’s books and “Welcome to Canada.”
- Books were purchased for the Brandon Correctional Centre Inmates at reduced cost.
- BAYAC, (Brandon Aboriginal Youth Activity Centre) received donated books.
- Three boxes of books were given to the Swan River Community for their neighboring aboriginal communities.

- The Outreach Librarian of the Brandon Public Library received donations for her Youth Book Club.
- Donations were made to the Brandon Public Library Book Sale in 2017.
- The Rotary Book Sale is held in Brandon over a 3-day period each Spring and Fall.

This Rotary Club has again earned a Zone 24 Literacy Award. Congratulations!

Rotary Club of Brandon Sunset, MB: President Sheri Connery and Lois Horton report that this club has again been very active in the field of Literacy and Youth programs.

- Books are given to Kindergarten students at inner-city schools in June. The intention is to provide reading material for children who might not have any other books in their homes.
- The club donates books to the ChIRP, (Children of Inmates Reading Program). The books are donated by the Rotary Club of Brandon and the Rotary Club of Brandon Sunset looks after the logistics of giving them to the Brandon Correctional Institution.
- Members act as judges at the Western Manitoba Science Fair – one of the club members is on the board, so club members actively participate in this event each year.
- The club gives two cash awards at the Western Manitoba Science Fair. These are given to students who have projects which represent Rotary's areas of focus; this year the awards went to projects representing Water and Sanitation.
- Scholarships are awarded for Grade 8 students in Brandon. These are presented for Community Service, and the student is required to submit a written application for this cash award.
- The club holds a major fundraiser, and donates some of the proceeds from this event to "Food for Thought", a breakfast and snack program in the schools.
- The club participates in a "Wellness Fair" in April. This is a screening program for pre-school children in Speech and Language Development, Vision, Hearing, Dental and General Development. Books, provided by the club, are given to each child.
- The club sponsors a student to attend the IANE, (Inter-provincial Association for Native Employment), luncheon. Several of the club members attended as well, and one of the club members is on the Board of Directors of this organization.
- One of the club members participates in a reading program at the local library, assisting people who have English as a second language with their reading skills.

- This club sponsored a total of 3 students to attend RYLA in August 2017. A District Youth Grant for this was applied for.
- Internationally, a member of the club lives part of the year in La Cruz, Mexico. One of the most important projects carried out by a group in the town is to hold a summer camp for students who have registered to attend school for the next year. The club members sent school supplies to this group during the past winter.

This club has again earned a Zone 24 Literacy Award. Congratulations!

Rotary Club of Dauphin, MB: President Gabe Mercier reports:

- That this club's main Literacy endeavor is the Book Fair, which occurred twice this Rotary year. The club provided just over 9,500 books at very low cost to the community in its region. The Book Fair was held at the Dauphin Marketplace Mall, and the Mall Management allowed the club to sell books for 2 weeks during the year without a rental cost to the club. The donated books were collected at the Dauphin Regional Library and at the Coop Food Centre and transferred to the Rotary Club. The book sales provided reading material for children, teens and adults.
- Members of this Rotary Club also read to/with children at child care centres and in grade schools at various times during the year.
- This club sponsored a total of 4 students to attend RYLA in August 2017. A District Youth grant was applied for in respect of this program.
- The club is also hosting a long-term Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange student from Italy.

Thank you for all that you are doing for the youth in your community and for Literacy.

Rotary Club of Flin Flon, MB: President Colleen Arnold reports that this Rotary club has been active in the field of Literacy this year.

- This is the Host Club for the Inbound and Outbound Rotary Youth Exchange Program students at Camp Whitney each July.
- This club is involved in the long-term Rotary Youth Exchange Program, currently hosting an Inbound student from Japan.
- The club sponsored a student to attend RYLA in August 2017.
- A financial donation, (\$200.00), was made to Flin Flon Public Library in September, 2017.
- The club provided 9 volunteers, (who worked for a total of 27 hours), to assist Flin Flon Public Library with their fundraiser.

- A financial donation, (\$1,000.00), was made to Friendship House for Literacy in December, 2017.
- Club members participated as judges in the local elementary school Science Fair.
- This club applied for, and has been recommended to receive, \$1,000.00 in Post-Secondary Scholarship Grant Funding.
- This Rotary club contributed \$124.05 to the Ripple Effect program, building and equipping schools in Guatemala; District Governor Peter Neufeldt had decided that all honorariums should be designated to the Ripple Effect.

This club has earned a District Literacy Award this year. Congratulations!

Rotary Club of Gimli, MB: President's report not yet received.

- This club sent a total of 3 students to RYLA in August 2017.
- The club made a donation of \$2,000.00 to the Ripple Effect program, building and equipping schools in Guatemala.
- An application was made for a District Grant of \$1,000.00 for Post-Secondary scholarships.

Thank you for all that you are doing for youth, both in the community and in central America.

Rotary Club of Minnedosa, MB: President Roberta Galbraith reports that this small club continues to support youth and Literacy.

- The club made a contribution of \$100.00 to the Ripple Effect program, building and equipping schools in Guatemala; District Governor Peter Neufeldt had decided that all honorariums should be designated to the Ripple Effect.
- This club is hosting a long-term Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange student from Finland.
- This student has made a formal presentation to the club members about her country and herself.
- "The Rotarian" magazine is left by members in various locations, including waiting rooms, around Minnedosa. The magazine is also placed on the tables when the club hosts the Rotary Club 400 Dinner and Draw.
- A guest speaker, Denise Dewar, was invited to present to the members about her work in delivering a variety of programs including Step 2 family programming in Minnedosa, nearby Rolling River First Nations and the Brandon Correctional Centre. (Step 2 is a parent-child centred program with RHA guidelines and minimal funding available to communities through a small grant application process.)

- Denise was able to select numerous books, for her parent-child programs and First Nation fathers who participate at the Brandon Correctional Centre's parenting programs, prior to the end of the Book Sale.
- The club's major literacy focus is on the Annual Minnedosa Rotary Club Book Sale, under the direction of Rotarian Peggy Mullie, (with assistance from Tony Mullie), a year-round project which included collecting and sorting hundreds of books in preparation for the annual weeklong event in March. The sale offered numerous books for adults, youth and children. A free book was given to each child who accompanied an adult or an adult daycare provider. Some books were selected and donated to a local church, to the Minnedosa Personal Care Home and to inmates at the Brandon Correctional Centre.

This Rotary Club has earned a District Literacy Award. Congratulations!

Rotary Club of Neepawa, MB: President Don Schmall and Secretary Bob Durston report that this Rotary Club continues to be very active in the field of Literacy and youth.

- Club members are involved as readers with the Public Library preschool reading program every Friday from September thru' June, which this year included World Literacy Day, (Friday, September 8), during Rotary's Basic Education and Literacy month.
- A Rotary Scholarship, (\$2,000.00), is awarded to one of the top graduating students to assist in furthering their post-secondary education.
- The club has been involved in the long-term Rotary Youth Exchange program sponsoring an outbound student and hosting an inbound student since 1977 – 41 years! The Neepawa Inner Wheel has been hosting the October Student Orientation and counselor training for 41 years, with the assistance of the Rotary Club.
- Students are invited to club meetings to speak on subjects such as their Youth Exchange experiences, Encounters Canada experiences and other youth topics.
 - A student spoke of their experience in a mission to Thailand.
 - Two students spoke on their group participation in the 4-H Exchange to Amhurst, NS, during the summer of 2017. (Rotary provided some sponsorship funding for the trip.)
 - Two elementary school students spoke about "Turtles in Rotary Park", and encouraged Rotarians to protect the turtles.
- The club continues to support Community Pop-up Libraries with 3 more built and maintained during the current Rotary year.

- The club held their first Rotary Book Sale which was very popular with many requests for more than an annual event. The club provided free book marks with the Rotary Logo and the wording E Be an Organ Donor www.signupforlife.ca Humboldt StrongE in support of the Humboldt Bronco tragedy.
- Rotary sponsorship of the high school Peer Helper Group continues to be a valuable educational opportunity for the high school and beyond.
- Rotary sponsors the Grade 7 piano class of the Neepawa Fine Arts Festival with a medallion and scholarship for future lessons.
- The club is again partnering with the high school H.O.P.E. group of students in doing good in the community, (town-wide door-to-door food canvass for local food bank), as well as assisting at Samaritan House to learn about homelessness. The students also use funds raised for International Literacy Work, to assist other children.
- This year a retired teacher and a high school teacher have joined the Rotary club and are very active.
- The local media are at all the club's speaker meetings, (three times a month), to videotape for TV programming on the local access channel NACTV, which is re-broadcast on the Internet and BELL MTS cable. The local newspaper is now a corporate member, resulting in many news stories and pictures of the members and speakers in action.
- Internationally, a donation of \$320.00 was made to the Ripple Effect program, designated for the Xenacoj project. District Governor Peter Neufeldt had decided that all honorariums should be designated to the Ripple Effect.

This Rotary Club has again earned a Zone 24 Literacy Award. Congratulations!

Rotary Club of Portage La Prairie, MB. *** No written report received.

- This club made a financial donation of \$10,000.00 to the Ripple Effect Program, for the Xenacoj project.
- The club is hosting a long-term Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange student from Slovakia.
- The club sponsored 5 students to attend RYLA in August 2017.

Thank you for all that you are doing for youth in your community and internationally.

Rotary Club of Selkirk, MB: President Lee Hanson reports that this club continues to be very active in the field of Literacy and with youth programs.

- The club participated in the Selkirk Adult Literacy Program Working Board with two Rotarian representatives, meeting 4 times a year to receive reports, conduct advocacy on behalf of the program, and to help inform the community and Rotarians about literacy issues.
- The club supported the IJAS, (Interlake Juried Art Show), with a direct donation. The show encourages participation of adults and youth, and engages jurors to provide written feedback on each work submitted, including the youth category. The club's support allows the IJAS to subsidize the cost of student entries.
- The club sponsored a student to attend Adventures in Technology, held in Saskatoon. This program is designed to promote understanding, participation, and leadership in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.
- The club supported the first year of Holiday Alley Festival of Light, Sound, Art and Creativity through Rotarian volunteers, Rotarian businesses Lighting Up Manitoba, and direct donation. The Festival included historical, artistic, literacy, and musical experiences for adults, youth and children.
- The club supported Homes for the Holidays with a direct financial donation and with volunteering Rotarians. This is a tourism event, with a goal of supporting programs, including financial literacy, at the regional women's shelter. The Rotary club also hosted an on-site program that included a tour of the newly-built women's shelter.
- September was recognized as Rotary's Basic Education and Literacy month, through Rotarian volunteers in family, adult and children's program activities.
- A Rotary Book Sale, which spanned two weeks, was held. This raised funds for community literacy projects as well as other Rotary projects.
- A Literacy guest speaker was Jordan Bighorn, from Pathways to Education, a community-based and community-funded program supporting high school completion for students at risk.
- The club sponsored 2 students to attend RYLA in August 2017. Application for a District Youth Grant was made for this program.
- A scholarship, (\$1,000.00), was provided at the local high school for a deserving graduate to enable them to take post-secondary education, or training.
- Internationally, the club made financial donations totaling \$2,000.00 to the Ripple Effect program, building and equipping schools in Guatemala.
- A financial donation was made to the Selkirk Adult Literacy Program to fund a computer literacy program for adults who had not graduated from high school.

- A student was sponsored to attend Emerging Issues in Human Rights University, Rotary Adventures in Global Citizenship, and another student was sponsored to attend Rotary Adventures in Human Rights, both designed in cooperation with Rotary World Peace Partners.

This Rotary club has again earned a Zone 24 Literacy Award. Congratulations!

Rotary Club of South Eastman, MB: *** No written report received.

- A donation of \$250.00 was made to the Ripple Effect Program, building and equipping schools in Guatemala; District Governor Peter Neufeldt had decided that all honorariums would be designated to the Ripple Effect program.
- This club continues to support the very successful DARE program which brings the RCMP, the business community and the school division together in support of teaching students about the dangers of drugs.

Rotary Club of Swan Valley, MB: President Sharon Alford reports that this small club does not have Literacy or youth programs at this time.

Rotary Club of The Pas, MB: *** No written report received, but I know that this club continues to be active with youth programming and with Literacy.

- A donation of \$651.75 was made to the Ripple Effect Program, building and equipping schools in Guatemala; District Governor Peter Neufeldt had decided that all honorariums would be designated to the Ripple Effect program.
- This club is currently hosting a long-term Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange student from Belgium.
- Application has been made for a District Grant of \$1,000.00 to help fund Post-Secondary Scholarships.
- Past-District Governor Rick Hubbs wrote to every Rotary Club and individual Rotarian in District 5550, soliciting money for a financial donation to be made to the Churchill school, in order to provide nutritious food for the children. This had become unaffordable, as all fresh supplies have to be flown in. When the Rotary Youth Exchange students went on their trip to Churchill they took with them a cheque for more than \$7,000.00, which they presented to the school principal.

Thank you for all that your Rotary club is doing for youth.

Rotary Club of Thompson, MB: *** No written report received.

- This club is involved with the long-term Rotary Youth Exchange program, currently hosting a student from Brazil.

Rotary Club of Winnipeg, MB: *** No written report received.

- This club made a financial donation of \$1,500.00 to the Ripple Effect program, (designated to the San Pedro project), building and equipping schools in Guatemala.
- The club sponsored 2 students to attend RYLA in August 2017.

Rotary Club of Winnipeg – Assiniboine, MB: *** No written report received.

- This club sponsored a total of 5 students to attend RYLA in August 2017.

Rotary Club of Winnipeg – Charleswood, MB: President Bob Antymniuk reports that this club continues to have active Literacy and youth programs.

- The club recognized World Literacy Day, (September 8), and Family Literacy Day, (January 27).
- Financial support, (\$1,000.00) was provided to “Urban Stable”, which is a youth program for students with learning issues.
- Financial support, (\$1,000.00), was provided to Westgrove Evening Adult Education program.
- Financial support, (\$4,500.00) was provided to Westgrove Elementary School Summer Literacy program.
- Three Bursaries, (\$1,000.00 each), were donated to high schools in Charleswood.
- The club provided financial support to the Immigration and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba, (IRCOM), (\$4,000.00) for Literacy Program support for elementary school-age children.
- This club sponsored 4 students to attend RYLA in August 2017.
- Internationally, \$250.00 has been donated to the Ripple Effect program, building and equipping schools in Guatemala. \$1,000.00 has been budgeted for the current Rotary year.

Bob had sent an earlier, very interesting summary of the students’ activities at Westgrove Elementary School, which includes growing their own vegetables!

This Rotary club has earned a District Literacy Award this year. Congratulations.

Winnipeg East AM, MB: *** No written report received.

- This club sponsored a student to attend RYLA in August 2017.
- A donation of \$200.00 was made to the Ripple Effect program building and equipping schools in Guatemala. District Governor Peter Neufeldt had decided that all honorariums should be designated to the Ripple Effect.

Winnipeg – Fort Garry, MB: *** No written report received.

- This club sponsored 3 students to attend RYLA in August 2017.
- The club continues to award Scholarships for post-secondary education. A District Grant Application was made for this.

Winnipeg – St. Boniface/St. Vital, MB: *** No written report received although this club is usually very active in the field of Literacy and youth activities.

- This club sponsored 4 students to attend RYLA in August 2017.
- The club continues to award Scholarships for Post-Secondary education. A District Grant of \$1,000.00 has been obtained for this initiative.

Winnipeg – Transcona, MB: *** No written report received.

- This club sponsored 3 students to attend RYLA in August 2017.

Winnipeg West, MB: *** No written report received.

- A donation of \$100.00 was made to the Ripple Effect program, building and equipping schools in Guatemala. District Governor Peter Neufeldt had decided that all honorariums should be designated to the Ripple Effect program.

Summary of Literacy Programs and Youth Projects – Manitoba

There are 21 physical Rotary Clubs in Manitoba and one E-club, all in District 5550

Ten (10), 47.6%, of the 21 Rotary Clubs submitted a written report.

Twenty, (20), 95.2%, have active literacy and youth programs.

Four, (4), clubs earned a Zone 24 Literacy Award

Three, (3), clubs earned a District Literacy Award.

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