## District 7010 Peace Committee

Arlette Utton Rotary Club of Barrie District 7010 Peace Committee Chair 2022-2025



## District 7010 Peace Committee

## Why now?

Ukraine Afghanistan Myanmar China United States



Ottawa Protest Residential Schools Religious Intolerance and Terrorist Acts Gender Discrimination

honak

VURION



## Are the Wheels Falling Off?

## What Can We Do??

### **District 7010– Peace Committee**

The purpose of the Peace Committee is to build awareness of peace programs to fulfill Rotary's mission to empower and enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace.

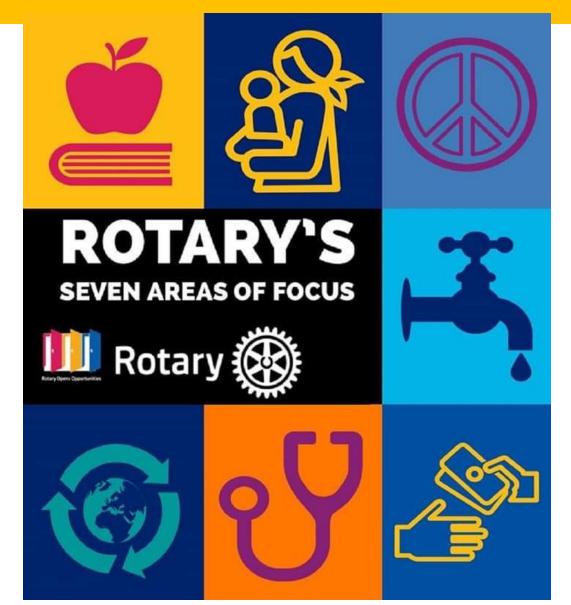
We believe that positive peace embodies the attitudes, structures and institutes that support and sustain a peaceful society.

Through these actions we address the underlying causes of conflict which include:

poverty, discrimination, ethnic tension, lack of access to education, unequal distribution of resources



# **Building Peace**



Our members take action by:

- carrying out service projects,
- supporting peace fellowships and scholarships,
- promoting peace building initiatives.

Working together on service projects connects people and creates the potential of opportunities to build community and a sense of belonging and peace.



#### What is Peace?

Peace is a concept of societal friendship and harmony in the absence of hostility and violence. In a social sense, peace is commonly used to mean a lack of conflict (such as war) and freedom from fear of violence between individuals or groups.

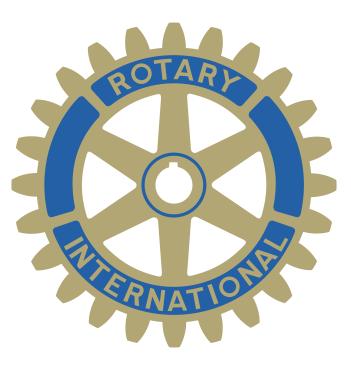
Peace is a daily, a weekly, a monthly process, gradually changing opinions, slowly eroding old barriers, quietly building new structures.

~ John F. Kennedy



## Rotary International Mission Statement

The mission of Rotary International is to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance **world understanding, goodwill, and peace** through its fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.







District & Global Grants Area of Focus Peace PolioPlus Rotary Action Group Peacebuilding Districts Peacebuilding Clubs Rotary Peace Centres Peace Online Course Peace Facilitation Guides United Nations & Rotary Peace Partners

- Institute for Economics & Peace
- Mediators Beyond Borders



## Rotary & Peace



. 1914 Houston RI Convention

Delegates at the 5<sup>th</sup> RI Convention resolved that Rotary should "lend its influence to the maintenance of peace among the nations of the world" 1921 Edinburgh

"To aid in the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional men united in the ideal of service". – Fourth Object of Rotary 1940 Havana

Resolution calling for "freedom, justice, truth, sanctity of the pledged word and respect for human rights". Led to United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights How to promote cross-cultural understanding to avoid future conflicts?

1942

London

Led to formation of **UNESCO** – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. I 1945 San Francisco United Nations

49 Delegates at the charter signing were Rotarians! Some of original SG were Rotarians. Rotary was one of only two NGOs initially accredited to the UN Economic and Social Committee RI/UN Ambassadors Rotary Day at the UN

Ratification Universal Declaration of Human Rights

1958

Paris



## **Continuing our relationship**

### **PolioPlus**



### Since 1985 – Building Peace

## **Rotary Peace Centers**



#### ROTARY PEACE CENTRE MIDDLE EAST NORTH AFRICA - MENA



- Trustees of the OFW Foundation are PDG Marty & Frank Helman
- Otto Walter was a Jewish lawyer displaced by WWII
- Established a law firm in USA & Europe
- Donating the bulk of the Foundation to establish a Peace Centre \$15.5 million
- Fully funded
- To be operational by July 2026

#### **Due to Rotary's Reputation!**

## **Rotary Peace Centers - 2002**



The Rotary Peace Centers program has a **vision of sustainable peace** encompassing a network of peacebuilders and community leaders dedicated to preventing and resolving conflicts around the globe.



### Rotary and the Institute for Economics & Peace:

A Strategic Partnership for Positive Peace

## **Negative Peace**



## **Positive Peace**

Humanity is nearing a tipping point and facing challenges unparalleled in its short history.

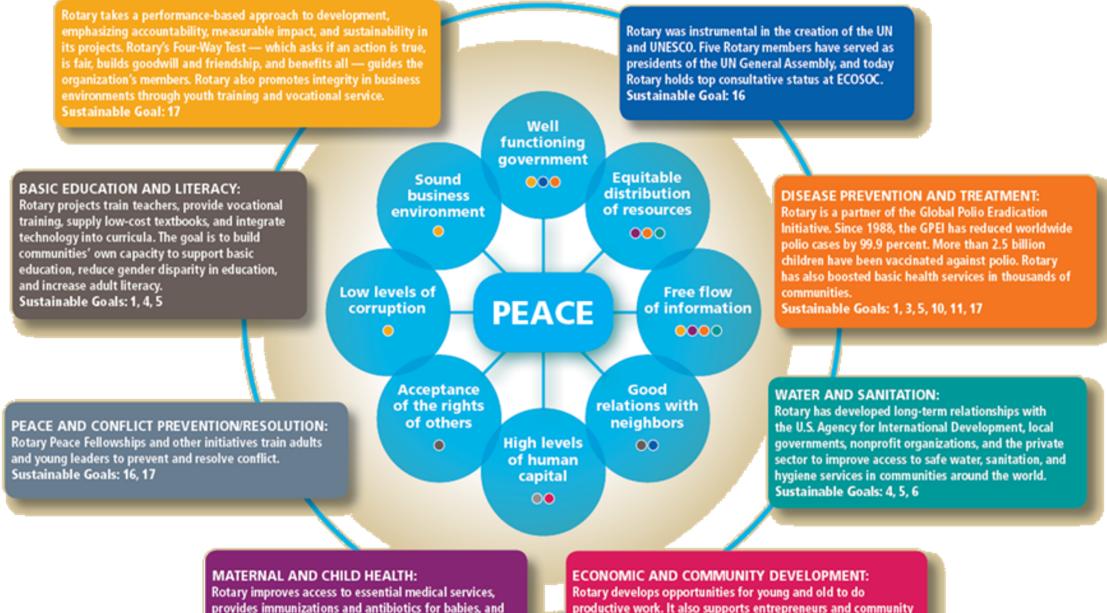
Global in nature, such as climate change, ever decreasing biodiversity, depletion of the earth's freshwater, and overpopulation.

Such global challenges call for global solutions and require cooperation on a scale unprecedented in human history. Peace is the prerequisite for the survival of humanity in the 21st century.

Without peace, it will not be possible to achieve the levels of trust, cooperation and inclusiveness necessary to solve these challenges, let alone empower international institutions and organisations necessary to address them.

In the past, peace may have been the domain of the altruistic; but in the current interconnected and highly mobile global society it is clearly in everyone's self-interest.





supports trained health care providers. Sustainable Goals: 3, 5, 10

#### Rotary develops opportunities for young and old to do productive work. It also supports entrepreneurs and community leaders, particularly women, in impoverished areas. Sustainable Goals: 1, 8, 9, 10, 11

#### **District Goals - Create a District Peace Committee**

- Provide resources and liase with Club Peace Builder Members
- Current Goal 10 Peace Builder Clubs

#### How to Become A Peacebuilder Club

Choosing the designation of "Peacebuilder Club" begins with a declaration of commitment to promoting Rotary's focus on Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution.

#### **Peace Builder Clubs' Commitments**

-Designate at least two members (one to serve as Chair) who will coordinate the club's peace-related activities and programs.

- This person will serve as club's contact person for Peace related communications

- -Ensure that at least one Club program/education is Peace-focused
- -Involve Youth in Peace-focused activities
- -Promote Rotary Peace Centre and Scholarships

-Promote with your community your Club's commitment to Peace,

Goodwill and Understanding (Peace Poles)



#### **Rotary Peace Committees**

The purpose of the Peace Committee is to build awareness of peace programs to fulfill Rotary's mission to empower and enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace.

Peace is part of the fabric of Rotary. We are dedicated to causes that build international relationships, improve lives and move toward a more equitable, peaceful world. Now more than ever our world needs ambassadors for peace. Peace committees help to frame our efforts and energies and highlight our commitment to peace,

- not only to ourselves but to the communities we serve. S.D.

In today's world there seems to be too much volatility whether it's race related, religion related or caused by some crazy person who wants to take over the world. My parents served in WW2 and my grandfather died in Belgium in the First World War. I've never served in the way they have but being somehow involved in this capacity is the least I can do. Everyone needs to do something! K.M. I was a child during the Second World War and a teenager during the Hungarian Revolution. I had seen dead people and knew people, some relatives, who got killed. My wife and I also worked in the Ukraine and are anxious to know what is happening to members of the family whose meal, home and activities we shared. Wars are terrible. S.H.

## What is your reason?

### From Bryn Styles:

Peace will not happen in the abstract. I firmly believe for peace to happen, it has to start in our communities. Rotarians and Rotary clubs are in a unique position. They are engaged in their communities on many levels. Rotarians may not know it, but they are already peacebuilders. Every project we do in our communities helps to promote peace. By following the 4 Way Test, we promote a peaceful solution.

But with the polarization that is occurring in our communities, in our country and worldwide, we need to be more aggressive and organized in being peacebuilders. Rotary clubs need to have a focused direction on how they can work within their communities and externally in not only promoting peace but providing tools so peaceful solutions can be found.

The resources are available to do this.

We just need the direction to make it happen. B.S.



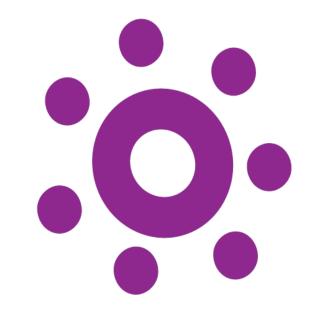
## Margaret Meade

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead







All we are saying.....



# **IMAGINE** ROTARY