



Rotary Foundation Gets a Boost When Canadian Senior Leaders “Take the BEL Rotary Plunge”

What do Rotary International President Nominee Jennifer Jones, Director Valarie Wafer, Trustee Dean Rohrs and Past Director and Aide to the President 2021 – 22 Bryn Styles have in common? They all provide inspirational leadership across the globe to Rotary International and they are “taking the BEL Rotary plunge” in support of the Rotary Foundation.

The mission of the Rotary Foundation is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace. This is done through Rotary programs and projects that impact health, education and the alleviation of poverty at home and around the world. These leaders know that for as little as 60 cents, a child can be protected from polio, \$50 can provide clean water and help fight waterborne illness and \$500 can launch an anti-bullying campaign and create a safe environment for children. They know that Rotary can change lives and better our communities and the Rotary Foundation can help make this happen. This year alone, foundation dollars have supported the BEL Rotary Adopt a Family Christmas program, the club’s donations to the local foodbanks and the purchase of hand sanitizer and PPE for front line workers.

When asked to participate in the first ever virtual Polar Plunge our leaders didn’t hesitate. In the words of Past Director and Aide to the 2021 – 22 President Bryn, *“These are very trying times for all service organizations. The work we do, both locally and internationally, carries on regardless of the pandemic. Service organizations need the support of their communities now more than ever. Fundraisers such as the “Polar Plunge” help to raise funds for local projects, and also help to support the Rotary Foundation in the work that is done on a local and global scale. During COVID, we cannot forget those countries that require so much (and the very things we take for granted) - clean water, sanitation, literacy, maternal & child health. The BEL Rotary Club, through the projects it supports locally and internationally, is making a difference in the world. The Bridgenorth, Ennismore & Lakefield community can be a major part of these projects! I am happy to help out”.*

These exceptional Rotarians hail from as close as Barrie ON and as far away as Surrey B.C. They are coming together virtually to “Freeze for a Reason” and enhance Rotary’s impact through fundraising for the foundation.

As Rotarians, we are very proud of this all-Canadian team. They have all served at the Rotary International board table and helped to make decisions that impact Rotary (and 1.2 million Rotarians) the world over. Rotary International President Nominee Jennifer Jones will be the first woman to serve as Rotary International President and Trustee Dean Rohrs is one of the few women

to serve as Rotary International Vice President. Director Valarie Wafer and Past Director Bryn Styles are both from our local Rotary District 7010 and continue to make the tough decisions that make our organization stronger.

The Rotary International Theme this year is “Rotary Opens Opportunities”. Rotary Clubs have adapted to meet the evolving needs of their communities as the pandemic has continued. The BEL Club is no exception and will continue to work together to bring hope and support to those it serves.