



## **CIRCLE Update – Q4 April 2017**

Hello everyone, it's hard to believe that we're starting the last quarter for the 2016-17 Rotary year. To quote an old cliché, "time flies"! Here is an update on CIRCLE activities and indigenous happenings in and around District 7080.

### **CIRCLE Information Evening May 16<sup>th</sup> at the Rotary Glen in Brampton**

Hosted by the Rotary Club of Brampton, Jean Paul (JP), President and CEO of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB), will speak about CCAB's mission to foster sustainable business relations between First Nations, Inuit and Métis, and Canadian business, and the challenges and successes of Aboriginal business in Canada today. The meeting will start at 7 p.m. and will take place at the Rotary Glen in Brampton, located at 1857 Queen Street West in Brampton.



Jean Paul (JP) Gladu is currently the President and CEO of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB) based in Toronto. Anishinaabe from Thunder Bay, JP is a member of Bingwi Neyaashi Anishinaabek located on the eastern shores of Lake Nipigon, Ontario. JP completed a forestry technician diploma in 1993, obtained an undergraduate degree in forestry from Northern Arizona University in 2000 and holds an Executive MBA from Queens University.

JP has over two decades of experience in the natural resource sector. His career path includes work with Aboriginal communities and organizations, environmental non-government organizations, industry and governments from across Canada.

JP has served on numerous boards and advisory committees for both the public and private sector which focused on education, electricity, forestry, hydro, and the oil and gas industries. In 2014, he was identified as a Diversity 50 Board Ready Candidate from the Canadian Board Diversity Council and a recipient of the Community Service Award – Transformation Awards from Diversity Magazine.

As a father to his daughter Chloe, along with a passion for his community, his culture and traditions, JP brings the past, present and future to the table, moving non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal business toward sustainable partnerships and shared economic prosperity.

We hope you and other members of your club can join us for what promises to be an interesting and informative evening. We hope to make registration for this event available on the District website and will send out an e-mail once registration is open. In the meantime, please RSVP to CIRCLE co-Chair, [John Lomax](#), Rotary Club of Brampton.



## **Completed Aboriginal Projects**

### **RC Burlington North – OneXOne First Nations School Breakfast Program**

Craig MacPherson, RC Burlington North: Great news... collectively, with coordination from our District's Community Indigenous Resource Committee for Learning & Education (CIRCLE), 12 Clubs from Rotary District 7080 have donated enough funds in support of the First Nations School Breakfast Program (FNSBP) to receive a maximum matching grant from Rotary District 7080. With this matching grant, Rotary Clubs of District 7080 are proud to contribute a total of \$12,800 to support this incredible program.

First Nations children suffer the greatest levels of poverty among all children in Canada. 1 in 3 First Nations children live in poverty as compared to 1 in 9 Canadian children on average. In remote communities, this number is often higher. Children are unable to consistently access nutritious and adequate amounts of food necessary for a healthy life.

[ONEXONE Foundation](#) (click on the Hunger icon) started the FNSBP in 2007 and was joined in 2008 by Pepsi Canada who donates Dole 100% Juice, Quaker Oatmeal, and Quaker Ready-to-Eat instant cereal (Multigrain Life, Corn Bran Squares and Oat Squares) for the program. In the 2014-2015 school year, the program supported over 4,500 children from schools across Canada. This means that ONEXONE and its First Nations partners served over 600,000 balanced breakfasts that year.

From the 30 communities in the FNSBP, we have chosen to sponsor the Keewatinook Internet High School community. It is a unique, internet-connected community in this program, comprised of six satellite classrooms in communities that are not large enough to have their own high schools.

One aspect that is key in any Rotary project is that when we are gone, programs are sustainable. Programs within the FNSBP are managed and implemented at the local level. ONEXONE provides training to community partners to ensure that these programs keep going.

Participating clubs are the Rotary Clubs of Burlington, Burlington Central, Burlington North, Erin, Guelph Trillium, Mississauga Credit Valley, Mississauga Meadowvale, Oakville West, Orangeville, Orangeville Highlands, Palgrave and Shelburne.

### **RCs Etobicoke & Palgrave – First Nation Hockey Equipment Drive**

From October to December, the Rotary Clubs of Palgrave & Etobicoke partnered together to collect hockey equipment to send to remote FN communities in northern Ontario. Over 18 tonnes of equipment were donated, enough equipment to support hockey in 6 First Nation communities. Sorting took place in January and the shipments were delivered in January and February. Check out this news clip from CBC about the delivery to one of the FN communities, Sandy Lake. [CBC Morning Live - Sandy Lake FN](#)



## Ongoing and New Aboriginal Projects

### **Lax Kw'alaams Graduating Class Trip**

Thank you to the Rotary Club of Bolton for bringing this trip to our attention. This year, for the first time, a Grade 12 class will be graduating from the Coast Tsimshian Academy of Lax Kw'alaams on the northwest coast of BC. To celebrate this historic occasion, the school is fundraising to cover the cost of a trip to Ontario and Quebec for the entire graduating class and their teachers. One of the Grade 12 teachers is Anton Tolstoy, who attended Humberview Secondary School in Bolton before completing his Bachelor of Education in BC; Anton's parents Stan and Diane still reside in Caledon—Stan is a former member of the Rotary Club of Bolton and is a Friend of Rotary. Please go to [www.youcaring.com/firstgrads](http://www.youcaring.com/firstgrads) to view an excellent video about the planned trip that includes interviews with the grads. You can also make a donation at the site. As of today, the group needs to raise an additional \$10K to fund their trip.

### **RC Palgrave, DAREarts & the Stratford Festival – The Breathing Hole**

RC Palgrave is supporting a Canada150 project with DAREarts and the Stratford Festival. DAREarts works with kids-at-risk and have a special program called First Roots that focuses on indigenous kids. A team has traveled to 4 communities where youth engage in multi-arts workshops, sharing traditional stories involving a bear. The works created will be the frame of reference for a new play about a polar bear encountering change in the Canadian north, *The Breathing Hole*, which will premiere at Stratford in August 2017. Tickets to the play are on sale through the [Stratford Festival](#). If you would like to partner or support in the \$20,000 cost of this project, please contact DAREarts directly at [info@darearts.com](mailto:info@darearts.com).

### **RC Guelph – Better Hearing in Education for Northern Youth**



Lynne & Arlene

As you know from previous updates, the Rotary club of Guelph has started a project in the Canadian Arctic to help children hear better in Nunavut. Their project was the recipient of a \$300,000 award from the Arctic Inspiration Prize in January 2016 for BHENY - Better hearing in Education for Northern Youth and involves outfitting all JK - grade 5 classrooms in the Qikiqtani region of Nunavut with soundfield amplification systems. A large part of the project is ensuring sustainability through training and building

capacity in the north, to improve the lives of children with hearing loss living in this region of Canada. Arlene Komangapik, Student Support Assistant from Ulaajuk School in Pond Inlet, Nunavut, is a local expert now on these systems. She traveled to Southern Ontario In February this year to help create sound field system training videos. Arlene recorded videos on topics such as how to use the systems and accessories, and how to troubleshoot and fix problems when they occur, in English and Inuktitut. It was wonderful to have such a competent, bilingual person offer her time for Bheny. These short videos will be available in all Qikiqtani schools for training and technical support, and will complement the

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print materials already available in English and Inuktitut. While in Guelph Arlene shared her culture with the Indigenous Awareness Committee. She is seen in this photo wearing the traditional eastern Arctic Inuit parka, an Amauti. The project continues to welcome support from anyone interested. FYI, a donation of \$3,000 will outfit one classroom with a personal MyLink headset and a DynaMic. Contact Rotarians [Lynne McCurdy](#) or [Terrie Jarvis](#) if your club would like to participate.

## **RC Oakville Trafalgar – University of Sudbury First Nations Scholarship Program**

The University of Sudbury First Nation scholarship goes to 2nd-year UofS students who have successfully completed their first-year studies at one of two indigenous education centres. The scholarship is \$7,500 per student per year for 3 years; students are not required to major in indigenous studies but must take at least one course from that program. As mentioned in the last CIRCLE update, RC Oakville Trafalgar has committed to providing funds to one scholarship student, and the first scholarship recipient is a mature student from the Anishinabek Kwe First Nation who is in her 3rd year in Indigenous Studies. RCOT is continuing to search for partner clubs for this Scholarship. They have a presentation for interested clubs and any size donation would be appreciated. Cheques can be made out to the RCOT Foundation, (put Rotary Indigenous Scholarship in the memo line) and can be mailed to RC Oakville Trafalgar, Box 52104, Oakville, Ontario L6J 7N5.

## **News from HIP Honouring Indigenous People**

One of HIP's objectives is to facilitate fundraising for projects that support the empowerment of indigenous Canadians through education in all its forms. Current projects include:

**Kashechewan's Paddling with the Cree** – one of HIP's latest projects was a canoe trip with 16 young people from Kashechewan. Last summer they completed their first canoe adventure along the Albany River to Kashechewan despite some difficulties with low water levels. The members developed strong white-water skills and were able to line canoes down the rapids. Many could not swim but they learned how to be comfortable and safe in the water. Two groups will be participating in summer 2017 and donations are needed to help cover the costs of equipment and training.

**Dolly Parton Imagination Library** – through the Dolly Parton Foundation, OISE and Native Child and Family Services of Toronto, books are supplied every month to Indigenous children in the GTA, from ages 0 to 5. If your club would like to help sponsor this program in the GTA, or in a separate community, contact Chris Snyder. Already there are 180 children enrolled in the GTA program and Keith, the co-ordinator who works with Native Child and Family Services of Toronto, has received many favourable comments from the recipients.

**One Laptop per Child Canada** – OLPC Canada connects Indigenous education programs to technology designed with 21st century students in mind. To date, the initiative has provided laptops and tablets to more than 10,000 Indigenous youth located in 60+ communities from coast

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to coast. The laptops and tablets are preloaded with educational content including books and interactive programs highlighting Aboriginal languages and cultures.

**Elephant Thoughts Summer Camp** – Elephant Thoughts is a leader in First Nations and Inuit educational programs. A team of professional educators incorporate First Nations and Inuit values, culture, special needs and specific disciplines into all programs, integrating traditional and contemporary knowledge. The Elephant Thoughts Summer Camp has been travelling to First Nations and Inuit communities nationwide since 2004 to deliver high energy, high quality science and technology themed programming to help engage and empower participants between the ages of 9-13. They are seeking \$3,000 in funding to support a one week summer science camp program in Timiskaming First Nation, Quebec. The goals of the summer camp are to promote science and technology, solidify a working foundation of scientific principals and methods and to encourage and excite participants to enter careers in science and technology. Your donation today will allow more children to attend this summer.

Details about these projects and how you and your Club can help are on the [HIP](#) website under Contact & Donations > Approved Projects. We hope you or your club will consider supporting any of the projects listed; much more financial support is needed. Please join in. Not only will you help the project become reality and assist with addressing educational needs in FNMI communities, but you will learn a lot as well.

## **CIRCLE Club Presentations**

Since January, CIRCLE has presented to the Rotary Clubs of Centre Wellington and Bramalea. If you would like a CIRCLE member to present to your club, please contact CIRCLE co-Chairs [John Lomax](#) or [Ingrid Sproxtton](#).

## **Acknowledgement of Indigenous Lands**

One way Rotary clubs can demonstrate their commitment to reconciliation between indigenous and non-indigenous Canadians is to acknowledge treaty or traditional territory at meetings and/or on websites, social media and promotional material. For example, the RC Guelph Indigenous Awareness committee acknowledges traditional indigenous territory at the beginning of their meetings, by saying:

“We acknowledge that Guelph is located on the traditional territory of the First Nations Attawandaron (Neutral) people who were the original inhabitants of the land in this area, and we also offer our respect to our First Nations, Métis and Inuit neighbours as we strive to strengthen our relationships with them.”

To find out the name of the Nation on whose territory or treaty land your meeting location is situated on, contact a local Friendship Centre or Aboriginal Student Centre. There is also a website you can use <https://native-land.ca/> that lists territories, languages and treaties for the entered location but this should

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be considered a starting point only. It's best to confirm the wording of the acknowledgement, as well as pronunciation for indigenous names, with a local indigenous organization.

As always, thank-you for your support as CIRCLE tries to increase awareness of indigenous traditions, culture and protocol in the 7080 Rotary community. If you want to learn more about any of the events, opportunities or projects described in this update, or if you would like assistance from CIRCLE to plan an indigenous meeting program or to host a KAIROS Indigenous Blanket Exercise, please contact [John](#) or [myself](#). And don't forget to check out the [CIRCLE website](#) regularly, for more information and recent updates. You can access the CIRCLE site from the District website. Just click on District Committees, then click on CIRCLE from the drop-down list.

Yours in Rotary,

Ingrid and John