



Sometimes great experiences sneak up on you when you least expect them.

What is **Rotary Friendship Exchange**? It is one of Rotary's best kept secrets.

According to Rotary International ([www.rotary.org/friendship-exchange](http://www.rotary.org/friendship-exchange)) the Rotary Friendship Exchange Program is an international exchange program for Rotary members and friends that allows participants to take turns hosting one another in their homes and Clubs in another country. Its goal is to build international friendships, advance international understanding and goodwill through person-to-person connections across national boundaries.

There are two types of Friendship Exchange. The **Visitor Program** - in which individual Rotarians, often accompanied by family members, spend a few days in a Rotarian home in another country and the **Team Program** - in which Rotarians, often couples, typically ten to twelve in number, visit several communities for 3-4 nights in the host District for a period of 2 - 4 weeks. These exchanges involve two visits, with each country hosting participants from the other. You are not obligated to host someone to participate in an Exchange, however, many participants in an Out-bound portion of an Exchange will want to reciprocate and act as host for the Inbound visit. Further details are provided on the Website above and in the attachment.

We have received an enquiry from **District 5080** who wish to arrange an exchange of Rotarian couples with **District 9500**. District 5080 started their RFE adventures by hosting a team from Adelaide many years ago.

Rotary District 5080 is an international District that includes 61 Rotary Clubs located in south-eastern British Columbia Canada, northern Idaho and eastern Washington State in USA. They are joined in common by the waters of the mighty Columbia River system.

They have proposed an Exchange of about twelve days with a team of four to six couples visiting our district **about 20-31 October 2019**.

Subsequently, they propose to **host** a District 9500 Team for either a "**Snow**" Exchange in February or an early **June "Spring fling" Exchange** in 2020, whichever most suits us.

**If you are, or your Club is interested in either hosting and/or visiting District 5080, please contact -**

- RFE Chair, Reg Hutchinson (Rotary Club of Adelaide) 0416 215 795 - [reg-kaye@bigpond.com](mailto:reg-kaye@bigpond.com)
- International Team Leader, Jack Kelso (Rotary Club of Regency Park) 0411 616 186 - [mkelso@bigpond.com](mailto:mkelso@bigpond.com)

