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**Zone 24:** Canada,  
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**Zone 32:** Bermuda,  
 Northeastern United States



**March 2019**

**Mixed bag, random thoughts**

This month is Water and Sanitation Month. The Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group is one of the most active of all of the Action Groups. Reach out to them if you want to get involved with a project of that nature. Find them at [www.wasrag.org](http://www.wasrag.org). These types of projects have profound impact and benefit to the communities where they occur. Click on their website and see if this is something some of your clubs could benefit from being involved in and get the message to them.

In this issue please see the promotions for both the Beyond Borders Dinner in Hamburg, Germany, at the International Convention and your Zone Conference which will happen this September in Niagara Falls.

Beyond Borders is a gathering for all who will attend the convention from Zones 24/32 and also our friends from Michigan/Ontario and New York who will be joining our Zones in 2020. Director-Nominee Valarie Wafer has done a fabulous job organizing this event for you. It always sells out, so follow the instructions in the promotion and get your ticket today. We look forward to welcoming all of you.

Your Zone Conference in Niagara Falls, Canada is open to all Rotarians in the above stated Zones and areas. The planning team is working hard to ensure that it is an event worthy of your time. Speakers and the draft program can be found on the [Zone website](#). Early bird discount pricing ends soon so register today. You simply don't want to miss this opportunity to reconnect with friends from around our Zones, meet new friends, and be motivated, inspired, and re-energized relative to the work that you do for our organization. Come and welcome our new friends from New York and Michigan. It will be a better event with YOU there.

A thought about Governor's Councils. Most districts have one, some by a different name. They are the group of Past District Governors from each district. They meet regularly and although they don't have authority, they can be a valuable advisory group to any District Governor. Their collective wisdom and experience are an extraordinary resource - when they function according to plan. Not all do. Some don't meet at all. Some divide into camps and fight with each other. In this assignment, we field numerous phone calls from Governors who are having issues in their districts. Many if not most of those issues could be resolved, mitigated, or eliminated utilizing the advice and collective experience of a functional and functioning Governor's Council. Unfortunately, in many instances, it is the Governor's Council who IS the problem. Come on folks. We're better than that. Leave your egos and personalities at the door when you're dealing with the well-being of your districts? The Clubs and Rotarians you serve deserve no less.

Mixed bag, random thoughts, and rant over.

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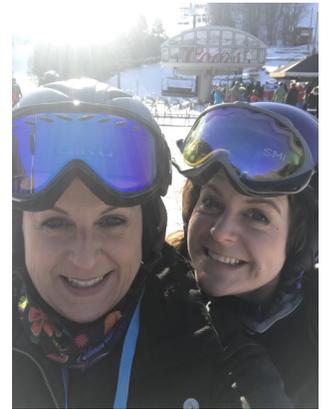
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## Valarie's View from the Wings

By Valarie Wafer, Director-Nominee

Three years ago, Mark and I moved to Collingwood Ontario - an active winter and summer destination for swimming, hiking, biking, boating, snowshoeing, cross-country, downhill skiing and so much more. Although many may consider it a retirement community, you won't find retirees sitting on their porch watching the world go by, but rather, boasting their graceful aging through fitness, social connections and purpose.



The newest edition of our local magazine, *On the Bay*, featured a series on our Grassroots Heroes - those who make a difference in our community. Featured were a few of our cause-based heroes such as Habitat for Humanity, our Lighthouse Preservation Society, and the Rotary Club of Wasaga Beach (shout out to this little club for making a huge impact!)

Yet also featured were the active groups looking to shake things up, challenge themselves and be sure to have fun while doing it. With a week-day population of 22,000, Collingwood and the Georgian Bay area has the largest number of Probus clubs in Canada with over 600 active members in 17 clubs. They even have a waiting list to join! Probus (Professional Business) is an organization of semi-retired or retired individuals, many of whom are also Rotarians, who meet monthly with no obligation of service or fundraising. Their club mandate lies solely on social connections and learning opportunities.

No matter the community we live in, we all want to give back while simultaneously having fun. We always speak about shaking things up by replacing a meeting with hands-on services activities, but what about a physical activity or a joint activity with a social group in your community and making further connections?

Last week I had the opportunity to attend the Coordinator training in Evanston. Your Zone Coordinators are ready and prepared to challenge the status quo and have in their possession a toolbox of innovative ways to support you. Look at your community; is there a gap in service or social opportunities? And are all demographics represented? Our communities are socially oriented; are we?

The choices are endless, and the time is now.





# It's a party Game Changer

Join your  
Zones 24 & 32 team  
in Hamburg  
Sunday, June 2nd  
7-10 PM  
Beyond Borders  
Celebration  
FC St. Millerntor  
Stadion



**Cash Bar & Buffet Dinner**

**\$85 USD before April 1st, \$99 USD after April 1st.**

**Register today! [www.RotaryZones24-32.org](http://www.RotaryZones24-32.org)**



Greetings from District 6380 – District Governor Jane McManus

This Rotary district contains 53 clubs, 46 in Michigan and 7 in Chat-ham-Kent Ontario Canada. We must travel through another District (6400) to get to the Ca-

nadian clubs. My first official act as District Governor was to sign the charter for the Motorcycling Rotarians e-club which has members across the US and Canada. They meet via Zoom on Wednesday evenings.

The district also has a Brighton Rotary Satellite club which meets on Tuesday evenings. They chartered in 2017 and are focused on finding needs in the local community. They have had three very successful Eu-chre events to raise money for Hygiene Care prod-

ucts for Gleaners Food Bank and LACASA (Livingston Area Council Against Spouse Abuse).



For International Projects we are involved in a Water Project in Lebanon elementary schools, Literacy Project in Guatemala, Water and Sanitation Project in India, Vision Project in Africa, Growing local economies in Sri Lanka

There are some Significant Community Projects - Barrier Free Playgrounds, Ramp building, Books for Babes-Literacy, Parks and Hiking trails, Shoes for Kids, Blessings in a Back Pack, and many other varied service projects.

Five Districts supported a very successful Peace Conference in 2017 which was organized by the Ann Arbor Rotary Club. And 2017 also marked a sold out 30 years of Women in Rotary Event with a cruise and dinner on the Detroit River.

## Membership Video

*By Lawrence Furbish, ARC, Zone 32*

This month's video is about whether or not your club is really welcoming. Part I was featured last month, and this is Part II. Our videos were featured in the Australian Zone newsletter [Rotary on the Move](#).

Here is the link <https://app.vyond.com/videos/28544c98-fc46-4a3e-8a6e-06288107eb1f>



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## Why Have We Stopped Rotating?

From "Rotary on the move" by RC PDG John Prendergast (Australia)

As we know, the first Rotary Club was formed when Paul Harris called together a meeting of three business acquaintances in downtown Chicago, at Gustave Loehr's office on February 23, 1905. It is now possible to take a virtual tour of Room 711, where it all started. [Read more about Room 711 and take the virtual tour.](#)



The members chose the name Rotary because initially they rotated weekly club meetings around each other's offices. Within a year though, the Chicago club had become so large it became necessary to adopt a regular meeting place. And for the next 112 years, that's pretty much what we as Rotarians have been doing – meeting every week at the same venue, and generally using the same meeting format each week.

So, what happened to the Rotary in Rotary? How come we became fixed to one meeting spot? Perhaps we should more appropriately be called **Stationary**, rather than **Rotary**? Doesn't quite have the same ring about it though, does it.

Many of us know of Rotary Clubs whose main purpose and main activity seems to be to hold the weekly meeting. It has been estimated that we spend perhaps as much as 75% of the valuable time we invest in Rotary attending our weekly meetings. So, in many cases we've become social clubs, rather than service clubs. Nothing wrong with being social, but if that's all that we're achieving then I think we have a problem.

Rotary's recently-adopted vision statement tells us that: **Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.**

If we're spending three quarters of our Rotary time enjoying a meal, being fined by the sergeant, and listening to a guest speaker, then chances are that we're not as actively engaged in pursuit of Rotary's vision as we perhaps could be. So, what to do?

The 2016 Council on Legislation gave Rotary Clubs the mandate to change things up, – it's no longer compulsory to meet every week, doing work on projects can constitute a meeting, and there isn't the same emphasis on attendance that there once was – a Rotarian's level of engagement is much more important than just turning up to a meeting.

We're increasingly seeing Clubs changing the way they operate, and they're finding that they're getting much more out of their Rotary experience. Many Clubs now are holding "traditional" meetings perhaps twice a month, and then in the weeks when they're not having a traditional meeting they're getting up to all sorts of things – perhaps spending their time on a project, or visiting a member's workplace (Rotary 1905 all over again), or visiting projects, thus getting a first-hand view of the project and the people involved, rather than remotely writing a cheque.

Not only do these excursions create added interest for members, thus helping to retain their interest and therefore their membership, and lead to more time and energy being placed on projects rather than meetings, but they also afford priceless marketing opportunities for the Club – rather than being sequestered away in a restaurant or hotel, by getting out and about people actually see Rotarians in action. And, they might quite like to join us.

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## **Special Event Scholarship Opportunity for Aspiring Leaders**

Are you an Aspiring Leader?

If you are interested in taking on a district leadership role in Rotary, are not already in the Governor stream (or a partner of someone in the stream) and are a first time attendee at a Zone Conference, Director Jeffry Cadorette would like to encourage you to join us for this year's Zone Conference from Sep 19-21, 2019.

Please reach out to your current DG to see if you can take advantage of this scholarship that allows one aspiring leader (of their choosing), from each district to be eligible for a \$400 CAD discount from the registration price\*.

If you are selected please ask your DG to forward your name and contact details to our registrar [Sandhya Maini](#) and she will help with your registration.

We look forward to seeing you!

\* To qualify for this \$400 Scholarship Discount off the regular registration rate of \$599 the attendee must register before June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

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## The Rift Valley Water and Sanitation Program

*By Rotarian John Boot, Rotary club of Niagara on the Lake, Ontario, Zone 24 E*

In 2002 John Mbugua, a Rotarian from the Nakuru Rotary Club in Kenya, approached the Rotary Club of Summerland, BC and asked for help on an idea he had to support the Internally Displaced People (IDP's) in the Rift Valley. Together they applied for a Matching Grant.

Due to post election violence, many people were displaced and squatted on the edges of large estates just south of Nakuru. The biggest problem was the lack of water. Wells didn't work due to the high levels of naturally occurring fluoride, which caused problems with brown teeth and weakened bones. As a result, the people had to walk many kilometers to collect dirty water from streams and ponds.

John Mbugua's solution was to build Rainwater Harvesting Tanks to collect the rainwater collected off the corrugated roofs. He came up with an ingenious system. First, he organized everyone into Rotary Community Corps (RCC's). He then created a program where donors (primarily Rotarians) would contribute the funds for cement, rebar and hardware, and the recipient would pay for an artisan to build the tank and supply the sand, gutters and manual labour. The tanks were 10,000 litres, taking 7 days to build. A recipient had to have clear title to the property, plant 100 trees and participate in "table banking" (a simplified microfinance system) and participate in training hygiene, etc. The picture shows John Mbugua and the author in front of one of the storage tanks.



This system evolved from a simple "project" into a long-term "program" at the insistence of CIDA, who supplied funds to Rotary through CRCID. After a few more Matching Grants In 2006 we received a 3H grant which was matched by CRCID for about \$700,000. Eventually 22 RCC's were formed over an area the size of the Niagara Peninsula. A management team was established to run the project since it was becoming too big for the Rotary Club volunteers. A water committee with senior Nakuru Rotarians was create so the annual changes in club leadership wouldn't impact the program.

The initial goal was to build 1,000 tanks. With the system working effectively other donor clubs started participating and by 2006 we exceeded our goal. The Rotary Club of Toronto Eglinton took over from Summerland and clubs from other parts of the world, mostly from the Netherlands, became involved. Sixteen years later over 6,000 tanks have been built with over 40 large tanks built for schools. Possibly 50,000 people now have access to clean drinking water. They also have access to financing with almost \$100,000 in circulation.

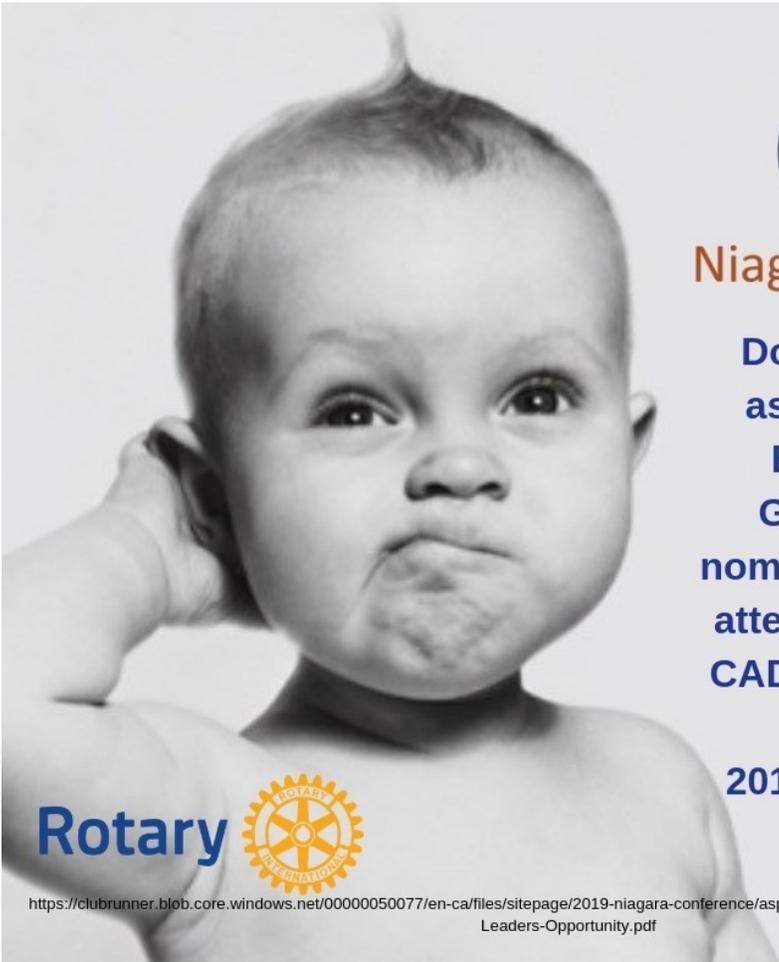
What was the most amazing was to see a school built at the first RCC, started in Elementaita and, where the request was no longer for water, but for lab equipment for the students. The women's group that managed the initial tank allocation formed the PTA that helped build the school. In 17 years, a community of Internally Displaced People barely surviving with no water and little food was now a prospering community with the next generation being educated to succeed in changing world.



# Niagara Falls 2019

People Coming Together

**Do you know an aspiring leader?  
Each District Governor may nominate a first time attendee for a \$400 CAD scholarship to attend the 2019 Niagara Falls Conference.**



<https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000050077/en-ca/files/sitepage/2019-niagara-conference/aspiring-leader-scholarship-opportunity/Aspiring-Leaders-Opportunity.pdf>

**Zone 24 & 32  
Leaders and  
Coordinator  
Teams  
at  
recent training  
in  
RI headquarters,  
Evanston**



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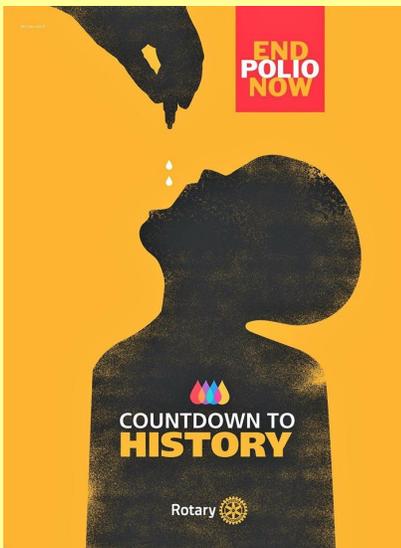
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## My Big FAB Rotary Dinner

By John Gilvesy, Governor, Rotary International District 7080, Zone 24 East

While at Zone in Montreal, a neat idea came from discussions with DG Sherry Chamberlain and twist on Suzanne Rea's "The World's Greatest Meal to Help End Polio."

Introducing "My Big FAB Rotary Dinner". Rotarians are asked to invite non-Rotarians (minimum 4, maximum 8) over for **dinner on April 6, 2019** (with alternate date of May 4, 2019). Each non-Rotarian guest will be asked to donate at least \$30 (payable to the club to benefit the Polio Plus Campaign) for a **fantastic candlelight wine and dine event hosted by the Rotarian and Partner**. Photos during dinner to be posted online. RI President Barry Rassin will live stream a message to all at a fixed time during dinner. A great opportunity for public image, to introduce guests to Rotary, Foundation, and Polio ... and have a lot of fun. With 1600 members x 6 guests each paying \$30, potential for \$288,000 to End Polio. If matched by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation at 2-1, total for night could be \$864,000 ... a great dinner event for a fantastic "Rotary Day". Let's all join the fun and End Polio!"

## MY BIG FAB ROTARY DINNER



District 7080 Rotary Day Event

Rotarians are asked to invite non Rotarians to their home for dinner  
on **Saturday April 6, 2019**  
(alternative date May 4, 2019)

**Minimum suggested donation of \$30 per guest towards Polio Plus**

## Countdown to History

With your help, we can end polio for good.

What is Polio?

<https://www.endpolio.org/>

# END POLIO NOW

Thanks to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, your contribution will be tripled,  
getting us even closer to a polio-free world.

(For more information, please contact Linda Breault at linda@pearlehospitality.ca)





The Fellowship of Past District Governors  
presents our second annual  
***An Evening With the RI Presidents***

Friday, 31 May 2019  
Grand Elysee Hotel  
Rothenbaumchaussee 10, Hamburg

***Capture The Moment***

in Hamburg's largest and grandest ballroom to celebrate  
with RI Presidents, fellow Rotary leaders and your governor classmates.

6-7 pm Cocktails and Fellowship in the Grand Foyer

7-9:30 pm Fellowship continues with Dinner

Register Now! US\$100 per person. Early Bird Registration closing March 14!

[Online Registration](#)

# Regina Rotary Club Centennial Legacy Project Report

In October 2015 the Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Regina initiated action to recognize their 100th birthday that was still some 22 months in the future, the precise date, August 24, 2017. The Board appointed a Centennial Committee made up of four Club Members. They gave them free rein to design and execute appropriate functions.

The first recommendation to the Board and membership were four goals for the milestone year. They were: to promote Rotary; to celebrate the occasion;



to commemorate 100 years of service in Regina; and to coordinate events whenever possible with Canada's 150th birthday which would occur in 2017. These objectives were approved at all levels and

served as guidelines for the centennial committee. The promotion of Rotary was a positive offshoot of all the activities. It has yielded some very exciting potential new member possibilities.

The Committee concentrated their efforts on the goals of commemorating and celebrating this important milestone!

## 1. The commemoration goal

It was decided to leave a lasting legacy. To that end, with membership approval, we offered \$100,000.00 to a charity in Regina, whose scope of activities were focused in Regina. Thus, we would support them in a project they now have or were considering. This open invitation attracted excellent applications. The Committee reduced the number to three. Each presented their case to a luncheon meeting. By vote of the members Souls Harbour Rescue Mission's (SHRM) Samaritan Project was selected. This new \$ 7 million project effectively doubles SHRM's outreach in our community. When the committee completed its task of connecting with the membership club members had pledged commitments in excess of \$250,000 to the project far exceeding the goal of \$100,000.

## 2. The celebration goal

It was recommended and approved that we stage a first-class evening to celebrate this significant birthday. A 3-member Gala committee was established. They delivered a superb banquet preceded by a champagne reception; arranged good entertainment; excellent speakers; a very popular award presentation; and an extraordinary video capturing the highlights of the Rotary Club of Regina's 100 years of 'Building Good Will'.



On December 19, 2018, Souls Harbour Rescue Mission celebrated the Grand Opening of the Gerri Carroll Hope Center naming the facility after the founder of Souls Harbour Rescue Mission. The Grand Opening featured several local, provincial, and federal government dignitaries each who spoke about Rotary's Partnership in the project. The major television networks were present. The Grand Opening was featured on the evening newscast along with a televised interview with Anniversary Committee Member Doug Alexander.



Ted Turner was a key driving force behind the committee's work but unfortunately passed away just weeks before the grand opening ceremony. His wife Mel was able to attend in his place.

## 3. The goal of promoting Rotary

This was fulfilled with the Grand Opening, the extensive media coverage of the event and the Rotary Club of Regina's contribution to the project. The following link includes the television interview with Doug Alexander and the news story as it appeared on CTV Regina, <https://regina.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=1569198>

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## March Is Water & Sanitation Month



Rotary 

## Public Image Helps make events successful

By Carol Toomey, RPIC, Zone 32



I have a winter jacket on as I stand on the beach. In fact, it is the warmest coat that I own. It has a hood and big pockets with room for my heavy duty mittened hands. It doesn't help that the wind is blowing hard. I'm standing on the beach talking to others who are wrapped in blankets. The difference between them and me is that they have bathing suits on. They are ready to plunge into the ocean. They call it the Polar Plunge.

I had been watching Facebook for weeks. The first time the Polar Plunge popped up was just an announcement that it was going to happen again. Then, I saw the amount of money pledged was \$40,000. Pop ups continued over the next few days. 43, 47, 56, 77, 80. The total of donations continued to grow. The conversation continued. I checked the website. A picture of the iconic polar bear with the thermometer was on the opening page. The current total was posted.

This is the biggest polio event in zone 32. Like most successful events, it started in one club, an idea of one person in the Gloucester Rotary club. Over the years, other clubs in the district joined in. Rotarians are not expected to pull money out of their pockets, changing their foundation giving to polio. Members are asked to involve neighbors, friends, relatives. Donations come from non-Rotarians, often called OPM, other people's money. They make it easy. You just go online and make your donation.

One person standing near me told me that she only decided to take the plunge yesterday. "I drove by this sign about the polar plunge helping to eradicate polio at 5 PM. I just knew I had to do it. Before I went to bed at 11 PM, I had gotten \$1100 in pledges. It really felt good to do this. I think this is a wonderful event. I just feel good to be a part of this."

The group shed their blankets and coats. It was then that I see everyone running into the frigid water. It makes me shiver just to watch them. As quickly as they reach the water's edge, I see an about face of the runners. They are running towards me faster than they had run to the water. The group stampedes towards me. It is done. Another year of Rotarians and friends diving into the frigid waters to raise money for the eradication of polio.



As I sit on the bus to go back to the parking lot, people are talking about their plans for the afternoon. Baby showers. A game. Visits with friends. This event was a couple of hours out of a Saturday morning. But thousands of children will now live polio free because these people cared enough to make a difference. As I approached the end of my bus ride, I heard the father behind me say to his little girl, "When you get big enough to plunge, I will hold the blanket for you."

Thank you for all you do to share the story. Tell new members how they can become part of history, celebrate polio day, or make that annual donation. You are making it possible to keep the promise of a polio free world to our children and theirs. And, just maybe that person who saw the sign, raised the dollars for polio, and felt really good about doing it will become a Rotarian. All of this happened with good signage, Facebook, and word of mouth. District 7930 Rotarians are putting Rotary in front of a lot of eyes.

## Young Rotary leaders from Dawson Creek to participate in national leadership program at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights

<https://www.dawsoncreekmirror.ca/dawson-creek-news/dawson-creek-students-heading-to-leadership-program-at-canadian-museum-for-human-rights-1.23629911>



By Tamara C Larson MA D5370 Youth Services Chair

Rotary District 5370 Youth Services is pleased to announce a formal partnership with the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR), Dawson Creek Secondary School – South Peace Campus, Interact Club of Dawson Creek and the Rotary Club of Dawson Creek Sunrise that will see 15 young leaders participating in a national pilot program at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights from February 25 to March 1, 2019.

The CMHR's National Human Rights Leadership Program encourages students to become engaged citizens and leaders in advancing human rights. During this transformative experience, students interact with leading academics, thinkers and people who have lived experience with human rights. The students from Dawson Creek will visit the Museum for three days to learn about the importance of diversity and inclusion, truth and reconciliation, and how to take action for human rights in their own lives and communities.

The Rotary Club of Dawson Creek Sunrise co-sponsored Cassidy Shaw as a young leader to attend the Rotary Adventures in Human Rights opportunity in August 2018.

RAHR 2018 Tamara Lawson, Cassidy Shaw far left



“This life-changing experience inspired this young lady to work with Youth Services Chair Tamara Larson to create an opportunity for her peers to experience this amazing learning opportunity at the CMHR,” said Michelle Rolls, President, Rotary Club of Dawson Creek Sunrise. “Seeing this vision come to light is truly amazing. We look forward to be a part of this experience and seeing the legacy of peace each of these 15 students create in the community in making the world a better place. Creating partnerships opens doors to engage and inspire young leaders to learn and generate positive change in the world. Thank you to all of the stakeholders who have made this learning opportunity possible.”

Rotary is an organization dedicated to six areas of focus to build international relationships, improve lives and create a better world to support peace efforts. Rotary projects provide training that fosters understanding and provides communities with skills to resolve conflicts to create a better world.

Rotary believes in developing the next generation of leaders. Our programs help younger leaders build leadership skills, expand education and learn the value of service. This unique learning opportunity will inspire peace among young leaders in District 5370 to real change in their communities.



The CMHR is one of Canada's national museums, opening in 2014 as a global hub of human rights education. Located at The Forks, a historic meeting place in the centre of Winnipeg, the Museum is also a stunning architectural icon that now graces the new Canadian \$10 banknote. <https://humanrights.ca>

For further information, Tamara Larson, D5370 Youth Services Chair at [Larson.tamarac@gmail.com](mailto:Larson.tamarac@gmail.com)

## Calendar of Events

**March 14-16, 2019**—Great Lakes Rotary Multi-District PETS, Kalamazoo, Michigan

**March 15-16, 2019**—Rotary Empire Multi-District PETS, Syracuse, New York

**April 5, 6, 2019**—D7040 PETS/DTA, Cornwall, Ontario

**May 31, 2019**— An Evening with the RI Presidents, Grand Elysée Hamburg · Hamburg, Germany

**June 1-5, 2019** — RI Convention, Hamburg, Germany

**June 2, 2019**—Beyond Borders Dinner, FC St. Pauli Millerntor-Stadion, Hamburg, Germany

**September 19-21, 2019** — Zone 24-32 Conference, Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada

[Register here](#)

**January 19-25, 2020** — International Assembly, San Diego, California

**June 6-10, 2020** — RI Convention, Honolulu, Hawaii.

**June 12-16, 2021**— RI Convention, Taipei, Taiwan

**June 4-8, 2022** — RI Convention, Houston, Texas

**2023** — RI Convention, Melbourne, Australia

**2024** — RI Convention, Singapore

**2025** — RI Convention, Calgary (tentative)

### Find the answers

Don't forget our other electronic and social media communications tools for the Zone: Website:

[www.rotaryzones24-32.org](http://www.rotaryzones24-32.org)

Facebook:

[Rotary Zones 24 and 32](#)

Blog:

<http://greatideastoshare.com>

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### Editor's Note

Several articles that were submitted have not been used in this newsletter because they came in too close to the publishing deadline. I cannot use a PDF document at any time, and will not use articles in the body of an email. Send all submissions, clearly identifying the author, as attachments, either a Word or Excel document, or picture files in JPEG or PNG format. Pictures help any article!

Sometimes I am asked to add members to the distribution list. The newsletter is distributed to all past, present and future DG's who have agreed to receive through our website. In addition, a number of Zone team members have been added from time to time, including district officials. The list very dynamic and anyone with an interest is welcome to sign up.

You can sign up from a link in the newsletter footer, or by contacting our website administrator [Hans Granholm](#), or from several places on the Zone 24-32 website.