



The HIP CIRCLE

Understanding the Past. Moving Forward Together.

Follow HIP's journey on Facebook @HonouringIndigenousPeoples & Twitter @RotaryHIP

Issue No. 4
Apr. 16th 2020

Indigenous communities need more federal funding and support to fight COVID-19!
Please sign the petition at: change.org

Please read the Global News story here: [Global News](#)

COVID-19 Information for First Nations

Staying the Course: First Nations Adapt to New Realities



[CLICK HERE TO OPEN THIS RESOURCE](#)

PARTICIPATING ROTARY DISTRICTS

Rotary
7070, 5550, 7090



To add your district number, please have your District Governor send us a letter acknowledging support & authorization for HIP to include your district.



Service Offering Opportunities!

HIP is dependent and sustained by the activism of people like you. By donating service hours, and bringing your skills, knowledge and passion to HIP, you and your organizations enable us to achieve work that would otherwise be unattainable. If you are interested in donating service hours, please email us at info@hipally.com. Please be sure to highlight the role, number of hours being offered (weekly, monthly or annually) and level of experience.

JOIN OUR HIP COVID19 COMMUNITY on FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/HIPCOVID19/>

As Indigenous & Non-Indigenous partners, HIP is committed to working together to battle COVID-19 for the well-being of our communities. This group is set-up to connect those with needs, related to COVID19, with those who can help.

HIP Welcomes Ankita Sethi to the Team!

We are happy to announce that *Ankita Sethi* has joined the HIP team as Strategic Partnership Coordinator! Ankita is a member of the Rotaract Club of Toronto, earned a Bachelor's Degree from GGDSB College and is a graduate of programs from both Centennial College and Fanshawe College.

Ankita will be working closely with HIP's Executive Director to implement HIP's strategic plan and maintain relationships with HIP's growing list of supporters, partners and sponsors. Please join us in welcoming Ankita to the HIP family!

HIP COVID-19 FUND

HIP and its services are needed more today than ever. HIP's COVID-19 Fund has been created to support requests for assistance from Indigenous Communities and Organizations. While all COVID-19 related requests will be considered, priority is being given to to pay for critical hygiene and healthcare products to fight disease, provide food to relieve hunger today, support education and provide transportation for delivery of supplies. Please make a donation to HIP's COVID-19 FUND by visiting <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/HIP/campaign/hip-covid-19-fund>

MIIGWETCH / THANK YOU!

On behalf of HIP, we sincerely thank you for your donation to HIP's COVID-19 Fund. During these challenging times, your contribution will have a direct impact on people's lives. While we may not be able to publish all photos, in the coming months we will do our best to keep you informed. Your generosity and support is an encouraging reminder of why we started HIP—to bring people together for community well-being. *Thank you! John Currie - HIP Executive Director*

Rotary Club of Guelph
Cora Campeau
Jill Fischer
Rita Schwander
Sylvester Legacy Inc.
Kaylynn Sinnamon
Rotary Club of East York
Jack Galligan
Louise McNeely
Paul Henry
Catherine Oyilagu

Shawn Murray
Vanessa Yuen
Charlottee Reinke
Jamie McLachlan
Victoria Clowater
Darcy Griffin
Sarah Rayfield
Kyle Lamb
Bernice Hau
August Kay
Oonagh Fitzgerald

Scott Serson
Lee Sneddon
Annemarie Humenuk
Brinda Mahadevan
Ben Barrett-Forrest
Fay Brunning
Anthea Windsor
Courtney Mlotek
Melinda Reidl
Meaghan Dolan
Rotary Club of Winnipeg

Working Together to Battle COVID-19

During the COVID-19 crisis, it warms our heart to see communities coming together. Collingwood, Heretic Spirits and Elephant Thoughts stepped forward. At the end of March, the distillery was asked by the Town of Collingwood to manufacture hand sanitizers, they contacted Lisa Farano through Elephant Thoughts to see if she could connect them with any Indigenous groups who required a supply. Lisa, who is also a HIP director, in turn, contacted the board. Through various board members, several groups were identified, particularly Diane Longboat and John Andras. Since that time, over \$10,000 worth of hand sanitizer has been delivered to Indigenous groups in the Toronto area.

In addition through Lisa, Elephant Thoughts has put their 3D technology to work and produced protective shields for healthcare workers. Elephant Thoughts, who are involved in Indigenous learning programs with the Cree in northern Quebec, is working with HIP through Lisa and HIP Educational Director, John Andras to get laptop computers to the students so they can complete their studies and graduate in June.

In case you thought she was finished, Lisa has also been working with Southern Georgian Bay volunteers to make and deliver masks for seniors and Indigenous groups in the Toronto area.

Also, HIP District Coordinators, Jim and Marjorie Dawson have been reaching out to local Indigenous communities to help fill gaps including food shortages. Great work!

What great relationship building and collaborative initiatives. Miigwetch, all!

Toronto Ontario



The Toronto Indigenous Service Committee of the RC of Toronto approved the immediate distribution of food cards to 182 students at the Wandering Spirit School and is working on grants to the Anishnawbe Health Foundation and the Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council. This is just one part of the club's response to COVID-19 with the other Philanthropic Committees doing an equivalent amount and the Foundation planning more grants.

The Indigenous Service Committee was able to move quickly to assist families and students at the Wandering Spirit School (TDSB formerly First Nations School). The committee has worked with the school for years with Career Days, lunch program supports

and other ways. When the school closed, students and their families lost access to breakfast, lunch and two snacks provided by the food and nutrition program.

In the past Rotary has filled this gap during the summer. We were aware of the immediate need and our new member Darcy Higgins had a contact with Elise Twyford the Vice Principal. Quick access to \$50.00 food cards was facilitated by the Metro at Bayview and Eglinton – who had 182 cards on hand. We had money left in the committee budget so all this came together with a committee meeting on April 2 and delivery of the cards on April 6 to Elise Twyford. This direct channel for delivering the cards into the hands of the family was crucial. Cards were mailed to parents later that week. We moved on to seek help for COVID programs at the Anishnawbe Health Center and the Toronto Aboriginal Support Service Council.

Kingston Ontario

The [RC of Cataraqui-Kingston](#) has been involved in projects from Ontario to Manitoba to Canada's arctic.

One interesting project was getting involved building a greenhouse in Wiikwemkoong First Nation, Manitoulin Island Ontario. It began when one member came to know Kingston native, Evan Veryard, the founder of Focus Forward for Indigenous Youth. Their mission is to collaborate with Indigenous communities across Canada, empowering youth through locally developed trades-based education, meant to strengthen individuals' and communities' futures. They facilitate construction projects in which youth learn marketable skills.

The goal was to build relationships and finish the final installation of the HVAC systems and the controls and associated installation for the wood-pellet boiler. The RC of Cataraqui-Kingston, the [RC of Kingston](#), the [RC club of Napanee](#) and others assisted financially. For a summary of this project go to <https://www.focusforwardfiy.org/projects> and scroll down to the Manitoulin Island project in Past Projects.

RC of Norfolk Sunrise & LS King School



Lloyd S King Elementary School, located on the [Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation](#), has been developing a thriving teacher-led outdoor education program; outdoor education is essential to student learning and well-being. Through their programming, LSK staff have noticed students' improved connection to the land and the environment, each other, and themselves.

To help support this on-going initiative, [RC of Norfolk Sunrise](#) members, Jim and Marjorie Dawson, worked with Principal Danielle MacDonnell and School Counsellor Nicola Gladwell to develop a list of materials that would further enhance the program. Through consultations with LSK's educators, materials were purchased including Anishinaabe botanical teachings, Peterson field guides, and field observation kits including binoculars and magnifying glasses. The project also included three Edu-kits from The

Royal Ontario Museum. Through these diverse materials, the \$4,000 District Grant was designed to benefit students of all ages.

Lloyd King himself (LSK's namesake) was awarded the United Nations Volunteer Designation in 2001 for his commitment to the environment through planting Carolinian trees and volunteering as an Amateur Weather Observer for more than fifty years. Environmental stewardship and fostering a connection to the land continues to be an essential component of programming at LS King Elementary.

Winnipeg Manitoba



The [RC of Winnipeg](#) hosted a special visitor at their regular meeting in March. The [RC of Edmonton](#) President-Elect, Brian Edwards, was chaperoning incoming exchange students at the Canadian Museum of Human Rights and at the invitation of HIP Director, David Newman was able to join. Guest speaker was Rotary Peace Fellow (2019 Chula) Inspector Bonnie Emerson of the Winnipeg Police Service. A Metis woman and carrier of the Eagle Staff for the department, she heads up the community policing unit. Following the meeting, the club's HIP Committee meeting took place. The committee is pleased to have three Indigenous members.

HIP Director, David Newman attended an All Relations event at Turtle Lodge. The day was attended by the representative of the Grand Chief of Manitoba who presented tobacco to the Elders of the Lodge. Each participant was gifted a "Wahbanung" booklet in which the Elders created the content of 30 Calls to Action. These calls are introduced as follows:

"These Wahbanung Calls to Action come from an Indigenous strength-based approach of being proactive rather than reactionary, as the Original free and independent, autonomous, sovereign and self-determining Peoples of our homeland. They are based on our identity as a People who know and love the spirit and the land."

David Newman is also getting ready for the Rotary District 5550 Conference at the end of May which will be virtual for the first time. Keynote speakers will be Kevin Chief, Kevin Lamoureux and Barry Rassin. As Chair of the standing committee for the district, David is inspired to have all 48 clubs initiate a HIP Committee and/or Peace Builder Committee. He will be presenting on his work with HIP and Peace Builder Committees to engage clubs about reaching out to First Nations Peoples in the neighbourhoods of their clubs.

Cochrane Alberta

Judie and Michael Bopp, from the [RC of Cochrane](#), have spent a career working in community development. They recently led a partnership program sponsored by the club that brought 50 people together in a comprehensive

Indigenous learning series. It included officials from the Town of Cochrane, Rotarians, community leaders and First Nations Tribal Elders. The monthly sessions culminated in a full day immersion on the reserve of the [Stoney Nakoda First Nations](#) with the Stoney's opening the eyes of everyone with their stories. The results of the program included getting to know one another better, looking for ways to do things differently and much improved relationships which, in turn, will lead to ongoing partnerships and better understanding of each other.

To read more about their work, Rotary Canada's April 2020 publication can be accessed through the link below:
[Rotary Canada 2020](#)

Thank you and congratulations to all those involved for showing leadership in how to develop better relationships and a better country.

Kelowna British Columbia

After several members of the [RC of Kelowna Sunrise](#) attended the Rotary International Conference in Toronto, all were inspired to initiate a HIP Committee. Plans were proceeding to have a booth at the 2020 District Conference (now cancelled). The twenty members are getting involved by educating and creating awareness of Indigenous history, culture and issues and connecting and partnering with local communities. Relationships have been established with Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society including holding a Rotary meeting on site and possibly holding a Blanket Exercise at Westbank First Nations.

The following are some of the activities and interactions initiated with our Indigenous friends:

- Eight members took part in a Reconciliation Reading Circle which focused on the Summary Report of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission.
- Club members volunteer annually at the Turtle Island Festival (National Aboriginal Day) sponsored by the KFS. We had 15 volunteers last year.
- The club hosted guest speakers from the Indigenous community, a UBCO professor who focused on the historical presence of the Silyx Nation in the Okanagan Valley and an Aboriginal speaker employed by the Interior B.C. Health District in the area of Mental Health & Substance Abuse.
- Liaise with our District School Board regarding the new curriculum for Indigenous students.
- The club has extended invitations to the KFS and WFN to participate in our annual Ribfest Fundraiser.

First Peoples Law Reading List

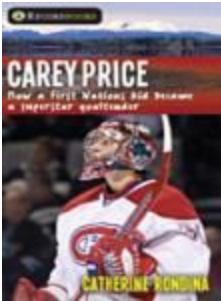


With many staying home during the COVID-19 emergency, reading is the newest leisure activity. The First Peoples Law website has an extensive reading list on a variety of topics. Take a look and some of the books can be ordered online through Amazon or Chapters.

[First Peoples Law Reading List 2020](#)

Goodminds.com

Recommended Reading



Carey Price: How a First Nations Kid Became a Superstar Goaltender

Author: Catherine Rondina

Summary: Carey Price: How a First Nations Kid Became a Superstar Goaltender is a young adult novel from the Record Books Series from James Lorimer Publishers. Record Books are nonfiction stories that help reluctant readers understand history and social issues through the lens of the true story of a sports hero. Showing the process of social change on issues like racism, diversity and conflict, these books engage and provide historical context by telling the often-heroic story of how an athlete or a team worked to change attitudes around them.

[Click Here to Purchase](#)

ABOUT GOODMINDS.COM: Goodminds.com is a First Nations-owned family business, and located on the Six Nations of the Grand River (Brantford) in Southwestern Ontario. They stock over 3,000 Indigenous titles from Preschool to Adult and are the leading source for purchasing bias-free teaching and educational resources related to Native American, First Nations, Indigenous and Aboriginal studies.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Follow Chris's journey on Facebook @70YearVolunteer & Twitter @70YearVolunteer

COVID-19 - A time of Danger, a time of Opportunity

These days virtually every newspaper article, TV show and radio program reminds us of the dangers associated with the current COVID-19 crisis if we do not follow the suggested health guidelines. The same media though is also highlighting opportunities (albeit sometimes it requires thinking) of the many acts and benefits of collaboration and reaching out to others brings.

As it relates to Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, the dangers this crisis brings includes further alienation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples and accentuating and perpetuating the inequalities from the past.

Reaching out to each other, however, creates a wonderful opportunity for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to get to better know each other and expanding our relationship by working together against our common enemy, the COVID-19 virus.

Here are few ways you can do this:

1. Call or email an Indigenous person if non-Indigenous or vice versa. Find out about how they are doing or how they are feeling. Is there anything they or their community needs? Is there a way you/we can help? Show them you care.

One of our board members called a chief a week and found out his community had a food delivery problem. The chief was isolated at home. In turn, the board member contacted our district HIP Coordinator who had further contact with the chief. She, in turn, contacted some other people who could possibly help. As it turned out, the chief solved his problem without our help but our effort I believe further developed our relationship.

2. If you do not know someone in the Indigenous community and would like to reach out or have your club involved, contact HIP (juliedunaiskis@hipally.com). We can assist.
3. A number of clubs already have ongoing contact with Indigenous Peoples and their communities. Call the club or your District Coordinator. See if there is a way you can participate. They may need volunteers or money or food or specific supplies such as masks, sanitizers or food. Make sure, though, they have a need before you jump in.
4. If you have some time on your hands, it could be an ideal time to find out more about Indigenous Peoples. There are plenty of books and videos mentioned on our website www.rotaryhip.com. Richard Wagamese is one great Indigenous writer of three excellent books *Indian Horse*, *Ragged Company* and *Medicine, Walk*.

One person I know decided to take this time to find out more about treaties. There is a wealth of information about treaties online available at your fingertips. Also try YouTube. The video *Dish with One Spoon* is about the land issues at Caledonia. It is very revealing.

5. HIP is developing a fund to assist Indigenous communities with their needs. To make a tax-receiptable donation, you can click on the Donate Now button through CanadaHelps on our website www.rotaryhip.com and select [HIP COVID-19 Fund](#).

There are other ways too to become involved. I hope you will take this opportunity and do something.

Till next time, Migwetch (Thank You)

Chris Snyder

HIP Chairperson | Rotary Club of Toronto

ABOUT CHRIS: Chris is the author of [Creating Opportunities: A Volunteer's Memoir](#) and an active member of the Rotary Club of Toronto. Chris is currently Chair of HIP (Honouring Indigenous Peoples) and Past Chair of the Canadian Landmine Foundation. He has sat on a number of not-for-profit boards, including currently serving on the board of CUSO and the Trudeau Centre of Peace, Conflict and Justice at the Munk Centre (University of Toronto). He is the recipient of many volunteer and community service awards,

among them the Paul Harris Fellowship Award, both the Queen's Gold and Diamond Jubilee Awards, the Rotary Service-Above-Self Award and the Governor General's Sovereign Award for Volunteering. He is married to Pat. They have three children and four grandchildren.

Registered Rotary Clubs

**The following is a list of Rotary Clubs who have registered as HIP allies. This list is not all inclusive and does not reflect the complete list of the estimated 250+ Rotary Clubs currently working with Indigenous Peoples.*

Rotary Club of Toronto	Rotary Club of Meaford	Rotary Club of Belleville
Rotary Club of Winnipeg	Rotary Club of Stratford	Rotary Club of Port Hope
Rotary Club of Windsor	Rotary Club of Chesley	Rotary Club of Toronto-Forest Hill
Rotary Club of Fort William	Rotary Club of Picton	Rotary Club of Peterborough Kawartha
Rotary Club of Pickering	Rotary South Georgian Bay	Rotary Club of East York
Rotary Club of Brantford Sunrise	Rotary Club of Alliston	Rotary Club of Whitby Sunrise
Rotary Club of Guelph	Rotary Club of Colborne	Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise
Rotary Club of Cataraqui-Kingston	Rotary Club of Waterdown	
Rotary Club of Port Arthur	Rotary Club of Orangeville	
Rotary Club of Sarnia	Rotary Club Ottawa South	
Rotary Club of Niagara Falls	Rotary Club of Trenton	
Rotary Club of Niagara on the Lake	Rotary Club of Uxbridge	
Rotary Club of Ottawa-Stittsville	Rotary Club of Calgary	

NOTE: To be highlighted, email info@hipally.com for details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

UPCOMING

Events & Activities (please confirm directly with location for updates)

- ★ May 23-Aug 14, 2020 - Indigenous Art Exhibit - Woodland Cultural Centre
- ★ Oct. 7, 2020 - Tanya Talaga - Rights Before Reconciliation - Sanderson Centre

GOT AN EVENT OR LOCAL STORY? Send It To Us! If you have an event or news related to HIP's mission that you would like published, please email us at info@hipally.com

JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Please join us! Imagine what is possible when all 720 Rotary Clubs across Canada, and others, work together with First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples!

While we have a strong connection to Rotary, HIP includes a diverse membership comprised of schools, faith groups, businesses and other service organizations.

Individuals, Rotary Clubs and other groups can become a HIP Ally or helper by visiting HIP's website and submitting the online application. The 2019 rates are as follows:

Join the 200+ Rotary Clubs already working collaboratively with Indigenous peoples to “Change the Narrative!” and address education challenges.

- ★ Credible recognition as an Ally
- ★ Participation in a nation-wide movement
- ★ A like-minded community to exchange ideas
- ★ The opportunity to connect with other leaders who are changing Canada
- ★ Awareness of active reconciliation activities
- ★ Access to “Ally” video conference meetings
- ★ Access to resources (Education, speakers, promotional material, etc.)
- ★ Access to partners (Transportation, Indigenous organizations, etc.)
- ★ Discounts and special offers (10% discount with Goodminds.com, etc.)

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN NOW!](#)

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Contact us to find out how you can become a sponsor