



# THE HIP CIRCLE

UNDERSTANDING THE PAST. MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER.



*Traditional longhouse located in the ancient village of Kanata on the Six Nations of the Grand River.*

## New Members Welcome RC's OF THUNDER BAY, ON

HIP is excited to announce that the RC of Port Arthur has joined HIP! Also, Fort William & Lakehead are formalizing their Indigenous programs. The 3 clubs have been working together for years on service projects. We look forward to hearing about their expanding partnerships with Indigenous Peoples.

## Recognition RC OF WINNIPEG, MB

Congratulations HIP Director David G. Newman, the recipient of a Canadian Race Relations Foundation Local Community Champion Award. The award is given to those whose remarkable accomplishments represent excellence in building harmonious race relations and deliver a positive and tangible impact on all people in the community.

## Relationship Building RC OF COCHRANE, AB

RC of Cochrane has built a strategic plan to improve relations and awareness of Indigenous neighbors in Morley and on the Stoney Nakota lands. The start of their journey has begun with the development of an Indigenous Awareness Educational program that they plan to create and deliver in concert with the Town of Cochrane.



## WORLD'S LARGEST 4 DIRECTIONAL DREAMCATCHER

HIP Chairman, Chris Snyder with Lola Lawton, founder of Relay for Hunger. Lola has made the world's largest four directional dreamcatcher. The Four Directions, Dream Catcher represents the inter-connectedness of all people. Relay for Hungers sources food surplus food and sends to fly-in First Nations communities.

## DAREarts Youth Bridge Cultures at the Stratford Festival

*Submitted by HIP Director, Andre Morriveau*

This past August twenty-seven youths from Toronto and eight Indigenous youths from the remote, northern community of **Webequie First Nation** visited the **Stratford Festival** to see **To Kill A Mockingbird** as part of **DAREarts** annual summer camp. After the performance the youth engaged in a Q&A session in the Eaton Lounge with cast members Matthew G. Brown and Jonelle Gunderson. Stratford Festival's Artistic Director, Antoni Cimolino, and local MPs Erin O'Toole and John Nater were also in attendance.

**DAREarts** is a Canadian charity that empowers at-risk young people to be leaders who ignite change. That includes partnering with First Nations to work alongside their youth, artists and elders to together address life challenges.

This year's **DAREarts summer camp** ran August 7-14 for 35 youths aged 12 – 19. The Indigenous and non-Indigenous teens together created drama and visual arts, inspired by Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* and the production by **The Stratford Festival** with whom **DAREarts** has enjoyed a 22 year partnership. Diversity and inclusion shone as the youths shared their own real life challenges many similar to those presented in the play. The summer camp culminated with a presentation by the youths themselves in Toronto.

Bringing Indigenous youth and non-Indigenous youth together against the backdrop of the **Stratford Festival** and a play that reflects youthful interpretation of injustice served as a tool of empowerment. **DAREarts** in its 22 years, has reached over 200,000 young Canadians.



*"We at DAREarts appreciate this multi-decade partnership with Stratford Festival that is all the more inclusive by involving our remote northern Indigenous youths, said Marilyn Field, Founder and President of DAREarts. "Our rural Indigenous youths and our urban non-Indigenous youths are sharing experiences so different and yet so similar as Canadians who are often not heard. These youths have plenty to dream, achieve and lead."*

**DAREarts** encourages youth to step outside of their familiar boundaries and engage in positive risk taking. As they collaborate on artwork, they can distance themselves from their own life challenges and enjoy the safety of a supportive atmosphere.

As their programs grow, they remain relevant in addressing current social challenges affecting youth. Focusing on constructive, positive social skills that are essential to success, particularly in communities where opportunities are limited.

## INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

### *Who are the tribes that make up Six Nations?*

The Seneca, Oneida, Cayuga, Onondaga and Mohawks were a confederacy of five nations and were later joined by the Tuscaroras. These Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) peoples were originally located in the northeast primarily in what is now New York state. After the American Revolutionary wars, the British gave them land near Brantford and Deseronto, Ontario. They now live primarily in New York state, eastern Ontario (Deseronto) and near Brantford. The land they now occupy is only 5% of the land granted.

### *Where do each of the following First Nation peoples primarily live; the Cree, Anishinaabe, Dene, Mi'kmaq, Haida Gwai and Wendat?*

The Cree - subarctic from Alberta to Quebec, on the plains of Alberta and Sask. The Anishinaabe (Ojibway, Odaw, Mississaugas, Oji Cree, Chippewas, Potawatomi and Algonquins) - woodlands of northeast Canada primarily Manitoba, Ontario and southern Ontario. The Dene - northern boreal/arctic primarily northern Alberta, Yukon and NWT. The Mi'kmaq - maritimes primarily Nova Scotia. The Haida Gwai - coastal BC. Many are on the Island of Haida Gwai formerly called the Queen Charlottes. The Wendat (Hurons) - Simcoe County, ON. They were largely eliminated by the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) in the 1600's and many joined other First Nations communities. There are about 3,000 left living mainly near Quebec City.



### THE COLLINGWOOD GATHERING CIRCLE

This newly built structure is called a Gathering Circle, and it was inspired by Indigenous culture and traditional teachings and is part of the Awen Centre at Harbourview Park in Town of Collingwood. All seven components represent the Teachings of the Seven Grandfathers and each of the seven "canopies" has a different pattern representing the seven Ojibwe grandfather teachings of wisdom (Nbwaakaawin), love (Zaagidowin), respect (Mnaadendimoowin), bravery (Aakide'ewin), honesty (Gwekwaadiziwin), humility (Dbadendizwin) and truth (Debwewin). The canopies are supported by pillars made from Yellow Alaskan Cedar trees (a Cyprus tree known for its strength). The outdoor Gathering Circle is part of Collingwoods commitment to the Calls to Action and expanding understanding of Truth and Reconciliation. Lisa Farano along with Chris and Pat Snyder attended the opening ceremony.

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RotaryHIP.com



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## 16 Amazing People I Would Like to Introduce to You!

by John Currie, HIP Executive Director

Over the last month, I have had the privilege of traveling and meeting many amazing people. Both the land and these people have left an inspiring impression on me. In the spirit of building relationships, I would like to introduce them to you.

During a recent visit to Six Nations of the Grand River, I had the pleasure of speaking with **Audrey Powless-Bomberry**, Six Nation Education Councillor. With approximately 27,276 members representing all six Iroquois nations, Six Nations is the largest First Nations community in Canada. The Powless family is legendary within the Lacrosse world so there is no surprise that Audrey herself is a remarkable person. She has spent the better part of her life as a teacher and now seeks to help her community take education to the next level. HIP will be working with Audrey on piloting a book program that will provide Indigenous youth with relatable and culturally enriched content. HIP is seeking local Rotary Clubs and organization to support this project and partner with Six Nations of the Grand River.

My next stop was Goodminds.com, located in Brantford. Sometimes the stars are aligned as Goodminds.com is a leading source for purchasing bias-free teaching and educational resources related to Native American, First Nations, Indigenous and Aboriginal studies. President, **Jeff Burnham** proudly toured me around Goodminds' impressive facilities which has been in operation for 19 years. While funding is still required, I am happy to report that HIP and Goodminds.com will be partnering to provide books to Indigenous youth.

Jeff himself is an incredible person who graciously toured me around the region. We visited the Woodland Cultural Centre, located next to the now closed Mohawk Institute Residential School. The centre was created to support the communities of the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte, Six Nations of the Grand River and Wahta Mohawks. We also visited Her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks, the oldest surviving church building in Ontario. If you are in the area, I highly recommend you take the time to visit these historic sites.



Jeff Burnham, President and a founder of GoodMinds.com and John Currie, HIP Executive Director.



The Mohawk Institute Indian Residential School, a physical reminder of the legacy of assimilation imposed upon First Nations children in Canada. Located in Brantford Ontario.



Her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks was the first Protestant Church in Upper Canada in 1785 and is now the oldest surviving church in Ontario. Constructed by the British Crown, the chapel was given to the Mohawk people led by Joseph Brant for their support of the Crown during the American Revolution. They had migrated to Canada after Britain lost the Thirteen Colonies and were awarded land for resettlement



Chief Stacey LaForme of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation speaking to Rotarians in Toronto.



Director of HIP West Region David Newman with HIP Executive Director, John Currie, at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights



RC of Winnipeg President Trevor Stark and HIP Executive Director, John Currie.



RC of Kenora President Fred Wright, the Health & Hunger Committee & HIP Executive Director John Currie.

HIP Chairman Chris Snyder, Director John Andras and myself had the privilege of having lunch with **Chief Stacey LaForme** of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation. Chief LaForme is an impressive person who provided us with knowledge and guidance. We discussed many opportunities to work together including the potential to create a cultural centre and supporting the education of Indigenous youth from his community. HIP is seeking local Rotary Clubs and organizations to partner with the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation.

HIP Director **David Newman**, the RC of Winnipeg and Peace Builders & HIP Committees welcomed me to Winnipeg. David has served as a member of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba for Riel Constituency as a Progressive Conservative, was a cabinet minister, chaired a task force looking into the restructuring of Manitoba's civil justice system and served as Manitoba Minister of Energy and Mines and Minister of Northern Affairs, with responsibility for Native Affairs. David and his remarkable team, including HIP Director Diane Redsky, Strini Reddy, Larry Schmidt, Darren Swanson, Cindy Chatwell, Alina Duviner, Brenda Newman, Rany Jeyaratnam and many, many volunteers, organized an outstanding event for the launch of Aboriginal Peoples Television Networks "First Contact" series.

I would like to introduce you to **Clayton Sandy** from Sioux Valley Dakota First Nation in Manitoba. He, along with **Raymond Currie**, deliver "Circles for Reconciliation," a grassroots life changing project that pulls together small groups of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to talk openly and personally about issues like residential schools, the Sixties Scoop and aspects of reconciliation.

Members of the RC of Kenora, including **Fred Wright**, Director of Community Service and **Lloyd Mack**, Chair of the Health and Hunger Committee, hosted me for lunch. Nestled in the woods of northern Ontario, this powerhouse of a club received its Charter on March 1, 1920. Since then there has been no turning back with the implementation of numerous bricks and mortar projects and hours fundraising/volunteering in support of the disabled, arts, education and health to address local and international needs. It was exciting to learn that the club is already supporting many Indigenous youth with its programs and has included Indigenous Peoples in its membership which it hopes to expand. I look forward to continuing our dialogue and opportunities to work together.

Ontario is a large province and Dryden, my hometown, is a 1700 km drive from Toronto. It was a pleasure to go home and meet with **Peter Marshall**, President of the RC of Dryden and Rotarian **Cynthia Palermo** (whom I have not seen since high school). Founded in 1942, the RC of Dryden is located at the heart of Treaty 3, an area comprising of approximately 14,000,000+ hectares. Treaty 3 was signed in 1873 between the Saulteaux band of the Ojibwa peoples and the Government of Canada. The agreement provided Canada access to Saulteaux lands in exchange for various monetary awards, goods and Indigenous rights to hunting, fishing and natural resources.



*RC of Dryden President Peter Marshall, Rotarian Cynthia Palermo and HIP Executive Director John Currie.*

Arriving in Thunder Bay, I met **Clifford Mushquash**, President Elect of the RC of Lakehead. The son of Pays Plat Chief Peter Mushquash, Clifford is an incredible person who grew up in Sioux Lookout and served as President of its Rotary Club for two terms. Clifford promotes positive sustainable change and is currently completing an Honours Bachelor of Social Work and Bachelor of Arts in Sociology at Lakehead University.



*Dennis Franklin Cromarty Vice Principal, Estelle Simard, Executive Director of Institute for Culturally Restorative Practices, Mike Mosher, Sean Spennrath, Staff at Dennis Franklin Cromarty.*

It was also a pleasure to meet and speak with **Estelle Simard** and her husband Mike Mosher. Estelle is from the Anishinaabe Nation from the Territory of Treaty 3 and a member of the Couchiching First Nation. The Executive Director for Restorative Practices, Estelle is an expert in the culturally competent management of integrated mental, health and child welfare services.

**Warren Philip**, President of the RC of Port Arthur, and his Club, welcomed John Andras and myself to Thunder Bay. Warren explained that his club has a history of building bridges, including the "Outlaw Bridge," built by Rotarians on both sides of the border in 1917 to unite communities. Warren is an advocate for uniting people and looks forward to finding ways to build bridges between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.

Together, Warren Philips, John Andras, David Newman, Brenda Newman and myself had the pleasure of being toured around Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School by **Sean Spennrath** and **A.J. Haapa**. Along with their Principal, elders and other staff, they are doing a remarkable job under less than desired conditions.

John Andras, Warren Philip and myself were honoured to meet **Chief Peter Collins** who is serving his eighth term as the Chief of Fort William First Nation. Chief Collins is focused on advancing Fort William First Nation through economic development and promotion of education. A partnership with Fort William First Nations is a natural fit as Rotary members have a vast array of business backgrounds and HIP is focused on supporting Indigenous education initiatives. We spoke about many opportunities to work together and I look forward to seeing how this relationship develops.

Okay, you caught me. I slipped in some bonus names and exceeded expectations. The truth is, I have met hundreds of amazing people in my journey. I look forward to introducing you to more friends in the next issue. Until then, reach out and listen to a stranger's story. There is always room for new friends.



## HIP HOSTS LAUNCH OF “FIRST CONTACT” AT CANADIAN MUSEUM FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

By David G. Newman, Q. C. HIP Director, West Region

The evening viewing was an overwhelming success with 246 people in attendance but wouldn't have been possible without the collaborative efforts of many including HIP Directors, David G. Newman (emcee), John Currie, Diane Redsky, the producers, the Rotary Club of Winnipeg Peace Builder Committee members, the Honouring Indigenous Peoples Committee members, the 9th annual Rotarian and Friends inspired Peace Days planning team and the Ma Mawi Centre.

After the film, a panel moderated by Ry Moran, Executive Director of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, 3 producers of First Contact, local activist Michael Champagne, Vice-President of Indigenous Affairs at the University of Winnipeg and Ma Mawi youth leader Crystal Leach made an amazing contribution to the evening. Presentations by each panel member led into a Q and A period all streamed live on Facebook. For those not personally present and missed FaceBook Live the panel discussion link and other links to discussions about all 3 episodes are available at [www.firstcontactcanada.ca](http://www.firstcontactcanada.ca).

*"When the new Winnipeg-produced TV series First Contact aired on Sept. 11, 2018 in a three-night special on APTN, it touched off a national discussion about racism, reconciliation and the potential for change in bigoted opinions"* **Melissa Martin**, Winnipeg Free Press

Educators across Canada are interested in using the episodes and panel as curricula for students in our K to 12 systems and post-secondary to build awareness and stimulate dialogue and learning processes.

Feedback from The Winnipeg Free Press, The Globe and Mail and Huffington Post along with Rotarians who watched have been overwhelmingly positive. A Rotarian history teacher 35-40 years ago in rural Manitoba that included Indigenous students, now a leading business leader and local HIP member, observed:

"In hindsight, the reality is I was not a history teacher, but a teacher who taught what the government told me to teach." This explains in part why we were as Canadians misinformed for generations. The other parts reinforcing this were faith groups aiding government in "taking the Indian out of the child, generations of parents and grandparents educated this way, and Hollywood movies and comic books and literature that celebrated cowboys over Indians who were portrayed by settler society and the colonizers as heathens, primitives and savages.

HIP now has another tool in our educational tool kit in addition to the Kairos Blanket exercise. First Contact and workbook can be a catalyst for dialogue circles and a guide to conduct then amongst Rotarians and Indigenous Peoples. It is a means of getting to know and deeply understand and learn from "the other". Every Rotary Club and every service above self settler organization is invited to become involved. HIP Board Members and staff and all allies and members and friends of HIP and its purpose are invited to do the same in perpetuity until the 94 Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the aspirations of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples are realized in practice.

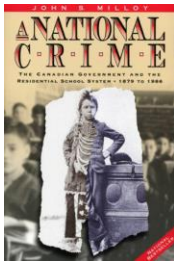
We have momentum. Let's move forward together with synergy like never before.

## DFC HIGH SCHOOL

HIP ED, John Currie, Directors John Andras & David Newman, along with RC of Port Arthur President, Warren Philip, and Brenda Newman, toured Dennis Franklin Cromarty School. Students attending this school are between the ages of 13 to 19 years old. Many are from fly-in communities. 6 of the 7 missing children written about in the "Seven Fallen Feathers" book attended this school. Built in the 60's with asbestos and lead pipes, it was deemed unsuitable for non-indigenous students but acceptable for First Nations. The teachers and elders go above and beyond every day to compensate for the shortage of funding and poor facility conditions.



## A National Crime: The Canadian Government & the Residential School System, 1879 to 1986



For over 100 years, thousands of Indigenous children passed through the Canadian residential school system. Begun in the 1870s, it was intended, in the words of government officials, to bring these children into the "circle of civilization," the results, however, were far different. More often, the schools provided an inferior education in an atmosphere of neglect, disease, and often abuse.

For more recommended reading, visit:  
<http://www.rotaryhip.com/resources/reading>

**"I am going to tell you how we are treated. I am always hungry."**

**Edward B.,  
 a student at Onion Lake School (1923)**

**"I'm thankful to the incredibly talented team of colleagues, artists, the people of Moosonee and the Moose Cree of Treaty 9 who were part of its creation. It's a story about identity and survival, family and love."**

**Tina Keeper,  
 Producer**

## Through Black Spruce - World Premiere at Toronto International Film Festival

*Adapted from the Giller Prize winning novel by Joseph Boyden*

The Through Black Spruce cast is led by Tanaya Beatty in the starring role of Annie, who goes searching for her missing sister. Brandon Oakes takes on the role of Will Bird. Kiowa Gordon plays her lover, the photographer Jesse. Supporting cast includes Graham Greene, Tantoo Cardinal, Wesley French, Roseanne Supernault. Produced by Tina Keeper, Robert Lantos and Barbara Samuels.

Watch for general release in theatres soon!

Through Black Spruce explores the way a young Cree woman's disappearance triggers events in two worlds; in Moosonee, the remote Northern Ontario community she fled years ago, and Toronto, where she modelled before vanishing. When her twin sister heads south to retrace her sibling's steps, her uncle is left to deal with the repercussions at home...and comes up against the ghosts of his past. The two worlds collide in the fallout from the missing woman's troubled life.

## LIKE US ON FACEBOOK for a chance to win the book "Seven Fallen Feathers!"

@HonouringIndigenousPeoples

Winner will be announced  
Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018



### HIP DIRECTOR SPEAKS TO RC OF PORT ARTHUR

HIP Director John Andras gave an inspiring and informative talk to the RC of Port Arthur in Thunder Bay.



### DFC ELDER JOHN GAGNON

HIP Executive Director John Currie & Board Director John Andras were privileged to have Elder John Gagnon pass along knowledge regarding the cultural activities of Dennis Franklin Cromarty & student needs to be connected to their roots while being so far from home.

## Message from the Chairman

I was very excited to receive an email recently from the Rotary Club of Cochrane (Albeta) asking if there are some synergies in working together. Indeed there are! What was more exciting, though, is the work they are doing with the town and First Nations communities to improve relations with the various First Nations people who live close by, specifically the development of an Indigenous Awareness Educational Program.

HIP started in southern Ontario but our mandate from the get go was all of Canada. It was wonderful to see and be part of what is happening right across the country.

In the west (Winnipeg), HIP Directors David Newman and Diane Redsky are doing great work. David played a huge role in **First Contact**, outlined separately. The first showing in Winnipeg was also attended by our Executive Director, John Currie.

John went on to meet and speak with Rotarians and Indigenous people in Winnipeg, Kenora, Dryden and Thunder Bay. In Thunder Bay he teamed up with HIP Director John Andras who has been working with the Dennis Franklin Cromarty School and continued to learn, build relationships and seek opportunities to support Indigenous education initiatives.

In Ontario, Pat and I were also very excited to attend an Indigenous Life Festival in Collingwood in late August. This was co-ordinated by the Native Friendship Centre in Owen Sound and HIP Director, Lisa Farano played an enormous and very influential role too. As always, I learned a lot as did the many people who came to view films, participate in a symposium, learn about Medicine Wheels, interact in the Broken Circle and Circle for Reconciliation and listen to some indigenous music. As we all know, interaction between indigenous and non-indigenous peoples is a great way to develop better relationships.

Further east, HIP Director Fred Lawlor spent time during holidays to chat with many in the MiKmag community and local Rotarians. Stay tuned!

What is exciting about all of the above is the role Rotarians are playing by working with the First Nation communities and advancing relationships.

I hope in the months ahead, there will be many more stories from across Canada we can share.

Migwetch (Thank You)

*Chris Snyder*

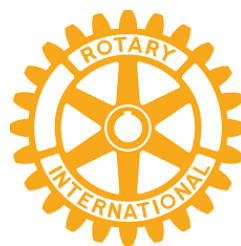
HIP Chairman & Rotary Club of Toronto

# BECOME AN ALLY TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

HIP (Honouring Indigenous Peoples) is a Canada wide partnership between Indigenous Peoples and Rotarians. HIP envisions a Canada where every Indigenous person to Canada has equitable education opportunities and where all Rotarians, and other Canadians, work collaboratively with Indigenous peoples to address education challenges and enable sustainable solutions thereby building strong nations where all prosper.

HIP connects allies through the family of Rotary, including schools, faith groups and other community partners, with Indigenous communities to remove education obstacles and inspire learning. You, or your organization, are not required to be affiliated with Rotary to participate.

HIP is a not-for-profit registered charity and 100% dependent and sustained by the activism & generous donations from people like you. You can support HIP by filling out and mailing the form below or visiting HIP's website, [www.rotaryhip.com](http://www.rotaryhip.com), where you will find resources, can schedule a HIP Talk and register as an ally.



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## GIFT DESIGNATION

- ☐ HIP Core Funding  
☐ Building Brighter Futures Bursaries  
☐ Education Support (ex: laptops for classrooms, etc.)  
☐ Cultural Restoration (Paddle for Truth & Reconciliation, etc.)  
☐ Area of Greatest Need  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## GIFT AMOUNT

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## FREQUENCY

☐ One-time ☐ Monthly ☐ Annually

## PAYMENT

☐ Cheque Attached ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX

CARD NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration (MM/YYYY) \_\_\_\_\_ CVN \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Gift contributions are tax deductible where allowed by law. Cheques should be made out to "HIP." Please complete the above form and mail: Attention Julie Dunaikis, c/o HIP, 100 Simcoe St., Suite 110, Toronto, ON, M5H 3G2, Canada.