

January 13, 2024

District 7040 Anti-Human Trafficking Initiative

Dear D7040 Rotary Club Presidents,

Following my DG Message in the August 2023 District Bulletin on Human Trafficking Awareness, and in light of the American National Human Trafficking Awareness Day/Month (January 11) and the Canadian National Human Trafficking Awareness Day (February 22), District 7040 is coordinating the following series of hybrid events on this important issue:

Wednesday, January 24 @ 7:00 pm (Hybrid Meeting)

Rotary Club Cornwall-Sunrise & Hawkesbury
Kickoff to Creating an Anti-Human Trafficking Awareness Series
RSVP: info@cornwallsunriserotary.com (to receive Zoom link)

Wednesday, February 7

Available for a club to lead a hybrid presentation on a theme of Human Trafficking
If your Club willing to host a hybrid meeting, please contact one of our District Anti-Human Trafficking Champions: Linda Bissonette (RC Hawkesbury) or Sheila Tallon (RC Cornwall Sunrise)

Wednesday, February 21

Available for a club to lead a hybrid presentation on a theme of Human Trafficking
If your Club willing to host a hybrid meeting, please contact one of our District Anti-Human Trafficking Champions: Linda Bissonette (RC Hawkesbury) or Sheila Tallon (RC Cornwall Sunrise)

Given the importance and pervasiveness of this often under-recognised but growing social issue within our area, which has profound impacts on individuals, families, and communities, I encourage all Clubs in the District to dedicate one of their upcoming Club meetings to enhancing members' awareness of Human Trafficking by:

- Inviting a community organization as a guest speaker to provide information on local Human Trafficking issues;
- Selecting one of the two remaining dates above to host a District-wide hybrid Club event on Human Trafficking;
- Encouraging Club members to watch our District's November 20, 2023, Learning & Development session on Human Trafficking at:
<https://vimeopro.com/jccringle/training/video/886705826>
- Encouraging our membership to watch the movie "*The Sound of Freedom*" (available on Amazon Prime TV and YouTube);
- Promoting Human Trafficking awareness on social media using the hashtags: #canadacan #endhumantrafficking #endslavery

All of the developing information of these events will be posted on the District's website along with the corresponding Zoom links:

<https://rotary7040.com/sitepage/human-trafficking-district-champions-awareness-projects>

Our District's Anti-Human Trafficking Champions - Linda Bissonette and Sheila Tallon - will follow up with each Club President shortly after this email for further support and resources.

Thank you for your time with this important topic.

Rotarians are People of Action, and we can and will act to help eradicate modern slavery and human tracking. By so doing, we can help to improve the physical and mental well-being of millions of people around the world, including in our own communities, and help **Create Hope in the World**.

Yours in Rotary Service

Pardeep

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Pardeep Ahluwalia

Rotary Club of West Ottawa (District 7040)

D7040 District Governor (2023-24)

President, RCWO (2018-20)