**North Atlantic Rotary Conference 2025**  
**The Magic of Rotary**

**Friday, May 30 - Sunday, June 01**

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

**Friday May 30, 2025**  
**The Westin Nova Scotian**  
**1181 Hollis St, Halifax, NS B3H 2P6**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Location** | **Activity** |
| **Pre-Conference: Training for presidents and secretaries elect, and area governors** **A separate program will be shared to all those attending this portion.** | | |
| **7:30 am – 6 pm** | Atlantic Mezzanine | Registration desk open for District Conference 2025 |
| **District Conference Kick-Off** | | |
| **6 pm** | **Meet in the** **Westin Foyer**  ***Registration ongoing until 8 pm*** | **The Magic Begins: Dine-Around and Home Hosting in Halifax** Join us for Dine-Around Halifax and Home Hosting with local Rotarians, for an unforgettable evening of fellowship and local flavors!   * Home Hosting pickup at the Westin at 6 pm by taxi, return to Westin by taxi * Dine-Around Halifax groups depart the Westin for restaurants - reservations for 7 pm (guests are responsible for their own transportation and meal expense) * Other guests leave for personal dinner plans |

**Saturday, May 31, 2025**  
**The Westin Nova Scotian**  
**1181 Hollis St, Halifax, NS B3H 2P6**  
  
Be sure to visit the **Friendship Village** to view and celebration our District’s One Magical Projects and check out the **Silent Auction** during breaks!

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Location** | **Activity** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **7:30 – 10 am** | **Atlantic Mezzanine** | **Registration desk open** for District Conference 2025 |
| **7:30 – 8:45 am** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | **Breakfast buffet** |
| **7:30 – 9 am** | **Atlantic Mezzanine & Atlantic Ballroom** | **Friendship Village**  Rotarians and guests are invited to visit the Friendship Village and experience One Magical Projects and other exciting ideas  Silent Auction opens |
| **9 – 9:25 am** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | **Opening Ceremonies**   * Emcee Miriam MacLeod welcome * Conference blessing & welcome to the ancestral lands,  for all attendees by Matthew Connolly, Kentville Club President * Welcome and introduction of the parade of flags with Dave Kowlessar, President of Rotary Club of Halifax Harbour * Parade of Flags - with Rotary Exchange students * National Anthems |
| **9:25 am** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | **District Governor Don Sword** |
| **9:30 am** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | **Remarks from Jenn Parker, VP of Communications and External Engagement at Nova Scotia Power, Platinum Sponsor** |
| **9:35 am** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | **PDG Mary Shackleton District 7230** Rotary International Representative |
| **10 –10:45 am** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | **The Club You’ve Been Waiting For Is the One You Can Create - Presented by Patrick Longano** From stand-alone Rotary clubs to Rotaract, from Satellite to Companion, from cause-based to IMPACT—club creation is no longer a theory, it’s a movement. Discover how innovative models are helping Rotary fit into people’s lives, not forcing people to fit into Rotary. This session delivers the blueprint and the belief to help you build the club you’ve been dreaming of. |
| **10:45 –**  **11 am** | **Friendship Village** | **Connection Health Break** |
| **11 –**  **Noon** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | **Keynote Speaker – Ramesh Ferris, polio survivor and Rotary District 5370’s District Governor Elect** Introduced by Brian MacIsaac, Vice-President TD Bank Atlantic Canada |
| **11 am** | **Meet in Westin Lobby** | **Partner Program guests depart for lunch at the Bicycle Thief** 1475 Lower Water Street, at Bishop’s Landing Contact: Jane O’Neil |
| **11:30 am –3 pm** | **Bicycle Thief &**  **Pier 21 Canadian Museum of Immigration** | **Rotary Partner Luncheon and Tour** This will include lunch at the Bicycle Thief at 11:30 am *(at your own expense)* followed by a guided tour of the Pier 21 Exhibit at 2 pm, and an introduction to the Canadian Immigration Story Exhibit. |
| **Noon –** **1 pm** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | **Lunch – Magic at the Table**  Lunch, followed by fellowship and connection at the Friendship Village |
| **1–1:20 pm** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | **Enviro Awards Presentation**  By District Governor Don Sword |
| **1:20 pm** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | **People of Action Summit Breakout Sessions** |
| **1:30 –** **2 pm**  **Groups Change rooms**  **2:10 –** **2:40 pm** |  | **People of Action Summit Breakout Sessions**   1. **Foundation (Maritime Room)**   **Session 1: Impact of The Foundation** Moderator: Wayne Thompson Panelists: Miriam MacLeod and Holly Thompson Types of programs and projects – current global and district grants  **Session 2: My Rotary Foundation**  Ways of giving to TRF Moderator Stella Roy, panellists Senior Major Gifts Officer Zone 28 Carolyn Ferguson, PDG and RI President's rep for the Dist Conf and Zone 32 Chair for Endowments and major gifts Mary Shackleton   1. **Service (Commonwealth Ballroom)**   **Creating Impactful Service Projects Through Collaboration**  **Part I - What is International Service?**  Curious about what the role entails? Discover how International Service connects Rotarians and projects. Learn what the role involves, explore valuable resources, and make valuable connections! With Elva Heyge  **Part II -** **Creating Impactful Service Projects Through Collaboration**  Join us for an inspiring and practical session focused on designing and delivering service projects that make a meaningful and measurable impact. We will walk you through developing a project, exploring strategies in identifying community needs, building strategic partnerships, obtaining grants, and leveraging collective resources to create sustainable change. With Robbie Griffin  **3. The Heart of Rotary: Inclusion, Belonging, and Community Magic** - with Trinda Ernst **(Bedford Room)**  **4. Youth (Lunenburg)** Come learn about your very active District 7815 Youth Exchange, Interact, RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards), and HIP (Honouring Indigenous Peoples) programs from members of your District Youth Services Team – led by, Jane Simmons, Youth Services Chair, Paula Hiltz, Interact chair; and RYLA Lead Facilitator, Edgar Allain. Youth Exchange/Interact Students will also be part of presentation!    You will have an opportunity to hear from youth participants and also learn about how individual Rotarians and Clubs can support our youth, the future of Rotary! – with Jane Simmons, Paula Hiltz, & Edgar Allain  **5. Rotaract (Northumberland)**  **Powering Possibility: Rotaract’s Return in the Atlantic** With Michael Morrison and Danielle Rolle Join us for a dynamic breakout session focused on the revitalization of Rotaract across Atlantic Canada. We’ll explore the core purpose of Rotaract—what it is, what we do, and why it matters—while showcasing real-life inspiration through the successful resurgence of the Rotaract Club. Whether you're new to Rotaract or looking to reenergize a local club, this session will offer insights, strategies, and stories to spark meaningful change and growth across the region.  **6. Public Image (Atlantic Ballroom)**  Public Image Power-Up: Practical Tools to Tell Your Club’s Story – with Kelly Hunt & Tom Paul  Ready to supercharge your club’s visibility, attract new members, and connect with your community in a big way? This interactive session is your ultimate public image power-up—bursting with hands-on tools, creative ideas, and real-world tips to help your club shine bright.  Whether you’re starting fresh or leveling up, you’ll leave with ready-to-use templates, simple strategies, and a big boost of confidence to tell your Rotary story loud and proud. Perfect for clubs of all sizes looking to stand out, grow, and have fun doing it! |
| **2:45 –3 pm** | **Friendship Village** | **Connection Health Break** |
| **3 pm** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | **Building Sustainable Peace** With Rotary Peace Fellow Dr. Susan Hartley, Rotary Club of Eastern PEI and Montague This interactive session will help Rotarians to consider how to build peace into projects and how to use technology to support peacebuilding. |
| **4 pm** |  | **End of sessions** Guest are invited to take part in the unveiling of the new Rotary Peace Pole at the Rotary Stage on the Halifax Boardwalk  *(25m north of Sea Smoke Restaurant, Bishops Landing)* |
| **4:45 pm – 5:15 pm** | **Rotary Stage on the Halifax Boardwalk** | **Peace Pole Unveiling Ceremony** Unveiling of a Rotary Peace Pole in Halifax, a symbol of our commitment to fostering peace in our community. |
|  | | |
| **The North Atlantic Rotary Gala: Celebrating the Magic of Rotary** | | |
| **6 –7:00 pm** | **Atlantic Mezzanine/ Atlantic Ballroom Friendship Village** | **Rotary Magic Cocktail Hour** |
| **7 pm** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | **The North Atlantic Rotary Gala: Celebrating the Magic of Rotary**  **Cocktail or Semi-Formal Attire is recommended. We encourage you to dress your best for the celebration!** |
| **7:30 pm** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | **The North Atlantic Rotary Gala: Celebrating the Magic of Rotary**   * Remarks * Award Presentation   + Club of the Year   + Rotarian of the Year * Preview of District Conference 2026! |
| **8 –9 pm** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | Dinner resumes |
| **9 –11 pm** | **Commonwealth Ballroom** | **Entertainment begins**   * Dance, live music with the band Toy Shed |

**Sunday, June 1, 2025   
Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21   
1055 Marginal Rd, Halifax, NS B3H 4P7**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Location** | **Activity** |
| **7:30 –** **8:45 am** | Chrysler Canada Pavilion | **Continental Breakfast** |
| **9:00-9:05 am** | Kenneth C. Rowe Hall | **Emcee Welcome** |
| **9:05 –**  **9:45 am** | Kenneth C. Rowe Hall | **In Memoriam** Honouring District Rotarians who have passed  Note: Club representatives will place a white rose on the stage. Roses will be displayed at the Rotary Peace Pole following the event. |
| **10 –11 am** | Kenneth C. Rowe Hall | **A Conversation with Taghrid Hadhad, Peace by Chocolate** Moderated by Lauren McLennan, Rotary Club of Halifax Harbour |
| **11-11:15 am** | Chrysler Canada Pavilion | **Connections Health Break** |
| **11:15 –11:45 am** | Kenneth C. Rowe Hall | **The Life Changing Magic of Rotary Youth Exchange RYE** Alida Campbell, Rotary Club of Halifax Harbour |
| **11:45 am –noon** | Kenneth C. Rowe Hall | **Closing Ceremony** |

Please visit the District Conference website for all speaker bios.  
Veuillez consulter le site web du conference district pour les biographies de tous les présenteurs.  
<https://ridist7815.org/sitepage/district-conference-2025>   
or scan below:   
A qr code with a dinosaur

AI-generated content may be incorrect.