



MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR



Click on the image of
District Governor Fred
Wright to watch his video

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 8 - District Talk Show
Sept. 13 - District Board Meeting
Sept. 21 - Assistant Governor's Meeting



MEEWASIN ROTARY SUPPORTS SERVICES TO AT-RISK YOUTH IN SASKATOON

The Rotary Club of Saskatoon Meewasin has partnered with the Saskatoon Downtown Youth Centre Inc., commonly known as EGADZ, to provide support services for At-Risk Youth in Saskatoon. The project has two components:

- The **Ground Zero** residence recreation room furnishing project. Created for youth by youth, Ground Zero is an emergency transitional housing program, offering an immediate, safe place to live while obtaining secure, long-term housing.
- The supply of **Backpacks** and necessities project.

[Read More >>](#)



ROTARY ADVENTURES IN HUMAN RIGHTS

Students from across Canada were in Winnipeg recently to learn about human rights, through a program that encourages young people to think about how they can incorporate awareness about those rights in their own communities.

The program, organized and sponsored by the international humanitarian charity Rotary Club, brought 17 students to the city for the week-long program at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights.

[Read More >>](#)



ROTARY SPOTLIGHT

Each month we would love to spotlight one or more District Rotarians. Please submit suggestions with background information to newsletter editor, Ron Nordstrom via email. Email rnord@mymts.net



THE GIFT OF READING

The Guatemala Literacy Project is working to reverse the country's low literacy rates and keep children in school. Read this inspiring article by Diana Schoberg on Rotary International's website.

[Read More >>](#)



ROLLING PRESENTATIONS

Many clubs use a rolling presentation as a visual aid during meetings. PowerPoint slides are prepared and automatically advance and loop. These slides include general announcements, upcoming events, past events, fundraising results, birthdays and anniversaries, or anything else deemed important. Click on **Read More** to see an example of the rolling presentation from a recent Dauphin meeting then, create your own.

[Read More](#) >>



PUBLIC IMAGE FOR YOUR CLUB

District 5550 Public Image Chairperson, Jenna Raimbault, recently made a presentation to district presidents on the importance of Public Image to Rotary. Click on **Read More** to see her 6 slides. Does your club need help with Public Image? Contact [Jenna](#) or watch for news from the Public Image team.

[Read More](#) >>



RYLA NEWS

RYLA Camp 2022 has just wrapped up. Click to read the t Jorrel Camuyong, RYLA Chair for 2022.

[Read More](#) >>

What is RYLA all about? Check out this 4 minute promotional video: <https://youtu.be/3sWoyGZiUVc>



DEDICATED ROTARIAN REMEMBERED

A member of Meewasin Rotary Club, Harold Empey is remembered fondly in this tribute. Click on the Read More button to see how important Rotary was to “Mr. Dessert Man”.

[Read More](#) >>



Find a list of the District Executive, District Officers and Directors, and Assistant/Area Governors on the District 5550 Web Page

[CLICK HERE](#) >>



OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE TEAM

Nominations for District Governor Nominee are now open. Clubs should nominate worthy candidates by sending the nomination to District Governor [Fred Wright](#).

District 5550 is looking for a volunteer as an archivist. Don't have the skill set for this task? No problem. The District has a number of committees who would love more members. For more information please contact District Governor Fred Wright at fred.wright2020@gmail.com or a committee chair listed below.

Our District Committees who would welcome volunteers include:

Youth and Fellowship – Patty Vann - 4pattyvann@gmail.com

Public Image – Jenna Raimbault - jenna@bwise.ca

Membership – Rod Riopel - rodriopel@gmail.com

Learning and Development – Gailmarie Anderson - gmanderson@sasktel.net

Foundation – Bob Durston - rdurston@mymts.net

Communication – Duane Hayunga - dhayunga@sadktel.net

World Community Service – Eva Vida - eva.vida@icloud.com

Finance – Jeff Merry - jeffrey.merry@gmail.com

World Peace Partners – Taiseer Shareif - taiseersshareif@gmail.com



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**



ROTARY SPOTLIGHT ON GORD & DEB LEMAISTRE - AWARD WINNING DEDICATION TO ROTARY

Rotarians Deb and Gord LeMaistre met in 1970 and have been married for 48 years. Their greatest accomplishment is their three adult children and four wonderful grandchildren who they love spending time with. They enjoy hiking and travel, having visited more than 50 countries exploring, learning, and often attending Rotary meetings when on vacation.

After more than a decade involved in Scouts as a leader, Gord was invited to join Rotary in 2002, and Deb, who was a

Group Committee Chair for Scouts, joined Rotary in 2009. Gord became Chair of the Canadian Ripple Effect Committee on July 1, 2009 and continues to manage the program with Deb at his side. The Ripple Effect Program is a D5550 Program, the area of focus being Basic Education and Literacy.

Gord graduated in 1973 with a Bachelor of Science in Forestry from Lakehead University, retiring January 2008 after working in the forest industry for 34 years. Deb, also retired, worked in the healthcare field for 20 years in a variety of roles at the local hospital, most recently as Systems Administrator for ambulance services.

Rotary Service

Both Gord and Deb are Past Presidents of the Rotary Club of Kenora and have been members of the Board of Directors, in varying capacities on numerous committees.

Gord and Deb are Major Donors -Level 1, Bequest Society -Level 1 and Benefactors.

They have enjoyed attending 5 Rotary International Conventions, 13 District Conferences and participated in four Rotary Friendship Exchanges, and look forward to more travel within Rotary.

Ripple Effect Program (REP)

Deb and Gord are very passionate about the Ripple Effect Program. They travelled to Guatemala for the first time in 2008, and fell in love with the country and its people. What stood out was how welcoming the Guatemalan people were. They saw the great need for education and basic school infrastructure and realized Guatemala was the perfect place for them to help make a difference. They often say the beautiful children of Guatemala are the driving forces that keep them engaged. They have travelled to Guatemala 13 times to conduct project monitoring activities, staying for up to a month each time. More than 20 Rotarians from District 5550 have accompanied them on these trips over the years.

“Providing educational opportunities for children living in challenging environments offers hope for a brighter future through education, so we do whatever it takes to get kids into school and keep them there” is often quoted by members of the Ripple Effect Committee.

The REP has built or refurbished over 100 schools, provided over 600 Middle and High School Scholarships, and 12 university scholarships to teachers, invested over \$4.0 million in education and directly benefitted over 40,000 students. The success of the D5550 Ripple Effect Program is directly related to the support of the Canadian Ripple Effect Committee, District 5550, The Rotary Foundation, Government of Canada, private donors, and clubs in Zones 28 & 32. In District 4250 (Guatemala), our success is also due to support from Guatemalan Ripple Effect Committee who have opened many doors and connected program members to the right people in government, business, and Rotary Clubs in Guatemala.

Donald McRae Peace Award

Each Rotary Club and District in Zones 28 and 32 is encouraged every year to nominate a candidate for the **Donald MacRae Peace Award**. This year Gord and Deb have been recognized as the deserving recipients of this most prestigious award.

Candidates for the awards will have demonstrated the advancement of international goodwill, understanding and peace through peace-making efforts or humanitarian activity of international significance. The award is open to Rotarians and non-Rotarians, but the applicant must have a relationship with the Club or District that is nominating him/her.

“We have been privileged to help this initiative Ripple Effect Program significantly impact many communities in Guatemala and help to create hope and peace in the lives of thousands of children. **We have a great Team and The Donald MacRae Peace Award is directly related to their support.** We are humbled and very proud to be recognized with this most distinguished award.” Deb & Gord