# **The Rotary Story**

### **Rotary's Local Focus**



Canadian Mental Health Association Regina Branch One of the key programs supported by the Rotary Club of Regina Eastview is the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA).

This volunteer-based organization supports, promotes and enhances the mental health and wellbeing of all members of the community. Each weekday in Regina CMHA clients come to the centre seeking help to meet challenges in their daily living. They come for counselling, for structured programs, for socializing, and for a noon meal. We have partnered with the Regina Branch of CMHA to improve their centre and enable enhanced programming.

The following are other local programs that have been supported by the Rotary Club of Regina Eastview. As a result of the coronavirus pandemic many programs have changed and we are re-evaluating our involvements. However, the principles remain the same, Rotary is here to help and to make a difference. We particularly focus on the needs of the most vulnerable and on enhancing the potential of young people.





**Chili For Children** – The Rotary Club of Regina Eastview makes a cash donation to assist in serving lunches to elementary students in North Central Regina. Due to Covid -19 we have been unable to provide hands-on support as we have in the past.

**Early Childhood Intervention Program (ECIP)** – is a nonprofit organization with goals to:

- Enhance childhood development.
- Identify family needs and strengths.

The Rotary Club of Regina Eastview provides annual support to enhance programming for challenged children. The recent purchase of specialized therapy equipment to assist children with physical disabilities has helped the development of motor skills.

**Literacy** -Our Club has partnered with the Regina Public Library in their projects to provide reading materials the families of newcomers to Canada.



## **Rotary Youth Programs**

Adventures in Agriculture is held during the internationally acclaimed Canadian Western Agribition Livestock Show and



Sale held annually in Regina. It provides students who attend an opportunity to visit the Agribition, tour major agriculture-based industries, and participate in networking and information sessions conducted by agriculture industry professionals and business leaders. The program is designed for senior High School Students interested in agriculture and broadens their knowledge and understanding of the multi-faceted agricultural sector, environmental issues, and the challenge of providing food for the world. Due to COVID-19 we were unable to offer this in 2021.

**International Student Exchange program** provides grade XI and XII students opportunities for a 6 week or a one-year exchange to countries of their choice. Students are hosted by Rotary families. These experiences broaden horizons and create unique bonds of friendship. They enhance crosscultural understanding and thereby contribute to world peace. Due to COVID-19 these programs have been on hold, but we hope to resume them in the coming year.

**Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)** is traditionally a one-week camp for junior youth and a oneweek camp for senior youth. They come out of that experience with amazing increased self-confidence and a positive attitude towards others. This past year a Virtual RYLA was very well-attended, and participants are anxious to return again.

**Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)** A Virtual MUNA, (Model United Nations Assembly) was held in late April/early May 2021. We hope to do choose one or two teams again this year. Teams are chosen from Regina high schools. They prepare to represent a specific country to debate current issues of that country as in a United Nations setting. This is a great learning exercise in world affairs, presentation skills, and diplomacy.

*Thank You*...for working with us to make a difference in the lives of the individuals and families who benefit from Rotary services and programs supported by your generosity.





# **The Rotary Story**



### **Rotary's Global Focus**

**Rotary is a worldwide service organization** of 1.2 million members. Our motto is "Service Above Self". Each of our 34,823 clubs in over 200 countries identify service opportunities in their local communities as well as around the globe.

There are five active Rotary Clubs in Regina providing life-changing services. **Rotary supports** many local programs and groups. Internationally we offer youth exchange programs, education and literacy programs, initiatives for water and sanitation, disaster relief, disease control, and economic development as well as conflict resolution and peace alternatives and opportunities. Rotary has just added a 7th Area of focus – Environmental Sustainability. We strive to make our world a healthy place for all life to live.





The worldwide eradication of Polio has been Rotary's focus since 1985. Rotary has partnered

with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the US Center for Disease Control, and more recently the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in this global program to rid the world of this crippling disease. We are so very close to success – to the time when no one will ever contract polio again!

**The Ripple Effect Program** is one of our special programs. It is a Basic Education and Literacy program in Guatemala, which includes building or renewing school infrastructure, including washrooms and kitchens, and providing furniture, supplies, computers and playgrounds, focusing on the primary grades. The Ripple Effect

Scholarship Fund encourages Guatemalan students to attend middle school and high school. A Teachers' Scholarship program was started in 2015, and four Guatemalan teachers graduated with a degree in 2017. Four scholarships were also awarded in 2018, enabling four young women to enter their first year of university.



**POWERFUL IMPACT:** We are often asked what impact the Ripple Effect Program is having on the children and on their communities. It is amazing how quickly positive change has happened. At the start of the program most teachers only had high school level education. However, our liaison with the Guatemalan Dept. of Education has resulted in a commitment to provide qualified teachers in each school we build. Now most teachers are university trained educators. Since 1999, the Canadian Ripple Effect Program has built or refurbished over 95 schools, awarded over 550 middle school and high school scholarships, directly benefitted over 25,000 students and invested over \$3,000,000.00 in education in Guatemala.

As a result of the enhanced quality of education, the number of students, particularly female students, has risen sharply. The high quality of education has also resulted in academic success as well as enhanced employment opportunities to graduating young people.

FOCUSED ACTION: The changes made by taking focused action has truly created positive ripples in every receptive community

in which we built a school. The positive impact has become more evident every year. Rotarians in Guatemala are now raising funds and donating to projects. Guatemalan companies are jumping on board, the government is looking to help any way they can, the municipalities and communities are stepping in to offer skilled and unskilled labour, as well as materials and equipment to help. They are making access to rural schools easier by repairing roads and are improving drainage near schools.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP:** With your help, we are making positive change happen! Education is the right of every child. Join us in making a long-term positive difference in the future success of children and their communities in Guatemala.

**TO LEARN MORE** about the Rotary Club of Regina Eastview, to become a member, or to contribute to our local or international programs, call President Pat Dell at 306-533-7760 or call a friend or family member who is a member of Rotary.

