

"It's all about service," - the Reason Why People Become Rotarians

Story by Ed Kolybaba on May 01, 2022



The Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise was pleased to induct two additional members into the club on Friday, April 28th, one of the individuals a seasoned active Rotarian with other clubs within District 5060 and another eager to serve his community and the world through membership as a Rotarian.



Mike Wright, the president and owner of Mike Wright & Associates Inc. since 2018, and a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA, CA), Chartered Insolvency and Restructuring Professional (CIRP), and Licensed Insolvency Trustee (LIT), sought out membership with Rotary International and the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise as a means to focus more on serving his community. Mike expresses that rather than focusing as much as he has on himself; it is time

to change his focus toward making his community a better place. "I'm in a place that I can start to think about making my community better by giving a hand-up to people who haven't had the opportunities I have had," he stated. He recognizes that Rotary will provide him specifically with the opportunity to focus on programs and projects within the community and internationally that support education and particularly basic financial literacy.

Mike hails from Warton, Ontario where he attended secondary school graduating in 1996. In 2001, he graduated from Wilfrid Laurier University with Honours in Economics and Accounting. His career in accounting was enhanced with further studies enabling him to become a Chartered Account in 2004, a Chartered Insolvency & Restructuring Professional in 2007, and a Licensed Insolvency Trustee, also in 2007.

In his chosen career, Mike has served his profession in a variety of ways. He is a past Board member and secretary of the British Columbia Association of Insolvency &

Restructuring Professionals, a CPABC and CP Canada Financial Literacy facilitator and a participant in making submissions to government on proposed changes to insolvency and restructuring legislation.

Based on Mike's recent and current service within the community, since he and his wife moved to Kelowna in 2007, he has demonstrated that he is already on his way to becoming an active community member. He is presently a Director and the Treasurer of The Bridge Youth and Family Services and is soon to start as a volunteer child-minder at The Bridge. He has also used his professional skill and knowledge voluntarily making presentations on credit and debt at the Karis Support Society, Freedom's Door and The Bridge within the Central Okanagan.



John McIntyre, a seasoned Rotarian with a heart of gold, has been providing outstanding leadership throughout the Rotary district for years as Treasurer with the Rotary Club of Kamloops West Rotary, and more recently as President (2015-16), Secretary and chair of a number of other committees with the Rotary Club of Kelowna.

John is also a great supporter of The Rotary Foundation and the international work it carries out throughout the world. As a Paul Harris Society member and a Paul Harris Fellow at a +8 level, he continually supports the programs and humanitarian service provided to those in need beyond our borders.

John's aspirations are to continue to provide leadership within the club wherever it is needed, whether it be in an executive or directorship role, or to serve as a member on one or more committees. With Alberta as his home province, John graduated from JT Foster High in Nanton in 1977 and from the University of Calgary with a Bachelor of Commerce in 1981. Following the attainment of Chartered Accountant status in 1984, he became an Income Tax Specialist with Deloitte's. In 1992, he became self-employed as a tax specialist, and then moved to Kamloops two years later where he opened his own Chartered Account firm which he operated and sold off in 2012. Upon retirement, he and Susan moved to Kelowna.

Now that John is retired, he spends a considerable amount of time focused on Rotary activity and pursuing his passion for golf.

After stepping back from Rotary for a period of 22 months following his membership with the Rotary Club of Kelowna, John recognized that he was missing the service provided through the avenue of Rotary, which led him right back into Rotary membership, this time with the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise where he could become active in supporting the goals and projects undertaken by the club.