



Rotary  
Club of Duncan



Wednesday, September 6, 2023

### MeetingZoomInfo

Can't join in person? Click [HERE](#) to join via Zoom!

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### Meetings and events recap...

#### Cowichan River Cleanup - Sunday, August 27

It was a beautiful day to be in, on or near our beautiful Cowichan River, helping out the [Cowichan Watershed Board](#) and partners along with other volunteers. Twelve Rotarians attended with 5 looking after an upper section requiring a canoe and a bit of swimming here and there, 3 on the lower section, fortunately assisted by other volunteers who signed up at registration, and 4 on the BBQ detail.

In total, 1825 kg of material was collected from the bed and banks of the river, material which the CVRD waived the disposal fees for at Bings Creek. This annual event brings out people from all walks of life, including our MP, Alistair MacGregor who's become a regular attendee at this event.

Save the date for next year...it's usually the last Sunday in August so mark it on the calendar!



\*photo credit unknown, but 'borrowed' from the Cowichan Watershed Board FB page!

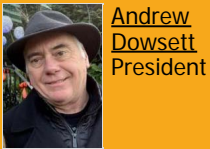
### Regular Club Meeting Time & Place

Duncan  
Meets at Cowichan Golf and Country Club  
4955 TransCanada Hwy  
Duncan, BC  
Time: Monday at 11:45 AM

### Upcoming events

- September 11th  
[Duncan Weekly Club Meeting](#)
- September 18th  
[Duncan Monthly Club Social](#)
- October 2nd  
[Duncan Weekly Club Meeting](#)

### Club Leaders



[Andrew Dowsett](#)  
President



[Karen A. Thorington](#)  
President-Elect



[Robert Graham Cairns](#)  
Vice President



[Joel Perry](#)  
Secretary



Corrine Joyce Thompson  
Treasurer



Jeff Downie  
Club Director



Derek Gullmes  
Public Image Chair



Michael James Taylor  
Bulletin Editor



Susanne Atagi  
Rotary Foundation Chair



Nora K. Dowsett  
Club Admin Chair



Gregg Perry  
Membership Chair  
Past President



Michael Lee  
Club Service Chair



Leighton Mellemstrand  
Youth Protection Officer



Doyle Childs  
Assistant Governor

## Birthdays this month

Troy Evans  
September 9th  
Susanne Atagi  
September 9th  
Anna-Maria Korell  
September 12th  
Keith Fuller  
September 16th  
Jo Madeline Velu Bodard  
September 26th  
Tek S Manhas  
October 5th

## Wedding anniversaries this month

James Cosh  
September 7th

## Lunch Meeting - Monday, August 28

Some 23 Rotarians and guests gathered for lunch at the Cowichan Golf Course for the weekly meeting.

Following acknowledgements, members welcomed prospective member Dacy Hoffman to the luncheon. Dacy got her feet wet, literally, by participating in the Cowichan River clean-up on Sunday.

President Andrew thanked Jim & Lois Cosh for hosting the official **Walla Walla Onion Competition** last Wednesday evening. Congratulations to Bea Fulton for displaying the award-winning onion.

### Membership Development

Nora played a video of a talk given by Michael McQueen, Founder, The Nexgen Group on growing Rotary club membership in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. There were several key messages:

- Those who survive are those who are most responsive to change.
- Clubs need to recalibrate to remain relevant (e.g. Kodak)
- Clubs need to be clear about what it means to be Rotarian.
- Relevance is not negotiable.
- Clubs will need to challenge the norm.
- Rotary needs to constantly be repositioning the brand, responding to the environment in which it operates.
- Clubs need to attract younger members by making Rotary relevant to them. In doing so, Clubs need to answer the question: Why Rotary?

Members are encouraged to watch the video: <https://vimeo.com/117610389>

### Announcements

**Club Visioning** – Karen Thorington reminded members that two more volunteers are required for the club visioning exercise on Saturday, October 21. The survey will be sent to members in the coming weeks and all members are encouraged to complete and submit the survey. Karen is currently looking into a venue for the visioning session. For more information, please contact Karen: [karenthorington58@gmail.com](mailto:karenthorington58@gmail.com).

**Bags, Brew and BBQ Charity Cornhole Tournament** – Richard Odo updated members on plans for the Cornhole Tournament on Sunday, September 3, 1-5pm at the Duncan Curling Club. The event, a fundraiser for the Pregnancy Food Connection (meat, eggs, and lentils vouchers), will feature a competitive cornhole tournament, a BBQ rib truck plus salads, a couple of breweries, a wine/cider bar and activities for kids of all ages. Ideally, the event will feature 64 cornhole teams of two. Tickets are \$30.00 per person plus \$40/team to enter the tournament. While the overhead costs for the event are relatively low, numbers to date are somewhat below expectations. As a major fundraiser, it will be important for all club members to get out and sell tickets to this fun event. Don't forget to forward the poster to family members and friends! A volunteer sign-up sheet has been circulated. Please sign-up ASAP.

**Duncan Rotary Car Rally** – Doyle reported on the success of Sunday's car rally. Team Dowsett was the big winner. Thanks to Doyle, Barry and Susanne for organizing this great event.

**Cowichan River Clean-up** – Mike Taylor thanked the members for helping with the river clean-up on Sunday. While final figures are not available, there was a general sense that there was less refuse collected this year. And the cook team did a great job with the BBQ.

**Cowichan Valley Youth Services** has asked the club to provide a BBQ lunch on September 14, marking the Agency's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Bob Fenske will be looking for volunteers for that event. Further details to follow.

Bob also mentioned that, after 20+ years, he will be looking for someone to take over his key role in providing the BBQ services to the various events throughout the year.

**Storage Unit** – The Club wishes to thank Todd Blumel for donating the use of the shipping container for storing the Club's equipment. The unit is very secure and conveniently located. The Club thanks Todd for his generosity.

### Happy/Sad's

Dick Wright noted that he will miss this weekend's Bags, Beer and BBQ Event, but bought two tickets.

Karen McClinchey was delighted to be able to attend today's meeting and offered a Club shirt (never worn) to anyone who was interested.

Nora acknowledged her team's success in the car rally.

Doyle reported on his participation in the Cycle of Life Tour, an annual group cycling fundraiser supporting hospice care on Vancouver Island. 2023 marks the 10th year of the group ride! His group of 10 riders raised \$56,000 for Hospice.

### Upcoming Events

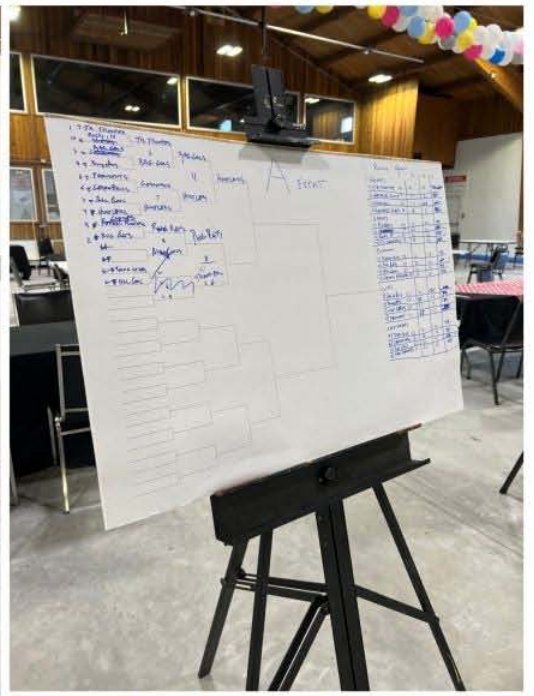
- September 3 – Bags, Brew and BBQ Charity Cornhole Tournament
- September 4 – No meeting; statutory holiday
- September 14 – Cowichan Valley Youth Services BBQ



### Bags, Brew and BBQ Cornhole Tournament - Sunday, September 3

Over 100 attendees came to this inaugural event this past holiday weekend to enjoy some good competition and great food and drink at the Glen Harper Curling Centre. The competition at the cornhole boards was lively and entertaining, capped off with some excellent ribs and choice of either Red Arrow beer or wine. It was great to see so many children attending as well, and by the looks of it, they enjoyed themselves as much as the adults. Turned out to be a great first offering of what is hoped to be a recurring event to raise money for the Pregnancy Food Connection.





Coming up...

Come join your fellow members at our regular lunch meeting this coming Monday at the Cowichan Golf and Country Club where we'll hear from North Cowichan Mayor Rob Douglas.

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**Don't forget to follow us on:**

