

Lessons From The Pandemic

The Satellite Rotary Club of Winnipeg-Charleswood Virtual explores online connection to engage people in a new way

April 2023 – Exploring issues of accessibility and charity works, a new virtual online Rotary Club seeks to engage new folks and younger people. The pandemic forced all of us to use technology to work and visit with family and friends from almost anywhere. It can also be a highly effective tool of engagement within charitable life.

Current chairperson, Nancy Hansen, emphasizes,

“We are striving to create an environment that allows people who may not have the time, means, or ability to go out to do charity work. We have created a space where anyone can contribute and be engaged from their own home.”



Nancy Hansen

Drawing on a deep understanding of accessibility issues, this club seeks to transcend the borders of geography to draw interested parties and members that will be uniquely positioned to offer their charitable time back to their communities.

Current members log on to Zoom from their homes in Manitoba, Ontario, and Alberta. It is the club's hope that if a person is comfortable participating in a one-hour meeting starting at 7 pm CT time zone twice a month, anyone in the world could visit, audit or join their club.

The hope of coming together in this way is to meet people where it works best for individuals and to create a safe and supportive environment to give back. Early on in the club, it has become clear that issues of equity, accessibility, education, inclusivity, and diversity will be the focus of this club's growth.

Some early projects include tab collections for wheelchairs, book donations to prisoners, underfunded school libraries, and seeking to understand food insecurity.

In the latest Podcast episode of “Talking Rotary” (<https://talkingrotary.org/>) co-host and District Governor Nominee, Peter Tonge, interviews members Martin & Eira Braun-Labossiere about their interest in Rotary and why they decided to get involved in this satellite club in particular.

The Satellite Rotary Club of Winnipeg-Charleswood Virtual invites anyone interested in sitting in on a meeting to reach out for the link to the next meeting.

The only catch? Nancy Hansen sums it up best,

“Our aim is to simply bring an engaged group of people together to do good in the world.”

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About

Rotary is a global network of 1.4 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

Media Contact Information

Please direct all questions to The Satellite Rotary Club of Winnipeg-Charleswood Virtual chairperson Nancy Hansen nancyhansenrotary@gmail.com.

Talking Rotary Podcast - <https://talkingrotary.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/SatelliteClubWinnipegCharleswood>

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