

# Rotary Club of Sussex Inc.

P O Box 7004, Sussex Corner, NB E4E 5M3

[www.sussexrotary.org](http://www.sussexrotary.org)

Club # 6355 / District # 7810

## Cowbell

Date: September 22, 2014

**Attendance:** Bob T., Shelley V, Kathy, Scott, Sandra, Wendy, Robert K, Donna, Robert L., Robert D.

**Regrets:** Rhoda, Lou, Bruce, Steven G., Bob B., Harley.

**Guests:**

- John McNair, Owner of Outdoor Elements Ltd.
- Alania Alexander, PotashCorp Civic Centre.

## Rotary Grace

## Toast to the Queen

Meeting Chairperson Robert K. welcomed all members, and expressed regrets from members not attending. Robert also welcomed our two guests.

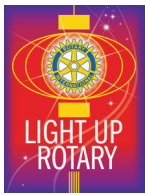
**Rotary Minute:** Sandra speaks on the upcoming training through the Rotary International Leadership program. This year's program and leadership training is scheduled to happen on October 25<sup>th</sup> in Truro, NS. Sandra spoke on the beneficial aspects of this program and her experience with taking this training in the past. It is encouraged that this training be considered by the club and the approaching deadline of October 01<sup>st</sup>, 2014 is near.

**Guest speaker:** John McNair, Owner of Outdoor Elements Ltd.

Wendy O. welcomes John McNair to the Sussex Rotary Club as the owner / operator of Outdoor Elements. John's business was established in 1985 and has had a storefront from 2005 to 2012.

John McNair spoke on his development of his business and his experiences over that last number of years and explains the business and his setbacks out of his control.

- John established the business concept in 1987.
- Opened the storefront at the Broad Street location in 2005.
- Devastation of the fire experienced in 2012 has introduced a whole new complexity in his business planning.
- Consider the need for planning and to actively review your insurance coverage, frequently as a top priority.
- The need to consider ongoing continued vigilance in keeping records and inventory, and store this off site.
- His business would not be capable of considering to reopen if he did not have fire insurance coverage.



- John spoke on his recent purchase of 597 Main Street and his plans to reopen his business at that location.
- Plans to reopen the last week in October and notes 80% of his business is undertaken during the winter months.
- With the larger space of the new location John plans to offer a selection of quality product as well as being able to display the entire annual products offered is viewed beneficial.
- Would like to add a selection focused on children's needs in sport with his main business focus to continue in the ski and bike sales and support.

Kathy C. thanked John for his interesting presentation and offered John a luggage tag as a token of our appreciation for his interesting talk.

### **Committee Reports:**

- ❖ **Correspondence:** Scott reports on this week's correspondence from the organizers of the District conference as well as a number of emails on the great work the membership team has undertaken in the past several weeks.
- ❖ **Club By-law Committee:** Sandra reported the committee on the development of the plans and by-laws at their meeting held last week. Another meeting will be scheduled shortly to review the first draft of the By-laws. Sandra indicated she would keep the club informed on the progress.
- ❖ **District 7810 Conference:** Bob T. reported on the hosting of the hospitality suite at the conference. Bob, Sandra and Robert K. represented the club and all thought the hospitality event was less than what was anticipated. The location was difficult due to hotel renovation construction as well as scheduling conflicts which basically affected the attendance at the suite.

Bob T. indicated the Saturday events were better organized, informative and well attended. He enjoyed that day.

### **Happy / Sad Bucks**

**50/50:** Robert L.

**Meeting Adjourned, 1:15 pm.**

**Stay tuned for the Next Cowbell!!!**