



ROTARY Club of Sussex Inc.
P. O. Box 7004, Sussex Corner NB E4E 5M3
Club #6355 District #7810
www.sussexrotary.org

COWBELL - September 19, 2016

Attendance: Lisa B., Angela C., Rob D., Donna G., Rhonda H., Ed K., Greg K., Robert K., Harold L., Lou M., Tina M., Bruce N., Teresa O., Ian S., Bob T., Shelley V., Rhoda W., Robert L.

Regrets: Alaina A., Bob B., Don D. Cindy D., Jeff F., Erik H., Blair H., Don I., Paul K., Alaina L., Cecile M., Mary M., Bob S.

Guests: Potential Members - Alex Coffin, Melissa Cummings-Keith, Matt White, Jim McPherson
Reg Pugh, Rotary Club of Port Curtis, Gladstone, Queensland, Australia
David Alston

Grace, Toast to the Queen and Canada

Welcome: Tina Monahan, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting

Rotary Minute: Donna Gilchrist talked about the successful service projects Rotarians were involved with on the weekend. Boots, Bikes and Band-Aids brought in 41 bikes, 24 boxes of shoes, 12 boxes of first aid supplies, and 2 boxes of glasses. The Muscular Dystrophy Fire Truck Pull and barbeque was a success with more than \$15,000 being raised.

Introduction of Speaker: Shelley introduced David Alston, Chief Innovation Officer of Introhive and leading proponent of expanding the Province's digital footprint. David is a marketing startup entrepreneur, cofounder of Brilliant Labs, and volunteer advisor to NB's Strategic Program Review. David has won many awards for his accomplishments in business, technology, and innovation.

Speaker: David Alston spoke about his background in technology and his passion for promoting changes in school curriculum as it relates to teaching coding in schools. He believes that technology can be of assistance in improving the efficiencies of government and companies, and that New Brunswick could become a leader in the digital world just like the Country of Estonia. Estonia started from the bottom when the USSR broke up after the Cold War and they decided to build their government on a digital 'cloud' type system even before the term "Cloud" was in existence. David spoke about how the Country of Estonia is set up so the individual owns their own data and not the government or government agencies. Paperwork is minimal. Everything is integrated and the system is very efficient in meeting the needs of its people. David expressed his hope that the Province of New Brunswick can become a leader in the digital world and is advocating this through his business and public talks.

Social: Tina needs to know numbers for **Oktoberfest at Giermindl's on Friday, September 30, 2016. Please RSVP as soon as possible.**

Website Advertising Committee: Angie and Robert K. are working on this committee. Angie asked all members to become involved. An e-mail was circulated to all members. Angie reported that the Rotary Club of Sussex website gets 2,300 hits a month and this is an untapped advertising opportunity. Ads are being sold for \$125 or \$150 for the whole year. Rotary members were asked to find sponsors as this was a way of raising money for administrative costs of the Club.

Happy / Sad Bucks

Chase the Joker: Tina's ticket was drawn but no winner this week. The pot is now \$555.

Next Meeting: The next Club meeting will be a business meeting and has been scheduled for Monday, September 26, 2016, at All Seasons Inn and Restaurant starting at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhoda Wilson