

ROTARACT 5050

The official newsletter of Rotaract District 5050



Rotaract Facts

**10,904
ROTARACT CLUBS**

**250,792
ROTARACTORS**

**184 COUNTRIES
WORLDWIDE**

International Change Makers

"50% AMERICAN, 50% CANADIAN, 100% ROTARIAN"

The Rotaractors of District 5050 are excited for our first ever newsletter! We want to show all Rotarians the hard work and passion we have put into Rotary. Our clubs are constantly fundraising, running events and volunteering in their communities, embodying the service above self motto and being great representatives of this district as a whole.

We are proud to be Rotaractors of District 5050, bordering Canada and the USA has given us great opportunities to work together for a joint goal of making a difference and having fun while doing it. We have worked really hard over the past few years growing substantially in 2019 from 32 to 80 members and we are still growing! We hope throughout this newsletter you see our passion, our hard work and are inspired to work alongside us. We are all Rotarians and together we can change the world!



A Message from the DRR's

JAYMEE LYNN & MORGAN CROSBY

We both fully immersed ourselves into Rotaract after attending RYLA 2017 and haven't looked back since. Presidents for our own hometown clubs Snohomish County and Tri-Cities Rotaract we learned a lot about what it means, and what it takes, to lead.

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Continue spreading the joy Rotaract brought to our lives.

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We accepted the offer to become District Rotaract Representatives after we ourselves experienced the joy and passion Rotaractors around us were putting into making their communities and the lives around them better. We wanted to continue spreading the joy Rotaract brought to our lives and support those around us.

In 2019 we attended the Rotary International Convention in Germany and were so amazed and inspired by the Rotaract clubs around the world we wanted to be apart of growing and changing Rotaract in our own District. Our goal as District Rotaract Representatives is to lead with compassion and continue to learn from every experience Rotaract has given us the chance to be apart of. It is an absolute honour to hold this position and something we are so grateful for.

Guatemala 2019

24 ROTARACTORS, 3 VILLAGES, 89 STOVES

It all started with an Idea, one Rotarian who saw the excitement and passion within the Rotaractors surrounding him, knew they could work together and make a huge impact. Jeffrey Hager, a Rotary Club of Everett Port Gardner member, proposed an idea to a group of Rotaractors about going to Guatemala with Hands for Peacemaking to install stoves in a village. An excited Rotaract Club President then proposed it at a presidents meeting as they were discussing their yearly international projects, looking for ways to join together on a larger scale. Weeks went by and before we knew it we were planning fundraisers, organizing a trip, booking flights all in anticipation to put ourselves to work in a rural Village outside of Barillas, Huehuetenango, Guatemala. We had spaghetti feeds, pub nights, bowling, concerts, car washes, a gala, and Krispy Kreme sales. Almost \$90,000 CAD later we hit our goal together. 24 Rotaractors from across District 5050 were headed for beautiful Guatemala. After 11 hours of traveling we arrived in Guatemala, tired and jet lagged, but the travel didn't stop.

The next morning we began the 18 hour journey to the state of Huehuetenango and to the city of Barillas. There we would begin our introduction to the project at the Hands for Peacemaking mission house. The majority of our time was spent in a village called Cementario Jolomontaj. We played with the children and interacted with the families of the village, they were our main priority where we were installing. Fortunately with the amount of Rotaractors we had, and the level of efficiency 24 of us produced, we successfully installed a total of 88 clean burning stoves spreading through three villages. We are all extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to experience service on an international level and hope to be able to do it again someday. Of course this whole experience would not have been possible if it weren't for the support we received from the Rotary clubs of District 5050 who believed in our cause and believed in us. We thank you for supporting and encouraging service above self as well as helping us make a difference.





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The Guatemala Crew

MEMBERS FROM FRASER VALLEY ROTARACT, SURREY ROTARACT, SEMIAHMOO
ROTARACT, TRI-CITIES ROTARACT & SNOHOMISH COUNTY ROTARACT



Laura



Ryan



Pallvi



Phoenix



Austin



Alia



Brenna



Eric



Alec



Ashley



Adam



Jake



Leah



Ian



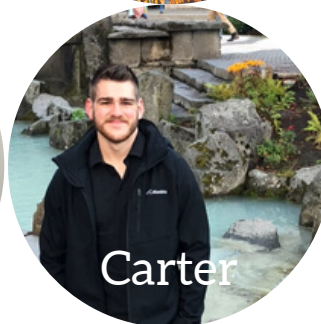
Emily



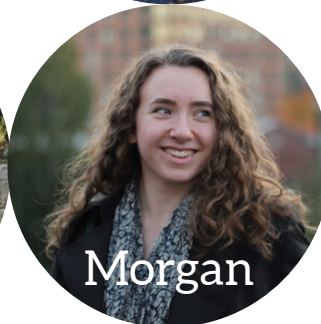
Billy



Tyson



Carter



Morgan



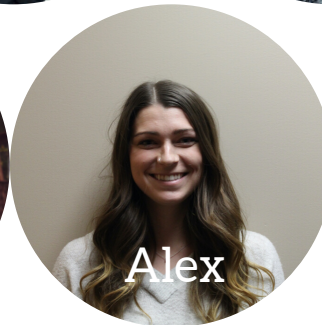
Lexie



Meghan



Jaymee



Alex



Ryan

Chilliwack-Fraser Rotaract Club

"WE STRIVE TO CREATE SUSTAINABLE CHANGE, EDUCATE, AND EMPOWER THOSE AROUND US THROUGH ACTIONS THAT EMBODY SERVICE ABOVE SELF"

The Chilliwack-Fraser Rotaract club has been busy this past year working on foundational aspects and volunteering in the community along side our local Rotary clubs and other non-for-profits. We recently sat down to think about our goals and ambitions to create our clubs' mission and vision statements. Moving forward with this clarification of who we are as club, we found it much easier to start planning for the year. We adopted a creek to take care of with the help of the WaterWealth Project, helped our friends at the Salvation Army by collecting over 450 cans and \$1300 during Halloween, and various small projects during the Christmas season to spread some holiday cheer. As a newer club we have experienced so much growth in the past year and learned so much by attending Rotary events like the Big West Rotaract conference and RotarX. Our goals for 2020 are to increase our membership and work more closely with the four clubs in our city.



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Tri-Cities Rotaract Club

"THREE CITIES. ONE MISSION. CREATING CHANGE. TAKING ACTION."



We may be small but we are mighty. The Tri-Cities Rotaract club has happily operated since chartering in 2013. Representing the three beautiful cities of Port Coquitlam, Coquitlam, and Port Moody, we do our best to volunteer and work closely with all three of our cities. The past few years we have worked hard and held many pub night fundraisers as well we have done bottle drives, paws for a cause, RAK week, and our very successful Guatemala gala. This year we have focused locally by continuing our yearly tradition sponsoring Share food bank families around Christmas and attending Big West Rotaract Conference in Vancouver. As an older club with a fluctuating list of members we are constantly looking for new ways to pull people in and show them the magic of Rotaract. We are a grateful club which has benefited greatly from the very successful RYLA held in our District, and are very proud to say that two of our members have previously head-facilitated and our Co-President is preparing to head-facilitate at RYLA this May. We truly believe in the power of RYLA for growth in our district and are extremely grateful for what it has done for our club as a whole and our members individually. We hope to continue serving our communities to the best of our ability and giving back regularly.

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Semiahmoo Peninsula Rotaract Club

"TAKE THE LEAD, TO FILL THE NEED."

The Semiahmoo Peninsula Rotaract took part in their second annual 12 Days of Kindness this past December. 12 Days of Kindness is an initiative that the club started in honour of 12 Days of Christmas, but with their own spin on it to spread kindness in the community. So, for 12 consecutive days, the club does a random act of kindness in the community. Some for organizations, some for different groups of people, some for the environment, and anything else they can think of! The club's goal is to show that you can make a large impact in your community by doing small acts of kindness.

Watch the 2019 12 Days of Kindness Recap video, here:
<https://youtu.be/HGOQBvK0Vyw>

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You can make a large impact in your community by doing small acts of kindness.

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- Day 1: Donating 8 22kg boxes of cat litter to the BC SPCA
- Day 2: Delivering a pizza dinner to the White Rock Firehall
- Day 3: Delivering 1,575 pairs of socks to Options Community Services
- Day 4: Delivering an appreciation basket to one of the local bc ambulance stations
- Day 5: Putting up sticky notes around schools and workplaces with positive messages on them
- Day 6: Self care day
- Day 7: Doing a trail cleanup by White Rock Beach
- Day 8: Delivering 150 care packages to Options Community Services
- Day 9: Delivering poinsettias and cards to the admin staff at local elementary schools
- Day 10: Donating books to the rotary libraries
- Day 11: Delivering 150 Christmas cards to a local senior home
- Day 12: Pay it forward



Semiahmoo Peninsula
Rotaract



Fraser Valley Rotaract Club

"WE CONNECT TO MAKE AN IMPACT WITHIN OUR LOCAL AND GLOBAL COMMUNITIES THAT WILL INFLUENCE POSITIVE GROWTH, THROUGH NETWORKING AND SERVICE ABOVE SELF."

We are a club of young professionals based out of the Fraser Valley. We started our journey when we chartered in 2014 and have served our surrounding communities ever since. The main communities that we operate in are Abbotsford, Mission and Maple ridge. However, we do plenty of outreach all throughout BC and on occasion internationally! In recent years we have held countless fundraisers, socials and other events as well as supporting many community and rotary events. Just this last year we partnered with all the clubs in our district to fundraise several thousand dollars to send several of our club members on a life changing relief trip in Guatemala. While we were there we installed clean burning stoves and planted fruit bearing trees in a rural community changing lives in that community for generations to come.

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We hope to continue serving all of the communities in our district to the fullest extent.

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This year we have a ton of volunteering planned for the summer. We will be assisting with a large portion of the Port Moody Ribfest, running a volunteer refreshment tent for the annual Abbotsford Airshow as well as several other events. All of this is powered by our ever-growing club who never cease to amaze. We consistently have 8-10 people out to every meeting but recently have added another two very inspiring people to our roster. Our club also supports several district youths in initiatives which are RYLA, YAIL and RMYIS. All these events are used to teach and inspire the future leaders of the world over the course of a weekend or longer. Most of our members have been through these programs or come to us after they have gone through these programs so that is why we support them so heavily. We as a club hope to continue serving all of the communities in our district to the fullest extent for many years to come.



Rotary International Award of Honour Recipient

PHOENIX MACLAREN



During June of 2019 at the Rotary International Convention in Hamburg one of our very own was surprised with the distinction of being a Rotary International Award of Honour recipient. Phoenix McLaren's Rotary journey started after she attended our very own District 5050 RYLA. Since attending Phoenix has made a huge impact in the lives of the Rotaractors and Rotarians around her.

After joining the Fraser Valley Rotaract club in 2014 Phoenix took on many roles within the club including vice-president, president & secretary. She has previously been our district rotaract representative for 3 years, is the RYLA Chair and now works within the district and for Rotary International as an assistant Rotary coordinator.

She has achieved so much and continues to do so at a club, district and international level. Phoenix worked very hard to support and encourage the growth of clubs within our district even after her term as DRR she continues her support by attending many club events and fundraisers throughout the district. She continues to be an inspiration of leadership to many of the rotaractors in our district.

Phoenix leads with a passion for Rotaract and it is very evident. She believes in Rotaract is now doing her part to support growth of Rotaract on the international side. Phoenix is great representative of the values and characteristics Rotaractors in our district uphold, and we are so grateful to have a Rotaractor like Phoenix in our District.

Snohomish County Rotaract Club

We are the Rotaract Club of Snohomish County. There are 10 active members in our club including young professionals and college students. We strive to serve the community. We have put in many hours to improve and educate ourselves for the benefit of the community. Some activities we've done are participating in Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, Boys and Girls Club cleanup project, and a trip abroad to Guatemala. 6 of our members have participated in RYLA and 4 have returned as facilitators. RYLA is a four-day long, intense experience that teaches participants problem solving and leadership skills through a community service lens. After RYLA our club has been putting these skills to the test. The Boys and Girls Club cleanup project took place in Tulalip, WA. We set out to assist the staff of the Boys and Girls Club and expand the work happening in educating kids about planting vegetables and fruits. Our help included setting up and filling 4 new planters, cutting down 2 dying trees, and pulling weeds from existing planters and the rest of the grounds. Another project our club participated in was going to Guatemala and helping plant trees along with installing stoves for different villages in the country. 5 of our members, along with 19 other District 5050 Rotaractors, flew to Central America during the summer of 2019 to supplement the Hands for Peace Making's work in supporting locals. Over the 10 days in Guatemala, 150 fruit trees, and 90 stoves were planted and installed.



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Snohomish County
Rotaract 

Bellingham Rotaract Club

Over this past year we have successfully gone through the process of becoming a not for profit on paper. As we continually push efforts to grow our club it's important to us that the future generations of the club have the correct tools and resources to be successful. Earlier this year we had the opportunity to have three of our members attend Big West Rotaract Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia. At the conference they had inspiring speakers and held workshops with Leadership Development.



Some of our partnerships consisted with sponsoring rotary clubs, Western Washington University, and local nonprofits. We partnered with one of our sponsoring clubs in Whatcom county and three of our members were able to volunteer at Brewers by the Bay an annual event held downtown Bellingham. We held our own fundraiser earlier this year at a brewery that turned out fairly well. As a club we were able to land local business partnerships to help with our fundraiser that raised a little over 500 dollars. Two of our members had the amazing opportunity to volunteer for a start up nonprofit company that held a gala fundraiser. This fundraiser raised over 8000 dollars to donate to Seattle Children's Hospital. As we progress through this next year, we have over half of our club members leaving us. We plan to focus our attention on growing our club size and to actively go out in our community and make a change. We hope to continue to grow our connections with community members and our sponsoring clubs



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Surrey Rotaract Club

"WE PROVIDE AN INCLUSIVE PLATFORM FOR YOUNG LEADERS TO BETTER THE COMMUNITIES AROUND US BY BEING MINDFUL OF CHALLENGES, CREATING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS, AND LEADING OR SUPPORTING IMPACTFUL INITIATIVES. WE STRIVE TO DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS, TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER TO BE OUR BEST SELVES, AND TO ENJOY THE WORK THAT WE DO."

The Surrey Rotaract Club continues to grow and thrive this year as the largest club in the district. Multiple service projects every month, from community dinners to tree planting and glasses sorting, we don't miss an opportunity to serve the community. We also are happy for the continuity of some of our favourite projects. Like the Free Oral Cancer Screening in south surrey where we were able to screen over 300 people.

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We don't miss an opportunity to serve the community.

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The highlight of our year though would have to be our second annual RotarX. This year we had Rotaractors from all over the district come share how Rotary Connects the World to an audience of interactors, rotaractors and Rotarians. We were also honoured to be able to send all our net proceeds to the local branch of the S.O.S. Children's Villages that help the most traumatized foster children have a home. Despite some last minute venue changes, our club was able to pull off another successful event and we look forward to next year!

Whidbey Island Rotaract Club



The Whidbey Island Rotaract Club is constantly looking for new members!

The club has participated in a Walk of Water, attended and supported district fundraisers for the Guatemala project and a member even did their own project for habitat for humanity! This past year Club President Austin Taylor got the opportunity to attend the Big West Rotaract conference in Vancouver BC, alongside many other rotaractors in the district!

***Please contact
rotaractwhidbeyisland@gmail.com
for inquiries and see how you can
get involved!***

***Do you know someone in
the Whidbey island area?***

Do they like to give back?

***Do they like spending time
with like-minded
individuals?***



Langley Rotaract Club

"DONATING OUR TIME AND EFFORTS TOWARDS PROMOTING CONTINUITY AND PROSPERITY WITHIN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY, WHICH IN TURN WILL IMPACT OUR GLOBAL NETWORK."

In September of 2019 we had our official launch, it began with a Meet and Greet event sponsored by all four Langley clubs of Rotary. Through that event we obtained two new members, which put us to a total of four active members. We began meeting officially in early October and were keen to get to work. All four members believed in volunteering at Grace Point Community Church. Our relationship with Gracepoint church started as a volunteering opportunity with their already existing Sunday dinner event. One of our newest members suggested that we partner with Gracepoint church to take Christmas family photos for the patrons of the Sunday dinners. This was an extremely cost effective event that brought joy to many families. During the holiday season we volunteered with the Salvation Army as Bell Ringers, which was a great opportunity. The Langley Christmas Bureau connects families in need with those able to financially donate. Our club was fortunate enough to sponsor one family of three through this fantastic program. In Fort Langley, many of us helped out with the setup of the Christmas Market. In order to foster community and connections amongst our members, we also took part in a few social events including laser tag, games night, and bowling. We're very excited for the remainder of the year and the many years to follow.



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Langley
Rotaract 

Rotaract

District 5050



Keep up with all things
Rotaract



@Rotaract5050



@rotaract5050



5050rotaract@gmail.com

Please email us with any questions or
inquiries about any of the clubs!