Land Acknowledgement

Soroptimist International of Thunder Bay would like to acknowledge that our gatherings take place on the traditional lands of the Fort William First Nation, Signatory to the Robinson Superior Treaty of 1850.

We would also like to acknowledge the tumultuous history endured by the First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples, the contribution these communities have made to the fabric of our society and the beauty they have added to our multi-cultured nation. With this in mind we will do what we can to help Thunder Bay move forward with mutual trust, respect, reciprocity, and collaboration in the spirit of reconciliation.

Connecting with Cindy

The **Two-Bit Auction** was the best ever and everyone's hard work paid off by a wonderful bonding experience! More importantly, we had fun!!! A round of applause to all!

Karen Bortolin arranged for a Spring Cleanup at the **Soroptimist International Friendship Gardens** which took place May 29, 2024. Five members attended (**Karen B., Lee Ann, Lorrie, Kathleen and myself**). It only took about an hour and was a beautiful day. Afterwards, 3 of went for lunch at the Noodle Bowl and it was delicious! Many thanks to **Karen** for organizing!

Our dues for 2024-2025 need to be in before the end of June and they have not changed from last year ($190.00). Please make arrangements with **Lorrie**.

There is a **new portal** in the works with SIA. So, if you have tried to log in and can't, the website is under construction. There are webinars being held to teach us about the new Portal starting June 3rd.

We held a dinner meeting last month and it seemed to be a resounding success! It was nice to be able to chat in person though at times, it was hard to get the business portion of the meeting done. So, we will try it again for **June 12 at the Superior Inn Lake and Spruce Room starting at 6pm.** Everyone orders off the menu and pays their own. You are welcome to join us after 7:30 pm for the business portion or by ZOOM.

The new board to be inducted by **Karen B.** at the June meeting is:

President – Cindy
President-Elect – Sharon
Treasurer – Lorrie
Secretary – Melanie

The directors remain the same for another year and the delegate is to be determined.

Many thanks to **Judy P.** and **Linda A.** who are leaving the board. There efforts and contributions have not gone unnoticed! **Judy** will continue to chair the LYD Program.

We are excited to learn that **Lucy Doucette** is officially joining the club as of July 1st and if she is able to join us June 12th, we will induct her. Welcome **Lucy**! We are looking for a for volunteer to be her "Buddy". Please advise me if interested.

Lorrie has been working hard on the budget and filing the Lottery Reports. So be prepared to review the budget to be sent prior to the meeting. **Lorrie's** hard work is much appreciated!

The Pillar Chairs have all been preparing their President's Report for the year and these will be sent out separately prior to the club meeting. I would ask you please read them as they will not be discussed at the meeting. You should all be proud of everything we accomplished this year! I know that I am!

As out yearend draws to a close, I want each and every one of you, to give yourself a well-deserved "pat on the back"! Please take some time for yourselves this summer to recuperate and regroup. We are a great team but all deserve some time off!

Your proud President, Cindy

INVOICE

22-May-24
Soroptimist International of Thunder Bay
52 Carl Avenue
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 4Z2
lorriehtbsoropt@gmail.com
Bill To:
Dear Thunder Bay Member

We are Soroptimist.

A global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

Member Benefits

Soroptimist uses annual dues to ensure our members have a fun and meaningful club experience while
accomplishing our collective mission—today and into the future. Surveys tell us members value the
following benefits from their membership:
Mission-based programs. Members experience joy and a sense of accomplishment by working with other
like-minded women on global programs that provide women and girls with access to the education and
training they need to achieve economic empowerment.

Connections. Members grow professionally and personally. Through friendships with club members, relationships in your region, and connections with members from diverse countries and backgrounds, you are able to grow your network. The opportunities for leadership development provide professional growth.
Access to a Team of Non-Profit Professionals. Members receive guidance and resources from SIA headquarters, enabling them to enjoy a meaningful club experience as they change communities for the better

SIA Dues	$ 102.75
SIA Founders Pennies	$ 6.24
SI Per Capita Payment	$ 9.00
Region Dues	$ 43.00
Region Insurance	$ 14.00
Club Dues/Fees	$ 15.01
Total	$ 1 90.00

Make all checks payable to: SI of Thunder Bay (see mailing address above)
E-Transfers to cfigus@tbaytel.net
Payment due by June 26, 2024
If you have any questions about this invoice, please contact our club treasurer,
Lorrie Haslam at 807-767-9219 or lorriehtbsoropt@gmail.com

Fund Raising

FUNDRAISING IN A NUTSHELL

Well ladies we made it to the finish line with flying colours. What an AWESOME fundraising year it's been. The year started for us in September 2023 unpacking and sorting treasures for our annual Yard Sale….$1938.82 raised! The year 2023 ended with our Christmas dinner whereby we enjoyed a lovely meal, fellowship, AND tried our luck in the Silent Auction organized by Shirley….$155.00 raised! Many thanks to Shirley for organizing our 50/50 draws at our in-person meetings as well.

And the winner is….$170.50 raised! For some, the first sign of Spring means putting away the boots and shovels, BUT if you are a Soroptimist, the first sign of Spring means hard core fundraising. In March and April we were all busy panhandling tickets for the Gift Card Raffle. In fact, we were so keen, we sold most of them before the Home and Garden Show….$1340.15 raised!

Before we knew it May was upon us, and it was time to get ready for the biggest fundraiser of the year, the Two Bit Auction. Well wasn't that a party!!! TGIF takes on a whole new connotation….RELIEF…ELATION…GRATEFUL…TEAM WORK…PRIDE and last but not least MONEY…MONEY and more MONEY ….$10,122.80 raised! Of course, we mustn't forget our most pleasurable fundraiser,

"Drinking for Charity," which is ongoing throughout the year(s)….CHEERS to $281.65 raised!

The In 2023-2024 Soroptimists Thunder Bay raised a crazy amount of money enabling us to donate $5400.00 to outside agencies, as well as, deposit a good chunk of change into our own coffers. The RFDA, along with Roots to Harvest Cultural Kitchen, Con College and Lakehead Student Food Banks were the beneficiaries of everyone's hard work. Shirley, Melanie and I had the pleasure of delivering the cheques to Roots to Harvest Cultural Kitchen, Con College and Lakehead Student Food Banks. To say they were extremely grateful, is an understatement. They were ecstatic and touched that we recognized their potential need and acted upon it. The monies are definitely going to be put to good use and ultimately enhance the programming that they currently offer. Their appreciation confirms why we do what we do.

None of which would be possible without you and you and you and…Shirley and I send out a BIG THANK YOU to each and EVERYONE of you who contributed in some form or another to make this fundraising year a giant success. We can all go to bed at night knowing we have played a wee role in making a difference in someones life. How fortunate are we.

With Gratitude
Shirley and Kathleen
Co- Chairs Fundraising

Two-Bit Auction Proceeds Help Fight Food Insecurity

On June 4, 2024, Kathleen, Shirley and I delivered cheques to LU Student Food Bank, Confederation College Student Food Bank, and Roots to Harvest Cultural Kitchen program. It was an informative day seeing how each organization deals with food insecurity.

Lakehead University has approximately 300 students per month who access their food bank which is reliant solely on donations from the University community and private donations. Students can go twice a month to select 10 items from the food bank. They primarily have nonperishable items, but do get donations of bread, fruit, eggs, and milk which they keep in the fridge and freezer.

Confederation College will use the funds to deliver a food preparation program and tips on how to use food more sustainably. A survey found that 40% of students barely meet their daily caloric requirements.

Roots to Harvest Cultural Kitchen offers immigrant women with acquiring skills for working in the food industry and these women are provided with opportunities to achieve a food service certificate. Childcare is provided so these women can attend the 8-week course, but it takes collaboration with other organizations to provide the childcare as there is no space onsite for children to be watched. This also costs Roots to Harvest a significant amount of money as childcare spots are hard to find.

They have a senior's program that offers two meals a week (Wednesday dinner and Friday lunch). This allows seniors to socialize and eat a meal that is free and prepared onsite.

Roots runs two community gardens as well as beekeeping, and processing of honey for sale at their shop. Their space is welcoming and bright and offers the produce they harvest for a fraction of the cost that you would pay at a grocery store.

All three organizations were so appreciative of the funds that we provided, and it was inspiring to see how they are working on the front line of food insecurity to improve health outcomes.

Submitted by Melanie Cates

Girls Transitioning to Adulthood.

Our focus for Q 2 items was Food/Snacks and other essentials (e.g. toilet paper, Kleenex, cleaning supplies). Joan donated a vacuum cleaner from her daughter and this fits perfectly with our theme this quarter.
Danny Michaud has indicated that the girls could use these items:

Mr. Noodles.	Canned pears	Granola Bars
Name brand peanut butter.	Microwave food.	Ketchup
Pancakes-Just add water.	Minute rice.	Jam
Corn-can	Name brand KD.	Can openers
Cereal	Side kicks.	Conditioner
Juice	Granola Bars	Healthy Snacks.
Deodorant	Razors	
Body wash	Shaving cream	Dishes, Pots, pans, cutlery.
Toilet paper	Laundry soap.	

If you are unable to shop yourself but want to donate money, Linda Adams and Melanie are happy to do the shopping to see what bargains we can find to help fill the cupboard for the summer.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the girls transitioning to adulthood program.

Melanie

Convention News & Updates

Space is Limited

We are almost sold out of convention registration! Join the more than 750 Soroptimists, for an unforgettable experience filled with lasting memories.

https://web.cvent.com/event/24d67ce3-5437-4ab7-a879-75592379f3ae/summary

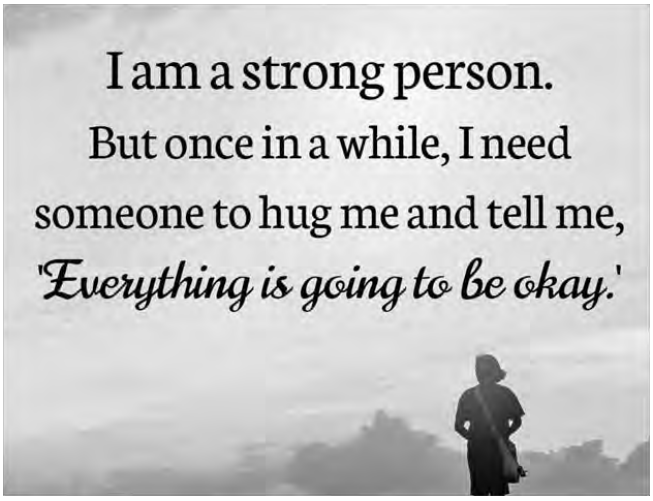
---

Meet our service project partner

We are thrilled to partner with FamilyWorks, a Seattle-based organization, for our 48th Biennial Convention. SIA will collect school supplies to help prepare families for the new school year! Learn more and how you can provide in-person and online donations.

Sue Riney Named SIA President-elect

Congratulations to Sue Riney of SI/Oak Harbor, WA (Northwestern Region), who was elected to serve as the 2024-2025 SIA President-elect from September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2025. She will assume the office of SIA President on September 1, 2025, and serve in that position until August 31, 2026.



Can we help our sister club to attain its goal?

Sales have been very slow and we would like you to visit the website.

You were sent the web link in the last two emails – the QR code was not working.

If 100 people bought $20 in tickets, it would increase sales substantially.

Here is the link: https://trellis.org/soroptimistdreamraffle-5050

Thank you so much to everyone who as entered the raffle and/or the 50-50 Draw. Thank you also to those who have brought to the attention of SI Toronto the technical challenges with entering when using a phone. They heard you! They have made it easier to enter by following this link. The link also provides information on the raffle prizes and the 50-50 draw.

https://trellis.org/soroptimistdreamraffle-5050

2024 Summer Olympics