Soroptimist International of Thunder Bay

Mission: "Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that provides women and girls with access to the education and training they need to achieve economic empowerment.".

Vision: "Women and girls have the resources and opportunities to reach their full potential and live their dreams".

Soroptimist Thunder Bay Club Meeting **Wednesday,**

Sept 14 at 7 pm

In person at Maxines' and on Zoom

Items of interest:

- Did you know
- Conversation with Malala
- Best for women
- Baseball 50/50
- Girls Aging Out of Care
- Sick and Visiting (email)
- Yard Sale
- Fall area mtg
- Agenda
- Row vs Wade
- Draft Cons tuition

Inside this Issue:

- Connecting with Cindy
- Minutes of June mtg
- Treasurer Report (email)
- Board ECR
- Board SI Thunder Bay

Connecting with Cindy

They say all good things must come to an end and that is the case with summers! It was busier than usual starting with Cheryl's "windup/thank" you get together at her camp in June and ending with the Women's Friendship Baseball Games being held the long weekend in August. We attended all 5 games and were able to raise $1,000 for the Children's Aid Society Girls Aging out Program. Special thanks to Melanie Cates for bringing this event to our attention and coordinating everything even though she was not feeling well. Those that gave up their valuable time were Faith Crichton, Lee Ann Nalezyty, Karen Bortolin, Curtis Ball and Amanda Roberts. Kudos to all!

Before you could blink your eyes, the end of August was here and members were panicking about the all the fall Soroptimist items coming up. After many telephone calls, emails, text messages, etc. things fell into place. Fund raising has the Yard Sales coming up Saturday September 24th and it was agreed to cancel the October Two Bit Auction which will be discussed at the General Club meeting September 14th. Membership was busy and had a meeting to discuss a membership drive at which Maggie Chicoine will speak. Details to follow.

Yours truly was busy meeting with the trustees, Cheryl Ball and Maxine Tenander as we received a response from the Charities Directorate in July stating that we did not meet their requirements. This resulted in many conversations with the other clubs also going through this process. We were given 60 days to respond but were granted an extension. This will be discussed at the general meeting as well.

Your signing officers at the bank were changed (Lorrie Haslam added and Cheryl Ball re moved). Lorrie did the internal audit of the Annual Financial Statement for the June 30, 2022 fiscal year which will be voted upon at the general meeting.

Devona Crowe joined the club in July and has agreed to be our delegate with board approval for one year. She will be inducted at the club meeting. Welcome Devona! Unfortunately we lost Lauren Buttman so membership remains at 24. However, we were congratulated by SIA (Soroptimist International of the Americas) for retaining our membership!

You all received the Leadership Academy information being held Monday September 26, 2022 virtually. It is recommended that the executive attend but all members are welcomed! There is a club registration fee of $50 that will be paid so there are no costs to the members to do so. Please give this consideration.

The ECR (Eastern Canada Region) Fall Area Meeting will be virtual on October 20th, 2022. A Poster was send by Susan Rivers (in the same email dated August 29th for the Leadership Academy). Included in that email were the requirements for submission for the Dream Makers Award to be presented at the Area Meeting. If you know of someone in our club who qualifies for this award, please contact me.

The SFC (Soroptimist Foundation of Canada) is having their Annual General Meeting October 22, 2022 by ZOOM. Our club can have one voting delegate attend but again all members are welcome. Please advise me if you are interested in being the delegate.

The Committee Structure for 2022-2023 was prepared. If you would like any changes to which program you are part of, let me know.

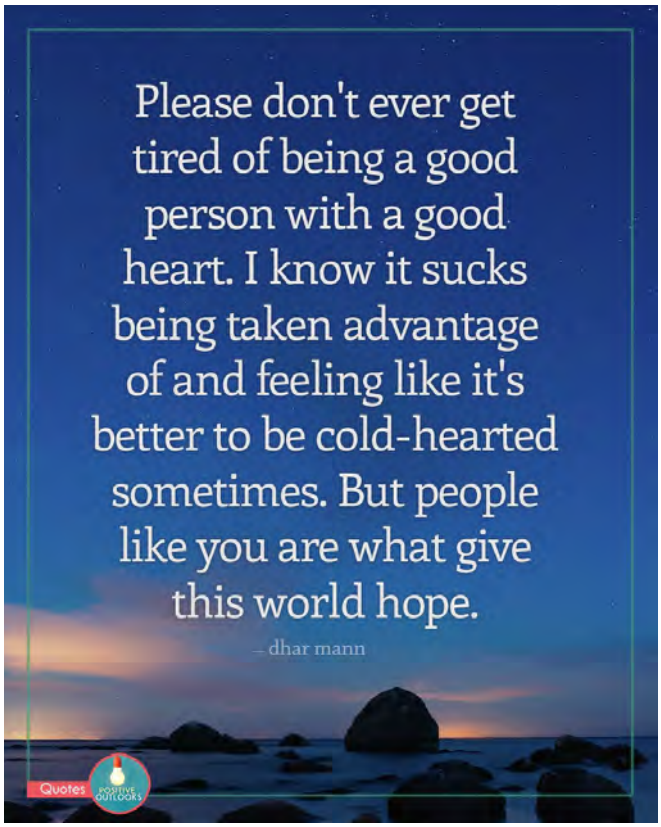
Looking forward to an In Person meeting being held at Maxine's condo's common room Wednesday September 14th at 7 pm! This will be a longer than usual meeting to discuss all the above and Fund Raising has requested extra time to discuss the yard Sale, etc. What an exciting upcoming year we will have! Please attend if you can. Zoom is also an option

We should also be proud of Cheryl Ball and Karen Bortolin for being part of the Eastern Canada Region board! Please give them your support.

Thanks to Shirley Smith in contacting us all over the summer months to inquire about our wellness! Barb Fraser is coming along with her arm, Marlene Crago has been in and out of the hospital but keeps her spirits up and Joan Taddo has not been doing well so has to give up her Archive duties. Karen Bortolin is recovering from COVID and Lee Ann Nalezyty has had some health concerns. If I missed anyone, I apologize! Out thought are with you all.

On a more positive note, Judy Perrier had a milestone birthday this summer. Happy Belated 65th Birthday Judy! Also congratulations to Maxine and Martti Tenander celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary!

Cindy



SI Thunder Bay General Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2022 - 7 pm

Held at Maxine's Condo, 315 Hilldale Road & via Zoom

Present: Cheryl Ball, Cindy Figus, Faith Crichton, Judy Anderson, Karen Bortolin, Melanie Cates, Karen Lynn Evans (via Zoom), Devonna Crowe, Kim Koivukoski, LeeAnn Nalezyty, Kathleen Rismondo, Shirley Smith, Joan Taddo, Maxine Tenander

Regrets: Judy Perrier, Linda Adams, Marlene Crago, Barb Fraser, Lorrie Haslam

Absent: Lauren Buttman, Marilyn Fenwick, Sharon Godwin, Rosa Martin, Enid McKenzie, Dulcy Pennicooke

****

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

Additions to the agenda
- Election of Delegate, Installation of Board, new SI Atlantic Region (virtual club)

Minutes of the May 11th, 2022 Club meeting - It was moved by Karen, seconded by Melanie, that the minutes be accepted as printed in the newsletter. Carried.

Treasurer's Report & Club Budget for 2022-23 - Cindy went over the May Treasurer's Report and the proposed 2022/23 budget. It was moved by Cindy, and seconded by Shirley that the 2022-23 budget be approved. Carried.

Correspondence - Cheryl took the opportunity to circulate the "thank you" card that we had previously received from Crissy Cano when we were meeting virtually.

In the fall when it is time to renew the mailbox, the Club may want to consider whether the expense is warranted considering the lack of mail we actually receive.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Spring Conference 2022 – The last outstanding item from the cancelled Spring Conference is the guest speaker fee we paid Maggie Chiccoine. She will still willing to do something for us this fall. The Membership Committee are looking at having a Membership Drive in the fall and may be able to make use of her services.

Courthouse Hotel Dinner & Pajama Party – A good time was had by all that were able to attend. Cheryl expressed our Club's gratitude to Judy P. for organizing the evening.

June 8, 2022 Club meeting minutes – page 2

FUNDRAISING

Yard Sale - Judy Anderson has booked the Cardinal Room at the CLE for Sept. 24th. Joan Taddo is no longer able to store our stuff in her garage. Cindy stated that she has room to store some items. There is still some space in our storage room at First Wesley and Lorrie has the keys.

The Calcutta - Kathleen said that it raised $480 for the Girls Aging out of Foster Care and that the 24 squares sold out in five minutes. The winner of the grand prize was Maxine. Kathleen expressed our gratitude to Rob (Faith's friend) for donating an amazing assortment of his late wife's beautiful jewelry that our Club has been able to use for a few fundraising events.

Two-Bit Auction (in person) – The venue has been booked the CLE for Thursday, Oct. 13th. The Board had discussed how the proceeds could be distributed and recommends to the club that the funds be split 50/50 between the Soroptimist Foundation and the Children's Aid Society (Girls Aging out of Foster Care).
A motion was moved by Judy A., and seconded by Maxine, that the recommendation of the Board by accepted. Carried.
We can now get the license and have the tickets printed. The tickets will be distributed to the members to sell at our September meeting.

$500 Gift Card Raffle – In light of the two events already planned for the fall, the Board suggests holding off until next spring to do the gift card raffle. The members in attendance agreed with this suggestion.

Baseball Tournament 50/50 tickets – Melanie Cates has had no response to her attempts to find out if there could be an opportunity for us to sell tickets at the July 28-Aug. 1 Women's Under 18 Baseball Tournament.

PROGRAM

Live Your Dream – The application portal opens on August 15th. Laila was not available to attend our dinner on May 13th but she did make a video that Judy was able to show us. Judy has asked her if we can post her video on our website.

Girls Aging out of Foster Care – Melanie put an article in our June newsletter which explained the Ad Hoc Committee's suggestion that we target a different area of need each quarter (such as food, personal hygiene, etc.). Melanie said that the Children's Aid Society looks forward to working with us in the future and noted that there is an interest in doing a session on preparing a meal using a crockpot.

June 8, 2022 Club meeting minutes – page 3

We discussed the recommendation by the Board that we do not prepare our usual Comfort Kits for 2022/23 but instead put our focus on preparing household kits for the Girls Aging out of Foster Care.

A motion was made by Judy A., and seconded by Cindy, that for 2022-23 we do not prepare our usual Comfort Kits (that focused on women on the streets and were distributed by Superior Points). Instead we focus our efforts on preparing kits for the Girls Aging out of Foster Care. There was a lengthy discussion about what type of kits we could prepare (household, personal, cleaning, etc.).

An amended motion was made by Kathleen, and seconded by Melanie, that for this year our members will put their efforts into preparing kits for the Girls Aging out of Foster Care and that the type of kit will be determined by the Ad Hoc Committee. We discussed whether or not the $1,000 in next year's budget would be needed, but as we had already passed the budget it will not be amended. **The motion was called and carried**.

MEMBERSHIP

Policies & Procedures

LeeAnn and Melanie met this afternoon, and will continue to meet over the summer, with the hope of having a document ready for the fall. They thanked everyone who had responded to their request for input.

PUBLIC AWAREBESS

Celebrating Success Submission workshop – Cheryl and Faith participated in the workshop on June 4th and discovered what the judges were actually looking for in the submissions. They do not want the long essay-style submissions we have been sending. The submission should be ideally be tied to our Dream programs.

OTHER BUSINESS

SI Atlantic Region invitation – Cheryl emailed the invitation to the membership. It has been our club's practice to send a monetary gift to a new club. **A motion was made** by Cindy, and seconded by Maxine, that $50 to given to SI Atlantic Region (virtual club)

. **Soroptimist Foundation of Canada (SFC) By-Law Meeting** – The meeting was re-scheduled to June 15th which is the date of our Club get together. If someone who is not attending the gathering is interested in participating in this SFC by-law meeting they can register with Dianne Nielsen, Chair of the Soroptimist Foundation of Canada.

Spring Clean Up of the International Friendship Garden - Cheryl thanked Karen for organizing the park clean up event. Seven members came out to work and the weather was lovely that morning.

June 8, 2022 Club meeting minutes – page 4

Support of American Women re Abortion Rights (Rowe vs Wade) - Cheryl contacted Governor Jennifer to see if ECR is planning to do anything regarding this matter. Governor Jennifer then contacted SIA and learned that nothing will be done as it was felt that this is a political matter and they do not want to jeopardize their charity status.

June 15th Get Together at Cheryl's Camp - Cheryl circulated a list to see how many are able to come and what they are planning to contribute to the meal. She also distributed instructions to get to her camp.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of a Delegate for 2022/23 – This was deferred until September.

Soroptimist of the Year – The selection committee made up of Cindy, LeeAnn and Melanie chose Faith Crichton to be this year's recipient of the award. Faith was presented with a beautiful star pin. LeeAnn read a lovely tribute to Faith highlighting all that she has done for our club over the years.

Board Installation –

Maxine did a lovely Board Installation with the theme "Colour Me Success". Our Board for the coming year is made up of a delegate (to be appointed in September), the Chairs/Co-chairs of the 4 Pillars – Fundraising (Kathleen Rismondo and Shirley Smith), Membership (Kim Koivukoski and Faith Crichton), Public Awareness (Faith Crichton for now), Program (Judy Perrier) President Elect, Treasurer Lorrie Haslam, Secretary Melanie Cates and President (for a 1 year term) Cindy Figus.

Cheryl was presented with a Past-President pin and she spoke about her time as President.

Maxine also presented Cheryl Ball and Karen Bortolin with a Soroptimist necklace to recognize their new positions on the Eastern Canada Board.

ECR By- law changes –
At the ECR Spring Conference each club was instructed to have its Board approve the proposed changes. Our Board did this at the June 1st Board meeting.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS –
Birthdays: Cindy - June 6th, Melanie – July 24th, Judy P. – Aug. 8th, LeeAnn – Aug. 22nd, Lauren – Aug. 23rd

Meeting closed at 9 pm.

DID YOU KNOW

I attended the Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA) virtual convention July 22, and 23. They had a "Salute to Nations". The "Salute" included pictures of the country, Soroptimist members interacting with the women and girls they have helped as well as a few interesting tidbits of information about each of the nineteen countries that comprise SIA. I hope you find something you didn't already know about one or more of these countries.

Argentina covers most of the southern portion of the continent and is the world eighth largest country.

Bolivia has 37 official languages – Spanish and 36 indigenous languages

Brazil is the largest country in both South America and Latin America. It is the world's fifth largest country by area and the seventh most populous.

Canada is known as a polite and "just" society.

Columbia is known as the Gateway to South America

Ecuador located in northwestern South America is bordered by Columbia, Peru and the Pacific Ocean. It includes the Galapagos Islands in the Pacific about 1,000 km west of the mainland,

Guam is an island as well as an unincorporated territory of the United States in the North Pacific Ocean. It is the largest, most populous and southernmost of the Mariana islands.

Japan has a very literate society. The school children clean their classrooms and no need for janitors.

Korea leads in technology. The national literacy rate for citizens 15 and older is over 99 per cent.

Mexico is the largest producer of silver in the world

Northern Mariana Islands are a U.S. Territory

Palou has approximately 340 islands. It follows a very strict matrilineal system. Matrilineal practices are seen in nearly every aspect of Palauan traditions, especially in funeral, marriage, inheritance and passing of traditional titles.

Panama besides its natural beauty is famous for the Panama Canal. The canal was built by the United States Army Corps of Engineers between1904 and 1914. The canal was transferred from the United States to Panama on December 31, 1999.

Paraguay over 90% of the population speaks various dialects of the Guarani language alongside Spanish. Their production of electricity is one of the cleanest in the world.

Peru is the land of abundance. It is the world's second world producer of copper, silver and zinc. Also it is home of the 15th century Inca citadel Machu Picchu.

Philippines are an archipelagic country in Southwest Asia. It is transitioning from agriculture centered to service and manufacturing centered economy.

Taiwan has second highest population density. It is well known for adhering to the Confucian paradigm of valuing education as a means to improve one's socioeconomic position in society. This resource poor nation consistently is at the top of the global education rankings.

U.S.A. is known as the melting pot. It has taken in the most immigrants in the world. It has all 5 climate zones in the world.

Venezuela has the highest waterfall in the world – Angel Falls with a plunge of more than 800 meters. There are over 25,000 species of orchids in Venezuela's cloud forest and lowland rainforest ecosystems.

Highlights of Soroptimist International of the Americas Biennial Convention 2022

(These highlights are from my notes and are not verbatim)

A Conversation with Malala Yousafza

SIA President Kazuko Morita and SIA President Elect Stephanie Smith had a zoom conversation with Malala. They took turns posing questions to which Malala replied. .

Question – Tell us about your childhood in Pakistan

Malala – Pakistan is a country with natural beauty. There are tall green mountains, and tourism was thriving. Then in 2007 everythng changed. The Taliban came. She was 10 and women couldn't be outside their homes; go to market. In 2009 she wrote a blog under an assumed name about life under the Taliban occupation. She became a known activist. Everything changed on October 9, 2012 when she was shot by the Taliban on a bus going home after taking a test at school.

Malala thought it was important for women to have access to education in order to make a place for themselves. She became an activist. She never planned to be a "girl education" activist.

Question – At age 17, you are the youngest person to receive the Nobel peace Prize.

Malala – I was still a school student. I was in Chemistry class when I was called out of class by the School Director. She told me that I had won the Nobel Peace Prize. Malala was filled with joy and excitement - award prize that she could share with all the girls and children and share with other activists. Since the prize was given for education, she finished her school day and went back to class.

Winning the Nobel Peace Prize she recalls attending the actual presentation with 4 or 5 other girls from different countries. This award was not just for herself. Malala felt that her story is not unique. Through education, girls can uplift their voices. She also noted that there were a number of speaking engagements around the world that she had to attend while still doing her school work.

Question – Malala's dream is that every girl and boy go to school. Why is education so important to you?

Malala – The importance of education is connected to my personal story. She spoke about her involvement in the community. She noted that there are forced marriages and she thought all girls should be able to be independent and make their own decisions. She further stated that education is a true line connected to all issues in the world. Education reduces poverty. Education is involved in reducing the impact of climate change and finding solutions to this problem. An educated girl makes better decisions for herself. Through education we can have gender equality. Free quality education adds trillions of dollars to the world economy.

Malala and her father Ziouddin established Malala's Fund in 2013 to champion girls' right to 12 years of free, safe and quality education

Malala noted that she gives herself pep talks to stay focused. She reminds herself that there are improvements and to be optimistic about – today is better than yesterday. She said a billion students sent home due to COVID.

20 million girls in danger of losing their education the longer they are out of school. They are less likely to go back.

Question – Can the girls return to school safely

Malala said that doing nothing is more harmful that doing something. Nothing will change. We have to uplift women. I push for finances for quality education and to change social norms that prevent girls from going to school. There are 130 million girls who don't have access to education.

Question – What to do when family dreams don't agree with the girl's dreams for herself.

Malala said that there is an opportunity. There is Instagram, Tic Toc, Internet and technology plays a crucial role in the future.

She stressed that it is really important to follow what you are passionate about. This will ensure that you have no regrets later in life. Give your dream a try. She also said that what you feel passionate about now can always change. Whatever they try, we stand with them to uplift them to achieve their goals

Question – Many SI members have work and family to juggle. You have a busy schedule how do you manage the work/life balance?

Malala – She stated that work/life balance is difficult. While travelling to different countries she had to catch up on her school. In university she was exhausted sometimes trying to have enough time for her studies. It is important to get enough rest. She noted that sleep, fresh air will benefit the work we do.

Question – Pandemic difficult for many. It's impact on her

Malala stated that she did her school work from home. She did her other work from home as well.

Question – What have you learnt with COVID 19

Malala said that she studied in her bedroom, did her exams in this room and graduated in her bedroom. It was very different.

The impact of COVID on girls and their education – it challenged her progress on this initiative. With the pandemic, years of progress could be lost in a day! Global leaders are talking less about girls' education. With COVID there has been an increase in domestic violence.

She told herself not to lose sight of the issues. She said that in North Nigeria, education sessions were done over the radio so girls could still learn. TV was used in Pakistan for learns and some had IPADs. Personally, she reimagined what the future of education could look like.so girls are not left behind; world is gender neural and there are no more marginalized communities.

Question Soroptimist International of the Americas has a large goal of reaching half a million women and girls any suggestions in attaining this goal

Malala – celebrate achieving the small goals along the way. Malala's goal is for all people to have 12 years complete education. With this education, girls will be able to make decisions and have choices in their lives. She wants to remove hidden fees for education such as school uniforms, paper, pens etc.

Malala said that she and her father were local activists.

Question – What goals have you set for yourself? (Or something close to that wording)

Malala challenged herself to read 84 books (my notes don't state the time period she had set to achieve this challenge.).

She found that 84 were too many books. One book she chose was 6 pages in length. She read 54 books and the lesson she learnt was not to set unreasonable goals. She especially enjoyed the women writers. She noted that many of their books were incredible.

Question – Is there a skill she hadn't developed yet?

Malala – Excel spread sheet how to use. She also mentioned tennis and badminton.

Question – You have been married less than a year. What convinced you that marriage was good for you?

Malala – Initially thought of women forced into marriage at a young age. She had fears that she would have to drop her dreams if she married. She found the right person. He is incredible and believes in her/their work. She noted that historically marriage limited women and today the laws are changing.

Question – Small steps can lead to impactful events

Malala has learnt that progress is not guaranteed for example gender equality. When a right is achieved it could be taken away. She is dedicated to fight and be alert to change. The narrative is changing. There is active movement for gender quality, quality education and the environment.

Society loses when girls are not educated. Communities lose as well.

Question - Malala is called inspirational what inspires her

Malala – Her father inspired her. Girls inspire her. She recounted how girls are trying to continue their learning in a refugee camp in Iraq. She told the story of a girl who was to be married at age 14. She ran away. In the refugee camp, the girl had a smile on her face and she was holding a dictionary that she read all the time. Every single day she learnt something. Believe in yourselves!

Following Malala's conversation, there were comments from 4 teenaged girls who had watched the video conversation with Malala.

The girls noted that you should

Follow your dreams

Speak up for issues you believe in

Make mistakes – if your first dream doesn't work out try another one

Give yourself pep talks

Rest – it is okay to make mistakes – support others when mistakes are made

Malala gave perspective on school – not being allowed to attend

Activism – Nobel Peace prize

Malala's father was her role model Like Soroptimists, he believes in education for girls and women!

Cheryl

Best for Women

https://us19.campaign-archive.com/?e=ddbf5fd322&u=e3128916f319566bbd1faf6c3&id=3032e562c4

World Dream Day is September 25th!

World Dream Day (September 25) inspires people to take the necessary steps to make their dreams come true—not just for themselves, but for their families, communities and the world. It is a day of building new hopes and committing to new possibilities.

"One may say this is the holiday for dream makers—as Soroptimists, we should celebrate twice as hard! " Every single day Soroptimists work hard to make dreams come true for women and girls. We offer guidance and educational opportunities through our Dream Programs. We also work tirelessly within our community on projects that support our Big Goal and advance our mission. World Dream Day is a holiday meant for people like us.

1. Help Women In Your Community Live Their Dreams
2. Help Girls in Your Community Prepare for Their Dream Job
3. Share Your Dream for Soroptimist on Social Media
4. Support our Big Dream for the Future Go to Best for Women website for more details.

Baseball 50/50

We will be donating $1000 to the Children's Aid Girls Aging Out of Care program from our proceeds from the Women's Friendship Baseball Series in August. Arrangements are pending with CAS to drop off the cheque and do a photo op for our social media site and perhaps a feature story in The Chronicle Journal.

Thank you to the Soroptimists who came out to sell tickets (LeeAnn, Cindy, Faith, Karen B and Melanie) and to our Friends of Soroptimists (Curtis Ball and Amanda Robert).

Girls Aging Out of Care

If you are out shopping and wish to pick up/purchase items, the following list should help you.

Our 3rd quarter focus for Girls Aging Out of Care was for school supplies – the following items are things the girls could use: mini agendas/daytime books, journals, sketch books, safe keep boxes with lock and key, pencil crayons and colouring books, cross word and puzzle books, personal alarms, disposable cameras and locks for dorm room doors.

Additionally, they have need for hair ties, socks, underwear, winter hats and gloves (hats and gloves were items on our 4th quarter list).

Wellness products were identified such as: creams, lotions, bubble baths, deodorant, pedicure/manicure sets, Nair hair removal products, razors, shaving cream, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, face masks - not the COVID19 kind but for cleaning pores etc, essential oils and candles - anything smelly that girls like.

Other items included cleaning products, pots and pans, old cell phones with gift cards for minutes, iTunes gift cards or anything else related to music.

Food is also much appreciated at any quarter.

At this time they do not need sanitary pads or toothbrushes.

Thank you, Melanie

READY.....SET.....GO.....

We are off to a running start with our first fundraiser of the year just around the corner. Time to start cleaning out your cupboards, closets, drawers, basement, garage etc. and discover those treasured items that you just couldn't part with, but now realize you forgot you even had them. You know the drill, "Maybe I will wear it again someday OR I might need that sometime."

Don't forget to put the bug in your friends and family's ear as well, I bet they have hidden treasures also. Kudos to those who have already collected an abundance of STUFF!!

WHO: All able members (friends/family always welcome to help out)
WHAT: Yard Sale in support of CLUB FUNDS
WHERE: Cardinal Room (CLE grounds next to the Coliseum)
WHEN: September 24th 8 A.M.-1 P.M.
WHY: Cause we need the money honey!
HOW: Many hands make light work. Hope to see you there.

All successful events require a lot of pre-planning as well, a yard sale is no exception. That said, we also need HELPING HANDS on FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 23rd from 10 A.M.-1 P.M.to get things set up/ priced/organized. If you aren't available for the duration, a couple of hours of your valuable time would be greatly appreciated. Grocery bags and boxes are also welcome to join in on the fun.

Any questions, concerns, or you are in need of assistance for picking up items contact Shirley or Kathleen. They will be more than happy to forward your message on to the next available agent.

Fundraising Co-Chairs
Kathleen and Shirley

Eastern Canada Region Board of Directors
2022-2024

GOVERNOR
Gertrud Hocke, SI Cambridge
email Gertrud

GOVERNOR ELECT
Cheryl Ball, SI Thunder Bay
email Cheryl

SECRETARY
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TREASURER
Karen Bortolin, SI Thunder Bay
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DIRECTOR
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email Keshala

PAST GOVERNOR
Jennifer Oliver, SI Guelph
email Jennifer

CLUB CONTACTS Eastern Canada Region Committees
2022-2024

LIVE YOUR DREAM AWARD
Raheleh Barkhordari, SI Toronto
email Raheleh

DREAM IT • BE IT
Keshala Dissanayake, SI Cambridge
email Keshala

PUBLIC AWARENESS
Teena Baghat, SI Atlantic Canada Online
email Teena

MEMBERSHIP
Jean Skillman, SI Toronto
email Jean

FUNDRAISING
Cheryl Ball, SI Thunder Bay
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CELEBRATING SUCCESS
Serena Reynolds, SI Grand Erie
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WEBSITE
Susan Peirce, SI Kawartha Lakes
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LAWS & RESOLUTION
Corinne Rivers, SI York Region
email Corinne

UNITED NATIONS
Judy Dickson, SI Kawartha Lakes
email Judy

ARCHIVES/HISTORIAN
TBD

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Jennifer Oliver, SI Guelph
email Jennifer

Source: https://www.facebook.com/SIAtlanticCanadaOnline

Why Do We Care About Roe v Wade?

*Submitted by Western Canada Region Governor Suzanne Hero*n
Image courtesy Soroptimist International

Why do we as Canadians care about the U.S. Supreme Court taking away Americans' right to abortion?

We care because the United States is a global influencer. This emboldens others who would remove a person's right to control what happens to their own body. Access to safe abortion has been declared as a human right by multiple international courts and bodies.

We wonder who to trust in our own country, among legislators and would-be legislators, who say they support this fundamental right. We care because we know the consequences of this decision. Banning abortion only decreases safe abortions. We grieve for the women and children who are already bearing the health, financial, social and emotional burdens of unwanted, dangerous or unplanned pregnancies.
Our global body, Soroptimist International, takes a human rights stand on all issues. In our Position Paper on Sexual and Reproductive Health, we support "the rights set out in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women relating to sexual and reproductive health, in particular that women are afforded the 'rights to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children and to have access to the information, education and means to enable them to exercise these rights.'"

Our Soroptimist Federation, SI of the Americas, has a laser focus on providing access to education for women and girls - the fastest path to economic empowerment. "We have seen firsthand the consequential effects unplanned pregnancy has on a woman's mental and physical health, her educational opportunities, and her future success, as well as the health and economic outcomes for her children. The reversal of Roe v. Wade means that Soroptimist's programs, which improve access to education for women and girls, will be even more important for reducing the probability of unplanned pregnancy and for equipping women and girls to pursue employment whatever their maternal status."

We Soroptimists in Western Canada will provide tools for girls to realize their own dreams, and to be strong in demand and defence of their own rights. We will propel women into the education they need to reach economic empowerment and equality. We will challenge any attack on women's human rights. We will care what happens in other countries because to be free and equal, we must all be free and equal.
We urge our members, friends and all who care about human rights to advocate for the full range of reproductive health education and services.

Source: https://www.wcsoroptimist.org/blog/why-do-we-care-about-roe-v-wade?fbclid=IwAR399zcQLtFCWPqJvR9rqwBuU4sMpDwHCNnmapz6PNF_GG9KZoqsMZGzeU0

SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

SAVE THE DATE!

ECR FALL REGIONAL MEETING

Hosted by SI York Region

"Staying Safe in a Digital World"

THURSDAY OCT 20 2022

6:30PM UNTIL 9 PM

VIA ZOOM

REGISTRATION WILL BE BY EMAIL TO THE ECR SECRETARY – SUSAN.RIVERS@GMAIL.COM. DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION – OCTOBER 17, 2022

SI Thunder Bay General Meeting

June 8, 2022 7 p.m.

Maxine's Condo 315 Hilldale Road

AGENDA

Call to order	Cheryl
Minutes of the May 11th	Karen
Treasurer's Report	Cindy
Club Budget for 2022-23	Cindy
Correspondence	Cheryl

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Spring Conference 2022 – Maggie Chicoine	Maxine & Kim
Courthouse Hotel Dinner & Pajama Party	Judy P..
Trust Committee (deferred)	Cindy
FUNDRAISING	Kathleen & Shirley
Yard Sale - storing yard sale items	Kathleen
The Calcutta	Kathleen
Two Bit Auction	Kathleen
$500.00 Gift Card Raffle	Kathleen
Baseball Tournament opportunity to sell tickets	Kathleen

PROGRAM — Judy P

Live Your Dream	Judy P
Comfort Kits	Lorrie.
Dream It, Be It	
Children's Aid Society (Girl's Aging out of Foster Care)	Melanie.

MEMBERSHIP — Kim & Judy A.

SI Policies & Procedures	Lee Ann & Melanie

PUBLIC RELATIONS	**Faith**
Possible Sister Club in Australia (deferred)	
Celebrating Success Submissions	Cheryl
Northern Wild Article	Cheryl
OTHER BUSINESS	
SI Cambridge 40th Anniversary	Cheryl
Year End Reports	Cheryl
Soroptimist Foundation of Canada Special By Law Meeting	Cheryl
Spring Clean Up of the International Friendship Garden	Karen
Support of American Women - Rowe vs Wade	Cheryl
June 15th Get Together at Cheryl's Camp	Cheryl
NEW BUSINESS	
ECR by law changes see June 1, 2022 email	Cheryl

une Birthdays:	June 6th – Cindy
July Birthdays	July 24th - Melanie
August Birthdays	August 8th Judy P.
	August 22nd Lee Ann
	August 23rd Lauren

A.O.B.

Pledge for Eastern Canada Region

We are Soroptimists committed to: the sincerity of friendship, the joy of achievement, the dignity of service, the integrity of profession, the love of country. We will put forth our best efforts to improve the lives of women and girls in local communities and throughout the world.

Prepare for the September meeting by reviewing the following documents

August Treasurer's report,
Draft Constitution and
Leadership Academy agenda.†

DRAFT

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL THUNDER BAY

Improving the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Effective September 14, 2022

ARTICLE I - NAME

SECTION 1. NAME

The name of this club shall be Soroptimist International Thunder Bay ("the Club").

The Club is part of the Eastern Canada Region ("the Region") of Soroptimist International of The Americas ("the Federation").

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

The purposes of the club shall be:

a) Advancing education by providing publicly available scholarships, bursaries, and other forms of financial assistance to women and girls to support higher education

b) Addressing and preventing problems faced by youth by providing structured programs to girls, designed to improve and encourage self-esteem, leadership skills, healthy lifestyles and to assist them in identifying career goals and related educational choices

c) Relieving poverty by providing basic necessities such as food, grocery cards, clothing, toys, and basic household items to underprivileged families

d) Receiving and maintaining a fund or funds and to apply all or part of the principal and income Therefrom, from time to time, to qualified donees as defined in subsection 149.1(1) of the income Tax Act (Canada)

e) Undertaking activities ancillary and incidental to the above-mentioned charitable purposes.

SECTION 2. POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS

The Club shall not contribute to, participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office.

SECTION 3. NON-PROFIT

The Club shall be carried on without purpose of gain for its members, and any profits or other gains to the Club shall be used in promoting its objectives.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERS

SECTION 1. ELIGIBILITY

Membership is open to women who support the vision, mission and core values of Soroptimist International of the Americas.

SECTION 2. PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP

All members may speak, make motions and vote.

Only members in good standing may be elected to or retain office. Any member in good standing may serve as a delegate, or alternate, to a federation convention and/or region conference.

SECTION 3. ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP

Any member may propose an individual for membership. Prospective members may also be recruited at public and community events or through special membership initiatives. New members shall be installed by the President and the Chair of the Membership Committee at a regular Club Business meeting upon payment of all fees and dues.

SECTION 4. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Club membership shall terminate on:

a) resignation,

b) failure to fulfill financial obligations within 60 days of due date, or

c) conduct which adversely reflects on the Soroptimist organization.

Membership shall not be terminated for reasons other than resignation without an opportunity for a hearing before the Board of Directors upon 30 days written notice to the member. A twothirds vote of the Board, exclusive of the person being removed, is required for termination of such membership when grounds for termination have been found to exist. The decision of the Board shall be final.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

SECTION 1. OFFICERS

The officers shall be a President, President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Past President.

SECTION 2. TERM OF OFFICE

Officers shall be elected to serve for two years with the exception of the Past President who will serve for one year. No member shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office, except the office of Treasurer.

SECTION 3. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

The Club Board of Directors shall have authority to remove from office any elected officer, board member or committee chair either for or without cause, whenever in the judgment of the Board, the best interests of the Club will be served. Removal shall occur only upon a two-thirds vote of the directors then in office, exclusive of the person being removed, and only after being given an opportunity to be heard at a meeting of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS (CONTINUED)

SECTION 4. VACANCY IN OFFICE

In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the President Elect shall become President. Other vacancies be shall be filled, on an interim basis, by Board appointment, subject to ratification via motion at the next Club business meeting or at a special meeting called for the purpose. If needed, nominations may be made from the floor and the Club shall elect by a majority vote of those present and voting. An interim office is not invalid merely by failure to ratify.

SECTION 5. DUTIES

The Officers shall have such duties as arise from membership on the Board of Directors or as assigned by the President.

The President as chief officer shall:

a) preside at meetings of the Club and of the Board

b) appoint all committees unless otherwise provided in the rules or in the motion authorizing the committee

c) be an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee

The President shall also be charged with the general management and supervision of the affairs and operations of the Club, subject always to the authority of the Board and the members.

The Vice-President shall:

a) have such duties as assigned by the President

b) preside in the absence the President

c) agree to stand for election as President at the end of the incumbent President's term.

The Secretary shall:

a) keep the minutes of the Club and of the Board

b) be custodian of the permanent records of the Club

c) submit to the Club the minutes of the Club meetings and the recommendations of the Board

d) carry on such correspondence as does not properly belong to other officers or committee

The Treasurer shall:

a) receive all funds of the Club and deposit them in the financial institutions authorized by the Board

b) make remittances required by Federation and Region Bylaws and standing procedures

c) send a notice to any member who has not met any financial obligation 30 days from the due date

d) pay all authorized bills

e) prepare financial statements for the fiscal year July 1 to June 30

f) be responsible for maintaining a roster of members in good standing

g) prepare the proposed budget for the next year to be presented to the Board

h) manage the investment of Club funds with the consensus and direction of the Board

The Past President shall:

a) serve for one year following the end of her term as President

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS (CONTINUED)

b) act as a resource to the President and Board

c) have no voting rights on matters before the Board 7

SECTION 6. SIGNING AUTHORITY

The signing officers of the Club are the President, President Elect, and Treasurer. All funds, agreements or other documents, cheques and other banking withdrawal documents are to be signed by any two of the President and/or President Elect and/or Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall have the authority to manage Club investments in accordance with motions passed by the Board for specific action.

ARTICLE V - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A nominating Committee of three members shall be formed in March as follows:

a) the President shall appoint the Chairperson

b) the Board shall elect a second member, and

c) the Club shall elect the third member.

The Committee shall invite each member to suggest names for consideration. The Committee shall prepare a slate of one or more candidates for each office. The Consent of the nominee must be obtained before the name is placed before the Club. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented at the May Business Meeting.

SECTION 2. ELECTION

The election shall be held at the Business Meeting in June. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented again at this meeting and additional nominations may be made from the floor, providing that the nominee has consented. Elections shall be by ballot for any office for which there is more than one nominee. A majority vote shall be necessary to elect. The results shall take effect July 1st following the elections.

ARTICLE VI – BUSINESS MEETINGS

SECTION 1. REGULAR MEETINGS

The regular meetings of the Club shall be held monthly, with the exceptions of July and August, or as otherwise agreed to by the members. The place for regular meetings of the Club shall be determined by the Club

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SECTION 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings of the Club may be called by the President and may be called upon the request of at least three members of the Club with 48 hours written notice. The business to be transacted at any special meeting shall be limited to that mentioned in the notice. Acceptable written notice shall be via e-mail or text message. Any member without these electronic means shall be notified via telephone by the President or her delegate. All reasonable attempts shall be made to notify all members within the 48-hour time frame.

ARTICLE VI – BUSINESS MEETINGS (Continued)

SECTION 3. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting shall be held by the end of September for the purpose of receiving reports of the Board of Directors, and committees, and for any other business that may arise.

SECTION 4. QUORUM

A majority (51%) of the members of the Club shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the Club.

ARTICLE VII – CONTROLLING BODY - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. COMPOSITION

The Board of Directors consists of the Officers (President, President Elect, Treasurer, Secretary and Past President) as stated in Article IV, Section 1 and the Chairs of the Standing Committees named in Article VIII, Section 1.

SECTION 2. DUTIES

The Board of Directors shall have administrative control over the affairs, funds and property of the Club, subject always to the authority of the members, except that of modifying any action taken by the Club. It shall authorize payments from Club funds within the budget; act upon invitations to membership, resignations, terminations, and disciplinary matters; receive reports of committees as may be necessary between meetings of the Club; submit policy recommendations to the Club; and perform such other duties as the Club, Region, Federation or these procedures may require.

Each Director shall:

a) Participate at Board meetings in fulfilling the duties of the Board

b) Contribute to the decision-making of the Board on behalf of the Club

c) Represent the best interests of club members in decision-making

Each Director, except the Past President, shall be a member of a standing committee referred to in Article VIII, Section 1.

SECTION 3 VOTING RIGHTS

The maximum possible number of votes including the Officers and Directors is eight. If two members of the Board share a position, they share one vote. If one member holds more than one position she is limited to one vote.

SECTION 4 REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the Board shall be held at least ten times per year at a time and place determined by the Board.

ARTICLE VII – CONTROLLING BODY – BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Continued)

SECTION 5. SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President and may be called upon the written request of at least three members of the Board with 24 hours written notice. The business transacted at any special meeting shall be limited to that mentioned in the notice. . Acceptable written notice shall be via e-mail or text message. Any member without these electronic means shall be notified via telephone by the President or her delegate. All reasonable attempts shall be made to notify all members within the 24-hour time frame.

SECTION 6. QUORUM

A majority (51%) of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII - COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. STANDING COMMITTEES

There shall be four standing committees:

a) Program Committee

b) Membership Committee

c) Fundraising Committee

d) Public Awareness Committee

SECTION 2. OTHER COMMITTEES

The Board may constitute other committees from time to time for the furtherance of the Club's purposes.

SECTION 3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Chair of each committee, or her delegate, shall report monthly to the Board and the Club, either orally or in writing.

ARTICLE IX – INTERNAL AUDIT

The Club's financial books and records shall be internally audited within 60 days of the close of the fiscal year by an Audit Committee of one Club member (who does not have signing authority) appointed by the Board. The Audit Committee shall report to the members at the meeting next following the completion of the audit.

ARTICLE X - DUES, FEES AND ASSESSMENTS

SECTION 1. FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Club shall be from July 1 to June 30 of each year.

ARTICLE X DUES, FEES AND ASSESSMENTS (continued)

SECTION 2. ANNUAL DUES AND FEES

Club dues and fees shall be the same for all members and shall be approved by the members annually at the regular Mayl meeting.

Annual dues shall be due and payable before June 30th of each year.

New members of the Club shall pay prorated fees as determined by the Club.

Late fees shall be assessed at the rate set by the Federation and the Board.

ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS

These constitution and bylaws shall be reviewed at least every two years to ensure they are consistent with the policies of the Federation and reflective of the Club's operational needs.

Notification of proposed amendments shall be made to all Club members at least thirty days in advance of the Club meeting where the amendments will be presented for approval by the Club.

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Club or by a special meeting as stated in Article VI Section 2, by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

ARTICLE XII - DISSOLUTION

After the organization is dissolved and all its debts paid, its remaining property will be distributed or disposed of to qualified donees as defined in subsection 149.1(1) of the Income Tax Act (Canada).

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APPROVED BY MOTION SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

_____

PRESIDENT

_____

PRESIDENT ELECT

_____

SECRETARY

_____

TREASURER

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL THUNDER BAY

Leadership Academy September 26, 2022

Soroptimists Working Together:

Finding Unity in Diversity

Virtual via Zoom

Governor Gertrud Hocke

SOROPTIMIST®
Investing in Dreams

Important Details

Registration is open to all Eastern Canada Region members. However, Club executive members are definitely encouraged to attend.

Clubs are requested to contribute $50 per club for the event. There will be no additional cost to individual attendees.

Registration is with the ECR Secretary – Sue Rivers at susan.rivers@gmail.com
Please include the following in your email when you register:

Your Name
Club Name
Position in the Club for the 2022-23 year
Email to be used for the Zoom call
Breakout Room you wish to attend

Guest Speaker – Stephanie Smith

As president-elect, Smith has worked with President Kazuko Morita, in overseeing Soroptimist's strategic planning and program development for the organization. She also helped lead Soroptimist's efforts to increase its collective impact in helping women and girls to reach their full potential.

Smith is a member of Soroptimist International of Oak Harbor, one of 1,200 Soroptimist clubs throughout the world. A member since 1994, Smith has held several leadership positions, including region governor, district director, and club president, vice president and treasurer. **She will become SIA's president on September 1, 2022.**

Smith, semi-retired as Vice President/Senior Learning and Development Consultant at Wells Fargo Bank, and owner of SL Smith Coaching and Consulting, received an associate of arts degree from Centralia College.

DRAFT AGENDA

Monday, September 26, 2022

6:30 **Participants Sign In**

6:45 **Opening comments**- Governor Gertrud and Governor-Elect Cheryl

7:00 **Updates from Eastern Canada Region**

7:15 **Guest Speaker**: SIA President-Elect Stephanie Smith

8:00 Break and FUN TIME!

8:15 **Breakout Rooms for Role Discussions**

Presidents – Facilitated by Past Governor Jennifer Oliver

Treasurers – Facilitated by ECR Treasurer Karen Bortolin

LYD – Co-facilitated by Natalie Inniss and Raheleh Borkhardari

DIBI – Co-facilitated by Laurie Cappe and Kesh Dissanayake

Membership – Co-facilitated by Bonnie Domonchuk and Jean Skillman

Fundraising – Facilitated by Governor Gertrud Hocke and Governor-Elect Cheryl Ball

Public Awareness – Facilitated by Tanna Edwards and Teena Bhagat

8:50 **Return from Breakout Rooms -** Any outstanding questions or concerns; follow-up required

8:50 **Closing Remarks –** Governor Gertrud

Committee Structure SI Thunder Bay

BOARD OF DIRECTORS. 2020-2022			
PRESIDENT	Cindy Figus	**DELEGATE**	Devona Crowe
PRESIDENT-ELECT	Judy Perrier	**FUNDRAISING**	Kathleen Rismondo & Shirley Smith
TREASURER	Lorrie Haslam	**PUBLIC AWARE-NESS**	Faith Crichton
SECRETARY	Melanie Cates	**MEMBERSHIP**	Kim Koivukoski & Faith Crichton

PROGRAM COMMITTEE 2022-2023		*MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE 2022-2023*	
Chair	Judy	**Chair**	Kim i & Faith
Live Your Dream Award	Judy	**Meeting Hostess(Dinners) & Speakers**	Kim & Faith
Dream It Be It	Faith & Kathleen	**Archives**	
Comfort Kits	Lorrie & Judy	**International Goodwill**	
Girls Aging Out of CAS	Melanie	**Sick and Visiting**	Shirley
International Friendship Gardens	Enid, Maxine & Judy	**Soroptimist of the Year**	Lee Ann
Program Committee Members	Linda & Devona	**Protocol & Club Policy**	Lee Ann, Melanie & Cheryl
		Orientation	Cindy
		Membership Committee Members	Rosa, Melanie, Cindy

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE 2022-2023		*PUBLIC AWARENESS COMMITTEE 2022-2023*	
Chair	Kathleen & Shirley	**Chair**	Faith
Yard Sale	Kathleen & Shirley	**Newsletter**	Lee Ann
Two Bit Auction	Kathleen & Shirley	**Web mistress**	Judy
Sweet Dreams Auction	Kathleen & Shirley	**Social Media**	Melanie
Bingo Fundraiser	Karen	**Cub Photographer**	Faith
Fundraising Committee Members	All SI Thunder Bay members	**Public Awareness Committee Members**	Sharon

<u>Friday Sept. 23, 2022</u> Yard sale set up and
Sat. Sept. 24, 2022 Yard Sale at the CLE Cardinal Room

<u>Monday Sept. 26, 2022</u> Leadership Academy 6:30-9 Virtually (registration required by emailing susan.rivers@gmail.com) Registration paid by the club.

<u>Thursday September 30, 2022</u> Dream Maker Award nominations deadline

<u>Thursday October 20, 2022</u> 6:30 –9ECR Fall Area Meeting Virtual

<u>Saturday October 22, 2022</u> Soroptimist Foundation of Canada AGM
Virtual time TBD

Queen Elizabeth II 1926—2022

Paddington sat down sadly
On a green and quiet glade
And pulled a sandwich from his little hat
Made With the nicest marmalade
He had heard sad news this very day
That the Queen's life had come to an end
He cried because that day they met
She had become his bestest friend
They had shared some tea
That very day when to the Palace he had been invited
He remembered he could hardly speak
He was so very very excited
He offered her his sandwich
Made with such love and care
She smiled at him and with a grin
She showed that little bear
That inside of her handbag
There was something she had made
And that She too kept a special sandwich
Made of the finest marmalade
Although he was just a little bear
And she a regal queen
Watching her take that sandwich out her bag
Was the best thing he had seen
He wondered if any body else would miss her
Now that she had gone
And his heart was filled up to the brim
When he turned his little phone on
He saw that Facebook had been flooded
With her pictures old and new
And that he himself that little bear
Was also in them too
Although today he is the saddest
That he has ever been
He will always lovingly remember
The day he had tea with the Queen