

The Rotary Club of Lions Gate gathered for a delightful evening at Northlands Bar and Grill on July 4th to celebrate the achievements of the 2023/24 Rotary year and usher in the new Rotary year. During this event, Past President Stan van Woerkens officially passed the club leadership to incoming President Ian Johnston.

Highlights of 2023/24 included:

- Hosted another successful *Canada Day at The Shipyards* community event
- 14 shipping containers of medical aid sent through our involvement with *Rotary World Help* to 8 different countries - valued at over \$5,000,000
- Eight \$1,000 *Scholarships* awarded to North Vancouver students
- Club volunteers worked at *Backpack Buddies* throughout the year to help pack meals for BC students in need – over 4,000 bags packed by club members
- Two *Shelterboxes* donated to provide relief for those in need including the Turkey earthquake in 2023
- Multiple, *Kiva Micro Loans* made to help underserved communities thrive.



The Club hosted another monthly seniors *Lunch and Learn* session at the North Vancouver Silver Harbour centre on Wednesday, July 24th.

Julie Dahl of Your Moving Concierge led a conversation on downsizing and organizing, while Gary Born from Royal LePage Sussex covered housing options tailored to seniors. Following the talks, participants savored a warm meal together and departed with two packed takeaway dinners.

July was an exceptional month for the club, as four members – *Stan van Woerkens, Elizabeth Chong, Eric Foos, and Carole Johnston*, were honored with multiple-pin Paul Harris Fellow Awards in recognition of their significant contributions to Rotary and the Rotary Foundation.

This award is the Rotary Foundation’s way of acknowledging substantial support for its humanitarian and educational initiatives. The Foundation supports programs aimed at improving global conditions, including enhanced living standards, increased food production, better education, expanded medical treatment and rehabilitation, greater international understanding, and renewed hopes for peace.



Members, family and friends spent a fulfilling morning on July 19th with *Backpack Buddies*. Together, we packed 882 food bags for children in need.

Many children experiencing food insecurity do not have enough to eat, especially over weekends. Backpack Buddies distributes food bags to thousands of vulnerable children across North Vancouver and BC, ensuring they have sufficient meals and snacks to sustain them through the weekend and beyond. This is part of our ongoing partnership with Backpack Buddies, reflecting our commitment to supporting our community.

The Club received a *Shelterbox Hero Award* in recognition of our commitment to Shelterbox. ShelterBox is an international disaster relief organization that delivers aid to families devastated by conflict or natural disaster giving them safe shelter and the tools to rebuild communities.

Shelterbox is actively assisting in the Caribbean following Hurricane Beryl, which caused widespread destruction across several island nations. They are dispatching emergency shelter assistance and essential supplies to support thousands of displaced individuals in Grenada.



UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

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| <u>Friday August 9</u>
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm | Regular Club Meeting
Location:
Capilano Mall – Second Floor Community Room
935 Marine Drive, North Vancouver |
| <u>Friday August 16</u>
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm | Social Potluck Lunch
Location:
The Atrium
1188 Parkgate Avenue, North Vancouver |
| <u>Friday August 23</u>
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm | Regular Club Meeting
Location:
Delbrook Community Center – Oak Room
851 West Queens Road, North Vancouver |
| <u>Wednesday Aug 28</u>
11:00 am – 12:00 pm | Seniors Lunch and Learn
Location:
Silver Harbour Centre
144 22 nd Street East, North Vancouver |
| <u>Thursday Sept 5</u>
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm | Networking Meetup (<i>Great opportunity to invite potential members</i>)
Location:
Angry Otter Tap & Forno
1015 Marine Drive, North Vancouver |
| <u>Saturday Sept 7</u>
10:00 am - 2:00 pm | Shred-It Fundraiser
Location:
District of North Vancouver Parking Lot
355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver |



Everyone is welcome to join us at all these events.

For more information, please contact:

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