



Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills

Meeting of June 15, 2015

Eleven members were present to hear Brian Turner provide an update on the work of the Carleton Place Drug Strategy Committee, a committee that has served as a template for similar initiatives in most Lanark County communities. He spoke of the “Four Pillars” of their work, i.e., prevention, treatment, education and enforcement; how mental health issues are so closely aligned with substance abuse and the very positive impact of the talks that Nicole Pearson has given to over 7000 students. He also recognized the strong support of Carleton Place Council and local schools. On a less positive note he observed that students are getting a very mixed message about the use of marijuana given the spreading use of “medical marijuana” and the recent decision by the Supreme Court on a access to a substance whose health impact has never been subjected to proper clinical trials. Members thanked Brian on the work that he and his colleagues are doing for our communities.

Eric reported on the District 7040 International Service meeting held at Cornwall on the previous weekend. It was well attended by Canadian and U.S. rotarians as well as one representative from Mexico. During his report he noted that Rotary had added 47,000 new members in 2013/14, mostly from developing nations, and that fingers were crossed that polio may finally have been beaten given that no new cases had been reported in Africa over the past 10 months. He also identified a number of international initiatives involving regional clubs and referred those to the Board for possible funding consideration.

A work schedule for the Lambsdown Festival on June 20 was completed and will be e-mailed to members. The licence we had from the Town for the September 21 50/50 “Night at the Raceway” event will be suspended and a new one issued for the 50/50 draw at the Lambsdown Festival. It was agreed that Mike should look into the cost of a new Rotary tent and report back to the Club.

Faye reported that Carleton Place High School had nominated a student (and a back-up) for the four-day “Adventures in the Environment” session to be held in late September and the Club agreed to the \$500 enrollment fee. Eric indicated that Almonte High School was also considering a nomination.