Examples of community service projects throughout Rotary District 5040 (not including many international projects)



Write 2 Read program brings Education & Literacy to First Nation communities

One of 28 learning centres that have been built and supplied for small Indigenous villages through Write2Read, a volunteer project Without relying on government money, more than 50 volunteers with the Write to Read Project (W2R) have used trucks, boats and airplanes to distribute small, modular libraries and more than 70,000 books onto First Nation communities throughout the province.

Mountain rescue funding from annual Rotary bike ride

The demand for search and rescue operations is growing for North Shore Rescue, a community-based search and rescue team of 40 volunteers with skills in search and rescue operations in local mountains and canyons and urban settings. Rotary Club of West Vancouver Sunrise holds an annual Rotary Ride for Rescue as a fundraiser involving keen cyclcists on a ride and fun event up West Vancouver's Cypress Mountain





Newborn future guide dogs get a good start with Rotary-sponsored lab equipment

BC & Alberta Guide Dogs (BCAGD), in the Ladner community of Delta is a charity which changes the lives of individuals who are blind or have low vision, children with autism, and Veterans and First Responders with Operational Stress Injuries and PTSD. It takes two years and upwards of $35,000 to produce one certified dog, provided free of charge to the recipient. The Rotary Club of Ladner has supported the purchase of $15,000 in laboratory equipment for BCAGD's new $7.1 million Breeding and Training Centre.

Bike park in Whistler's Bayly Park

Thanks to Rotary Club of Whister, various other sponsors, and a District Grant from The Rotary Foundation, a new bike park has opened for use at Whistler's Bayly Park to provide a community gathering space for Cheakamus Crossing residents.





Food storage bins help in feeding 6,000 hungry children a week in BC

Back Pack Buddies provides food to over 6,000 children every week in 73 communities across BC. Rotary Club of Lionsgate in North Vancouver has purchased $3,738 of large vermin resistant bulk containers made of weather resistant sturdy corrugated plastic for Backpack Buddies to hygienically store food for many years to come with the support of $1,246 from The Rotary Foundation through a District Grant.

Music to play in the park

Children and families in Powell River have had limited access to public spaces that encourage both physical play and creative musical expression. Rotary Club of Powell River purchased and had installed for the hundreds of children and families musical playground equipment in a local regional park. The $15,000 installation, funded by the club and $7,500 from The Rotary Foundation District Grant, is creating a vibrant and inclusive play environment.





Trail to Town in Smithers

Rotary Club of Smithers raised funds and organized a major work party of volunteers to open the 4.2 km trail "Rotary Community Trail to Town" to the public. The trail allows people to hike in the summer and ski and snowboard in the winter from the ski hill (bottom of the chairlift) to the valley floor 3775 feet of vertical sparing over use of the road and the time of any drivers picking up skiers at day's end. The Rotary club has now purchased its own trail maintenance equipment for $3,892, thanks in part to a District Grant from The Rotary Foundation of $1,946.

iPads for neurodiverse children helps learning, boosts self-esteem



By using special programs for their use, iPads help neurodiverse children meet their unique learning needs at a Vancouver elementary school. The iPads enable these children to enjoy increased self-esteem from pride in the work they can do independently. With all their tools in one location, they can learn by talking to text and experience less anxiety and workload in having to print and or have an adult scribe for them.



Industrial land in Squamish becomes a park with a Rotary-sponsored playground

The District of Squamish converted previously heavily-polluted industrial land on the waterfront into Sp'akw'us Feather Park and the Rotary Club of Squamish collaborated with the Park's developer to install the playground with support of The Rotary Foundation District 5040 Grant of $10,000. The District of Squamish maintains the Park and playground for the 23,000 residents of Squamish area and visitors.

StoryWalk trail for young readers outdoors in Williams Lake



StoryWalks, of children's book two-page reading stations, exchanged every two weeks or so year round, along a one kilometre trail provides an outdoor experience and an opportunity for children to read with adults, learn new words, describe things and events, enjoy and tell stories. The Rotary Club of Williams Lake Daybreak's Satellite division has added another StoryWalk in the community along the RC Cotton trail off of Scout Island Nature Centre and bird sanctuary in the Williams Lake, BC community with $3,668 from the club and $1,386 in a Rotary District Grant from The Rotary Foundation.



Honour Ranch serving those in service when in need

Members of our Canadian Armed Forces, Veterans, Emergency Services Personnel and their families are brave individuals who sacrifice so much on a daily basis to protect our freedom and our everyday way of life. Part of Honour House, in New Westminster, Honour Ranch, opened in 2019 10 kilometres south of Ashcroft, BC sits on 120 acres of rolling hills overlooking the South Thompson River, as a tranquil retreat, a place of education and personal growth in the treatment of operational stress injuries including anxiety, depression, and PTSD. Rotary Club of New Westminster Royal City, with support of a Rotary District 5040 Grant, from The Rotary Foundation, has contributed a corral and horse shelter for horses at the Ranch.

Medical equipment from BC provides relief in treating troops and civilians in war-torn Ukraine



Thousands of men and women fighting on the front lines in Ukraine, many civilians injured from bombings in the war with Russia and those needing routine medical care after some facilities have been destroyed, are benefitting from used medical equipment and supplies and equipment shipped to the country through Rotary Districts 5040 and 5050 shared Rotary World Help (RWH) network with sponsorship of the Rotary Club of Vancouver Arbutus**.** Communities in over 60 countries have received many $millions worth of equipment and supplies where needed.



Fire trailer

"Phoenix", a fire trailer donated to the Siska First Nation community near Lytton, after a devastating wildfire destroyed that community, was the fisrt of nine built and donated to eight other BC First Nation communities in BC. The fire trailer, which can be towed or airlifted to operate in hard to reach areas and provide rapid response to smaller fires before they become big ones, can also serve to fight fires right in the community. Rotary Club of Steveston, other clubs and Rotary District 5040 helped fund the project with major sponsorship of $350,000 from Disaster Aid Canada, a Rotary organization based in Ladysmith, BC.

Rotary upgrades playground equipment it originally sponsored in Terrace



The aging playground equipment in Terrace's 150-acre Ferry Island Park, originally sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Terrace and of Terrace Skeena Valley 20 years ago, was upgraded by the City of Terrace for $40,000, including the Rotary Club of Terrace's contribution of $7,581.00 plus a Rotary District 5040 Grant of $3,800.



E-bike charging and seating area contributed by Rotary to new plaza in Ladner

The City of Delta's recently completed Stokes and Cullis Plaza in the centre of Ladner Village includes two E-bike charging stations and a large wooden seating area which Rotary Club of Ladner sponsored as part of the City project.

Food resiliency, recreation and learning with new greenhouse



On Bowen Island the community now has a $30,000 12 ft x 40 ft poly tunnel style greenhouse for its Grafton Commons community gardens thanks to the Rotary Club of Bowen Island with support of a $4,000 District Grant from The Rotary Foundation. The greenhouse helps Grafton Commons grow plants year round not only to promote greater local food resilience but to help with education in regenerative agriculture and gardening for adults, seniors and school age children.



Access opens to new nature habitat in New Westminster

The residents of New Westminster and beyond now have access to The Habitat at Queen's Park as the City of New Westminster transitions the area from the former petting farm space of many years into a naturalized space supporting biodiversity as well as outdoor programming and activities throughout the year. The wetland area will include water and fauna of an indigenous nature and allow for interpretive study and discussion of First Nations links to the land in Queens Park. With $30,000 funding from the Rotary Club of New Westminster and $10,000 through a District Grant from The Rotary Foundation, the Club has worked with the City on the $40,000 project to construct timber walkways around the area to provide access with mobility challenges.

Richmond Hospice upgrades



After 18 years of service the 10-bed Rotary Hospice House in Richmond, BC. needed to replace the outdated oxygen concentrator and, surrounding the property, a rotted fence. Rotary Club of Richmond addressed these needs with a a contribution $6,700 and additional support of $3,300 from a District Grant from The Rotary Foundation.



Inner City Binners tidy up and recycle

Make Way Charitable Society runs the inner city Binners' Project to help people improve their lives as waste-pickers. By helping improve the livelihoods and economic opportunities of those who need a hand up, the program also provides a community of social inclusion as the waste-pickers contribute to the environment with cleaning up trash from city streets and properties. With the support of $4,340 from the Rotary Club of Richmond Sunrise and a District Grant of $2,160.00 the Society was able to purchase as uniforms for the Binners, imprinted with the Rotary logo, 60 long sleeve jackets, 60 Toques and 39 Binners kits for use over the following five years.

Read to Me

Kindergarten children from public, private and French schools in Powell River and Regional District are receive a book in a bag through the Rotary-sponsored "Read to Me" program to encourage parents to read to their children.





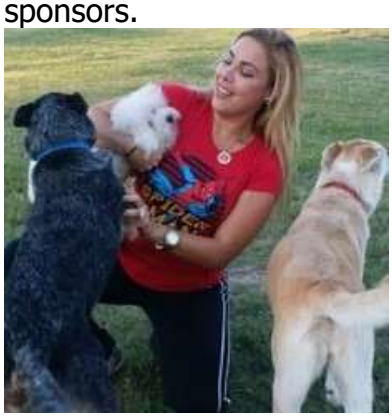
New Squamish youth centre furnishings funded by Rotary

A new $2.2 million, 5,000 sq ft Youth Resource Centre in Squamish, where young people aged 12-24 can access mental health, primary care, substance use intervention, peer support, and social services, all under one roof. The Rotary Club of Squamish provided $30,000.00 in funding to furnish the Squamish Youth Hub at the centre, providing technology equipment, a pool table, and other recreational equipment including a $10,000 District Grant from The Rotary Foundation.

Rotary Community Garden in Prince George can contribute to those in need

Prince George residents who do not have their own garden space can grow their own fruit and vegetables if they rent a plot at the new Rotary Community Garden. The Garden may contribute in part to the supply of fruit and vegetables at local food banks. The Rotary Clubs of Prince George Yellowhead, which led the project, Prince George Nechako and Prince George Downtown plus Prince George Rotaract contributed the majority of funds, with support of a $10,000 District Grant, to the $76,450 project, along with other sponsors.





Dogs and owners enjoying Rotary dog park in Terrace

In response to community demand Terrace has a new dog park for owners to safely exercise and socialize their dogs. The fenced yard provides a place where dogs can interact with other dogs as well as exercise while owners can connect. This first dog park in Terrace opened thanks to $31,000 in funding from the Rotary Club of Terrace, and a $10,000.00 Rotary District Grant, plus services provided by the City of Terrace.

Youth learn to perform in an orchestra

Rotary Club of Vancouver Centennial has funded a music scholarship and bursary program for youth to participate in the Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra, where they learn about music, playing in an orchestra and about themselves.





Coats for Kids fills need

One in two children of a single parent in British Columbia live in poverty and one in five children live in poverty. There is a growing need among children up to age 18 for warm coats to get them through the winter. For the past 20+ years the Rotary Club of Burnaby Metrotown has been facilitating the "Rotary Coats for Kids" program which has delivered up to 1,900 coats a year. Rotary works with the local School District and community organizations to ensure that every child in need in Burnaby gets a new winter coat.