



Rotarians Working For World Peace 2040



August 11, 2022

The Rotary Club of Grand Forks invites you to participate, with us, in a Peace Stone dedication ceremony on Friday, September 2, 2022, at 4:30 pm at the west end of Lois Haggan Park (located on the west side of the City Hall). We are delighted to be part of the official 125 Year Celebration of the of the City of Grand Forks.

As a humanitarian organization, peace is a cornerstone of Rotary International's mission. We believe when people work to create peace in their communities, that change can have a global effect.

By carrying out service projects and supporting peace fellowships and scholarships, our members take action to address the underlying causes of conflict, including poverty, discrimination, ethnic tension, lack of access to education, and unequal distribution of resources.

Our commitment to peacebuilding today answers new challenges: how we can make the greatest possible impact and how we can achieve our vision of lasting change. We are approaching the concept of peace with greater cohesion and inclusivity, broadening the scope of what we mean by peacebuilding, and finding more ways for people to get involved.

Rotary creates environments where peace can happen.

Today, a Peace Pole/Stone Monument is an internationally recognized symbol of the hopes and dreams of the entire human family.

As Rotarians, we refuse to accept conflict as a way of life. Through our service projects and community outreach, we are taking action to address the underlying causes of conflict. Sometimes, it's just a matter of using the right words.

A Peace Pole/Peace Stone is a monument declaring the message "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in the language of the country in which it is planted and usually several other languages. Peace Poles were created in 1955 in Japan by Masahisa Goi, in wake of the destruction wrought by World War II and the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Devastated by the repercussions of war, Goi wished to spread a message of peace worldwide.

The power of the message lies in its capacity to bring people of various cultures, faith traditions and political ideals together as one united global heart and mind. May Peace Prevail On Earth, allows us to sincerely focus on our mutual desire to serve, create and manifest true peace on earth while transcending our differences and celebrating our common humanity.

Dedicating our Peace Stone is a simple yet powerful step toward opening the doors for peaceful community dialogue and your participation will greatly strengthen the vision and actions throughout our community and ultimately, the world.

Your participation can be as simple as attending the Ceremony on Friday, September 2, 2022 at 4:30 pm.

Through our interaction with the City of Grand Forks, it has been determined that we will be 'planting' a Peace Stone in Lois Haggan Park.

The Rotary Club of Grand Forks looks forward to welcoming your participation in our community event. Please contact me, Don Colclough (dsc@nethop.net) or our Peacebuilder Committee Chair, Maxine Ruzicka (maxruz@telus.net), at your earliest convenience if you are able to join us.

Warmest regards,

Don Colclough,

President, Rotary Club of Grand Forks