

Biography

Rod Thomson

Rod Thomson served Rotary as District 5050 Governor in 2006-2007 and is the past president of the Rotary Club of Abbotsford 1997/98. He has served on District 5050 committees for youth exchange, GSE, Public Relations, district directory and district conference. He has also made public relations presentations at district assemblies.

Rod was the team leader for the District 5050 Group Study Exchange to D1730, France in 2002. He has been a Rotarian since 1984.

Rod is a multiple Paul Harris fellow, Benefactor and a sustaining member of the Rotary Foundation.

Professionally Rod is the publisher of the Abbotsford Times, and has been involved in the publishing industry since 1972.

Rod and his wife Cathy were married in 1975 and live in Abbotsford. Their son Graham is a former Rotaract president, RYLA facilitator and is now a Rotarian in the Rotary Club of White Rock. Their daughter Stephanie and her husband live in Alameda California.

Rod is currently a member of the Board of Governors of the University College of the Fraser Valley, and served in the past as VP Public Relations for the 1995 Western Canada Summer Games, as well as a director for the BC Disability Games and committee chair for the BC Summer Games and MC for the opening and closing ceremonies of the BC Seniors Games. Rod also MC's the annual Canada Day evening entertainment and fireworks program in Abbotsford.

When not volunteering for Rotary or other civic causes, Rod enjoys playing his trombone in the Moonliters big band swing band.

Rod's musical background includes 21 years as a member of the Royal Westminster Regiment Band of the Canadian Armed Forces Reserve, where he both played and conducted, achieving the rank of Captain and was Director of Music.

Currently Rod and Graham are restoring a 1953 Mercury pick-up truck, a project they hope to complete summer 2007.