



Kin Canada

Kinette Club of High River

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BACKGROUNDER

THE CURRENT KINETTE CLUB OF HIGH RIVER HAS BEEN SERVING THE FOOTHILLS SINCE 2006 AND AIMS TO INCREASE ITS MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES BY 10 PER CENT EACH KIN YEAR (SEPTEMBER TO JUNE)

What is Kin?

Kin Canada, founded by Hal Rogers on Feb. 20, 1920, is the largest existing Canadian service organization. Over 6,500 members belong to more than 500 Kinsmen, Kinette, and Kin clubs across the nation, which strive to better their communities and help those in need while enjoying the benefits of fellowship. Lifelong friendships are formed among members of Kin Canada while working for the benefit of charities and disaster relief programs both within Canada and outside its borders.

In 94 years, Kin Canada has contributed over \$1 billion to communities, organizations, and programs in need through the work of its volunteer membership. Kinsmen, Kinettes, and Kin follow the motto of the national organization in every undertaking: "Serving the community's greatest need."

Who are Kinettes?

Hal Rogers originally formed the Kinsmen, a service group comprised of men dedicated to service, personal development, family values, and national pride. A similar club for women did not exist at the time. Most wives of the Kinsmen were very involved in the organization and so, in 1935, the first K-ette clubs were chartered.

It was not until 1942 that the Kinettes were recognized at the organization's annual National Convention as an auxiliary organization under the Kinsmen, and were given their own bylaws. In 1983, Kinettes were made full partners in the association. And in 1991, the organization changed its name to "Kinsmen and Kinette Clubs of Canada."

Kinettes now form a large portion of Kin Canada and often work alongside the Kinsmen for the betterment of the community.

What is the Kinette Club of High River?

The Kinsmen Club of High River was chartered in 1976, and four years later the Kinette Club of High River was formed by many of the Kinsmen wives. While the High River Kinsmen continued to grow in numbers and uphold a firm presence in the community, the original Kinette club could not maintain its membership, and was dissolved in 1989.

In May 2006, the Kinette Club of High River re-chartered, and has sustained a vibrant presence in High River and the Foothills region with a strong membership of dedicated and diligent women, devoted to the Kin mandate and to serving their community.

The High River Kinettes meet once per month. Its membership boasts a wide age range and diverse sets of skills and specializations. The club is hardworking and active, working to serve the community with more than twenty projects and fundraisers throughout the year.

What does the Kinette Club of High River do?

The Kinettes are energetic and industrious women, working to benefit Foothills region organizations and programs in need.

Their annual spring Ladies' Night Out event raises thousands of dollars for a different charity each year, and brings the women of the community and surrounding areas together for an evening of entertainment and fundraising.

In addition, the High River Kinettes can be seen serving cake and coffee at the nursing home every Valentine's Day; working in conjunction with the Kinsmen to host a fundraising dance each March; running parking services for special events like the Guy Weadick Days chuckwagon races; and providing manual labour for projects requiring extra hands.

The Kinettes also work at a casino every three years, and host a Service Forum in the spring, during which groups and organizations are invited to present their needs to the club. The Kinette Club of High River has donated over \$25,000 to charity in the past five years.

Beneficiaries of donations and labour projects include: the Museum of the Highwood, the High River Public Library, the High River Hospital Auxiliary, Rowan House, the Foothills Hospice, Camp Kindle, the High River Food Bank, Room-in-a-Box (a post-flood initiative), Kidsport, Camp Silverland Society, and Kin National charities Cystic Fibrosis Canada, Canadian Blood Services, and STARS Ambulance.

What's in store for the High River Kinettes?

The Kinette Club of High River intends to expand its membership to keep up with an ever-growing Foothills population, and allow the club to take on more projects and accept more opportunities to help within the community.

One major goal is to provide the funds for a playground or other recreational structure in High River, to benefit the community as it continues to rebuild after the June 2013 flood. This will require extensive fundraising and an increase in membership.

The Kinette Club of High River endeavours to see 50 per cent growth in its membership by September 2017, to allow for more opportunities for "Serving the community's greatest need."