

Rotary

Club of Guelph South



In January 2021, a powerful presentation about the devastating effects of human trafficking left an indelible mark on a group of Guelph Rotarians. Luisa Kraus, founder of Elora House, had really impacted our Rotary club with her presentation about how insidious modern-day slavery and human trafficking has become in society and especially in our own communities. We decided to do something about it and initiated the formation in 2021 of a committee, comprised of Guelph Rotarians, to “Educate to Eradicate Human Trafficking” with the intention to educate themselves and others about this monstrous criminal enterprise.

What is our committee doing now? Educating! Join us on Thursday September 22, 2022 at the Bookshelf Cinema and Café (41 Quebec St, Guelph) at 6:30pm for a screening of:

“HUMAN TRAFFICKING - CANADA'S SECRET SHAME”
a film from the Joy Smith Foundation.

(presented jointly by members of Rotary Club of Guelph South and Rotary Club of Guelph)

This screening completes a trilogy of events initiated by the committee which have included a speaker series and a flag raising at City Hall to launch our partnership with the City of Guelph and Hammond Power Solutions.

It is an eye-opening video that tells of Joy Smith’s efforts to attack this outrage in Canada and of the pain and sorrow experienced by the victims. The screening will be followed by a panel discussion with those working directly with sex trafficked victims in our community. The panelists include Luisa Krause of Elora House, Pastor Kevin Coghill of Royal City Mission and Dan Connelly, Police Human Trafficking Liaison Officer.

Sex trafficking is a booming industry nationally and locally and young people in our communities are the commodity. Statistics show that for each person that is sex trafficked the trafficker can make upwards of \$280,000 per year! Awareness of this hideous industry could save a child - possibly your child, grandchild, niece or nephew - from a terrible fate in the hands of sex traffickers. Tricks of the trade include hiding behind the internet posing as a friend, peer or potential love interest to ensnare vulnerable children that they can groom for the sex slave industry. The lure of an exciting new and enhanced lifestyle with new friends, money and love can be very enticing to young people. The traffickers prey on these vulnerabilities.

Some signs of sex trafficking can be:

Being controlled	Signs of abuse
No access to money	Disconnection from family and friends
Fearful, anxious	New friends
Evasive	Scripted, rehearsed answers

(source: canadianhumantraffickinghotline.ca, 1-833-900-1010)

Come join us and bring a friend to help educate our communities on what is happening in our own backyards. And remember... **“If you see something, say something”**.

Admission is \$10. For tickets please contact Lise Burcher (lburcher@uoguelph.ca) or Deb Allen (deb.allen.re@gmail.com) Co-Chairs of the Rotary Eradicating Human Trafficking (EHT) Committee.