

Dawn E.M. Straka

Born and educated in Montreal, Quebec, Dawn Straka has lived and worked in Jamaica, Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton and most recently Peterborough, Ontario. Dawn's nursing career took her into health care administration, consultation and education.

An active Rotarian in the Peterborough-Kawartha Club for the past 20 years, she is a very committed volunteer and leader with a variety of local community and international agencies: (Peterborough Regional Health Centre 1997-2004 [Chair 2000-2003], Peterborough United Way [Campaign Chair, 2005], Hospice Peterborough [Chair, 2011-2013] & Jamaican Self-Help [Chair, 2004-2007] to name a few). Dawn is now finishing up her term as District 7010 Governor (2010-2011) and looks forward to chairing her District's International Committee and working on behalf of CRCID.

In the past few years Dawn lead hands-on District 7010's Wheelchair Distribution Teams to Jamaica (2007), El Salvador (2008) and Ecuador (2009). She has also traveled to Haiti on 4 occasions, three times with members of her own Peterborough-Kawartha Club working with an orphanage and school in the Jacmel area and has been part of a NIDS in Kolkata, India and a Friendship Exchange to southern Africa. Dawn's partner and best friend of 17 years is George Ovens.

She has 2 sons, Christopher and Timothy and 2 stepdaughters, Michèle and Evelyn. Her interests include family related activities, photography, baking, cooking, gardening, cross-country skiing and travel.