

Special Edition
May 27, 2021

West Island Woodturners



The newsletter is a summary of the emails, general information, and show and tell. If you'd like to contribute an article, comment, or link contact WIW or Nicole directly. Volunteers are welcome.



Robin's multi-turned hollowed ball.

President's message

Announcement from the WIW president to all members:

In the opening minutes of the May 4th club Zoom meeting, before the 8 PM start time, several members were discussing the Canada Census form. One member complained about the transgender questions and made negative comments, to which another member agreed. At this time Janet joined the meeting and was shocked to hear the comments “they’re sick” and “We live in a sick world”. Naturally, she was upset by these intemperate and intolerant remarks. After deliberation, she decided she no longer wished to be associated with those people and resigned from the club.

This is not the first time that callous and intemperate comments and actions by members of this club made another member feel they had no alternative but to leave. This club has just lost a member who was doing a wonderful job of writing our newsletter, which, in these difficult times, is a major contributor to keeping the club together.

If these comments had been made by an employee during a business zoom meeting it would have resulted in severe censure and sensitivity training at a minimum, possibly dismissal. Just because we are a club does not mean we do not have to follow legal guidelines for proper behaviour by our members during meetings or events.

Everyone has the right to their own personal and private beliefs, but those should not be discussed in a public forum if they are contrary to the norms established in the Canadian charter of rights. By making hateful statements in our club meeting, transgressing members are exposing the club to legal retribution that could have very serious consequences if a complaint was lodged.

As president, I, with the agreement and support of the executive committee, have decided that in the future any such comment made in our meetings will be treated as a transgression of normal civilized behaviour and that we will act accordingly.

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The executive committee has adopted a Statement of Ethics and Diversity to make our club's position on this subject clear, which is:

The West Island Woodturners firmly believe that regardless of our background, beliefs, gender, sexual orientation, race, language or means, we are all equal and must be able to enjoy the same rights. We are a club where equity, respect and freedom are more than just simple words with no real consequences.

From this moment on this statement will be the benchmark for our public meetings. In the past, both our previous president and I have felt it necessary to take members aside and privately point out that certain behaviours will not be tolerated in our club. With the statement above, our stance is now clearly communicated to all members, and our responses to such behaviours will be immediate and public. Hateful and derisive comments will not be tolerated in any way.

On a personal note, I do not judge people by what they are, but who they are. Colour, creed, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, political and personal beliefs are not the basis of how I judge people. Instead, I use my intellect to form a character analysis and from there I choose how to deal with them.

That is all. Nigel

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Announcements

Next live Zoom meeting

June 1, 8pm

Turning exercise clubs

We received a request via Facebook for a set of exercise clubs, Persian meals.

Please note that there is a weight restriction on these articles. Please contact the sender directly at denisfadlallah@hotmail.com.

Previous Zoom Demos

Nigel turned a clamshell box on Sunday, May 16th. Kade Bolger did an interactive demo joint with the Ottawa Valley Turners on Tuesday May 11.

Online points of interest

Andy Phillip, the Yew Root

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFk_8Tk1gEw

Upcoming Events

Next meeting

June 1st at 8pm, link to be emailed.

Online Presence

WIWoodturners.ca

Facebook: westislandwoodturners

Instagram: westislandwoodturners

Google Photos: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/t3qM6raked6kCttz5>

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