



Rotary International stimulated and participated in the events leading to the establishment of the United Nations Organization. It was present at the signing of the United Nations Charter in San Francisco in 1945. The Rotary Club of Winnipeg, formed in 1910, was the first club outside the United States, thus making Rotary international. It was fitting, therefore, that the Club should organize a Rotary Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) as an initial venture in promoting international understanding among youth.

With the assistance of the then Winnipeg Branch of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs and the Winnipeg Branch of the United Nations Association of Canada, the Rotary Club of Winnipeg held the first MUNA on April 26 and 27, 1957. The success of the first Assembly prompted the Club to hold one every year since and the program has now been running for last fifty five years.

The Model United Nations Assembly is purported to be a learning simulation of the United Nations General Assembly in its structure and proceedings. Therefore, debates in MUNA, the committee structure, rules of procedure, and the general decorum of delegates, were designed to approximate the UN General Assembly, conditioned, of course, by local imitations. Apart from learning about the working of the UN General Assembly, MUNA helps high school students to develop an understanding of foreign affairs in general and may even spark the interest of some students to pursue careers in government service, economic development, foreign trade, and diplomacy. Former MUNA participants are currently active in public life in both Canada and United States.

Participation in MUNA is open to students in Grades 9-12. Participants, a delegation of two students accompanied by a counsellor, are normally sponsored by local Rotary Clubs. But high schools can apply directly for participation subject to payment of the required fees. Currently, participants come from, apart from Manitoba schools, Western Ontario, Saskatchewan, North and South Dakota, Minnesota and North Carolina. **Your school is invited to participate by sponsoring one or more delegations.**

Detailed information and applications are posted on our Website www.winnipegmuna.ca. Enquiries about MUNA may be sent to elly@winnipegmuna.ca and a MUNA Committee member will respond. Applications may be submitted online between now and April 1, 2018.

We look forward to seeing students from your school at the 61st Model United Nations Assembly to be held at the Canadian Mennonite University from May 3-May 6, 2018.