

Rotary Youth Exchange Student Begins her New Experience in Kelowna

Story by Ed Kolybaba on Aug 30, 2022

Finally, after a hiatus of two years due to the covid epidemic, the club is so pleased to begin another experience hosting Helmi Rahikainen, their 39th Rotary Youth Exchange Student.

Helmi arrived in Kelowna from Turku, Finland on August 24 to commence her Rotary Youth Exchange experience for a year with her host Rotary club, the Rotary Club of Kelowna Sunrise.



Helmi was welcomed by Club Youth Exchange coordinator and President-Elect Colleen McEwan, Randall Bamford, the club President, and many of the club members and their families at the Kelowna International Airport. She was also introduced to other members of the club on August 26th when she attended the club's regular meeting where she was quickly put to work with the frypan (a very important task of all RYE students).



Helmi's family and home is in Turku, Finland, a city on the southwest coast of Finland, which straddles the Aura River. Turku is the sixth largest city in Finland with a population of 195,301 (21-12-31).