Donald G. ("**Don") Sword**
Rotary Club of Avalon Northeast, Newfoundland & Labrador, Canada
Past District 7820 Governor (2017-18)
Endowments and Major Gifts Chair, District 7815 Foundation Committee

Don grew up primarily in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, graduating from Halifax West High School and earning Commerce and Law degrees from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He practiced law in St John's, NL for over 33 years, 28 as a corporate counsel and executive in the fisheries and insurance industries. During his career Don was active in community volunteerism, professional associations, crime prevention organizations and industry-based committees.

Don became a charter member of the Rotary Club of Avalon Northeast in 1989 and was Club President in 1993-94. Don played key roles in his club developing in the Topsail Beach Rotary Park and Manuels River Hibernia Interpretation Centre. Both projects earned Rotary International Club Significant Achievement Awards. He also helped organize the successful RYLA on the Rock held at Memorial University, in St. John's, in August 2015.

At the District level, Don has previously served on the Finance, Foundation and Membership Committees, as a board member, District Secretary, Assistant Governor and as Governor in 2017-18. Since then, he has served as the District Representative on the Council on Legislation from 2020-2023, and the Zone's 2022 Nominating Committee for RI Director. Don also worked with the joint Redistricting Committee that led to the formation of our new District 7815. He is currently an active trainer for the Rotary Leadership Institute Atlantic Division and currently serves as the Division's Vice Chair.

In November of 2023 Don joined the Rotary District 7815 Foundation Committee as the Endowments and Major Gifts Chair.

Since retirement Don has served as volunteer Chair of the Manuels River Community Inc. On September 13, 2017, Don received a Canada 150 Community Leaders Award from his Member of Parliament.

Don and his wife Pat (a retired photographer) live in Topsail, Conception Bay South, NL. They have two daughters, two sons-in-law and two granddaughters who live in nearby communities.

Today Don will speak to the Club in his capacity as the District Endowments and Major Gifts Chair about The Rotary Foundation's Endowment Fund. The Presentation is called "Your Legacy, Rotary's Promise."