

ROTARY NEWS

Rotary Club of Squamish
2007/2008 District
Rotary Club of the Year



Rotary Celebrates “Final Inch” Battle to End Polio

academy award nominated film, “**The Final Inch**” and a gala **Rotary – Quest Oktoberfest on October 24th**, at Quest University will be two of the activities Rotary will be using to celebrate the 99% global eradication of Polio. In a first ever volunteer joint venture, students from Quest University will be teaming up with Squamish Rotary Club members to host this fun and informative event to raise funds and awareness as part of Rotary’s **End Polio Now** campaign.

The short documentary film, “**The Final Inch**” by Irene Taylor Brodsky, follows Polio workers across India vaccinating children in a final thrust to eradicate Polio. Community health workers travel from disenfranchised Muslim communities to rural Ganges River villages to the bustling city of Mumbai, in an effort to dispel misunderstandings and resistance – and thus lower the refusal rate. A quiet army goes door to door, and slum to slum, to reach the last unvaccinated children.

Rose Fast, Rotary Event Coordinator noted, “**This is a must-see film, and we encourage parents to take their children to the Saturday October 24th 1:30 – 2:30 matinee at Quest. The film will also be shown at 5:00 followed by an Oktoberfest celebration with great German fare, beverages and the famous local dance band, Dr. D. and the Soul Demons.**

Rotary International is working hard to raise \$200 million to match \$355 million in a Challenge Grant from the **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation**. Since 1985 Rotary has raised over \$800 million dollars. More than two billion children have received the vaccination. Five million children

who were destined to be polio victims are walking today and enjoying a better life because of global immunization. Reported polio cases have dropped to 99.8%. Eradicating polio means that no child ever again will be paralyzed or die from the wild poliovirus.

Tickets for the two showings of “**The Final Inch**” and the **Rotary – Quest Oktoberfest** are available from any Rotarian and the Squamish Adventure Centre.

For more information, or to donate to “End Polio Now” visit www.squamishrotary.com



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