



Today's Program

William Blair-Chief of Police for Metropolitan Toronto

Topic

Farewell Chief William Blair

Host

Marg Stanowski

Location

Fairmont Royal York, Upper Canada Room



William Blair was appointed Chief of the Toronto Police Service on April 26, 2005. The City of Toronto is a vibrant city covering 636 square kilometres with a diverse population of more than 2,600,000

people. The Toronto Police Service employs over 5500 police officers and 2200 civilian employees, making it the largest municipal police service in Canada and one of the largest in North America.

Chief Blair started his 35-plus year policing career as a beat officer in downtown Toronto, and continued with assignments in drug enforcement, organized crime units, and major criminal investigations. Promoted to the senior ranks of the Service, his postings included Divisional Commander, Community Policing Programs, and Detective Operations, responsible for all specialized investigative units. Chief Blair holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Toronto with dual disciplines of Economics and Criminology (1981), a Certificate in Law Enforcement Administration from the University of Toronto (1983) and a Certificate in Criminal Justice from the University of Virginia (1990). He is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy (1990), the Police Leadership Program of the University of Toronto, Rotman School of Business Management (2002) and the National Executive Institute (2006).

Chief Blair is a member of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) and has previously served as the President of the OACP. He is a member of the Criminal Intelligence Service of Ontario (CISO) Governing Body Executive and a member of the Executive Committee for the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit (CFSEU). Chief Blair is a member of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP), and has previously served as President. He has previously served as Co-Chair of the CACP Counter-Terrorism and National Security Committee and the Organized Crime Committee. He is a member of the National Coordinating Committee for Organized Crime and a member of the Executive Committee for Criminal Intelligence Service Canada (CISC). He is also a Member At Large on the Board of Directors of the Police Executive Research Foundation (PERF). He has served as Chair of the Public Safety Emergency Preparedness Canada Audit Committee from May 2009 to April 2013. Chief Blair is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), previously serving on the Executive Committee and is a member of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCC), currently serving as the Second Vice President on the Board of Directors.

In recognition of his many contributions to the policing profession Chief Blair was named an Officer of the Order of Merit of the Police Forces in 2007 and in May 2012, he was appointed a Commander of the Order. He is also a member of the Most Venerable Order of St. John and has been awarded the Police Exemplary Service Medal with Thirty Year Bar.

Sunday Brunch Buffet!

The Fellowship & Entertainment committee is delighted to invite you to a traditional Sunday Brunch Buffet in the heart of downtown Toronto.

Let's welcome spring and enjoy this award winning Sunday Brunch Buffet with fellow Rotarians. At The Hot House you will discover the traditional breakfast selection as well as chef's carving station and a few special entrees, a remarkable dessert buffet and a variety of other exceptional offerings. The Sunday Brunch Buffet will be featuring live jazz and is a very popular venue so please make sure you reserve your spot in advance.

- When:** Sunday March 15 from 10.30am to 12.30pm
- Where:** The Hot House- 35 Church St., Toronto (at Front St)
- Price:** \$21.95 +tax +15% gratuity and beverages are extra
- RSVP:** Please send your reservation to Anna Koneva at anna.y.koneva@gmail.com by March 7

The Rotary Club of Toronto

SPEAKEASY

Fun & Games
— 2015 —

SAVE THE DATE
The Rotary Club of Toronto's Annual Fundraiser
Thursday, March 26th
The Steam Whistle Brewery



Greetings from Florida

– by Don Bell



Feeling the cold? Well, up until this week, so were we. What happened to all that global warming? At one point a few weeks ago it got down to +2 degrees centigrade and we had the furnace on all night. This week has been much better and today it's 80°. And sunny. Spring training for baseball started today (Tuesday) and we have just returned from the opening Blue Jays game. What could be better than sitting in the sun with a beer and a hotdog*, watching a bunch of rusty baseball players get into shape? So, you ask, how's the team shaping up this year? Who knows after the first game. For 22 years Nadine and I have been saying "maybe this year". The Blue Jays have now set a record for being out of the baseball playoffs longer than any other team. Is this sounding like another team we all know? The truth is that if you're a fan, it matters, but not enough to stay away. So here we are, enjoying the weather and some baseball...even though they lost to Pittsburg today. But, hey, its only the first game...anything can happen over the next 6 months. Note the photo of "Ma Bell" being greeted by Ace, the team mascot. He looks a lot bigger than he is, especially beside Nadine.

The local Rotary Club of Seminole, where I make up frequently, is doing well with a consistent membership of around 65...plus a bunch of Canadian visitors like me. Last week, the wife of one of the members gave him a birthday present at the meeting....a Paul Harris Fellowship! Not the way we do things in TO, but well received by her husband and all the Club members present. The speaker was the local fire chief...a woman with a career in fire fighting...and a Canadian no less. She spoke for 30 minutes with no notes. I asked her why all emergency vehicles have to run their sirens, etc at full tilt all the time. Her answer was that there is now an international 911 protocol that requires the operator to determine the nature of the call....life or limb...or a cat in a tree. Sounds good. Hope it reaches Toronto soon.



Ma Bell (Nadine) and Ace

Looking forward to the rest of Spring Training and then a return to a warmer Toronto.

* Ballpark hot dogs in any park that we have ever been are not nearly as good as Toronto's own 'Street dogs.' Trust me on this one (never mind the fat and sodium content).

What You Missed February 27, 2015

– by Susan Howson



President Steve started the meeting by reading a thank you letter from our past speaker Minister of Veteran Affairs Erin O'Toole.

A few dates to keep in mind or better still put in your calendar so you don't miss out.

- March 13- Rotaractors fundraiser at The National Club
- March 15 - A Sunday brunch with fellow Rotarians and friends at the Hot House
- March 26- The Rotary Club of Toronto's fundraiser
- March 31 – change of meeting date instead of lunch we are having a cocktail party. Cost one lunch ticket
- May 22-25- Sweat equity at Camp Scugog

Pat Neuman gave a quick update regarding our Fundraiser the Speakeasy at the National Club. One goal is to raise \$10,000 through donations. If you cannot attend you can still participate and help our committees and their great works by donating.

Dale Roy from Sketch thanked us for our Centennial donation giving us a brief update on the project and an invite for April 23 to visit, learn more and see Geoffrey Johnson's design kitchen

During lunch the 2014 Thank you video from Camp Scugog was running. If you missed it and would like to see the video contact Susan Howson.

Dauna Jones-Simmonds ably introduced our guest speaker Dr. Danielle Martin, Vice-President, Medical Affairs and Health Solutions at Women's College Hospital.

Danielle opened her talk with a video of her comments to the US senate regarding Canadian Healthcare vs. U.S. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYO6hXGx6> Have a look she did a great job standing up to the Americans.

Danielle's belief is that Canadians are proud of our healthcare system and its equality to all. There are concerns the system needs to be sustainable, equitable and affordable. At the same time we need to address issues such as long waits for MRIs or specialists, costs of pharmaceuticals etc..

Danielle informed us of some changes that have been made to the health system and some to come. I think things are finally moving in the right direction and hope they continue as Danielle has informed us.

The Ace of Clubs draw was won by a guest who walked away with a bottle of rum. At stake was \$1,321.00

Upcoming Speakers & Events

March 2015

- 13 Sheldon Levy, President and CEO Ryerson University
- 20 Dr. Ron Denham, *Water for the World*
- 26 Annual Fund Raiser at the Steam Whistle Brewery
- 27 Paul Garfinkel, CEO Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
- 31 Member Evening Cocktail Party at The National Club

April

- 3 Good Friday – No Meeting
- 10 Mark Sakamoto

Editor of the Week
Don Bell

Editor, March 13
Massood Mashadi

What You Missed Reporter for March 6, 2015
Heather Hetherington

Propose a Speaker – Contact
Alex Brown, Chair
alexbrown@integratedappliances.ca

Submit an article to the *Voice* Newsletter
voice@rotarytoronto.on.ca

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