



Rotary Club of Peterborough February 27, 2017

(Submitted by Lucas Smith)

Today's meeting was preceded by a Press Conference to Wrap up the Swimathon

Called to Order at 12:10 by President Bruce Gravel

Today in History: 1796 Queen's Rangers cut out Yonge St to Georgian Bay. It is still the longest Street in the world. It is named after Sir George Yonge who was an expert in Roman Roads. In 1917, Ontario women gained the right to vote in Ontario in provincial elections.

Grace by Willis Cleveland. **4 Way Test** led by Amy Simpson.

A Toast and O'Canada... Thank you to **Dr. Paul Bodrug** on the keyboard.

Guests were introduced by Joe McCulloch: Maryam Monsef MP our speaker, Lais Viana our exchange student, Kelly Wilson/Colin MacKenzie, Dale Wilson/Brian Wilson, Fred Cathers/Ross Verner, Sister Joan Driscoll/Andie Van Koeverden, Deana DiMontie/Nick Avlonitis, Lauren Hunter/Guest of the Club, Coralie Jacobs/Easter Seals, **Swimathon Guests:** Graham Hart, Taylor Renkema, Harry Huffman, Brian Crangle, Vanessa Oake-Hogan, Dean Bridges, Kayla Shannick, Tiffany Creasy from Ricarts.

Sergeant at Arms: Wendy Hill paid several fines that she imposed on herself. Everyone else put \$2.00 on the table and then a game of heads or tails followed. Some people may have gotten their money back!

Rotarian of the month: Jason Stabler and Mike Evans were each presented with Roaring Rotarian beer mugs.

Y/E moment: Lais had a fantastic trip to Montreal with friends. Lais has been here for 6 months and will be going home in June after many great experiences.

Happy Bucks: Andie Van Koeverden showed a picture of Rotary's 90th anniversary in 1995. Marie suggested that we need to update our photos

President: Bruce Gravel

Past President: Alan Ingram

President Elect:
Andi van Koeverden

Treasurer: Wayne Harding

Club Secretary: Ken Tremblay

Sgt. at Arms: Linn Thain

Directors:

Jaimie Bondy-Donohue

Kevin Duguay

Joe Fleming

Sally Harding

Jason Stabler

Brian Wilson



March Birthdays:

March 4 - Frank Bayliss
March 14 - Hannah Routly
March 14 - Lucas Smith
March 24 - Bob Prentice
March 26 - Jim Tapsell

March Club Member

Anniversaries:

March 2 - Jason Stabler
March 2 - Marie Press
March 3 - Steve Mills
March 4 - Mel Headon
March 7 - Elizabeth Ichniowsky
March 7 - Cal Langman
March 7 - Richard Morgan
March 8 - Peter Eatson
March 13 - Susan Sharp
March 16 - Ray Saitz
March 16 - Ross Verner
March 21 - Paul Bodrug
March 23 - Will Cleveland
March 23 - Tina Johnston
March 28 - Bill Graham
March 28 - John Harvey

Our Exchange Student info:

Lais Viana

Cell: 705-875-3508

Laisvianab@hotmail.com

is residing with

Atul Swarup & Charlotte Van Leeuwen

136 Scollard Dr.

Peterborough ON

Atul's Cell: 705-931-5111



Upcoming Program Schedule



March 6 - Andy LaCroix, Executive Director, Shorelines Casino

March 13 - Michael Skinner, CEO Innovation Cluster

March 20 - Det. K. Calderwood, City of Peterborough Police

in the online photo directory. She will be giving a report in June about the WCS's successful trip to Honduras. *Alan* told us a little about his new appointment to hold court in Nunavut. It will likely involve about 3 trips a year.

Announcements: *Bruce* thanked *Lyn*, *Jason* and *Mike* in particular and other volunteers who assisted with the swimathon. *Jason Stabler* and *Mark Donahue* spoke about this year's swimathon and all of the work that it took to make it successful. Easter Seals and many other Rotarian projects benefit from the funds raised. *Lyn Kimmett* thanked *Corus Entertainment*, *CHEX TV* and *KRUZ radio* for their support. Special thanks to *Graham Hart* and *Dave Devall*. *Coralee Jacobs* from Easter Seals thanked the Rotary Club and especially *Carl Oake* for the assistance this year and in the past. Easter Seals received over \$11,000.00 from the Swim this year. The cost to send kids to Camp costs about \$2,500 each for a 10-day camp session. *Ken Seim* told us that the Curling Funspiel was a success! *Colin* told us that today's food donation will be going to the Casa Maria Homes under under *Sister Ruth Hennessey*. *Alan* told us that the Kids Against Hunger food packaging will happen in April. He would like to see 50 volunteers to fill bags. This program has many positive endorsements from other Rotary Clubs and other groups. There will be an email shortly with more information. *Spelling Bee Rick Storey* told us that a 5 minute meeting will take place after this meeting. The next regular meeting will happen next Tuesday at the YMCA.

Happy Bucks: *Joe* had some silly bucks over hockey scores. *Alan Ingram* made \$50.00 that he will triple for the Christmas program. *Ken Tremblay* presented a club banner from a Rotary Club in New Zealand. *Brian Wison* told us that 29 years ago today, he married *Dale*. *Bruce* told us that there will be a wrap up for Auction committee following this meeting.

Guest Speaker: Maryam Monsef MP with an update on the Government: Doug Armstrong introduced and welcomed Maryam who is the Minister for the Status of Women, former mayoral candidate, VP of YWCA of Peterborough and Cobourg. She has raised money to support women in Afganistan. She has many other accomplishments.

The Honorable Minister began her remarks by recognizing our presence here on the traditional territory of Anishinabek and the Haudenosaunee peoples. She thanked the Peterborough Rotary Club for inviting her here today and providing her with the opportunity to deliver her second report as our Member of Parliament.

And as she did last year, she wanted to recognize the club for the work that it does in our communities. From the Carl Oake Swimathon to the Rotary Spelling Bee, our work supporting Habitat for Humanity and countless other worthy causes in Peterborough-Kawartha, is both needed and appreciated in this community. She thanked the volunteers, the committees and the Club Executive and Directors for everything that we do all year round.

As this is her second year as our Member of Parliament for Peterborough-Kawartha, she reflected on the year gone by and then some time to look forward to the rest of this year and beyond.

Since she was elected in October 2015, not a single day has gone by where she has not thought about just how honoured and privileged she feels to have been given the opportunity to serve the people of Peterborough-Kawartha in this role. And while the last year certainly hasn't been without its challenges, the reason she gets out of bed every day is her constituents. It is the stories of hope and adversity shared with her each time she sees us. The stories of challenges and opportunities ahead for us and our families. The stories of how the federal government helped or impeded our success.

It is those stories – along with the evidence and data collected through town halls events, through meetings with constituents, small businesses and organizations, and by efforts like Vital Signs Peterborough – that she brings to Ottawa.

And they have had an impact. She **highlighted a few of the programs and initiatives** that the federal government is delivering right here in Peterborough-Kawartha:

- Introduced the new Canada Child Benefit, a simpler, tax-free and more generous benefit for families;
- Cut taxes by 7% for middle income earners, to support the middle class and those seeking to join it;
- \$270 million dollars' worth of critical infrastructure improvements for the Trent-Severn Waterway was committed, including rehabilitation of the McFarlane Street Bridge, replacement of Burleigh Falls Dam, and various public safety improvements
- Invested more than \$1.7 million in local arts, culture and heritage, with funding for the Art Gallery of Peterborough, the Peterborough Museum and Archives, and the Peterborough County Agricultural Heritage Building at Lang Pioneer Village;
- Doubled the number of positions funded through the Canada Summer Jobs program;
- Made a \$4.87 million investment in Flying Colours to expand their facility at the Peterborough Airport and create new jobs;
- There is a \$7 million investment at Trent University to create the Bata Research and Innovation Cluster,

to enhance and foster student entrepreneurship, new businesses, and research on aging and the environment

- And a \$8.5 million investment at Fleming College – the balance of which will go to the Sutherland Campus here in Peterborough to update the nursing, biotechnology, physiotherapy and paramedic training facilities
- A grant of \$32,000 went to Peterborough Economic Development in order to help our communities attract, retain and expand foreign direct investment;
- The government delivered \$7.5 million to our local municipalities in gas tax funding for 2016, which can be used for local investments in infrastructure

There are more investments like these – in organizations doing more to help make our communities more accessible and in community facilities across the region and at Curve Lake First Nation, and more are announced every time she is back in Peterborough.

In fact, just this past Friday, she had the honour of announcing another \$1.4 million in funding for arts and culture in our community on behalf of her colleague, Minister of Canadian Heritage the Honourable Melanie Joly – this time for the **Canadian Canoe Museum**. As we all know, the Museum has had this dream of moving to the water-side – and really, it only makes sense to have a cultural facility dedicated to celebrating the seminal water-craft in Canadian history located on the water. Their plan is to move to a beautiful location beside the historic Peterborough Lift Lock, right on our treasured national historic Trent-Severn Waterway.

This investment will help them finalize the architectural and engineering work that is needed as they get closer to their move. Considering the new build is estimated to cost \$45 million, this is a small initial investment so that they can be ‘shovel-ready’. To actually build the Museum itself is a project that is going to take all of us – every level of government in addition to donors in this community and across the country.

On top of everything Rotary does for this community, she asked us to consider assisting the Museum with their move. This project has the capacity to put Peterborough on the map when it comes to national and international tourism, to reconciliation with the Indigenous peoples of this land, and to a strengthened role for culture and heritage in our local economy. It’s going to take all of us, and while she can’t speak for the Museum itself, she knows they are going to need our help.

She expressed pride in all of these investments that the government is making here in Peterborough-Kawartha and across the country, and she knows that it is not just of her own making.

She has often highlighted the ingredients we already have here in the Peterborough region that she believes

will help us to achieve more economic growth and prosperity. Being close to markets, accessible by road, by rail and by air is essential. Our two extraordinary post-secondary institutions are producing the leaders of tomorrow today, and energizing young entrepreneurial talent who are making waves here in Peterborough and across the globe.

The people in our area are the most important. She thinks about them all of the time. The hard-working folks who also get up every morning thinking about how they can do better for our community. She knows that her elected colleagues do the same, but she is also thinking about the Jason Stablers, the Betsy McGregors, and the Andi van Koeverdins and the list goes on! About each and every one of us who give our talent and our time to our businesses, organizations and this community – we are the reason why we are so well-positioned to apply for and receive this funding.

As our former Warden used to say – “we are all in this together” – and she couldn’t agree more. We all make her job a little bit easier because when she is in rural Caucus, or Ontario caucus, around the Cabinet table, or speaking to her colleagues one-on-one, she is able to tell our stories and share our successes, and make the best case we can for why Peterborough-Kawartha is so deserving of their support.

She thanked everyone for everything that we do to make her job easier – please don’t stop!

Then she took a few moments to look forward to the future.

As we all know, in addition to her role as our Member of Parliament, our Prime Minister has asked her to take on the relatively new responsibility as **Minister of Status of Women**. It is a role that she is passionate about, and one to which she brings the experiences that she has had right here in Peterborough – working with the YWCA, co-founding the Red Pashmina Campaign, and representing Peterborough in 2013 at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.

In this role, she will be working to support a core priority of the government – namely, achieving gender equality. We have much to celebrate in Canada when it comes to women’s rights, but there is more work ahead. She knows that she will not be able to rest until we put an end to gender-based violence and until the next generation of Canadian girls and boys are equal in opportunity, safety and individual freedom. She is also particularly eager to champion the economic empowerment of women, and she continues to be inspired by powerful women in our community like Rhonda Barnett and of course, her friend and mentor, the late Erica Cherney.

This next month will be particularly busy for her in the role as Minister. She is excited to be celebrating her first **International Women’s Day** as Minister on March 8. They have decided on a theme of ‘Equality Matters’ for

IWD 2017 because although equality between women and men is enshrined in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and our government is committed to upholding gender equality in all sectors of Canadian society, we still have work to do.

For example, women make up just 21.6% of the Financial Post's 500 board members, just 26% of members of parliament, and earn just 73.3% of the average male income when based on full-time work. We need to change attitudes and behaviours, recognize the gender stereotypes that we all encounter every day, and challenge the discrimination that allows gender inequality to exist.

After International Women's Day, she will be focused on leading Canada's delegation to the **United Nations Commission of the Status of Women** in mid-March. As she noted, she will have been to this conference before to represent Peterborough, but she is thrilled to be leading the Canadian delegation this time around and expects to have many fruitful conversations with delegates from countries all over the world.

But her **primary job has been and continues to be that of our MP**. She just completed two town hall meetings on accessibility and inclusion in our community, the results of which will be sent to her colleague Minister Qualtrough as she works to develop Accessibility Legislation for our country, but she can promise us there will be more town halls to look forward to in 2017. After the Prime Minister dropped by for his own town hall in January, she thinks we can probably call ourselves the 'Town Hall Capital of Canada'. She continues to believe that the conversations we have at these sessions are good for our community, and they provide her with ample information to take back to Ottawa on a whole range of topics.

She continues to meet with the **advisory councils** that she committed to establishing during the campaign – namely the Jobs and Economic Council, as well as the Social, Cultural and Arts Development Council – who have been an endless source of good ideas and suggestions for how we can make the most of federal investments in our community. She will also continue to meet with the most inspiring group of young people who now form her Youth Council, and I am really looking forward to getting these bright young minds more involved in our community.

And she will continue to be an advocate for the priorities that our community has identified to her. While there are many such priorities – better social and economic opportunities for our young people, addressing the infrastructure deficits facing our local municipalities, and investment in agricultural innovation – one priority rises above all others. The issue of **clean drinking water for Curve Lake First Nation** is something that keeps her and her staff awake at night.

She has been in close contact with Chief Williams and the leadership at Curve Lake about this issue from day one, and the need for clean water is something that she raises with her colleague Minister Carolyn Bennett every chance that she gets. Her staff has been in close contact with Carolyn Bennett's staff, and she knows the Minister is aware of the problem. Recently, Curve Lake completed a Value Engineering Study, which is one of the steps that needs to be taken before a facility can be built. But we are not there yet, and she wants to let us know that she has committed to Curve Lake and that she will continue to advocate for them with both the Minister and the Department of Indigenous Affairs. Our government vowed to end boil water advisories on reserves within 5 years, and she won't rest until this happens at Curve Lake.

Continuing forward, there will be lots of new legislation coming out this year, fulfilling more of our commitments to Canadians, as well as a Budget released this spring. She will continue to update the community about how these items will affect our community.

She told us that it's going to be a busy year for her. And while last year may have been a bit of 'trial by fire' for her, she wouldn't change it for the world.

She thanked us for everything we do, and thanked us for this opportunity to speak to our club today. She was happy to answer any questions we had.

Questions: Any plans to reduce the deficit?

Answer: The Government is focusing on growth by investing in critical infrastructure and our youth.

Thank you by Marie Press with the usual donation to Sleeping Children Around the World.

President Bruce's thought for the week: When the only tool that you own is a hammer, every problem begins to look like a nail.

Meeting adjourned at 13:15.

Can't Attend A Weekly Meeting... Maybe Make-up

Rotary Make-up Meetings may be sent to
Lucas Smith for your attendance credit.
Email: lucsmith@peterboro.net

POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS

If you are bringing a guest to Rotary, who may be interested in joining our club, please make sure you introduce this person to Martin Wormald or someone else on the Membership Committee. Martin or a committee member will look after talking to the guest and seeing them through the membership process. The Membership Committee has some information at the Holiday Inn that potential Rotarians can take away with them.