



The Rotary Club of Yellowknife
"Service Above Self"

MEDIA RELEASE



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Photo Opportunity

Consul-General of Netherlands Visits *Hans Driesser Addresses the Rotary Club of Yellowknife*

YELLOWKNIFE, NT-October 17, 2006: The Rotary Club of Yellowknife is please to welcome Henri Hubert (Hans) Driesser, Consul-General of the Netherlands as both a guest speaker and visiting Rotarian at their next meeting, Thursday, October 19, 2006. While the official purpose of Mr. Driesser's trip to Yellowknife is to enhance relationships between the Governments of the Northwest Territories and the Netherlands, Mr. Driesser is also looking forward to the opportunity to speak as a new member of the Rotary International community.

This trip marks Mr. Driesser's official introduction to the Northwest Territories as Consul-General. "I welcome this opportunity to share the Rotary cornerstones of service and how they apply in diplomatic service," remarked Driesser.

Mr. Driesser's presentation to the Rotary Club will combine aspects of his role as Consul-General and his personal experiences. Mr. Driesser will attend the luncheon with his wife, Marijke Driesser. Mr. Driesser was inducted as a Rotarian in Vancouver on September 11, 2006.

Media are welcome to attend the luncheon speech of the new Consul-General of the Netherlands (in Vancouver) on Thursday, October 19th, 2006 at 12:00 noon at the Explorer Hotel.

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Backgrounder:

Henri Hubert Driesser
Consul-General of the Netherlands in Vancouver

- ❖ After his study (civil law at Leiden University), Mr. Driesser worked as a lawyer at The Hague Bar until 1978.
- ❖ He entered the Foreign Service in 1978 and served until 1981 as Commercial Secretary at the Embassy in Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates).
- ❖ From 1981 until 1996, he worked at the Ministry of Economic Affairs, holding several positions in the field of export promotion, trade policy and technology.
- ❖ He served at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1996 to 2001 as Head of the Gulf States Division and, during the last two years of his term, as Deputy Director, Middle East.
- ❖ From 2001 until 2005, Mr. Driesser was Head of the Defence Support Division of the Netherlands Delegation at NATO Headquarters, Brussels.
- ❖ Until May 2006, Mr. Driesser was Interim Deputy Director of the Energy-Market Directorate at the Ministry of Economic Affairs.
- ❖ At this time, Mr. Driesser serves as Consul-General of the Netherlands, at the Consulate General of the Netherlands in Vancouver.

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Rotary International is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders, providing humanitarian service, encouraging high ethical standards in all vocations, and helping to build goodwill and peace throughout the world. Approximately 1.2 million Rotarians belong to more than 32,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and geographical areas.

The main objective of Rotary is **service**—in the community, the workplace, and throughout the world. Rotarians develop community service projects which address many of today's most critical issues—such as children at risk, poverty, hunger, the environment, illiteracy, and violence. Rotarians also support programs for youth, educational opportunities and international exchanges for students, teachers, and other professionals, as well as vocational and career development. The Rotary motto is ***Service Above Self.***