



# Spinoff

ROTARY CLUB OF WEST OTTAWA;  
Pardeep Ahluwalia, President  
May 14, 2019 Editor: Robert Shaw-Wood

Program: **Chris Burn- Climate change challenges for northern Canada**

## We gather

Greeted by **Marilyn Letts** and **Fred Sirotek** with **Frank Cranton** on Reception, meeting fee collected by **Doreen Ide** and **Fred Christie** selling Past President's Draw tickets. At noon President **Pardeep Ahluwalia** invited us to the buffet and at 12:30 he welcomed us to the forty-second meeting of the Rotary year. The national anthem (keyboard accompaniment by **Rod Holmes**) was followed by Grace delivered by **Lynda Flynn**.

Our guests for the day were recognized by **Frank Cranton**: Chris Burn, our speaker; Phyllis MacFarlane (guest of **Keith Fraser**); Anna Weltman (guest of **Graeme Fraser**); and our own former fellow Club member, Phil Bronsther, now a Rotarian with Stittsville Sunrise. **Keith Fraser** used the occasion to highlight that he had known Phyllis MacFarlane's father for seventy years when they both were surveyors in Northern Canada. These individuals were then greeted officially with our squeaky rendition of the RCWO Welcome Song. **Fred Christie** passed the lottery hat to our speaker to select the winner of the Past Presidents' Draw, and then announced the winner of a merchant gift card to be **Fred Sirotek**

## General Announcements

**Merv Letts** reminded us of the Golf-a-thon at Emerald Links on June 10 sponsored jointly by RCWO, RC Ottawa, and the Ottawa Rotary Home Foundation. We were encouraged to sponsor a hole, donate an item for the auction, or raise at least \$272 for the Rotary Home and play ourselves. Merv and **Stu Picozzi** are the contacts for additional information. **Joe Redhead** reported on his participation in "Awake" at Woodroffe High School the previous Friday, together with **Bob Harrison**, **Marilyn** and **Merv Letts**, **Peter Fisher**, and **Rocco Disipio**. This 24-hour wakefulness event raised \$4000 of which \$1200 will be used to buy a Shelter Box through RCWO. He added that the last of six talks by a guest speaker to the Interact Club would be in the current week. Finally, he mentioned that the Mums Committee has started to send electronic order forms out to 2018 buyers for them to complete their orders for the 2019 Mums for Thanksgiving campaign.

**Bob Harrison** reminded everyone that the tickets for the Awards Dinner on May 28 will be \$40.00 and that Tuesday May 21 will be the last day to purchase them.

**Susan Diening** took part in the May 11 walkathon in Kingston and reported that 44 Rotarians sponsored her for a total of \$1560 which will be donated to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

**Lynda Flynn** reminded Rotarians that donations to the Rotary Club of West Ottawa Charitable Foundation should not be included with "Happy Dollar" donations since they need to be recorded separately. Please give them directly to **Merv Letts** or **Mary Wattie**.

**Victor Mazzola** (and former member Phil Bronsther) announced that our summer barbecue would be held on Saturday June 15 (with a rain date of Sunday June 16) at **Ed Balys'** estate. The cost is \$25 per person, which will be put towards shrimp appetizers, caesar salad, a choice of rib eye steak, marinated boneless chicken, or grilled salmon fillet, together with baked potatoes. Members are asked to bring desserts.

**Navin Parekh** visited RC Toronto Danforth and exchanged banners. All members of that club are from Bangladesh. At their changeover event on July 7 they are expecting 400 people to attend,

### **President's Announcements**

-**Sucha Mann's** birthday May 16.

-For the Awards Dinner on May 28, Past Presidents are requested to wear their Rotary jackets.

-RC Kanata and Kanata Royal Canadian Legion still seek participation in their Music Trivia Night on May 31.

-There will be no meeting of RCWO on July 16 owing to preparations for the Lebanese Festival July 17-21

-The Rotary Club of Ottawa Metro Club thanked us for our donation to support their inauguration.

-The All Saints Anglican Church of Westboro wrote to thank the Club in general, and **Fred Christie** in particular, for support to their initiative to help a refugee family.

-Please complete the satisfaction survey and indicate committee preferences before May 28. 40% of members had not yet even opened the email with the survey. While **President Pardeep** seemed completely correct and dispassionate, the steely glint in his eye caused everyone to realize that he would not hesitate to involve the Sergeant at Arms if this state of affairs did not improve immediately.

### **Program Presentation**

**President Pardeep** then passed the floor to **Jim Maxwell** to introduce our guest speaker. Dr Chris Burn is supervisor of Carleton University Northern Studies programs. His relationship with Carleton goes back to 1981 when he was studying towards a Phd in geology. Since then he has become recognized as a world authority on permafrost and has received many research grants and recognition by the Governor General. **Jim** noted that he

and Chris have been members of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society for many years.

Dr Burn started by noting that the North is a small place in terms of human relationships, as is borne out by the close bonds forged between those who have done survey work there including some in attendance, such as **Jim Maxwell** and **Keith Fraser**, and the father of **Keith's** guest, Phyllis MacFarlane.

At present, about one third of Canada's land mass is frozen. Climate change may increase temperatures by almost 11 degrees celsius by 2100. From 1970 to the present, mean temperatures in Inuvik have already increased from minus 9.5 degrees to minus 6.5 degrees, a rate of increase that exceeds maximum forecast at the time that the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline project was being studied. .

Climate change is normally seen as affecting flora and fauna but it also affects infrastructure spending. Dr Burn thinks we will need a succession of serious negative climatic situations to realize the gravity of the issues confronting us. An example is the Dempster Highway, which has contributed hugely to the development of the North West Territories. It was built over permafrost, and the ice that underlies much of the route of the highway is now melting. The rehabilitation costs of the Yukon sector of the road have increased from \$1.6 million to \$5.3 million per year since 2005.

**Doug Heyland** thanked Dr Burn for his presentation with a memento and informed him that the club would make a donation to End Polio Now to mark his presentation. Dr Burn was particularly pleased by the donation because polio had afflicted a close friend.

### **Happy Dollars**

**Sabby Duthie** was called upon and collected from.

-**Ken Murray** one of whose tennis partners this year is Daniel Nestor, a prominent professional player. Between the two of them, many awards and tournaments have been won over the years (snicker snicker).

-**Alan Bowles** had enjoyed a current National Arts Centre play about an individual who rescued whales entangled in fishermen's nets.

- **Andrew Young** was happy that Dorothy had liked the flowers he won in the previous week's PP draw

- **Sabby** herself shared with us the advice of an inspirational speaker that we should follow our dreams as long as we live.

**President Pardeep** then closed the proceedings, noting that next week's meeting would be a club assembly and would focus on final committee reports.

**Meeting photos.** <https://rcwo.org/photoalbums>

### **Cash Calendar**

Here are the winners of the Cash Calendar draws for the week, May 8 – 14, 2019:

- 1770 \$25 Jack Brown, Ottawa, ON
- 3778 \$25 Nisha Parekh, Dunrobin, ON
- 3555 \$20 Susan Thorne, Stittsville, ON
- 3475 \$50 Debbie Vandine, Spencerville, ON

3500 \$25 Anne Cole, Nepean, ON  
0840 \$25 Rebel Petal, Manotick, ON  
0011 \$25 Marc Perreault, Gatineau, QC

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019**

**4<sup>th</sup> Club Assembly** Final committee reports

**Greeters: Merv Letts, Gaye Moffett** Reception: **Ali Pahlavani**  
**Grace: Tammy Whalen** PP Draw: **Jean Begin** Editor: **Rod Holmes**  
Meeting Fees/Attendance: **Doreen ide**

**Tuesday, May 28, 2019**

**Awards and Changeover Night**

**Cocktails 5:30 p.m. Call to order 6:30 p.m.**

**Greeters: Susan Dienes, Joseph Redhead** Reception: **Carol Bell Thompson**  
**Grace: Fred Sirotek** PP Draw: **Len Baird** Editor: **Don Butler**  
Meeting Fee/Attendance: **Doreen Ide**