

## SIX MILLION SUDANESE CHILDREN ARE IMMUNIZED

Despite serious logistical challenges and lingering security concerns, health workers and volunteers in Sudan managed to administer the oral polio vaccine to six million children during a mass immunization campaign, held 20-22 February.

John Strongylos, governor of Rotary International District 2450, which includes Sudan, participated in the [National Immunization Days](#), or NIDs, alongside members of the country's only Rotary club, the Rotary Club of Khartoum, and thousands of vaccinators.

Although the number of children reached fell short of the targeted 8.1 million, organizers of Sudan's first round of NIDs this year consider the outcome a step forward in eradicating polio in Africa's largest country.

"Sudan has reported no cases since last June," says Sohaib Elbadawi, chair of the Sudan [PolioPlus](#) Committee. "This is almost nine months. We think Sudan apparently has stopped transmission. However, in my opinion, this should not let us relax, as Sudan is still in danger due to its vast size and [long border with] many countries and the presence of the poliovirus on the continent."

The three-day event, held throughout Sudan's 26 states, was aimed especially at immunizing children "living in the poorest communities or those intermittently cut off by conflict," according to a joint press release from representatives of the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) in Khartoum.

Darfur, in western Sudan, is largely isolated by a three-year-old armed conflict that has displaced over 1.8 million and claimed more than 100,000 lives. In southern Sudan, another hard-to-access region, a 22-year-old war ended last year with a peace agreement between rebels and the central government, but the social and economic infrastructure has collapsed. Both the Darfur conflict and the effects of the southern Sudan war hamper immunization efforts.

According to Elbadawi, because many of the children in the two regions weren't reached during the recent effort, several more nationwide immunizations must be organized this year and next year to achieve 100 percent coverage.

"The routine immunization coverage in the northern states is above 80 percent, but the conflict and bordering areas are well behind this average," he notes. "If peace arrives in Darfur, the peace agreement in [southern Sudan] is implemented, and land mines are removed, then I guess the situation will improve very much." Two other eastern African countries, Ethiopia and Somalia, also recently carried out mass immunization campaigns. More than 11 million children were targeted in Ethiopia during Subnational Immunization Days, held 17-20 February. The number of children who received the oral polio vaccine in Somalia during National Immunization Days, launched on 20 February, is not yet known.

Ethiopia, Somalia, and Sudan had all successfully stopped polio transmission for a number of years, until cases of children infected with imported poliovirus were reported in 2004 and 2005.

Despite these reversals, Africa has registered some polio eradication victories. In February, [Egypt and Niger](#) were removed from the list of polio-endemic countries, leaving Nigeria as the only African country where the indigenous form of the wild poliovirus still circulates. Afghanistan, India, and Pakistan, all in South Asia, are the only other polio-endemic countries.



# The Four Way Flasher

## Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

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Web-site: [www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge\\_Rotary](http://www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary)

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Gourmet Hideaway Restaurant

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### INVOCATION

Mar. 14	Mike Davies	Mar. 21	Matt DeBruyn
Mar. 28	Brian Fox	April 4	Doris Gagel

### BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15-8:15	8:00-10:00
March 23	Ron LePore	Stan Wade
April 20	Maureen Goodrick	Vladimir Cukor

Call Peter at 604-465-3392 for assistance or [peter.boekhorst@telus.net](mailto:peter.boekhorst@telus.net)

**TODAY'S PROGRAM:** Business Meeting – Club Services

**NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM:** Bob Neal – Toastmasters

This month's **Executive meeting** has been moved to **Wednesday March 22nd, 12 noon, Home Restaurant**, due to un-availability of President Brian.

At this time, we would also like to invite the new 2006/07 Executive to attend this meeting in order to familiarize yourselves with the procedures and to secure continuity when you take over your respective positions.

### CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
March 22	12 noon	Executive Meeting	Home Restaurant
Apr. 8	8:00 – 2:00	District 5050 Assembly	Kwantlen Univ. College, Surrey, B.C.
May 19-21		District 5040/5050 Conference	Whistler, B.C.
May 24		Haney Rotary Golf Tournament	
June 11-14		RI Convention 2006	Malmö and Copenhagen
June 14		Haney Rotary Ladies Night	

**50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$905+ 1/2 of today's sales, 19 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!**



**SERVICE Above Self**

## LAST WEEKS MEETING

Our guests at today's meeting were Bruno Tommasini, Ken Helm, and Val Patenaude.

Sharon chaired this week's meeting as Brian is away on business. She advised that she had attended the Pre-PETS Seminar at the Skagit Valley casino and Convention Centre. The 2006/2007 Rotary theme is "Lead the Way". Sharon was really excited about her trip as it was informative, and as a bonus she had won \$1,200 USD at the casino before leaving.

One of our guests, Ken Helm from Coquitlam, won the 50/50 - \$31 – and donated it back to the club. Thank you very much Ken.

Anil advised that the Husky cards that he had distributed before the meeting will earn 2% for the Club on member purchases, and encouraged us to use the card when purchasing gas.

Sharon advised that the next Executive Meeting will be held on Wednesday March 22, and she would like to have the new Executive join the current Executive for this meeting.

Our Guest Speaker was Val Patenaude, curator of the Maple Museum. She gave a presentation on the proposed expansion project for the Maple Ridge Museum & Community Archives.

The site for the new Museum & Community Archives expansion is on 224<sup>th</sup> Street next to the Haney House. The property was purchased by the District for this purpose in 2002. The new Museum will command a view of the Fraser River, and stand in the heart of old Port Haney, a heritage district now being restored. The Heritage River Walk, a self-guided pedestrian tour, would pass by its doors.

The architect has proposed a "green" building that will blend with the surrounding landscape, conserve energy (solar or geo thermal energy efficiencies), water and the green space, and not overwhelm nearby Haney House. The façade will be Haney brick made from clay excavated from the property, and glass. The parking lot will be a grassed surface area.



Public reception spaces will be located at the highest grade, with visual and physical links to the Haney House property. The Galleries are located one level below, at the grade of the historic orchard. The Archives are located at the lowest grade, with a doorway leading out to a shady wooded area.

Features will include the Community Archives and Resource Centre, a hub of volunteer action; display spaces for First Nations, local community and traveling exhibitions; a "Community Futures"



space where the plans and dreams of our citizens can be considered and debated; used for outdoor displays.

*Information for this article taken from the pamphlet "Maple Ridge Museum and Community Archives Expansion Project, An Introduction", dated February 2006*

Submitted by Lynda Lawrence

## THE HUSKY COMMUNITY REBATE PROGRAM

The Husky Community Rebate Program is an easy way for your community organization to raise funds.

### Structure

Husky will pay your organization a rebate of 2% of the purchases your organization's members make at Husky and Mohawk stations and Husky House Restaurants. The details are as follows:

- All purchases are eligible except lottery tickets, tobacco products (it is not legal to include these products in the Program) and gas certificates. A rebate will be paid on gasoline, diesel, lubricants, service and repairs, automotive parts, groceries and convenience store items, Husky House restaurant meals, and virtually every other product or service sold at Husky and Mohawk stations.
- Husky will issue Husky Community Rebate Program "swipe cards" for members of your organization. Every time one of your members makes a purchase, he or she gives the swipe card to the attendant to run through the station's card reader. Husky's computer tracks all such purchases, adds them up, and calculates the rebate. Husky then sends your organization a cheque on a quarterly basis.
- Purchases made with cash, debit cards, consumer credit cards (MasterCard, Visa, Amex) and Husky promotion certificates are eligible for the 2% rebate.
- Retail purchases made with eligible commercial credit cards (Husky Commercial Cards, fleet cards, third party cards) are eligible for a 1% rebate.

### Some minor exclusions

- Commercial purchases made with other petroleum companies' credit cards and government credit cards are not eligible for the Rebate Program.
- Purchases made with Husky Route Commander cards or payments on bulk accounts are excluded.
- Customers cannot use two or more rebate or discount cards for the same purchase. For example, if a customer has a CAA card, which gives a credit in CAA Dollars, either the CAA card or the Rebate Program card may be used, but not both.

If you don't have a card yet, you can get one from Walter Volpatti