

Queen Elizabeth recognizes polio effort

Polio eradication was one of several worldwide health concerns that Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom highlighted in her annual address on Commonwealth Day, 13 March.

The queen said that with the global effort to eradicate polio as a model, the world can successfully tackle other diseases.

"Polio, for example, used to cast its shadow across many countries," the queen said in the speech she delivered as head of the Commonwealth, a 53-member organization comprising the United Kingdom, former colonies of the British Empire, and Mozambique. "Today, thanks to concerted international action, just a handful still need to eliminate polio. The same approach and commitment to other global scourges, such as malaria and tuberculosis, can achieve equally impressive results."

Quoting an African proverb to urge members of the Commonwealth to invest more in health care, the queen said, "He who has health has hope, and he who has hope has everything."

The organization's focus on the Global Polio Eradication Initiative has increased over the past year. At a high-level consultative meeting in November regarding the Commonwealth's role in polio eradication, Commonwealth Secretary-General Don McKinnon called for sustained political leadership to fight the disease. He told attendees at the event, including a representative of Rotary, that the fight against polio is part of the fight against poverty.



In 1985, Rotary launched the PolioPlus program to protect children worldwide from the cruel and fatal consequences of polio. In 1988, the World Health Assembly challenged the world to eradicate polio. Since that time, Rotary's efforts and those of partner agencies, including the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and governments around the world, have achieved a 99 percent reduction in the number of polio cases worldwide.

Rotarians stand at the brink of a great victory and look forward to celebrating the global eradication of polio.

Learn more about Rotary's [ongoing effort](http://www.rotary.org/foundation/polioplus) (www.rotary.org/foundation/polioplus) to eradicate polio and how you can help through [contributions to PolioPlus](#) and [PolioPlus Partners](#).



The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of MeadowRidge Newsletter

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Web-site: www3.telus.net/MeadowRidge_Rotary

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Gourmet Hideaway Restaurant

President: Brian Bekar Phone: 604-942-6466
Secretary: Ineke Boekhorst Phone: 604-465-9262
Editor: Peter Boekhorst Phone: 604-465-3392

marks_mapleridge@telus.net
iboekhorst@telus.net
mrrotary@telus.net

INVOCATION

Mar. 28	Brian Fox	April 4	Doris Gagel
April 11	Maureen Goodrick	April 18	Vivian Hatiras

BINGO SCHEDULE

	6:15 - 8:15	8:00 - 10:00
April 20	Maureen Goodrick	Vladimir Cukor
May 18	Sharon Kyle	Debbie McRae

Call Peter at 604-465-3392 for assistance or peter.boekhorst@telus.net

TODAY'S PROGRAM: Gordon Robson - Mayor of Maple Ridge

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Who's Who – Vivian Hatiras

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
April 08	8:00-2:00	District 50/50 Assembly	Kwantlen Univ. College, Surrey
May 19-21		District 5040,5050 Conference	Whistler
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 \$967+ 1/2 of today's sales, 17 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!



SERVICE Above Self

LAST WEEKS MEETING

We heard from Bob Neal and Mona LaMarche of “**Positively Speaking**” Toastmasters, which is an International Club of people who are dedicated to learn to improve their public speaking and leadership skills.

Toastmaster had humble beginnings and was started in 1924 by Dr. Smedley and a few colleagues, who got together at a Los Angeles YMCA to discuss ways of improving their public speaking. A short 11 years later the very first International Toastmaster Club was formed in Victoria, BC in 1935. This was also the 38th Club founded. It did not take long for Toastmasters to catch on. There are now over 8000 clubs worldwide.

In 1991, Toastmasters came to Maple Ridge. The Maple Ridge Club meets every Wednesday at 7:30 sharp at Council Chambers.



The Toastmasters program is founded on 4 pillars. Those are:

- 1) **Hands On Activity** – practice and do it ! Every meeting is organized so every participant can get up and speak. There is a formal agenda to every evening featuring a humorist, an inspirational speech , a timer, a grammarian, speakers and evaluators.
- 2) **Provides Manuals** – Manuals for different levels of achievement help one practice various skills in public speaking such as voice intonation, hand gestures, body Language, use of visuals, etc. The membership also receives a monthly magazine with many helpful hints and tips.
- 3) **Provide a non-threatening atmosphere** – Every participant is there to learn at their own pace and there is no right or wrong way to go about it. Everyone supports each other in their own learning.
- 4) **Evaluation Process** – Everyone speaks and is evaluated by their peers. The evaluator also speaks when evaluating and the evaluator is evaluated by a General Evaluator. The role of the evaluators is to offer tips and ways the speech could be more effective.

The website for Toastmasters is: www.toastmasters.org and the Maple Ridge Club meets on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Council Chambers. There have been Rotarians over the years who have benefited from Toastmasters which is so much fun. We look forward to Rotarians dropping by as a guest and check us out. Guests come for free!

Submitted by Vivian Hatiras

GUESTS:

Guests of our meeting were: Bob Neal - Toastmasters, Mona LaMarche - Toastmasters, Jerry Gillan guest of Debbie McRae, and Jim Wakely, guest of Gordy Robson.

HOME TOWN HERO:

Mary Robson announced that Kim Eagles from Maple Ridge won bronze for pairs at the Commonwealth Games and silver for singles! Way to go ! Furthermore, we were advised by Mary, that our Hometown Heroes Target Shooting must train in the USA due to a lack of training here at home.

UPCOMING DISTRICT ASSEMBLY:

We are reminded that the District Assembly is April 08,2006 at Kwantlen College in Surrey. We hope to see Club members there and encourage car pooling.

HOSPICE LOUNGE NAMED AFTER ROTARY CLUB:

Bob Schantz brought us the good news that the lounge in the hospice being built which is the central hub for all will be named the “Rotary Lounge” in recognition of our Club’s effort in raising funds for the hospice via our 3 year calendar commitment.

BINGO:

Ken Patterson advises that we have received provisional approval for our Bingo contract to be extended another 3 years. The amounts are \$30,000 per year and there are strict rules governing the management and disbursement of the bingo funds. We tried to get more funding but were not successful. It is very important that we spend all the money in the approved formats that gaming allows. We are extended to 2009, which is great news.

GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE:

Dave Rempel tells the Thais are coming!! The program they are involved with includes 4 or 5 professionals form a foreign country coming over to learn about life and especially business in another country. They arrives May 7 to 11th. There are 5 Thais expected soon for a few days. Help is needed still to accommodate 1 (one) person. Please feel free to volunteer for one guest for a few days.

The group will have a hectic schedule while here and Gordy and Mary have offered their van. This is tremendous. Thanks ! We need therefore a driver(s) to pick up our guests at the USA border and shuttle them around. Everyone in the group speaks great English and are an interesting bunch ☺