



The Four Way Flasher

Meadow Ridge Rotary Club

Vol. 18, Issue 47 May 22, 2012

Website: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Bella Vita Restaurant

President:	Terry Becker	Phone: 604-465-9993	president@meadowridgerotary.ca
Secretary:	David Riddell	Phone: 604-406-8882	secretary@meadowridgerotary.ca
Editor:	Peter Boekhorst	Phone: 604-465-3392	editor@meadowridgerotary.ca

TODAY: Great Canadian Casinos - Update on Gaming Centre

NEXT WEEK: Cathy Emerson – ‘PREFER’ Rwanda Project



Happy Anniversary

May 24: David & Karen Riddell

Happy Birthday

May 22: Ineke Boekhorst

May 22

May 27

Invocation

Ineke Boekhorst

Laura Cherrille

Note Taker

Urma Mollema

Patrick O'Brien

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
June 01-03		District 5050 Convention	Semiahmoo Resort, Blaine, WA
June 12		New Members Meeting	
June 22		Installation of new Executive	Pitt Meadow Golf Course

INDIAN PHILANTHROPIST COMMITS ANOTHER US\$1 MILLION FOR ROTARY'S POLIO ERADICATION EFFORTS



Rajashree Birla, of the Aditya Birla Group, has committed an additional US\$1 million to The Rotary Foundation for polio eradication efforts.

Birla, of Mumbai, announced the donation on 8 May at the Arch C. Klumph Society dinner during the 2012 RI Convention in Bangkok, Thailand. Birla's contributions to the Foundation's campaign to eradicate polio, including this commitment, total more than \$6.2 million.

"Mrs. Birla's presence at the convention, not just for her program segment but all four days, showed the regard she has for Rotary. She is magnanimity, dignity, compassion, humility and tranquility personified," said RI President Kalyan Banerjee. "It is not just the additional one million dollars she gave for Polio eradication but the grace and absolute commitment she reflects we admire and respect her for."

Past RI President Rajendra K. Saboo added that Birla's actions are the embodiment of goodness. "She is not just a generous philanthropist but seeks financial support from others and hands-on serves to get the drops in the mouths of children," Saboo said. "That is what makes her a 'Hero of Humanity.'"

"Aditya Birla was one of India's foremost industrialists and an active philanthropist," said Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair William B. Boyd in introducing Rajashree Birla at the convention. "His widow has continued this work through the family's foundation, introducing education and health care initiatives that improve the lives of underserved populations in rural India. The Birla family is a staunch supporter of the End Polio Now campaign and has contributed generously to [Rotary's] US\$200 Million Challenge fund."

Birla's contribution to the Foundation comes during India's breakthrough year in its fight to be polio-free. The [World Health Organization](http://www.who.int) (WHO) removed India from the list of polio-endemic countries in February, after the country hadn't reported a case of polio since January 2011. To be certified polio-free, India must go until February 2014 without another case of the disease. Continued support is needed to ensure that India and other countries remain polio-free and to stop transmission of the disease in the three remaining polio-endemic countries, Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan.

Birla, addressing the convention on 7 May, said, "Based on the success of Rotary International's initiatives in India — coupled, of course, with the admirable backing of the government's health departments and institutions like WHO, [UNICEF](http://www.unicef.org), [CDC](http://www.cdc.gov), and the [Gates Foundation](http://www.gatesfoundation.org) — the day is not far off for us to envisage the elimination of polio in the other three countries where unfortunately its traces remain. We owe it to ourselves and to humanity at large to ensure that in these three countries as well, polio becomes an affliction of the past."

50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$73.50 + 1/2 of today's sales, 48 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Guests: Irena Shantz

Special announcements

- New Membership meeting June, 12 2012. Please remember to bring a guest.
- Ineke is back from Bangkok where she attended the Rotary International Conference. \$200 million target for Polio funds reached. India is Polio free. Banner exchange from Shiri Lanka Club. Can share Rotary programs with other Clubs online through new program. Next RI Conference in Lisbon, Portugal.
- Dave Rempel – last adoption dinner was held on May 5, 2012. More than 200 children adopted through the program.
- Bob Shantz – 87% of the Duck Race tickets are out for sale.
- Robert Campbell's farewell is at the Billy Miner's on Sunday. Everyone welcome.

Guest Speaker



Ryan May – Topic: Living Land

Quote: The seed for the future is in our hand.

Food, nature, and culture explorer Ryan May, who grew up in Pitt Meadows, recently returned home following a decade-long exploration of the world's productive ecological food systems and the vast cities they support.

May has travelled by bike, backpack, boot, and boat through 27 countries and always with an eye for sustainable agriculture.

The McGill University graduate in ecology and agriculture is home to share some of his stories, experiences, and insights.

Having grown up on a small farm in Pitt Meadows, May has been passionate about food production for years.

Later, in university he combined this interest with ecology, and found himself engaged in ecological agriculture and reforestation projects from the temperate zones to the tropics.

Since then he's worked with innovative farmers and restoration masters around the world, from B.C. to Brazil and France to India.

In 2010, he formed a grassroots society called LivingLand to address some of the world's most challenging issues with a fresh approach: positivism.

The main objective is to inspire people to actively participate in cutting-edge shifts, mostly by seeing all the issues in a new way, May explained.

"Who knows what the future holds, but it seems likely that along with iPhones we may also be holding manure forks."

"Imagine how amazing a world culture will be that is as motivated and active to care for each other and the earth, as ours has been to enslave, slash, and burn," he said.

"Together we can create entirely new ways of doing things that will leave us all much happier, healthier, and ensure a more vibrant and safe world than the one we've got right now."



By working with children, farmers, businesses, and governments we link people and nature. Transition to organic production, habitat restoration, backyard food gardens, agroecological education, composting systems, waste-to-resource generation, agroforestry, permaculture... these are our tools and toys!



We're avid supporters of our incredible local organic seed culture. Collecting seed for sowing is handfuls of fun!



Costa de Cacau, Bahia, Brazil's main crop is cacao, but a diversified agro-ecosystem produces much, much, more!

For more information see www.livingland.org

Submitted by Eric Mollema