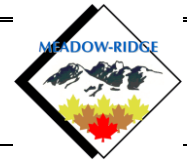




The Four Way Flasher



Meadow Ridge Rotary Club

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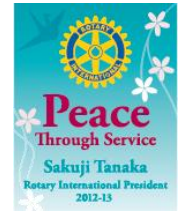
Feb. 26, 2013

Website: www.MeadowRidgeRotary.ca

Meetings: Tuesday 12pm, Bella Vita Restaurant

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February is World Understanding Month



TODAY: Business Meeting - No Speaker
NEXT WEEK: Cheryl Ashley – Literacy

Happy Birthday	Happy Anniversary	Invocation
Feb. 26: Mariella Ignatieff		Feb. 26 Jim Coulter
Mar. 04: Jim Coulter		Mar. 05 Adrienne Dale

CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
May 30-Jun 02	11:00 AM	iRotary District Conference	Four Seasons Hotel, Vancouver
Jun 23 - Jun 26		Rotary International Convention - Lisbon	



Dear Rotarian: 23 February 2013

We are pleased to share that today, on Rotary's 108th anniversary, it was announced at the Vancouver Peace Forum that Canadian Rotarians have raised over \$1.6 million for the Pennies for Polio initiative. Thanks to you, we have exceeded our goal of \$1 million. This is a true testament to the continued interest and commitment of Canadian Rotarians to Rotary's priority program. Our funds, as you know, will also be further leveraged by matching funds from the Canadian government and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. By doing this we have ensured vital financial support for global polio eradication activities and we have sent a clear message about the continued commitment of Canadian Rotarians to the goal of a polio free world.

Our government has heard and acknowledged this message. Yesterday, Minister for International Cooperation Julian Fantino and International PolioPlus Committee Chair Bob Scott issued a joint [editorial article](#) affirming commitment to the shared goal of a polio free world and today, Minister Fantino announced that the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) will match all contributions received above the original \$1 million ceiling by Rotarians through the 1 March 2013 deadline. The

Gates Foundation has also agreed to continue their match of funds donated by Canadian Rotarians. Based on the \$1.6 million in contributions are aware of to date, this already means a total of \$4.8 million in additional funding for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

We have one week remaining where every dollar you contribute will be matched by an additional \$2. We would encourage you to consider making an additional contribution to PolioPlus in honor of Rotary's Anniversary prior to 1 March 2013. We are planning to announce a preliminary figure for funds raised by Rotarians through 1 March to Minister Fantino when he attends the Toronto Peace Symposium on 2 March 2013.

We thank you for so clearly demonstrating the unwavering commitment of Canadian Rotarians to global polio eradication and hope you will take advantage of this unique opportunity to leverage your investment in a polio free world. We also encourage you to express your appreciation for Canada's continued collaboration with Rotary as highlighted by the extension of this match to your Member of Parliament.

Many thanks for your continued support and collaboration to **END POLIO NOW!**

Bryn Styles, Member RI Board of Directors
 Richard Clarke, Chair Pennies for Polio

LAST WEEK'S MEETING

Past Pres. Terry Becker conducted the meeting in the absence of Pres. Lindsay who was in Fort McMurray. Terry, a former Kinnette, and our guest speaker Malcolm Kennedy, a former Kinsman, together gave the following "Kinsmen invocation":

Happy to meet,
Sorry to part,
Happy to meet again.
For what we are about to receive
O' Lord - make us truly thankful.



Mark Vosper was installed as our newest Rotary member. Adrienne Dale, who put forward Mark's name, introduced Mark. He was then installed and welcomed into the Club by Bob Shantz and Mike Davies. [We will no doubt be hearing more about Mark in the future when he gives his "who's who".]

Ineke Boekhorst gave a happy dollar, advising that she and Peter had just returned from Mardi Gras in New Orleans where they had great fun.

[When your reporter asked Peter what "wild and crazy things" they did there, he would only say, "what happened in New Orleans stayed in New Orleans, including my wallet". Great fun, except Peter had his wallet stolen!]

Terry Becker introduced our guest speaker Malcolm Kennedy, and told us of Malcolm's various Rotarian and non-Rotarian volunteering efforts in the community and around the world. Malcolm then gave us an interesting and enthusiastic talk and slide presentation about "Project Nicaragua". Malcolm has only been a Rotarian since 2007 when he joined the Coquitlam Sunrise Club and has since become one of its most active members, but he has contributed his considerable skill, time, effort [and no doubt money] to the Tri-Cities area for the past 28 years. Like our own David Rempel, Malcolm was recently awarded the Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of his community and international service.



In conjunction with Rotary, Malcolm went to the Golden Triangle in Thailand during 2004, 2005 and 2006 to assist with hands-on building of facilities for orphaned or abandoned children. He then set about engaging Rotary Clubs throughout the world to sponsor and educate these children. Malcolm has been involved in many hands-on programs, from picking up trash in local parks, ringing the bells for the Salvation Army, packing food bank

hampers, and coordinating and encouraging volunteers for Operation Red Nose. He has lent his many talents to serving as Rotary Club president, international director and weekly bulletin editor and has become the grant applicator extraordinaire helping Rotary Clubs to raise funds (including matching grants) for many projects at both home and overseas. His most recent escapade was to lead a team to Nicaragua for a hands-on project of building a school toilet block with flush toilets and hand washing facilities.

"Until you are involved in a hands-on project, you do not appreciate and understand the value (of the service projects) and how pumped up you get with your involvement", observes Malcolm. He explained enthusiastically about his trip to Nicaragua, which he noted is the poorest country in the Americas except Haiti.

The area that they went to help is a small and isolated area of only 1500 people. The project was to replace pit toilets with flush toilets and facilities to wash their hands in schools serving children from kindergarten to grade 6. All labour and materials were purchased locally, which also of course help the local economy where workers only get paid about \$4 per day when they can find work. The approach they took was to ask the local people what it is that they wanted help with, rather than doing what we might think they need. In addition to the installation of the school toilet and washing facilities, what the local people said they needed and received was school supplies (\$400), repairing playground equipment (\$165), repair the roof on a community stage (\$1,925), and installing a kitchen in the local dump facility where people worked (\$280). Total? Only \$2,770!

Every parent of the school children worked at least two hours a day. Most stayed for a whole day (despite the heat). It was so hot that it was almost impossible to work past noon. Many came back every day. They proudly took ownership of the projects which gave Malcolm the confidence that the local people would take good care of what they had accomplished.

Project Nicaragua is continuing next year. They plan to add kitchens to each school in the area, and to provide food storage facilities, and to equip a vocational school. The Coquitlam Sunrise Club is looking for other Rotary Club's to join in, both with hands-on volunteers for a one or two week trip to Nicaragua, and with contributions of money in the \$1,500 range. [Not a lot of money for a whole lot of good !]

Many of our club members expressed great enthusiasm for this hands-on international project.

To the disappointment of Mike Davies, the 50-50 pot continues to increase.

**Roses are red
Mike Davies' are blue
Cause he drew the ticket
But not the Queen too.**

Submitted by Laurie Anderson