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Sheldon Kennedy Child Advocacy Centre Sheldon Kennedy

Anne Dale introduced today's speaker, Sheldon Kennedy. Sheldon was born on June 15th, 1969 and grew up to become a successful athlete and a professional hockey player. He is best known today for his courageous decision to charge his former coach with sexual abuse.



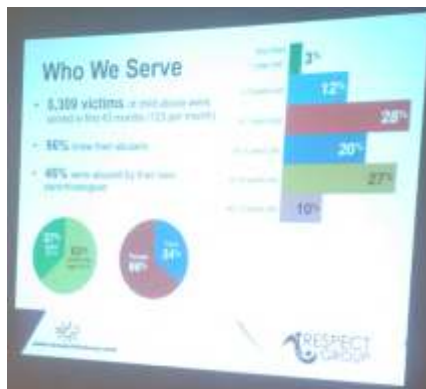
Sheldon has become a noted spokesman for treatment of such abuse. His life story is now an award winning movie and he has written a successful book entitled "Why I Didn't Say Anything". He has been instrumental in the launch of an online training program and in the opening of a major Advocacy Centre in Calgary, well named as the "Sheldon Kennedy Child Advocacy Centre".

After this general introduction, Sheldon thanked us for inviting him to speak and said he was especially happy to see that Tammy was here today. He thanked Anne Dale and Nancy Longson for arranging to provide quilts for all the victims they treat (over 2,000 quilts provided to date). He advised that it was his

intention today to discuss the Advocacy Centre and the difference it is making.

This Centre currently does 150 investigations per month, an awful number but what a wonderful opportunity to turn these kids' lives around. One of the historic challenges of treating sexual abuse of children was that the various systems — the police, the justice system, health care practitioners, the education system and families — all worked independently and found it difficult to share information. Legislation was changed allowing such sharing and the Advocacy Centre is now the focus where all (or at least most) of the systems come together to find successful identification and treatment of abuse victims. He further advised that there are 120 people currently working at the Centre: 4 pediatricians, 25 psychologists, 2 RCMP, 30 Calgary Police, 30 Social Workers and other victim support staff. They "triage" every case around the table, doing in a day what used to take months or even years. More importantly they are causing better outcomes for kids, less stress for the case workers. No other parts of Canada are sharing information amongst the systems as Calgary now does.

The Advocacy teams don't sit back awaiting victims to be identified. They are out in our streets and schools seeking those children who need help. Many victims are on the street and don't generally make or keep appointments so such intercession is necessary. Not one teachers college provides courses on sexual abuse. When one considers that teachers are often the only trusted adults in the children's life, it would seem to be beneficial if they were trained on how to recognize and report such abuse.



There are now 7 additional new sites being created throughout Alberta modelled after Calgary's Advocacy Centre, utilizing similar treatment practices

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Rotary
Club of Calgary Chinook





Our greeters today were John Charrett and Terry Craig, doing a fine job making us all feel welcome.

President David started our meeting at 12:15. He introduced 'O Canada' with Ruth on the piano, followed by Rotary Grace. David acknowledged the fact that the land on which we gather today is the Treaty 7 territory and the traditional territory of the Blackfoot, Stoney and Tsuut'ina peoples, as well as the Metis Settlement of Calgary. David then noted that it was great to see Bart Dailley back at our meeting.



He noted that Paul Gaudet would be today's Scribe and then called on John Charrett to introduce our visitors and guests. Today we had a total of 47 in attendance, which included 2 guests and one visiting Rotarian from the Rotary Club of Calgary South.

George Van Schaick, standing in for Pat Hutchinson, provided today's Sunshine

Report. He welcomed Bart Dailley back with us today after successful surgery.

Paul Gaudet, standing in for Bev Tonkinson, announced the birthdays and anniversaries for the Month of March. Our birthdays include Graham Boone on March 2nd, Gwynneth Gourley (4th), Linda Colclough (8th), Stephen Pick (9th), Rena St. Clair (25th), and Garth Plunkett (28th). Our anniversaries include David and Margaret Irving (48th anniversary), Bill and Lana Worthington (44th), and Joe and Maya Jopia (44th). Best wishes to all.



David expressed his condolences to Rob Wolfson on the occasion of the Calgary Flames beating the Pittsburgh Penguins last weekend.

Minute Men:

- Rob Wolfson started off by responding to David's condolences by reminding us of all the Championships won by Pittsburg and their much better record this year (tough to argue with).
- Rob then reminded us of the Networking event being planned for this Thursday at Limerick's, from 5 to 6pm. Please let Rob know if you plan on attending.



- He then spoke about our upcoming special fund raising event being held at the Ranchman's Club on May 10th. Stephen Pick has put together a wonderful full page ad for the event, and Rob thanked him for a great job. The tickets will cost \$125 per person (undetermined amount tax receipt will be issued). All our members are encouraged to support this great cause (IBD Centre) by purchasing tickets and

providing silent auction items if possible. Please contact either Tammy or Rob should you have any questions.

- John Charrett reminded us of an event being held at Fairview Junior High School on Friday, April 7th from 2pm to 3pm. This is a "meet and greet" type of event for us to showcase Rotary and our long and successful track record with this school. John would like at least 20 Rotarians to attend this event so please check your schedules and sign up.



David highlighted that this month is our Club's 40th anniversary and that our Board is planning a celebration which will be discussed in detail at a later date.

Water and Sanitation Month

March 21st Jill Petrovic — Alzheimer's
 March 23rd Cribbage Night @ the Horton Road Legion, 5:30 to 9 — contact Peter Bickham
 March 28th Professor Stephane Guevremont — Moose 419 Squadron
 March 31st Atlanta 2017 RI Convention — last day for pre-registration discount — \$415

Maternal and Child Health Month

April 4th Ken Goosen — GlobalFest
 April 7th Fairview School 'Mix 'n Mingle' — 2pm to 3pm — contact John Charrett for info
 April 11th Dr. Mary Valentich — Assisted Dying
 April 15th Cribbage "Suckling Awards" @ 10am, \$20 sign-up fee — open to members and guests
 April 18th Richard de Boer, Calgary Mosquito (Airplane) Society
 April 25th Dawn Rennie and Dustin Rennie — Director's Report re Club website
 'Youth Dinner' evening meeting

Youth Service Month

May 5th - 7th DisCon 5360 "Strength in Numbers" — register at www.discon5360.ca
 @ Sheraton Red Deer Hotel
 May 10th Kickin' It Country — Charity Concert with Lindsay Ell in support of the
 UofC Inflammatory Bowel Disease Unit
 @ Ranchman's Cookhouse & Dancehall, 9615 Macleod Trail SE, doors open @ 6pm

Rotary Fellowships Month

June 6th Dr. B. Silvius
 June 14th Atlanta 2017 RI Convention — last day for online registration — \$490



KICKIN' IT
COUNTRY



Sheldon Kennedy cont'd from page 1

which have been shown to be effective. Sheldon tells us that the biggest gap is training, more knowledge. Canada is the only country he knows of that has child abuse and family therapy as a health issue, not simply a justice issue. Our best defense is knowledge.

He told us about being warned about "the white van" when he was young, however it is often people in a position of authority over children who might be offenders. Perpetrators operate due to our indifference, our lack of knowledge. The reality is that this stuff is killing our kids. We need to make it a priority, take it off the back burner. Sheldon tells us that abuse happens more often than we think. He applauded those who work in this field as it is very difficult challenge.

He ended his presentation by thanking us for our invitation. He admits this is a "heavy" subject but also a hopeful one. We can make a difference and we cannot afford to simply write these children off. From his point of view Sheldon says it is all about giving back. The more you give back, the more you receive in return.

Tammy Truman thanked our speaker by telling him how proud she was to be his friend, and for all those he has helped around the world. She presented him with our certificate noting a donation in his name to help eradicate Polio in the world.



Fairview Mentoring

Mentoring at "My Sewing Room"

Anne Dale made her facility available Friday afternoon March 3rd to 8 eager students from Fairview Junior High School who learned how to sew pillow cases under the watchful eye of Rotarians Anne Dale, Rhea Graham, John Charrett and Dean White.

This and 10 other group mentoring sessions are providing help to students as part of the Rotary Educational Partnership. Learn more at the "Mix 'N' Mingle" on April 7th, and the Youth Dinner on April 25th.

John Charrett





Our 50-50 draw winner today was Garth Sabirsh who commented that it has been once in 10 years.

Dave Wylie took the podium as our Sgt at Arms, and started



Photos courtesy George Van Schaick

out fining those who were not properly standing during our National Anthem and our two late arrivers. He then singled out a number of tables for questions regarding a few of our members. This was not only a successful fund raising idea, it was very interesting to discover former careers and information about Tammy, Anne, Rhea and Connie.

Good News/ Bad News:

- Ron May told us about his recent visits to our outstanding Interact Clubs at EP Scarlett and Henry Wisewood.
- Anne Dale told us about her upcoming three week visit to Africa to help educate local women regarding health issues, as well as a subsequent visit to the Barbados (happy travelling Anne).
- Joe Hooper donated to the pot to highlight the excellent Flames win over Pittsburg which he attended.



Anne Dale introduced today's speaker, Sheldon Kennedy, as "a man who came out of the dark as the biggest and brightest light you have ever seen".



President David closed our meeting at 1:36pm.

Atlanta Convention News

John F. Germ, 2016-17 RI President



Join me at the Rotary International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, 10-14 June.

I am thrilled to announce that Bill Gates will be speaking this June at the Rotary International Convention in Atlanta. Rotary and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation have been working together on polio eradication for a long time, and our strong partnership will continue through the final years of the effort.

Bill and his wife, Melinda, in their much-anticipated Annual Letter, released today, offer a glimpse of their appreciation for Rotary and the incredible progress we've made toward polio eradication through our joint effort with national governments, UNICEF, the World Health Organization, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

With the most effective resources in place, it's possible that we have seen, or soon will see, the last case of polio in history. At the convention, Bill will say more about how we can — and will — end polio together.

I hope you will join me and Bill at the Rotary International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, 10-14 June. This is one speaker you're not going to want to miss. Register now.

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