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2019-2020 Officers and Directors

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Rob Wolfson, President Elect
George Kimura, Past President
Anthony Tonkinson, Secretary
Al Holt, Treasurer

Anne Dale, International Service
Rhea Graham, Youth Service
George Van Schaick, Community Service
Michael Spears, Club Service
Pat Wierzba, Club Operations
Bob Gentles, Club Financial

RI President Mark Daniel Maloney
Rotary Club of Decatur, Alabama, USA
District 5360 Governor Christine Rendell
Rotary Club of Calgary East

ZOOM Meeting with RI President

April 14th, 2020

by Stephen Pick



On April 14th, the President of Rotary International, Mark Daniel Maloney, made a presentation to the Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown.



Rick Erven brought the meeting to order at 12:00pm and Manon Mitchell played the US and Canadian anthems on her violin, and Doug Webb made the Invocation.

President Maloney then made a presentation, first focusing on his connection to Calgary, it being the birthplace of his mother, and the family journey ending up in southern Illinois where he currently resides. He attended the 1996 Calgary RI Convention, and looks forward to the 2025 event.

He spoke about the impact of Covid-19 on Rotary ... on the way clubs now meet online using ZOOM and other platforms. Rotarians adapt to the circumstances they face. The theme that 'Rotary Connects the World' has never been more apt. Rotarians are finding a myriad of ways to help the world community weather this crisis. The decision to cancel the 2020 RI Convention in Hawaii was hard to make but was the correct one. Rotarians must be a model of proper public health behavior. Given our history with Polio, the public looks to Rotary for leadership in a health crisis. Going forward RI is looking into holding a "Virtual" 2020 RI Convention. The plans are in development to do this in June, and RI is looking to its membership for ideas and innovations to make it a success.

As Rotarians, People of Action, work through this and develop ways to remain connected, some interesting things are happening. Some clubs are experiencing better meeting attendance at online meetings than at sit down meetings of the past. Younger members are also joining in more. While this might not be an avenue to increase Rotary membership, it is an avenue that may allow clubs to be more flexible and enhance membership.

His presentation was followed by a Q&A session and the meeting wrapped up at 1:00pm.

You can see the presentation for a short while on the Rotary Club of Calgary Website:
www.rotaryclubofcalgary.org/

Presentation Details

by Paul Gaudet

Mark Mahoney, President, Rotary International Presentation at Rotary Club of Downtown ZOOM Meeting,

President Mark began his presentation by noting that it was a great pleasure for him to visit with the Rotary Club of Calgary as Calgary is the birthplace of his mother, in 1931. As a young girl she moved with her family back to Winnipeg and then on to Toronto. As she was interested in a career in media, she transferred to the University of Kentucky in 1951 to further her education in this field. After completing her degree, she took a job on local radio and met her husband, who was stationed at Fort Knox. They ended up farming



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outside a small town in southern Illinois, which is where Mark was raised.

He congratulated Mark Starratt and his team for the great work they did on being awarded the 2025 Rotary International Convention, and is confident it will be another exciting event (he really loved Calgary's first convention in 1996).

"These are unusual times, we must meet our Action Plan Goal of increasing our ability to react." As Covid 19 began to grow across the world, our normal "hands on" fellowship had to be changed. Mark says he has never been so proud to be a Rotarian. While serious, this situation will be temporary and we will get through it. "Rotary connects the world, we invest in relationships and we mobilize our networks to find solutions." People are looking to Rotary for leadership in this Pandemic due to our activity and success with fighting Polio.

Rotary made the difficult decision to cancel our International Convention in Honolulu this year, however we are working on holding a virtual convention so we can share the information originally scheduled for release in Hawaii. More details to follow.

Rotary Clubs have had to find new ways to help us through this process. We are people of action, what does this mean? Together we see a world where people unite, we have a proud legacy to lead us, we will harness the power of connection. We are not afraid of change, we are united to stay safe, to stay healthy and to stay connected. Join me as we take action to help connect the world.

Mark then opened the floor for questions and we have summarized a few of his answers below:

A) He was asked why Rotary doesn't have Interactors on the Board to add the youth viewpoint?

Mark advised that they are presently considering adding three new advisors from different demographic groups, however this will be deferred while they work on Covid 19.

B) How do we adapt to this Pandemic to show that Rotary can shine?

Mark responded that this Pandemic is a dark cloud, but there is a silver lining, we are seeing Rotarians pivot to a new way of meeting, new flexibility and new innovation through the use of Zoom meetings and facebook live. We are finding that we can reach more people this way than through our regular format, attendance has improved. This format may become a permanent part of our meeting structure going forward (but not to the exclusion of our regular format). This could attract a new type of members.

C) Could Rotary adopt a new goal of cleaning up plastic waste in our world?

Mark advised that we were planning on discussing this issue at our Honolulu Convention, however Rotary will not be adopting a new major "Cause" until we have gone a full year with no new polio cases in the world.

D) Our relationship with the World Health Organization, are we pleased with it?

Mark noted that we are very pleased with our longtime relationship in our fight to eliminate Polio. They are a multi national, semi government organization and bring many positive

features to our partnership. As to why Rotary's name was rarely highlighted, he advised that the Governments and organizations involved are well aware and positive of Rotary's efforts.

E) In today's world, could we replace our International Convention with several smaller regional conferences to improve accessibility for our members?

Mark noted that Rotary used to do this very thing, but moved away from the format as it was not deemed to be successful. He thinks we will see more virtual meetings/conventions in the future to provide improved member access.

F) Has Covid 19 had a negative affect on Rotary?

Mark says not so far. Our memberships are expected to be renewed, and all of Rotary's staff are working from home and are staying safe. Rotary's Board meets next week remotely, two hours a day, (8am to 10am central time in order to include the many time zones) for five straight days. Stay tuned.

World Immunization Week

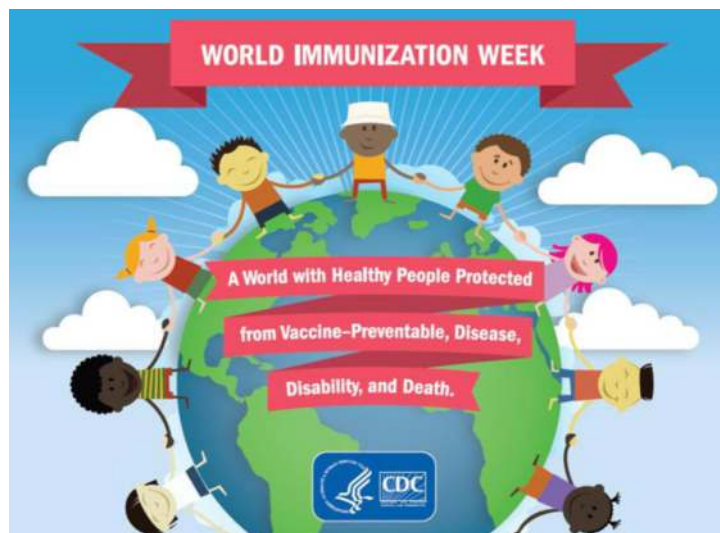
World Immunization Week is Coming

As scientists work to find a vaccine for the new coronavirus, we can do our part to keep our communities healthy by helping Rotary spread the word about the importance of vaccinations during **World Immunization Week, 24-30 April**.

Immunizations save millions of lives every year and are widely recognized as one of our most successful and cost-effective health interventions. Yet outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases continue to put children's health at risk around the world.

Rotary knows firsthand that #VaccinesWork. Since 1985, we've contributed more than \$2.1 billion and countless volunteer hours to protect nearly 3 billion children from polio. When children receive the polio vaccine, their pinkie fingers are marked with purple ink so health workers will know which children received the vaccine. Today, only two countries continue to report cases of polio caused by the wild poliovirus: Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Take action by donating to Rotary's PolioPlus Fund. Your contribution will be tripled, thanks to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.



Next Meeting

April 21st

ZOOM meeting at noon ... be sure to join in! (see the March 31st e-Arch for instructions, or contact Rob Wolfson)

President's Dinner

September 19th

@ MacKenzie Meadows Golf Club — contact George Kimura

District 5360

A reminder to check out our new Rotary District 5360 portal for all things COVID-19. We need your service ideas, people of action stories, and an update on your meetings along with your Zoom link. Send your info to : www.peopleofaction.ca

Your District Leadership Team is here to support you during this crisis. Please phone, text or email us with any questions, concerns or comments.

Stay safe and healthy, District Governor Christine Rendell



Made in Canada !

Electric Oven

Thomas Ahearn amazed the world by "chaining electricity" and using it to cook a meal! As co-owner of an electrical company in Ottawa, Ontario, he was devoted to promoting the wonders of electricity.



In 1892, his electric oven was big news. Made of bricks, it stood six feet high and six feet wide. Two electric heaters provided steady heat, and covered peepholes let Ahearn watch the food inside bake to perfection.

The first meal he cooked was for a high society crowd at the Windsor Hotel. He made 21 dishes, from trout to strawberry puffs, and the guests were so impressed that the Windsor Hotel immediately ordered an electric oven for its own use.

In time, people around the world would come to prefer electric ovens for their easy use and their dry, even heat, which is ideal for baking or roasting.

Sunshine Report

Hetty Alexander (wife of former member Tom Alexander, who died in 2007) has been hospitalized. No other details are available at this time.



Remember to contact Pat Hutchinson with any updates and information on the health of the Club!

pnhutchinson@shaw.ca

Good News / Bad News

Stephen Pick

Please send me your items!

stephen.rotary@ontherdige.ca



I'll toss in a toonie:

Good News ... one benefit of being self-isolated is the great gas mileage I'm getting. I think it is currently running at around a month per gallon!

Bad News being there's nowhere to go!

THE FIRST WORD YOU
SEE IS WHERE YOU ARE
GOING IN APRIL

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**Our 'regular meeting' is on
ZOOM this week ...
Join in at noon!**



ROTARY/MATTAMY GREENWAY

THE GREAT GREEN CONNECTOR

Thanks to the generosity of donors like you, Calgary is home to the only ring pathway of its kind ... the stunning 138 kilometre Rotary/Mattamy Greenway.

Encircling the entire City of Calgary, the Rotary/Mattamy Greenway connects parks, natural areas, greenspaces, river valleys and Calgarians!

Rotary/Mattamy Greenway celebrated its official grand opening in 2017, the same year as Canada's 150th Birthday. Since then, Parks Foundation has continued to enhance the pathway, particularly in the north (Carrington and Livingstone) and in the south (Copperfield).

Once the stay at home restrictions are lifted, or while practicing proper social distancing, spring is a great time to enjoy the wetland boardwalk and viewing areas in SE Copperfield. There you will find the privacy of the Pembina Pipelines Bird Blind. Perhaps you will see a Spotted Sandpiper or another unique bird. You can also enjoy the vistas at the Mario Stella viewpoint.



COPPERFIELD BOARDWALK



COPPERFIELD SIGNS



PEMBINA PIPELINES BIRD BLIND