

Rotary Club of Winnipeg



ROTARY NEWS, and MORE....

March 19, 2017

THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS

who volunteered for the **Rotary Career Symposium** and the **Rotary Clubs of Winnipeg booth**. We could not have done it without you. Your participation was appreciated very much by the organizers, the students and the teachers.

#BeccaToldMeTo

Rebecca Schofield receives a Paul Harris from the Rotary Club of Moncton West and Riverview

Rebecca received a Paul Harris Fellow because #BeccaToldMeTo has had a big impact on Moncton and many communities around the world. Her terminal cancer can't suppress her beautiful smile. She represents Rotary's ideal of "Service Above Self" and the Moncton Club was proud to recognize her contributions.



<http://rotarymwr.ca/Stories/rebecca-schofield-awarded-a-paul-harris-fellow>

<http://globalnews.ca/news/3160506/new-brunswick-teen-with-terminal-cancer-gets-wish-beccatoldmeto-goes-global/>

UP-COMING EVENTS:

- **Fundraiser Breakfast at Applebee's for Water for Chirssauta Clinic (Zimbabwe)** on March 25, 2017, 8 – 10 a.m. at Applebee's at 2065 Pembina Hwy. Tickets are \$12.00 Contact: prasansa99@hotmail.com or Strini Reddy for tickets. This fundraiser is being organized by the Amnesty group and the Rotary Interact Club at Fort Richmond Collegiate.
- **MUNA - Model United Nations Assembly** will be celebrating its 60th Anniversary on May 4 – 7, 2017, at Canadian Mennonite University. Contact person: Roy Vallance. Roy.vallance@shaw.ca <http://winnipegmuna.ca/>
- **District 5550 District Conference** in Kenora, on May 25 – 28, 2017 <http://rotaryclubofkenora.ca/>

- **Rotary International Convention** in Atlanta, GA., June 10 – 14, 2017
<http://www.rotaryconvention2017.org/welcome/>
- **The Kinston Visit** by Winnipeg Rotarians is scheduled for October 18 – 22, 2017. If you are interested in being part of the Winnipeg group going to Kinston, please contact Verna Hryhorchuk at: vhryhorchuk@gmail.com

HEALTH & WELLNESS:

President Atanu: On March 8th, I stood in for President Atanu who is in India, with his wife & his mother to attend the funeral of his Father-in-law. Our thoughts are with Atanu and his family at this time. Atanu expects to be back in Winnipeg by March 30th.

Strini & Emelia Reddy: Good News from Strini: “Greetings, all. Just a quick note to let you know that we returned home Thursday (March 17th) afternoon. Thankfully Emelia endured the flight quite well, although I do not think she appreciated having to be driven around in a wheelchair independent soul that she is! Her right side has recovered as has her speech. All told we are very grateful for her great progress.

I am so grateful to all of you for your love, care and support during a couple of trying weeks. Your kind thoughts and encouragement helped us through a difficult time. Warm regards and much love from Emelia and me.

Myrna King: I talked with Myna, on March 8th, to explain that our singing of “O’Canada” is quite pathetic according to Pres. Atanu. She informed me that she has been very busy downsizing her home in preparation for moving to a condo in the summer. The condo deal is firmed up and her house is on the market. She expressed her appreciation for all the support which she has been receiving from Rotarians Pat & Roy Vallance. Pat & Roy, Thanks for all that you are doing.

Ernie Schell: Ernie reports that “While in Palm Springs I had a medical and got struck down with congestive heart failure and was hospitalized for a week. Since coming home I have been put through the mill with all sorts of tests including a nuclear x ray all to no avail. This recent hospital visit was a follow up.” We wish Ernie a speedy recovery. I am sure Ernie would appreciate an e-mail or phone call.

Adrian King: Verna Hryhorchuk had been communicating with Adrian King, from our Sister Club, the Rotary Club of Kinston, NC. Adrian reported that he had fallen a few weeks ago and broke his shoulder. I am sure Adrian would appreciate an e-mail or phone call. Cel: 252-525-8097 or E-mail: adrianking@suddenlink.net

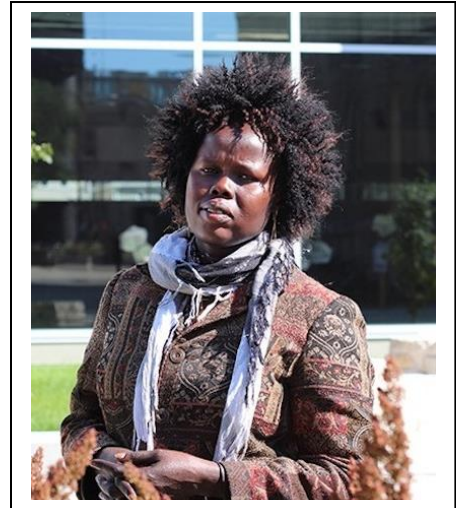
Eva Vida: We welcomed Eva home, on March 7th, after a successful month in Guatemala as the Team Leader of the **Vocational Training Team, from District 5550**. Eva will be giving us a full report on her VTT mission at one of our up-coming meetings.

CELEBRATIONS, AWARDS & APPOINTMENTS:

Induction of New Member – Rebecca Atet Deng:

Rebecca Atet Deng was born in Sudan and is a former *lost girl of Sudan* who went to Ethiopia in the late 1980s with thousands of other war affected children. She was separated from her parents at a young age in Sudan due to the civil war. In 1991, Rebecca and other South Sudanese refugees fled Ethiopia when that country had its own civil war. She arrived in Kenya in 1992 and stayed in Kakuma refugee camp until 2005 when she finally came to Canada under the government's refugee resettlement program.

Rebecca is a single parent with two children; Monica and Daniel. To be a role model to her children, Rebecca enrolled in English as a second language, completed her high school at the Winnipeg Adult Education Center and is currently a third-year student at the University of Winnipeg where she is taking Human Rights and Conflict Resolution studies while working part time as a security guard.



Rebecca's goal is to work with children and women from war affected areas, indigenous peoples and the wider Canadian society in creating awareness on human rights issues both locally and globally. To that end, Rebecca has been a member of various community and student organizations working on human rights issues both at the University of Winnipeg and in the wider Winnipeg community.

Rebecca's life story and journey is an example of becoming a global citizen. Since leaving Sudan in 1988 as a refugee, Rebecca has been to many countries, lived with people from different cultures and received assistance from various international organizations. Her life has been shaped by different people from all over the world and she can say she is a global citizen. As such, becoming a member of Rotary International is a natural part of her mission to be part of such a great organization that promotes peace around the world and understanding of global citizenship.

ROTARIANS ON THE MOVE:

Jane and Peter Markesteyn were away for a wonderful two weeks visiting Maria & Jan DenOudsten at their vacation home in Curacao. Curacao is a Dutch Caribbean island off the coast of Venezuela.

Jane reports that, "While there we all attended a Rotary meeting at the RC of Curacao which is about to celebrate its 80 anniversary and has approximately 100 members. The RC Curacao meets in Landuis Zeelandia which is a very old but restored plantation house.



It's amazing how small the Rotary world is. While at the meeting Jan DenOudsten, a former Rotarian, met a man that he had introduced as a Rotarian to the Woerden RC (Netherlands). This man now lives in Curacao.

Although the official language of Curacao is Dutch, the meetings are conducted in English. Here is a picture of Peter presenting our banner to their president Leo Rigaud. As you can see Dutch people are VERY tall!"

Some of you will recall that Maria is a Past President (2002-03) of our Club. She conceived of the idea that Winnipeg should become the "Snowman" capital of the world. Maria & Jan were also former owners of New Flyer Industries.

Here is a group photo (from left to right) of Peter, Jane, Maria, Maria's twin sister Hilly Vanleeuwen and Jan DenOudsten.



Verna Hryhorchuk is currently in Meza, AZ and is planning to be back in April. She is already in communication with Adrian King, of the Rotary Club of Kinston, and they are starting to plan for the up-coming visit to Kinston by Winnipeg Rotarians.

Doug Wheeler has been in Texas, for some warm weather.

ROTARIANS & OTHERS GIVE GENEROUSLY:

Rotary Foundation - Annual Fund appeal: In order to continue to be eligible to apply for Global Grants, our Club must contribute a minimum of US\$50 per member to the Annual Fund, by March 31, 2017. Currently, we are at US\$45 per member. Our Club goal is to contribute US\$4,000 by March 31st. All donations to the Annual Fund count towards a Paul Harris.

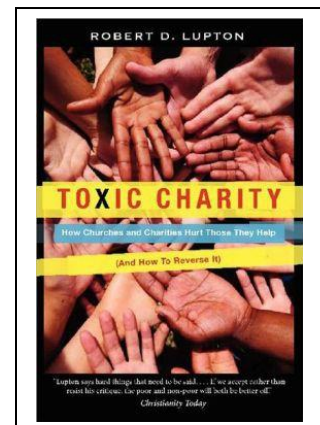


ROTARY ALUMNI AND CONNECTIONS:

Ashuein Alor is our Rotary Peace Scholar who is currently attending the Rotary Peace Centre at the University of Queensland, in Australia. He has recently been made an Honourary Member of the Rotary Club of Redcliffe Sunrise.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Nancy Cosway: “I just finished reading **Toxic Charity** and it really poses some hard and soul seeking questions about charity – What does it do to people’s feeling of self-worth? How does it create dependency? How does it undermine local initiatives? He talks about short term mission trips, giving and the creation of entitlement and dependency and then goes on to talk about healthy projects. The book is written from a church perspective but the content is very relevant to all charities, including Rotary.”



ROTARIANS IN THE NEWS:

Cynthia Brick:

Check out Cynthia's article on "**Grateful to be Canadian**". I really enjoyed it. (The poor reproduction is caused by my limited computer skills.)

Nancy Cosway: "More work to do to advance women's rights"

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/opinion/analysis/more-work-to-do-to-advance-womens-rights-415537254.html>

ROTARY PROJECT UPDATES:

Honouring Indigenous Peoples Committee activity report: "20/20 Vision: Indigenous Participation Key to Success of Manitoba's Future Economy."

On Tuesday evening, February 28th about 150 people, mostly business students and included two members of our Rotary Club, attended a meeting at the Asper School of Business to discuss the above. It was most interesting and informative. We were welcomed by the Dean, Dr. Michael Benarroch, who then turned over the meeting to an aboriginal student of the School, Carter Wilson.

There were five high-profile panellists as follows: (From right to left)

Jamie Wilson, Deputy Minister

Judy Klassen,

Interim Leader, Liberal Party, MLA

Robert Campbell, National Director, Aboriginal Services, MNP

Shaun Loney, Executive Director, BUILD

GRATEFUL TO BE CANADIAN

By Cynthia Brick



Like so many of us, I end up compulsively watching the news shows from the States, much more than is healthy. It saddens us to realize how much chaos is taking place just to our south, and we wish there were some simple solution to their problems. Even so, this past Sunday, while I was watching Fareed Zakaria's show on CNN, I came away feeling very grateful to be Canadian. One of Mr. Zakaria's guests was a former Canadian diplomat, Scott Gilmore, who authored an essay in McLean's magazine entitled, "The American Dream has moved to Canada." I was amazed at the facts he pointed out. As you know, we Canadians, as a nation, appreciate humility and shun those who brag excessively. There are times, however, when we need to reassure ourselves that everything is O.K. This is one such time.

I was surprised to learn that the average Canadian lives 2.5 years longer than an American, 81.2 years compared to 78.2, and that 46% of Americans have college degrees compared to 59% for Canadians. Canada has world class universities, yet access to education is easier and doesn't create the student loan problems that occur in the United States. We don't have people going bankrupt because of health care costs,

so poor parts of our society can continue to thrive. In fact, according to the World Economic Forum, we are the 6th happiest people in the world, while the Americans lag behind in the 13th spot. One particularly troubling statistic was the fact that the average American is six times more likely to be incarcerated, in prison or in jail, than your average Canadian or European. Canada also ranked higher in press freedom as well as economic freedom.

As Canadians, we are so conscious of not bragging that we forget to let our youth know what a great country this is and how much we have to be proud of. After all, our young people are also aware of the disharmony among our neighbors to the south and they deserve to be re-assured that things are pretty good here.

Email: bricks@mts.net
Website: bricksfinefurniture.mb.ca
Cynthia Brick owns Brick's Fine Furniture



Jessica Dumas, Past President, Aboriginal Chamber of Commerce

The MC asked a different question of each panellist, who was then given 10 to 15 minutes to respond. The questions covered history, economics, relationships, challenges and barriers. Much of what was discussed was familiar, but new to many in the audience.

One point that was made strongly was that just tweaking current policies does not work; what we need is problem-solvers. Other interesting points that were brought out were: Indigenous people are every bit as entrepreneurial as the rest of the population. Some politicians buy into proposed solutions, but nothing happens; so civil servants need more information about the indigenous community. Shaun talked about his interesting article that appeared in the Winnipeg Free Press the previous day on the benefits of social enterprise, leading to reduced incarceration rates. Apparently 96 cents of every dollar earmarked for the indigenous community ends up being spent outside that community. We were told that 75 percent of jobs require a driver's licence, which is a problem for many indigenous people. Companies should all have policies regarding indigenous people, as MNP does.

Following the five presentations, questions were taken from the floor. It was a very interesting evening, ending with refreshments and networking.

Report submitted by Pat and Roy Vallance.

“Flex Program” at Murdoch MacKay Collegiate receives grant for \$1,000.

This educational program caters to the needs of students having difficulty attending school on a regular basis as a result of personal, family or social issues. Students move through the curriculum at their own pace with the teachers assistance.

This program has been funded by the Rotary Club of Winnipeg since 2005. This grant enables the purchase of breakfast items for the students, such as bagels and cream cheese, bus tickets for students and fees for graduation registration and gown rental.

This year 80 students are enrolled in the program with two teachers, Dana and Sean. These two teachers have been with the program since the beginning.

This grant was initiated by Ernie Schell in 2005 and he has a deep interest in its success. He and Dana's parents had cottages close to each other and that is how he learned about the program.



Nancy Cosway, Community Services Director for the Club, presented a cheque for \$1,000 on March 15th. In the photo from left to right are: Nancy Cosway, Keenan who will graduate this year with Grade 12, Jennee who will also graduate in June, Cassie who is in grade 10, Morgan in grade 11 and Dana Jansen one of the teachers.

Rotary Clubs of Winnipeg booth at the Rotary Career Symposium:

The Rotary Booth was promoting our many youth programs to students and teachers. The event was attended by over 10,000 students, teachers and parents. Ainsley Balcewich, a former Rotary Exchange student to Brazil, was excellent at engaging the students and teachers.



RIBFEST 2017: CanU Family Festival at University of Manitoba on March 7th.

CanU is one of the two youth groups that RIBFEST is fundraising for this year. Nancy & I attended the event. The event was attended by families, students, faculty, staff, and supporters. This was CanU's seventh year of operation. 600 volunteer staff (instructors, coordinators & mentors) along with 500+ children from Grades 5 -9 were recognized during the evening. It was a very impressive event with at least 1,000 people attending.

CLUB NEWS:

Audited Financial Statements are completed

The Audited Financial Statements for the "Winnipeg Rotary Club Community Service Fund Inc" have been submitted to Revenue Canada. Getting our accounts in order and the audit completed, has been a big job. On behalf of the Board and all members, I would like express our appreciation to our Treasurer, Brent Jorowski. Thank you Brent.

The Annual General Meeting is re-scheduled for April 12th.

Prepared by:
Frank Cosway
March, 2017