



January 26, 2021

Editor: Norm Woodcock

January 2021 Theme: Vocational Service

Program Chair: Jim Blackburn

Date	Desk	Greeter	Rotana Editor	Cheer Captain	Speaker/Topic	Intro	Club Thanks
Feb 2	na	na	Norm Woodcock	Bob Devrome	Candace Odishaw Nutana Rotary Website	Lorne Braithwaite	Jim Blackburn

Announcements

- Larry Neely advised of the passing of Elaine Thompson in Thunder Bay. Elaine was the wife of Past District Governor Clare Thompson

This Week's Program Highlights

Chair –President Lorne Braithwaite opened the meeting by thanking everyone for signing on, thanking the various meeting helpers, giving special recognition our speaker Peter Stoicheff and acknowledging that we are meeting on Treaty 6 land and home of the Metis’.

Music –Betty Ann Arscott provided the vocal and piano accompaniment for O Canada and the 4-Way Test song.

Program – Peter Stoicheff, President, University of Saskatchewan



Jim Blackburn provided the introduction for President Peter. Peter Stoicheff was born in Ottawa, obtained an undergraduate degree from Queen’s University in 1978 and did his Master’s and PhD (1983) in English literature at the University of Toronto

Peter came to the U of S in 1986, became Dean of Arts and Science in 2011 and was appointed the 11th President of the University in 2015. Since becoming the President, Peter has placed an emphasis on indigenous participation in university affairs.

Peter is an accomplished guitarist having recorded two albums(CDs?) and jammed with Jim Gillis while they were both students at Queens.

1) Pandemic Response at the University

The change in the approach to learning was transformative for the University. In a five day turn around in March 2020, classes went to fully remote learning from conventional lectures. Except for a few hundred maintenance workers, staff and students were told to stay home. Almost all students have continued remote learning since then. When in normal mode, the campus population is 26,000 students and 4,000 staff from 130 countries and all age groups. In retrospect the decision to

evacuate the campus was correct. The exception to the remote learning rule are about 2600 students in health related fields that must come to campus for "hands on" learning in labs. The residences have a capacity of 2600 but current occupancy is 500. 2020 enrollment is up 2% over 2019, the U of S is one of only two universities in Canada that showed an increased enrollment in 2020. In view of the employment difficulties encountered by students there was no increase in tuition for 2020. The President is advised on all matters related to the pandemic by a Pandemic Response Team comprised of campus expertise, students and is chaired by a respirologist.

2) VIDO

VIDO began developing a COVID vaccine in January 2020. Federal Public Health approval for Phase 1 trials on humans has just been received. If all three phases of the trials are successful the vaccine should be in production by the end of 2021. In spite of other vaccines being available work continues on the development because the full efficacy of the available vaccines is not known and the VIDO vaccine does not have the difficult logistical challenges of the currently available vaccines. It is also advantageous for a country to have its own source of vaccine.

3) Post Pandemic

A group has been formed to determine the shape of the university post pandemic. The Post Pandemic Research Team will engage with the external sectors to determine what has changed their world. The Team will then bring this information back to the University to see how the programming offered at the University need to be changed to meet the new needs.

After a lengthy question and answer session, Candace Odishaw thanked Peter on behalf of the club.

Cheer Captain –Peggy Clark asked questions related to Saskatchewan. There more wrong answers than right answers and the Rotary Foundation thanks you.
Happy and Sad \$ were paid by Bob McGillivray, Boris Kishchuk, Peggy Clark, Larry Neely, Jack Scott, Joe Dierker, Walt Pawlovich, Lorne Braithwaite, Ravi Chibbar, Candace Odishaw, Betty Ann Arcscott and others.

Next Meeting February 2nd, 2021, Zoom style .

Thought for the Week: Life isn't tied with a bow but it's still a gift.

Board and Executive

Officers

President - Lorne Braithwaite
Vice-President - Michael Gramiak
Past President - Candace Odishaw
Secretary - Jack Scott
Treasurer - Bob MacGillivray

Board members

Administration- Peggy Clark
Membership - Betty Ann Arscott
Projects- Randy Kutcher
Rotary Foundation- Asit Sarkar
Community Grants - Jim Gillis, Lorne Braithwaite
New Generations - Michael Gramiak

Rotary International

RI President – Holger Knaack
District Governor – Gailmarie Anderson
Assistant Governor - Asit Sarkar

Contact Information

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Links

District 5550 <http://www.clubrunner.ca/portal/home.aspx?did=5550>
Rotary International www.rotary.org

Other News