



# THE BULLETIN



## Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: **Michael Bell**

RI President: K.R "Ravi" Ravindran

Week September 16, 2015

**Board 2014-2015**

**President: Jack Fleming Past President Mark Winson, President Elect: Gregg Dobson, Secretary: Ron Miller,**

**Treasurer: Don Edwards**

**Directors: Donna Cansfield, Andre Dugas, Gillian Dugas, Gerald Lue, Kester Trim, Lynda Ryder, Hugh Williams.**

**September 23, 2015 – SPEAKER: Gord DUNCAN – Classification Talk**

Reporting: Ron Miller

Pictures: Ron Miller & Peter Dusek

### Big Ideas Forum (BIF) York University and Humber College Rotaract



President Jack noted that our Club's involvement with Rotaract is "one of the most important things on our Board of Director's agenda this year". So much so that a special committee has been struck to deal solely with the Rotaract Clubs at York University and Humber College. He was pleased to see both the York and Humber Rotaract Clubs "so well represented" here tonight. The York Club is "well established, and well run" and the Humber Club is "just getting established" and is hoping to have their Club Charter finalized in the near future. Jack added that the York Rotaract Club is helping to set the "groundwork" for the new Rotaract Club at Humber. He thinks that our BIF (Big Ideas Forum) was a "logical" choice to have the Rotaractors talk about their Clubs and their

"programs, plans and goals" as they go forward this year. Jack also added that it was "great to have the Toronto West Rotary team here tonight". We have had a "great partnership" with Toronto West on the MicroSkills project and are exploring more ideas that our clubs can do together.

Jack also wanted to acknowledge a "special guest" from Germany that was here tonight, Lennart Heider. Lennart is currently here for 4 months before returning to Germany to attend law school. He came to Canada to learn English and is working with Queensway Audi. Jack suggest that Lennart connect with Ralph Chiodo who has "connections" in the auto industry and perhaps Ralph can show him around while he is here.

Jack first asked the York Rotaract Club to do their presentation. He remarked that he wanted to thank them for their "ongoing commitment" to attend our BIF meetings, which has meant many long hours for them on the TTC to get here and back to the University.

Melissa Okanovic (President) and Preethu Kaduppil (V.P. Ops.) began by saying thank you to the Club for inviting them to speak and they were "excited" to meet as many Rotarians as they can. Melissa added that she "loves her team" of executives in their Club.

The York Club's 2015-16 Objective is to "grow the Rotaract Network by offering members opportunities for personal and professional development through the three pillars: Charity, Community, and Career. The focus is on career development.

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Preethu mentioned that she had the opportunity to attend the RYLA North America Conference in Washington, D.C. There were Rotaractors from 49 countries represented. The “main challenge” faced by Rotaract Clubs worldwide is membership. At York, the challenge is that there are 30,000 students and 300+ clubs. “How do we stand out” to attract members. She said that she is thankful for the “advice and support” of Rotarians. Some ways of attracting attention;

## Career:

- Networking Night - Featuring guests from Rotary Club of Etobicoke, Toronto West, Toronto Twilight, Eglington, Markham and the Rotaract Club of Toronto. Rotarians will speak to members about the professional development, career paths, and achieving career goals.
- Annual Case Competition - For the third year running we will be hosting a case competition focuses on Ethics and Conflict Resolution. The event will also be sponsored by CPA Ontario this year, giving students looking to pursue a career in accounting an opportunity to learn more from.

## Community:

- Volunteering - We will be dedicating our time to help organizations within our community and through the Rotary Clubs of Etobicoke and Toronto West in any way possible. This year we have already played a part in organizing the Joy of Aging Conference 2015 and more.

## Fundraising:

- We will be giving members the opportunity to donate at our events by offering a service on a ‘pay what you can basis’, which will go towards our collaboration project with the Rotaract Club in Ghana. The project involves getting school supplies (backpacks, notebooks, pens, erasers, etc.) to 300

students who wouldn’t be able to attend school for the lack of supplies.

- Preethu says the York Club has the “luxury” of having the “support and help” of 2 Rotary Clubs.

## Contacts:

- Preethu noted that through the various RYLA conferences the York Club has made connections with other Rotaract Clubs around the world such as; Rotaract Club of Kumasi Polytechnique (District 9102), Kumasi, Ashanti, Ghana; Rotaract Club of IoBM (District 3271), (Institute of Business Management).Karachi, Pakistan; Rotaract Club of Karachi Ocean (District 3271), Karachi, Pakistan; Rotaract Club of New Cairo (District 2451), Cairo, Egypt; Rotaract Club of Avila (District 4370), Caracas, Distrito Capital, Venezuela; Rotaract Club of New Kingston (District 7020), Kingston, Jamaica; etc.

## Contests:

- Each year, RYLA NA requests individuals around the world to create logos to enter for a chance to win a free trip the following year. Rotaractors Kawal Jutla and Jamie Kim designed two logos for the competition.
- End result: This was the logo chosen for RYLA 2016! Designed by Kawal Jutla.



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- Additionally, this year RYLA NA hosted a social media bingo contest where cubs had to post pictures of 16 different things during the conference on Instagram. The winner is awarded a free ticket to the RYLA NA conference in 2016
- End result: Delegates Preethu Kaduppil and Kawal Jutla won the contest



## Sponsorship:

- Daniel Je, the Club's CR Director, was asked to talk about sponsorship.
- The Club's major sponsors are Pepsico; The Rotary Club of Etobicoke, and The Rotary Club of Toronto West.
- CRA Ontario helps sponsor the Annual Case Competition.
- Koala Frozen Yogourt is also helping sponsor the Case Competition and the Bookstore at York is donating books for Networking Night.
- The York University Carre Centre is also providing material for the Networking Night.
- He wanted to thank them all for supporting the YorkUniversity Rotaract Club.

President Jack asked "What can we do for students?" He thinks by coming to events like this they get to meet Rotarians where they can get information on "what the real world is like" and help with "career paths". However, Jack thinks that when exploring "the youth issues of today", what is needed is mentoring from those "closer to the age" of the students. Take advantage of the "talent" in our Clubs. He asked Melissa if she thought that there would be "any

value" in having a Rotarian attending their meetings on a regular basis. She said that they are planning to meet twice a month and it might be an idea for a Rotarian to be there "once a month". The other meeting each month would be their "business meeting".

Ralph Chiodo made an offer to the Rotaractors. He says that if any of them get tires or service from any of his Active Green + Ross stores, to send him the invoice and he will refund 10%. He also mentioned that as Rotaractors they can visit any Rotary Club around the world. He said that he hopes they understand the "value of that". He has personally attended Rotary Clubs on 6 continents and it is a "great experience". You are always made welcome. He added that "don't be afraid to put down that you are a Rotaractor on your resume". Rotary is "well respected around the world".

Dru Gheorghe noted that the York Rotaractors have been doing some international outreach. This past May they visited a Rotaract Club in San Jose, Costa Rica to partner with them on a project. They are planning to expand their outreach to other Rotary/Rotaract Clubs in that same District which includes Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Guatemala, and Panama, and go and help their projects. In Panama they are helping with a "farm infrastructure" project to build a centre that will distribute food "evenly".

Jack now invited Arslan Gill, President of the HSF Rotaract Club to make their presentation. Arslan said that they have 35,000 students at Humber and have some "unique" challenges since they are not yet an "official" Club.

The Club's goals for 2015-16 are; to get "outreach" to the school to raise awareness as to "what is Rotary/Rotaract"; to raise funds for the local foodbanks; to find volunteering opportunities in the school; and to re-instate their "standing" at the school. Since the majority of his members are in Engineering, it has been "hard to attract women to the Club".

They are looking for an event(s) that will raise the awareness of the Club and Rotaract among the students. Since they are not considered a



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“sanctioned” club yet, They have to have a meeting with HSF (humber Student Federation) to find out “what they can do and can’t do). HSF will help with things such as posters and promotion, but because of their non-club status they are unable to have any events where alcohol is served.

HSF Rotaract is limited on funding. They are not allowed to collect money from students. Arslan says he is “looking forward to talking with the York Rotaractors to see if they have suggestions. One thought is to organize a dance and collect food for the foodbanks. Another is clothes donations that could be donated to orphanages, shelters, etc (Several other organizations already do this). They would like to approach local shelters to find out what they need and go from there. Even though they can’t serve alcohol at their events, one idea might be to have a “food drive” where the person donating would get a voucher for a “discount on their next beer”.

They would like to create volunteering opportunities. They have high school students who take some programs at Humber who need a certain amount of volunteer hours. They also want to consult with the York Rotaractors on volunteer opportunities. Arslan said that he had been a volunteer at our Toronto Rifest and got to meet lots of people. He wants to see more participation next year at Ribfest.

The HSF Rotaract are planning to have a meeting next week to discuss how they go forward. They would also like to ask the York Club on how to get more people involved and what events they should look at.

Jack mentioned that the effort was made in the late winter and early spring to get the Club established. However due to the exam period and people leaving the school the process had to be restarted. Jack said that at a Vocational Service meeting last year, Ralph Chiodo suggested “Don’t do too many things at once”. This is good advice to the Rotaracts at Humber. Don’t do too much too quickly. Get acquainted with York as they have the experience. He added that we have a “good relationship” with

senior people at Humber and would like to sit down with them to find out “what the rules are and how to go forward”. He says they are “excited” about the prospect of a Rotaract Club at Humber. Don’t aim “big” for events and find “creative ways to work within the rules.

Kelly Ku mentioned that the U of T Rotaract Club do a sponsored \$5 lunch for the students that raises the awareness of the Rotaract Club with the students. Another suggestion is leveraging “student alumni” that have been members of Rotaract.

Jack mentioned that one of the things that Rotary Etobicoke has been very successful at is our “Hands On” initiative. It has been very effective in how we use it, it has raised our visibility in the community, and we have done good work. Jack suggested putting them in touch with Gill Dugas and Theresa Sherwood who have the knowledge about our hands on venture and can suggest “what works and what doesn’t”.

Lynda Ryder wanted to mention that she attended the last “Case Competition” at York and that it was a “terrific” event that had business and Rotary people as judges. She is suggesting that the Humber Rotaracts might want to look at York’s template to see if they might want to try something like that.

Jack closed by saying that the 2 Rotary Clubs want to be there to address problems and give support. To this end Jack says that our Club has formed a “support team” of people who want to be “a part of this” and are able to “spread the load”. If we can be helpful, we need people. This way, we can easily identify 2 people who would be available each month and willing to “step in as needed”. The members who have expressed a willingness to be part of this team are; Maati Lahroussi; Donna Cansfield Mark Winson; Greg Dobson; Lynda Ryder; Theresa Sherwood; Megha Sharma; Doreen Williams; Gord Duncan; Toyin Dada; and Jack Fleming.

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## Comfort Stars Athletic Club – Alice Otupiri

Comfort Stars Athletic club is an inner city boys' and girls' club for at-risk children from ages three and up. It is situated at La-Koo, a suburb in Accra, Ghana. Our objective is to instill in the children a sense of self-worth and to encourage them to realize the potential they have to become responsible citizens and future leaders of our community. This is done by encouraging and helping them to stay in school. We hold after school literacy classes for these children to help them improve their English language skills. We look for sponsors for these children to allow them to continue their education. Each year, we look for new sponsors to replace the ones that we lose. It costs \$100.00 a year to sponsor a child in elementary school and \$200.00 a year for a student in senior high school or a tertiary institution. If you would like to sponsor a child, please contact me at: [otupiri@yahoo.ca](mailto:otupiri@yahoo.ca) or if you would like to make a donation, you could do that in two ways.

1. Make your cheque payable to THE ROTARY CLUB OF ETOBICOKE, indicate on it COMFORT STARS as the recipient and send it to RON MILLER, SECRETARY, 4195 DUNDAS STREET WEST, SUITE G10, ETOBICOKE, ON, M8X 1Y4. You will be issued a receipt.
2. You could make your donation online by going to: [www.rotaryetobicoke.org](http://www.rotaryetobicoke.org) Go to the right hand side of the page and click on the donation link (VISA OR MASTERCARD ). Indicate COMFORT STARS as the recipient. A receipt will be issued to you automatically.

## This Weeks Birthdays



Opel ROWE – September 22nd  
*Good Wishes on your Happy Day ...*

## Club Administration

**Saturday, September 26th** – Club Visioning Session – 9:00 am – 12:30 pm – Kingsway Retirement Residence, 4242 Dundas St. W.

**October 23rd, 24th, & 25th** – District 7070 Conference – Weston Harbour Castle – Register now.

MicroSkills – Open House – Wednesday, October 7th (5:00 to 7:00 PM)

President Jack announced that there will be an Open House at the new MicroSkills Centre on **Wednesday, October 7th**. The local community, the media, Rotarians from both our Club and the Toronto West Club will be invited to attend so that they can see what was done to improve the facility and to show everyone “what a special place this is”. The centre has moved from a 1000 sq. ft. facility into a larger 2000 sq. ft. one. President Jack is hopeful that not only the “clients” of MicroSkills attend, but their parents as well. Further details will be made available closer to the date.

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## Visitors & Guests

### DG Michael Bell's Visit to Rotary Club of Alliston

#### Visiting Rotarians:

##### Rotaract Club of York University

- ✦ Melissa Okanovic
- ✦ Weiting Xu
- ✦ Preethu Kadappil
- ✦ Jessie Ma
- ✦ Anthony Poon
- ✦ Daniel Je
- ✦ Dru Gheorghe

##### Humber Student Federation (HSF) Rotaract Club

- ✦ Arslan Gill
- ✦ Demitry Chalganov
- ✦ Faizen Gill
- ✦ Spandan Bhachech
- ✦ Harsim Ransidhu
- ✦ Nilay Jain

- ✦ Kelly Ku – Rotaract Club of University of Toronto – District 7070 Rotaract Representative (DRR)

##### Toronto West Rotary Club

- ✦ Brian Spencer
- ✦ Susan McCoy
- ✦ Gaston Beauclair
- ✦ John Hastings

##### Forest Hill Rotary Club

- ✦ Iosif Ciosa
- ✦ Antoine Hirsch

#### Visitors & Guests:

- ✦ Rhena Fleming – Guest of Jack Fleming
- ✦ Lennart Heider – Guest of Jack Fleming
- ✦ Cyril Lacko – Guest of Gaston Beauclair
- ✦ Derek Reid – F.E.A.T.
- ✦ Mathew Frangella – Guest of Derek Reid
- ✦ Anne Wood – Guest of Yvan Baker

#### Attendance:

Members 15  
Visitors & Guests - 26  
Total - 41



- Pictures Courtesy of Peter Dusak who did a makeup at the Alliston Club.