



ROTARY  
SERVING  
HUMANITY

# The Bulletin

Rotary  
Etobicoke



## Rotary Club of Etobicoke

District Governor: **Jim Louttit**

RI President: **John F. Germ**

Week – September 21, 2016

**Board 2015-2016**

**President: Gregg Dobson, Past President: Jack Fleming, President Elect: Donna Cansfield,**

**Secretary: Ron Miller, Treasurer: Don Edwards.**

**Directors: Barry Friesen, Gord Duncan, Diane Irvine, Michael Lu, Gerald Lue, Liz Read, Kester Trim**

**Wednesday, September 28, 2016 – MEETING CANCELLED**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 5, 2016 – District Governor Jim Louttit**

Reporter and Editor: **Ron Miller**

Pictures: **Ron Miller**

### *Big Ideas Forum - "All About Literacy"*

The meeting was held at the Delmanor Seniors Residence, 4180 Dundas Street West.

September is "literacy Month". President Gregg began by asking, "What does literacy mean?" In today's world, is it the ability to "recognize an emoji or to be able to text on your phone really the definition of literacy?" Not really. Gregg invited two speakers, Kimberly Lansdowne from the Metro Toronto Movement for Literacy, and Johanna Pax-Milic from LAMP to expand on this "very important topic". He explained that Kimberly will talk about the "broad picture" of Literacy in Toronto and Johanna will look at the "grassroots" efforts in South Etobicoke to improve literacy.

Kimberly Lansdowne has spent the past 15 years working in social services both here and abroad, supporting people with diverse needs and advocating for their full inclusion in society. She is currently the Community Engagement and Program Director at the Metro Toronto Movement for Literacy (MTML). MTML is a network of literacy providers in Toronto and York Region that supports close to 10,000 adult learners each year to improve their literacy and their lives. She also teaches digital literacy at a community-based literacy program in Toronto. She began by saying that literacy is the "most misunderstood" concept "even in the field". She asked "what comes to your mind when you think of literacy". The answers ranged from; Math and financial; reading; writing; getting a job;

conquering ignorance in all forms. Literacy is an issue mainly with the "underserved" sections of the population in our communities. In the modern world, literacy is more than reading and writing; **Literacy** is the ability to understand and use information in daily activities and in many formats; **Literacy** is necessary to participating fully at home, at work, and in the community; **Computer, Financial, and Health Literacy** are some of the modern additions to the understanding of what it means to be Literate. Literacy and basic skills impact all aspects of life; those with low literacy skills are more than twice as likely to be unemployed; higher literacy rates are directly associated with improvements in all aspects of life, including higher income, better health, and community participation. In an increasingly knowledge-based society, lifelong learning is critical to participating fully in all aspects of life, community, and work. As our economy shifts towards a complex knowledge-based system...basic and essential skills are now more complex and critical to participate fully in modern society. Using **Digital Resources** and critically analyzing **Mass Information** are now becoming "**essential skills**". Literacy is not a "**one-size fits all experience**". It can and should respond to individual needs. Literacy and Basic Skill (LBS) programs offer help. LBS Programs are part of the Employment Ontario suite of services. Services are offered in four cultural and linguistic streams; Aboriginal, Francophone, Deaf and Anglophone. Flexible programs and supports are offered to help accommodate adults' life and community needs. Programs are tuition-free with continuous in-take. LBS Programs are offered in 3 sectors; Colleges; Community-based organizations; and School Boards. LBS Programs are personalized

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for clients along 5 pathways; Employment; Apprenticeship; Secondary School Credit; Post-secondary Education; and independence. The Ontario Adult Literacy Curriculum Framework (OALCF) focus is on 6 competency areas; find and use information; communicate ideas and information; understand and use numbers; use digital technology; manage (your own) learning; engage with others. A wide range of LBS interventions are available; individualized goal-oriented instruction; reading, writing and numeracy, basic computer and digital literacy; academic upgrading and GED preparation; pre-apprenticeship preparation; essential skills and workshop preparation; higher education transition supports. Who qualifies for LBS? Adult Ontarians aged 19+ looking to improve their reading, writing, numeracy, digital and other basic skills; may or may not have completed high school; able to speak and understand English/French well enough to function in an English/French-language environment; Unemployed, under-employed or seeking employment; accessing individual, complementary or consecutive EO services. When they meet a client; there is an informal interview and orientation session with a LBS facilitator; an Intake Assessment is done to identify details of basic skills needs; they set learning goals and create a personalized learning plan based on in-take assessment outcomes. Kimberly wanted to mention ways that we can help. They are holding their 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Learners' Conference on Thursday, June 1, 2017 at the North York Central Library. This is a day-long event supporting adult learners from across Toronto and York Region. The workshops are geared to adults with low literacy, supporting their personal development. We could volunteer our time or contribute financial or in-kind donations.

Gregg now introduce Johanna Pax-Milic. Johanna is the Coordinator of Lakeshore Adult Learning at LAMP. She is an Adult Learning advocate, educator, and health and wellness promoter with 20 years of experience at LAMP Community Health Centre in South Etobicoke. LAMP is a "one-stop" centre with many programs designed to "assist people to navigate the community and areas beyond". Adult literacy is one of those programs. Johanna noted that "anybody can learn" and that "everyone has the

right to learn and the right to basic education". Throughout its continued success, over 40 adults each year set their personal learning goals of reading, writing, numeracy, wellness, and computer skills. The program also trains an "amazing" variety of mentors and volunteer tutors, from all walks of life, to support the adult learners in their dreams to gain skills and go to the next step, to community engagement, further education, and job readiness. Their programs utilize creative strategies to support individuals in expanding their potential to learn, grow and fulfill their dreams.

Gregg thanked Kimberly and Johanna for their very informative and important presentation.



## Club Calendar



**Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> – Luncheon Meeting – Old Mill Restaurant – 12:15 PM – District Governor Jim Louttit's Club Visit (NOTE: There will be a short Board of Directors meeting with the DG after the luncheon. All Board Members are asked to attend).**

**Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> – Community Service meeting – 5:00 PM – Rotary Clubhouse**

**Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> – York U. Rotaract Meet & Greet – 5:30 to 7:30 PM**

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**Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> – Past Presidents Meeting –  
6:00 to 9:00 PM – Rotary Clubhouse**

**Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup> – Board of Directors Meeting  
– 6:30 PM - Rotary Clubhouse.**

**November Beaujolais Fundraiser for Italian  
Earthquake Relief – Stay Tuned...Details Shortly**

## Upcoming Birthdays



**Opal Rowe – September 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Michael Bell – September 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Don Edwards – September 29<sup>th</sup>**

## Visitors & Guests



### Visitors & Guests:

- ✚ Kimberly Lansdowne – Metro Toronto  
Movement for Literacy – Speaker
- ✚ Johanna Pax-Milic – LAMP - Speaker
- ✚ Vanessa Koch – Guest of Gregg Dobson
- ✚ Dan Stevens – Guest of Liz Read - Potential  
New Member

### Attendance:

Members - 9  
Visitors & Guests – 4  
Total – 13

## Soccer Uniforms to South Africa and Peru

Gill Dugas received an email from Nigel Brown in RC Waterfront, South Africa with a great photos of some of the soccer uniforms that she has

been collecting for children around the world. The photos shows The Melkbos Eagles proudly wearing our donated uniforms. More uniforms are being sent to Peru. Over the past three years we have sent hundreds of soccer uniforms around the world to equip boys and girls with uniforms along with their coaches and trainers.



## Jack Fleming's Visit to the Rotary Club of Rimini Riviera in Italy

Jack exchanged club "banners" with Demis Diotallevi, President of the Rotary Club of Rimini Riviera in Italy. So far on his vacation, Jack has been to England, France, Poland, Italy, and probably a few more countries.



## District 7070 Rotary Foundation Walk in Brighton

On Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, Gregg Dobson, Michael and Jo-Ann Bell, Iosif and Maggie Ciosa, Ron Miller, Paul Roeser, Mark Winson, and Lynda Ryder participated in the annual District 7070 Rotary



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Foundation Walk which was held this year in Brighton. Over 350 Rotarians, family and friends attended. It was a beautiful day for a walk and everyone had a great time. The walk was very successful and raised \$120,399 for the Rotary Foundation.



*2016 District 7070 District Conference  
October 21-23*



Sheraton Parkway Toronto North,  
9005 Leslie Street, Richmond Hill, ON  
(For information go to the District  
7070 Website

[www.rotary7070.org](http://www.rotary7070.org)

**NOTE: THERE WILL NO BULLETIN NEXT WEEK. THE  
NEXT BULLETIN WILL BE PUBLISHED AFTER THE  
OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**

