



## Rotary Club of Oshawa

PO Box 91  
Oshawa, Ontario  
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### Report on the Meeting of January 8, 2018

#### Head table

President: Ron Dick

Introducer: Kim Tan

Guest Speaker: Fellow Rotarian & Mayor of Oshawa, John Henry

Sergeant at Arms: Kevin Harding

Thanker: Peter Hernandez

Rotarian Past President: Abb Gilbert

#### President's Announcements

- Jan 15 Board meeting @ Rose of Durham.
- New Directors are invited to join Board this meeting.
- Local Community Service meeting next week Jan 15 immediately following lunch.
- Don't forget to update the Volunteer hours log.
- New name badges are now available. Please take them home with you. The old badges will go back into the slots.

#### Introductions/Guests

- Ellen Straud & Vivian Geneski guests of Margret Wallace
- Chad Campbell guest of Rhonda VanderLinde
- Eric Guernsey guest of George MacCormick

#### Mic Time

**Janet Chappelle:** Honours and awards committee: Rotarian of the month for Nov. and Dec. Bill Stirling & Dave Brooks for their dedicated work at the registration desk.

#### Happy Bucks

**Mike Uphoff** happy to be back after trip to Europe and spend time with family. Especially liked the 6-hour lay over in Lisbon.

**Rhonda VanderLinde:** Thank you for supporting the Polar Bear Swim. Even though it was cancelled we still had fun and CBC came this year!

**Tom Maxwell:** Santa gave him a Maple Leaks Toque.

**Gordon Dowsley:** Loved the dancing Santa. He thanked Janet for helping with the fun costumes. The choir is made up of people who are helped by some of the programs we support. Singing is one way they give back to the community.

**Janet Chappelle:** Her husband got to watch the Bills in a Play off game.

**Peter Hernandez:** Thank you especially to Mike Adams who encouraged him to join. Peace and gratitude 2017 and excited for 2018.

**Ron Dick:** Thanks you for work on Swim. Thanks to Mike including us in Snapd. Also got to spend week with family in Saskatoon (-50C).

**Kevin Harding:** \$35 in honour of his dad's retirement and birthday.

## **Speaker – His Worship, John Henry, Mayor of Oshawa**

A hardy group of Rotarians braved the snow and joined His Worship in our annual Civic Luncheon. Kim Tan introduced our friend and mayor, and did an awesome job summarizing the Mayor's work in Oshawa that extends beyond his Mayoral duties.

As part of the Program Committee's initiative to commemorate Canada's 150, Mayor Henry started off his talk with a brief summary of the city's history. He reminded us that we need to look back on the history of Oshawa in order to understand Oshawa today - from the Rolling Stones to long underwear to soldier's boots. Our history is also about the city helping build industry. Back in our early history, RS McLaughlin borrowed 50,000\$ from city and that loan helped build GM. We should say "OshaWOW" not "Poshuwa" or the 'Shwa. We are **OshaWOW** because last year we set records in many areas. Building permits, residential construction, highest construction values, construction in every section of the market. Health care and education excellence. We had stories on the front page of the Toronto Star and in the Globe and Mail. A new firehall and the new mall now under construction in north. Teaching City initiative includes UOIT, UofT, Trent and Durham College. 21,000 students are now going to school in city. Downtown had 11 new businesses open. New rental units and the Genosh Hotel redevelopment contribute to making Oshawa better. We experienced expansion with the walking trail and the new Bailey bridge, and the airport was upgraded. LED lights thruout the city are now saving us money. The city is "open for business." We are affordable, a great place to learn and to raise a family. Challenges include upgrades to fire and police services. Downtown challenges - we are helping more people than ever before. But as Rotarians and citizens we are all contributing to making our city OSAHWOW!

Questions:

**Janet Chappelle:** Does Oshawa have a Youth Engagement Plan like Whitby? Answer: Oshawa has The Youth Advisory Committee that work closely with related groups.

**Mike Uphoff** asked about Assistance groups Oshawa's partners with groups like Feed the Need and Habitat Humanity. Answer: We are so successful that other municipalities come to us for information.

**Bonnie Brown** asked about the marijuana situation. Answer: We are in conversations with province and law enforcement to regulate sales and train people. Related to this is the issue around "safe injection" sites.

**Kim Tan:** Since we have so many homeless people are we getting more funding from the Region to help them? Answer: We get no support from the Region even though housing is a Regional responsibility but Oshawa still does a good job by partnering with local agencies.

**Rotarian Peter Hernandez** thanked the Mayor. Peter said "One of the things I will remember about today is something you said during lunch, Rotary is not about the club but about the people." Your civic pride is easy to see. Oshawow!

**Noon Hour Draw**

\$103.00 pot: the winning ticket was Bonnie's but she picked the Ace of Hearts.

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**Next Meeting – January 15, 2018**

Cindy Ruckemann, New Rotarian Craft Talk

**All regular meetings held at:**

12:10 at the Jubilee Pavilion Banquet & Conference Centre

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