ROTARY VOICE

The Rotary Club of Toronto

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Today's Program Changeover Day

Topic David Hetherington's Farewell Address

Location The National Club, 303 Bay Street



One year ago I was handed the gavel which is representative of the office of President of The Rotary Club of Toronto. Carol dutifully put it away and I haven't seen it since. However, we carried on and set about the task of managing the Club's many activities. I was blessed with a very capable Board of Directors who set about balancing the Club's budget, which had slipped into a deficit. With the aid of our treasurer, James McAuley, we returned "off budget" items back to the budget to give a much more realistic idea of the Club's future financial picture. This resulted in new funding for the Children's and Seniors Christmas parties from our Foundation to avoid depletion of the Club's Philanthropic Fund.

With the cooperation of Mackie Research's CFO we managed to return to a printed Roster of members – a great help to those of us who are technologically challenged.

When the devastating Fort McMurray fires hit we were able to approach our Foundation for \$30,000 in matching grants for the rebuilding of that unfortunate town in Alberta. The Etobicoke Rotary Club joined us in the effort which resulted in an additional amount for the cause in excess of \$20,000. This resulted in a total aid package of more than \$83,000.

I could not have done this job without a lot of support. I want to thank Susan Hunter for her sage advice and for heading up the Strategic Planning Committee, which continued to implement improved training for committee chairs and Liaison Directors to ensure more effective committees. I thank Pat Neuman for her support and tireless work in support of our fundraising projects. Further, I thank them for their friendship, which I value.

I also want to express my appreciation for the guidance of those past presidents who reside within 50 feet of my office; Richard White, Susan Howson and John Andras. I like to keep my resources close at hand. Further appreciation goes to my board members: Lori Brazier, Harry Figov, Carolyn Purden, Marg Stanowski, (President Elect) Susan Hunter, (Vice President) Pat Neuman, Ross Amos, James Hunter, Binoy Luckoo, Kevin Power, Peter Simmie, Harry Figov, Shannon Lundquist, Dina Rashid and Barbara Thomson. They all had to devote substantial time and effort to ensure that the affairs of our Club were kept in order.

Finally let me thank (Foundation President) Peter Love, with whom I enjoyed working in a true spirit of cooperation and charitable giving at its best. As I hand over the gavel to Susan Hunter, I know she is prepared, capable and eager to get going. I wish her well.

To all of you, our Club members, I thank you for the privilege of being your President. It has been an honour and a most enjoyable personal experience.

David Hetherington



TORONTO RIBFEST A SUCCESS!

With four glorious days of sunshine this year's event was an outstanding success. More info next week.

District Governor Awards Night

- by Neil Phillips

On Wednesday, June 22nd Rotarian leadership convened at the Oshawa Golf & Country Club to celebrate the achievements of the past Rotary year. All 54 Club Presidents were invited, as well as ADGs and others.

Many Clubs were awarded with the Rotary International Presidential Citation, in Bronze Silver or Gold; as well as the District 7070 Foundation Citation. President David was there to receive the Presidential Citation on behalf of the Club, amongst other award certificates. Well done, David and the entire Club!

Individually, Steve Dulmage was among a group that received the District 7070 Leadership Award Recognition Pin. Introduced this year by DG Michael, this recognized Rotarians who have contributed to The Rotary Foundation, made an effort to promote Rotary through consistent wearing of their pin, and have actively brought in new members over the past year. Congratulations to Steve, and all those Rotarians who received such recognition.

Also at the evening, our own member Maureen Bird was honoured with the District 7070 Council of Past District **Governors Award.** Presented by our ADG (and DGND) Mary Lou, this is awarded to the Rotarian of the District who has made the greatest service contribution during the preceding Rotary year. With an ongoing commitment to service, and a very active year leading RCT's refugee sponsorship efforts, the award was certainly well-deserved. Congratulations, Maureen – we're all proud of you!

The evening ended with heartfelt thanks from DG Michael for all the support he's received over the year, and a big show of appreciation for all the hard work of Rotarians in our district to help make the world a better place.



President David Hetherington with one of the club awards, Maureen Bird and Steve Dulmage.

Fellowship & Entertainment Does It Again

- by Brigitte Bogar

On the beautiful summer evening on Thursday, June 16th, people gathered at The National Club for a treat; The RCT World Wine Tour with our excellent guide Neil Phillips, who provided a great insight into the Ontario wines. He certainly had a surprise wine or two for us, including a challenging orange wine for our delicate palates. Who knew that Ontario has such an impressive variety and so many noteworthy wines. There was lots of laughter and the food was as always lovely.

Fellowship and Food – July 12th

Please join us for the Second Annual Informal TJC dinner for those Rotarians, friends and family still in the city: casual dinner on July 12th, hosted by Lorna Johnson and the FnE committee.

TCJ (Thai, Chinese, Japanese) Restaurant is a casual dining establishment in the heart of the up-and coming Toronto Gardens district, not far from Saint Michael's Cathedral and Hospital and an easy streetcar ride along Queen Street. Thousands of parking spaces. Come now before the parking lots are turned into condos. Alternatively, check out the future site of your retirement condo!!

TCJ does magnificent "multi-cultural" cooked-to-order Thai, Chinese, and Japanese favourites. They pride themselves on "No MSG, 100% vegetable oil, and No Pork."

Beer, wine and other drinks available. As the attendees from last year recommend, start with a bucket of 3 beer on ice for a very affordable price!!

Choose individual appetizers and meals A La Carte, or the combination Dinner for 2, 3, or 4.

Join us for drinks and appetizers at 6:30 PM and party all night till about 9 PM.

Rotary FnE Host Lorna Johnson Location: TCJ restaurant, 64B Queen Street East, Toronto, Ontario, M5C 2T3. Tel: 416-368-8688

Please RSVP email: lorna.johnson@me.com mobile phone : 647.308.2808

Fellow Rotarians: WE WANT YOU!

With Neil Phillips becoming District Governor in July 2017 The Rotary Club of Toronto is responsible for hosting the 2017 District Conference.

We've had a core committee with members from RCT, Toronto Rotaract and U of T Rotaract – as well as other Toronto-area Rotary Clubs. In early planning, we have a venue and a date.



NOW WE NEED YOUR HELP!

As we look to develop the program, it's time for the committee to expand. The adage of "many hands make light work" rings very true with Rotary. We could use a few extra committee members willing to take on specific aspects of the program and logistics, and work on one of the sub-committees.

Have some great speaker ideas? Concepts for interesting break-out sessions? Ideas for how to do things differently? We especially need someone who can assist with designing the conference logo – or with a colleague/ friend who can do the same.

We're looking to offer an inspiring conference in our RI18 Toronto Convention year, building on what looks to be a great conference under DG Jim Louttit this coming year.

Please contact our committee chair, Shannon Lundquist, or Neil Phillips.



Come and join your friends at Rotary for a fabulous day of golf, sun and a great time!

The Rotary Club of Toronto 68TH Annual Golf Tournament

> Thursday, August 18, 2016 at the Richmond Hill Golf Club 8755 Bathurst Street, Richmond Hill, Ontario.

RI President John Germ



District Governor Jim Louttit, Toronto Sunrise

The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

Officers: President: David Hetherington President-Elect: Susan Hunter Vice President: Pat Neuman Treasurer: James McAuley

Executive Director: Carol Hutchinson

Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation: Peter Love, President

Editor of the Week: Maureen Bird

Editor July 15, 2016: Brian Porter

What You Missed **Reporter for July 8th:** Brian Porter

The Four-way test of the things we think, say, or do

- 1. Is it the Truth?
- 2. Is it Fair to all concerned?
- 3. Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships?
- 4. Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

Upcoming Speakers & Events

July

15 Susan Hunter, Throne Speech 22 TBD

29 No Meeting, Civic holiday

Events

July 2016 – 12 FnE TCJ dinner August 2016 – 18 Annual Golf Day

Propose a Speaker – Contact Alex Brown, Chair jandabrown@rogers.com 416.799.5827



What You Missed June 24, 2016

- by Maureen Bird



Friday June 24th saw us in the lovely Imperial Room to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of National Aboriginal Day.

Brian Westlake led the usual procession accompanied by the Drum Sisters in a traditional welcome. President David then arrived with a very special guest, Lt-Gov. Elizabeth Dowdeswell, attending her third club meeting with us this year.

We received the invocation from Elder Mac Criger of the Cayuga Nation. He welcomed us with the spirits of the Sun and the Moon and explained the meaning of the braiding, tying together mind, body and spirit. Elder Mac escaped the residential schools because his father joined the army and it gave him different opportunities. And yes, he is a rocket scientist.

We welcomed several visiting Rotarians and so many special guests including Jennifer Martino, One Laptop per Child, Landy Anderson, Native Child and Family Services,

Heather Heagle, Ontario Camps Association, Jeanne Smitiuch, Dolly Parton Imagination Library, Gary Glowacki, The Bridge Prison Ministry, Andre Morriseau, Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business, Josh Hellyer, Princes Charities Canada, Lisa Ferano and Fred Lawlor, Directors of HIP.

John Andras, chair of our Aboriginal Service Committee, explained that our original speaker, Isadore Day, Ontario Regional Chief, needed to attend the funeral of one of the province Elders but had arranged for a replacement, Dr. Suzanne Stewart from OISE. Those of you who attended the District Conference last fall will remember her eloquent address there. We were fortunate that she was so available for us.

Dr. Suzanne is Dene, one of 7 children of a healer who had been



The Drum Sisters

given the English name Doctor. Because all her mother's generation had been sent to residential schools, her grandmother arranged for her to go at age 4 to a distant aunt in Edmonton to attend regular school and avoid the "residential school sweep".

Dr. Suzanne ended up in foster care, sexually abused and at 13 was on her own on the streets. But her spirit prevailed and she is now a successful child psychologist at OISE and mother of

four. She brought her eldest son Cohen with her, who is a successful author.

The government acknowledged in 2008 that these schools, administered by the churches, were a mistake. The goal was to isolate and assimilate, and kill the Indian in the child. Children were



Dr. Suzanne Stewart with The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell

subjected to aggression and assaults. Death tolls were high due to malnutrition, drowning and exposure. Of the more than 3,000 deaths recorded, 508 were buried with no identity.

Those with First Nation, Métis or Inuit background number 1.4 million, with 30% on reserves and the highest youth growth rate in the country. But problems continue. Intergenerational trauma is a legacy. Children are being raised by parents who grew up in the schools with no parental guidance. It will be her great-grandchildren who will be the first generation not directly impacted by the abuse at the schools.

She had been told that one of her brothers had died at the school but found him two years ago. He had been adopted out to a white family.

After a couple of minutes of "table talk" she addressed questions about the lack of family connections and the loss of language. But Aboriginal language is spiritual and essential to the development of the child and is vital to healing. Services are underused because of the lack of the language. But violence against women, jail time, street life and alcoholism are highest in these Aboriginal groups.

There is still a long way to go with the recommendations of The Reconciliation Commission. Giving her mother who lived on the streets \$180,000 was not the way to assist her. Things are not perfect but the Aboriginal Communities are looking ahead with more optimism.

Dr. Suzanne was given the gift of books for a child in a fly-in community, fitting for her background.

Elder Mac Criger closed the meeting with the traditional greeting; Mahso Cho - Chi Miigwetch.

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