

The Rotary Club of Toronto

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## World Polio Day – October 24, 2016...We Are This Close!



Flag Raising Ceremony at Toronto City Hall on Monday

Rotary International made a commitment in 1986 to eliminate polio worldwide. We will be there until the end. Your donations made to www.conquerpolio.org will be matched by the federal government and the Melinda & Bill Gates Foundation.

### District Conference 2016 – by Maureen Bird

What an amazing event! The speakers we heard throughout Saturday certainly did their job to RE-IGNITE, **RE-CHARGE** and **RE-IMAGINE** ROTARY. Congratulations to the great organizing team from Jim Louttit's club, Toronto Sunrise. Morgan Wienberg, founder of Little Footprints, Big Steps, spoke directly to the hearts of Rotarians as she described the recent hurricane's devastation of the village with 350 children in Haiti where she lives and serves. By Saturday evening she had



Damage at a Haitian school

received \$13,000 in donations from those attending. We are working to double this through Rotary matching grants.



Priya, Anny-Sandra Hamel, Hedley and Susan Hunter and Pat Neuman with their creation

It wasn't all listening to speeches. We ended the afternoon with a work project for 360°kids, a group in York Region supported by Joe Robert's charity, Push for Change. He spoke at our club this past year. By day's end we had teamed up to cut and tie, creating 40 blankets for homeless youth.

More information to follow next issue!



Dr. Truong Ta is the Head of Immunization Policy Canada for Sanofi Limited. Pasteur In this role, Dr. Ta oversees public affairs, government affairs and market access activities for vaccines in Canada. Pasteur Sanofi researches, develops and manufactures

vaccines for Canada and global markets.

Dr. Ta obtained his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Alberta in 2000 and his research involved studying protein adsorption at biomaterial interfaces. Subsequently, he completed a 1-year postdoctoral fellowship in the area of Mass Spectrometry and several years later obtained a Master of Business Administration from York University's Schulich School of Business with a focus on business strategy and healthcare industry management.

Dr. Ta has over 15 years of experience in the life sciences sector, including more than 12 years of vaccine R&D, commercial and policy experience. Dr. Ta started with Sanofi Pasteur in 2004 as a scientist and supported the development of innovative vaccines before transitioning to commercial operations in 2010. Prior to his current role Dr. Ta led the marketing team, directed the strategic planning process and supported communications activities for Sanofi Pasteur in Canada.

Dr. Ta was recently named Chair of BIOTECanada's Vaccine Industry Committee. He is also a member of Sanofi Pasteur's Management Committee. Before joining Sanofi Pasteur, Truong worked as a Consultant at a small biotech company. The organization provided analytical testing services to industry organizations and academics institutions.

World Polio Day

**Today's Program** 

**Topic** 

Truong Ta, Sanofi Pasteur

Location Fairmont Royal York, Upper Canada Room

Host

John Fortney



## You are invited to: **Club Assembly 2016**

We are changing the format this year; it will be fun and informative!

Your spouses and significant others are invited to join us.

What is Rotary's social media presence on Facebook and Linked-In?

Bring your laptop, tablet, or smartphone (free w-fi provided) and find out.

Also featuring guest speaker Andris Pone, President Coin Branding

> Cost is one lunch ticket (includes dinner).

Wednesday November 2, 2016 5:30 - 7:30pm The National Club, 303 Bay Street

Please RSVP NOW to Carol office@rotarytoronto.on.ca

# Upcoming Speakers & Events

#### November 2016

- lan Wood, former ambassador
- **Remembrance Day**
- Shaneen Bruder and Ron Crane, Pine River Institute
- Mark Saunders, Toronto Chief of Police

#### December 2016

- Patricia Keeney, Author
- Senior's Christmas Lunch
- Annual Children's Christmas Party 16 Club Christmas Lunch

#### **Events**

- November Club Assembly 5:30 pm
- R2R 6:00 pm

**Editor of the Week** Karen Scott

**Editor November 4 Brigitte Bogar** 

What You Missed Reporter for October 28 **Brigitte Bogar** 

Propose a Speaker – Contact Mario Voltolina, Chair mario.voltolina@gmail.com Tel: 416-720-7236

Submit an article to the Voice Newsletter therotaryvoice@gmail.com

Our Club reached 1,029 people on Facebook this week.

#### What You Missed October 21, 2016 by Emre Yurga

On October 21, 2016, the special lunch was hosted by our club's Indigenous Service Committee (IndSC) and Honouring Indigenous People (HIP) initiative. As part of the program, Carolyn Purden, the Chair of IndSC, moderated a conversation with the Right Honourable Paul Martin, Prime Minister of Canada from 2003 to 2006 and Minister of Finance from 1993 to 2002.



Moderator Carolyn Purden with Steve Smith, President Susan Hunter, Paul Martin, Chris Snyder and John Andras

In the audience, there were numerous distinguished guests who were introduced by Past President John Andras, including the Honourable Dr. Carolyn Bennett, current Minister of Indigenous Affairs and Northern Development, the Honourable Bob Rae, the 21st Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Bill Graham, former Minister of Foreign Affairs and National Defense, and other civic and business leaders from Deloitte, Prince's Charities Canada, and many more. Over 200 participants eagerly listened to the conversation mainly focused on Indigenous Education.

After the introduction of our guest speaker, Paul Martin, who had polio in his early days, initiated the conversation by commending Rotary's commitment to eliminating polio worldwide. Mr. Martin noted that today polio has been restricted to three countries: Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nigeria. This would not have been possible without Rotary's leadership. He put a special emphasis on Rotary being a non-governmental organization and its capacity to engage in activism worldwide.

He then focused on the Martin Aboriginal Education Initiative (MAEI), established to improve elementary and secondary school education outcomes for Aboriginal Canadians through the implementation of specific programs and the application of appropriate research. Mr. Martin described the programs under this initiative, including the Aboriginal Youth Entrepreneurship Program, designed to teach Aboriginal youth about business and entrepreneurship in order to help prepare them to engage in business activities with competence and confidence.

The other program that he mentioned was the First Nations Schools Principals' Course, developed in collaboration with the University of Toronto and members of a First Nations Expert Panel, including leading Indigenous academics. Mr. Martin noted that this course combines face-to-face and on-line learning and its curriculum includes teaching strategies, assignments, readings, resources, discussions and case studies. The more information about this initiative can be found at http://www.maei-ieam.ca. On this front, Mr. Martin said that indigenous education should be funded at the same level as that for other Canadians. If this were the case, barriers would be removed from them being successful in realizing their dreams.

Throughout this conversation Mr. Martin also talked about the indigenous culture and its richness and the necessity of designing programs and services for indigenous communities that elevates traditional knowledge and indigenous ways of knowing.

This conversation was followed by a Q&A session, where most of the participants commented on the necessity of reviving indigenous languages in Canada and increasing awareness about indigenous culture.

Thank you very much to the organizers of this wonderful event, as this conversation brought us closer to understanding contemporary issues in indigenous education and reconciliation.

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