

ROTARY VOICE



The Rotary Club of Toronto

Volume 107 | Issue 1 | July 12, 2019

Today's Program

Kevin Power, President

Topic

Kevin's Vision for 2019-20

Location

The National Club, 303 Bay Street

More Power to You



The start of another Rotary year! This marks the 107th year of The Rotary Club of Toronto. I am honoured to have the opportunity to be President of this great Club.

I am excited with the direction in which our Club is moving and the various initiatives being worked on in our Club. This coming year we will be continuing to implement the initiatives developed in our Strategic Plan. We are starting into the third year of the Strategic Plan and are working on the Program Transformation group of initiatives.

When I joined the Club my first committee was the program committee, chaired at that time by the late John Spragge. I enjoyed our regular line-up of speakers and the connections within our Club to obtain great speakers. A highlight for me in our Club was hosting Stephen Lewis at a regular Friday lunch. Through the efforts of our late member, Nina Cole, approximately 1,100 Rotarians from our club and district along with esteemed guests attended The Rotary Club of Toronto Friday lunch in the Canadian Room with Stephen Lewis.

More recently our Club held Power of Rotary luncheons. Speakers included retired General Romeo Dallaire speaking on the events in Rwanda and Mark and Craig Kielburger, founders of Me

to We. Sylvia Geist and a group from our program committee have started to explore options for new speakers and series to bring to our luncheons to inform, educate and entertain. Thank you to our program committee, under chair Bert Steenburgh, our program calendar on Google Calendar is now full through to the end of this calendar year. We have a strong line-up of speakers.

Our Club is much more than a lunch club. We will be finalizing the branding sessions that were started this past Rotary year. These branding sessions, initiated by Lori Brazier and the membership committee, with the assistance of our members Andris Pone and Mike Leon among others, will help us to update our Club materials we provide to prospective members and help us launch a corporate membership plan with the goal to build our Club membership. We are very much looking forward to introducing our positioning statement and brand story that all members can use!

The Rotary International Theme this year is Rotary Connects the World. Rotary International President Mark Maloney is looking to grow Rotary. Membership is a key issue. Membership will continue to be a key priority for our Club as we look to build our Club to move forward and to support the diversity of committees inside our Club and the programs in our community that we continue to support. Growing membership in our Club is not a simple task. Membership remains a concern and a focus at the board. It is a standing item on the agenda at each board meeting. As members of our great Club, we are all on the membership committee.

In Hamburg at the Rotary International Convention, inclusivity and diversity were discussed in relation to the Rotary International Board of Directors. Rotary

International introduced targets to increase the membership of women on the Rotary International Board to 30% by 2021. There are two women on the Board this year and will be five in the following year, including a past district governor from District 7070, Valarie Wafer. I am excited to be welcoming into our Board this year four amazing members who will bring their experience and perspectives to our Club Board, in no particular order, Luzita Kennedy, Dawn-Marie King, Anny-Sandra Hamel and Lorna Johnson.

Our new Board members have already been working with Vice President Prince Kumar on this year's Club Assembly where we will be looking at our Club committees. When I joined our Club in 2000 our membership was around 230 members. With our current membership numbers around 160, our resources are being spread thin in our committees and subcommittees. Some committees are struggling to find new members to carry out the work initiatives. Many committees struggle with succession planning. Vice President Prince Kumar and his committee will be examining our current committee structure and exploring possible changes. I encourage all members to take part in this process and to attend the Club Assembly in November.

I recently attended the Rotaract Club of Toronto changeover. The Club this past year obtained the Rotary international Presidential Platinum Citation, the highest level. They introduced eight new members at their changeover meeting in June and the diversity of the Club and the board reflects the community in which they serve. We look closely to continuing to work with our Rotaract Clubs this year, not only the Rotaract Club of Toronto but also the University of Toronto Club and the Ryerson University Club. We look forward to partnering with other

The 2019-2020 Board of Directors of The Rotary Club of Toronto



John Fortney
President Elect
Chair Executive Committee
LD Marketing & Communications



Kevin Power
President



Prince Kumar
Vice President
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Charitable Foundation

Rotaract Clubs

Rotaract Club of Toronto

Anisa Nazir
President
www.torontorotaract.com

University of Toronto

President.rotaractuot@gmail.com

Ryerson University

@ryerson.ca

local Rotary Clubs to co-sponsor the University Clubs, including the Toronto Eglinton and the Toronto Danforth Rotary Clubs. Rotaract was a big focus this past year of Rotary International President Barry Rassin and we look to continue this as a big focus in our Club as well.

We continue to have a strong Foundation, led by Foundation President Susan Howson. As of the end of June, the current market value of the Foundation was approximately \$19,600,000. The leadership and experience on our Club Foundation is outstanding. The Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation remains a real strength.

We are a great Club. While we do have some challenges, I am confident that working together we will take on and resolve these challenges. This may require further changes. Some may find change to be difficult. I would ask that you keep an open mind. We will need to continue to adapt and change as we move forward. We have a great Board of Directors and dedicated and strong Club members to move our Club forward.

Our future is bright.

Our District Changeover, July 7, 2019

— by Maureen Bird



Just as our Club changes leadership as of July 1st, so does our District. Over 100 people gathered at the Scarboro Golf Club on Sunday to wish outgoing District Governor Mary Lou Harrison the best and to welcoming the incoming District Governor Beth Selby of the Rotary Club of Cobourg.

Mary Lou had the pleasure of presenting numerous awards and accolades to clubs and members of our district for a very good year. One very important mention was our Rotaract Club of Toronto. Not only did they receive the Rotary International Platinum Citation, but they now have 69 members, placing them in the top five clubs in District 7070. And yes, Rotaract clubs are now receiving recognition at RI as the same level as other clubs. Outgoing co-presidents Kaitlynn Almeida and Katherine Fitzpatrick-Wahl can be proud of their year of leadership.

Please welcome our District Governor Beth Selby at our lunch on July 26th.



DG Beth Selby with PDG Mary Lou Harrison



Kaitlynn Almeida and Katherine Fitzpatrick-Wahl at our lunch last Friday

RI President
Mark Maloney, Decatur Alabama

District Governor
Beth Selby, Rotary Club of Cobourg

The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

Officers:

President: Kevin Power
President-Elect: John Fortney
Vice President: Prince Kumar
Treasurer: Rick Goldsmith

Executive Director:
Carol Hutchinson

**Rotary Club of Toronto
Charitable Foundation:**
Susan Howson, President

Editor of the Week:
Maureen Bird

Editor July 19, 2019:
Don Bell

What You Missed Reporter for July 12, 2019:
Annelise Taylor

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 2019

- 19 Wendy Jones and Pan Fantasy
- 26 New District Governor Beth Selby

August 2019

- 2 NO LUNCH Civic Holiday
- 9 Jeremiah Brown, former Olympian
- 16 Pierre-Henri Chuet, jet fighter pilot
- 23 Tim Speed, Canadian Warplane Museum
- 30 NO LUNCH Labour Day

Events

- August 22 Rotary Annual Golf Tournament
- Sept. 8 Foundation Walk, Humber College Lakeshore
- Sept. 25 A Night of Sake
- Oct 25-27 Rotary District Conference (Muskoka)

Propose a Speaker – Contact

Bert Steenburgh, Chair
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Send articles to
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www.rotarytoronto.com

LET'S BE PERSONAL

July 12th -Kevin Power
July 19th - Saleem Kassum

What You Missed, July 5, 2019

– by Lorna Johnson



The changeover meeting at the National Club to say farewell to President Jeff and welcome to President Kevin was well attended. Could it have been the pre- and post-meeting cocktails?

President Jeff called the meeting to order, and after the recognition of First Nations, invocation, singing of O Canada and toast, he invited Esteemed Past President and monitor for the day, David Hetherington to the podium. David reported that we had 3 visiting Rotarians from far away places (Latvia, Egypt, and Winnipeg), 2 Rotaractors (Past Presidents of the Rotaract Club of Toronto), and 6 guests, including 4 members of “still-President” Jeff’s family; husband Casey, son Chris, sister-in-law Tracy and friend Pat. Banners were exchanged.

The announcements highlighted that our July 19th luncheon meeting will be a Caribbean Fantasy at the Fairmont Hotel, Imperial Room. There will be sign language, dancing and singing. Bring your friends! Karl Kramer, Chair of our Golf Committee, announced that 71st annual golf event will mix it up and there is no need for you to know how to golf. Special tees (closer to the green) and contests for non-golfers! Prizes for best and for the most honest teams!

This year’s charity is Hope Air. Early bird draw is in 2 weeks, so if you are not planning to go, change your mind!!

Still-President Jeff thanked Prince Kumar, his husband Casey, the National Club and all the Speakers for a truly memorable Farewell dinner on the rooftop of the National Club. Then he asked the Outgoing Board members, who were seated at the head table to stand so we could thank them for 3 years of service: Glenn Davis, Bill Empey, Prince Kumar (who will be VP for 2019/210) and our new President-Elect, John Fortney. Next, week we will welcome our 4 new Board Directors who are starting their 3-year terms.

Past President Susan Hunter provided words of Wisdom to President Jeff to prepare him for life as an Esteemed Past President, followed by the Presidential

song performed by our own diva, Brigitte Bogar, accompanied on the piano by Glenn Davis, of 525,600 minutes to the tune of Seasons of Love.

As Still-President Jeff prepared to become Esteemed Past President Jeff, he claimed that his biggest challenge will be where to sit. He then summoned Kevin to the podium where Kevin took the Presidential Oath, was handed the gavel and took the Presidential pin from President Jeff.

With the words, “Ladies and gentlemen I would like to introduce Kevin Power, President of The Rotary Club of Toronto”, Jeff became Esteemed Past President Jeff. President Kevin took over as meeting Chair and asked Past President Susan Hunter back to present now Esteemed Past President Jeff with gifts – his own mounted gavel, a travel bear and a travel voucher so he and Casey can relax after a jam-packed year.... and his Esteemed Past President’s pin.

Now-President Kevin informed us that there was no Ace-of-Clubs draw, and that the speaker next week is “Me.” Have a great weekend.



President Jeff receiving wise words from Past President Susan Hunter



Outgoing President Jeff's travel bear and new President Kevin Power with his gavel.



71ST ANNUAL
GOLF TOURNAMENT
1948

The Rotary Club of Toronto
71ST Annual Golf Tournament
on
Thursday August 22, 2019
at the
Cherry Downs Golf Club
2110 Concession Rd 7, Pickering Ontario

**Register Online at www.rotarytoronto.com or
Contact the Rotary Office at 416.363.0604**

Net Proceeds go to:



HOPE AIR

Hope Air is a unique and essential component of Canada's universal healthcare system. Hope Air is Canada's only national charity providing free flights to low-income Canadians who must travel to medical care that does not exist in their communities. Hope Air exists to bridge the distance between low-income people living in small and rural areas, and the medical care they need.

The Rotary Club of Toronto

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