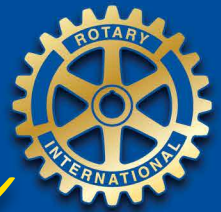


# ROTARY VOICE

*extra*



The Rotary Club of Toronto

Volume 106 | Issue 2 | July 20, 2018

### Today's Program

Mary Lou Harrison, District Governor

### Topic

Vision for District 7070

### Host

Assistant Governor Patti Wright

### Location

Fairmont Royal York, Imperial Room

and membership on the Communications Team. She can often be found on an event planning committee (Rotary Foundation Walk, Rotary AIDS Walk, District Conferences, Peace Conference etc.) and/or behind the camera capturing wonderful Rotary moments to feed social media.

Mary Lou is proud to be a Rotary Foundation Benefactor and gives monthly through Rotary Direct, an easy way to support the amazing work of our Rotary Foundation, here in our District and around the world. It's one of her goals to increase the number of Rotarians donating through this easy recurring giving program.



### Mary Lou Harrison, District Governor 2018-19, Rotary District 7070

Mary Lou is the daughter of a Rotarian and a Rotary Ann. Her father, Don Foster, is still an active

member of the Rotary Club of Toronto West. She grew up volunteering at Rotary events and projects of all sorts. Her early exposure to the wider Rotary family included hosting exchange students attending the Rotary International Convention in Toronto in 1983.

A strong advocate for the role of women in Rotary, Mary Lou renewed her relationship with Rotary after watching a TV interview with female members of the Rotary Club of Parkdale-High Park about the creation of The Redwood Shelter. However, she didn't join Rotary until several years later when someone asked her. Thank you to Rotarian Scott Allison.

Mary Lou is a Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Northumberland Sunrise, a Past President of the Rotary Club of Whitby Sunrise, and an active member of the Rotary Club of Toronto Sunrise. This in no way means that she is a morning person!

Her district roles have included the positions of Assistant Governor, Vocational Service Chair, Co-Chair of RADAR (Rotary Action for the Development of AIDS Responses),

Currently, Mary Lou is the Parish Administrator at St. Anne's Anglican Church, a national historic site, active church, and performing arts venue in downtown Toronto. Her work life has included positions in the Ontario government as an Arts Consultant, her own catering and events management company, teaching cooking, freelance writing, and being the editor of a community newspaper. She recently launched her own blog. You can check it out at [coolnotcool.ca](http://coolnotcool.ca)!

Both inside and outside of Rotary, Mary Lou seeks to be a change-maker.

### Welcome to our Newest Member Dr. Cristina Busila



Dr. Cristina Busila is a bilingual psychologist and holds a doctorate in Clinical Psychology, from School of Psychology, Université Laval, Quebec City. She joins The Rotary Club of Toronto from her position as a Senior Project Officer with the Government of Canada. She worked for several years at the federal Veterans Affairs Hospital in Sainte Anne de Bellevue, in Quebec, where she intervened with active military personnel, RCMP members and veterans with injuries related to operational stress and comorbid issues (eg . depression, anxiety, chronic pain, or relationship problems). Dr. Cristina Busila also worked at the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board in Toronto with internal and external stakeholders providing expert advice and guidance on issues related to disability and return to work questions. Dr. Busila brings considerable experience from the mental health field and is excited to contribute to the communities served by The Rotary Club of Toronto.

### More Home Hospitality Rotary International 2018



Becky Jones hosted RI2018 visitors at the Hunt Club

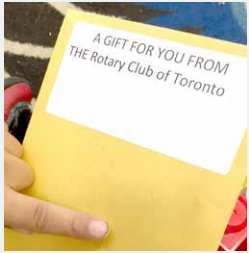


Rick Goldsmith, helped by David Libby, Meu Ching Crompton, Tony Houghton and Steve Smith





## Food Cards from Rotary



A First Nations School student accepts a food card from The Rotary Club of Toronto.

Most of the students at First Nations School in downtown Toronto come from a low-income background and the school provides meals and snacks for them throughout the day.

Without this assistance, holidays can strain a family budget and the school tries to help. This spring the Indigenous Service Committee gave the school \$2,000 worth of \$25 food cards for students' families. The school reported, "Our families very much appreciated your generosity."

## What You Missed July 13, 2018

- by John Andras



The first meeting of a new Rotary year started auspiciously, with the introduction of a new member, Dr. Cristina Busila. Glenn and Brigitte then unexpectedly led us in a song, complete with waving 'J', 'E', 'F', 'F' placards, to the tune of YMCA. A blushing newly minted president was somewhat at a loss for words as members and guests, including "First Gentleman" Casey Hadaway, sons Chris and James and sister-in-law Tracy, proudly looked on.

I, too, waited in anticipation. For me, one of the great joys of being a long-standing member is hearing a new president stumble and fumble through the first meetings of the Rotary year. However, Jeff's inaugural speech was, by this measurement, a huge disappointment. He was poised, humorous, poignant and inspirational. In fact, he exemplified the RI theme, "Be the Inspiration." He began by detailing his personal story of being adopted with his twin sister Alison, who later pushed him, against his better judgment, into the Club. Alison's spirit was definitely in the room. She would have been so very proud.

Jeff recalled when Alison joined the Club some 30 years ago there were 450 members. Today membership consists of about 160 of the finest people, who work to make the world better and have a great deal of fun in the process. There may not be anything wrong with being a smaller club, but to continue to have the benefits of our downtown location and keep membership fees manageable, we will need to increase our numbers, he said. We are all members of Rotary for a reason. We like the work we do together. We like the people. We should share this with everyone in our lives. We should "Be the Inspiration."

Jeff discussed our Club's need for diversity. On the Club office wall, there are many pictures of middle-aged white male past presidents and too few female ones, let alone those of people of colour. However this is changing. Jeff pointed out that next year there will be a photo of the first "left-handed gay man."

Being the Inspiration means that you must do something, he told members. Being the Inspiration does not mean that you must change the world. Sometimes inspiration is one kind word. Being the Inspiration need not be feeding the world; it can be giving one small biscuit. Being the Inspiration is not always leading. It is often just showing up.

To help us achieve this, Jeff said, we have a Roadmap to 2020.

- Kids need to dream — it's hard to dream if you're hungry.
- Seniors need dignity.
- Indigenous peoples need to be treated as full citizens.
- Women need equality.
- The environment needs to be protected. The Bahamas, homeland of our current RI President Barry Rassin, may well cease to exist in his lifetime due to rising sea levels.
- LGBT+ people need to live without fear. The launch of the LGBT+ Fellowship took place at the recent RI Convention. Several members of our club, including this author, are now members. Jeff pointed out his pride that this happened in Toronto.

We left the meeting ready to "Be the Inspiration" and ready to support President Jeff.

If you would like to read the entirety of President Jeff's speech, here's the link: <https://goo.gl/jzRxPc>

Brigitte Bogar won the wine.



Casey Hadaway and President Jeff Dobson



Sharing his day with family

## Upcoming Speakers & Events

### July 2018

27 Calypso Carnival on the National Club Roof Top

### August 2018

3 NO MEETING Civic Holiday  
10 Stephanie Christensen, ShelterBox  
17 Sara Waxman  
24 TBD  
31 NO MEETING Labour Day holiday

### Editor of the week

Carolyn Purden

### Editor for July 27

Karen Scott

### What You Missed Reporter for July 20

???

### Propose a Speaker – Contact

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