

**The Rotary Club of Toronto** 

Volume 104 | Issue 41 | July 7, 2017

# *"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."* ~ African Proverb

A successful year of 'Rotary Serving Humanity' is now coming to a close. We should recognize the progress we have made and to consider the road ahead. To make the most impact to the clients and communities we serve, we require the imagination and creativity of all members, as well as their boundless energy and passion.

This past year, we accomplished two significant "firsts" in our Club and we have understood that change is here to stay: (1) we introduced different formats to our lunch meetings — no head table, panel discussions, diverse speakers and entertainment, rooftop cocktail parties at the NC; and (2) we implemented the recognition of traditional lands of our indigenous peoples.

For some members, these changes may seem drastic and for others, they simply are not enough. The right approach is to find that happy medium that makes sense for us and to implement change that is respectful and considerate of our members' needs. I believe this dynamic tension can be revitalizing for us.

Our Club Board is involved in ushering these changes and I want to thank them for their commitment and dedication: Pat Neuman (President-Elect), Jeff Dobson (Vice-President), James McAuley (Treasurer), Kevin Power, Glenn Davis, Bill Empey, John Fortney, Prince Kumar, Barbara Thomson and Binoy Luckoo.

Special thanks to outgoing Directors Ross Amos, James Hunter, and Peter Simmie who worked with me to create and implement our 'Effective Committees' training. And a note of appreciation to Paul Truelove for completing a one-year term on the Board. I also want to thank Peter Love for his support and advice as President of our Charitable Foundation.

My sincere thanks to Peter Stephenson for his support with our Board's orientation, and the Governance Committee who provided guidance on our governance processes (Chair Ross Amos, and members Carolyn Purden, Marg Stanowski, and Winz Casagrande). To Geoffrey Johnson and Mario Voltolina, my thanks for answering my call to revitalizing our Program schedule, and to Neil for creating the 'Phillips Report' for a brand new audience to enjoy.

And to our members, thank you for your tireless work on behalf of our Club. I see what you do and I appreciate your effort, your time and energy. You are the reason The Rotary Club of Toronto is active and vibrant and I am humbled and honoured to represent you and serve as your President this year.

**Today's Program** Changeover Day

Host Susan Hunter, President 2016-17

**Location** National Club, 303 Bay Street



For Carol Hutchinson and Belliappa Teetharmada (Belli), a heartfelt Thank You for everything.

We will continue to evolve our Rotary Club. Change is the one thing that has brought progress to this world — and certainly this will be the case with Rotary. Indeed, change is necessary if Rotary is to be relevant, impactful and sustainable. The secret of change then is to focus all of our energies not on fighting the old, but rather on building the new. Let's do that together.



# Susan Hunter's Farewell

- by Maureen Bird

We were blessed with the weather on June 22nd for a great farewell event on the National Club's Roof Top Patio. What a great place to mingle and celebrate the end of a memorable year.

Susan's involvement in the Five-Year Strategic Plan for our club has continued to show her abilities and has created real change. While we mixed and enjoyed the delectables from Bill's great staff, members of the club spoke about their year with



Rohit Tamhane, Alex Brown, June Brown, Suzanne Seaquist, Jay Phelps and John Fortney

Susan at the helm. With Kevin Power as MC there was a parade of members and their accolades. Pat Neuman and Alex Brown spoke of her leadership on the Board and the very well run meetings. Prince Kumar was delighted with her focus on the committees and the development of their updated mandates. Jeff Dobson looks forward to using the skills he has learned from her. John Fortney has been on the Board three times and found this year most

exhilarating. Glenn Davis and Lori Brazier had particular memories that they shared. Brian Westlake spoke of her sweat work on other projects. She was the team organizer for the Rotary Habitat for Humanity Build in Toronto 2004-05, is a great painter at Camp Scugog and had twice been a participant in Sweat Equity trips to Cambodia.



Jeff Dobson, Susan Hunter, Pat Neuman and Kevin Power. Our club is in good hands.



Past Presidents David Hetherington, Michele Guy, Don Bell and Jack Robertson.

David Hetherington kidded about the fact that she got a proper step for her podium times when he had to put up with a bankers box – or maybe it was a milk carton. Some of our members came dressed to the nines as they were then attending the National Club Canada 150 dinner. A very spiffy group!

We were all there to show our appreciation for a great year of leadership. THANK YOU SUSAN!

#### **Rotaract Changeover**

#### - by Dennis Lam, Outgoing President 2016-17

The Rotaract Club of Toronto held their annual changeover at the National Club of Friday, June 23rd. President Susan Hunter and President-Elect Pat Neuman joined them as Dennis Lam, President 2016-17, turned over the gavel to new President, 2017-18, Joseph Hanna.

This marked the end of five years of Sarah Hui serving on the club's Board of Directors. To commemorate the accomplishment the Rotaract Club of Toronto nominated Sarah for a Paul Harris Fellowship. She was the President of the club in 2015-2016. She was the recipient of the club's Jamie Maynard Leadership Award in 2016, and of the Herbert J. Taylor Award in 2014.



Susan Hunter, Rotaract President 2017-18 Joseph Hanna, Sarah Hui and Pat Neuman



Rotaract's newest Paul Harris Fellow Sarah Hui

Beyond chairing several committees, Sarah has been an outstanding volunteer organizing members to volunteer at the Children's Christmas party, Light the Night Walk, Ribfest, etc. She attends many of our community service events, including our regular volunteer initiatives at Fort York Food Bank and Fred Victor, and ensures we always have a group photo to share on Facebook!

Sarah is also active with the fellowship aspect of Rotaract and has gone on so many Rotaract World Roundtrips to foster goodwill and cultural exchange. She then helped host not one, but now two trips in Toronto. She has attended four Rotary UN days in New York. Sarah is fun, loving, hard working, enthusiastic, and a true leader. Her passion for Rotaract is unwavering and we are just so fortunate to have her in the Rotaract Club of Toronto. The Club is forever thankful for her contributions and passion towards Rotaract. Congratulations Sarah!

## Welcome to our New Member – John Platts



John was born and raised on Prince Edward Island (yes, on a potato farm - several hundred acres of potatoes in fact) - an upbringing he wouldn't change for anything!

He studied Broadcast Journalism at Loyalist College and graduated with honours. He's worked in both radio and television across this country... everything from news and documentaries to the production of the Toronto Santa Claus Parade!

In the mid 1990s John had the pleasure of working with David Suzuki on an international conference on the environment at the University of Western Ontario. The conference received international awards for sustainability! It was this conference experience that transitioned John into the hotel industry!

For the past two decades, he has lived in Toronto and worked for Hilton, Westin and Hyatt. He is currently in corporate group sales for Marriott.

John is a member of The Canadian Society of Association Executives, The Society of Incentive Travel Executives and Meeting Planners International.

His interest in Rotary stems from his career in the service industry.

His passions are food, travel and still news!



Thank you to all our volunteers. A full report will be included next week.



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

## **The Rotary Club of Toronto 69TH Annual Golf Tournament**

Thursday, August 17, 2017 at the Richmond Hill Golf Club 8755 Bathurst Street, Richmond Hill, Ontario.

**RI President** Ian Riseley **District Governor** Neil Phillips, Toronto



#### The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 - 1912

#### Officers:

President: Susan Hunter President-Elect: Pat Neuman Vice President: Jeff Dobson Treasurer: James McAuley

**Executive Director:** Carol Hutchinson

**Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation:** Peter Love, President

Editor of the Week: Maureen Bird

Editor July 14th: Lorna Johnson

What You Missed Reporter for July 7th: Maureen Bird

#### 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 2017**

- Pat Neuman, Throne Speech
- Michael Cochrane, Olympic Lyon 21
- Linda Coghlin & Jim Theaker, 28

#### August 2017

- NO MEETING, Civic Holiday National Club, Roof Top Lunch
- NO MEETING, Join the golfers for dinner 18
- Christian Jaehn-Kreibaum, The Berlin Wall 25

Loving Arms

# September 2017

- NO MEETING, Labour Day RI 2018 Update, Michele Guy

### Events

8

July 11 TCJ Dinner – see Lorna Johnson August 17 Annual Golf Tournament

#### Propose a Speaker – Contact

Mario Voltolina, Chair mario.Voltolina@gmail.com Tel: 416-720-7236

#### Send articles

to therotaryvoice@gmail.com

Editor-in-chief: Maureen Bird

#### What You Missed June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017 - by Emre Yurga

Elder Danny Beaton, a Turtle Clan Mohawk, welcomed us to the traditional lands of the Mississaugas of the New Credit where the National Club is located, with a prayer and flute song. President Susan welcomed many visiting Rotarians, Rotaractors and guests then had the honour of welcoming a new member, John Platts.

Our honourable guest was Roberta Jamieson, an accomplished Mohawk woman, who has enjoyed a distinguished career of firsts: She was the first First Nations woman in Canada to earn a law degree; the first non-parliamentarian appointed as an ex-officio member of a House of Commons Committee; the first woman Ombudsman of Ontario; and the first woman elected as Chief of the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory, where she continues to reside with her family.



AKING A

Karen Scott, Carolyn Purden, Danny Blatt, Roberta Jamieson, Susan Hunter, John Andras and Chris Snyder

Roberta Jamieson started her keynote by talking about the Apology (2008) from the Government of Canada for residential schools and the damage that the Canadian institutions caused to the indigenous communities. She indicated that although this Apology symbolically recognized the wrongdoings of the past and the intergenerational trauma that occurred through this policy of assimilation, no tangible steps have been taken yet. She put a special emphasis on educating Canadians on what happened in residential schools. She purported that Canadians should know what happened in the residential schools, and they will understand why things are as they are today, and this will increase the public support for achieving the reconciliation.

Secondly, she talked about the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and its report that spells out clearly how Canada had engaged in a policy of cultural genocide. While referring to TRC's report, she was not incriminating, but was being optimistic for achieving reconciliation through the full implementation of TRC's 94 Calls to Action. She also noted that the current Prime Minister promised full federal action on the final TRC report. She added that although this is the case, there have not been any realizations on this end other than the well-intended expressions of symbolic gestures from the federal government.

Her third major point was in recognizing the financial implications of implementing what is necessary to tackle the current challenges that indigenous communities are experiencing today, due to intergenerational trauma induced by the institutional racism. She made a business case elaborating that bandage solutions and maintaining the status quo would be more expensive in this regard and the Canadian society is ready today more than any other time in the history to achieve reconciliation, and this would be possible within our lifetime.

Roberta Jamieson concluded with explaining why the sole government's support would not been sufficient in responding to current challenges; all the Canadian fabric made from different segments of our society should be involved with the indigenous cause, and she primarily highlighted the importance of increasing the educational attainment among indigenous communities.

She stated that her platform would be a great medium for this as she is the President and CEO of Indspire, an Indigenous-led registered charity that invests in the education of Indigenous people for the long-term benefit of these individuals, their families and communities, and Canada. She iterated that her organization's vision is to enrich Canada through Indigenous education and by inspiring achievement. In partnership with Indigenous, private and public sectors' stakeholders, Indspire educates, connects and invests in Indigenous people in order for them to achieve their highest potential.

Rotary's Indigenous Service Committee and the Honouring Indigenous People (HIP) Initiative are determined to forge a new partnership with her organization. Anyone who is interested in this new partnership can reach out to me as Chair or members of the IndSC.

There was no 50/50 draw, but watch this space as only 4 cards remain in the deck.



### Happy July Birthday!

- 1 Jennifer Whincup 21 Arash Shahi
- 3 John Berton
- 8 Kim Curry
- 12 Anny-Sandra Hamel
- 19 Kurt Kroesen
- 22 Lorna Johnson24 Werner Gruenwald28 Luzita Kennedy
- 30 Catherine Lloyd



### **Home Hosting**

We expect over 30,000 registrants for next June. Would you consider having one stay with you in your home?

*Our first request - Rotarian: Madhumita Bishnu (madhubish27@gmail. com], E Club of Melbourne Australia. Please contact her directly.* 

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