



Today's Program

Takako Ito, Consul General of Japan

Topic

Japan

Host

Knud Westergaard, member since 1977

Location

The National Club, 303 Bay Street



Ms. Takako Ito joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA) in 1985. Her overseas postings include Embassies in Canada (1988-1991), Malaysia (2001-2003), Indonesia (2010-2011), the Mission of Japan to the United Nations in NY (1997-2001) and the Mission of Japan to ASEAN as Deputy Chief of Mission (2011-2014).

At home, she served as Principal Deputy Director for Asia Europe Partnership Division (2003-2005), Negotiator for Economic Partnership Agreement (2005-2007), Principal Deputy Director for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Division concurrently Transnational Crimes Division (2007-2009), Director of Development Assistance Policy Planning Division (2009-2010), Assistant Press Secretary and Director of International Press Division (2014-2016), and Assistant Chief of Protocol of MOFA as well as Master of the Ceremonies at Imperial Household Agency (2016-2017).

She graduated from Sophia University in Tokyo in 1985 (B.L. in international legal studies) and received M.A. in international affairs from Norman Patterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University, Canada, in 1988.

Her hobbies include playing the traditional Japanese musical instruments of harp (Koto) and banjo (Shamisen), collecting antiques, playing golf, scuba diving, travelling and enjoying good food. She won the Canadian National Kendo Championship in 1987.

She has received the Order of Civil Merit (Encomienda) from the Kingdom of Spain and the Order of the Crown (Officier) from the Kingdom of Belgium

Ms. Ito's husband, Claude, was born in Ottawa. They have two children.

What's Happening!!!

JUNE 23-27

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This will answer all your questions

<https://goo.gl/HQQH1U>

But better still, GET THE APP – ROTARY EVENTS
from Apple Apps or Google Play.
This will give you updated schedules on your phone.

CAN YOU HAVE FUN?

Certainly – and bring friends! Act now
Rock at the Distillery – 1461 places remaining
Jazz at the Aquarium – Sold Out - check at registration
RotaryFest at CNE grounds – 2145 remaining
www.rotary2018.org/events/hoc/2

AND EVEN MORE FUN – VOLUNTEER!

<https://app.vroomhq.com/s/rotary-2018/volunteers/new>
There is a full list of available spots still to be filled.

Opening Session: based on when you registered

First – Sunday, June 24 10:30 am to 1:30 pm

Second – Sunday, June 24 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm

General Sessions: Monday, Tuesday Wednesday 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Closing Ceremony Wednesday, June 27 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm



Our first President William Peace with the ladies at Atlantic City



Good press for our 1920 RI Convention

Welcoming RI Convention Cocktails, Hosted by Rotary Toronto



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2018
6 PM - 8 PM

TICKETS

Cost: \$40 Click on the following link to purchase tickets:

<https://goo.gl/ujC7cE>

PLEASE NOTE TICKETS ARE NOT AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR. YOU MUST PURCHASE AHEAD OF TIME
All Rotarians and guests are welcome

Location: The National Club, 303 Bay St.,
Toronto (Bay and Adelaide)
Rotary Toronto office: Phone: 416-363-0604
Email: office@rotarytoronto.com

VERY SPECIAL LUNCH MEETINGS

On Friday July 6th President Pat Neuman will give her final address to the club before she hands the gavel to Incoming President Jeff Dobson. Please come to give her a rousing farewell.

On Friday July 13th new President Jeff Dobson will outline his vision for the club in 2018-19 and on to Roadmap 2020.

5th Annual Bike Rally for Camp Lake Scugog

- by Bill Morari

On Saturday June 4th we hosted our 5th Annual Bike Rally Challenge raising funds to help send at-risk inner-city children to Camp Lake Scugog.

A record 19 riders, including members of the RCT, the Port Perry Rotary Club, Camp Staff and friends raised \$15,000, which is enough to help send 15 kids to camp this summer, where they will have an opportunity to build resilience, learn responsibility and most importantly, just be kids and have fun. For most of these kids, their families do not have the resources to pay for camp, so thanks to our efforts and those who sponsored the riders, we have helped make it possible for them to enjoy camp this summer.

As for the ride, we had great day, wonderful weather and most of us rode the 60 km (uphill all the way back for the final 30km), however there was one brave rider who managed to ride 90km. It was a wonderful day of fellowship that we topped off with a cool drink and a delicious BBQ.

Hopefully you will be able to join us next year and make it bigger and better!



The hardy crew

The International Service Committee Takes Our Vision Statement to Heart

To meet our goal of \$2,000,000 a year in commitments it is important to involve partners and leveraging. We just got approval for our Global Grant for Toilets at Girls Schools in Rural Mumbai in partnership with the Rotary Club of Bombay Airport. With US\$3,500 from our committee and donations from 6 other clubs we have received matching funds from The Rotary Foundation (Evanston) to total US\$37,578. This will build the first 24 toilets in our goal of 80 toilets. Proper toilets meet Rotary's goal and the G7 goal of keeping girls in school.

With help from a generous donation from Member Peter Naylor the Atorkor Vocational Training Institute in Ghana is receiving a full solar system, being installed this week. This will allow instruction in trades to continue without the frequent blackouts of the electrical grid in Ghana. Thank you, Peter.



Raising the 127 panels to the roof



Welcome our Two New Members



Mike Johns is a Nova Scotian born, Honours Political Science graduate from York University, and former insurance professional who left a 7 year insurance career to pursue his calling as an entertainer.

For the past 4 years, Mike has been training in a line of strongmen from the 1920s, and has traveled the world as “Mighty Mike”, performing his show around the world, from Austria to New Zealand. In 2017 he received the People’s Choice Award at the Halifax International Buskerfest, fulfilling a childhood dream at the festival which inspired him years before.

Mike has joined the Rotary Club to contribute to Toronto where he has lived for the past 20 years. Toronto is a city which encourages an artistic spirit and Mike is committed to giving back in any way he can by joining a group of like-minded professionals. He’s also joined so he doesn’t have to spend 100% of his time hanging around with fire jugglers, sword swallows and clowns.



Where others see a mountain, **Valeriya Plyakina** sees a summit. What they call the daily grind, she calls the chance to prove herself. When they say it can’t be done, she asks when she can start. This is her approach to life and that’s why she started the process of migration from Azerbaijan and moved to Toronto just 3 months ago.

Her resume lists a bachelor’s and master’s degrees in business administration, twelve years of work experience in the finance and accounting sectors. Her current position is Finance and Accounting Manager at a Personal Injury Law firm. She has applied for CPA Ontario certificate and her main goal for this year is to be a student of the Executive MBA program at Rotman University. Along with her current job she is also working on establishing her own businesses.

Having experienced more than 12 years in Rotaract and the Rotary world, she wants to continue to use her passion, energy, and intelligence to take action on sustainable projects, working to better our world, and staying committed to the end.

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, May 30th

In support of our Women’s Initiatives Committee several of our male members participated in this annual event.

The goal is to create a living, walking white ribbon and pledge to never commit, condone or remain silent about all forms of gender-based violence. Together, let’s end violence against women and girls.

We thank our walkers - John Andras, Kevin Power, James Braitwaite, Harold Hetherington and Alex Brown. They were encouraged and supported in their walk by Marcy Berg, June Brown, Lorr Lloyd, Mary Lach and Valerie Clarke.



John Andras really rocking it!



New Member James Braitwaite on right

RI President
Ian Riseley

District Governor
Neil Phillips, Toronto

The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

Officers:

President: Pat Neuman
President-Elect: Jeff Dobson
Vice President: Kevin Power
Treasurer: Rick Goldsmith

Executive Director:
Carol Hutchinson

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

Editor of the Week:
Lorna Johnson

Editor July 6, 2018:
Maureen Bird

What You Missed Reporter for June 15, 2018:
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

June

- 22 NO MEETING: RI Convention
- 29 NO MEETING for Canada Day, July 2018

July

- 6 Changeover. Pat Neuman’s final address
- 13 New President Jeff Dobson’s Vision for 2018-19

Events

- June 20 Welcoming RI Convention Cocktails
- June 24-27 RI Convention

Propose a Speaker – Contact

Bert Steenburgh, Chair
BSteenburgh@oxfordproperties.com
Tel: 416-868-3673

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

Editor-in-chief: Maureen Bird

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www.rotarytoronto.com





George Robert James Richardson

October 13, 1923 - June 9, 2018, Rotarian



Surrounded by love, George passed away Saturday, June 9, 2018 at Sunnybrook Veterans Centre in his 95th year. Beloved husband of Elizabeth Ferrie and the late Betty Richardson. Father of three, grandfather of seven and great-grandfather of four, family was most important to George. He will also be deeply missed by his brothers and pool buddies Morris and Don.

George grew up in Peterborough with his parents, older sister Shirley and his two younger brothers and shared his passion for sport, especially basketball, with his good friend Stu Saunders. He joined the Royal Canadian Air Force as a pilot during the Second World War and after the war, he settled down in Toronto, married Betty and started a family.

George believed in the value of community service. He was an active member of the The Rotary Club of Toronto for over 50 years working on several committees. The Youth and Children's Service Committee was one that allowed him and his fellow Rotarians to really make a difference in the lives of young people especially those with disabilities. He gladly painted camp cabins, transported needy children and assisted at the Children's Christmas Party. In 2011, he was honoured with the Paul Harris Fellow and William Peace Award, which described him as "the true heart and soul of our Toronto Club" and "an advocate and activist in the practice of Service Above Self". He wanted to make a difference and he did. During this time, he was also Treasurer of the Fairlawn Neighbourhood Centre, an amazing outreach ministry of Fairlawn Heights United Church.

George lived life to the fullest. His dry wit, sense of fun, loyalty, thoughtfulness and fierce love of life and family touched almost everyone he met. The Rotary bridge group has enjoyed his continued involvement to the end.

The family would like to thank the staff at Sunrise Mississauga and Rosemary for providing George with such loving care last year and Selma and the staff at the Dorothy Macham home in Sunnybrook for making these last months as positive as possible.

A private family celebration of his life will take place on his beloved stone patio at Kosh Lake this summer. In memory of George, donations (if you wish) may be made to "The Rotary Club of Toronto - Phil Fund, Camp Scugog".

You can click on the link below and then, click the drop-down arrow for " ---Select Designation---" and select the first item "In Memory of George Richardson - Camp Scugog".

<https://goo.gl/ZQtoAS>

There will be a Memoriam for George this Friday, June 15, 2018 at the National Club, during Rotary lunch.

What You Missed June 8, 2015

- by Kevin Power



A good crowd was in attendance the day after our Ontario election. Tickets to the 50/50 draw were sold out quickly! Our monitor Jack Robertson introduced a number of visiting Rotarians and guests.

President Pat's farewell party is on the rooftop patio at the National Club on June 14. Email the office ASAP to RSVP.

Bill Morari provided an update on the activities and plans of the Fundraising Committee. Major Fundraising is one of the groups of initiatives that will be a focus for our club next year in our Roadmap 2020. If you have interest in learning more about or joining the Fundraising committee please touch base with Bill.

Only a few more sleeps until we welcome over 25,000 Rotarians to our great City. Lorraine Lloyd and Dawn-Marie King introduced the many volunteers from our club for the upcoming convention. Amazing. Not enough room to list all of the volunteers in this Article! A special Thank You to Lorraine and Dawn-Marie for their tireless efforts as HOC Ambassador and Volunteer Co-Chairs.

Michele Guy was up next for her final convention announcement. Michele let us know the final must do items for those attending the convention: Attend the opening ceremony. See the high profile speakers in the morning plenary sessions. Spend time in the House of Friendship. Attend breakout sessions in afternoon. Download the Rotary Events app for your Guide to plan your week.

President Pat had the privilege of welcoming not one but two new members to our club. Welcome Valeriya Plyakina and Mike Johns.

Robert O'Brien introduced our guest speaker John Parker. John spoke with humor about life as a politician and his perspective on the results of the Ontario election. Our speaker served with Doug Ford Sr. at Queen's Park and was also a member of Toronto City Council with both Rob and Doug Ford, before he was "fired" from both jobs.

Our speaker touched on the three party leaders and wackadoodle candidates and commented that life with Doug Ford will not be dull with drama surrounding him like the cloud of dust around Pig Pen. Our speaker reminded us at the end that the score is never final because the game is never over.

Bill Morari took home the bottle of wine and the pot continued to grow.

Lunch tickets expire this Friday!



Our eloquent speaker, John Parker

The Rotary Club of Toronto

The Fairmont Royal York
100 Front Street West, Level H, Toronto, ON M5J 1E3
Tel: 416-363-0604 Fax: 416-363-0686
office@rotarytoronto.on.ca www.rotarytoronto.com

