



### Today's Program

Michael Burns

### Topic

Canada's Invictus Games:  
Transforming Empathy into  
Empowerment

### Host

Alex Brown, *former Program  
chair*

### Location

Fairmont Imperial Room



Michael Burns is CEO of 2017 Invictus Games, the largest international competition in the world featuring ill and injured soldiers from 17 nations, that will be coming to Toronto in September, 2017.

Michael brings to Invictus more than 20 years of an extensive experience in marketing, financial services, technology and entrepreneurial start-up.

Michael is co-founder of the True Patriot Love Foundation, which supports Canada's military, veterans and their families. In June 2016, Canada's Governor-General Johnson, on behalf of the Queen, awarded Burns The Meritorious Service Cross for this work with military families.

In 2012, he was awarded the Canadian Forces Medallion for Distinguished Service, the military's highest honour for a civilian.

He is Chair of the Michael Garron Hospital Foundation Board (formerly the Toronto East General Hospital Board Foundation). Last year, he successfully led the team that secured the Garrons' \$50-million donation, the largest gift ever made to a Canadian community/teaching hospital and it matches the largest gift ever to any hospital in Canada.

He is also a member of the Board of Directors of two world-class venues in Toronto: Roy Thomson Hall and Massey Hall. In 2010 he was named one of Canada's Top 40 Under 40.

## Welcome to Mary Bennett



Michele Guy "pinning Mary"

In a departure from tradition we allowed a non-Rotarian to come to Camp Scugog – then surprised her by conducting our first induction at a camp to make her official.

Mary Bennett was born in Connecticut, and raised in Skaneateles, NY. She has always had public service in her blood. Her mother

Peggy worked as an elementary teacher and father Lee was a painting contractor with 30 years (and counting) as an active Rotarian. Rotary has been a central part of Mary's life since a very young age.

Her father Lee was instrumental in developing a vibrant youth exchange program in New York and after many exchange students coming to stay with her family, it was finally Mary's turn. From an exchange summer in Argentina, a year in Italy, and then France - Mary's passion for world exploration had begun.

After graduating from Westminster College, Mary departed for Torino, Italy. There she was hired in a role at the 2006 Winter Olympics and thus began her time as a "Games-gypsy". She has since been working for multi-sport events around the globe including the Asian Games in Qatar, Commonwealth Games in India and the Vancouver Olympics to name only a few.

Fluent in Italian, Spanish and French, Mary also dabbles in Greek and Hindi. She enjoys cooking and consuming authentic Italian food.

Since arriving in Toronto, where she will make her new home, Mary has been volunteering for the Special Olympics as an Assistant Athletics coach for the Riverdale Rockets. Recently she has been recruited to help organize the House of Friendship for the Rotary International 2018 Toronto Conference.



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS!

- |                   |                         |                           |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 3 Bert Steenburgh | 13 Liz Simmie           | 22 John Joseph Mastandrea |
| 5 Lori Brazier    | 18 Chand Chandaria      | 24 Kevin Craft            |
| 6 Jim Norwood     | 19 Ric Williams         | 26 Pat Tyrell             |
| 10 Frank Jordan   | 21 Tatiana Naimounchine | 28 Mitra Goodarzi         |

## Another Successful Camp Scugog Weekend

More details later but just a teaser about what you missed – fun, frolic, fantastic work, food, and festivities as we celebrated Canada’s 150th birthday.



*Some of the many happy workers!*



*Properly decorated befitting the celebration*

## What You Missed May 12, 2017

- by Terry Wray



We were delighted to be meeting again at the National Club. Susan Hunter guided us through the opening formalities, introducing the head table followed by some interesting announcements. ShelterBox headed the list as the Rotary Club of Toronto Foundation recently agreed to donate \$15,000 to ShelterBox Canada to aid in their effort to help a total of 450 families affected by extreme drought and famine in Somaliland. Susan reminded us that The Toronto Rotary Club is the single largest supporter of ShelterBox in the world.

Marcy Berg was next to the podium; her challenge was to get the boys excited about walking in high heels. The Women’s Initiative Committee has registered a team to take on the White Ribbon Campaign challenge, “Walk A Mile In MY Shoes”. Hey guys, if you don’t have a nice pair of pumps for the occasion, the ladies will let you wear normal runners that they will decorate with a nice puffy ribbon.

Dawn Marie King had more information about Ribfest on Canada’s 150 Birthday weekend and wanted to remind us that she needs 200 volunteers from our Club; they can be friends and family, everyone is welcome. Jack Fleming, the Etobicoke Club’s Ribfest Chair of many years then followed her. He talked about construction during the event that creates a great fenced space they are using as a venue for advertising. Check this out; a \$500 donation will give you huge exposure on this space during Canada’s 150th Rotary Ribfest Celebration.

Our Guest Speaker Paul Alofs, President and CEO Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation, was introduced by John Fortney. John knows first hand how the work at Princess Margaret is impacting the lives of people with cancer around the world. Paul’s presentation held us in awe. We learned that Princess Margaret raised \$1Billion to support this work, it is one of the top 5 Cancer Centres in the world and it is the home of Dr. Tak Mak’s Laboratory that employs 125 people. Dr. Tak Mak is one of the most cited cancer research scientists in the world who garnered international recognition by cloning the T-cell receptor, the Holy Grail of cellular immunology. Personalized Cancer Medicine involving Genomic Sequencing and so much more is happening right here at Princess Margaret Hospital. Susan, while thanking Paul Alofs, referred to his talk as mind blowing and one that truly provided us all with so much hope for the future.

The meeting concluded with Jayson Phelps winning the 50/50 draw and going away with a wonderful bottle of wine.

## Upcoming Speakers & Events

### June 2017

- 9 Youth Day 2017
- 16 Jane Kovarikova, Improving Child Welfare
- 23 Aboriginal Day
- 30 NO MEETING – Canada Day

### Events

- June 10-14: RI Convention, Atlanta
- June 30 – July 3, Rotary Ribfest – volunteers needed

**Editor of the week**     **Editor June 9<sup>th</sup>**  
 Maureen Bird             Brigitte Bogar

**What You Missed Reporter for June 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
 John Andras

**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

**Editor-in-chief**  
 Maureen Bird

**JOIN ROTARY NOW!**

[www.rotarytoronto.com](http://www.rotarytoronto.com)

**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](http://www.rotarytoronto.com)

 The Rotary Club of Toronto  Toronto Rotary  @TorontoRotary

