

Today's Program

Roberta L. Jamieson, O.C., I.P.C., LL.B., LL.D. (Hon)
President & CEO, Indspire

Topic

Canada's Next 150 years: Realizing our Indigenous Potential

Host

Carolyn Purden, Chair of Indigenous Service Committee

Location

The National Club, 303 Bay Street



Roberta Jamieson is a Mohawk woman who has enjoyed a distinguished career of firsts. She was the first First Nation woman in Canada to earn a law degree; the first non-parliamentarian appointed an ex-officio member of a House of Commons Committee; the first woman Ombudsman of Ontario; and the first woman elected Chief

of the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory, where she continues to reside with her family. An accomplished expert in alternative dispute resolution, Roberta also served as Commissioner of the Indian Commission of Ontario. Under Roberta's leadership, Indspire has flourished. Raising funds from government, corporate and private sectors, Indspire's annual disbursements of bursaries and scholarships to support Indigenous students in post-secondary education and training have increased sevenfold. An innovative K-12 Indspire Institute was launched providing support to educators and communities working to improve educational outcomes with culturally grounded curriculum and techniques. Roberta is also the Executive Producer of the annual Indspire Achievement Awards. She has earned numerous awards, including, most recently, YWCA's President's Award and Women's Executive Network's Canada's Most Powerful Women Hall of Fame, as well as 25 honorary degrees. In 2015, Ms Jamieson was recognized by the Public Policy Forum for the outstanding contributions she has made to the quality of public policy and good governance. She is an Officer of the Order of Canada.

The Land of the Mississaugas of the New Credit



At its May meeting, the Club Board passed a motion that recognition of traditional First Nations land should be used whenever all club members are asked to gather for a meeting. When the President welcomes visitors and guests, she or he will add the words "We recognize that we are

meeting on the traditional lands of the Mississaugas of the New Credit."

This is an important step for our club. In its 94 recommendations, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission urged us corporately and individually to seek reconciliation with Canada's indigenous peoples.

For indigenous people, recognition of traditional lands is a fundamental first step on the journey toward reconciliation. It is not a political statement; rather, it is a traditional protocol that indigenous peoples use among themselves. It recognizes their presence both in the past and in the present, and is a mark of respect.

As an inclusive club that is seeking reconciliation with and is respectful of Canada's indigenous people, The Rotary Club of Toronto is committed to recognizing those who lived on this land before us.

Our deepest sympathies...

This week Brigitte Bogar lost her beloved husband Christopher Innes, professor at York University, after a short battle with ALS.

Also Marcy Berg mourns the passing of her father Mark Clayton Doyle in his 87th year

Our team! This says it all!



RI Convention experience

From Kevin: An estimated 35,000 Rotarians from 174 countries around the world convened in Atlanta for the 108th Rotary International Convention. The RI convention offered a variety of sessions, activities and events both inside and outside of the Georgia World Congress Center.

My experience began with a trip to the ballpark to Strike Out Polio. A group of Rotarians from our district and around the world enjoyed the ballgame from the Hank Aaron Terrace, with a portion of the ticket price being donated to Rotary's efforts to end Polio.



John Fortney and Kevin Power, Authors

The Rotaract Preconvention was held on Thursday and Friday. On the Friday evening Neil Phillips and I met with Andrea Tirone and Kelly Ku at a Rotaract event. Rotaractors from around the world were enjoying the night life in Atlanta. The Rotaract Preconvention will be held on June 22 and 23 next year in Toronto.

On Saturday morning I attended a 3km run/walk to End Polio Now. The route was around Centennial Olympic Park and participants received a colourful End Polio Now t-shirt.



Flags recognizing 174 countries

In addition to the Host Organizing Committee (HOC) events, members were able to experience the southern charm of Atlanta on their own. On Saturday night Jay Phelps,

Suzanne Seaquist, John Fortney, Jeff Dobson, Neil Phillips, Michele Guy and I enjoyed an evening of Rotary fellowship, followed by dinner at Truva Atlanta Turkish Kitchen.

On Sunday a large group attended the Zone Dinner with Rotarians from across Canada. This was held in the Georgia Aquarium. I enjoyed the catered event with President Susan and Hedley Hunter, Neil Phillips, John Lloyd and Lorraine Lloyd at my table. We had views of beluga whales swimming and playing and whale sharks and reef sharks in an adjoining tank. For next year our Zone Dinner will be held in the Hockey Hall of Fame.



Great shirts!

The highlight from Monday was the morning session speakers. The announcement of \$1.2 billion for Polio Eradication and hearing from Bill Gates was a true highlight. We were proud to have Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Development and La Francophonie as a special speaker as Canada was the first country to make a pledge towards this goal - Cnd\$100 million. Be proud.



This was followed by actor Ashton Kutcher who was on a panel speaking about human trafficking. The discussion

underscored the importance of the support our Club has given through the Women's Initiative Committee to Covenant House.

On Tuesday evening, Pat Neuman, with help from Mary Lach, Krystyna Benyak and Pat's sister Sonja Susat, hosted our Club's reception traditional at the Convention. Alanna Scott brought her son Max with her and they discussed their plans to attend a comedy show and tour Atlanta following the convention.



Who's that calling from the Red Booth?

On Wednesday evening we held our club annual dinner at the convention. A special thank you to John Fortney for locating and organizing the dinner. We had over forty in attendance including other Rotarians from District 7070. It was truly a celebration of the success at the Toronto booth!

Following the dinner, John Fortney led a small group to the Red Phone Booth. The entrance to this prohibition era bar requires a secret code be dialed on the rotary phone in the red phone booth. Thankfully John had the right number and the secret door in the phone booth opened. John Fortney has a real talent in finding these unique venues. Looking forward to #Toronto18

And From John: After a dozen Conventions there are many things the same at every convention; crowds everywhere, Rotarians where ever you look all over town, opening/closing ceremonies, some incredible, some less so, plenary sessions and break out sessions. There is also always something new or different. That can be that it is new to the convention



Organizers Krystyna Benyak, Pat Neuman and Mary Lach

or it can be that I hadn't noticed it before. The best people watching ANYWHERE! Fancy people, country people, gregarious people, shy people, people wearing the National clothes of their respective homelands, all with

a common purpose: Rotary. One of the most fun "New Things" for me this Convention was that our "job" this year was to talk about, promote and create excitement for Toronto and next year's convention. To hear everyone say they love Toronto or can't wait to go there was overwhelming. Big group or small group we always have fun at Convention, that goes without saying, but the Toronto angle for me was the biggest highlight this year. The constant wonderful thing for me about Conventions is that it gets me to amazing cities all over the world, some I might never otherwise get to.

Our Toronto Booth in ATLANTA from June 10th-14th, 2017

– by Lorraine Lloyd



President Susan Hunter with our RCMP officer and Lorraine Lloyd

We had one of the largest and most attractive booths in the House of Friendship ('HOF'). It was a dynamic, exciting place to be and everyone was drawn to the multitude of welcoming plum-shirted volunteers with big smiles on their faces.



With Wilf Wilkinson

We had 2 counters, manned constantly by volunteers with handout Toronto books, paper registration forms for those who preferred that option, maps of Toronto downtown core, focusing on where The Metro Convention Centre is located and the short distance to the Air Canada Centre where opening and closing ceremonies will be held.



Packed every Day!

In the centre of our booth we had an archway leading directly into RI Registration where we directed thousands to sign up for our 2018 Convention. Each registrant was given a plum sticker for their name badge. Subsequently, whenever anyone saw the plum coloured shirts, they pointed to their stickers to show they were coming to Toronto....quite fun.

At the other side of our booth, we had Linda Bruton, Client Services Manager at Tourism Toronto at her counter, (who incidentally shipped 2,000 pounds of handout material for us), and beside her was Travel Agent Ann Corbitt, looking after Pre- and Post- Convention Tours and Excursions.

Near the edges of our booth, on one side we had a stand with information folders in the 7 official languages of Rotary and on the far side, the Toronto video continually showing why Toronto is such a great place.

Overall, the booth had great traffic flow with multiple access points and was a huge crowd attraction. The booth had Toronto signage which was highly visible and had good sightlines. Our volunteers handed out thousands of pins and even more Toronto luggage tags.

Our over 100 volunteers would show up early for shifts, stay late and sometimes did not want to leave this happening meeting place. Our volunteers, led by Michele Guy and Michael Cooksey, had amazing enthusiasm which was contagious. We met thousands from around the world and it was almost like one big party at our booth, with so much interaction and energy.



Co-Chairs Michele Guy and Mike Cooksey



Gordon McNally from Scotland

When he could, Gordon McNally, Rotary International Convention Chair, (Toronto) was at our booth with his red and white maple leaf jacket. Everyone wanted to speak with him or have their photos taken - of course, he's like Rotary royalty to us.

There was another area, separate from our booth but still a big presence. The Toronto sign (think mini City Hall sign) was a huge photo opportunity for conventioners. We won't even talk about the long line-ups when our RCMP Officer was available.

At our booth, our goal was to concentrate on getting fellow Rotarians to register for our Toronto Convention....mission accomplished!!!

We have just confirmed that we have 11,067 paid registrations as of June 14Th - a record!

When John and I were in our hotel elevator, a fellow Rotarian said to us after viewing our shirts, "Toronto Convention's going to be a big success....you guys are everywhere". Our plum shirts were very distinctive and no one else had the same colour so we really stood out. Thanks Neil. Volunteers loved the colour, the fabric and our Toronto skyline logo on our plum shirts. Everyone wanted to buy them.

A huge thank your from Dawn-Marie King and me to our over 100 volunteers, who not only worked tirelessly but had fun doing it and are all now Ambassadors of our 2018 Convention to their Clubs and everyone they meet.

RI President

John Germ

District Governor

Jim Louttit, Toronto Sunrise

The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 - 1912

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Editor July 7, 2017:

Maureen Bird

What You Missed Reporter for June 23rd:

Emre Yurga

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 2017

30 No Meeting- Canada Day

July 2017

7 Changeover Day

14 Throne Speech, Pat Neuman

Events

June 30-July 3: Rotary Ribfest

July 11: TCJ Dinner

Propose a Speaker - Contact

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Send articles

to therotaryvoice@gmail.com

Editor-in-chief: Maureen Bird

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Host Hospitality in Atlanta - A Taste of The South

— by our Host Hospitality co-chairs, Don Bell and Jackie Davies



We attended two separate host hospitality events... one for 200 visiting Rotarians at the Emory Conference Center at the Emory University campus...the other one for 100 visitors at the courthouse in Decatur, a town roughly 30 minutes from downtown Atlanta. Both of these events were sponsored by four or five Rotary Clubs and many members of all the clubs were there to greet us and make us feel welcome with 'southern hospitality'. We were bused to both locations and each bus had a monitor who supplied local history as we went along. We took note of the fact that they had 6 different venues for the event, with between 100 and 300 guests at each location. In Toronto, our plans call for both large 'Host' events such as we experienced, and 'Home' events, where individual rotary couples host a few guests in their homes. Our target is 5000 guests!

The food at both locations was buffet style and included local dishes such as grits with shrimp, pulled chicken, pulled pork, vidalia onions and pecan pie just to name some of the highlights served. Beer and wine were offered as well and the clubs had been able to secure some local sponsors in order to defray the costs. The Decatur crowd were entertained with a disc jockey and in Emory, they had hired a local group...the Dwight Andrews Jazz Trio. In Decatur, they offered to take guests on a 15 minute tour of the historic downtown district, dating back to before the civil war. Some of the hosts and hostesses were dressed in period costume.

As an interesting side note, Jason Pote, a Director of the Rotary Rose Float Committee, was at Jackie's table. He explained that the parade is endorsed by RI and Rotarians in the US, Canada and the Caribbean, who donate all the money to pay for the float. Great national publicity. Jackie also had an opportunity to talk to Caitlin Phalunas a 21-year-old Rotaractor who was attending her 9th convention! Both her parents Julia and Richard are members of the Morgantown Club in WV. What a delight it was to be in their presence...truly a Rotary family.



Shrimp and Grits, something Different

All in all, it was a fun-filled memorable evening of southern hospitality for everyone...really one of the highlights of the convention. It provided a lot of ideas for us as we plan for our Home Hospitality evening in Toronto (Monday, June 25th, 2018). As some of you know, we have a team of 12 Rotarians from our District and District 7080 as well, who are making convention presentations to over 100 clubs, in order to get commitments for hosting Home/ Host events next year, and to volunteer to help as ambassadors as well. Our club's presentation date is September 8th. Be sure to attend.

And Now On To 2018!

— by Pat Neuman



Pat Neuman with sister Sonja Susat

All in all we had a wonderful time in Atlanta but learned things to do to keep our events fun and enticing.

We will try to keep lines moving, provide food with cost of tickets and have lots of volunteers ready to answer questions!

Plans for Toronto 2018 will include:

Symphony in the Gardens at Casa Loma, Jazz at the Aquarium, and Rock/contemporary music in the Distillery District on Saturday night, Ribfest at Amphitheatre area - Ontario Place on the waterfront on Tuesday Night..

If we need to, will plan some events for Thursday and Friday nights- maybe some theatre or a sports event.

The House of Friendship entertainment is shaping up and we will be providing gigs every 40 minutes for the entire Opening times. Opening ceremonies for HOF will be amazing..just wait and see..

This is the time for everyone to get registered..don't miss this convention!! Volunteer some hours too and enhance your experience!!

What You Missed, June 16, 2017

— by Karen Scott



President Susan's invocation highlighted that Rotarians come together in fellowship from many diverse cultures and religions to work in harmony for a better world. Today's monitor introduced one visiting Rotarian from Moose Jaw, SK and four guests. There were a number of announcements. Approximately 26 of our club members had just returned from the RI Convention in Atlanta. President Susan read Alanna Scott's account, full of pride, hope, and many memorable moments, summing up: "I had a fantastic time meeting Rotarians from all around the world at my first convention.

John Fortney came to the podium to twist arms to sign up for Ribfest on the July 1st weekend. More volunteers are needed and, so, please let Dawn-Marie (KingDa@smh.ca) know when you can help! Bring your family and your friends. The more people we have, the more money we raise. It's going to be fun and really special for Canada 150.

Karl Kremer encouraged club members to register for the annual golf tournament on Thursday, August 17th. Proceeds will go to Blankets for Burn Kids, with the hope that we'll be able to donate 100 blankets. Anyone who signs up before July 14th is eligible for the Early Bid draw. The prize is a round of golf at the Mississauga Golf & Country Club with host Ross Amos.

John Andras introduced today's speaker, Jane Kovarikova. There likely weren't too many dry eyes. Jane is the child of refugees from the Czech Republic who aged out of care at 18 and was supported until age 21. Jane said success and survival are confused in today's welfare system. Approximately 1,000 youths age out of care each year. To set the stage for presenting her evidence, she played a TED Talks video "What Leads to Success" -- https://www.ted.com/talks/richard_st_john_s_8_secrets_of_success. The eight critical factors: 1) Do It For Love, 2) Work, 3) Get Good, 4) Push, Push, 5) Mothers, 6) Serve, 7) Ideas – Listen, Observe, Be Curious, and 8) Persist. "What You Believe We Achieve". Problems with 'the system' persist. For example, Jane said that her own case worker more than anyone assumed that she had to go on welfare. Youth in care are detained more often and receive harsher sentences than those not in care. The current policies seem to treat the symptoms and not the causes. The system is not based on evidence, nor is it outcomes-driven. In Ontario, the Government does not even track what happens to the youth after they age out of care. It is a system geared toward child protection not child welfare. There are 90,000 children in Ontario who are child wards. There is a review to streamline 40 agencies into 12 agencies. But, the devastating result of streamlining an ineffective system will be to get to the wrong outcomes faster. Jane has formed a not-for-profit to advocate for children in care. Follow her on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ChildWelfarePAC>.

The Ace of Clubs draw had \$5,067.50 and only four remaining cards. David Libby took home a bottle of wine.

WE NEED YOU!

June 30 – July 3



Canada Day Weekend

This is one of our two fundraisers and an easy task. But we still need volunteers. Last year we raised almost \$33,000 for our club.

Contact Dawn-Marie King at 416-766-4862
or kingda@smh.ca.

Make a Difference



District Governor Neil is known to be all about wine. So what better place to hold our annual conference than in Niagara Wine Country – at White Oaks Resort & Spa in Niagara-on-the-Lake, November 3rd and 4th.

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