**The Rotary Club of Toronto** 

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## **Today's Program**

Rahul Bhardwaj, President and CEO, Institute of Corporate Directors

### Topic

Corporate Governance

## Host

Brian Westlake, *President* 1989-90

#### Location

Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Imperial Room



Mr. Bhardwaj currently serves on the boards of Metrolinx, a provincial agency developing and implementing an overall transit strategy for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area, and the Rideau Hall Foundation, supporting the office of the Governor General of Canada as it connects, inspires and honours Canadians, as well as Community Foundations of Canada (past chair).

He was chair of the 2012 Ontario Summer Games, the first multisport games to be held in Toronto, and was co-chair of TO2015 IGNITE, a program of the Toronto 2015 Pan Am & Parapan Am Games as well as past Chair of the Toronto Downtown Jazz Festival. Other past board commitments include Upper Canada College, George Brown College, Stratford Festival of Canada and United Way Toronto, among others.

Prior to joining the ICD, Mr. Bhardwaj was president and CEO of the Toronto Foundation, where he focused on engaging philanthropy to improve the quality of life in Toronto. He was also vice-president of the Toronto's 2008 Olympic Bid and, as part of the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Fiscal review panel in 2008, Mr. Bhardwaj was involved in identifying efficiencies for the City of Toronto.

In 2012, Mr. Bhardwaj's commitment to city building was recognized as he received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. He has been named one of "50 Most Influential People" in the city by Toronto Life magazine and was recently named to the Leader Council at the Ian O. Ihnatowycz Institute for Leadership at the Ivey Business School, the Quadrangle Society at Massey College and The Ultimate List of Social CEOs on Twitter. His vision for Toronto and Canada has made him a popular presenter and speaker locally, nationally and internationally, particularly on issues relating to leadership and governance.

Mr. Bhardwaj holds a BA (Honours) from the University of Toronto, and a law degree from the University of Windsor. He has completed the Ivey Executive Program at the Richard Ivey School of Business at Western University and the ICD-Rotman Directors Education Program.

# Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation supports ShelterBox with \$10,000 donation

On March 14, 2019, Tropical Cyclone Idai struck land in Mozambique with winds of 160 km/h and dumped over two feet of water on neighbouring Malawi. Heavy rains over the past week had already caused mass flooding and destruction in southeast Africa. Before the storm hit, there were already 900,000 people affected by flooding in Malawi Over 1.7 million people were in the path of this storm and hundreds of thousands are homeless. The death toll is reaching 1000 people, with hundreds still missing. A ShelterBox team is on its way to Malawi. They are prioritizing Malawi due to the severity of the situation there, and the fact that very few organizations are working there. Their teams are also closely monitoring Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Madagascar. Key items will be shelter, water purification and mosquito nets but we have other aid ready if it is needed.

## Camp Scugog, May 24-26. 2019 Register now!

Join us for our best-ever social event of the year while also getting a very special camp ready for inner-city children. Bring your own skills or get trained in painting or carpentry by our own Rotary Club of Toronto team leaders. There are tasks for every level of skill.

Reminisce about your own camping days while around a campfire. Enjoy five unbelievable meals prepared by our own chefs. All this, plus not-so-luxury sleeping accommodations in the cabins for only \$120. The bargain of the year!

This is a Member Only event and you can register on our website rotarytoronto.com by clicking on the Events tab.

See you there!!



Hedley Hunter and Brent Thomas making new shutters



## 10th Annual **Rotary Walk for HIV/AIDS**

Saturday, April 27, 2019 (9am to 1pm)

The fight is not over until there is a cure. Meanwhile 30 million people are affected, most on drugs for control only. Join us in Making a Difference.

We will be assisting Latinos Positivos, a small Toronto group under People With AIDS. They will be leading a Zumba class again at the event. You can join my team (Maureen Bird – Toronto High Flyers) or donate to our team fund at www.toronto.rotaryaidswalk.ca



# **Upcoming** Speakers & Events

**April 2019** 

- Gemma Sheehan, Girls Who Fight
- Earth Day Luncheon, Derek Zavislake,
- Merchants of Green Coffee President's Cocktails, 5:30 PM Dr. David Urbach, Healthcare
- Good Friday, NO MEETING John Millar, Water First

## **EVENTS**

**Robin Hood Army District Walk for AIDS** Camp Scugog weekend

**Editor of the week** Lorna Johnson

Editor for April 5, 2019 John Andras

**What You Missed Reporter for March 29th** Dauna Jones-Simmonds

**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



## What You Missed March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

- by James Braithwaite



On Friday March 22, The Rotary Club of Toronto met at the National Club for what would turn out to be yet another stellar meeting. Unusually for us, we were without musical accompaniment on this

day so all were grateful to John Andras who led us fearlessly through a hearty and full-throated rendition of O Canada!

Geoffrey Johnson introduced visiting Rotarians and guests. Our many guests included a visiting Rotarian from Dubai who graced us with his presence in spite of our questionable Toronto weather!

President Jeff Dobson informed us that the Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation will be making a financial contribution to address the needs of those affected by the recent floods in Mozambique and Malawi in the wake of Cyclone Idai. He also described how our club's strategic plan is newly focused in philanthropic efforts toward mental health. Edvard Ryder enlightened us on his purpose as a Financial Advisor, and his reasons for joining Rotary.

Our speaker was Stéphan Denis, the "Gobi Runner". Mr. Denis described how in running a multi day, multi marathon race through the Gobi desert in China he learned key lessons about "grittiness", also described as resilience intelligence.



Mr. Denis described 5 lessons learned in this race: 1) be your words, not your feelings; 2) train your attitude, not your aptitude; 3) reframe failure; 4) rewire yourself for gratitude and; 5) purpose gives you wings.

As you can see from the photo of my notes, scribbled on a scrap piece of paper torn from John LLoyd's pocket calendar (thanks John!), I enjoyed the talk very much! Mr. Denis has since run similar races in Atacama Desert of Chile, the Pyrenees Mountains, the Antarctic and more! In perhaps the happiest news of the day, John Lloyd won the 50/50 draw and took home wine.

#### **Let's Be Personal**

- by Edvard Ryder



I think I have, what could be the best career...at least for me. My business card says "Financial Advisor," but what I do is help people create, grow and protect their wealth so that they can live the life they want to at, the time of their choosing. My process is based on creating a financial plan that is appropriate to a client's specific needs. I am licensed

for both investments and insurance. Money is personal; I always keep that in mind when I speak with a new client. I love what I do because I get to meet, and help, so many interesting people.

Rotary gives me a chance to give back to the community. I serve on the Youth and Children's Services Committee. I think our youth is the future of our country. I am also very proud to serve on the Board of The Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation. I am a third generation Rotarian. My grandfather and uncles in Norway were members of the Rotary Club of Oslo. My grandfather was a very active member and was very involved in the student exchange program. Through the committee work, and participating in Camp Scugog, the children's Christmas party and the seniors Christmas party, I have met so many nice people in our club and I look forward to developing our friendships for years to come.

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