ROTARY VOICE



The Rotary Club of Toronto

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Today's Program

Nizar Ismail Khanj

Topic

Ismaili Community in Canada and the Relationship between the Ismailis and the Aga Khan

Host

Saleem Kassum, former CEO Aga Khan Foundation, Pakistan

Location

The National Club, 303 Bay St.



Nik Khanji is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, and was recently awarded the status of a Life Member.

He served as President of H.H. the Aga Khan Ismaili Council for Canada, and was a member of the International Ismaili Leaders' Forum.

He has also served as:

President of Ismaili council for Ontario Director of Aga Khan Foundation Canada Chairman Focus Humanitarian Assistance Canada Chairman Seneca College Foundation Director of Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation and Chair of Governance Committee

In his leadership role within the Ismaili Community, he played a key role in the settlement of the community, and strengthening the institutions that were established to serve the community. These institutions included; the Business Lending Programme; career counselling; formation of Aga Khan Foundation Canada, which now under the leadership of Hi Highness the Aga Khan has become a major collaborative partner of the Canadian Government, and plays an important role in delivering assistance to disadvantaged communities in various developing countries. FOCUS was responsible for the settlement of Ismaili refugees from Afghanistan that were spread as destitutes in various countries including Russia.

Mr. Kanji has over 30 years of Executive Management Experience in the real estate industry. He founded the family-owned Sutter Hill Group of Companies that operate in the U.S. and Canada, specialising in repositioning and value creation of real estate projects. Prior to this he was the Vice President of GENSTAR Commercial Development Company, and developed various projects like Limridge Mall in Hamilton, Malvern Town Centre, and office building at 30 St. Clair West.

He was a Director of White Rock REIT and is still a Director of Maplewood International REIT.

The Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation

- by Susan Howson, Foundation Chair



The Rotary Club of Toronto Charitalable Foundation (the Foundation) does not just hand out money. Rather, working with the members of The Rotary Club and its philanthropic committees, we define issues and craft initiatives that will alleviate problems. Focus groups

involving our own committees (Community, Environment, Indigenous, International, Scholarship, Seniors, Women's Initiative, and Youth and Children Services), along with other not for-profit groups (NGOs) to determine what Toronto needs and who can help deliver necessary changes, including in areas considered untouchable by many others, such as sex trafficking, drug rehabilitation and medical support for the homeless.

Recently, the Women's Initiative Committe held a day-long focus group which resulted in a plan to establish a shelter for women escaping from Sex Trafficking. Working together, the Committee and Covenant House developed a response for those in need and a safe haven to shelter them. The Foundation supported this project with a grant of over \$250,000.

A focus group session with NGOs and our Seniors Committee revealed the scope of transportation issues for seniors in Toronto. Collaborating with 13 NGOs, we formed SPRINT Senior Care. The Foundation provided three-year funding totaling close to \$375,000 to help purchase special vehicles.

We have supported many causes big and small – special programs in the Toronto Public library, a new Sherbourne Health Bus, scholarships to university, dental clinics for Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Furniture Bank, The Nanny Angel Network, Out of the Cold, Youth Expo, YES (Youth employment Services) and so much more.

The Foundation gives approximately \$800,000 a year to those in need in Toronto – \$200,000 of this goes to the Philanthropic Committees for their special projects. You and the committees you work on can do so much more with the Foundation if we have more people and more funds. How can you help?

- Invite a new member to join our dynamic club. That new member may be the inspiration for a new hands-on project or a new avenue for fundraising.
- Donate to the Foundation with a cheque, with stock or as a bequest. Ask us how and we will help you.

Our \$18 million sounds like a lot of money, but the City's need is great. The Club and the Foundation are the leading edge of non-profit support and we need your help. Talk to us for ideas and starting points.

Friday November16th our meeting will be about the Foundation. Bring lots of guests and show off what a dynamic forward thinking Foundation we have.

The Rotary Club of Toronto Annual Assembly 2018



Where: The National Club,

303 Bay Street

When: October 22nd, 2018

5:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.

Who: All members of the club are encouraged to attend and add your voice to the future

of OUR club.

Why: A fun and interactive evening exploring Toronto's

hottest issues and who do you think we are?

How: cost is one lunch ticket and RSVP is REQUIRED to the Rotary office as we need to know numbers

for The National Club.

Please mark your calendars now, RSVP now. It's your club; your opinions and ideas count.

This event is organized by your Vice-President John Fortney and the incoming directors.

Condolences

Our special wishes go out to Past President Neil Phillips and Mardi. His mother Rosemary Phillips passed away in Vancouver just after her 93rd birthday. She lived a full life starting as a British Army nurse in WWII, lived all across Canada and started a writing career in her 80s. Her life will be celebrated by family and friends in Vancouver on September 25th.

Donations can be made to: Rotary International, Rotary Toronto Charitable Foundation, St. Elizabeth Foundation or the Vancouver Public Library Foundation.

Long-time past member Bill Bahen passed away on August 31st at age 92. He was an original with a quirky sense of humour. His wife Ann pre-deceased him two years ago.

Makeup Meetings

Meu Ching Crompton attended a meeting of the Rotary Club of London England last month. This is Club 50, making it slightly older than our club. We are number 55. She was introduced and regaled them on the great activities of our club.

Makeups are fun and a wonderful way to meet new and interesting people. Look how many visitors we have every meeting!



Mei shared activities of our club with fellow Rotarians of the Rotary Club of London, England

Why Come to Lunch? What Does Rotary Mean to You?

- by John Joseph Mastandrea



We entered the dining room, the conversations were thick with great spirit. There is always the meeting for meeting. The air is electric filled with people greeting strangers and friends checking in with their weekly tales form the trenches. The Friday Rotary Club lunch reminds me and many of the human need to step away from the trenches if but

for a brief moment of the Cyber Communication in the realm of rapid-fire e-mails, instant messages that are linked to further expectations of immediate response.

The Friday Rotary Club lunch is opportunity to be systemically organic, spontaneous and directed at the same time, while included is the freedom for lateral and creative thinking that ignites the fresh pathways of undiscovered territory. Last week the Scholarship recipients represented but a small portion of the undiscovered territory. We gathered in the green room. It is there that there was an opportunity for a time of listening to their individual stories. It is these relationships of Mentor and Mentee that are the catalyst for who we are as Rotarians in The Rotary Club of Toronto.

Make attendance at our Friday meetings an important part of your week. You won't regret it.

Celebration of Life – Peter Naylor

Several Toronto Rotarians past and present joined Peter's partner Ruth Crawford in Picton on Saturday September 15 to celebrate Peter's life. The theme was designed around the Labyrinth, which Peter had donated to St. Andrew's Church: Release, Receive, Return. His friend and past co-worker Ron Waddling gave a wonderful account of Peter.



The Labyrinth in St. Andrew's garden

The music of piano and bass performed over 12 beautiful pieces chosen from Peter's favourites. Peter had played bass in a band in Picton is his much younger days and was a lifelong lover of good music.

100ABC Women Gala

Several Rotarians attended the 100 Accomplished Black Woman Gala on Saturday September 15, 2018.

John and Lorraine Lloyd hosted a table in support of our member Dauna Jones-Simmonds who helped organize the event.

Members attending included PP John Lloyd with Lorraine, PP Bert Steenburgh with Wendy, Karl Kremer with Louisa, President Jeff with Casey, PP Susan Hunter with Hedley.



Casey Hadaway, President Jeff Dobson, Past-President Susan Hunter and Hedley Hunter



What's Happening!!!

Thursday, September 27, 2018

Fall is around the corner (it's still summer until Sept 21st) and so is R2R

This year your Membership Committee joins forces with The Rotaract Club of Toronto to bring you a dynamic R2R experience on **September 27th at 6 PM at the National Club**. What's R2R? A fun and informal gathering - Rotarian to Rotarian - focused on fellowship mixing and mingling with old and new friends.

New members - you don't want to miss this!

As usual, \$10 (\$5 for Rotaractors) gets you tasty appetizers and unlimited fellowship. Please contact Lori Brazier to confirm attendance so that no one goes hungry. Lori.brazier@rotarytoronto.com

Sunday, September 30, 2018

The District Foundation Walk



Pledge Sheets are on the tables today.
We submit all donations through our club.
The Rotary Foundation funds projects initiated by Rotary clubs around the world

— Making a Difference.

Join us for a pleasant morning and lunch at the McMichael Art Gallery in Kleinburg. **Register at https://goo.gl/8kYd9Y**

Wednesday, October 3, 2018

President's Cocktails at the National Club

Join Jeff for an enjoyable evening before the Thanksgiving Weekend. Cost is one lunch ticket. Pleas call or email Carol at the office to register.

Saturday, October 20, 2018

The Second Robin Hood Army food day

Check with Prince Kumar as it fills fast.

Monday, October 22, 2018

Club Assembly at the National Club

This is your chance to have a say in what we do.

Saturday, October 27, 2018

Rotary Reunion

District Conference



In Prince Edward County, Wellington & District Community Centre in Picton.

This is a one-day event this year (we've been busy) but a great opportunity to explore a lovely part of Ontario. Cost for the day – just \$99

Register at rotary7070.org right column or go directly to https://goo.gl/uk2ba4

Thursday, November 29, 2018

Sunday, December 2, 2018

Our Seniors Christmas lunch moves to a Thursday this year so there will be no lunch on November 20th.

Our Annual Children's Christmas party Be ready to volunteer and meet some very special kids.

RI President

Barry Nussam, East Nassau



Mary Lou Harrison, Toronto Sunrise

The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

Officers:

President: Jeff Dobson President-Elect: Kevin Power Vice President: John Fortney Treasurer: Rick Goldsmith

Executive Director:

Carol Hutchinson

Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation: Susan Howson, President

Susan Howson, Preside

Editor of the Week: Karen Scott

Editor September 28, 2018:

Maureen Bird

What You Missed Reporter for September 21, 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

September

28: Howard Green, Author of 'Railroader'

October

05: NO MEETING: Thanksgiving Holiday

19: Chris Snyder - Memoir - Creating Opportunities

26: Graham Lloyd, Dairy Farmers of Ontario

Events

September 27: R2R, National Club
September 30: Rotary Foundation Walk
October 3: President's Cocktails
October 20: Robin Hood Army Event
October 27 District Conference, Picton
November 29: THURSDAY, Seniors Party
December 2: SUNDAY, Children's Party

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

BE THE INSPIRATION

What You Missed September 14, 2018

- by John Joseph Mastandrea



President Jeff started us off with an inspiring grace, accompanied by several visiting Rotarians and guests. He reminded many Rotarians to check their calendars for the many exciting events, especially the golf tournament.

The main event was the presence of six scholarship program participants, all filled with deep gratitude. The word scholarship means a grant or payment made to support a student's education, awarded on the basis of academic or other achievement. These young people met these criteria in spades.

This year's Scholarship recipient Maryam Ali will be studying Biomedical Engineering at Ryerson University. Her goal is to be a medical doctor in the MedTech field. Maryam also volunteers at Lakeside Long Term Care Home and with the Horticultural and Music Therapy Programs. Scholarship Chair Don Brooks and President Jeff had the honour of presenting Maryam with a cheque for \$40,000, representing tuition costs for a full four-year program. Like our other winners Maryam is the first of her family to enter university.

The other scholarship recipients included Naresh Sritharan, Lorenzo Penate, Amna Majeed, Poorva Patel, and John Chen. They all spoke of the difference that these scholarships have made for them.

Don Brooks introduced our Rotary Scholar Naresh Sritharan (2013) as our guest speaker. Naresh preferred to not follow a script, but rather have a conversation with the audience in a structured manner. He is pursuing a Masters of Education in Higher Education with a specialization in Student Services and Student Development. He discussed the challenges and barriers of attending post-secondary studies for underprivileged youth, particularly first generation students (the group with which he identifies). He spoke about the about the access to higher education, psychological fear and anxiety, on-campus and off-campus supports. He then talked about the experience and how the Rotary Club is not just about the financial assistance but it is more than that. The mentorship and check-ins really motivated him to continue and push himself through.

Naresh spoke in an authentic voice that was filled with risk and vulnerability as he related his moments where he was failing academically. He reminded us all of the gratitude that he felt as he told the story of the Rotarians who inspired him to press forward. We were reminded that one thing we give our children is roots and the other is wings, when we plant the seeds of possibility for the Rotary scholars.

Finally the Ace of Clubs draw with over \$4,000 continues to grow. A bottle of wine went to Charles Dillingham.



President, Scholarship winners an Scholarship Committee Don Brooks, Maryam Ali, her mother Hawa Ali, Charles Dillingham. John Chen, Poorva Patel, Lorenzo Penate, Mary Bennett, Naresh Sritharan, Jeff Dobson and John Farrell



Our winner for 2018 Maryam Ali



Our 2013 winner and speaker Naresh Srithanan



Maryam receiving the tuition "cheque" for \$40,000 from Jeff, Mary and Don



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