



THE PIONEER SPIRIT OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF TORONTO: ITS SIGNIFICANCE

Breaking Down Barriers to Health in the City of Toronto

— by Suzanne Boggild, President and CEO of Sherbourne Health Centre



The Rotary Club of Toronto's pioneering spirit and community concern in the mid-90s brought health care right on to the City streets with the inception of a mobile Health Bus program. Initially operated by The Wellesley Central Hospital, now in partnership with Sherbourne Health Centre, the Health Bus program has gone from strength to strength, supporting the health and wellbeing of community members who are homeless or vulnerably housed. The program's two iconic buses, proudly displaying the Rotary logo, can be seen six days a week across downtown Toronto. They receive thousands of visits each year.

More than 15 years on, Rotary is developing yet further its partnership with Sherbourne Health Centre – and its reputation for pioneering health care initiatives –, with the establishment of The Rotary Club of Toronto Newcomer Clinic in St. James Town.

Centennial Committee members recognized that some of the City's biggest health care challenges remain behind closed doors. Many newcomers experience significant barriers to good health, and struggle to negotiate the complexities of the Canadian health care system. They may simultaneously face settlement and language challenges, and must adapt to a new climate, different food products and a new culture. Some arrive healthy; others, particularly refugees, may already be physically and emotionally impacted by a traumatic journey. But recent research indicates that even immigrants who arrive healthy often face deterioration in their health and wellbeing. Immigrants are shown to be disproportionately affected by infectious diseases such as TB, and more prone to key chronic diseases including diabetes.

It is essential that communities such as St. James Town – with its record levels of low-income, high-density households and around 40% of residents identified as recent immigrants – receive more dedicated and

strengthened health support.

The Rotary Club of Toronto Newcomer Clinic will provide just that support. The St. James Town Community Corner is already a burgeoning new community hub, and the addition of the Newcomer Clinic will provide much-needed, culturally-sensitive, primary care and prevention programs for residents – right in the heart of the community. Two brand new and fully outfitted clinical rooms will facilitate access to nurses, doctors and health promoters, with extra services including diabetes prevention sessions, stress management counselling, and a flu clinic. A multi-purpose waiting and education area and two fully-accessible washrooms will support the clinical rooms.

The Newcomer Clinic positions Rotary once again as a pioneer and compassionate catalyst in the struggle to break the cycle of ill-health.

What You Missed October 26, 2012

— by Gilbert Wong



President Neil welcomed the head table along with monitor Past President Keith Howard, who introduced three visiting Rotarians, 15 guests and two Rotaractors.

On behalf of the Aboriginal Services Committee, Steve Smith announced that Toronto's First Nations School needs our help: donations of gently used items like dolls, books, toys, and sports equipment are required. Steve also reminded us about the Club Assembly on November 8th. President-Elect Richard White took the podium speaking of the Nov. 2nd lunch at the Fairmount Royal York where the fifth Centennial award cheque for \$100,000 will be presented to the Sherbourne Health Centre for the Newcomer Clinic.

Past District Governor Bill Patchett spoke about why many were wearing a purple crocus and that it was in support of World Polio Day. The donations of \$5 are matched

3 to 1 by the Bill Gates Foundation and the Canadian Government. President Neil then welcomed new Club member, Shelby Anderson, a tax lawyer and manager at Ernst & Young who merges the worlds of corporate tax and law.

Marg Stanowski introduced guest speaker, former Attorney General and Chief Justice, the Honourable Roy McMurtry. He spoke about the call to action on the Roots of Youth Violence showing his great depth of knowledge and experience with this

critical issue. Mr. McMurtry recognized colleagues like Susan Lang among the guests. And speaking humourously about President Neil's concern about the length of his talk, Mr. McMurtry removed the gavel from the table recounting a story from another Rotary meeting where it was tossed inaccurately to get the speaker to stop. In the weekly draw, Bill Morari won a set of tickets to the Argos game; Maureen Bird won the wine.

Join Rotary Now!
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The Rotary Club of Toronto is donating in excess of \$1,000,000 to local and international agencies during our Centennial Year

Today: Centennial Luncheon Program

The Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Imperial Room

Featuring : Guest Speaker Dr. James Fleck, OC



The state of philanthropy in Canada

Dr. James Fleck has exemplary accomplishments in business management, academics, public administration and philanthropy. He was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1997.

In business Dr. Fleck started and managed his family firm, Fleck Manufacturing, until its sale to Noma Industries in 1994. He has served as chair of ATI Technologies, Alias Research, and as a director of many Canadian companies, and is considered one of Canada's leading executives in technology development. In 1972 he served as International President of the Young Presidents' Organization.

Dr. Fleck earned a doctorate at Harvard University on a Ford Foundation Fellowship, and then served on the faculty of the Harvard Business School. He was instrumental in setting up the MBA program at the York-Schulich school and finished at the Rotman School, University of Toronto, where he retired as the emeritus M. Wallace McCutcheon Professor of Business Government Relations.

In public service, Dr. Fleck served as Secretary to the Cabinet and CEO in the Premier's office at Queen's Park and Deputy Ministry of Industry.

The work he has done in philanthropy is outstanding. He was involved in setting up the Canadian Arts Summit and has served as Chair of the Ontario Minister's Advisory Council on Arts and Culture and as president of the Art Gallery of Ontario. He was inducted into Canada's Tennis Hall of Fame in 2004.

Inside today's Voice is a feature article about many of our esteemed Past Presidents. Our Past Presidents were most honoured to have been asked to join together as a united front and to propose The Rotary Club of Toronto Newcomer Clinic as a worthy addition to the many projects of which our Club may be proud of as it celebrates its Centennial.

Highlighting: The Sherbourne Health Centre \$100,000 Award Receipt for its Innovative Program, "The Rotary Club of Toronto Newcomer Clinic"

The Rotary Club of Toronto is breaking down more of the barriers to health experienced by marginalized community members by taking high quality health care right into the heart of St. James Town.

The Rotary Club of Toronto Newcomer Clinic, a partnership with Sherbourne Health Centre, will facilitate access to culturally-sensitive, preventative and primary care services for residents of this vibrant but impoverished high-rise downtown community.

Many newcomers experience initial challenges in negotiating the Canadian health care system, but recent research also pinpoints an alarming deterioration in health for more established immigrants. Immigrants are shown to suffer disproportionately high rates of infectious diseases such as TB and key chronic diseases, and urgently need better and earlier connections to the right health care in the right place.

The new Newcomer Clinic will not only improve access to nurses and doctors, but will also support health promotion work, including diabetes prevention workshops and a flu clinic.

The partnership between The Rotary Club of Toronto and Sherbourne Health Centre builds on the success of their iconic mobile Health Bus program that has been operating in Toronto for more than 15 years. This innovative Clinic will extend Rotary's helping hand to many more community members.



Past Presidents Remember Rotary's Bright Past

– by Robert O'Brien, The Rotary Club of Toronto Past President (1998), Chair of The Past Presidents Centennial Project Committee



If history is the collective memory of its participants, then The Rotary Club of Toronto's history is a rich heritage full of proud memories and significant contributions to the life of our community. Of the 100 Presidents during the history of the Club, 21 are still with the Club and each was asked to provide their reflections on Club projects initiated during their term in office.

Murray Bosley (1965) was the first of two Bosley presidents – the only time brothers served as Presidents. During Murray's term the Subscription Dinner was inaugurated becoming the Club's primary philanthropic fundraiser for the next 35 years. **Raymond Bosley** (1970) recalls the \$200,000 raised in his year for Canadian athletes in the first ever Olympathon. Ray and his wife, Claire, personally raised \$300 per mile in a Presidential Walk from Inn on the Park to Exhibition Grounds. During **Elgin Couotts'** term (1974), the Rotary-Laughlen Centre was launched. Elgin, in a one-man bike-a-thon, pedalled 1,100 miles to Cavendish, PEI, raising seed capital! At the time the Centre was the largest project of its kind in the Rotary world. Officially the Laughlen Centre in 1990, it has maintained its independence over the past two decades. Elgin mentored three future Rotary Presidents who continued his work in the next three decades.



Sitting: Bob Day 1959, Frank Fisher 1958, John McDonald 1969, William Russell 1972, Stewart Munroe 1967, Edward Biggs 1973

Standing: Tudor Davies 1961, Ray Bosley 1970, Murray Bosley 1965, Norm Simpson 1966, Ernie Carr 1975, Sam Neilly (executive director), Clare Carruthers 1963, George Gilmore 1971, Ed Parkin 1962, Elgin Couotts 1974

John Austen's (1983) proudest moment was the Rotary International (RI) Convention in Toronto. An exciting undertaking, it included John Spragge's keynote address to a packed Maple Leaf Gardens. For **Ron Crane** (1984), the first steps were taken to expand the membership to include women and the Club became involved in the West End Creche, serving the needs of physically challenged children. In **Don Carman's** year (1985) RI announced the Polio Plus campaign to eradicate polio, which he made his centrepiece. **Brian Westlake** (1989) remembers the Club hosting an International Peace Symposium – when the nuclear threat loomed large – with speakers, Stephen Lewis, Canada's Ambassador at the UN, and David Suzuki, and over 300 participants. The theme of **Jack Robertson's** term (1992) was "Putting Children First" and he recalls the establishment of the multi-million dollar Pine River Institute with Karen Minden, Harvey Schipper and Michael Morgan. An historic moment came in **Bob Smith's** (1994) and **John Carr's** (1995) years when

the Club announced and raised in excess of \$500,000.00 to put the original Rotary Club of Toronto Health Bus on downtown streets. **Michael Morgan** (1996) officiated at the Health Bus launch at Wellesley Hospital with Mayor Barbara Hall and an evening celebration at the 55th floor of the Toronto-Dominion Centre. Michael is proudest of Letters to A Street Child, funded by our Club and filmed by Andrée Cazabon. Together with Pine River Institute and the first of three Urban Peace Conferences, significant contributions were made to the community. **Robert O'Brien** (1998) is proud of the Club's partnership with St. Michael's Hospital in building The Rotary Club of Toronto Transition Centre and the Club being awarded angel wings for leadership in the areas of homelessness and poverty. The Club also funded four vans to serve the homeless with Na Mes Residence, Out of the Cold, the Anishnawabe Homeless Centre and Good Neighbours. The vans were presented with participation and support of Mayor Lastman, Jack Layton and Municipal Council. Robert also remembers celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Club's founding of YES with ribbon cutting for the opening of the Youth Business Centre with Mayor Lastman and YES Executive Director Nancy Schaeffer. **Gerry Nudds** (1999) rang in the Millennium with the Club's Millennium video and treasured publication *Those Were the Days*. That year The Rotary Club of Toronto Transition Centre was formally opened representing completion of this \$500,000 project. **Don Bell** (2000) remembers the significant decision by the Club to fund the thirty-six-bed Seaton House Infirmity. It reduced pressure on St. Michael's Hospital Emergency Unit and provided a training centre for U. of T. medical students interested in street medicine. The first female president, **Michele Guy** (2001), officiated at the infirmity's opening with the federal Minister of Health and notes the infirmity has become a widely replicated model for innovative local solutions addressing homelessness. During Michele's year, our Club established liaisons with the New York City Rotary Club following the dramatic events of 9/11.



Standing: Bob Rutherford 1997, John Carr 1995, Murray Bosley 1965, Michael Morgan 1996, Keith Howard 2002, Robert O'Brien 1998, Doug Witherspoon 1993 (deceased), Don Bell 2000, Bob Smith 1994, Jack Robertson 1992, Brian Westlake 1989, Ron Crane 1984, Ray Bosley 1970 **Seated:** Bill Dale 1981 (deceased), Elgin Couotts 1974, Michele Guy 2001, Roy Philips 1987 (deceased)



Past Presidents Remember Rotary's Bright Past (continued)

During **Keith Howard's** year (2002), the Icebreaker (in its fifth year under the talents of Geoffrey Johnson and Dinner Chair Brian Westlake) raised \$120,000.00 at the Carlu. That year the Youth and Children's Services Committee held a Youth Day presenting youth civic awards with the Mayor in attendance - now an annual event. **John Andras** (2003) has two favourite projects: the launch of Rotary Drive with Habitat for Humanity, a \$600,000 project; and the first Power of Rotary Lunch with Stephen Lewis, attended by over 1000 Rotarians and guests who heard an impassioned address on the AIDS pandemic in Africa. As a result, the Club provided Dr. Orbiniski seed funding to found Dignitas International which has developed in Malawi a community-based health care model for HIV/AIDS. **Geoffrey Johnson** (2004) recalls construction completion of Rotary Drive and concurrent celebrations with Princess Sophie, Duchess of Wessex, and Lieutenant

Governor James Bartleman who spoke at a special dinner of District Rotary Clubs to celebrate Rotary Drive. **Sylvia Milne's** (2005) year was capped by grants of \$250,000.00 to Sherbourne Health Centre for two new health buses, to Pine River Institute, and to the Gift of Life



Left to right: Bill Morari, Sandy Boucher, Geoffrey Johnson, Sylvia Milne, John Lloyd, Susan Howson, John Andras, Peter Love, Bert Steenburgh.

Program bringing third world children to Toronto for life-saving surgery. **John Lloyd** (2006) saw Lake Scugog become the successor to Blue Mountain Camp. He remembers General Rick Hillier's standing room only address at The National Club. **Susan Howson** (2007) is proud of Team Water which investigated opportunities for a Club safe drinking water and sanitation project. Outgrowths of the Malawi Water Project continue today and many wells and latrines have been built. During **Bill Morari's** year (2008), The National Club continued as second home for Club activities. The Power of Rotary was celebrated with speaker General Romeo Dallaire and recognition for special projects War Child Canada and YES. **Bert Steenburgh** (2009) recalls how our Club's Youth and Children's Services Committee supported the Gala Première of Andrée Cazabon's film, Third World Canada, heightening awareness of conditions challenging many First Nation's children. Sensitized to this issue, during **Peter Love's** year (2010), a task force chaired by Chris Snyder established by the Club's Board considered involvement in First Nations issues. Thereafter, the newest philanthropic committee was created with this focus. **Sandy Boucher** (2011) laid the foundations for the Centennial celebrations with extensive planning for the 100th Anniversary of our Club and the awarding of \$100,000.00 to ten organizations. Each award would serve a local or international community, making a difference moving into our Club's second century.

Come to the Annual Club Assembly at The National Club on Thursday evening, November 8, 2012, 5:30pm - 8:30pm

For fellowship, cocktails, cash bar, buffet, and visioning workshop.
Purchase one Assembly ticket with one lunch ticket.
We will be creating a Vision and a Strategic Plan for our Club's future.

Let's plan TOGETHER so our Club's good works continue for another 100 years!

The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 — 1912

Officers:

President: Neil Phillips
President-Elect: Richard White
Vice President: Steven Smith
Treasurer: James McAuley

Executive Director:

Carol Bieser

Rotary Club of Toronto

Charitable Foundation:

David Hetherington, President

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?

Submit an Article to the Voice Newsletter:
voice@AbacusConsultingServices.ca

Upcoming Speakers & Events

November 2012

- 19 Colonel V. C. Tattersall, Remembrance Day Meeting
- 16 Ivan de Souza, CEO Brazilian Ball
- 23 Founder's Day Luncheon at The King Edward Hotel
- 30 Ray Argyle, Author

December 2012

- 7 Seniors Christmas Lunch
- 8 Children's Christmas Party, The Fairmont Royal York
- 14 Club Christmas Lunch
- 21 No meeting
- 28 No meeting

Propose a Speaker
Peter Simmie, Chair

Program Committee
peter.simmie@bristolgate.com

Editor of the Week
Jeff Dobson

Editor Next Week (November 9th)
Maureen Bird

What You Missed (November 9)
Bert Steenburgh