

## Today's Programme

The Rotary Club of Toronto & Toronto Argonauts Community Champion Scholarship

## Today's Speaker

Usha Srinivasan, V.P. Learning and Insights MaRS

## Topic

The Value of Education

## Location

The National Club - 303 Bay Street



Usha Srinivasan leads a team dedicated to nurturing the talents of Ontario entrepreneurs through a range of diverse programs, including the Business Acceleration Program, Data Catalyst and Studio Y. Together, they provide advisory services and leadership training, connect entrepreneurs with program funding, help leverage open data,

and work to make online and onsite educational content accessible through Regional Innovation Centres across the province, including MaRS.

Usha also leads the market intelligence team, which provides valuable, industry-specific, timely market research intelligence to entrepreneurs across Ontario.

Prior to joining MaRS, she worked at Frost & Sullivan, a leading global market research and consulting company. She has a technical and industry background in water, environment and building technologies, having worked with global clients such as GE, Siemens, Veolia, American Water, IBM, Honeywell and Brita.

She holds a BSc in Microbiology from the University of Bristol and a PhD in Environmental Sciences from the University of Abertay in Dundee, Scotland. She is an NRC fellow and has completed post-doctoral research work at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the University of New Brunswick and the Northern Research Institute in the Department of Forestry in the Yukon.

She also currently teaches "Market Discovery and Intelligence," one of the modules in the "Certificate in Entrepreneurship" developed by MaRS and U of T's School for Continuing Education.

## 2014 Lake Scugog Camp a Great Success!

At this year's Lake Scugog Camp weekend, members of the Toronto Rotary Club, and many Rotaractors showed up en masse to eat, play, and socialize—but mostly to work! We constructed a bicycle shelter (and fixed many bikes). We painted various outside walls and the entrances to all the cabins. The porch at the main house was repaired, a few new doors were constructed and installed, and lots of smaller repairs were done on the facilities. Congrats to everyone who showed up, to our fearless team leaders, to the cooks and cleaners . . . the list of those who put their minds and shoulders to accomplishing great things is long! And, we had a blast doing it.



*James Macdonald has heart!*



*John Suk took a well-deserved ten-minute nap before supper.*



*Jim, Don, Alan, Bill, Catherine, Neil, Paul and Geoffrey made the food something to write home from camp about.*

## The Leader in You!

- by Nikita Williams, Director of Operations, Youth Expo

At the second annual Rotary Youth Expo on Tuesday May 13, 2014 over 200 grade 7 to 10 students from across the GTA were challenged to find the leader in themselves. In a day filled with workshops and booth visitations our diverse list of presenters approached this year's theme "The Leader In You" from different perspectives. Dan Trommater taught students to think differently about leadership through the use of magic while Deepa Prashad of Free the Children reminded youths that words have power and they can use it to be the change they wish to see. To fully capitalize on the power of words, Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program taught students the importance and power of communication.

Other presenters included Toronto Police Service through their Youth In Policing Initiative; Lorna Pitcher challenged youth to think of leadership on a global scale and Diana McIntyre highlighted a path to leadership. She explained that, "leadership is not something that is outside of us . . . it is us." Between sessions the Imperial Entertainment Group, who will also be performing at the Youth Day Lunch on Friday June 20 at the National Club, entertained us. Students also had opportunity to win Blue Jays tickets by participating.

When students have fun while learning and being empowered it's a winning combination, as keynote speakers Sara Westbrook and Jerry Zhang taught us. By the end of Sara's presentation we were all UPower'd up. UPower is our own personal power to make choices in our lives regardless of circumstances. Sara shared both personal stories and songs as she took students through a UPower choice making formula. She said, "let the choices you make and not your circumstances define who you are and what you can do. It's not about being perfect, it's about being perfectly imperfect because that is what is perfect about all of us . . . we need to believe that we do matter . . . you are somebody . . . you are enough . . . we are all important." Jerry explained that being a leader involves taking risks. He pointed out that we are all remarkable at something and we can find that something by taking risks: whether it be small acts or bold strokes. He also shared his journey from being a Grade 9 student taking risks to becoming who he is today: Co-Founder and CEO of Tartan Grand and former president of DECA Ontario, among other titles.

Look out for testimonials and more pictures in the Youth Day edition of *The Voice*. To see videos and meet some of our presenters join us at the Youth Day lunch.



Maria Nalewajko, Prince Kumar, Don Brooks, Lauren, Nikita Williams, Dan Trommater, Sara Westbrook, Lorna Pitcher, Jeff Dobson, Bethlehem Belte, Augusten Dominguez, Chailing Tse, Paul Churchward



Nikita Williams



Youth Expo Presenter Booths



## The Rotary Club of Toronto/Argos Scholarships Story!

- by Charles Dillingham

The Rotary Club of Toronto, in cooperation with the Toronto Argonauts have awarded their 2014 scholarships! This is how it works. The Argos give an application package designed with Rotary to both the Public and Catholic school boards. The resulting applications are screened by the Argos and finally by your Rotary Scholarship Committee. The top few applicants are invited to come in for a final interview. Selection is based on the students' scholarly achievement and their participation in outside activities.

The applications we see are an amazing mixture of high achieving young women and men who usually live in very low-income families. At the same time they are very involved in their communities. The Scholarship Committee thanks our members for support of this worthy cause. So, without further ado, here follows a word from each of our three winners!



### Souleik Kheyre: 2012 Scholarship Winner!

"The transition from high school to university has been a steep learning curve. However, now that I am approaching my third year at the University of Toronto, I feel completely at home. I have solidified my programs of study in Employment Relations and International Relations. And I plan to attend law school in the near future. University has allowed me to realize that learning is a lifelong process. I cherish it dearly. University has allowed me to voice my thoughts, develop

my leadership capabilities, and most important to me, to be critical of the world around me. At the University of Toronto I am involved in the Rotaract Club and made great friends. The Rotary Club of Toronto and Toronto Argonauts Community Champion Scholarship have truly changed my life – I cannot put into writing how grateful I am for the support I have been shown since beginning my university career. I will cherish my mentors and friends, my Rotary family, forever."



### Naresh Sritharan: 2013 Scholarship Winner!

"I am the first member of my family to attend university. My parents did not have the opportunity to complete high school in Sri Lanka and were determined to come to Canada to provide a better life for me and my brother. The Rotary Club of Toronto's financial support as well as their mentoring program has guided and encouraged me through my first year at the University of Toronto Scarborough. I am currently pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences majoring

in human and physical geography with a double minor in applied statistics and psychology. My dream is to become a secondary school teacher. I enjoyed volunteer positions assisting in the classroom and acting as a mentor for younger students. A university education is not just about the course work but also about the new skills that I will acquire, both personally and professionally. Thank you to the Rotary Club of Toronto for helping change my life!"



### John Chen: 2014 Community Champion Scholarship Winner

"Academics and community involvement are extremely important, but I also have a desire to help those around me. This year, I developed the Military History Club. It has brought together an entire community of students passionate about the strategies and tactics of wars and battles. I am also the Co-President of the prestigious Northern Chess Club. Finally, I have been president of the Investment Club, owing to my interest in economics. I have also promoted diversity, and

preserved my Chinese heritage, by volunteering as a summer camp counsellor at the Toronto Cross-Cultural Services Association and as a youth participant in a Mandarin-language discussion group. In September 2014, I will attend the University of Toronto to study either Engineering Science or Commerce, both of which would enable me to continue to improve my level of commitment and dedication to my community. Thank you Rotary and Argos!"

## The Rotary Club of Toronto Club 55 – 1912

### Officers:

President: Richard White  
 President-Elect: Steven Smith  
 Vice President: David Hetherington  
 Treasurer: James McAuley

### Executive Director:

Carol Bieser

**Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation:**  
 Robert Smith, President

### Editor of the Week:

Greg Vermeulen

### Editor June 6th:

Lorna Johnson

### What You Missed Reporter for May 30th:

Joyce Westlake

## 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@rotarytoronto.on.ca

## Upcoming Speakers & Events

### May 2014

30 Argos/Rotary Scholarship Meeting

### June 2014

6 J. P. Gladu, CEO, Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business

13 John Tory, Candidate for Mayor

20 Youth Day

27 Canada Day, no meeting

### July 2014

4 Changeover Day

11 Steve Smith, Throne Speech

18 Brian Thompson – Rotary 7070 District Governor

## Events

June 28 - July 1 RibFest

### Propose a Speaker

Peter Simmie, Chair

### Program Committee

peter.simmie@bristolgate.com



## Rotary Voice Needs a Few Good Editors!

Wondering how you can make a regular contribution to the club? *Voice* editors compile articles that have been submitted, fit them into a template, give them a quick read to make sure all is (mostly) well, and sometimes, if they are highly motivated, even write an article themselves for fun! When your edition is done, you pass it on to a copy editor, who does his or her work and then sends it to design and press. Editors are responsible for one issue every six weeks or so. We meet for half-an-hour, monthly, on the first Friday of the month.

Editing *Rotary Voice* is a great way to learn more about how the club works, its activities, and many of its members. Join us at our next meeting, on Friday, June 6. Or, contact John Suk or Jeff Dobson.

## What You Missed, May 23rd, 2014

– by Caroline Sneath



This past Friday a small group of our Club Members met for an intimate Fellowship luncheon on the lower MM level of the Fairmont Royal York in the Tudor Rooms. Foregoing our more formal meeting format, President Richard fulfilled a personal wish by executing the traditional bell ring that signaled the opening of our Friday meeting.

Our Moderator, Michelle Guy, introduced eight visiting Rotarians from as near as Tucson, Arizona and as far away as Durham England. According to Michelle there was a bit of competition between the visiting English Rotarians from Oxford and Durham as to which was the farthest from Toronto. In the end Durham was declared the winner and member Edward Kear addressed our gathering with greetings from his home Club. Edward presented a banner from the Durham Club that featured a watercolour of the city and passed it around for all to see.

Belli directed a lovely piano rendition of *Oh Canada* and our invocation asked for a safe and successful camp experience for our dedicated Rotarian team of camp elves. It was a relaxed atmosphere and without a head table President Richard joined members at a regular table and encouraged all to enjoy the fellowship of our Club.

The camp weekend -- or at least the wonderful food and fellowship we were all missing -- dominated the conversations in the room. However, a handful of members present also planned to be at camp. Both Michelle Guy and President Richard were heading to Scugog after the luncheon and June and Alex Brown planned to drive up on Saturday morning to spend the day helping out.

As we feasted on a lovely buffet lunch that included minestrone soup, several salads, herb roasted chicken, glazed salmon, and several dessert selections, vacation plans were shared. Visiting Rotarians Edward and Clionia Kear were in Toronto on the first leg of a cross country trip on Via Rail. This vacation fulfills life-long dream for them both. For Clionia, who has always wanted to visit Canada, and Edward, a train fanatic, it is sure to be a wonderful and memorable holiday for them both. As it was the Camp weekend we didn't have a 50/50 Draw. But all enjoyed the fellowship and vowed to meet again next week.

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



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