



Today's Program

John Godfrey, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change

Topic

Climate Change, "Our Churchill Moment"

Host

Winz Casagrande

After 10 years on Bay Street with Ernst & Young and Royal Bank-Dexia, Winz has been dedicating herself to sustainability since 2007, building on her doctorate in governance. She is currently building the global governance practice at Sustainalytics, an independent rating agency.

Location

Imperial Room, The Fairmont Royal York Hotel



John Godfrey has had an extensive and accomplished career dedicated to public service that spans over 30 years. He was first elected to the federal House of Commons as the Member of Parliament for Don Valley West in 1993. He was re-elected four times, holding the position until 2008. From 2003-04,

Godfrey was the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister and from 2004-06, he served in Cabinet as Minister of State for Infrastructure and Communities. In that role, he was responsible for overseeing the distribution of \$5.6 billion for strategic, municipal, rural and border infrastructure programs.

Prior to being elected to Parliament, Godfrey served as vice-president of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research. He was also editor of the Financial Post for four years and spent 14 years in academia, holding various positions at the University of Kings College, including associate professor, president and vice-chancellor.

Godfrey has been involved in many community and public service organizations, including president of the Council for Canadian Unity, a board of directors member for the National Film Board, a co-founder of the Committee of Concerned Nova Scotians for Justice and a board of directors member for Pollution Probe.

Most recently, Godfrey was the headmaster of the Toronto French School. He has a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in modern history and English literature from the University of Toronto, a Master's degree in modern history from Oxford University, and a Ph.D. in modern history from Oxford University

Glen Murray, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change of the Province of Ontario states "The Honourable John Godfrey and members of the climate action group bring exceptional wisdom, experience and vision to help develop a forward-looking strategy and action plan that will help Ontario effectively fight climate change and foster a prosperous, low-carbon economy. Our fight against climate change will benefit from these leaders and their passion for helping build a better future for our planet and Ontario."

On the verge of a Polio Free World – by Neil Phillips



Recently, when District Governor Michael Bell visited our Club, he was able to announce Nigeria going one year without a case of polio. This was a significant milestone on the way to Africa being declared polio-free.

Despite the challenges faced in administering effective immunization programs in Afghanistan and Pakistan, great gains have been made there as well. Year-to-date figures (to writing of this; August 19th) are 36 case reported globally, versus 128 for the same period in 2014.

The following article, originally published in The Economist January 2012, provides a great summary of the program –and worthy kudos to Rotary's leadership in this international health initiative. (Despite the frustrating reference to Rotary as a "businessmen's club")

As the Foundation Walk approaches September 20th, it's a great reminder of how our small efforts have a huge impact, globally.

[The following is an abridged reprint of an article by the Economist published on January 21, 2012, in New York from the print edition, Science and technology. The full article appears on the Internet, <http://www.economist.com/node/21543126>]

It is a year since the last case of polio was diagnosed in India. That is not enough to pronounce the country polio-free—three clear years are the conventional period required for that to happen. But it is a good start. And if India really is clear, then what was once a global scourge will now be endemic to a mere three countries: Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan. The number of people infected, meanwhile, has dropped from 350,000 in 1988 to 650 last year.

All this is in large part thanks to the efforts of Rotary International. In 1985, after a successful pilot study in the Philippines, this businessmen's club cum global charity announced a plan to eradicate polio by vaccinating every child under five at risk of catching it. The estimate then was that it would cost \$120m. Some \$800m of Rotary money later (plus a lot from other sources), the virus is still out there, but its remaining hidey-holes tell their own story: where civil disorder is rife, medicine is hard.

On January 17th Rotary announced it had raised yet another \$200m. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will contribute a further \$405m, and the pressure will thus be kept up. John Germ, one of Rotary's trustees, thinks that if all goes well 2016 might be the first year when no new cases are reported. That would, though, mean spending more than \$1 billion a year between now and then.

That polio can actually be eradicated is suggested by the elimination, in 1999, of one of the three strains. Whether the resources needed to do so might be better spent elsewhere, though, is a matter of debate.

According to Mr. Germ there is already a debate within Rotary about what to do next. Providing clean water and improving maternal and child health are popular options. One thing everyone wants to avoid, though, is what happened after smallpox was eliminated. Then, the infrastructure of health workers and clinics that had been created to detect and fight the disease was allowed to evaporate. Had it been used instead to focus on polio, that illness, too, might have been vanquished by now.





ANNUAL DISTRICT FOUNDATION WALK-SEPTEMBER 20

– by Ross Amos, District Liaison Director



For 23 years now District 7070 has held a Walk to raise funds for The Rotary Foundation. These funds now go to fund grant requests from clubs in our District. As Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Toronto, we should be there to support this great district fellowship event. SO WHY DON'T YOU JOIN US? I will be attending, representing President David. Pledge sheets will be on the tables at lunch.

This year the walk is being held on Sunday, September 20, at Morningside Park, 390 Morningside Avenue, Toronto (between Ellesmere and Kingston Road), starting at the PAN AM SPORTS CENTRE. Breakfast and registration is from 8:30 to 9:45. Lunch and follow up activities are scheduled from 11:45 to 1:30.

A long walk one winds through natural settings and include a tour of the PAN AM aquatic facility. The shorter one is wheelchair friendly providing a more relaxed experience through the park.

More information is available at www.rotary7070.org.

Upcoming Speakers & Events

September 2015

- 18 Honourable Michael Wilson, CAMH
- 25 Dr Shannon Meadows, Infectious Diseases (animal to human)

October 2015

- 2 Dr. Carolyn Harris, 800th Anniversary Magna Carta
- 9 No Meeting due to Thanksgiving Holiday

Editor of the Week
John Andras

Editor September 18, 2015
Brian Porter

What You Missed Reporter for Sept 11
Jeff Dobson

Propose a Speaker – Contact
Alex Brown, Chair
alexbrown@integratedappliances.ca

Submit an article to the Voice Newsletter
voice@rotarytoronto.on.ca

JOIN ROTARY NOW!
www.rotarytoronto.com

What You Missed August 28, 2015

– by Maureen Bird



President David welcomed us to the last lunch of the summer months. Richard White welcomed visiting Rotarians from Happy Valley, Hong Kong and Highlands Harare, Zimbabwe as well as seven guests.

Susan Hunter spoke of concerns from Rotarians about boring committee meetings, a topic raised at our last Club Assembly. This will be addressed at a meeting for all committee chairs and liaison directors on Wednesday, September 16.

Robert O'Brien, in his introduction of our main speaker, talked about our club's major part in political campaigns for decades with party leaders finding our club to be a good forum. One meeting drew 700 guests. This tradition seems to be long gone with no current leaders willing to accept our invitations. In a time of highly scripted partisan performances before the party faithful only, it appears that speaking to business people is far too risky if it cannot be controlled.

Our speaker Ian Urquhart did not mince words. He believes that our current government prevents people from having an effective voice leaving emasculated MPs mouthing words, dismissing others as malevolent fools. The PMO has seen an enlargement of power leaving MPs, senators, cabinet ministers, diplomats and scientists rendered mute. So many good people have left this controlling environment.

He recounted a personal episode of 2007 showing a rare glimpse into the control exercised by the PMO when he was to visit New Delhi but could not speak to our ambassador without PMO permission and approval of a list of topics to be discussed. The Star used to meet with senior people such as Flaherty and Baird. Now all decline on instructions from the PMO except Jason Kenney. Currently candidates are being muzzled.

Ian would like reforms such as committees being allowed to choose their own chairs. He is concerned about party leaders being able to veto candidates. Recently Ches Crosbie, son of John Crosbie, was vetoed as a candidate because he had dressed in a Harper wig and a kilt while spoofing the last scene of Macbeth where McHarper took up a sword to slay McDuffy.

He also discussed the role of the Governor General in the forming of a government, especially in the situation of a minority government. He referenced the Byng-King controversy of 1925. In Ontario in 1985 Frank Miller of the Conservatives had the most seats but the Lieutenant-Governor approved an agreement between David Peterson's Liberals and Bob Rae's NDP to govern under a pact for two years.

Ian received a gift certificate for 416 Community Support for Women for drop-in programs. Hercules Fortis, Alanna Scott's husband, won the wine, leaving \$3,129 in the pot. David closed the meeting quoting The Globe's Jeffery Simpson who suggested tax credits for curling stones, bowling balls and cricket bats were as deserving as service club fees. He ended with a note of congratulations to all of us who have been so willing to give service to others without tax credits.



Our speaker, Ian Urquhart, with Host Robert O'Brien and President David.

The Rotary Club of Toronto

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