

Meet Roberto Dondisch

Introduction by Tom Jaffa

I'm happy to introduce Dr. Roberto Dondisch, the Consul of Mexico in Seattle.

Dr. Dondisch is accompanied today by his wife, Cynthia Frid who is an artist and art conservator and the mother of their children, two girls and a boy who live with them and their Australian Shepard, Coti (Caught Tee), on Mercer Island.

Dr. Dondisch has had an illustrious career: serving as Director-General for global issues within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where he served as the Chief Negotiator for Mexico for the post 2015 Development Agenda and climate change processes.

He was also Chief Negotiator for Mexico for the Arms Trade Treaty, where he was elected Vice President of the UN Negotiating Process. He was the Special Advisor for International Security, General Coordinator for the Youth / 20 Summit – the Youth segment of the Mexican G20 Presidency, engaged in the Climate Meetings in Cancun and focal point for the Mexican participation as an elected member of the UN Security Council.

He now represents Mexico for Washington State, Alaska and 7 Counties of Idaho – providing services to the Mexican community; promoting cultural and economic development and political dialog.

He holds a PhD. in International Relations from Johns Hopkins, an MS in Foreign Service from Georgetown and a BA in International Relations from the Universidad Iberio – Americano.

Growing up in Mexico City he played a lot of Little League baseball (number 2 sport in Mexico), did lots of theatre including winning a Best Actor Award and starting a theatre festival, was on the Youth National Team for Fencing; served as President of his Student Union, and participated in many model UNs.

One of the highlights of his life was being the head negotiator on an Arms Treaty... a program that started with a discussion in a London pub with four other people.

His passions are disarmament, the environment and if “King for a Day” would give people the capacity to understand the needs of others.

He is an avid skier, loves biking and is a sports fan – especially of his Diablos Soccer Team in Mexico. He started as a Steelers football fan because his family was in the steel industry – but now wants you all to know, that the first Seahawks game he went to was in NY for the Superbowl and we won. Converting him?



He is a member of many Hispanic or Mexican organizations – a favorite being the NW Charro Organization, who put on rodeo competitions in Everett and also do great things for the community.

His heroes are people who know how to communicate and have the capacity to work on grand ideas, but understand also the “challenges on the ground”.

His friends would describe him as vocal, a committed workaholic who will be there to try to help.

Why Rotary – we bring in people who want to make change and do good. He is looking forward to meeting and engaging with fellow Rotarians and finding better ways to help the community.

Please help me welcome Dr. Roberto Dondisch as our newest member.