

May 2017 Newsletter

to all Rotarians in Rotary District 5040



Summary Update as of May 31, 2017

The Encouraging News:

There have been no new cases reported since February. The YTD number of wild polio cases remains at 5, compared with 16 at the same time last year.

Country	YTD 2017		YTD 2016		Total 2016	
	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV
Afghanistan	3	0	5	0	13	0
Pakistan	2	0	11	0	20	1
Other	0	4	0	3	4	4
Total	5	4	16	3	37	5

In May, **Lao People's Democratic Republic** was removed from the list of polio-infected countries.

However:

Environmental sampling in water and sewage has found one new wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) sample in **Afghanistan**, and seven new WPV1 samples in **Pakistan**. This indicates that the type 1 virus is still circulating in these countries.

In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, four new cases of circulating vaccine derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) have been detected. This indicates that there is a low level of immunization in this country and a potential outbreak is a possibility.

Polio News

At the 70th World Health Assembly in Geneva at the end of May, global health leaders from 194 countries reiterated their commitment to polio eradication, discussing progress made and challenges ahead and emphasising the critical need for effective transition planning for the post-polio era.

Global Polio Event to be Held at Rotary Convention

On 12 June, global leaders will join Rotarians in Atlanta to pledge additional resources and reaffirm their commitment to securing a polio-free world. At a celebratory plenary session following this event, Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, will deliver a keynote presentation to recognize all those who have helped bring the world to the brink of eradication.

Club Polio Donations

I am sure that many clubs have polio donations waiting to be sent to the PolioPlus fund of the Rotary Foundation. Please ensure that these get sent off in plenty of time to be credited to this 2016-17 Rotary year.

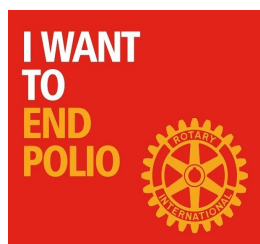
One of the goals of the District 5040 Strategic Plan is for every club to have made a donation to PolioPlus. So far 43 of our 48 clubs have met this goal. Check with your club Foundation Chair to see where your club stands.

Rotary Polio Walk 2017

On Sunday, May 28th, Rotarians, Rotaractors, & Interactors gathered on the New Westminster Quay to walk 5K to raise funds and awareness for Rotary's campaign to eradicate polio from the world forever. The event was organised by the clubs of Burnaby and New Westminster. Congratulations to the event chair Gaby Gasztonyi, the organizers, the supporters, the fundraisers, and the donors for making the event a great success. Donations can be made at www.tiny.cc/endpolionow until 9pm on June 2nd. See photos of the event [HERE](#).

Reference Links

- [End Polio Now](#)
- [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#)
- [The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation](#)



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Rotary 
District 5040