



THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORTH VANCOUVER WHEEL SQUEALS



June 20th, 2011

Written by Rolf Gillardon
Edited by David Spears

Joy Jones was at the desk to meet, greet and sign us in for tonight's meeting. Bryan Chalmers led us in O Canada and Bob McKilligan gave the invocation.

Guests:

- Florida Rotarian Steve Dante and his wife Sharon - introduced by John Stuart
- Mr. Jim Hanson, potential North Vancouver Rotarian - introduced by Fred Sverre
- Liane McKenna and speaker Celina Jensen - introduced by Neil Creighton

Announcements:

Joy Jones thanked the club members for their generous Rotary Foundation donations that they topped up tonight.

Sheriff:

Sergeant-At-Arms Alec Wallace successfully increased our Treasury Holdings. Among others, there were several Sad Dollars in consideration of the Vancouver Stanley Cup riots and street violence of last week.

Speaker:

Our speaker, Celina Jensen, was eloquently introduced by Neil Creighton. Apparently they met last year on a return flight from Europe to Vancouver. Celina was a UNICEF Child Protection Worker, having now returned to Canada. She worked in Afghanistan, commencing in August 2008, attempting to implement Rights of the Child Principles.

Child protection essentially covers the child's right to protection from violence, exploitation, and abuse. Principle protection issues are, among others: physical violence and abuse, sexual and gender based violence, psychosocial distress and HIV/AIDS protection.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) guarantees that the rights of children are upheld and was ratified in 1994. Guiding principles are: non-discrimination; the best interest of the child; the right to live, survival, and development; the right to participation. The responsibility for protection and the implementation of the rights of children rests with governments, UN Agencies, international and local non-governmental organizations (NGO's), and others such as police, teachers, parents, health care workers, religious leaders, communities and municipalities.

However, primary responsibility for ensuring children's survival and well being lies with parents and families. National and local authorities in turn are responsible for ensuring that children's rights are respected and that parents, families, and communities do, in fact, have the capacity to protect the children.

Owing to the ongoing war situation in Afghanistan, and the extreme and strong tribal influences upholding ancient and outdated traditions, it is difficult, if not impossible, to implement the Rights of the Child. Unfortunately, children, on a large scale, continue to be extensively abused in Afghanistan and as well, no doubt, in many other places throughout this world.

David Spears provided the Thanks to the Speaker.

Toast:

Deborah Sommerfeld led the toast to Rotary International and Joy Jones led us in The Four-Way-Test.

Future Meetings and Event:

- June 27** **Metro Vancouver Seymour-Capilano Water Filtration Process** - Sharon Peters, P.Eng., Operations Superintendent
- July 1** **Canada Day Parade**
- July 4** **No Meeting** - Canada Day / US Independence Day Long Weekend
- July 11** **Club Assembly**