

THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORTH VANCOUVER

WHEEL SQUEALS

7 JANUARY 2013

By Terry McGauley



Guests

Joy Jones extracted our money and recorded our attendance. Our guest was Paul Singh, the speaker for the evening.

Invocation

Neil Creighton led us in singing O Canada and Norman Thomson gave the invocation.

Announcements

Norman Thomson reported on organizing for the Duck Splash. The total prize package is in the order of \$ 20,000 and we have recently received the proofs for the tickets. Alex Wallace is working with the North Shore News on advertizing, David Spears and John Ward are working on organizing the external selling groups, Neil Creighton is working on the logistics and Deborah Sommerfeld is working on organizing the finish line. It is expected that selling tickets will begin on February 16th.



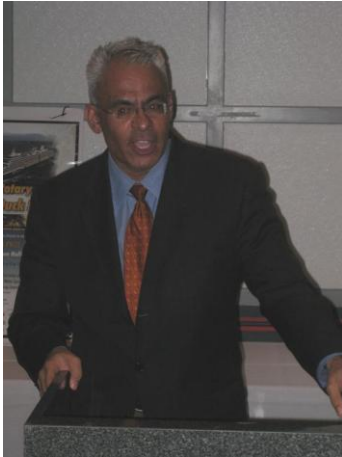
Fred Sverre reported that there were still 5 boxes of salmon available for sale. David Spears indicated that each club would be receiving about \$ 4,000 from the wine festival.

Sergeant - At- Arms

David Spears was the Sergeant-At-Arms and did a diligent job of extracting money from us. Bob Nowell won the draw, but drew the Nine of Hearts.



Program



David Spears introduced our speaker, Paul Singh. Paul is a professional clinical counsellor and is presently President and CEO of one of BC's largest providers of employee and family assistance programs.

Paul spoke on the importance of social connections within the community to the health and well being of people. He indicated that the Vancouver Foundation had undertaken a study of 300 local community organizations in 2011 and 4000 residents in the spring of 2012 and the major concern expressed was the growing sense of social disconnection and isolation of people in the Lower Mainland. People in Metro Vancouver appear to be withdrawing from community life and indicated that they seldom saw their neighbours and preferred to be by themselves. Research has shown that one of the greatest health risks is the lack of depth and breadth of social connections and people appear to not appreciate the value of social connections and overvalue material wealth. Belonging to service clubs such as Rotary increases health and happiness yet these organizations have difficulty attracting members. There is a need to design community facilities and institutions to facilitate more social connections and for the individual to make a greater effort to interact with others for their own well being.

John Stuart thanked Paul and presented him with a certificate indicating we would immunize 20 children from polio in his name.

Toast

David Spears led us in the toast to Rotary International and the 4-Way Test.

Future Meetings

- January 14th - Next Habitat Advisors – Seniors Housing
- January 21st - Rotary Exchange Student Presentation
- January 28th - Club Assembly
- February 4th - Hollyburn Family Services – Adult Safe House

