



Inspiring Times

The Newsletter of the Canadian Club of Victoria Vol I Issue 2 May 2019

Message from the President

We've had such an enthusiastic response to the first issue of "Inspiring Times" that we now plan to issue the newsletter four times a year. In each issue, you'll read about upcoming speakers and events, meet a volunteer, and learn about the Club's plans for special activities.

Don't miss our May luncheon - there's still time to register! We'll venture "Behind the Byline" of noted journalist and Indigenous relations communicator Charla Huber, who will be speaking on the topic of Indigenous Engagement through Storytelling. To order tickets, call the reservation line (250) 370-1837 or visit our website: www.thecanadianclubofvictoria.com before May 17.

I also encourage you to join our Canadian Club Team at the World

Partnership Walk on May 26th. You can participate by walking with us, or by sponsoring the team. The event gets underway at 9:30 am at the University of Victoria and the funds raised help the Aga Khan Foundation deliver incredibly important programs in Africa and Asia. To get involved, visit the World Partnership Walk website and sign up to join the Canadian Club of Victoria team: <https://www.worldpartnershipwalk.com/en/walk-cities/victoria>

In June, we will be holding our Annual General Meeting where the new Executive members will be elected. Being a part of the Executive is a wonderful way to get to know people and to feel connected. For a real-life example of how meaningful it can be, take a moment to read Tricia Horne's article (below) on how she became involved with the Club and what it has meant to her over the past 49 years.

Are you interested in joining the Executive? Please let our nominations chair Ellen Stensholt know, before our May 21 luncheon. If you're not comfortable about serving on the Executive, there are many other less formal ways to volunteer. For example, Sharon Apsey would welcome a volunteer to help out with membership activities and Carolyn Stout is looking for someone to lend a hand with communications and publicity.

Looking ahead, we look forward to a presentation on the future of health care at our June 20 luncheon. This is a topic that touches all our lives, and we expect a lively discussion will follow the presentation.

I hope to see you at one or all of these events!

Susan Haddon



Remembering Irene McDonald

June 15, 1917- February 24, 2019

Irene McDonald was a long-time member of the Canadian Club and a tireless community volunteer for over 60 years. Irene lived her life in pursuit of excellence – whether in the Royal Canadian Airforce, as an educator, or as a leading light in the Canadian Club. She was President of the Club, first in 1998-99 and then again 10 years later, from 2009 -2011, when she stepped in to ensure continuity on the Executive.

Before the union of the Men's and Women's Canadian Clubs, Irene was President, Past President and every other executive position of the Women's Canadian Club of Victoria.

I know from personal experience that Irene, even at the age of 95 in 2012 when I met her, was a formidable arm twister. She knew that succession planning is one of the keys to an organization's success and she did not take no for an answer if she thought you could contribute in some way to the success of her beloved Canadian Club.

Irene was also a volunteer fundraiser for the Canadian Cancer Society and was named an Honorary Life Member in 1995.

Irene served her country as an RCAF Flight Sergeant during World War II. Thanks to the movie "The Imitation Game", the story of Alan Turing and his successful efforts to break the Enigma machine, working at Bletchley Park with a gifted group of code breakers is fairly well-known. What is not widely known

is that the RCAF had a similar group of code breakers and cypher specialists also working to break the Enigma machine codes. Irene was one of those extremely talented women. Her work was so highly classified that she was sworn to lifelong secrecy.

After the war, she became an educator and developed an enriched curriculum for gifted students in Ottawa. In Victoria working with a doctor, she designed and delivered the first Family Life Education curriculum for sex education, which was eventually adopted and taught throughout B.C.

Irene's contributions to her country, her profession and her community were recognized with a number of awards. Among them were two military service medals for voluntary service in World War II; the Canada 125 Medal; the Queen's Jubilee Medal; and the VERA (Valued Elder Recognition Award) from the University of Victoria. Last but not least, Irene was President Emeritus of the Canadian Club of Victoria.

Irene McDonald's life was truly a life well-lived and we in the Canadian Club are very fortunate to have known her and had the privilege of working with her. We are grateful that her daughter, Catherine, also a long-time member of the Canadian Club, will carry on her mother's legacy.

Ellen Stensholt

A “Sneak Peek” at our Upcoming Speakers!

Searching for engaging speakers on a diversity of topics is the task which motivates our Speakers Committee. For the size of our city, I am amazed by the number of personalities of national/international stature we are able to engage!

Our upcoming season will begin with Jonathan Manthorpe's presentation on the very timely topic of Canada's currently unsettled relationship with China. His newly published book, “Claws of the Panda” would be well worth the read over the summer.

Looking to the months ahead, this year's roster of speakers will be one to remember.

Thomas Williams, Chair of the Speakers Committee

Inspiring Speakers - 2019-2020

September 17: **Jonathan Manthorpe** - *Author of 'Claws of the Panda': Canada's Relationship with China.*

October 15: **Pamela Madoff** - *Victoria's Heritage Structures: Preserving by Persuasion*

November 19: **Dr. Andrea Walsh** - *Curating the Art of Residential School Children: "There is Truth Here"*

January 21: **Charlayne T Joe** - *Victoria's Chinese History: Its Legacy in our City*

February 18: **Desiré McGraw** - *Pearson College: Making a World of Difference*

March 17: **Cathy Converse** - *Author of "Against the Current: The Remarkable Life of Agnes Deans Cameron"*

May 19: **Lyndsay Green** - *Author of 'The Well Lived Life': Cultivating Your Individual Legacy*

June 16: **Raincoast Conservancy** - *Orcas and Their Survival (Speaker to be announced)*



Meet Tricia Horne - the Voice of the Reservation Line!

When you phone the Club reservation line at (250) 370-1837, you'll hear the voice of Tricia Horne, who writes and records a new message each month. The story of how Tricia became involved with the Club and the changes she's seen over the past 49 years is quite remarkable.

Here's the story, in Tricia's own words:

"I became involved in the Women's Canadian Club in 1970. My youngest was ten and I wanted to widen my world beyond children & recipes. It was a perfect fit! This was in the days of 'women's pages' in both The Victoria Daily Times & The Daily Colonist. Our meetings, speakers, activities were covered.

Everyone knew about Canadian Clubs. We had over 500 members attending afternoon meetings in the B.C. Museum's Newcombe Auditorium. There was also a smaller men's club which held luncheon meetings.

I was elected to the Board of Directors in 1972 and served for eleven years, becoming president 1980-1982.

Also formed in 1906, with clubs from coast to coast, was The Association of Canadian Clubs, headquartered in Ottawa. This was supported by a tax on each member of each club. The organization was formalized by an Act of Parliament in June, 1937. In 1981 I was elected to the national board, served there for thirteen years and became chairman in 1993-97. The position was re-named 'president' in 1994.)

The two Victoria clubs united in 1995 for luncheon meetings. The men had a reservation system for their meetings operated by W. Sauder. When he retired from the position, I took on the job as my stint as national president was over, although I returned to the board and became president again in 2006—our Centenary.

I enjoy doing it, my voice carries well & members tell us they can hear & understand me. Several years ago I was introduced to a new member. She looked at me and said, "I know you. You're the 'voice' of the club."

How to Win a \$25 Gift Certificate from Fairfield Plaza Heart Pharmacy

It's as simple as encouraging a friend or family member to "join the club!" A growing membership is vital to the continued success of the Canadian Club of Victoria. When you encourage someone to join the Club, Naz Rayani, who is the "heart and soul" of Heart Pharmacy, will present you with a \$25 Gift Certificate to redeem for (almost) anything your heart desires at Fairfield Plaza Heart Pharmacy.



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