

A November Update from the President

'Go Big or Go Home!'

Such is the current motto we have needed to adopt around the Canadian Club Executive these days. And by going big, we opened with our first sold out event in September with CBC personality **Bob McDonald** as our wonderful guest speaker. That was followed in October by another outstanding speaker, **Nurjehan Mawani**, with among many distinguished appointments, was the former Chairperson of Canada's Immigration and Refugee Board. She spoke on the difficult subject of the plight of women and girls in such places as Afghanistan.

Going big to me is not unlike attempting a Five-Star Act. It's listening to Five-Star guest speakers while enjoying a luncheon at the Grand Pacific Hotel; (in fact, the only Five-Star hotel located in Victoria). To be honest, we have little choice, considering that the Grand Pacific is also about the only venue left in Victoria that can handle our events. A consequence of hosting our events at the Grand Pacific was having to boost our ticket price. The forty-five-dollar all-inclusive price for members offers a gracefully served three course meal in one of the most elegant facilities in town; a bargain if I may say so, and certainly something to look forward to. (By the way, the food was also delicious on both occasions.)

If you haven't yet experienced a luncheon at the Grand Pacific, come out on Tuesday, November 16, firstly to attend our Annual General Meeting, and then hear guest speaker **Lisa Hepner**, an award-winning L.A. based documentary and film maker. She will be speaking on "*Science, Hope and Clinical Reality: How close are we to a cure for diabetes?*" Her documentary film on the subject will also be shown. Interestingly, this year marks the 100th anniversary of the discovery of insulin by our own Canadian, Doctor Frederick Banting.

Our 108th '*Christmas Tea at the Empress*' is on Monday, December 6, and we can proudly boast this event as probably being the longest running social event in the City of Victoria! For this to happen, **we really need you to go big!** As costs again have increased, we must raise our ticket price to sixty-five dollars. I trust Canadian Club members will want to launch their Christmas season spirit by coming out and inviting a friend. Let's celebrate this century old tradition... the food, the music, the prizes, and an opportunity to donate to our Irene McDonald Memorial Bursary Fund at Camosun College. Good cheer will be guaranteed in abundance.

For tickets, you will be receiving an Eventbrite notice in your inbox shortly, and I'm looking forward to joining you in going big. It's your club. Please... let's not go home.

My warmest regards to you and your family,

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