



# THE ROTARY CLUB OF NORTH VANCOUVER WHEEL SQUEALS



Sept 26, 2011

*Created By Neil Creighton*

**Desk:** John Stuart greeted one and all in Cheers' small main floor dining room, signed us in and accepted our dinner fee.

**O Canada:** Norman Thomson, with his always finely tuned and harmonious voice, led us in the singing of O Canada.

**Invocation:** John Ward, standing in for Bob McKilligan, gave a very appropriate Rotary invocation.

**Guests:** Our guests this evening included:

- Khayanga Wasike, member of the Rotary Club of Vancouver Quadra and founder of Willing Hearts International Society (WHISCA) - returning for another visit to our club, and
- Michelle Nicholson and Ryan Chapman, also with WHISCA, introduced by Terry McGauley;
- Rogelio (Roger) Silva, Public Relations Director of the Rotary Club of Burnaby, introduced by Bryan Chalmers; and
- Ken Wilson, our Assistant Governor (North Shore/Vancouver), and
- Leslie Konantz, our guest speaker from North Shore Neighbourhood House, introduced by Neil Creighton.

**Announcements:**

- John Ward, speaking on behalf of David Spears, currently in Croatia, reminded one and all of the fast approaching North Shore Rotary Wine & Food Festival - Oct 22 at Park Royal South. He also distributed tickets to all members for sales to friends, colleagues, et al. Tickets are \$50 each and include a \$10 taxi voucher for a safe ride home. Details and tickets are also available on the Internet at [www.northshorewinefest.ca](http://www.northshorewinefest.ca).
- Vancouver Quadra Rotarian guest, Khayanga Wasike, spoke about her international project discussions with our Terry McGauley and Daniel Tardif and also about the success of WHISCA in establishing a Community Resource Centre in her home of Lugari, Kenya, supporting a

- population of 250,000 to 300,000 people. Details of this and other WHISCA projects can be found at [www.whisca.org](http://www.whisca.org).
- Guest Michelle Nicholson told us about her WHISCA related 3 week trip to Kenya in February. She is an environmental engineer and wanted to take a break from her career with this trip. Lo and behold, she ended up at a water project where she inspected some of the very equipment with which she has worked and from which she was trying to get away.
  - Neil Creighton proposed a fund raising project, that of selling chocolates in tins commemorating the City of Vancouver's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. One of the two gents who made the video of this year's Duck Splash offered us this opportunity through his employer, Rogers' Chocolates. Neil provided costing details and asked the executive for a decision as to whether or not to proceed by mid-week.
  - Ken Wilson reminded us of 3 coming events:
    - [Rotary Ride for Rescue](#) Cypress Mountain Hill Climb being put on by the Rotary Club of West Vancouver Sunrise, this Saturday, Oct 2, starting at 10:00 AM.
    - The [Rotary Leadership Institute](#) program also this Saturday.
    - The annual District Governor visit to our club on October 17.
  - Jeff Pearce reminded us that we need to confirm whether or not our club will be participating in Youth Exchange for the 2012/2013 Rotary year. If we do participate it will again be in partnership with the Rotary Club of North Vancouver Lions Gate and we will need to find at least one more host family for a period of 3 months. Jeff has agreed, once again, to be our Youth Exchange Coordinator. This is one of Rotary's best programs so let's step up to the plate.

**Sergeant-At-Arms:** President Michael performed role this week. Our guest, Michelle Nicholson drew the lucky ticket but her luck did not continue as she failed to draw the coveted Ace of Spade from the deck.

**Happy and Sads:** As per usual, Happy and Sad dollars were plentiful:

- Jeff was happy to have spend a wonderful few days at Whistler
- Ken Wilson would be happy to find have a replacement as Assistant Governor for next year.
- Bryan Chalmers was happy to have visited the Disney Museum in San Francisco but sad to have missed the Terry Fox Run.
- Neil C was happy and sad with the local sports scene - happy for the success of the Vancouver Giants Rotary on Ice event (good Rotary participation and a Giants win) and for the Lions' victory, but sad for Whitecaps mounting losses. He was also happy to have attended a house concert featuring [Headwater](#), a North Vancouver band playing a variety of music genres.
- Our guests, Michelle Nicholson and Ryan Chapman were happy to be getting married in three weeks.

- John Ward was happy to have been golfing with fellow club members Norman Thomson and David Spears.
- Daniel as sad to see his daughter off at the airport but happy that she would be joining her sister in Australia.
- WHISCA guest Khayanga Wasike was happy that her Lugari project was completed and that she was heading home to Lugari for Christmas
- Ruth Hanson expressed her happiness to be a Rotarian.
- Burnaby Rotary guest, Roger Silva, told us he was happy to visit our club this evening.
- Norman Thomson was particularly happy to be having a good dinner with his fellow Rotarians after enjoying the pleasure (?) of vegan food last night.

## Program:

President Michael ably introduced our guest speaker for the evening, Leslie Konantz, Manager of Community Engagement at North Shore Neighbourhood House. All the members and guests in attendance gave her a warm Rotary welcome.

Leslie started off by presenting packages of lettuce seeds to all as a symbol of their theme of "neighbours growing neighbourhoods" and in thanks for Rotary's contribution to their programs.

North Shore Neighbourhood House, a not-for-profit society, had its start around a kitchen table, has been serving the community for over 70 years, and is now, among other things, the largest child care provider on the North Shore. The society, with its 250 volunteers, partners with other local organizations (food banks for example) and responds to the needs of the community related to many things including age, demographics and poverty. Its goals and programs include:

- building strong families
- youth services
- supported child development
- young parent program
- whole health for all ages
- recreation and fitness
- seniors connections
- multicultural connections
- community partnerships

The North Shore Neighbourhood House has 122 paid employees and operates on a \$6.7 million budget. A major component of its funding comes from government and from child care revenue but it also depends on donations, in 2010 totally almost \$250,000.

More information about the North Shore Neighbourhood House can be found on its web site (<http://www.nsnh.bc.ca>) and in its annual report ([http://www.nsnh.bc.ca/pdfs/2011/NSNH\\_AR\\_2011\\_final.pdf](http://www.nsnh.bc.ca/pdfs/2011/NSNH_AR_2011_final.pdf)).

President Michael thanked our speaker for her enlightening talk and, in appreciation, presented her with a certificate declaring that the Rotary Club of North Vancouver will, in her name, immunize 20 children against polio.

**Toast to Rotary International:** Bryan Chalmers led the group in toasting Rotary International.

**The 4-Way Test:** Wendy Law led the group in the 4-Way Test.

Of the things we think, say or do:  
Is it the TRUTH?  
Is it FAIR to all concerned?  
Will it build GOODWILL and Better FRIENDSHIPS?  
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

**Adjournment:** President Michael, hearing nothing more for the good of Rotary, adjourned the meeting.

---

#### Future Meetings / Key Dates

Oct 1 (Sat)	<a href="#">Rotary Ride for Rescue</a> - Cypress Mountain Hill Climb, Rotary Club of West Vancouver Sunrise
Oct 3	Film and Human Rights - Don Wright, Regional Coordinator, Amnesty International Canada
Oct 10	No Meeting - Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Oct 17	District Governor Visit - Hans Doge
Oct 22 (Sat)	<a href="#">North Shore Rotary Wine &amp; Food Festival</a> - Park Royal South
Oct 24	Impact of Rotary - Ryan Carrier, lawyer and form UN War Crimes Prosecutor in The Hague
Oct 31	No Meeting - Halloween
Nov 7	Rotary Youth Exchange to Brazil - Michelle Congdon, 2010/11 Rotary Clubs of North Vancouver and North Vancouver Lions Gate Outbound Student

