



Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills

Meeting of November 7th, 2011

Seven members were present at this evening's meeting.

Mike reported for Brian on the Rose Sale. Members were asked for totals to date, and gave the numbers as follows:

- George+Marion 20
- David 7
- Robert 10
- Gordon 36
- Bernie 3
- Alan 17
- Mike+Louise 4.

(Total of 97 from the members present). All members are asked to provide final numbers by email to Brian, no later than noon on Friday November 11th. Delivery will be on Wednesday 16th, and packing and delivery will take place as quickly as possible. The location is 4 High Street, as last year.

All members are asked to state who will be at the Seniors Dinner on November 28th. Spouses are welcome and encouraged. Marion has found two singers for the carols, but as yet no one to play the keyboard – suggestions are very welcome.

George will order and present a wreath at the CP Memorial Day celebration. We will not present a wreath in Almonte this year.

Bernie reported on the Food Bank drive. Members with trucks are asked to help move food from The Independent, Freshco and Giant Tiger to the Food Bank on November 12th, at

10, 12 and 2. Credit will be given to Rotary on a radio interview with Nadine Kennedy. David agreed to be there at 10:00 am; others are welcome. Please help out if you can.

George then welcomed our guest speaker, Bruce Rigby. Bruce has lived for many years in Iqaluit, and he had a fascinating series of slides and observations on life in the North. Iqaluit has grown from a few hundred people to 8,500. They have 10km of roads (not connected with the rest of the world) and about 600 cars. Snowmobiles are a very common form of transport. Scenery is very different from southern Ontario – there are no trees to get in the way of the view. Tides can be as high as 33 feet. Global climate change is having a dramatic effect on the northern climate, with ice forming much later in the season.

Due to transportation costs, many things are very expensive; a pumpkin can run to \$25. Rental of a 3-bedroom house can be \$3,500 a month. There is a literacy problem, but there are many jobs for well qualified people. As in the south, technology is everywhere, especially with young people, who are far more connected than ever before.

Provincial politics is quite different; there are only 19 MLAs, and no political parties. Power generation is all from shipped-in diesel oil; Bruce wrote a cheque for \$13 million on one occasion.