

Kiwanis

Eastern Canada & the Caribbean

Serving the Children of the World™

www.kiwanisecc.org

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My Fellow Kiwanians.... Friends:

It is May and we are called upon to focus on **membership!** Membership is the lifeblood of our organization. Our members are our greatest assets. Let us strengthen our Kiwanis Family by inviting others to join us in making a difference to the lives of others.

We also celebrate our **children** during the month of May. This is a good time to do something special with our Kiwanis KKids and Builders Club. Feel the joy of building young leaders and sharing in their development.

Over the past 4 weeks I visited 7 Divisions in Ontario. It was such a pleasure sharing with our Kiwanians and seeing the great work they are doing in their communities. Some cities seem to be "Run by Kiwanis" with the high levels of support and marketing which takes place by Kiwanis.

I had some first-time experiences which included the Music Festival, TV Bingo and I even had the pleasure of bringing the sermon one Sunday morning... what can I say – service has no boundaries.

There have been some very moving moments during recognition ceremonies, inductions, visiting with children, participating in breakfast feeding programs, sharing in Terrific Kids Programs, visiting Kiwanis KKids, Builders and Key Clubs, participating in the well attended and executed EC Key Club Convention in Kitchener, Waterloo and a very exciting Aktion Club Conference in Scarborough, attending club anniversaries, experiencing the Canada / USA Goodwill Event in Port Huron, viewing exciting and rewarding projects, receiving HIV/AIDS Project contributions, a Caribbean "Jump up" in Brampton and the list goes on.

I am so grateful for this opportunity to share with our Kiwanians and I hope that I have been able to leave a trail of love on my journey.

I would hasten to mention that I have experienced all the different seasons in Canada including "winter in spring". It is such a strange experience to go to sleep on a lovely spring night and wake up the next morning to be surrounded by snow. Thank you GE Gary and LG Linda for converting sunshine into snow.

Special thanks to my 7 Lt. Governors, their partners and members who hosted me over the past month. Well members, you can take a vote on my chosen adjective for each:

- Vivacious Linda Aalst – Division 8
- Hilarious Marjorie Slinn – Division 6
- Charismatic Peter Tudisco – Division 5
- Motivating Jim Gary – Division 4
- Debonair Don Burnard – Division 3
- Articulate Barnaby Ross – Division 9
- Calming Betty Willson – Division 7

As usual, highlights of each visited is posted on the district's website at <http://www.kiwanisecc.org/GovernorsVisits.asp>

We kicked off the **HIV/AIDS project** on Thursday, April 24 at a function in Paris (Division 5) where a cheque was handed over to UNICEF's President - Nigel Fisher for the implementation of the first project which will be done in Guyana. This will focus on the prevention of transmission of the virus from Mother to Child.

We also had the presentation of a cheque for \$57,000 from Trinity Support Foundation being the first portion of their matching funds to the project.

It took the audience by surprise when a small club from Kitchener Waterloo – The Kiwanis Club of Twin Cities, presented a cheque for a CA\$10,000 to the project. \$1,300 was raised from a silent auction. Thanks to Peter Tudisco for putting this event together.

Most clubs should by now have elected their leaders for 2009/10. Please place emphasis on attending the relevant **training** sessions and putting together your club's **strategic plan**.

Keep the Kiwanis fire burning as we touch lives.

With lots of love,

Sheron E. Cameron-Dunn