



Kiwanis®

EASTERN CANADA AND THE CARIBBEAN DISTRICT
L'EST DU CANADA ET DES CARAÏBES

January/February 2020

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Dear Kiwanians:

We are already over a month into the New Year 2020.

My wishes and message to all Kiwanians is; with every New Year comes a clean slate; so what have you or will you be doing for Kiwanis this year? If you do not yet have a vision, then let this positive emotion motivate you to focus on all the wonderful opportunities that are out there that you can do for a better future for the children of the world and for your community.

We have learned over the years a great deal about the necessity of a strategic vision and effective leadership, which is a critical link and a leader's ability to make use of too powerfully communicate its essence and that is what we see in you as our leaders.

The Eastern Canada and the Caribbean District is indeed fortunate that you are serving as enthusiastic Kiwanians for the 2019-2020 administrative year. Under your guidance and support EC&C is sincerely blessed and appreciate all what you are doing.



The first quarter has passed but now is when we should put our minds in gear and shoot for the best.

As your Governor I encourage you to continue on this great journey we all have accepted and let's all put our efforts together to make Kiwanis Greater.

On behalf of KI & EC&C we all extend the best wishes for this year and that you achieve the Goals you have set forth. May 2020 bring you all the comfort, strengthen your vision and knowledge to brighten the future of all the kids around the world.

#KidsNeedKiwanis

Your Governor,

Robert "Bob" Spellen
Kiwanis Eastern Canada & Caribbean District
2019/2020

Building Leaders to Lead...

Governor's Divisional Visits

Collingwood Blitz

Great team work, great experience and wonderful results opening two new clubs during that week. One in Alliston under the leadership of Past Governor Phil, Past Governor Chuck and Past International President Dr. John Button

The members of Collingwood under the leadership of Past International Trustee Gary, myself and the rest of the team that worked along with the two groups.



Fredericton

ty to see the available hotels to be used and the meeting rooms in the host hotel was a great experience.

All in all the venue looks very good.

On the Saturday night I was privileged to be part of Kiwanis Club of Fredericton 75th Anniversary. It was an excellent celebration and I had the honor of cutting the cake and giving my views on 75 years of contributing to the community of Fredericton.

I wish Kiwanis Club Fredericton many more years and keep up the good work.



Division 17

After leaving Fredericton I flew to Bagotville where I was received by Lieutenant Governor (LG) Leonie Boutien who was the host during my 3 day visit to Division 17.

I was taken to several institutes, orphanages, playgrounds, basic schools where breakfast is served and several other places. I was very impressed by the way all the clubs take care of their community,

- ✓ Kiwanis Club La Baie - visited a care center for children they sponsor, accompanied by President Hugues Simard and Past President Mathieu Tremblay
- ✓ Kiwanis Club Chicoutimi - visited two care centers accompanied by LG Leonie.
- ✓ Kiwanis Club Alma - had a luncheon meeting hosted by President Hugues St Laurent and where I expressed Kiwanis International's goals and my input
- ✓ Kiwanis Club Jonquiere - visited a youth center under the guidance of President Claude Desbiens



We then drove to Roberval for an Interclub meeting hosted by Kiwanis Club Roberval. Most of the Clubs in Division 17 were present.

Clubs present were:

1. Host club Kiwanis Club Roberval where all members were present
2. Kiwanis Club St Jean Est, this is a fully women's club with President Melissa Brisson, at the helm accompanied by 5 members
3. Kiwanis Club Alma with their members
4. Kiwanis Club Roberval, all members were present
5. Kiwanis Club Chicoutimi
6. Kiwanis Club La Baie, couple of members were present



Division 21

Governor (LG) John Coulbourne who drove me to PLG Scott and PLG Eileen's home for dinner.

It was a wonderful evening and we discussed many Kiwanis topics.

The following two days we visited 6 clubs where I had the honour to install 7 new members; 1 in Kiwanis Club of Kellingrews, 5 in Kiwanis Club of Bells Island where they also had the honor of installing their 1st female member, and in Kiwanis Club of Carbonear 1 new member.

Clubs visited:

- 1 Kiwanis Club St John's
- 2 Kiwanis Club Carbonear
- 3 Kiwanis Club Kellingrews
- 4 Kiwanis Club Bells Island
- 5 Kiwanis Club Grand Falls
- 6 Kiwanis Club Gander



Editor's Note

I have been observing members of the Service Leadership Programme (SLP), some of whom have moved up in the corporate world and are making sterling contribution in their chosen field. As I reflect on the theme *"Building leaders to lead"* I share some salient points on the value of volunteering in developing oneself as a future leader.

- ✓ When you volunteer, you challenge yourself to work with new and diverse people and explore new surroundings - outside your comfort zone.
- ✓ Volunteerism allows you to develop authenticity through your daily contact with people and gives you a positive outlook on life.
- ✓ Volunteerism develops your networking skills as you come in contact with people from all walks of life. Not only is it important for developing leadership skills but it is also a great opportunity to work on your communication skills.
- ✓ The core principle of volunteering is giving. You help people and groups to surpass different challenges. You make society better, and that's the kind of passion you need for successful leadership.
- ✓ Volunteering gives you space to try new things. It is your chance to take risks and handle different situations differently. When one approach doesn't work, another strategy will. You are only a volunteer, which means you're not getting paid for what you do. That means it's easier to take risks and adjust yourself to the situation as your intuition tells you to. That's leadership, right there.
- ✓ Volunteering not only makes you a better person, but it makes you a true leader as well. Plus it is fun!

<https://www.thindifference.com/2017/02/top-7-ways-acquire-leadership-skills-volunteering/>

Merdina
callu78@hotmail.com

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**JUNE
17-20**

Spreading Christmas Joy

The ladies of the Kiwanis Club of New Providence Division 22 spent exemplifying the Kiwanis International motto of: "Serving the children of the World."

The day started off at Princess Margaret Hospital where members visited the various children's wards (including the babies in the ICU ward). Carols were sung, and each child was presented with a Christmas gift. The staff was pleasantly surprised by the visit and one of the Sister Nurses commented, "I'm in awe that you ladies came out of your homes away from your families on Christmas morning to visit the kids." While there, the ladies also presented a basket to the mother of the first child born on Christmas Day.

It was then onto Bilney Lane Home (for disabled kids) where gifts were delivered to every child as well as a turkey to assist with their Christmas meal.

The third stop was at the All Saints Camp, which is a community for those affected with HIV/AIDS, as well as the homeless. While we gathered in the chapel of the camp, the ladies sang carols and presented each child with a Christmas gift. A ham was also presented to assist with their Christmas meal. At the camp, members of KCNP were able to fellowship with the kids and bonds were formed as a result. Furthermore, members were also able to converse with the residents and identify ways to offer further assistance. KCNP intends to have future visits in early 2020 and hopefully form a lasting relationship. The coordinators of the community were thankful for the visit and they are looking forward to our return.



At the end of the day KCNP can truly say that we live by the motto of Service Above Self as members did not hesitate when President Sherrell made the request to both SLP Chair Irene and YCPO Chair Shakera to make this project possible. Each facility visited offered a unique experience and the smiles on the little faces of the children left a lasting impression. In total 50 children were presented with gifts and 55 members and guests participated.





The Eastern Canada & Caribbean District Convention 2020 is only three months away! May 14-16, 2020 in Fredericton, New Brunswick Canada. Early-bird registration ended Feb. 9, the registration fees are now \$285 until April 14, and then regular registration fees will be \$365. Momentum has picked up and close to 200 Kiwanians have booked already for the Convention. You are encouraged to book now and to reserve your guest room at the Convention Hotel, The Delta Hotels by Marriott Fredericton.

Convention Room Rate Update: \$213.06 CAD per night (Room rate: \$179 per night, plus a new accommodation tax (\$6.27), plus 15% tax (\$27.79)). Delta reservations link:

[Book your group rate for Kiwanis Eastern Canada and Caribbean District](#)

Keynote speaker, Chief Roger Brown, Fredericton Police, will be speaking at the Official Opening Ceremonies. Title of his presentation: "Influencing a community...one police officer at a time".

Keynote speakers at the SLP breakfast: Greg and Kaiya Hemmings will be addressing the audience together on: "How Parents Can Work With Their Kids to Make True Impact".

Check out the Convention website for more details, www.ecc2020.org

**Come Catch The Kiwanis Wave, One Child At A Time,
May 14-16, 2020!**

HISTORY RETOLD

JACK BROCKLEY | DEC 03, 2019

How much do you know
your Kiwanis history



"Lowering clouds drifted darkly over the streets of Detroit that December morning. A thin mist, blowing in from across Lake Erie, filled the air with a cold dampness that streaked the panes of the store windows, many of which already were gay with ribbons and tinsel heralding the approach of Christmas."

That's the way O. Sam Cummings (above, center) described conditions on December 7, 1914, when Allen Simpson Browne walked through the door of Joseph Prance's tailor shop and launched a movement that exists today as Kiwanis. Cummings, who was the organization's first employee — 1918-21 Kiwanis International secretary — wrote but never published a history of the organization in 1952.

A bound copy of his typewritten pages has been discovered, and its pages reveal some interesting details about Kiwanis and the people who found it.

1: Kiwanis was founded by a couple young men. Both organizer Browne (left) and first member Prance (right) were in their 30s on that momentous day.

2: It's well known that the organization began with the name Benevolent Order Brothers — or BOB — and that some founders did not care to be called Bobs. A new name, Kiwanis, was unanimously accepted, but members were uncertain about how to call themselves. "Kee-wah-ni-ser" and "Kai-wan-is-ser" were suggested. In May 1917 Kiwanis

International President George F. Hixson settled the debate, proclaiming, "Kee-wah nee an" as the correct pronunciation of Kiwanian.

3: First club president Donald Johnston realized the importance of social activities to promote fellowship and camaraderie. The insurance salesman organized square dances, at which he acted as the caller and shouted himself hoarse on more than one occasion.

4: These days, the Kiwanis name may be confused with the Australian airlines Qantas. But in those early days, it apparently competed with cornflakes and make-up. One night, at a London, Ontario, curling club, a prominent lawyer of the town remarked, "When I first heard of Kiwanis, I thought it must be some sort of new breakfast cereal or maybe a new brand of face powder."

5. Kiwanis' second club, Cleveland, Ohio, soon developed a keen interest in a hospital for patients suffering from spinal problems, especially bedridden children. The Kiwanians sent to England for a woman experienced in teaching such children and raised funds to establish a training school for young women interested in taking up that kind of service.

<https://www.kiwanis.org/news/newsitem/news/newsitem/history-retold>

Kiwanis EC&C District Key Leader – 2020 Schedule



In 2020, the **Kiwanis - Key Leader Pro-gram** for the EC&C Dis-tribt, which is in our twelfth year, will be offered in **5 loca-tions** in East-ern Cana-da and hopefully 1 location in The Bahamas, here is the **list of camps** and contact information:

Atlantic Canada

Key Leader Snider Mountain Camp — October 2-4, 2020

Snider Mountain, New Brunswick, (near Sussex, NB)

Contact: Peter Curtis — Site Coordinator — Snider Mountain, NB

Email: peter.curtis57@gmail.com

Key Leader Scotian Glen Camp — October 16-18, 2020

Thorburn, Nova Scotia

Contact: John Ryan — Site Coordinator — Scotian Glen Camp, Thorburn, NS

Email: johnryan50@msn.com

Key Leader Bayside Youth Camp — October 23-25, 2020

Sambro, Nova Scotia

Contact: Kevin Ripley — Site Coordinator - Bayside Youth Camp, Sambro, NS

Email: kevin.r@ns.sympatico.ca

Ontario Canada

Key Leader ICSR Big Clear Lake Camp — October 23-25, 2020

Arden, Ontario

Contact: Marie Shaw — Site Coordinator - ICSR- Big Clear Lake Camp, Arden, ON

Email: marie.shaw@century21.ca

Key Leader ICSR Grand River Camp — October 23-25, 2020

Brantford, Ontario

Contact: Sheila Donald — Site Coordinator – ICSR-Grand River Camp, Brantford, ON

Email: s.donald@cogeco.ca

The Bahamas

Key Leader Camp Bahamas — April 2020 (exact date to be confirmed)

Rock Sound, Eleuthera, Bahamas

Contact: Leza Basden — Site Coordinator- Camp Bahamas, Rock Sound, Eleuthera, Bahamas

Email: keyleaderbahamas@gmail.com





FUTURE DISTRICT CONVENTIONS

May 14-16, 2020 - Fredericton New Brunswick

May 19-22, 2021 - Quebec City Quebec

2022 no applications made to host this convention

Any club or division interested in hosting a future convention can contact the District Convention Chair Brian McKeown for information.

Email [brianm @s habriprop erties .c om](mailto:brianm@shabriproperties.com)

Thanks.

Brian McKeown

20 Years Built on Volunteerism, Love, Camaraderie and the Golden Rule



The Kiwanis Club of Hopewell recently celebrated 20 years of service in the community. Then Governor Mel Clarke was the guest of honour and a long weekend of events took place to celebrate the special occasion.

Cutting the celebratory cake at the Cocktail Reception were Past presidents Kareen, Valerie, Glendon, Janet & Hope & Charter President Kerith (5th from right)

Two years ago the club decided to adopt the 3 2 1 concept which has proved successful and despite its many challenges with growth it is still very proud to have birthed a Lieutenant Governor and a District Governor.

Former Key Clubber/Key Leader improving the world one child and one community at a time

People of Sinai Health: Krista Schleicher, PhD Candidate
Dec 5, 2019 | [Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute](#), [Mount Sinai Hospital](#)

There's no doubt about it – Krista Schleicher loves science. As a learner completing her PhD in University of Toronto's Molecular Genetics program and doing her placement in the [Schramm Lab](#) at the Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute, she spends her time at her lab bench completing experiments with optimism that they will uncover new insights into how tumors behave. When she's not working, she's catching up on some light bedtime reading on exciting new scientific discoveries. Krista was also recognized for her work this past year as the recipient of the [Rose Toronto Bursary](#), a Sinai Health education award created to encourage an interest in research and health sciences education.

Krista is doing specialized work in head and neck cancer, studying how gene mutations can result in the initiation and development of oral tumors. She had a pivotal moment as a young adult that sent her on a path of cancer research. When a close friend died after being diagnosed with Ewing's Sarcoma, Krista saw first-hand the devastation of the disease. She says, "it was then that I knew I wanted to go into cancer research, to even make a small dent in the field. I hope that I can contribute some answers on the intricacy of the disease, especially for cancers that currently have minimal treatment options – anything to make a difference. Her memory is what keeps me going."

The work of a scientist can result in long hours, writing, reading, and staring down a microscope. "I've learned more and more recently about the value of balance. Research is great, but you need a life outside of science too," says Krista. She's able to strive for this balance through spending time with her dog-Maple, cozing up with some historical fiction, and travel. "I recently went to Hawaii, and it was great to



just disconnect and recharge in such a beautiful place."

Krista takes a great deal of joy in sharing her passion. "Communicating about science is becoming a big interest for me. Breaking down big, complex ideas for non-scientists is so important in a world that can be skeptical of science," says Krista. One way she does this is as a coordinator of [LTRI's SciHig h program](#), dedicated to sparking interest in science for high school and elementary students. "This program is an amazing opportunity to share cool scientific techniques and experiments with kids," she says. "It helps them to see that the job of a scientist can be as common and normal as the job of a doctor, or a teacher. And that scientists can be girly or nerdy or anything in between and beyond. We're just people who like solving really complex puzzles."

Krista was in Key Club / Key Leader (student facilitator) and an incredible young lady back then and has proven to be an amazing and gifted young adult.

She is also the granddaughter of a long standing Kiwanian, Jacqui McFarlane from Wat North Club.

"Kiwanis Building Leaders"



ed a couple of areas.

Section 13.9 which allows district funds for a Candidate, approved at an ECC District Convention, running for upper Kiwanis International offices, we have defined and limited the amount that the Board of Trustees could allocate.

Section 7.3.9 which defines the signing authorities for the District. We have allowed the Board of Trustees to recognize a qualified Kiwanian to sign off with the District Secretary on invoices, with Governor 's approval, that can be paid by etransfer.

The Trustees have also sent to the clubs 3 suggested club bylaw changes. We hope they will be acted upon and that the clubs send their bylaws to KI for acceptance with those changes.

From your Bylaw, Policy and Procedure Committee:



Baby love...

Lieutenant Governor Barry Whyte 2nd from left, of Division 23 East and Dr. the Hon Christopher Tufton, Minister of Health and Wellness present a baby basket to the mother of one of the first baby born at the Victoria Jubilee Hospital on Christmas morning.

A LOVE STORY

Christine King and Gary Wallen

*Two Hearts, One Love Two
Promises, One Covenant Two
Countries, One World Two
Lives, One Path
A Distinguished Love: DLG and DLGE Unite*

Distinguished Lieutenant Governor of Excellence Christine King

Family. Service. Resilience. Consistency. Devotion. These are some of the themes lived out in the life of Christine King, an island girl who has become quite at home in the city.

Christine grew up in the quiet, pristine settlement of New Bight, Cat Island with her maternal grandparents, Nathaniel and Abigail Gilbert. She attended New Bight Primary and High Schools before relocating with her father, Howard King, to Grand Bahama at the age of 12.

Unquestionably, Christine's steps were ordered by the Lord. In her early childhood, she had the firm foundation of Godly grandparents on both sides. Her paternal forebears, Rev. Octavius and Winifred King added a welcome dimension to her life, as did her father who lovingly cared for her and introduced her to the finer things in life. Howard King, an accountant had ended up working as the Boat Master at Jack Tar Hotel in Grand Bahama. This meant that Christine enjoyed a lavish lifestyle which included dining out, playing golf, driving golf carts and frequently sailing the Bahamian waters aboard luxurious yachts.

After graduating from Hawksbill High School in 1989, Christine was determined to attend college and in order to pursue this goal, moved to New Providence to live with her mother, Advilda Gilbert, for the first time.



The plan was to enroll in the then College of The Bahamas in 1990 and prior to that, to spend a year at C.C. Sweeting Senior High School to better qualify for college Mathematics. Christine enrolled in C.C. Sweeting for a year and was quite successful. However, her linear plan to leave there and enter college, was interrupted by a family crisis. Her mother became ill and Christine found herself, as her mother's eldest daughter, assuming the role of primary care for her mother and her three younger sisters.

In 1989, she went to work at the iconic Bahamian department store, Maura's, as a summer student. Randy Rolle recruited her to work in the paint department and what began as a temporary placement for some extra

A LOVE STORY Cont'd

funds, turned into a sustainable and fulfilling career with people who have become so much more than co-workers. The owners and employees of Maura's became Christine's extended family as she became her family's breadwinner.

In 1992, her mother passed away and Christine continued to care for her sisters, strongly encouraging them to excel in school. Her insistence and their application paid off. Christine shared that of all the things she is proud of in her life, she is proudest of the accomplishments of her three siblings: Loretta, an accountant, Stacey, an educator and Desiree, a registered nurse.

In 1993 when Maura's closed its doors, Christine helped to open another Maura's family enterprise - The Paint Place. She has gone from mixing paint and cashing, sales manager, to working in accounts receivables, accounts payable, human resources and after much courses in learning and developing the entire operational culture of The Paint Place and now serves as its General Manager.

In 2000 Christine's dream of a college education was realized when she enrolled in Bahamas Baptist College and earned an Associate Degree in Accounting.

Being cognizant that she is a product of the unselfish service of others, Christine eagerly dove into civic service upon the invitation of Mr. Arnold Simmons to join Kiwanis. After learning how many pillars of her society had been members of Kiwanis, including the late Sir Lynden Oscar Pindling, Christine not only joined, but dedicated her life to helping to make life better for the less fortunate.

One of the hallmarks of her service, was her devotion to "The Bilney Lane Boys", three male children who had lost their father and were living near The Paint Place on Bilney Lane. With Christine's support and guidance, coupled with the community support she garnered, the boys are now out of high school, with the youngest graduating as head boy and president of his school's Key Club.

Christine never forgot her beginnings and uses her service-centered lifestyle to assess needs and generate solutions for the people of Cat Island where she spent her formative years. She has taken service through Kiwanis to the children by heading computer drives, reading books in schools and building playgrounds. She continues to give back through the largest economic injector to the Island serving as President of The Cat Island Sailing Club.

In addition to service, her interests include writing, travelling, listening to music and socializing.

Stay tuned for the finale ... finding love in Kiwanis



Securing Breakfast for Children through Christmas Ornaments



The annual Christmas Ornament project is a 3-in-1 project combining fundraising, community service and promoting the Kiwanis image.

During his term as 2017-2018 Lieutenant Governor in FK Giantonio Muller came up with an idea for a Divisional project which could be easily executed by the 14 clubs in the 6 countries of the division; resulting in a special Christmas ornament being designed and produced. The club members of the division would request donation from the general public for organizations that provide assistance to needy children in their respective countries and as a token of appreciation for every donation made, the unique Kiwanis Christmas ornament was handed over. At the end of the project over USD 25,000.00 were raised and donated to several organizations in the 6 countries of the division.

Based on the success of this divisional project, the Kiwanis Club of Aruba has decided to continue with the project and has chosen the local Fundacion Ban Uni Man pa Cria Nos Muchanan (Foundation Let's Join Hands Together to Feed our Children) to be the recipient of the funds raised.

The Fundacion Ban Uni Man pa Cria Nos Muchanan was founded in 2001 and their main purpose is to provide daily breakfast to elementary school children on the island that do not have the financial resources to do so. The foundation started by providing around 100

breakfasts daily and is currently providing over 600 breakfasts to schoolchildren on a daily basis. With a donation of AWG 25.00/USD 14.00, the foundation can provide breakfast for one child for one month.

The funds raised through this project will provide the foundation with the much needed funds to continue financing its growing operations as there is a waiting list for more children to receive breakfast.

The 2019 edition of the Christmas ornament project started at the end of October and went up to Christmas eve. This year the design of the ornaments was special as the ornaments were transparent, filled with confetti of little stars and an imprint of children playing. Of course the Kiwanis Club of Aruba logo was also displayed on the ornaments.

The ornaments were distributed amongst the members who had the task to go out into the community to promote the project and Kiwanis in order to get the necessary donations for the foundation. In addition, the committee members went on a media tour visiting several TV and radio shows to promote the project. The project was also promoted thru the club's Facebook page which also caught the attention of FK's all over the world.

For this year, Kiwanis Club of Aruba hopes to make a donation to the foundation of at least USD 8,500.00 so that they can continue providing breakfast to the needy school children of Aruba.



New Kingston Club Skips-a-Meal for the Children at Homestead Place of Safety



The Kiwanis Club of New Kingston has adopted the Homestead Place of Safety, a State operated facility that houses over 60 girls between the ages of 10 and 18, for the administrative year 2019/2020. These wards are in need of care and protection and the Club, through its Community Services Committee, will be introducing a number of programmes aimed at providing material and quality support to them.

In an effort to raise the required funds for the planned activities at the Home, the Club decided to have a Skip-A-Meal fundraising activity as one of its project. The Skip-A-Meal project was launched at club meeting in November 2019 by project leader Distinguished Lieutenant Governor of Excellence Sharon Williams.

The initiative was structured to allow club members to participate in one of three categories, or a combination of categories. The categories were: (i) individual, (ii) family, (iii) work team. Under the individual category, members could also participate in the Biggest Loser competition, where members competed to see who could lose the most weight during the period November 13 – 27, 2019. Members also had the opportunity to participate by collecting funds on lapathon sheets.

Sixty Seven (67) members participated in the initiative through involvement in one or more of the categories. Over **J\$302,500.00 and US\$5 were collected.** Members were placed in donation categories, based on their dollar value contribution. In addition to the donations provided by members, significant monetary contributions were also received from corporate executives.

Tokens were given to the members who participated in the project during a club meeting.

- The family or work group which donated the most funds – Kiwanian Angella Richards
- The family or work group which donated the second highest amount – Distinguished President Valerie Crawford
- The Kiwanian who lost the most weight in the “Biggest Loser” Challenge – Kiwanian Olive McNaughton
- The family or work group that submitted the most fun-looking and creative picture – Vice President Jhenell Allen
- The Kiwanian who raised the most funds on her lapathon sheet – Kiwanian Audrey Lewis

Support for the successful execution of the fundraiser was provided by Distinguished President Audrey Brown who designed the lapathon sheet and prepared one of the two gift baskets; Chairman Nadia Roxburgh who created the Skip-A-Meal flier, Kiwanian Valerie Lee who contributed a Gift Certificate, courtesy of her employer and Jencare Skim Farm, Distinguished Lieutenant Governor Beedus Thompson who loaned his/her husband Russell's scale.

NB: Kiwanis International is the Skip-a-Meal program an annual Kiwanis activity in April of each year where club members are asked to forego a meal and find creative ways to collect funds to be sent to the Kiwanis Children's Fund to assist with the feeding of needy children around the year.

In the past the creativity of the Kiwanis Club of New Kingston “Biggest Loser” competition to raise funds for the Skip-a-Meal programme was one of the Kiwanis International Foundation's favourite stories.



Sharing Christmas with a Ward of the State



"Me can come home wid you now?" In-terpretation "Can I come home with you

Those were the words from the 8 year old ward of the state when I met her for the first time at the Maxfield Park Children's Home.

In December 2018, I responded to The Child Protection and Family Services Agency advertisement inviting qualified persons to "Take a Child Home for the Holiday". This was an opportunity to extend love and the spirit of giving to a child in State care. After I was deemed Fit and Proper by the Child Protection & Family Services Agency (CPFSA), I got the opportunity to take home my little girl for the Christmas. I was so excited to give her all the things that I was sure she was not getting at the Home.

Our first outings took us to the Springs Plaza where we shopped for toys and clothes including a bikini set. I took her to Carol service and Bonfire at church (which she enjoyed immensely roasting her hotdogs and marshmallows) and Divine worship at church. She enjoyed grocery shopping, riding around on the shopping cart. Her longest journey was the ride to St. Elizabeth on Christmas Eve. She was exhausted having never travelled that far before.

Christmas is family time and with my siblings all at home, she added joy to the family, as they embraced her with much love. She enjoyed playing with the pets, going to the pear tree farm with my mother and challenging my brother-in-law with games on his cell phone. She reprimanded my brother several times when he playfully aimed his camera at her, as he knew that their photos are not

permitted. On Boxing Day There was high anticipation for the journey to Treasure beach as she couldn't wait to wear her bikini set. She had a fantastic time jumping the waves and building sandcastles on the beach, all under my close supervision.

After 10 days, I returned a happy and excited child to the Home, anxious to share her story with the others. There were no tears at departure, only a comment that, "Aunty know say she haffi come fi me fi Easter". Since then I have established a visiting relationship with her at the Home. Fortunately, I successfully applied for her again last December 2019 and can say that I shared another 10 days of love, warmth, togetherness, my space and time with my 'daughter'.

The most profound statement came from my brother who posted the following on his Facebook page on December 27, 2018. It reads:

"This has been one of the most sobering Christmas for me. My sister opened our house and we "adopted" an 8 Year old ward of the state from the Maxfield Park Children's Home for the holidays. All I can say is APPRECIATE what you have, never take anything for granted. When you think you have it rough, there is always someone in worst position than you."

This was the best thing that I could have done for a little one at Christmas. She has experienced the love of the entire family and...it doesn't stop there. I had to spread the love.

Kiwanis in my blood and my DNAchanging the world, one child at a time!!!

Judith Montague
Distinguished President
Kiwanis Club of South St Andrew

Celebrating Diversity



Colonel Gray High School in Canada hosted an international coffeehouse last month, in the school cafeteria. A night of food, fun and entertainment from around the world celebrated the school's diversity and the grand unveiling of a Key Club flag project.

More than 250 teachers, students and parents sampled food from international restaurants and watched students showcase their talents. Many student volunteers helped make the night a huge success, setting up, serving food, emceeing, performing, presenting gifts to sponsors and cleaning up when the night was over. It was truly a community event.

This fall, the Colonel Gray Key Club hung the flags of 57 countries on the school cafeteria ceiling to represent the home countries of their student population.

"We hoped through this project to recognize and celebrate the diversity of our school," says Key Club Faculty Advisor Suzanne Lee. "We want to create an awareness that what makes us different also makes us stronger, and that is certainly something to celebrate."

The flag project and the international coffeehouse would not have been possible without the generous support of the Kiwanis Club of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, and the Canadian federal government's Rising Youth Program.



SEE MORE AT
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Kiwanis club of Kralendijk, Bonaire donates 28 child safety seats

Following on the announcement of the implementation of the Traffic Act Bonaire which included the new child safety seat rule, Kiwanis Club of Kralendijk, Bonaire set out to raise funds with a series of fundraising activities to provide safety seat belts for the less fortunate families with children under the age of 4. With the assistance of sponsors and contribution of Bonaire community Club of Kralendijk was able to acquire 28 brand new child safety seats that comply with the safety rules.

Even though the transitional period for the introduction of the new law was prolonged, the safety of the children is important to Kiwanis Club of Kralendijk, Bonaire and could not be postponed.

Together with SHiF/ Youth Care & Family, Kiwanis club of Kralendijk selected Tabitha, Sentro Pre-eskolar Hardin Tia Sus and Mama Hoben Aktivo (Teen Moms). Through the project, more children could be transported safely. The first baby of the year 2020 also received a child safety seat.

The costs of the Kiwanis of Kralendijk, Bonaire Child Safety Seat Project were covered with funds raised by the club throughout the year. In particular the fundraising auction during the second anniversary celebration of Restaurant La Terrazza.



During La Terrazza's anniversary celebration, goods, services and art graciously donated by companies and individuals, were auctioned. Together La Terrazza and Kiwanis Club of Kralendijk raised more than USD1600 for the Child Safety Seat Project. With the cooperation of IFC and Autostoeltje.nl/ Ellermeijer Trading in The Netherlands and local company Rocargo Services, Kiwanis club of Kralendijk, Bonaire was able to arrange for 28 child safety seats to be delivered.

The Kiwanis Club of Kralendijk, Bonaire wishes to thank the following sponsors:

Gabriele Tixi and Angèle van Leusden (La Terrazza), Robert Croes jr. (Rocargo Services), Martijn Burghoorn (IFC), Marcel Ellermeijer (Autostoeltje.nl/ Ellermeijer Trading) and everyone who helped make this project a reality.



Bethany Primary School gets Upgraded Urinal Facility

The boys at Bethany Primary in St. Ann were all smiles and full of excitement; when they came to school and found a fully rehabilitated and functional urinal.

The Kiwanis Club of Charlton-Alexandria had started this project over five (5) years ago, but were unable to complete the project due to financial difficulties. On a visit to the school recently, mention was made of the unfinished project. The club revisited the project and decided to have it completed.

Thanks for the funds from the surplus from District Convention 2018, the Councillor of the Division, members of the community, and club members who enabled the completion.

The facility was totally outfitted with 2 urinals and 2 face basins which brought joy and a sense of relief to the Principal of the school; and a better bathroom facility for the boys.

"Children are our first priority and Kiwanis Club of Charlton endeavours to ensure that we reach one child at a time", said the president.



Immediate Past Governor Mel and Governor Bob during Governor's official visit to the Bahamas



Fredericton, NB

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