

**ROTARY CLUB OKANAGAN MISSION  
MEETING NOTES AND NEWSLETTER  
13 APR 2015  
CREEKSIDE PUB**

**ATTENDANCE:** 16/19 (84%)

**GUESTS:** Fred FROESE, Audrey CARLSON, Maxine DeHART, Mike KARRAN, Richard KING, Bruce and Carol POVAH, Lizanne ALLAN, Cliff SERWA, Yvonne SHIMA

**GUEST SPEAKERS:** Paul WINKLER and Mary Lynn McCAULEY-WINKLER

**BUSINESS and REPORTS**

**CENTRAL OKANAGAN BURSARY SOCIETY:** Howard advised that recipients for the two \$750 bursaries have been selected. Some concerns as to whether or not backup recipients should be identified in the event that the original recipients cannot use the funds for financial reasons etc.

**ROTARY RADIO DAYS:** At the present time we have deposited \$7350 which includes \$100 donation. There is currently \$1000 in outstanding invoices for a total of \$8350. We raised \$8250 last year. Thanks Steve and Howard for your looking after this years campaign.

**UBCO (Adopt and Athlete):** Lois reported that she attended the Valley First UBC Okanagan Athletics Scholarship Breakfast at the Capri Hotel on 10 APR 2015. She presented a cheque for \$1000 on behalf of our Club and challenged other Clubs to match our donation. UBC matches all donations dollar for dollar. Over the past 10 years over \$500K has been raised for the Athletics Scholarship Endowment Fund.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

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|--------------------|---|
| <b>18 APR 2015</b> | <b>Club Visioning Facilitator Training Seminar - Vernon</b>   |
| <b>25 APR 2015</b> | <b>Road Kill - Meet at Creekside for Breakfast a 0900 before we hit the streets. Bring gloves etc. Vests supplied</b>                               |
| <b>23 MAY 2015</b> | <b>New Focus Membership Seminar. The seminar will be held in Kelowna most likely at the Okanagan College on KLO. Exact location to be confirmed</b> |
| <b>29 JUN 2015</b> | <b>Installation Dinner at Creekside. BBQ on patio weather permitting. This is a spousal/partner/guests event.</b>                                   |

**FOUR MORE MEETINGS UNTIL THE END OF THE ROTARY YEAR**

**GUEST SPEAKER: Paul WINKLER and his wife Mary Lynn McCAULEY- WINKLER**

Paul and his wife gave a very compassionate and intriguing presentation on Paul's brave and lonely battle for justice against the powerful media barons Conrad Black and David Radler.

The majority of you were present to hear WINKLER first hand, and frankly I was so caught up in the presentation that my notes and recollection are somewhat lacking. Notwithstanding I will attempt to provide an overview for the benefit of the Club members who could not attend the meeting.

- WINKLER and his family left their native Ontario in October 1996 to assume the position of General Manager of the Lower Mainland Publishing Limited Okanagan Valley Group located in Kelowna. For the first time in career he signed an employment contract. His primary task was to transition the Capital News from a "shopper" (Flyers and advertisements) to a legitimate news source and directly compete with the Kelowna Daily Courier. The Courier was constantly plagued with labour and production problems. By 1998 the Capital News was enjoying considerable success and was slowly overtaking the Courier
- In the spring of 1998 it was announced that there would be a major ownership change at LMPL. LMPL had two shareholders; Madison Partners of Vancouver with 38% and Southam Inc of Toronto with 62%. Madison the minority shareholder had operating control to avoid scrutiny by the Federal Competition Bureau. Most of LMPL's interests were in the Greater Vancouver market place where Southam owned both daily newspapers; the Vancouver Sun and Vancouver Province. The Madison operating arrangement paved the way for Hollinger, owned by Conrad BLACK to assume full control and ownership of LMPL. Hollinger was the third largest newspaper chain in the world, owning most of the biggest dailies in Canada, along with hundreds of smaller operations in the USA. Hollinger also owned The London Telegraph (UK) and the Jerusalem Post.
- David RADLER, BLACK's long time business partner maintained a low public profile but ran most of the rapidly expanding print media empire. He was reputed as ruthless with a single focus on making money at all costs.
- In January 1999 WINKLER was told that he was going to be promoted to President of LMPL, however there was no real official offer of promotion. Shortly thereafter it was rumoured Todd VOGT, a 33 year old protege of RADLER and "former" senior executive with Hollinger was going to buy the Courier.
- On May 1st, 1999 it was announced that a new company Horizon Operations owned by VOGT had acquired the Daily Courier, Penticton Herald as well as 33 US based publications. What was not announced is that the US acquisitions were purchased from Hollinger.

- It was becoming increasingly obvious to insiders that VOGT was a Hollinger front man and that Daily Courier was owned by BLACK and RADLER. VOGT continually publicly denied any association with Hollinger.
- WINKLER along with a number of his loyal colleagues, were certain that RADLER's intention was to falsely identify VOGT as an independent owner to avoid attention from the Competition Bureau. RADLER would then return the Capital News back to a "shopper" thereby paving the way for the Courier to again become profitable without competition.
- In June 1999 WINKLER was advised by his boss in Vancouver that the Daily Courier was going to strike and that he was expected to print and distribute the paper. WINKLER found it impossible to respond to a request to help a competitor that he was trying to put out of business. He was told that Horizon had been set up by Hollinger to buy back newspapers in the United States and in essence they were in reality all part of one Company. It was not true that Horizon was created to purchase US titles, but it's creation was clearly a veiled attempt to deceive. Hollinger clearly did not want Horizon's true ownership to become public knowledge; the real motive being to avoid Competition Bureau scrutiny.
- In November 1997 was decision time for WINKLER. His 1996 contract from LMPL was specific that he was hired for the position of GM for the Okanagan group of newspapers. It was apparent that the papers were now fully owned by Hollinger and that his role would be drastically changed. He did not want to be unwittingly dragged into the fraudulent activities that were quickly evolving. WINKLER sent a letter to his boss in Vancouver outlining his concerns, and suggesting that he would be seeking severance benefits on the grounds that LMPL's, new direction and his diluted responsibilities constituted constructive dismissal. LMPL conveniently interpreted the letter as a resignation and denied any compensation. WINKLER was forced to take legal action against Hollinger for breach of contract and constructive dismissal. The BC Supreme Court ruled in WINKLER's favour in a judgement in August 2002. Hollinger did not appeal.
- On July 20th, 2003 the Chicago Tribune published WINKLER's story which cast a light on BLACK's and RADLER's questionable dealings. The story was picked up major newspapers in North America and abroad and prompted the US Securities and Exchange Commission to launch a full investigation into BLACK and RADLER. The vast majority of the evidence used by the commission was provided by WINKLER. BLACK and RADLER were eventually charged and convicted of various felony crimes. RADLER was sentenced to 29 months in prison and BLACK to six and a half years. RADLER turned States evidence and testified against BLACK in return for the much lesser sentence. WINKLER therefore did not have to testify.
- WINKLER made numerous attempts to bring the wrongdoings of BLACK and RADLER to Canadian security authorities who basically turned a "deaf ear".

By the end of Paul's presentation it was very clear that his long and lonely fight to seek justice had considerable impact on his family both emotionally and mentally. The support from Mary Lynn coupled with his strong ethical and moral values to seek the truth allowed the family persevere. If there are any two people who exemplify the Four Way Test it could be Paul and Mary Lynn .

#### **AND NOW FOR THE LIGHTER SIDE**

A Minister was completing a temperance sermon...

With great emphasis he said "If I had all the beer in the world I would take it and pour it into the river"...with greater emphasis he said " If I had all the wine in the world I would take it and pour it into the river"....and finally shaking his fist in the air he shouted ..."If I had all the whisky in the world I would take it and pour it in the river" Sermon complete he sat down...the choir master then stood very cautiously and announced with a smile..."our closing Hymn will be 365...."We shall gather at the river"

The Saskatchewan Department of Employment, Division of Labour Standards, suspected that a small farmer was not paying proper wages to his help so they sent an investigator out to investigate him

**INVESTIGATOR:** I need a list of your employees and how much you pay them.

**FARMER:** Well there is my hired hand who has been with me for 3 years. I pay him \$600 per week plus free room and board and unlimited use of the pick up. Then there is the not so smart guy. He works at least 18 hours a day and does 90% of the work around here. He makes about \$10 per week, pays his own room and board, and get a bottle of whisky every Saturday night so he can cope with life. He sleeps with my wife occasionally.

**INVESTIGATOR:** That's the guy I need to talk to....the not so smart guy

**FARMER:** That would be me

**NEXT MEETING:**

**27 APR 2015:** Guest Speaker Neil WILLIAMS KGH Foundation

Board Meeting to follow Regular Meeting

That's all Folks...Have a great weekend..

**OKM Secretary**  
**17 APR 2015**

