HISTORY OF DINING WITH THE AMBASSADORS

Dining with the Ambassadors, the Rockcliffe Park Foundation's signature fundraising event, has been a favourite neighbourhood tradition for more than two decades.

Dining with the Ambassadors has roots dating back to 1947, when Maryon Pearson, the wife of Secretary of State for External Affairs Lester B. Pearson, launched a black-tie dinner known as "The Dance Club". She envisioned the event as a way to introduce newly-arrived diplomats posted to Ottawa to their neighbours and some of their foreign service counterparts. Over the years, as more and more countries placed their official residences in what was then the Village of Rockcliffe Park, the event became a high point of the social calendar.

More than 50 years later, a group of Rockcliffe neighbours including Marianne Feaver, who still serves on the organizing committee, built on the tradition of The Dance Club and, in 1999, relaunched it as the unique event we are enjoying tonight.

Dining with the Ambassadors brings neighbours and friends from around the world together and raises funds for activities and programs in Rockcliffe Park.

THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT PARTNERS



OUR RECEPTION PRESENTING SPONSOR

Marilyn Wilson Dream Properties Christie's International Real Estate





May 12, 2023

Dining with the Ambassadors



FRIENDS OF THE VILLAGE PARTNERS

The Minto Group Foundation WCPD

Rockcliffe Park Foundation

DIPLOMATIC HOSTS 2023

New Zealand

His Excellency High Commissioner Martin Harvey and Mrs. Sarah Harvey 89 Placel Road

Kingdom of Thailand

His Excellency Ambassador Kallayana Vipattipumiprates 489 Acacia Avenue

Kingdom of the Netherlands

Her Excellency Ambassador Ines Coppoolse and Mr. Alexander Verbeek 344 Manor Avenue

Kingdom of Belgium

His Excellency Ambassador Patrick Van Gheel and Ms. Isabelle Van Goethem 260 Park Road

Kingdom of Spain

His Excellency Ambassador Alfredo Martínez Serrano and Mrs. Rosa Pañeda Usunariz 11 Crescent Road

State of Israel

His Excellency Ambassador Ronen Hoffman and Dr. Michal Arad 118 Willingdon Road

Barbados

His Excellency High Commissioner Gline Arley Clarke and Mrs. Harrietta Clarke 1368 Lisgar Road

DIPLOMATIC HOSTS 2023

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

His Excellency Dr. Noureddine Bardad-Daidj and Mrs. Mounya Bardad-Daidj 737 Manor Avenue

Japan

His Excellency Ambassador Kanji Yamanouchi and Madam Yukiko Yamanouchi 725 Acacia Avenue

Republic of Cyprus

His Excellency High Commissioner Giorgos Ioannides and Mrs. Christina Panayiotou 480 Fernhill Road

Commonwealth of the Bahamas

His Excellency High Commissioner V. Alfred Gray and Mrs. Bessley Gray 211 Lakeway Drive

Switzerland

His Excellency Ambassador Olaf Kjelsen and Mrs. Carine Kjelsen 494 Lansdowne Road North

ROCKCLIFFE PARK FOUNDATION

A heritage conservation district, Rockcliffe Park is a vital and engaged neighbourhood, with a rich history in a unique park-like setting. It is this community, history, and environment that Rockclife Park Residents Association and Rockcliffe Park Foundation volunteers work together to support.

While these two neighbourhood organizations are distinct, they are linked in practice and mandate. The RPRA manages the programs and events in our neighbourhood; and the Foundation provides the funds.

When you support the Rockcliffe Park Foundation and this event, you fund the Rockcliffe newsletter and our village events such as the Heritage Walk, Movie Night, Tree Day, and the Speakers Program. You are also supporting the many ongoing environmental and conservation programs in Rockcliffe Park. This includes water testing at the Pond and McKay Lake, tree planting to preserve our maturing tree canopy, maintenance of the sports field at RPPS and Jubilee Garden, and conservation initiatives including the data collection project last summer on Pond use so that efforts at both conservation and continued access to the Pond can be maintained.

Thank you for joining with your neighbours to help us raise funds — and to celebrate together.