

# "The Pulse"

## November 2016

Activities

**Wednesday, November 2, 2016**: the OHSG Executive Committee meeting will be held at the Holland's house 6029 Voyageur Drive, Orleans ON K1C 2P5. From 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

### Monday, November 21, 2016:

Guest Speaker: Dr Gyaandeo S Maharajh MDCM, MSc, FRCS(C) Topic: "From Despair to Hope – The evolution of congenital cardiac surgery thru the advent of the arterial switch operation."

Dr Maharajh is currently Chief, Division of Cardiovascular Surgery at CHEO. He is also the Lead Adult Congenital Cardiac Surgeon at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute and was fundamental in building this program. Dr Gyaandeo S Maharajh was born San Fernando, Trinidad, and West Indies and immigrated to Canada in 1980 where, after completing High school in Trinidad attended McMaster University to do BScs in Biochemistry and Biology/Computer Science. Dr Maharajh attended McGill Medical School 1986 – 1990. Subsequently did training in General Surgery in Winnipeg 1991 – 1995 where he also obtained an MSc. His Cardiac Surgery training was carried out at the Ottawa Heart Institute 1995 – 1998, followed by Congenital cardiac surgery fellowship at the hospital for Sick Children 1998 -1999, Congenital cardiac surgery fellowship at the Children's Hospital, Denver, Colorado, 1999 – 2001. Dr Maharajh joined the staff at the Univ. of Ottawa Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) and University of Ottawa Heart Institute in 2001. He is currently Chief, Division of Cardiovascular Surgery at CHEO and also is the Lead Adult Congenital Cardiac Surgeon at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute and was fundamental in building this program. He is also a Consultant Cardiovascular Surgeon at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto.

Born in Trinidad, Dr Maharajh travels there twice a year on Missionary Trips to operate on children with heart defects who must wait years for treatment. Dr Maharajh is a father of 3 young adults and also a Hindu priest, whose faith informs his service to others.

**Our last meeting October 17, 2016**, happened during a perfect storm for putting on, our monthly meeting. Our President went to the hospital, short notice; our guest speaker could not attend at the last minute. Then there was light, The Vice President with Mary Cameron went to work getting the callers busy and working with Jane Brownrigg for a temp speaker. The presentation title was not the same but everybody that attended was delighted with the show.

Three Cheers for Michael Pinfold Jane Brownrigg and Mary Cameron, Roy Cameron and the callers for getting the people out to an unforgettable evening.

**Ottawa Heart Support Group Members were saddened** to hear that one of our chartered members David Woodland died on Oct 17th age 65. He was one of our original members and always came to our meeting with a couple of his friends. It was learned at a meeting that Dave had passed away. The obituary wasn't in the paper until this past Saturday. It wasn't his heart that caused his death but cancer which was not widely known. I always thought very highly of David and had many pleasant conversations with him. I notice that there is a celebration of life on Saturday, Nov 5, 2016 at 7pm at the First Unitarian Congregation of Ottawa.

#### REMEMBER

### Do not put money in the machines for parking on Ruskin Street after 7:00 P.M.

"Remember, it's our responsibility to keep ourselves adequately informed — and to proactively manage the state of our health!"

"One" organ donor can save up to "Eight" lives Check out beadonor.ca, or http://giftoflife

William A Holland President, Ottawa Heart Support Group

