

# The Charleswood Connection

## Myrna Driedger

NOVEMBER 2014

MLA CHARLESWOOD



### Chief Devon Clunis



*"I believe that one person can make a difference. But I also know what can happen when the power of one is multiplied by a group of individuals committed to a cause."*

Devon Clunis

### Creating a Culture of Caring

Chief Clunis was born in Harmony Vale Jamaica and immigrated to Winnipeg in 1975 at age 11. Growing up in a diverse and sometimes challenging environment, he witnessed firsthand the socio-economic challenges faced by many groups in society. It was his desire to impact social change that led Chief Clunis to join the Winnipeg Police Service in 1987. Chief Clunis is married to his wife Pearlene and has two daughters.

He has served in major areas of the Police Service, including Uniform Patrol, Traffic, Plainclothes Investigation, Community Relations, Organizational Development & Support, as well as a number of administrative leadership roles. Chief Clunis is an avid volunteer participating in mentorship programs, police basketball and bicycle relay teams, and also serves as a police chaplain. He was a recipient of the Police Service's Award of Excellence in 2002 recognizing his outstanding po-

lice and community work. His leadership philosophy is "people first" and consistently seeks to create a healthy work environment for those he is privileged to lead. Chief Clunis was promoted to Patrol Sergeant in 2002, Sergeant in 2004, Inspector in 2007, Superintendent in 2010, and was appointed Winnipeg's 17<sup>th</sup> Chief of Police November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012.

Chief Clunis has ushered in an era of Crime Prevention through Social Development for the city of Winnipeg, believing that providing cross cultural opportunities for social and economic equity will create a safer, healthier Winnipeg, resulting in sustainable crime reduction.

He is president of the Manitoba Association of Chiefs of Police, member of the Board of Directors of The Canadian Police Knowledge Network and member of the Poverty Reduction Council of Winnipeg.

He is a respected leader who believes the future of Winnipeg hinges on the creation of a culture of safety for all, and is proud to help lead in this way.

In the spirit of these efforts, Chief Devon Clunis has started a video blog series dubbed "Creating a Culture of Safety".

This video series is his opportunity to communicate with the community on a regular basis by sharing information about what is happening within the Winnipeg Police Service and about new initiatives.

Charleswood community leaders are honoured to have Chief Clunis speak to us and thank him for this opportunity.



## Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians

Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) International was founded by women delegates at the 1989 plenary conference of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) so women at future conferences could discuss ways to increase female representation in Parliament and work towards the mainstreaming of gender considerations in all CPA activities and programmes. In 2004, the group was formally recognized in the CPA Constitution.

Myrna attended international meetings for 6 years—3 as CWP Canada's Vice Chair and 3 as CWP Canada's Chair. The Chair also represents Canada on the International Steering Committee; she was elected Vice Chair on the International

Steering Committee for a 1 year term.

CWP Canada was created in 2005 and is made up of women parliamentarians and legislators from across Canada. A concerted focus on the functioning of CWP Canada took up much of Myrna's time in the past several years. CWP Canada has the goals of increasing female representation in legislatures in Canada and the Commonwealth. Its goals and objectives are:

- to provide opportunities for strategic discussion and development for future and current parliamentarians
- Increase female representation in our parliaments
- Foster closer relationships among Canadian women

parliamentarians

- Foster relations with other countries having close parliamentary ties with Canada ; and
- Discuss, strategize and act on gender related issues in Canada and internationally.

The CWP pursues these objectives by means of annual Commonwealth parliamentary conferences, outreach programs and participation in campaign schools across the country.

As Myrna finishes her term she is pleased that she was able to lead CWP Canada through a strategic planning process. CWP Canada is at the forefront internationally in organizational development and achievements.



## In the Community



Charleswood Historical Society celebrated the installment of historic plaque and interpretative panels near the Passage in Charleswood, a historic site located on the Assiniboine River and Berkley St. They are also planning similar panels by Caron House. The museum at 5006 Roblin Blvd is open every Saturday afternoon.

### CONGRATULATIONS !!

- To ***"Lunches with Love"*** on the occasion of their 2nd anniversary of providing lunches to the homeless. Seen here at a recent fundraiser with founder Nathan Unrau's Mom Elsie and Fund-raising Director Kat Lepischak-Hiltz



- Oak Park Raiders Football Team for winning the ANAVETS Cup. They were successful in the Winnipeg High School Football League's AAA final at Investors Group Field in Winnipeg, Man., on Fri., Nov. 7, 2014.
- Westdale Junior High Cheerleaders for winning a provincial championship.
- Oak Park High School cheer-leading team on their bronze medal wins at an international cheer-leading competition. They won this bronze medal at the World School Cheerleading Championships in Orlando. They also won a provincial championship the past 3 years.
- Daria Jorquera Palmer, a Charleswood fencer who is ranked No. 1 in senior women's epee in Canada for the 2013—2014 season. She won bronze in both the individual and team categories in fencing at the first Pan American Sport Festival in Mexico City in September.





## Charleswood Community Leaders Networking Luncheon

Following a community assessment, **Myrna** identified the need for an opportunity for community members to come together to share views about the community in which we live. In order to fill this need, the **Community Leaders Networking Luncheon Series** has been established for the purpose of providing community leaders with an opportunity to network and hear about activities going on in Charleswood. The newsletter, "***The Charleswood Connection***", is also published for the same purpose.

Dear Community Leaders:

Thank you for once again participating in the highly successful "Shoebox" project. This project began in 2011 and Winnipeg joined in last year due to the efforts of a Winnipeg woman, Eva Whitmore. Her hope was to collect 300 shoeboxes of items to give to women in the women's shelters. By the time it was over there were almost 1400 shoeboxes. What awesome results! That's what I would call exceeding your goal, and many women who would not otherwise have received a gift over the holiday season enjoyed them. They were distributed to over 30 women's shelters, and organizations that work with women, in 10 communities across the province.

I hope that you are able to spend time over the Christmas holidays with your family and friends. Christmas is a magical holiday season that brings with it joy, love, and heart-warming thoughts. May your home be filled with the magic and joy of Christmas and may your hearts be filled with love and warmth.