

The OPTIMIST

Fall 2016



Meet the 2016-17 Optimist
International Leadership Team



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL



Canadian Children's
Optimist Foundation



CANADIAN CHILDREN'S OPTIMIST FOUNDATION

The first Gala organized by the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation to recognize scholarship award winners took place on Tuesday, June 28, at Le Parlementaire Restaurant located in the Parliament Building in Québec City. The event, held in conjunction with the Optimist International 2016 Convention, raised \$10,000 for the World Oratorical Championships. It also highlighted Olga Farman, honorary President of the Gala and winner of both the Oratorical Contest at the District level in 1991-92 and the Essay Contest at the International level in 1993-94.

Following Farman's recent nomination as managing partner for the Norton Rose Fulbright's Québec office, the young lawyer was profiled in an article published in Le Journal de Québec, in which she speaks of the importance of these contests in her career. Her passion for law goes back to her early childhood. Her successful participation in the Optimist International Oratorical Contest led a family friend, the late Judge Lemieux, to say that "someday, Olga will be a lawyer." Her background could have led her to a great career in litigation, but she finally took another path after she completed a Master of Business Administration degree. She discovered business development strategies, as well as communications, human resources and financial management. Beyond supporting and providing legal advices, she is passionate about making sure that her views will have positive impacts in organizations. She does not only advise, she assists companies in their growth strategy. Giving back is a part of her, and it shows in her work.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF WOMEN IN OPTIMISM

Like Olga Farman, women both inspiring and inspired by Optimists' values will be honored by the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation's 2016-17 campaign. As we commemorate the 30th anniversary of Women in Optimism, Nina Strickland – the Canadian Foundation's first female President – launches, with enthusiasm, a special pin. As an experienced gardener, Strickland has chosen a rose as the campaign's emblem. It is a very relevant symbol, because cultivating the Foundation will result in flourishing youth.



CLUB GRANT

Has this summer inspired you with ideas to help your community's youth bloom? Apply through the CCOF Club Grant program before December 31 for a chance to receive a \$500 grant for setting up your community project.

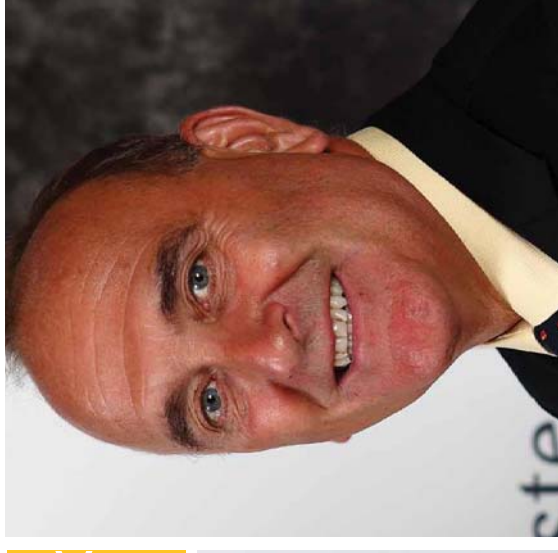
With this grant, the Vars Optimist Club hosted a Canada Day party. This free event, organized for the 10th year, brought together 1,500 community members celebrating their pride to be Canadian and Franco-Ontarians.

Visit <http://ccof-foec.org/> for more information about the CCOF Club Grant program.

OPTIMIST FOUNDATIONS

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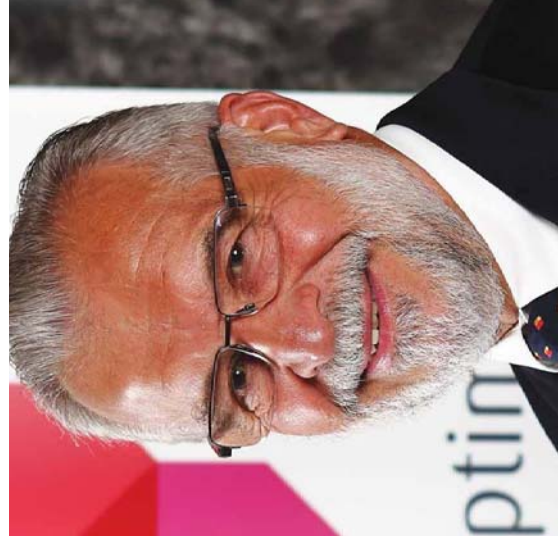
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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



Nina Strickland
PRESIDENT



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