DCON 2017 - A Time to Remember

DCON (District Convention) took place from March 31st to April 2nd this year in Niagara Falls.

It was certainly a time to remember for all those who attended from the A.Y Jackson Key Club. We were greeted with many smiles from the time we entered the lobby of the Crowne Plaza Hotel. These smiles belonged to numerous members of the widely respected Eastern Canada District Board.





After checking into the hotel rooms which had breathtaking views of both the Horseshoe Falls and the American Falls, we all went to down to the Victoria Room for the "Meet and Greet." Here we played three games: "Squirt", "Heads Up" and "Musical Chairs. In the game, "Squirt", our skills of being sharp and agile were put to great use. In the game, "Heads Up", small pieces of paper were to one of our foreheads and all those participating were allowed to only ask three questions to each person in an attempt to guess the word written on their given piece of paper. After the "Meet and Greet" it was time for the delicious all-you-can-eat pasta dinner.



At dinner, we were all wearing our A.Y Jackson Key Club apparel, for which we received many positive comments from members of other Key Clubs. During the dinner, all Key Clubs were welcomed by the District Board, the Host Division, Kiwanis and Key Club International. A.Y Jackson Key Club earned two awards on this night: The Strive for Five Award, which is given to any Key Club whose growth, has increased by at least 5 members and Recognition for Contribution to UNICEF.





The talent show that followed the dinner took was filled with amazing acts. These acts included a magic show, a dance with inflatable rings, and an awe-inspiring performance of "Shape of You".

The following morning, all were dressed in business professional clothing and ate a delicious and mouth-watering breakfast. After breakfast, all members of the A.Y Jackson Key Club attended Divisional Caucuses, in which speeches were given by Key Clubbers running various District positions.





After the Divisional Caucuses, Key Clubbers were given the choice of attending a variety of including "President and Vice-President Survival Guide", "Calling all Editors and Webmasters", "Club Secretary and Treasurer Training Party" and "Answering the Call to Lead".





We also contributed to "MILKBAGSunlimited" to tie milk bags into balls which were be woven together to create mats. These mats are then used as mattresses and beds in third world countries.



During the time of the milk bags, the House of Delegates was taking place in the Niagara Room, in which the District Governor and District Secretary-Treasurer were elected.

Lunch quickly followed the House of Delegates. Key Clubbers were given a wide variety of restaurants and cafes to choose from. After lunch and one more workshop Key Clubbers participated in a Treasure Hunt followed by free time.

The Recognition Dinner, which took place later that night was certainly a night to remember for all those attending from the A.Y Jackson Key Club which proudly received an astonishing 7 awards for the night. These awards included: 1st place in the Club Video Contest, 1st place in the Club Poster Contest, 3rd place in the Oratorical Competition, 3rd place in the Club T-Shirt Contest, 3rd place in the Traditional Scrapbook Contest, 2nd place in Silver Division of A.J Tony Pelosse Single Service Award and District Governor Service Project Contest.





Towards the end of the dinner it was announced that the District Convention of 2018 will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia.













The final day of DCON began with a delicious farewell brunch. During brunch, another set of awards were given to fellow Key Clubbers and Advisors. As the farewell brunch came to an end, many, particularly members of the District Board, were in mere tears during the final addresses and speeches given.





As DCON came to its end many members were saying their farewells to all of the friends they have met through Key Club and grown ever so close to over time. Farewell to the joyful and memorable times Key Club has given then. Farewell to an extraordinary organization that continues to make a lasting impact in the world.



Article by: Lakith Ranaweera Editor: Natalie Wong Photo credits: Karissa Liu

Click <u>here</u> to see all our achievements at DCON.

See more <u>pictures</u> of DCON.

See our <u>Key Club Website</u> for more pictures and upcoming events.

