

St. Catharines Torch Club Bulletin – January 2017

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 11th
Social Hour 6 pm, Dinner 7 pm

Location: Best Western, St.Catharines

Dinner: The January 11th menu will be -

Nine Cut Chicken
Two Salads
Oven Roasted Potatoes
Vegetable Medley
Bread Rolls
Assortment of squares and pastries
Tea, regular or decaffeinated coffee
Vegetarian options available upon request.

Cost; \$25 per person

Speaker: Dan Madar

I was born in Spokane, Washington and grew up in San Francisco. My BA is in International Relations from San Francisco State University - the first institution to found a separate department of IR. My MA and PhD are from the University of Toronto. I taught International Relations at Brock University for 41 years, retiring in 2012. I have written three books, and the most recent one, **Big Steel**, is on the world steel industry. In addition to IR I taught West European Politics, the international economy and co-taught the MA program's core seminar on great works in politics. My retirement status is professor emeritus.

Topic: *Will We Miss the Cold War?*

The collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 ended the Cold War. For 45 years that conflict had organized the world into opposing blocs, secured by massive and carefully balanced deployments of armed force. Huge nuclear arsenals made both sides careful to avoid any clashes that might escalate, making the system frightening but stable.

Since then Russia and China have become revisionist powers. Both seek to enlarge their spheres of dominance, and both show themselves ready to use military force. Russia has already done so by annexing Crimea and backing an insurgency in eastern Ukraine. European states along Russia's periphery fear that they will be next. China claims the

South China Sea as sovereign territory and is converting islands and atolls into de-facto possessions. China insists that its neighbours defer to its economic and military power. Countries in both regions depend on collective defence - NATO for Europe and bilateral alliances and security agreements for Asia. Key to both is the orientation of the United States.

The dynamic is psychological as well as material.

Our December Meeting consisted of a dinner and seasonal Singalong. Music was supplied by Frank Krah, pianist.

Saying 'thanks': At our January meeting we ask members to contribute towards a small gratuity for the Howard Johnson kitchen and serving staff in appreciation for their efforts at our monthly meetings.

Speakers for 2016-17

Wed. Jan. 11	Dan Madar: Will We Miss the Cold War?
Thurs. Feb. 9	Abraham Rempel: <i>Title to Be Announced</i>
Wed. March 8	Alan Veale: The Future of Beaverdams Creek
Thurs. April 13	Dale Shipley: Smart Growth for Sustainable Lifestyles
Wed. May 10	Steven Bronn: Making Your Money Last in Retirement
Thurs. June 8	Summer Social

Wishing everyone a Happy and Prosperous New Year 2017 !!!