

# U.S. Consul General visits American women in Oakville

by Dominik Kurek  
Oakville Beaver Staff

U.S. Consul General Jim Dickmeyer is in Toronto serving a three-year term as the head of the American Consulate — but he was in Oakville Thursday.

He was here to meet with American women living west of the city, as he spoke at a luncheon hosted by the American Women's Club of Oakville (AWCO).

The club offers a social gathering for women who live in this community, but are U.S. citizens.

"We're introducing him to our club," said

AWCO president Kathie Maurer. "We saw him speaking at the Toronto club in November and we thought it would be nice for him to get out and meet the sister club of Toronto. He's a great speaker. He's been around the world."

Dickmeyer is a professional diplomat who has served in Mexico, Bolivia, Guatemala, Paraguay and Brazil, before coming to Canada.

The consulate serves U.S. citizens who either live in Canada or are visiting, and works on such things as visas and trade promotion.

Dickmeyer however spoke to the club about the consulate's functions and about some of the initiatives it is currently working on, such



The American Women's Club of Oakville held its annual general meeting and invited U.S. Consul General Jim Dickmeyer to speak. Pictured here, from left, past presidents DeDe Hacking, Carrie Maiorano, Laurie Via, Dickmeyer, club president Kathie Maurer, and past presidents Ela Landegger and Carol Ann Nicolai.

photo by Nikki Wesley — Oakville Beaver (Follow on Twitter @halton\_photog)

as Beyond the Border: A Shared Vision for Perimeter Security and Economic Competitiveness.

Beyond the Border was signed by both countries, and is part of Canada's Economic Action Plan.

"Beyond the Border is basically a three-year, very interesting framework in which we're trying to make it so people with goods can pass back and forth very quickly and easily. The two nations also agree on providing common security for our citizens."

The agreement goes beyond the border, pro-

viding a framework for both nations to work together to enhance security and speed up the flow of people, goods and services.

Dickmeyer said the U.S. embassy in Ottawa directs the international initiatives, but each of the seven consulates throughout Canada plays a part as well.

AWCO serves the populations of Halton and Peel and offers men and women the opportunity to get together for social activities, such as golf and hiking, plus to fundraise for local causes. For more information or membership information, visit [www.awco.ca](http://www.awco.ca).



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