

## Max Keeping Speaks at Rideau Park United

By Elizabeth Bryce

When you hear the name Max Keeping, you might think of his many achievements: the order of Canada, honorary degrees, and the humanitarian awards he has received for his work in the community. But the Ottawa broadcaster doesn't speak of them that way. Instead he speaks of them as privileges and opportunities.

As community ambassador for CTV, Max Keeping was the speaker at Rideau Park United Church's Harmony Club for their September meeting. The Harmony Club is a senior's group, mostly from the local area, that meets once a month. Mr. Keeping directed many of his comments to the members of the group, saying how thankful he was for the Ottawa community they built and told members to be proud of the spirit of generosity they fostered in Ottawa's development. He spoke about how he, a Newfoundlander, had been warmly welcomed into the city when he came as a journalist "for five years, and then stayed for 45." The close-knit staff team at CJOH has been part of what has made Ottawa home, supporting one another through joy and tragedy.

Because CTV built its audience on community contacts, Mr. Keeping talked about the privilege he enjoyed being invited to participate in charity events, and to meet fascinating and inspiring people from the community. He was proud of the reputation of CHEO and cited Ottawa's support for its children's hospital as the strongest in North America. Other organizations in Ottawa are working just as hard to build support for seniors and newcomers, and Mr. Keeping is equally enthusiastic about being involved in that work as well.

The audience asked about the future of journalism, and Mr. Keeping remarked on how changes in technology have created an explosion of news sources, and the even greater need for objective and diligent journalism. He reminded his audience that it is up to the readers or viewers to detect possible bias in their news sources and make up their own minds about what is the truth.