

## **TRAS Director Lynn Beck introduces our new Honorary Patron, Dr. Anthony Phillips. at the 58<sup>th</sup> TRAS AGM**

It is my honour and privilege to introduce Dr. Anthony Phillips as our new Honorary Patron.

I first met Tony when I joined the board of TRAS in 1991. It was the calibre of the people involved in TRAS, with their insight into the Himalayan region and its problems, that attracted me to TRAS; people such as Tony Phillips, Daphne Hales, Joan Ford and Barry Leach among others. We even had a copy of the book at home called *The Walls of India*. It was based on a journey to India by George Woodcock, the founder of TRAS, and Toni Onley, a BC artist. Accompanying them were Tony Phillips and his wife Margo.

Tony had joined TRAS in the late '70s after meeting the Woodcocks. Tony's passion was International Development. He was particularly interested in lifting communities out of poverty through the empowerment of integrated community development projects. One of the NGOs he worked very closely with was the Central Himalayan Rural Action Group [CHIRAG] based in the Kumaun region of Uttarakhand in India. With Tony as the Projects Director, TRAS worked with CIDA on many large projects to improve the quality of life in these communities.

Dr. Phillips has had a very busy and accomplished career. He has been an active Professor in the Departments of Psychology and Psychiatry at UBC for 50 years. He is a Senior Investigator with the UBC Djavad Mowafagian Centre for Brain Health. He was the founding Director of the UBC Centre for Mental Health. He has been on many boards linked to mental health, addiction and neuropsychopharmacology.

His research interests are broadly based within the field of preclinical neuropsychopharmacology and systems neuroscience. He has published over 300 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters.

His recent passion is research into a new botanically-based formulation to facilitate withdrawal from dependence on opioid drugs. Recently he launched Resilience Biosciences to further develop this promising herb-based medicine, hopefully a future tool to use in the current opioid crisis.

Tony has won numerous awards for his research. He has also received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the UBC Faculty of Medicine. He is currently active in a number of ongoing research grants at UBC and plans to remain an active researcher for several more years.

Dr. Phillips has very deservedly been awarded the Order of Canada for his compassion and his accomplishments.

It is my pleasure therefore to welcome Dr. Tony Phillips back full circle to TRAS as an Honorary Patron.