



# THE STANDARD

FEBRUARY 9, 2024

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**PRESIDENT  
GRAHAM DRAKE**

**REPORTER  
PETER HARDING**

**EDITOR  
ASHA PAUL**

## MEETING NOTES



Lorne Kelly greeted me as I came through the door with a hearty handshake and warm welcome to Rotary. That really starts your day off on the right foot.

The Gunn Barn was packed and jumping with activity. Considering it is 6:30 on a frosty Friday morning this must be the most energetic place in Calgary.

Our surprise guest chairperson today was Tracey Vavrik, literally glowing with her usual sparkling personality plus a very glittery shirt.

Our guests today included Dave Marchant (previous Rotarian of Calgary South), Jon Himmens (guest of Doug MacDonald and potential member), Leticia Oliveira, Ashley Yu of Inclusion Alberta and Tony Gregor and his sons Zander and Drazen our guest speakers.

Tracey had her husband Vince lead the gang in O'Canada followed by Tracey providing a thoughtful Land Acknowledgement reflecting on her experience learning to create peace and reconciliation through belongingness.

## PROGRAM

Sheila Tyminski introduced Zander and Drazen who provided their overview and insight of their time spent at the 2023 Rotary Alberta Youth Entrepreneur Camp held at Eagles Nest Ranch in Cypress Hills, Alberta each August.

The brothers are both outdoor enthusiasts and enjoyed the hiking, zip lining, shooting and archery but also immersed themselves into the business aspect of the program. They enjoyed the team work of coming up with a project, the designing, the sourcing materials for manufacturing and learning how to prepare a business plan, budget, advertising and promotion plan and pitching their idea to a real live banker to get funding. Despite the apparent competitive vibe between the brothers they say they had a great time, made some great new friends and got along well enough to make a profit and pay back the bank loan. The RAYEC program has been around for 25 years and educates around 65 young people between the ages of 13 to 15 each year. The camp is free to the participants and from the excellent presentation made by Zander and Drazen, plus the additional comments from their father Tony about the benefits he believes his son's received, it is apparent this is an amazing program and well worth the continued support of the 22 Rotary Clubs and the numerous businesses that are involved.

Zander and Drazen were thanked for their presentation by Brian Gentles who also presented them with our certificate of thanks confirming we provided funds to vaccinate 20 children against the polio virus.



**FEBRUARY 23, 2024**



FRIDAYS 7 AM. GUNN'S DAIRY BARN, HERITAGE PARK, 1900 HERITAGE DRIVE SW, CALGARY



## MINUTES

**Casino announcement** – Bob Clark, wearing a spiffy casino shirt but not as flashy as Tracey, announced our casino date has changed to Friday August 2<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Bob will be sending out an email with the details and your opportunity to sign up.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Art Sale** - Bill Skinner reports our 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Art sale is off and running with bins in place at various Co-op grocery stores and volunteers ready to value and organize the art. The two things we need now are to get people to donate their art and to get people out to buy art at our sale. There are also some volunteer positions to be filled so check your email or our webpage and sign up.

Jamie Powell says his entire **Public Relations** committee is focused on this and he encourages everyone use their social media contacts to spread the word.

**RCCHP 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party** – Joe Klassen is excited that our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party is only 2 weeks away and advised that we have 98 people attending so far. It would be great to break the 100 number so if you have not signed up, do so right away. Don't miss out on the fun.

**Leticia Oliveira** gave an update on what she has been up to. She is very busy with her project but is finding time to explore life in Calgary during the winter. Leticia is learning to ice skate with the goal of skating all around the Bowness Park ice trail without falling. Something I suspect none of us have accomplished. If you have an adventure to share with Leticia you can contact her through Phil or Fran Hochhausen.

## HAPPY BUCKS

The entire room was happy today, many of whom were impressed with the presentation by Zander and Drazen.

Joe Klassen was happy about attending the latest Guess Who dinner and for a lovely hike with Vince and Tracey Vavrek.

Vince Vavrek was also happy about hiking with Joe and for volunteering at the Community Kitchen

Guest Jon Himmens was happy Doug MacDonald invited him and we hope he comes back again soon

Janet was happy about her vacation in Cancun and that her dog was alive when she got home.

Ted was happy about the RAYEC presentation by sad that there isn't any wild and crazy snowstorms in the forecast.

Vanessa happy she ran in to Deb Duncanson at the Calgary Zoo and that things are starting to move forward on the next Rotary Den.

Phil happy about Rayec but concerned that Bob wore his casino shirt to announce the date change of our casino and that Bob has several casino shirts so does this mean the casino date are changing like Bob changes his shirt?

Stan Christmas happy that everyone had fun at the latest Guess Who's Coming to Dinner and that Velma stepped up at the last minute to host. Pizza night!!

Guest Dave Marchant happy that Lorne invited him to our amazing breakfast

## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Tracey ended the meeting with a reminder that while we celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of RCCHP on Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, it is also the 119<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Rotary International which means in 2025 we will be celebrating the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Rotary while hosting the Rotary International Convention right here in Calgary.

Valentine's Day while it is a day to express love to those special people around us, it is also a perfect day to demonstrate your love of humankind.

### BIRTHDAYS& ANNIVERSARIES

#### BIRTHDAYS

BILL SKINNER.....FEB 20

#### ANNIVERSARIES

ROGER & KAREN SONTAG (40YRS).....FEB 18

### DUTY ROSTER

**FEBRUARY 16,2024**

**GREETER .....**JOE KLASSEN

**DOOR SALES.....**MATT KNOX

**INTRODUCE & THANK.....**MARK ROWE

**REPORTER.....**VANESSA FREEZE-SUMNER

**If you are unable to fulfil your duties**

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