



THE STANDARD

JULY 26, 2024

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ISSUE 3

**PRESIDENT
BILL SKINNER**

**REPORTER
SHEILA TYMINSKI**

**EDITOR
ASHA PAUL**



MEETING NOTES

We were welcomed with enthusiasm by Wynne Bjorgan, our new (and returning) member. Harold Aitkinhead ably handled door sales and John Radermacher was available as our stalwart Sargent-at-Arms. Jim Davis, as guest host/MC, rang the bell at 7:00 sharp and Stan Christmas led us in Oh Canada. Once we were all settled, Jim explained that after running 2 club meetings, President Bill Skinner was ready for a break.

Jim provided a land acknowledgement, following which he introduced our visitors – Thampi Thomas (guest of Asha), Warren Kruschel (guest of Sheila) and Dr. Euan Thomson (our guest speaker); visiting Rotarians – Cliff Tyminski (Calgary North), PDG Dan Doherty (Calgary West), Bill Quinney (Calgary West); and AG Dave Leslie (Calgary Downtown); as well as 2 new members, to be inducted today – Judy Cochran and Marlene Doherty.

PROGRAM

Sheila introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Euan Thomson.

His talk was about our current drug crisis and was subtitled “Mischaracterization and Misdirection.” Highlights of his talk: The HIV/AIDS crises marked the birth of harm reduction. In an effort to stop people from contracting HIV and dying, harm reduction measures were employed, such as needle exchange, discarding used needles, and generally helping people out.

Dr. Thomson reframed 5 terms:

1. Treatment and recovery
2. Diversion: describes the how those who access drugs legitimately then share or sell to others.
3. Organized crime:
4. Addiction: Data presented highlight the downward trend in Alberta and Canada in number of persons experiencing drug addictions. While the % of addictions is decreasing, the % of deaths attributable to drug overdose has increased 20-fold since 2015.
5. Drug user: pejoratively used to describe people using some drugs, not others

Alberta is deliberately focused on the wrong problem, it's not addiction, but safe drug supply. In 2023, Alberta experienced over 20,000 drug poisonings, due to the toxic drug supply.

Fentanyl is the main culprit of the toxicity. Its usage surged following a 2010 policy that virtually eliminated the availability of an injectable formulation of oxycodone. This created the opportunity for fentanyl to enter the market as it is cheap, synthetically produced and easy to make.

The current Alberta model benefits private businesses, focused on addiction recovery, not the supply.

More information can be found at Each and Every [EACH+EVERY \(eachandevery.org\)](http://eachandevery.org), which is a voluntary collective of businesses for harm reduction, guided by people with lived and living experience, activists and harm reduction workers.

And [Drug Data Decoded](#), a site by Dr. Thomson that provides evidence about the crisis.

Sheila thanked Dr. Thomson

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



MINUTE

Sheila: reminder and last chance to sign up to attend the Tsuut'ina Pow Wow today. Let her know if you are interested and have not yet signed up.
Bill Quinney: as honorary member of Chstermere Club, invited people to support their e-bike raffle.
Bob: We still need 2 people for the Count Room at the casino on Saturday August 3. Please let Bob know if you can fill these spots.

NEW MEMBER

The Board has approved the membership of
Thampi Thomas
Classification: Engineer (Retired)
Barring any objections he will be inducted into the club shortly.

HAPPY BUCKS

There were a number of folks happy today.

SHERIFF

There were a few members whose indiscretions were noted by our undercover sheriff,

Brad Wellicome.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Jim led our club in reciting the 4-way test, and adjourned the meeting.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

MARY ANN COVE.....AUG 2

MOTIONS

Moved by Bob Clark that RCCHP approve the expenditure of \$5000 as seed money for the 2024 Wines of the World raffle. Phil seconded. Vote carried.

NEW MEMBER INDUCTION

Bob Clark and Richard Broadwith led the induction of 2 new members: Judy Cochran and Marlene Doherty. Judy has been a Rotarian since 2014. Her accomplishments in that time are many (in and outside of Rotary), including several leadership roles. She received the Monty J Audenart award last year. Marlene likewise brings extensive experience and accomplishments in Rotary and is currently our District lead for the End Polio campaign.



DUTY ROSTER

AUGUST 2, 2024

GREETERTBA
DOOR SALES.....RICHARD BROADWITH
INTRODUCE & THANK.....BRUCE BYFORD
REPORTER.....BOB CLARK

**If you are unable to fulfil your duties
please find your own replacement.**

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