



THE STANDARD

MAY 2, 2025

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PRESIDENT
BILL SKINNER

REPORTER
PETER LEIGH

EDITOR
ASHA PAUL



MEETING NOTES

Janet Blahun was our welcoming, smiling greeter on a very summery day – great job Janet.

The meeting was started on time, by our President Bill Skinner who mentioned that this day was National Truffle Day, and, National Tuna Day. Bill then called on Stan Christmas to lead us all in an impressive rendition of Oh Canada, followed by President Bill's acknowledging our native population with a reminder of quite a long list of all the residential schools that were closed due to various reasons, such as high mortality rates, failing infrastructure and many for other reasons. The last one to close in Canada being Kivallik Hall in Rankine Inlet, Nunavut, which closed in 1997.

Bill also gave us a very sincere none religious invocation around Rotary values prior to having our Heritage Park breakfast, with of course, tables with guests going first.

Next, Bill welcomed our two guests, past District Governor Dan Doherty, and guest speaker Dawn Byford.

Bill then surprised Ted Wood, by appointing him last minute as our plate shiner for the meeting, and he did a great job – thanks Ted ! Bill then invited tables with guests to the breakfast buffet followed by the other tables.

PROGRAM

After a substantial Heritage Park buffet breakfast, Bruce Byford did a very comprehensive and informative introduction of our guest speaker (his wife), Dawn Byford.

Dawn gave us an amazing introduction to the world of how our food choices impact both personal health and the environment. She has written a textbook entitled Foundations of Biological Psychology, published in 2013.

Dawn shared with energy, enthusiasm and insight, her inspiring journey from teaching plant based cooking in Banff, to becoming an active member of the Global Recovery Environmental Task Force which Dawn was invited to join during a COVID era zoom call in 2021, her involvement deepened her passion for sustainability, and broadened her Rotary connections worldwide. Dawn introduced us to SRAG (Sustainable Rotary Action Group), which addresses key global issues such as biodiversity, a circular economy, food systems, pollution, and sustainable living. She highlighted the alignment between plant rich diets and the UN's sustainability goals, and discussed the plant rich Diet Task Force she serves on, formed in partnership with Project Drawdown. SRAG's self sustaining, globally connected task forces offer a wealth of opportunities for collaboration, learning, and action with the Rotary community.

After 5 minutes of questions and answers, Bruce Byford thanked our guest speaker very much for her excellent and informative presentation, on what is a huge subject to cover in the limited time available for our meeting. He reminded Dawn that in appreciation of her speaking to us today, our club would be making a donation to Polio Plus to vaccinate 20 children against polio.

HAPPY BUCKS

Thanks to Ted Wood, Vince Vavrek, Stan Christmas, Brad Wellicome, Sheila Tyminski, and Bill Skinner for sharing their happy bucks and their stories with us all.

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



MINUTES

Brad Wellicome : Rotary Foundation Contributions

Brad presented Mark Rowe with a Paul Harris award pin for his contributions to the Rotary Foundation – well done and thank you Mark. Brad also reminded us to get our own contributions in to the Rotary Foundation. Currently, our club is averaging us\$148 per member, verses the us\$122 average for the 5360 Calgary district, and Brad encouraged us to help get the average contribution to our goal of us\$154 per member.

Also, of particular note, one of our members donated \$145,000 to the Rotary foundation.

Marlene Doherty : Veggie Plant Sale

Marlene reminded everyone that the pick up date for the veggie plant sale of May 22nd is fast approaching. Marlene needs 10 volunteers to help with this.

Sheila Tyminski : RCCHP Indigenous Relations Committee Blanket Exercise Event

Sheila on behalf of the RCCHP Indigenous Relations Committee, invited us to attend the Indigenous Displaced People Blanket Exercise hosted by Knowledge Keeper Lynn Fabrick is on May 10th at Grace church, 1009 15th Ave SW, we need 3 more attendees for this important three hour event.

John Radermacher : Ronald MacDonald House Grand opening of the new extension

The Ronald MacDonald House program will be back with a big difference. There is an open house on May 22nd at 11am with tours will be available, this is open to all our members.

Phil Hochhausen : Rotary International Convention VKEP Booth Promotion

We have successfully acquired, and are sponsoring costs associated with, a booth at the Rotary International Convention for 2025 in Calgary, to promote the Volcanes Kids Education Program which our club has supported for many years, in a challenged poor area of Puerto Vallarta.

MINUTES (CONTD.)

There will be three graduate student representatives for the school at the booth : Alexa, Mariana - now in marketing, and Sofia close to graduating from university in Law. There are multiple opportunities to support the Volcanes Kids Education Program, and also these three young adult graduates from the program, in their trip to promote and raise funds for the continuation of the program. Phil is looking for help with the booth and promotional items, printing, guest hosting, travel to events whilst they are here, and funding. Updates to follow. Contact Phil, for information or questions.

Bill Skinner : Fire Tuck to Guatemala Logistics photos

Bill showed us a fascinating presentation with slides, showing the fascinating logistics of donating a used Canadian firetruck from Alberta to the Quetzaltenango, Guatemala Club including transportation from US Air Base McChord on a C-5A Galaxy to Guatemala city.

CLOSING REMARKS

Our next club meeting will be on May 9th,

Bill's parting quote by Rabindranath Tagore

The highest education is that which does not merely give us information, but makes our life in harmony with all existance.

On closing the meeting at 8:15am, President Bill had us all repeat the 4 Way Test.

DUTY ROSTER

MAY 9,2025

GREETERSTAN CHRISTMAS
DOOR SALES.....JUDY COCHRAN
INTRODUCE & THANK.....
REPORTER.....EVE ROBERTSON

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

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

PETER HARDINGMAY14
SUSAN HOPEMAY 17

ANNIVERSARY

BOB & MARY ANNE COVE (47YRS).....MAY 13
TED & TAMMY WOOD (32YRS)MAY 15