



THE STANDARD

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**PRESIDENT
LYNDA CAMPBELL**

**REPORTER
STEVE DUNK**

**EDITOR
ASHA PAUL**



MEETING NOTES

The cold morning did not dissuade the 30+ members and guests who arrived at the Barn and were warmly greeted by Stan Christmas.

President Linda brought the meeting to order promptly at 7 AM. A strong rendition of Oh Canada was led by Director Stan Christmas. After the Land acknowledgement, President Linda congratulated the organizers of the Rotary Anniversary Party and New Years celebration conducted the previous evening. She reminded us again that it is Black History month and shared the stories of some early Black families that settled in Alberta and Saskatchewan. The blessing asked us to send our thoughts and prayers to the residents of Tumbler Ridge.

Stans Christmas introduced our guests, Phillipa Gear, Tom Gear, Barbara Hanes, Landis Jackson. Amrita Basu, Outbound student Olivia Tate, Speaker Major General Barry Ashton, his spouse Susan and daughter Carol. He wished Bill Skinner a Happy Birthday, congratulated Bill Hope, Asha Paul, Din Perani and John Radermacher for 27 years of Rotary membership. Overall, he was doing an excellent job on the Sunshine Report. Unfortunately, he finished with a groaner of a dad joke.

President Linda, noting that Ola had been MIA for several meetings, assigned him as plate shiner so that we could all re-acquaint ourselves with him.

PROGRAM

Asha Paul introduced our speaker, Major General Bary Ashton, MBA, CPA, CD, OBE. Major General Ashton, a member of the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry served in the former Yugoslavia and lived in the Currie Barracks for 12 years.

General Ashton presented a thorough and entertaining history of the Currie Barracks, enhanced with personal anecdotes. Currie Barracks was built in 1934 and named after Arthur Currie, a pre-eminent commander known for his care of soldiers and success in battle. He planned the attack on Vimy Ridge, Hill 70 and Passchendaele. He retired from the military and became a principal and vice chancellor of McGill University.

General Ashton shared the history of Currie, from its opening by the Lord Strathcona Calvary in 1934, its use as WW2 temporary barracks and Camp Sarcee, land that had been expropriated from Tsuu T'Tina and was returned to them after the base was closed in 1996. He provided many historical photos of the barracks over the years and noted that the old airstrip was sold to Mount Royal University and ATCO. The University and ATCO remain on those lands today. The Barracks was closed 1996 and operations were centralized in Edmonton a decision given as economic but was likely political. General Ashton described his briefing of a Minister for a difficult conversation that was required with Premier Ralph Klein, whose riding included Currie. The area was taken over by Canada Lands and there was a commitment to maintain the character of the area. Neighbourhood streets are named after military peacekeepers and WW2 military commanders, and many of the original barracks street names remain. The Stables, the Inn on the Officers Garden, Masters Academy and many other buildings have maintained their character while being re-purposed for modern use. General Ashton was able to share personal remembrances of many of the buildings and point out where he had lived and worked.

Asha thanked our speaker and presented him with a certificate of our donation to Polio Plus in his name.

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



MINUTES

After our excellent breakfast, Linda reminded us of the District Convention May1-3 in Red Deer. First time attendees get a 30% discount. Judy Cochrane sent out a call for more volunteers for the Second Chance Art Sale. We especially need folks for the tear down on Saturday from 3-6 PM. Please consider volunteering and perhaps encourage your younger family members/friends as the teardown requires moving fencing and art.

50/50

Our lucky 50/50 card was drawn by our outbound student Olivia Tait. After a recitation of the 4 Way test, she drew the 10 of Hearts.

HAPPY BUCKS

Happy Bucks were shared by Stan, Jaimie, Brian, Bill, Peter H, Phil, thanking our speaker and thanking the organizers of our Anniversary event. John thanked the members that volunteered at Ronald McDonald House, Ted shared his pride at his daughters accomplishments in vet school and Bob Clark (on Zoom) sent out another request for volunteers for our April Casino with dire warnings of "conscription" should the positions remain vacant.

CLOSING REMARKS

President Linda closed the meeting with a fitting quote.
"One profits most who serves best"

DUTY ROSTER

FEBRUARY 27, 2026

GREETER & SUNSHINE.....BOB COVE
DOOR SALES & 50/50.....MARLENE DOHERTY
INTRO & THANK.....OLAJIDE OLUTUYI
REPORTER.....ROGER SONNTAG

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

ROTARY PEACE CENTRE

Symbiosis International University will train peace and development professionals from across Asia. Leaders of Rotary International and Symbiosis International University gathered in Pune, India, to inaugurate a new **Rotary Peace Center** at the university. Supported through The Rotary Foundation, the center will provide experienced peacebuilders from across Asia with one-year professional development certificate fellowships to study subjects such as conflict transformation, sustainable development, and social change. India's rich diversity and complex social landscape, the peace center will offer unique opportunities for cultivating leaders who can navigate conflict with empathy and innovation. This center will nurture a new generation of leaders in Asia who are dedicated to strengthening dialogue, understanding, and sustainable peace.

The new center will host up to 40 Rotary Peace Fellows per year to earn a postgraduate diploma in peace and development studies. The program is designed for midcareer professionals with experience working in peace and development fields, including within governments, non-governmental and community organizations, educational institutions, media outlets, and international agencies.

Symbiosis International University's motto, Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, or The World Is One Family, reflects a commitment to internationalism and cultural understanding that dates to its founding. Established in 1971 as a cultural exchange center for students from other countries (particularly Africa) who were experiencing discrimination, Symbiosis today has more than 55,000 students from at least 85 nations.



BIRTHDAYS

& ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

BILL SKINNER.....FEB 20
TONY CAMPBELL.....MAR 5
TED WOODMAR 6

ROTARY ANNIVERSARIES

DEB DUNCANSON (3YRS).....FEB 26
ROB MATTHEWS (20YRS).....FEB 28

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