



THE STANDARD

JULY 10, 2026

VOLUME 27

ISSUE 42

**PRESIDENT
JOE KLASSEN**

**REPORTER
STEVE DUNK**

**EDITOR
ASHA PAUL**



MEETING NOTES

Brian Gentles greeted the plaid and denim clad Rotarians and guests on a warm summer morning at the Barn. Doug McDonald manned the computer and Past President Linda walked around with a huge smile.

At promptly 7 AM, new President Dr Joe Klassen rang the bell to start the meeting. After a beautifully led version of Oh Canada by Steve Dunk (hmm.. who was the reporter this week?), Joe opened the meeting with a land acknowledgment and gave us a Stampede themed blessing.

Brian, doing a dual role as Greeter and Sunshine report, introduced our guests and visiting Rotarians. Christina Hassan, past District Governor was joined by outgoing exchange student Olivia Tate as well as David and Sandy Tait. Other guests included Bryan Lee, Jen Aitken, Saskia Knight, Irfan Ahmed and Jeanette Festival. Our guest speaker was Donna Gersbach.

Several birthdays and anniversaries were announced and Brian finished with a joke involving a doctor a lawyer and a fundraising Rotarian at the pearly gates.

PROGRAM

Janet Blahun introduced our speaker, Donna Gersbach from Northern Star Mothers Milk Bank.

Donna described the impact that Northern Star has made on families across Canada. Human milk is the biological norm for newborns, but the unexpected can happen. One in ten babies is born prematurely and nutrition is critical. Northern Star coordinates milk, from breastfeeding mothers as donors, to infants that require it. It takes a village, as these small gifts collectively help thousands of babies. As well as supporting breastfeeding goals, Northern Star coordinates the logistics of donation and receipt by recruiting and screening donors using bloodwork etc., providing guidelines, pasteurizing and freezing the milk and distributing it to hospitals and families. This community-based organization, founded 14 years ago, provides safe pasteurized donor milk to 7000 premature or at-risk babies each year, with deliveries to neonatal intensive care units across Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and other areas outside of Vancouver, Toronto and Quebec. Northern Star is currently raising funds for a purpose-built laboratory. Donna finished her presentation with a video that showed the impact of the organization to an Alberta family.

Donna was thanked by Janet and presented with a certificate for the polio inoculation of 20 children

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



NEW MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENT

The following memberships have been approved by the Board.

1. Bryan Lee - Talent Consultant
2. Saskia Knight - Non Profit Consultant

Barring any objections from the membership they will be inducted in a couple of weeks.

50/50

The 50/50 card was drawn by the very busy Brian Gentles. From a poker perspective, he did well, drawing an ace. Unfortunately, it wasn't the Joker, and the draw continues next week.

HAPPY BUCKS

Lots of Happy folks, Doug Kinley discussed the traditions of cookhouses on ranches, Saskia, Janet, Tracy, Judy and Phil also were appreciative of our speaker and Olivia.

CLOSING

President Joe closed with "If the Stampede can turn a dusty field into a world-class celebration, imagine what we can do when we bring Rotary passion, purpose and heart together. Let's make this year unforgettable –and let's make our impact last."

DUTY ROSTER

JULY 17, 2026

GREETER & SUNSHINE.....PHIL HOCHHAUSEN
DOOR SALES & 50/50.....KATIE HOPE
INTRO & THANK.....SHEILA TYMINSKI
REPORTER.....PETER LEIGH

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

MINUTES

Linda Campbell has set up an advisory committee with Brad Sewall, Brad Wellicome and Marlene Doherty to discuss options for future Year End/Presidents Social. **Bill Skinner** invited anyone interested to a pub night at Marda Loop Brewing on Wednesday July 15 at 5 PM, where we will enjoy 15% off.

Phil Hochausen presented our outgoing student with a Canadian flag to take with her to Germany. The flag has accompanied many outbound RCCHP sponsored students around the world and after its tour, is carefully returned for future students.

OUTGOING EXCHANGE

Following the formal presentation former DG and outbound student Christina Hassan introduced Olivia Tate, out outbound student. Already an accomplished young woman at 16, Olivia hikes, paints and volunteers with her church and has gone to Mexico with a youth group.

Olivia will be going to Germany, in Lower Saxony outside of Bremen. District 1850 expects to host approximately 45 inbound students. The Club that will host Olivia has a first restoration project as well as a Grade 1-7 literacy project that interests her. Currently a member of the Henry Wise Wood High School Interact Club, Olivia hopes to find a club at her new home in Germany. The Rotary Club of Calgary Heritage Park wishes Olivia all the best on her adventure !

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

STEVE DUNK.....JULY 11
 ROGER SONNTAG.....JULY 13
 CATHERINE VAN BRUNSCHOT(STEVE DUNK).....JULY 17
 LAURA HARDING (STAN CHRISTMAS).....JULY 17

ANNIVERSARIES

SHEILA & CLIFF TYMINSKI(46YRS).....JULY 11
 LYNDIA & TONY CAMPBELL (41YRS).....JULY 17