

COG

The Rotary Club of Calgary



this issue

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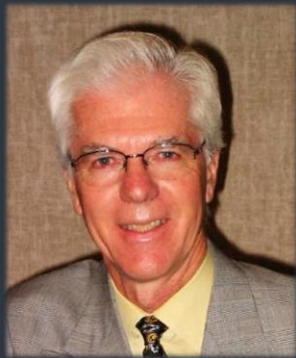
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This week's reporter

Ron Robertson



The Rotary Club of Calgary is an organization of professional and community leaders who come together through commitment and fellowship to create opportunities and a better future for generations to follow.



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District No. 5360

Rob Cardinal

Our speaker Robert Cardinal spends his life searching for asteroids and comets. He was born on the Siksika Nation and adopted by Louise Million, a white woman, and raised in Edmonton and Rocky Mountain House. An idyllic childhood with a loving and caring adoptive mother was followed by troubled teens – racism and alcohol & drug abuse filled his teen years. Rage and rebellion led to psychiatric intervention, and a visit to a native healer. He was able to deal with the demons and get back to a healthy and productive life.

His strongest mentor, Maggie Hodgson (present at the lunch), assisted Rob in his healing and return to education. A term at the AADAC Detox Centre, and a visit to Poundmaker's Lodge for a 30 day treatment were also helpful.

Gifts of an eagle feather, and hard love from his adoptive Mother, a hand drum, and a blanket, are symbols of the steps that gradually got him back on track to understand and respect his Native roots, and value education.

Rob now has a graduate degree in science and his work in developing software to track movement in space gives him an opportunity to give back to Native children and youth. He urged the Rotary Club to get involved in initiatives to support Native youth to pursue post-secondary education.

Alberta, B.C. and Saskatchewan stand to gain the most from such programs. Lack of money, as well as alcohol, drug abuse and pregnancy often leave young people unqualified to enter post-secondary schools.

Rob is a good example of why we should develop a program to help native youth get a post-secondary education. He reported that his son had recently graduated from Grade 12, and it was a very emotional time for the family. He is very proud of his son's accomplishments.

Bill Redmond brought our thanks for an emotional and interesting presentation.

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President: Bruce Fenwick • Vice President: Lynn Lehr • RI President: Kalyan Banerjee • District Governor: Mike French

Our speaker



Rob Cardinal thanks Maggie Hodgson...

Birthday Boy!



Charles Pratt, the pride of Sierra Leone...

The meeting

President Bruce called the meeting to order and Jim Denis led us in *O Canada*.

Terry McMahon gave the Eulogy for Jack Lamarsh who passed way last Friday. The City and the Club are diminished by his passing.

Jack was born in Saskatoon and moved to Calgary in 1961 to practice law. With the exception of a brief interlude in commercial real estate from 1980 to 1894 he remained in his chosen profession until his retirement in 2000.

His Rotary record was extensive. He was involved with RYLA, the Success Seminars, the Major Fundraising Dinner of 1995, was supportive of allowing women to become members in 1990, and was an organizer for the RI Convention in 1996. Jack served as a board member and was our President in 2002 – 2003. A Paul Harris Fellow, he was involved in placing the portrait of James Wheeler Davidson in the lobby of the Palliser. Jack also actively recruited new members who have become among our best and most active members.

Jack was also a force outside Rotary. He was Chair and Life Member of the Calgary Convention and Visitor's Bureau, board member of The Calgary General Hospital, Theatre Calgary, The Calgary Philharmonic Society, The Winter Festival Foundation, and the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation.

Mr. Lamarsh sustained a lifelong interest in health issues. His fight with Crohn's Disease left him interested and involved with issues of critical care and in 2001 he was awarded a Medal of Honour from the Alberta Medical Association for his outstanding support of medical research.

He was also passionate about politics, reform of health care, and golf at the Glencoe Golf and Country Club.

Jack lived a rich and full life and was a compassionate and caring man. He led by example. A memorial service will be held December 19 at 3:00 pm at the Glencoe Club.

Tim Heaton led us in a sing-song. Gene McClelland's "Snowbird", made popular by Anne Murray, was our song of the day.

Secretary Eva introduced our visitors and guests. Her around-the-world tour took us to Freetown, Sierra Leone. Despite 300 years of slavery, and immense wealth in gold and diamonds, it remains a religiously tolerant society. It became independent in 1961, and Rotary was established in 1963. The Club's work has been in maternity hospitals, clean water, and working with seniors. It is also the birthplace of birthday boy Charles Pratt.

Announcements

Mark Stiles called for volunteers and for donors to assist with the Christmas Hamper campaign.

Kimberley Van Vliet urged members to respond to the questionnaire regarding appropriate activities to celebrate our 100th Anniversary in 2012.

Catherine Brownlee reported on activities toward our club getting involved with the support of urban aboriginal children. She chronicled events, and discussions regarding the necessity for support for these children.

Kate Hinsman urged members to consider hiring individuals with developmental disabilities in their companies. There are job seekers who are available to assist in a variety of ways.

Win Kee Chan urged anyone involved with youth to have a security check done. Personnel were available in the lobby of the hotel to begin the process.

President Bruce announced that Eva Friesen will be our President for the year 2012/14. Directors who will begin their terms on July 1, 2012 are Andy Crooks, Ralph Lundberg, Lou MacEachern, and Jan Damery.

Announcements (cont'd)

Christmas Hamper Campaign

Thank you to all of you who came forward and offered to shop for our three schools. Your generosity of time to shop and wrap is much appreciated. We have all the shoppers we need for this year's campaign.

We still need a few more elves to deliver on Sat. Dec. 17th. Please contact Jim McGowan at jmacgowan@deloitte.ca if you can help out.

Thanks to all who have donated money to date. You still have time to contribute to make the 2011 campaign a smashing success. Contact Carol Rosdobutko for a pledge sheet.

Celebrate the Year of the DRAGON

Chinese New Year's Dinner set for January 27th, 2012
Cost will be \$45pp at the Regency Palace
Sid Mark and Wing-Kee Chan will be selling tickets soon.



Recognition for CAWST

Tides Canada recently selected CAWST as one of their Top 10 for 2011 – follow this link for more details: <http://tidescanada.org/about/tides-top-10/tides-top-10-for-2011/>

Frank 'n Stein

The Merry Season Frank 'n Stein gathering will be Thursday, Dec. 15th - your last chance this year to trade tall tales (and maybe some truth from time to time) with like-minded Rotarians and wanna-be Rotarians. Always drink responsibly. Happy Holidays!

Bld'g AF23 (old Currie Barracks), #2 4580 Quesnay Wood Dr. S.W. (details Frank Sparks).

Rotary Flames House

On Nov. 21 President Bruce and Bonar Irving (President of The Rotary Club of Calgary South) presented the final cheque of \$458,000 to the Children's Hospital Foundation. Fantastic!

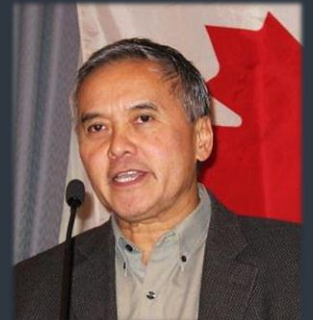


Future Pres!



Eva Friesen salutes Sierra Leone and birthdays...

Security check



Wing Kee Chan...get a police check!

Christmas Hampers



Mark Stiles

**COG staff, Dec. 9
issue**

Editor.....Oliver Kuhn
Reporter.....Ron Robertson
Photographer.....Ralph Lundberg
Sponsorships.....Lorne Larson
Office support.....Jo-Ann Clarke

Upcoming Luncheons

- Dec. 13 Brian Keating – “Stories from Around the World”
- Dec. 20 Premier Alison Redford
- Dec. 27 **No Luncheon**

**Many thanks to this week’s COG sponsor,
Ron Robertson and Ed Williams Mens Wear!**



Millar and his buddies
are in here
somewhere...

Come in and visit us in our newly renovated store,
featuring relaxed casual wear for all ages.
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