

COG

The Rotary Club of Calgary

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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Jim Zackowski – Rotary Challenger Park

Our speaker, Jim Zackowski, is Executive Director of Rotary Challenger Park. He began his presentation by telling us the park is a reality because of the efforts of Rotarians. Walter Haessel, Don Ross, Lou MacEachern and many others have contributed thousands of hours to make this spectacular park for the disabled a reality.

More than fifty organizations currently use the park, and more than sixty per cent of these are focused on providing programming for children with disabilities. The park hosts seventy to eighty thousand visitors each year during the five months when the outdoor facilities are open, and it has run budget surpluses of approximately \$250,000 in each of the last eight years.

A new project, Phase 4, is being planned to accommodate organizations that support the disabled. Half the space in Phase 4 is already committed, and a wait list is anticipated by the time the facility opens. A \$32 million capital campaign is gearing up to make this new facility a reality, and the campaign is currently preparing to reach out to the private sector to partner with Rotary.

There will be obvious synergies among the tenant organizations, who will be able to design their spaces to suit the needs of their clients. Rotary Challenger Park will rent its space in Phase 4 at below market rates so organizations can sustain their core services without impacting the financial stability of the park.

David Holden thanked Jim on behalf of the club for his presentation, and awarded him the usual CAWST certificate to acknowledge that the club has made a donation in his name to express our appreciation.

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January 17 Issue
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Michael and Frank take a bow



Tom Hickerson welcomes new member Donna Livingstone



David Holden presents a CAWST certificate to speaker Jim Zackowski

Meeting Highlights

President Eva Friesen opened the meeting by explaining her absence from last week's meeting, and thanking Paul Bates for filling in. Eva and husband Stan had to provide supplemental feed to their cattle as the snow piled up at the Ann and Sandy Cross Conservation Area (a very acceptable reason in the heart of Stampede country).

William Van Horne delivered a moving invocation that ended with his inviting us to shake hands in fellowship with the people at our tables (no fist bumps for this hardy group).

President Eva thanked Gord Cumming, Tony Howard and Ralph Lundberg (a ticket-taker in training) for their efforts in the front foyer. She also thanked Rick Erven for this week's COG sponsorship. One Stay-in-School student wrote a heartfelt note thanking Don Ross for providing a computer that she has been using to complete her school work. This is another fantastic example of the great work our mentors do with their students.

Chris Harper introduced our two guests, recognized birthdays and played a compelling Rotary video with the message that we're not just a bunch of old white guys doing great work. In fact, we are a mosaic from all walks of life who put service above self (and do great work)! This video is available from the club office.

Frank McKittrick and Michael Pierson provided a special treat as they played Dvorak's *Slavonic Dance No. 1* as a duet on one piano. Here is a little known fact: Frank taught Michael in high school, which may be why Michael has white hair and Frank has nary a wisp.

Doris and Curly Galbraith's daughter has recently passed away. Our sincere condolences go out to Doris.

Rob Brookwell reminded us that 100th anniversary pins have been mailed to all club members. Please see Jo-Ann if yours needs replacing or if you have not received one. Over the next several weeks we will be acknowledging our members by length of service. We began with an acknowledgement of some club members with between 40 and 50 years of service.

Tom Hickerson, representing Marmie Hess in addition to himself, introduced Donna Livingstone, CEO of the Glenbow Museum, and our newest member.

Ken Pierce told us about the Adult Literacy Awards and the twelve bursaries we presented, which stem from our \$15,000 annual donation.

Our exchange student Anel provided us with her weekly update in which she mentioned attending her first Flames game. She will be taking skiing lessons at Canada Olympic Park.

Bill Avery reminded us to buy tickets for our club's centennial celebration at the Hyatt on May 3rd. Please see Don Cameron for tickets (\$100 each).

Tony Howard is looking for someone to organize the Ski and Stroll event at Lake Louise in March. Tony has been organizing this event for many years but can't do it this year.

[Editor: Thanks very much **John Lindenbach** for this week's feature article and meeting report.]

Rotary Leadership Institute

The Calgary offerings of the Rotary Leadership Institute course modules are being postponed due to insufficient enrollment, but the Red Deer dates are running as scheduled. The new dates for the Calgary offerings are as follows.

- Module 1 – March 22nd at Rotary Challenger Park
- Module 2 – April 26th at Rotary Challenger Park
- Module 3 – Date in May to be determined

RLI is designed as a learning opportunity for new members and aspiring leaders in your clubs. Registration is simple. Just go to the District website's home page, and follow the directions for the event listing in the Events Calendar.

Upcoming Club Meetings

- 21-Jan **Dr. Paul Petresek**, Calgary Health Trust: Innovations in Vascular Surgery
Fairmont Palliser Hotel
- 28-Jan **Thomas Jieldit**, Lost Boys of Sudan
Fairmont Palliser Hotel

Thank-you Rick Erven and IPC Securities Corporation
for sponsoring this week's edition of the COG Newsletter

Enhancing Our Service Offering

As part of our commitment to provide the highest level of service, we are pleased to let you know that we are enhancing our existing credentials through further professional education and certification.

We have moved to the full-service advisory platform of our sister-company, IPC Securities Corporation, where we will have the ability to deal in individual stocks and bonds. This important change to the structure of our business will improve our overall engagement and delivery with our clients.

I look forward to working with you and your family.



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