

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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Dr. Paul Petrasek – Innovations in Vascular Surgery

Jim Jenkinson introduced Dr. Paul Petrasek, our speaker for this week. Dr. Petrasek is Regional Clinical Division Chief of Vascular Surgery, and an Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery at the University of Calgary. His presentation was a most informative tour of the human vascular system, which touched on current treatments for vascular disease. An advocate for lifestyle choices that prevent disease, his philosophy is that “you shouldn’t need to bring a patient to the operating room if you treat them up front.” He finished his presentation by thanking our club for our continued support for the greater good.

Also attending our meeting was Sharon deBoer, a Major Gifts Officer for the Calgary Health Trust, the fundraising arm of Alberta Health Services in Calgary. As the primary catalyst in health care philanthropy, the Calgary Health Trust connects donor passion with treatment, education and research priorities.

The Peter Lougheed Centre sees more than 6400 vascular patients each year as the primary referral centre for an estimated 2.5 million people in central and southern portions of Alberta, southeast British Columbia, and southwest Saskatchewan. Calgary is one of two centres in Canada, and the only centre in Western Canada, to offer this level of care and minimally invasive treatments. The Vascular Surgical Services Unit at the Peter Lougheed Centre sets the tone for the rest of Alberta, and Canada, to follow.

The Calgary Health Trust believes that every donor has a story, every gift has a vision, and every patient’s life can be changed. Together we are making a difference. As they say at the trust, “You never know who your gift is going to help...until you do”.

Carol Rosdobutko thanked Dr. Petrasek by acknowledging the club’s CAWST donation made in his name.

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Sharon deBoer of the Calgary Health Trust

Meeting Highlights

The fabled Alberta Room of the Palliser Hotel opened its doors to the weekly Tuesday luncheon of the 100 year old Rotary Club of Calgary. The illustrious head table marched in to the accompaniment of Michael Pierson at the baby grand. The club sang *O Canada*, and this was followed by Wing-Kee Chan's invocation.

President Eva presided over the business portion of the meeting, graciously thanking volunteers: Gord Cumming, Tony Howard, Bill Gillott, Keith Visser and Carl St. Laurent. She then called on secretary Chris Harper to welcome our visitors and guests. Chris' report on the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas included a cool kitchen gadget: the motorized ice cream cone.

Birthdays followed his technical dissertation ("dessert"-ation) regarding the motorized ice cream cone. Here's a question: "What goes up, but never goes down?" Harper's answer: "Your age!"

Roy Boettger, attorney-at-law, introduced us to Dr. Israel (Sonny) Belenkie, a new club member. This was immediately followed by President Eva Friesen introducing new member Jaydeep Balakrishnan. Both of our new members are accomplished academics.

Our RYE student Anel reported that she is having an immensely good time. She is looking forward to celebrating our club's centennial on May 3rd.

Terry McMahan updated us on the club's 100-in-100 donations drive, which is progressing nicely but needs to be complete by May 3rd, the date of the centennial celebration at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Paul McIntyre Royston explained that an RFP has been issued by the club for what used to be called a "Publicity Agent". Surely the first task for this agency will be to publish information regarding the Rotary Club of Calgary GALA CELEBRATION OF OUR CENTENNIAL at the Hyatt on May 3rd!!

Then came a highlight of the entire meeting when Bill Avery stepped into the spotlight to make his pitch for the club's GALA CELEBRATION on May 3rd. \$100 FOR 100 YEARS! Everyone should buy four tickets (Brom has already bought 8!!) Don't let Chairman Larry Shelley down!! Buy early and buy often!

*[Editor: Thank-you **Bill Avery** for your coverage of this week's meeting.]*



Roy Boettger introduces new member Dr. Israel Belenkie

2013 Flood Relief Update

Money raised by the club has been presented to the following organizations.

- Habitat for Humanity Rebuild \$125,000
- Jewish Family Services (child counselling) \$12,500
- Rotary Club of High River (small business support) \$15,000

CAWST Has Moved

The CAWST office has moved effective January 2nd. It is now located at

**424 Aviation Road NE
Calgary, AB T2E 8H6**

Watch for an office warming event in May or June.



President Eva introduces new member Jaydeep Balakrishnan

Rotary Club of Calgary Centennial Gala Tickets

Tickets are \$100 each. Please see Don Cameron to get yours!

Upcoming Club Meetings

- Jan-28 **Thomas Jieldit**, Lost Boys of Sudan
Fairmont Palliser Hotel
- Feb-4 **Sheldon Smithens & Scott Cozens**, Canadian Pickers TV Show
Fairmont Palliser Hotel
- Feb-11 **Pamela Fonseca**, Silvera Seniors
Fairmont Palliser Hotel
- Feb-18 **Mayor Naheed Nenshi**, State of the City Address
Fairmont Palliser Hotel

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