

January 27th, 2015 Volume 38, Issue 22

IN THIS ISSUE

- **1** Club Assembly January 20th
- 2 Meeting Minutes January 20th Club Assembly cont'd Rotary Club of Calgary East Fundraiser
- 3 What's Up !!

Rotary Foundation

Fairview School Mentoring

4 In Memoriam

Our Arch Supporters ... THANK YOU !!

Insert Board Mid-Year Reports

2014-2015 Officers and Directors

Stephen Pick, President Dale Perret, President Elect Hank Popoff, Vice President Terry Green, Past President Evelyn Stewart, Secretary Al Holt, Treasurer

Peter Bickham, International Service Rena St. Clair, Youth Service Bev Tonkinson, Community Service Heide Kramer, Club Service Bill Churchward, Club Operations David Wartman, Club Financial

> RI President Gary C.K. Huang Rotary Club of Taipei, Taiwan

District 5360 Governor Garth Toombs Rotary Club of Calgary

the Arch



Club Assembly Stephen Pick, President

The programme today was led by President Stephen who informed us the Directors' reports will be in The Arch.

On the subject of Membership, he announced we have welcomed only a couple of new members this Rotary year while losing several, so he asked us all to make a strong effort to introduce new members to the club.

Copies of the Club's annual Financial Statements to June 30, 2014 and interim statements to December 31, 2014 were left on all tables at the meeting for perusal of members. The financial

situation appears healthy with accumulated funds available for donations as appropriate in excess of \$89,000 although our earnings from our most recent casino have not yet been received. The report included names of beneficiaries and these will all be subject to review during the current year.

A question has been raised as to whether or not Fellowship events should be subsidized to some extent by the Club. If you as a member have an opinion on this matter, please forward any questions or observations to the Board.

Expenditures included \$10,000 for the Greenway Project that all local clubs are supporting, and next year we will donate an additional \$10,000. Our commitment is \$50,000.

New fund raisers included the Westrow Food Group events and Stampede work with the Calgary Club. It was mentioned it is important that all members be encouraged to make regular donations to the Rotary Foundation. The work done for Polio Plus is excellent with only 300 cases reported in 2014, so we are very close to the elimination goal.

Peter Bickham will be scheduling a meeting to discuss World Community Service, and Youth Services will be doing the same. Also the bylaws of the Society will be subject to review.

As previously announced, there will be no Exchange Student in 2015 as none qualified ... if you have any questions please consult with Rena.

The Board is reviewing The Arch — should it be print or electronic? The Board to review and get back to the membership.

It was mentioned our sponsoring club, Calgary South is celebrating 60 years of service to the community this year.

cont'd on page 2

P.O. Box # 42041 Southland Crossing RPO Calgary, Alberta T2J 7A6 info@chinookrotary.org www.RotaryChinook.ca





Scribe: Ed McLean

Rotary With 2015

President Stephen called the meeting to order promptly at 12:15 p.m. and with Ruth at the piano, we sang the national anthem and the Rotary grace.

After lunch, Ernie Hawrylyshen introduced the 4 visiting Rotarians and 3 visitors who were all welcomed in our usual fashion.

Sunshine Harry informed us that former member Roger Percival recently passed away. Also former member Harold Hanna's spouse died recently. Tom Ranson continues to have pain in his limbs and is unable to attend our meetings. Call him if you wish.

Gail Williams of the Calgary West club informed us of her club's annual Valentine's Day sale of Strawberry Shortcakes. These cost \$7.50 for each serving with a minimum order of 6 to be delivered free within Calgary and Airdrie. Must be ordered before February 6th. To order go to www.calgarywestrotaryclub. rg/strawberry.htm



If you have any questions call Marie at 403-244-7463

Club Assembly cont'd from page 1

A copy of the proposed changes to the Club bylaws had been circulated to the members previously and Club Operations Director, Bill Churchward, made a motion that these bylaw revisions be approved by the club. Bev Tonkinson seconded the motion. By show of hands, the motion was approved. A quorum was in attendance.

President Elect Dale Perret discussed the matter of committees for 2015/16. She proposed we work towards more effective committees. Leadership programmes are available to assist in this. Each Avenue of Service has a Director which helps select and advises committee chairmen. Dale would like the committees to



be in place by the end of March. We were reminded a Strategic Plan is in place to cover the next 5 years.

President Stephen reminded us the 4Way Test provides guidance to all clubs and has been doing so since 1932.

Anthony, in his role as Chairman of the Rotary Foundation Committee, presented Paul Harris pins to Garth Plunkett, Ruth Wylie, Paul Gaudet, Peter Bickham and Rena St. Clair.



50/50 winner was Don McKenzie who donated proceeds to the club.

Paul Gaudet was Sergeant-at-Arms today. First he fined Robert Wolfson for leaving last week's meeting while the guest speaker was speaking. The protocol is to leave either before the talk begins or after it is completed. Paul then asked all in attendance whether or not they have used Face Book, Twitter and Instagram. Those who had not used these futuristic programmes were required to pay a loony fine. This was followed by the usual Good news/Bad news contributions.

Photos courtesy of Ian Burgess

Rotary Club of Calgary East

is proud to present a Night Out at Canada's national stand-up comedy club

YUK YUK'S

LIVE, UNCUT COMEDY

Laughs Guaranteed!

WHEN: Thursday, February 26

TIME: Doors open 6:30pm Show Starts 7:30

WHERE: YUK YUK'S at the Elbow River Casino 218 18th A VENUE SE

PRICE: \$20.00 per ticket Tickets are going fast! In order to ensure your seat email: karenlacharite@gmail.com or call Karen at 403.803.6167.





What's Up !!

Rotary Awareness Month

January 27th

World Understanding Month

February 3rd	Western Hospitality Singers	
February 10th	Classification Talks	
February 17th	WCS Meeting	
February 24th	Debbie Dunwell, Volunteer Resources Programmer at South Health Campus	

Literacy Month

Rae Kells, International Curling Official
Classification Talks
Dylan Jones, CEO, Canada West Foundation
Ken Keelor, CEO, Calgary Co-op

Robbie Burns Meeting

Magazine Month

0	
April 7th	Classification Talks
April 18th	Roadtrip to Rosebud — bus, lunch and "The Miracle Worker"
April 21st	Adam Legge, President/CEO, Calgary C of C
April 28th	Youth Services — evening meeting

Promote RI Convention Month'

May 12th Andrew Hart, Ornithologist May 16th President's Dinner @ McKenzie Meadows Golf Club — Saturday evening meeting

Rotary Fellowship Month

June 6th - 9th

RI Convention, Sao Paulo, Brazil

Rotary Foundation

New priorities, measurable goals to build Foundation's success

The Rotary Foundation's continued success in changing lives will be buoyed by four new priorities aimed at expanding Rotary's work and enhancing the image and awareness of the Foundation's achievements.

The four priorities are:

- ending polio – now and forever
- strengthening Rotary members' knowledge, engagement, and financial support to the Foundation

increasing the quality and impact of humanitarian services through Rotary grants and the areas of focus

and enhancing the image and awareness of the Foundation's record of achievements, particularly the success of PolioPlus and its 100-year record of doing good in the world.

Rotary Foundation Chair-elect, Ray Klinginsmith, laid out the priorities to governors-elect on Thursday at the International Assembly. The governors-elect take office in July.

Closely mirroring the concept of Rotary's strategic plan, Klinginsmith said the priorities "will clearly provide more continuity and efficiency to move in an agreed direction."

Klinginsmith told attendees that the new priorities are supported by measurable goals that can be tracked annually.

"It is the measurable goals that should be the highest interest to you as incoming district governors, because several of the

annual goals will be measured at the district level," said Klinginsmith, a member of the Rotary Club of Kirksville, Missouri, USA.



Fairview School Mentoring

On Friday afternoon, January 23rd, four of us (Hank Popoff, Bob Montgomery, Ron Smith and Stephen Pick), with our exemplary leader Patricia Garner, had our first group mentoring session with 7 students at Fairview School.

It was a "get to know" each other session. The students took us on a tour of the school, and then we did a variety of exercises led by Patricia.

On the tour we saw the "living wall" at the school. Live plants on the wall where water seeps down into fish tanks, only to be used to re-water the plants. The lighting is powered by the school's solar panels.

The next session is on February 6th at 12:30pm, and lasts till 3:00pm. Consider signing up to work with these great kids!







Monty Audenart

November 14,1949 - January 21, 2015

Dr. Monty Audenart passed away on Wednesday, Jan 21 at his home in Red Deer. He will be greatly missed. He served as a Vice President of Rotary International, and has been serving as a Trustee of the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

He was a mentor and friend, always positive and a great leader. Garth Toombs, DG D5360

This is just a short message to let you know that I have simply " Gone Home". While the Spirit is strong, and I would have loved to stay longer, I have had to lay my body down and walk through the next door. But then, life is really all about how we live it, and less about how long we live. I am lucky to have lived a grand life in the time that I had. I have been blessed to have a wonderful family, and so many good friends.

Monty

Obituary

Monty was born on November 14, 1949 and returned HOME January 21, 2015. He was adopted by Osh and Gladys Audenart and raised on a farm near Raymond, with his sisters

Connie and Beverly. He attended school in Raymond and Magrath, and then served a mission for the LDS Church in Tahiti. He attended the University of Alberta where he graduated from dentistry in 1977 and practiced in Vermilion and Red Deer, and Nunavut, and offered his services to less fortunate people in Jamaica, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Thailand, Mexico, Russia and the Amazon. He served in the Church as a Branch President, a Councillor in the Bishopric, member of High Council, Stake executive secretary and Stake Director of Public Affairs.

Monty joined Rotary in 1987, and served as Club President, District Governor, Rotary International Director, RI Vice-President, and a Trustee of the Rotary Foundation. Monty said that Rotary gave him friends worldwide, and so many opportunities to serve the community and beyond.

Monty leaves for awhile his eternal friend and wife of more than 40 years, Liz; children Maurita and Scott Tollestrup, Jay and Amica (Antonelli) Audenart, Graham and Talia Audenart, Robin and Dave Kearl, Lisa and Sean Freeman, and Ryan and Jody Audenart; my sisters Connie (Andy) Blasetti and Bev (John) Mehew; and grandchildren Mya, Kedan, Tagg, Payton, Berkeley, Osh, Gabby, Jack, Forrest, Aviana, Grayson, KK, Elle, Maeve, Willow, Crew, Aurelia, Mirra, Noa, and Cooper.

In lieu of flowers you may donate directly to The Rotary Foundation. (www.rotary.org)

The service will be held on January 27, at 12pm at 8 Keast Way, Red Deer (LDS chapel).





Rotary 🛞

Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook Mid-Year Report 2014/15

Stephen Pick, President

We lost a number of members at the start of this year due to a variety of reasons. This is beginning to be offset by the addition of new members. John Barratt and Rob Wolfson have joined the club so far this year. However, the overall trend for the year remains negative. Every member must remember that they are part of the recruitment team. We are relying on our active younger members to provide leads. As Membership Chair Ron Smith says, just invite someone to come out to a meeting and they will see all the fellowship and the good works that we do.

At December 31st 2014, we were running on budget. Copies of the financials have been circulated for your review. There have been a few bumps like no longer being able to use Casino funds for the Seniors Lunch, but we have the financial capability to handle these changes and continue to move forward.

We have been involved in a number of "hands on" activities such as the Salvation Army Kettles, Ronald McDonald House, the Mustard Seed, Seniors Christmas Lunch, and the winter coat drive for Morley. Each of these activities will be reviewed as we plan for next year, as we want to ensure our efforts are directed to organizations with the most need, not just the high profile ones who may have waiting lists of volunteers.

Fellowship has been ongoing with the recent Christmas Dinner. The World's Greatest Meal Dinner raised \$650 to go to Polio Plus. Going forward we have a bus trip to the Rosebud Theatre, and a Spring Pot Luck Dinner in the works. There are some questions as to the level of subsidy, if any, that the club should budget for Fellowship activities.

The RI Foundation remains a key part of funding the things that Rotary does. To date, club members have donated approximately \$4000 to the Annual Fund and \$3000 to Polio Plus. I know that Anthony Tonkinson will be after everyone looking to increasing member participation overall, and also move the total donations to a higher level. As a club we have to surpass the \$50 per capita donation level to be able to participate in the matching Grant program both internationally and locally.

As for Polio in general: in 2014 there were only 333 cases reported and so far this year(ok only 18 days reporting) there have been no new cases of polio in the world. Compare this to 1000 plus new cases a day 25 years ago when Rotary's polio efforts began.

WCS has assembled and funded a number projects and will be reporting on them in detail to the Club at a February meeting. The focus is now on seeking out projects for the 2015/16 year since if matching funds are going to be requested, applications have to be in by May.

Youth Services has been active with Interact, Scouts and our YEX activities. In 2015/16 we will not have a YEX student (inbound or outbound) and the committee will be involved in a full review of our youth programs to ensure we are targeting the efforts as best we can and fitting with the club member objectives in this area. The Rotary/Mattamy Greenway project is ongoing and we have submitted our first \$10,000 donation and this will be followed by a second \$10,000 when we receive funds from the Casino that was held this fall. This is in line with the \$50,000 best efforts multi year pledge made by the club for this project. By the end of 2015 only 14 km of the pathway will be left to construct.

We had two new fundraising activities this year. The Westrow Food Group BBQ events, chaired by Hank Popoff, have contributed over \$7000 and it seems likely that these will continue over this upcoming summer. Second, club members helping out at the RC Calgary Stampede events earned the club over \$4000.

We held a successful Casino this fall, but do not yet have the pooled results. Staffing parking shifts has been achieved with the help of our partner organizations. We earned over \$40,000 this parking season.

Our Club Society's bylaws are under review. As you recall, it is now a registered Charity and some adjustments are required going forward.

1) Revised by laws:

Bill Churchward took on this task to review our current bylaws, compare to the current RI guidelines and ensure that the wording reflected the actual practice of the club. Moved by Bill Churchward and seconded by Bev Tonkinson, after discussion. A quorum being present, the updated bylaws were approved.

- 2) The Financial Statements of December 31st 2014 are presented for information. They are posted online on our website.
- 3) Member Event Subsidies: the Board will be considering this question over its next few meetings to come up with a long term sustainable policy. Initially the club heavily subsidized some events, then we reduced any planned subsidy to nil.

The simple questions ... should fellowship events be self sustaining, or should the club subsidize them in some limited manner?

Please forward any comments to the Board for consideration as a policy is developed.

- 4) Youth Services: the Committee will be seeking member input on our continued participation in the YEX program, and seeking support by members signing up to work on the committee. The Committee will also be reviewing all our Youth Services activities to optimize our participation in these programs.
- Forward any comments by email to Rena St Clair.
- 5) The Arch: this was created as the club information tool. Do we want to consider going to an all electronic version as many clubs have, or continue with hard copies? Should we use our Facebook page and Club Runner more? A mix of electronic and hard copies?

Based on comments at the meeting, a mix of electronic and hard copy versions is supported.

Rotary 🋞

Westrow Fundraising Events

Our participation in the Westrow Food Group's Community Events Program for the upcoming barbecue season has been confirmed. Westrow is targeting at 10-12 events this season – up from 8 last year. We currently have 30 members and partners holding a Food Safety Course Certificate which is required to work at these events. Club members who have not yet participated in this activity are encouraged to do so. The process for obtaining the Food Safety Course Certificate is an easy one. Contact me at popoffh@telusplanet.net for particulars. Westrow have agreed to increase the donation to Chinook Rotary by 25% for the upcoming season.

Rotary District Conference

The Conference will take place in Medicine Hat from May 8th to May 10th. Club members who have not previously attended a District 5360 Conference have been offered a Club

\$200 subsidy for a full registration. An email encouraging members to attend, and publicizing the subsidy was distributed on December 27th. To date only 5 club members have registered, none of whom are eligible for the subsidy.

Rotary Friendship Exchange

Tammy Truman will be our club co-ordinator for the friendship exchange group from Australia for the dates of July 1 to 4th (3 nights). This group, of approximately twelve, will require accommodation and transportation to various local venues. The visitors are responsible for expenses such as restaurant meals and event tickets. Other than the first day and evening, when the visitors will be with their hosts, the visitors' remaining itinerary will comprise of group events at local points of interest. Tammy will be asking for host volunteers and may share the hosting commitment with another Rotary club.



Interact

The annual pumpkin sale was held in October 2014 and raised \$136, split between Dr. E.P. Scarlet and Henry Wisewood. Both clubs will also attend the youth dinner in April.The **Youth Night Dinner** is scheduled for the evening of April 28th/15.

Ryla/Rypen

Ryla 2015 has been confirmed and will be in Canmore from Thursday May 21st to Sunday May 25th.

In partnership with Servus and Tsuu T'ina Nation, a RYLA Reunion will take place from February 6th to 8th at the Grey Eagle Resort.

Youth Exchange

Gregor is enjoying his exchange here in Calgary, and Carla is also having a very good year in Germany.

We will not have an inbound or outbound student in 2015/16. I will be meeting with my committee members in the next 2 to 3 weeks to identify other worthwhile Youth Programs.

**** Our committee is looking for suggestions so please call me if you have an idea or a youth project that you would like to introduce. ****

Youth Service Report

Rena St. Clair, Chair

Fairview Educational Partnership

The first mentoring meeting has been rescheduled to this Friday, January 23rd at 12:30pm. Seven students will participate in the mentorship program.

Scouts

The annual popcorn sale in November helped the Scouts raise \$179.

We have also provided the Scouts with 25 badges and the additional 75 should be here anytime.

High School Bursaries

7 HS bursaries have been awarded. 4 were awarded in June 2014 and 3 were presented in November 2014.

Father Greg Bursary

The Father Greg Memorial Award was presented at St. Mary's University College on October 9 2014.



Club Service Report

Heide Kramer, Chair

All areas of club service are being represented well.

Membership

Membership continues to be a challenge, but Ron Smith is continuing to work on it.

Fellowship

Fellowship is not overly busy this year. We have Rosebud coming up, and perhaps when Linda returns, we may have another Pot Luck, although the date was not the only problem ... some members did not like the member pay stipulation set out by the Board.

I have an idea for a small outing in the spring to Spirit Hills

Winery in Millarville that could prove to be a fun outing for 16 people.

Sargent at Arms

Fran is doing great job with Sargent at Arms, arranging different ones to keep members on their toes.

Speakers

Bart continues to bring us good speakers. Even rabbits!!

Sunshine

Harry still needs members to tell him of the health concerns of members in the club so he can report on it.



With the exception of the Birthday/Anniversary Committee, all of the committee chairs under Club Operations have been carrying out their responsibilities for many years. As a result, Club Operations runs quite smoothly with only a few glitches from time to time. Much of the work under these committees is behind the scenes, and as a result there is little recognition Chair or the members. Some of these long standing chairs have expressed a desire to pass the torch to someone else in the near future. There needs to be focus on positioning successors as the need arises.

Arch Scribes Committee Chair: Ed McLean This committee will identify and schedule scribes to record the activities at the club's meetings and events. These notes will be forwarded to the newsletter publishers for inclusion in the Arch.

Newsletter Publication Committee - the Arch

Chair: Stephen Pick Members: (Anne Pick) This Committee is responsible for publishing and the distribution of our weekly newsletters. This includes incorporating the meeting notes provided by the scribes, keeping the Upcoming Events listing up to date, and including articles of interest for the general club membership.

Roster Committee Chair: Ron Smith This Committee maintains and publishes a list of current members of Calgary Chinook as well as relevant information relating to other Clubs in our District and internationally.

Birthday/Anniversary Committee Chair: John Barratt Once a month, this Committee announces the birthdays and anniversaries of the Club members in the spirit of promoting fellowship. They prepare a birthday table, a cake and wine for the birthday members.

History/Archives Committee Chair: Jim Thompson This Committee maintains a running history of Calgary Chinook Rotary and its activities, membership, special events and memorabilia. It arranges for safe storage of the club's records.

Attendance Committee Chair: Bill Worthington This Committee is responsible for recording regular attendance at meetings together with any make ups, and reporting the resulting overall figures to the Director prior to each monthly Board meeting. The committee is also responsible for keeping the Club Runner attendance statistics up to date.

Website Committee Chair: Dave Wylie This Committee is responsible for the maintenance, new data input, and old data removal on our Club's website(s). The committee will also strive to modernize and keep the club's website active and informative. The committee will also develop and maintain the sign-up system for the club's parking activities.

Greeters Committee Chair: Barry Korpatnisky This Committee is responsible for organizing the participation of our membership in providing two greeters each week at our meetings. This will ensure that our members and guests feel welcome and appreciated upon arrival.

Photos Committee Chair: Ian Burgess The committee will take pictures to record the club meetings, speakers and special events. These photographs will be forwarded electronically to the Newsletter Committee for inclusion in the Arch.

House Committee

Chair: Paul Hussey Members: (Connie Hussey) This Committee ensures that the meeting room is made ready for each meeting or other event. This includes seeing that the Canadian flag, other banners, podium, bell, etc. are in place prior to the meeting, and then taken down and put away thereafter. The important role of Connie Hussey at reception is a key function of the House Committee.



Community Service Report Bev Ton

Bev Tonkinson, Chair

Nature Park Chair: Jim Thompson Jim Is going to press Alberta Government officials to talk to the city about the diversion of the storm sewer away from the settlement ponds into our main ponds. which will continue to affect natural regrowth.

Calgary Rotary Clubs Foundat				
Status as of December 31, 2014				
Total Assets	\$ 44,223,299.99			
Distributions to Member Clubs	64,710.00			
Chinook Contributions to Date	157,726.18 restricted			
 can be used for a project 	15,000.00 general fund			
Foundation Returns for 2014	2,872,607.31			
Chinook Contributions 2014	7,400.00 donations			

Community Projects Chair: Wayne Wiebe In the fall of 2014, we participated in Mustard Seed, Samaritan's Purse and Salvation Army Christmas Kettles. We are currently planning to participate in Ronald McDonald House in early 2015.

Any ideas from members for a community event that will involve more members, let either myself or Wayne know.

Rotary/Mattamy Greenway Project Chair: John McBean John sent us all an update on September 29th. Mattamy Homes is advancing their outstanding \$3 million of their title sponsorship commitment. \$2 million has been received and the remaining \$1 million will be forwarded in the spring. This has a very significant impact towards the completion of the project.

Seniors Christmas Luncheon Chair: Tammy Truman We work with Calgary Family Services and invited 250 seniors from various organization in the city. Five Calgary Stampeders (Champions), along with Ralph, came to help serve and put smiles on guests' faces.

International Service Report



This year both the World Community Service and The Rotary Foundation Committees have been active.

For the Foundation it has been concerned with improving the profile within the club and reestablishing the ability to obtain and manage member's accounts. The club again has a matching program using its reward points to enable club members to achieve Paul Harris Fellow recognition earlier than otherwise possible. In effect the club donates the funds the club raises to club members. The primary objective this year is to achieve a per capita giving level to the foundation of \$50. This equates to a total of \$4,250 for the whole club ... a very low threshold amounting to less than \$1/week for all members. To date we sit at approximately 75% of our objective. Having said that, this is primarily due to the 25-30% of our membership who give on a continual basis. The second objective this year is to increase the percentage of members giving to a more reasonable 50%. It should be noted that the \$50 per capita threshold, if not achieved, precludes our club from obtaining matching Foundation grants for any of our projects both domestic and international.

The World Community Service Committee has been active and has allocated its \$15,000 budget to a number of worthwhile endeavours. A full presentation is planned for the club on 17th February to go into detail on the specifics.

All our projects this year are in support of local (Canadian) charities doing good around the world. A particular focus of our committee this year is to achieve maximum leverage to the money we give. This leverage is obtained through matching Foundation grants, and this year for the first time, making use of the Charitable Foundation our Club has.

The remainder of this year's committee work is devoted to developing a larger project which can be used to garner support from other Rotary Clubs, The Rotary Foundation and possibly sweat equity from our members ... more on this later.

All district clubs participate in a group which allows clubs to share their projects, solicit support from each other, and share experience. Our club is this year participating with the Cochrane club on a project in Benin, one the poorest nations in the world, with rampant public health problems. This project is concerned with improving children's education such that the root cause of the country's health issues can be addressed.

Remember our projects improve people's lives through improving the ability of young kids to learn, the provision of safe and secure drinking water, and the provision of health care and drugs to the poorest of the poor.



Club Financial Report

David Wartman, Chair

Parking

Net return to the club for the "parking year" from spring through fall of 2014 was \$44,000

Casino

A successful casino was held this fall. Financial results will not be known for some time



Society Bylaws

Society bylaws are currently being revised to provide for greater continuity in managing the society.

President Elect Report Dale Perret, President Elect

As President Elect for the 2014-2015 Rotary year, I am outlining my plans for the coming 2015-16 year with the intent that we "plan early".

My immediate goal is to ensure that we have our 2015/16 Directors in a position to develop strong committees that are confident in the knowledge of their roles and responsibilities, aware and guided by the Strategic Plan goals, and prepared to produce zero-based budgets in line with their programs in a timely manner.

To accomplish that I feel the following is of benefit:

• Directors will contact current chairs and members of their committees under their Avenue of Service for 2014/15 to determine their continuation and/or changes as well as new possible members. All chairs and committee members should be identified by February 15th. Members should be proactive in determining their level of interest and ensuring that it is communicated to the Director for that Avenue of Service by February 15th.

• Directors will arrange an initial meeting of each committee

(chair and members) by March 15th to review Strategic Plans and programs, as well as budgets for the new year. I will also attend these meetings to assist and provide support where needed. All committees will have been provided with the necessary information such as Strategic Plan, and current financial statements, including 2014-15 budget, as well as committee role descriptions. It is expected that all committee members will review this information prior to their first meeting so that they are prepared to start the budget preparation. All 2015-16 budgets will be completed by May 5th, 2015.

• I will share Board Governance knowledge that I have gained through my role as a facilitator with the Province of Alberta Board Development Program for not-for-profit/socialprofit organizations. Committees are the work horse of a board, and given the necessary tools and communication, they add a great deal to the success of an organization.

I trust my goals will add value to the Board in the coming year, and I look forward to working with all of our members in continuing to have a vibrant and progressive Rotary Club. Your thoughts and comments are always welcome.