

## In This Issue

### 1 ZOOM Networking Meeting

### 2 2020 RI Convention

Sunshine Report

### 3 What's Up !!

Networking Meeting cont'd

Did You Know ?

District Update

### 4 International Service

Help Fellow Albertans

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District 5360 Governor Christine Rendell  
Rotary Club of Calgary East

April 30th, 2020

## ZOOM Networking Meeting

by Stephen Pick

As the peals of "Wasn't That a Party" slowly faded out, PE Rob Wolfson brought the meeting to order. That was in itself an achievement as Rob remembered not to mute himself while he played the tune!

We started the meeting with 18 participants growing to 21 at the peak. The real count of attendees is higher as many screens had two attendees (same household so social distancing was being adhered to — won't it be nice if we can some day not worry about things like that!?).



Rob led a round of asking members what they were up to, and how things were going in life and business. A high point was hearing from Fred Jessee who continues to self isolate at Rath Trevor Beach — such hardship! He and May had planned to return to Calgary by now, but had extended their stay until travel restrictions are eased.

Rob Wolfson told us about his bowling success. He ended the season ranked 5th in the Province, and would be off to a national event in a normal year. He is at home improving on his guitar skills.

We heard from Carla Hamarsnes (sp?) and Katlyn McLaughlin on the Rotary Employment partnership status. Currently 80% of the participants are unemployed due to business closures, but hopefully things will return once businesses are allowed to re-open.

The speaker was Lucene Tahmazian, who is the Learning Leader at the Calgary Board of Education, and her role is to assist with the development, execution and transition to Emergency Remote Learning. She is a proud Calgarian and has served in CBE schools and other programs for over 30 years. She is now a key part of the support team for teachers, helping to develop online learning solutions.



Supporters of the Rotary Employment Partnership

cont'd on page 3 ...

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**SAVE THE DATE**

**NOW MORE THAN EVER,  
ROTARY CONNECTS THE WORLD:  
THE 2020 ROTARY  
VIRTUAL CONVENTION**

20-26 June 2020 | Starting 1 May, learn more at [riconvention.org](http://riconvention.org)

Rotary  |  **2020 ROTARY  
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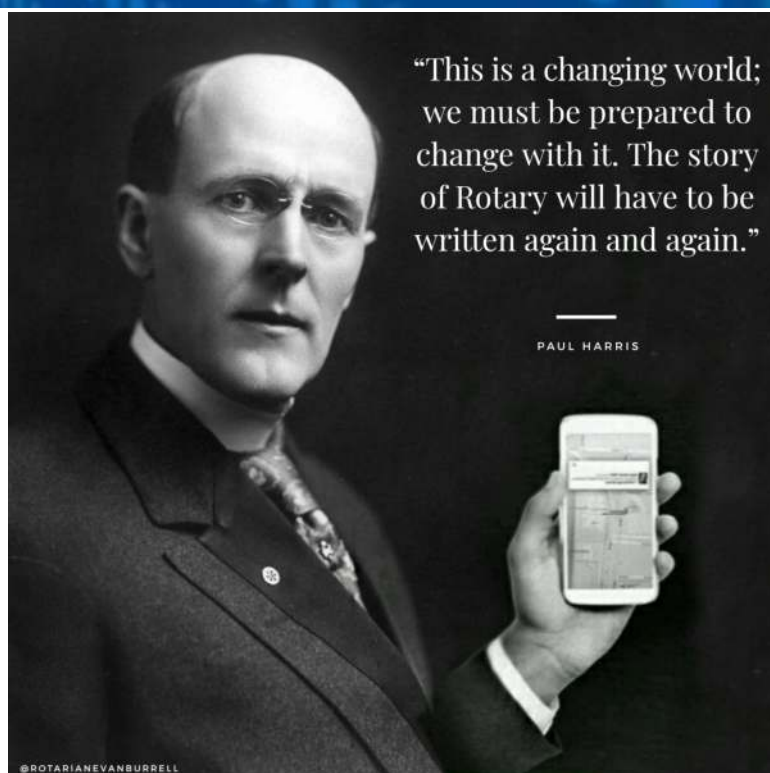
**Mark your calendars for 20-26 June for an exciting opportunity to gather online with the family of Rotary for our first online convention.**

Now More Than Ever, Rotary Connects the World: The 2020 Rotary Virtual Convention will join you with Rotary participants around the world during a time of unprecedented challenges.

Together, we'll still experience the spirit of Rotary, be inspired by innovation, celebrate our resilience, and explore how clubs are addressing COVID-19. Experience Rotary in action during our Flag Ceremony, witness the power of connection during our general sessions, learn new ways to engage with Rotary during our breakout sessions, find inspiration from our global speakers, and much more.

We have never needed Rotary — and we have never needed each other — more than we do now.

We hope to see you online, because Now More Than Ever, Rotary Connects the World.



## Sunshine Report



Remember to contact Pat Hutchinson with any updates and information on the health of the Club!

[pnhutchinson@shaw.ca](mailto:pnhutchinson@shaw.ca)

**Our 'regular meeting' is on  
ZOOM again this week ...**

**Join in  
today at noon!**



## Meetings

Tuesday, May 5th

ZOOM meeting at noon ... be sure to join in!

Guest Speaker John Hufnagel, GM, Calgary Stampeders

Tuesday, May 19th

ZOOM meeting at noon ... be sure to join in!

Speaker from the Calgary Chapter of the Canadian Mental Health Association

## Networking Meetings

Thursday, May 28th

ZOOM e-Networking Meeting, 7-8(ish) pm

Thursday, June 25th

ZOOM e-Networking Meeting, 7-8(ish) pm

## President's Dinner

September 19th

@ MacKenzie Meadows Golf Club — contact George Kimura



## Networking Meeting ... cont'd from page 1

She spoke of the many challenges facing teachers as they work to contact students to continue their education online. For some it is easy, for some seemingly impossible. It is an uneven playing field with some students having access to computers and quality internet, with others having poor if any internet access, and perhaps only a shared smart phone or tablet. Some of the programs being brought into play do not work on all operating systems (Apple vs Microsoft vs Google Chrome, vs ...).

PE Rob thanked Lucene for a very in-depth and interesting presentation that she had fit into a twenty minute time slot. We could all see her passion for the subject that she said she could have gone on much longer about. She is a key player in ensuring that as Rob said, "Our leaders of tomorrow being home-schooled by isolated alcoholics" does not become the norm.

Rob wrapped up the meeting and stated he may have to extend the meeting time frame as we always seem to run over the one hour time slot. Thanks Rob for a very interesting and thought provoking meeting.

Be sure to join us for the next meeting on May 28th.

## District Update

I trust you are all safe and well during this uncertain time.

At the District Board Meeting on April 24th, we discussed the hardships, especially financial, that are being faced today by our Clubs and members that will continue beyond our fiscal year-end. A motion was passed to reduce the District net asset base for the purpose of an immediate special distribution of \$25 per active member and issued to Rotary and Rotaract Clubs, based on our March 31, 2020, membership. These net assets were created through the activities of Clubs and their members. We believe that each Club will be able to best determine the use of funds to support their Clubs and members.

We wish to have this distribution completed as soon as possible!

Thank you so much for your leadership during this crisis. We are resilient, and together we will get through this. Please stay safe.

In Rotary Spirit,  
DG Christine Rendell

## Did You Know?

*Jim Thompson, Charter Member, Club Historian*

**Did You Know?** We have had a number of interesting members over the years, and equally a number of incidents and activities.

For example, Carson Rockley was proposed as a Charter member but chose not to join. He later referred his son John Rockley to the club, and John was proposed and became an Active Member under the classification of Commercial Printing. John resigned several years later, and accepted proposal to Active Membership in the Calgary Rotary Club. In 1995 his son Spencer died while boating on Kootenay Lake. John had been a founder, in 1988, of the Willow Park GC Charity Classic. John never overcame the loss of Spencer, who was never found, and he later moved to Parksville BC, rejoining Rotary there. He passed away unexpectedly in 2016.

Dr Dave Chevalier, classification Chiropractic, one of the 3 new members introduced the night of April 12 1977, our celebration of becoming a new club, was another interesting short-term member. He literally went away on a holiday to Mexico a few months after being inducted, and drowned in the ocean while there. Years later we had correspondence from someone who was with him in Mexico, suggesting his death was not an accident! A file on that information remains in our records, nothing was ever resolved. It wasn't up to the club to start an investigation years after the incident. I suggested they take it up with Mexican authorities or the RCMP.

John Zaozirny, classification Law, was a charter member, serving as our first club Secretary. He was only with us a few years, when he became Minister of Natural Resources, in the Provincial Government.

Fred James, the CFL star with both the Calgary Stampeders and Edmonton Eskimos, was a member of our club, after his football career ended. Always very fit, I was surprised to see he had passed away in June 2016.

We have a large, almost filled plaque commemorating the passing of a number of our Active and Senior Active members who passed while still serving the club. We will feature some of those stories in future columns.

Sandy Swan has been developing a global grant to install **124 solar panels at Rancho de los Ninos, an Orphanage in Mazatlan, Mexico**. The panels will cost \$ 91,250 USD and achieve savings for the orphanage of at least \$ 500,000 over the subsequent 25 years. The funding for the project includes funds from Chinook and our host club in Mazatlan, a \$ 15,500 donation from a Rotarian couple that live in Carmel, Indiana, a Government of Canada grant, and a matching grant from the Rotary Foundation.

The Government of Canada has specified the type of projects they will sponsor, and a lot of effort can be spent to complete their application form and meet all their requirements. Sandy submitted her application to the TRFC grants committee for the Government of Canada grant on April 30. The grants committee approved the grant application for \$19,000 USD on May 1.

Syed Ahmed has been developing a global grant to carry out a **Hearing Assessment and Rehabilitation Project in Islamabad, Pakistan**. The project should run over two years and cost \$ 92,000 USD. The funding for this project includes funds from Chinook and our host club Rotary Club Islamabad Metropolitan, a Government of Canada grant, and a matching grant from the Rotary Foundation.

Syed submitted his application to the TRFC grants committee for the Government of Canada grant on April 30. The grants committee approved the grant application for \$ 22,340 USD on May 1.

## Summary of Leverage Due to the Grant Process

The following table demonstrates the financial impact of the grant work done on these two projects by the International Service Committee Chaired by Graham Boone, and the efforts made by Club Members Sandy Swan and Syed Ahmed.

	Mazatlan Orphanage	Islamabad Hearing
Initial donation by Chinook	\$ 4,000	\$ 7,340
District DDF Grant	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Subtotal	\$ 19,000	\$ 22,340
Government of Canada Grant	\$ 19,000	\$ 22,340
Subtotal	\$ 38,000	\$ 44,680
Rotary World Fund Grant	\$ 26,500	\$ 29,840
<b>Total Attributed to Chinook</b>	<b>\$ 64,500</b>	<b>\$ 74,520</b>
Initial donation by Host Club	\$ 1,000	\$ 5,000
David and Sara Luedtke	\$ 15,500	\$ 0
District Grant	\$ 1,000	\$ 5,000
Subtotal	\$ 17,500	\$ 10,000
Rotary World Fund Grant	\$ 9,250	\$ 7,500
<b>Total Attributed to Host Club</b>	<b>\$ 26,750</b>	<b>\$ 17,500</b>
<b>Total cost of project per Global Grant</b>	<b>\$ 91,250</b>	<b>\$ 92,020</b>

## How best to help our fellow Albertans during these difficult and uncertain times

A few weeks ago, our Provincial Government announced a charitable donation matching program (up to \$2 million) under which they will match donations (from April 15th to May 31st) by Albertans to designated charities.

For Calgarians, the two designated charities which cover our area are the “United Way Calgary and Area — COVID 19 Community Response Fund” and the “Calgary Foundation — COVID 19 Pandemic Recovery Program”.

In their press release, they note, “We are asking Albertans to donate whatever their finances can allow to help those who rely on the programs and services delivered by non-profits and charities. Each donation will help charities continue to feed, support and care for Albertans in this unprecedented time.”



You can easily give online by simply looking up the specific charity. There are so many excellent places for us as individuals to donate, including our own Rotary Foundation and Calgary Rotary Clubs Foundation, however this matching program allows us to increase the amount available to those in need.

*Paul Gaudet and Hank Popoff*