



Advanced Medical & Surgical Clinics Garth Mann, Owner and CEO

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Our guest speaker today, Garth Mann, was introduced by Keith Wellon. Garth is Owner and CEO of the Statesman Group of Companies, the Manor Village Life Centres, and Advanced Medical and Surgical Clinics. He was born in Manitoba, but at the young age of four moved with his family to Olds, Alberta. He met his wife Karen at university in Ontario, and was able to sweet talk her into moving to Calgary. For their first 20 years here, he practiced at the Bonavista Eye Center. He then switched gears to move into the seniors' housing development business. They have grown to be a major player in this industry with operations in Canada and in the US. The new Currie Green Development next door is his, as is the historical heritage site, the Inn on Officers' Garden. It's a great success story and is still family run, with Karen and their four children all involved.



Garth strongly believes that we can all live healthier and longer lives. He wants to help make a real difference towards this end. Aligned with this view, his main topic today will be his new emerging business, Advanced Medical and Surgical Clinics. The first of three in Calgary and 25 across Canada is being built as phase 3 of the Currie Green Development next door. These will not be normal medical clinics and will include a new approach to medical services. These clinics are intended to be better for doctors, better for patients, and to lessen overall healthcare costs.

Garth began his presentation with a brief video introducing the Advanced Medical and Surgical Clinics (AMSC). It is noted that the current medical system in Canada is broken. It is being judged to a great extent by the long wait times at almost every level of the system. While we have some of the best hospitals available, the operation is not based on disease prevention, but rather on the treatment of disease. It was noted that the original Medicare system was introduced with a co-pay, which was subsequently dropped for political reasons. Canadians need to be more aware of staying healthy by adopting a healthier lifestyle.

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Garth advised that Canada's universal healthcare system was established around 1984. It was based on the format that the government would pay for health cost, and that there was to be a co-pay, which was considered important so as not to have the system abused. It was foreseen that the baby boomers would cause the system to break.

Garth has started a new healthcare system with an initial premises located in London Ontario. He decided to bring back universal healthcare as it was originally designed. He chose to begin this process in London, and it took 3 to 4 years to get a permit and this was with them building it completely self-funded from their own resources. This facility is now doing 3,500 surgical procedures per year. The Province of Ontario



basically watched the operation for the first two years,
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President Rob called our meeting to order at 12:15, welcoming all in attendance.

Indigenous Fact

First Nations: There are more than 630 First Nations communities in Canada, which represent more than 50 Indigenous languages. The Largest First Nation in Canada is “The Cree” which includes more than 120,000 people. In Comparison, the Tsuu’tina Nation population is slightly less than 3,000.

On This Day in History

- 1493 Christopher Columbus first reaches Puerto Rico, inhabited by the Taino, on his 2nd voyage to the Caribbean
- 1620 The Mayflower reaches Cape Cod and explores the coast
- 1805 Lewis and Clark Expedition reaches the Pacific Ocean becoming the first European Americans to cross the west
- 1863 US President Abraham Lincoln delivers his Gettysburg address beginning, “Four score and seven years ago ...”
- 1911 New York receives first Marconi wireless transmission from Italy
- 1959 Ford Motors cancels its poorly received Edsel model
- 1969 Apollo 12's Charles Conrad and Alan Bean become the 3rd and 4th humans on the Moon
- 1996 The 12.9 km Confederation Bridge, joining Borden-Carleton, Prince Edward Island and Cape Jourimain, New Brunswick is completed and becomes the longest bridge over ice covered waters in the world

Guests

We had 29 participants at our meeting today which included 12 Guests: Speaker Garth Mann and 5 of his guests, 4 visiting Rotarians, including our ADG Madeleine King, and three partners: Lois, Lyla and Connie. Our guests were introduced by Moe and welcomed with our “Welcome to Rotary” verse.

Rob expressed **thanks** to Paul for being our Scribe today. He also thanked Moe Tynan for being our Greeter and for making everyone feel welcome. He thanked Stephen and Anne for all they do for our Club, most notably the regular production of our e-Arch. In addition we also wish to thank both Hank and Neil for operating our payment system.

Rob then thanked Keith for organizing today’s luncheon meeting at the “Officers’ Garden”.

Good News/Bad News

Rob announced that he celebrated his 50th birthday on November 11th with a trip to Mexico with friends pre birthday, and a trip to Vegas post birthday. He thanked Wayne for chairing our meeting on November 5th.

Neil advised that he and Lois and family will be off to Hawaii for a week.

Sharon told us about her very successful trip to host an event in Winnipeg.

Chase the Ace

Our Chase the Ace selection for this week had to be postponed as the data (and cards) were not available.

Casino Results

Bruce Bohnet reported that we have now received the proceeds from our summer Casino. He was especially pleased that the amount was \$84,862 which is higher than traditional proceeds. He thanked all our volunteers, and noted that our next Casino will be scheduled in the 2nd quarter of 2026 at the Elbow River Casino.

ADG Update

Our ADG, Madeleine King from the Rotary Club of Calgary, advised that she is the ADG for four Rotary Clubs, and looks forward to working with Chinook and helping in any way she can. She addressed the issue recently in the news regarding the disagreement between a widow and Rotary regarding her husband’s will and his bequest to Rotary. Madeleine confirmed that Rotary is working very hard to settle this issue as quickly as possible, and asks that we have faith in Rotary to do so. If anyone has questions on the matter she asks that they be directed to our District Governor.

Rob’s Updates

- Rob thanked our members who volunteered to help out and raise funds at the Millarville Market.
- He noted how successful “Rotary Remembers” was at the Carriage House. There were over 300 guests, and the guest speakers were excellent. He thanked Jim Hennessy for his great job chairing the event.
- He highlighted that nominations remain open for anyone who would like to join next year’s Board of Directors. Kindly contact our Secretary Dale for additional information.
- Our Annual General Meeting is scheduled for December 17th.

Sunshine Report

Pat was in attendance today, however as he has recently been hospitalized, he has been unable to follow up with our membership. It was also noted that Al Pettigrew was in attendance today. It was great to see both Pat and Al back at our meeting after their recent illnesses.

Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker today was introduced by Keith Mellon. Garth Mann is Owner and CEO of the Statesman Group of Companies, the Manor Village Life Centres, and Advanced Medical and Surgical Clinics.

Advanced Medical & Surgical Clinics

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however it was noted that there have been no complaints during those years. At this point, he reports that doctors are keen and interested in joining them, and they have a significant number of patients registered.

They are currently waiting for permit approval in Calgary, and will once again build their facility entirely from their own resources. Under their new system, there will be a nominal co-pay, a very affordable amount. The doctors who will be working in their system will earn a significantly higher income, as the facility expenses will all be absorbed by the operation itself and not be the responsibility of the doctors. Garth advises that the average medical practitioner in the current system makes approximately \$120,000 per year after expenses, which he believes is too low considering the training and importance involved. The new system which he is establishing will effectively double the amount of their pay.

Garth advises that our health is only 1/3 determined by our parents and 2/3 determined by our lifestyle, our diet and how much we use or abuse our body. He states that our body can live to over 100. He believes the future of healthcare will depend on installing a patient centered healthcare system which will invest more time in preventing illnesses rather than responding to them. Their new system will be based on prevention. He advises that when Calgary's operation commences, patients will be able to choose between 24 family doctors, and they will get to choose the day and time of their appointment. They will fill out a form with a health history, and they will be registered into the system. In this new system there will be more available surgeries, which will eliminate the long wait times currently being seen in the current system. It will also monitor mental health along with prevention and physical health. He wrapped up his presentation by saying that "there is a better way" and that they can help us live to 100.

We refer the reader to the website www.advancedmedicalgroup.ca for additional information.

Keith thanked Garth for his excellent presentation on this extremely interesting subject. He advised Garth that our Rotary Club would be making a donation to Polio Plus, Rotary's campaign to eliminate Polio from our world, in appreciation of his presentation today.

Dates to Remember

- We will not be holding our regular evening meeting this month.
- Our next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, December 3rd at the Carriage House.
- Our Christmas Dinner is being held at the Grey Eagle Casino on Friday, December 6th.

Rob thanked everyone for attending today and asked all to help close our meeting with a reading of Rotary's 4 Way Test.

Remember, "The Magic of Rotary". Have a great Rotary week!

Did You Know?

DID YOU KNOW OR WISH TO KNOW?

For Your Information...

Our Nature Park, plagued with access issues over the years, is finally free of those issues. The future is clear to complete the two final approved features ... the 1/8 amphitheatre and the wheelchair observation platform.

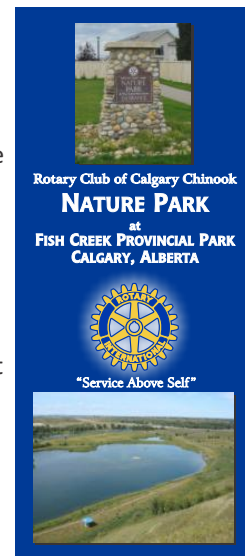
When I, serving as President/CEO of the golf course, determined those lands as part of our assembly, were not acceptable for golf related development, I suggested a nature park extension to Fish Creek Provincial Park, assuring no cost to the government for our Rotary Club to convert the old gravel pit into a peaceful nature park in a urban setting. They were quick to agree. The property was compromised by a major utility corridor. The shelters and other improvements were approved and built with financial assistance from generous sponsors.

We have a sponsor already for the amphitheatre. Member Brennen Pell has stepped up to advise that his company, NORSE, will sponsor and build the natural stone seated setting in 2025! The wheel chair platform will follow sponsored by others.

The park is visited year round. Pictured is my granddaughter, Phoebe Polak, who was in the Early Start Rotary program for elementary school children (sponsored by the Heritage Park club), perched on grandpa's shoulders, visiting the park.

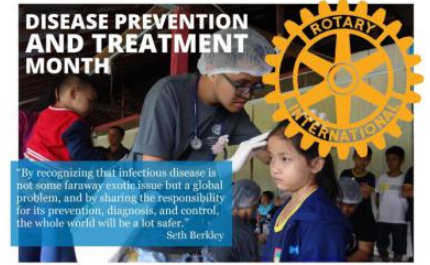


2025 will see Rotarians from around the world here for the RI Convention ... hopefully some of them will visit our park while here!



Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

December 3rd Nicole Oulette — Light Up the World
 December 6th Club Christmas Party — 5:00pm @ Grey Eagle Resort & Casino
 December 17th Club AGM and Bart Dailley



2025

Vocational Service Month

January 7th Alisha Reynolds, President and CEO, Tourism Calgary
 January 21st Mackenzie Murphy, corporate Communications Coordinator, The Calgary Airport Authority

Peace Building and Conflict Prevention Month

February 18th Shaundra Bruvall, Director of Communications, AlphaHouse Society



Thanks from RAYEC

Who are we thankful for? YOU! Just wanted to say a very heartfelt thank you for your club's sponsorship of the 26th version of the Rotary Alberta Youth Entrepreneurship Camp (RAYEC). It was a jam-packed week of business fun with 58 campers, 10 youth leaders and 19 adults at Eagles Nest Ranch. Just over \$12, 000 was exchanged during the week, and campers took anywhere from \$45 to \$122 home with them after paying back expenses. Some of the products developed by campers included keychains, baking in a jar, vintage designed t-shirts, candles, orb lights ... and so much more! It wasn't all work though – campers enjoyed the Burma bridge, paintball, campfire, lip sync battle, and the other fun stuff that just happens. Many new friends were made, and tears were shed saying goodbye on the last day.



We also invite you to head to our website and take a look at all of our sponsors. Please share this with others in your club who may be interested in learning more about RAYEC – and follow us on Facebook for updates throughout the year.

From of all of us on Team RAYEC 2024, thanks again for helping us teach youth about entrepreneurship in such a fabulous setting. We really couldn't do it without you!

Jodie Eckert, On behalf of the RAYEC Committee



Club Christmas Party !!



I am excited to invite you our annual Chinook Rotary Christmas dinner and celebration of the season.

When: Friday December 6th at 5pm
 Where: Grey Eagle Casino Buffet & Restaurant
 Cost: \$50 per person

We will have an amazing prime rib dinner with holiday desserts, and violinist Steven Klevisky will be there to provide us with some live entertainment.

All spouses and guests are welcome. Please send payment in advance to the club at info@chinookrotary.org ... or contact Vlad to make other arrangements.

Please also send your RSVPs to me at robwolfrotary@shaw.ca

I hope you can join me in some Yuletide cheer and fellowship!
 Yours In Rotary,
 President Rob

