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## 2024-2025 Officers and Directors

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District 5360 Governor Christina Hassan  
Rotary Club of Calgary Fish Creek

## Pediatric Dentistry

### Dr. Leny Smith

Our speaker this week was Dr Leny Smith, who is a Pediatric Dentist. Dr Smith began his pediatric dental practice in 1972. He was the first formally trained pediatric dentist in Calgary, and has maintained Dental Care for Children since that time. His passion for children is evident when you see him interacting with his patients and their families. He has dedicated over half his life focussing on care, and promoting health for all children.



He has held numerous positions in various organizations during his career: a few are noted such as Head of the Dental Department at Alberta Children's Hospital; Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine University of Calgary; President the Society for Dentistry For the Handicapped; Founder and President of the Foundation for A Healthy Mouth - Healthy Child (USA). He has been married to his wife Hilda for 44 years and has two grown daughters and two grandsons.

Dr Smith started out by noting that our topic today was to discuss a terrible global problem, dental decay among early childhood patients. He and other doctors have produced a booklet specifically designed to outline the problems created by ignoring dental care in the very young. He noted that these problems are more common in lower economic cultures and specifically, they are even greater amongst the indigenous cultures. Another situation where children's teeth are neglected are in situations of domestic violence.

The deterioration of a baby's teeth is usually caused by sugar, often provided in juice or formula or even breast-feeding, depending on the diet of the provider. The top teeth are even worse than the bottom teeth as apparently babies tend to hold sugar fluid against the upper teeth as they sleep. As the child's brain is developing during their first five years of life, these situations of early tooth decay can lead to

permanent damage. The children exhibit sleep deprivation, not being well nourished, and their entire body can be experiencing toxic stress. 28% of all children aged up to five years have dental decay.

The doctor advised that in some cultures, parents will feed their children alcohol in order to get them to sleep or to deal with other types of discomfort. Alcohol at this age can cause fatty liver disease, which can develop into serious disease at a later time in their lives. Another common misconception is that it doesn't really matter about tooth decay in baby teeth because they fall out prior to permanent teeth developing. The doctor says this is not

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Rotary  
Club of Calgary Chinook



120  
YEARS OF ROTARY



President Rob called our meeting to order at 12:15, welcoming all in attendance and leading us in singing 'O Canada'.

## Indigenous Fact

### Languages

Currently, there are over 70 distinct Indigenous languages with over 200

dialects spoken by First Nations, Inuit, and Metis peoples in Canada. This diversity of Indigenous Languages and dialects is just one small aspect of the uniqueness of Indigenous Culture.

Past government policies have had a devastating effect on Indigenous Languages. Although recent efforts have helped protect and preserve Indigenous languages, hundreds have been lost forever.

## On This Day In History

- In 1943 group of U.S. sailors marches through downtown Los Angeles, carrying clubs and other makeshift weapons and attacking anyone wearing a "zoot suit" — the baggy wool pants, oversized coats and porkpie hats favoured by many young men of colour at the time.
- 1956 Santa Cruz, California captured national attention when city authorities announced a total ban on rock 'n' roll at public gatherings. Officials called the music "detrimental to both the health and morals of our youth and community".
- On June 3, 1965 Edward H. White II opens the hatch of the Gemini 4 and steps out of the capsule, becoming the first American astronaut to walk in space.
- 1989 — with protests for democratic reforms entering their seventh week, the Chinese government authorizes its soldiers and tanks to reclaim Beijing's Tiananmen Square at all costs. By nightfall on June 4, Chinese troops had forcibly cleared the square, killing hundreds and arresting thousands of demonstrators and suspected dissidents.

## Club Business

We had 28 members and guests at our meeting today which included 2 **Guests**: our guest speaker Dr. Leny Smith and Rob Dempsey, guest of President Rob. Our guests were introduced by Sandy Swan and welcomed with our 'Welcome to Rotary' song. Rob **thanked** Paul for being our scribe today. He also thanked Sandy for being our Greeter today and for making everyone feel



welcome, and Paul Hussey for organizing our greeters and set up. In addition we also wish to thank both Hank and Janet for operating our payment system, as well as Bev and George for getting our computer up and going.

## Paul Harris Fellowship Presentation

John Charrett presented a Paul Harris Pin (+3) with 3 sapphires to Bev Tonkinson.

This pin indicates that Bev has donated at least \$4,000 USD to the Rotary Foundation.

Rob announced that our former member, Terry Craig, continues making regular donations and has earned his Paul Harris Fellowship pin (+5).



## Calgary Book Sale

Garth Plunkett provided a brief review of our recent fundraising event, the Calgary Book Sale, and thanked all our volunteers for helping out at this four-day event (the actual sale was more like 10 days, but our volunteering was limited to four). Garth noted a special thanks to Paul Gaudet for his management of our volunteer shift schedule. Last year our club made \$10,000 however under our agreement with the Rotary Club of Calgary, these funds had to be donated to children's literacy for ages 3 to 8. Neil and Keith spoke to their committee, and they have now agreed to allow us to use (donate) the funds we earn at our discretion.



## Host Hospitality Event

Joe Hooper updated us on the Home Hospitality Event being planned at the Legion during our upcoming Rotary International Convention in late June. This event is basically an evening of fellowship (scheduled for the evening of June 23rd) during which

*Photos courtesy George Van Schaick and Sharon Fraiman*

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your name tag if possible.

Bev noted that the Convention Hosts are still seeking additional volunteers so kindly consider volunteering through the website or by speaking to Bev or Rob for assistance.



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

Bev announced our birthdays for June. We have two **Member Birthdays** during the month with Joe Hooper (85th) starting us off with his birthday on the 15th, and Al Pettigrew (90th) on the 22nd.

We have a single **Spousal Birthday** during June, Barb Plunkett on the 27th.

We have three **Anniversaries** during the

month of June: Peter and Sharon Bickham are celebrating their 54th on the 5th, Al and Jeanette Holt their 52nd on the 16th, and Anthony and Bev Tonkinson their 47th on the 17th. Congratulations and best wishes to all!



## June Anniversaries of joining Rotary

Pat Hutchinson, 31 yrs

Albert Amaniampong, 31 yrs

Paul Hussey, 30 yrs

Paul Gaudet, 21 yrs

Janet Popoff (Honorary), 9 yrs

## Chase the Ace

We picked today's ticket and George Van Schaick was the winner. He won \$63 but missed the Ace. The Club received \$84. Our next



## Sunshine Report

Ron May reported that their recent Student Exchange went very well. However he has recently undergone an inner ear operation which was quite complicated, but which has turned out quite well due to the excellent medical services available.

## Guest Speaker

Our speaker this week was Dr Leny Smith, who is a Pediatric Dentist.

## Dates to Remember

- Our next informal meeting will be a dinner get together at Broken Plate next Tuesday, June 10th (Willowpark Village, 10816 MacLeod Trail SE). They have a set menu for large groups and serve a 3 course meal to make it easier and faster for their kitchen to serve us. They will have a couple of appetizer options, entrees and a dessert. The cost will be \$45 per person plus beverages. Rob will send out further details before Tuesday to those who RSVP.
- Rob advised us that our Tuesday, June 17th meeting will be at the Millarville Race Track, located southwest of Calgary, at noon.
- As the initial Tuesday in July is the 1st, Canada Day, there will not be a regular meeting that day.

Rob thanked everyone for attending today and asked all to stand and help close our meeting with a reading of Rotary's 4 Way Test. Remember Rotary's Theme this year is "The Magic of Rotary". Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm. Have a great Rotary week!

## Host Hospitality Prep

Meeting at Big Ts BBQ to sample food for our Host Hospitality Dinner.



Then to the Popoffs' for wine and dessert quality taste testing.



**JUNE IS  
FELLOWSHIP MONTH**

"A FRIEND IS SOMEONE WHO UNDERSTANDS YOUR PAST, BELIEVES IN YOUR FUTURE,  
AND ACCEPTS YOU JUST THE WAY YOU ARE."  
- ANON





Our District is hosting the Rotary International Convention June 21 to 25, 2025. We are going to create an unforgettable experience that leaves a lasting impression on every Rotarian who visits.

Rotary is about Fellowship! In conjunction with the Convention, our District is providing four "Signature Events" held each evening of the convention. These events are available for all Rotarians, Rotaractors, and their guests to attend. These Signature Events are organized by our District Host Organizing Committee and highlight western Canadian culture.

Come and experience these unique opportunities to gather with Rotarians from around the world. You do not have to be attending the convention to come to these events.

**EVERYONE WITH A CONNECTION TO ROTARY CAN COME TO THESE SIGNATURE EVENTS!** So, please feel free to purchase tickets for friends and family. Join us in this unique Rotary International

opportunity. Here is what we have in store:

June 21st	Grandstand Extravaganza (including White Hat Ceremony)
June 22nd	New Blood with the Calgary Civic Symphony
June 22nd	Rockin' The Big Four Roadhouse
June 24th	Western Ranch Showcase

Unable to attend yourself? Consider donating to others you think would enjoy the show. This is a terrific way to thank those that have supported your Rotary journey. To donate your unusable ticket contact myself, Mary Turner at my email below.

Our Host Organizing Committee is absolutely crushing it! — showcasing District 5360's legendary hospitality to the world! Now it's our turn to turn up the volume and show fellow Rotarians that being People of Action isn't just about service — it's about fun, energy, and excitement wherever we go.

Let's make sure the world knows: when D5360 shows up, we bring the heart, the hustle, and the celebration!!!

Thank you for all that you do for Rotary in your club, in our District and around the world!

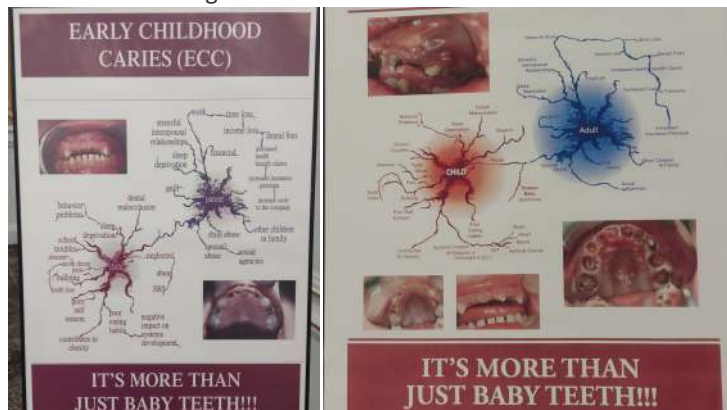
Yours in Rotary Service,  
Mary Turner,  
Past District Governor, District 5360 (2020-21)  
Zone 28 Empowering Girls Initiative Ambassador 2023-2024  
District 5360 Membership Committee 2023-2025  
Past President, Rotary Club of Olds (2013-14)  
mary.turner5360@gmail.com  
403-507-3460



## Pediatric Dentistry

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true, as infected teeth can readily spread the infection to the regular teeth if the mouth is not cleaned properly. Some of the long-term issues that can result from early teeth decay are obesity, a future tendency to addiction, and a higher risk for heart disease and diabetes. Children need help now. We need to educate their caregivers.



Dr Smith advised that they have asked police to check children's teeth when they are involved with domestic violence situations. He also advised that special-needs children may have high risk and should be checked. He noted that access to children's teeth care is often more difficult in rural areas. He wrapped up his comments by highlighting that this issue should be shared with teachers, nurses, and prenatal educators. Many immigrant families have much higher rates of decay. He notes that it is a global problem, worse in some areas than others.

Joe Hooper thanked Dr. Smith for his presentation on this important issue and advised him that in appreciation for joining us today we will be making a donation to Rotary's "Polio Plus" program, designed to ultimately rid the world of Polio.





# Addiction & Mental Health Event

The Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown is hosting an Addiction & Mental Health luncheon from noon until 2:00pm, June 26, 2025, at the Fairmont Palliser Hotel, in the Crystal Ballroom, immediately following the Rotary International Convention.

Marshall Smith, former Chief of Staff for the Alberta Premier Danielle Smith, and one of the main architects behind the “Alberta Recovery Model” along with the Honourable Rick Wilson, new Minister of Mental Health and Addiction, will speak at our event.

Come join Rotarians and others. Let’s work together to find better ways to provide support for those struggling with the challenges of addiction and mental health.

Hear how Alberta is redefining the problem and focussing on long-term recovery.



Ticket link:

<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/942/Events/june-26-2025-club-mtg-calgary-addiction-mental-health-event>

Contact:

Laurene Wilson, Club Secretary  
Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown

## Rotary Fellowships Month

June 17th

June 21st - 25th

Off-site meeting @ Millarville Racing & Agriculture Society

Rotary International Convention (BMO Centre & Saddledome)

## Maternal and Child Health Month

July 1st

July 8th

July 25th

Canada Day - no meeting

Passing of the Gavel

Okotoks Dawgs baseball game, first base patio booked

## Membership and New Club Development Month

August 19th

Annual Nature Park meeting, with sandwiches from MacKenzie Meadows GC



# Fellowship and Dinner June 10th

by George Van Schaik

There were 20 in attendance at the dinner at The Broken Plate restaurant in Willowpark Village.

## Meal

Appetizer: Saganaki and Olives and Feta (each group of four got one order of each to share)

Mains: Chicken Souvlaki Plate, Mushroom Rigatoni, Chinook Salmon, Moussaka (everyone chose their own)

Dessert: Single scoop of gelato and tea/coffee (there were a few different flavours of gelato to choose from)

We all enjoyed a wonderful evening of fellowship!



## Proposed New Member

The following new **Member** proposal was accepted by the Board for membership in the Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook:

### ROBERT DEMPSEY

Proposed by: Robert Wolfson  
Classification: IT Consultant — retired

In accordance with Club Bylaws, Article XI, Section 5:

Method of electing New Members

"If no written objection to the proposal, stating reasons, is received by the Board from any member (other than Honorary) of the Club within seven (7) dates following publication of information about the prospective member, that person, upon payment of admission fee (if not Honorary membership) as prescribed in the bylaws, shall be considered to be elected to membership. If any such objection has been filed with the Board, it shall vote on this matter at its next meeting. If approved despite the objection, the proposed member, upon payment of the admission fee, shall be considered to be elected to membership."

Dale Perret, Secretary  
403-629-6166 • info@chinookrotary.org

## Proposed New Member

The following new **Member** proposal was accepted by the Board for membership in the Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook:

### BOB LEVENSON

Proposed by: Sharon Fraiman  
Classification: Hypnotherapist — retired

In accordance with Club Bylaws, Article XI, Section 5:

Method of electing New Members

"If no written objection to the proposal, stating reasons, is received by the Board from any member (other than Honorary) of the Club within seven (7) dates following publication of information about the prospective member, that person, upon payment of admission fee (if not Honorary membership) as prescribed in the bylaws, shall be considered to be elected to membership. If any such objection has been filed with the Board, it shall vote on this matter at its next meeting. If approved despite the objection, the proposed member, upon payment of the admission fee, shall be considered to be elected to membership."

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