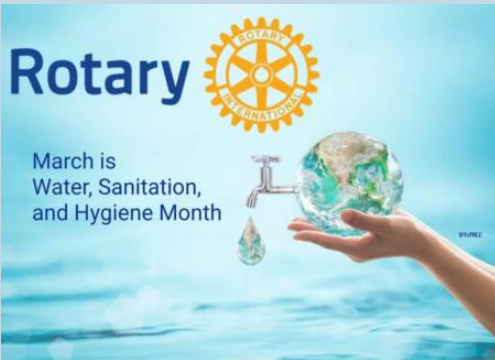


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2024-2025 Officers and Directors

Rob Wolfson, President
Wayne Wiebe, President Elect
Anthony Tonkinson, Past President
Dale Perret, Secretary
Vlad Sasarman, Treasurer

Pam Montgomery, International Service
Dean White, Youth Service
Brennen Pell, Community Service
Neil Beatty, Club Service
Keith Wellon, Club Operations
Peter Bickham, Club Financial
Sharon Fraiman, Membership
John Charrett, Rotary Foundation

RI President Stephanie Urchick
Rotary Club of McMurray, Pennsylvania USA
District 5360 Governor Christina Hassan
Rotary Club of Calgary Fish Creek

How We Can Impact Change in our City Laura Chambers



Our speaker today is Laura Chambers who is here to tell us how we can impact change in our city.

Her basic premise is that many levels of government in Canada, including federal, provincial and municipal, have enrolled in climate change agreements which ultimately have the effect of draining resources from local issues. She advises that the major target of environmental concern, carbon, is in fact essential for life on our planet. She explains that it is essentially plant food, not pollution. She maintains that Alberta is already effectively net zero from an environmental viewpoint, and as such, we do not have to be committing our resources to go elsewhere in the world. She maintains that Alberta's forest wetlands, peatlands, and grasslands absorb far

more CO2 than the province emits.

Laura suggests that we should consider becoming involved in basically lobbying our local and provincial governments to change their priorities to deal with local needs and stop investing in foreign climate change projects.

Wayne thanked Laura for her presentation and advised her that a donation would be made to Rotary's 'Polio Plus Campaign' in appreciation of her joining us today.



Educational Session

by Sharon Fraiman

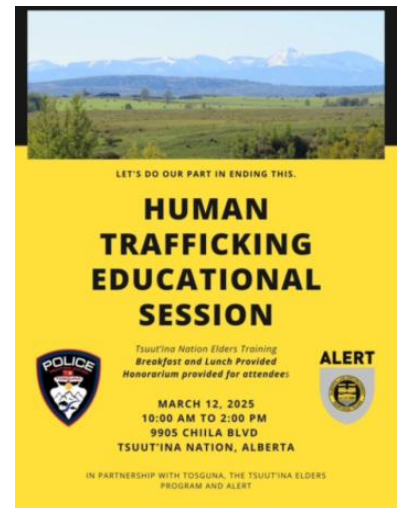
It was fascinating joining a Human Trafficking Educational Session with Tsuut'ina Nation Elders. The training was well organized. We learned so much about the Indigenous culture and community.

As a CMDA Western Region Director, and as a Calgary Chinook Rotary Club Director, it was my privilege and honour to participate in this PARTNERSHIP WITH TOSGUNA, and THE TSUUT'INA ELDERS PROGRAM AND ALERT.

Thank you Chief Lee Crowchild for inviting me. I appreciate our friendship during the years. You are a very special leader.

Thank you Keith Wellon for joining me.

(Photos to come in the next issue ...)



P.O. Box # 78084
Calgary RPO Heritage
Calgary, Alberta T2H 2Y1
info@chinookrotary.org
www.ChinookRotary.org

Note our new mailing address !!

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:

Population:

In 2021, 41,350 people in Calgary are identified as Indigenous

First Nations:

The Blackfoot people are the traditional owners of the land where Calgary is located. The Blackfoot confederacy includes the Siksika, Piikani, Amskaapipiikani, and Kainai First Nations.

Métis:

The Calgary area is home to the historic Northwest Métis and the Otipemisiwak Métis Government.



On this day In History:

- 1789 1st US Congress meets and declares constitution in effect
- 1861 Abraham Lincoln is inaugurated as the 16th US President
- 1877 Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's ballet "Swan Lake" has its world premiere, performed by the Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow
- 1881 Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson begin their 1st case together in "A Study in Scarlet"
- 1918 US Army mess cook Private Albert Gitchell of Fort Riley, Kansas becomes the first documented military case of Spanish flu, the start of worldwide pandemic killing 50-100 million
- 1927 Babe Ruth becomes the highest-paid player in MLB history when he signed a 3-year, \$70,000 per season contract with the New York Yankees

We had 30 participants at our meeting today which included 3 **Guests** ... our guest speaker Laura Chambers; Bill Skinner, President of the Rotary Club of Calgary Heritage Park; and Vlad's partner, Aida Sasarman.

Our guests were introduced by Moe Tynan and welcomed with our "Welcome to Rotary" song.



Rob **thanked** Paul for being our scribe today, as well as Monty for stepping in for the past two months as scribe. He also thanked Joe Hooper and Moe Tynan for being our greeters today 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, and Paul Hussey for organizing our greeters and set up. In addition we also wish to thank both Neil and Hank for operating our payment system.



Club Business

Rotary Convention Update



Bev, as our Club Champion for the 2025 Rotary International Convention, reviewed the highlights of her fourth Convention update which was emailed to our members yesterday. Some of the highlights are as follows:

- In order to register go to:
www.convention.rotary.org/registration
You need to have a 'My Rotary Account' including non Rotarians

April 1st the registration fee increases to \$695
House of Friendship only, increases to \$100 (Saturday access only)

District 5360

- Registered and paid Rotarians 529/1,509 35%
- Percentage of District attendance Goal 529/1,000 53%
- Clubs represented 39/47 83%
- 15,135 registered and paid attendees
- 16,526 unpaid and growing (due to Visa requirements and/or accommodations, etc)
- Calgary Chinook, registered and paid 12 27%

Highest Club attendance so far:

- Calgary at Stampede Park 93 72%
- Calgary Fish Creek 25 74%
- Calgary Olympic 10 83%
- Red Deer East 25 68%

Accommodations:

If you know of anyone from out of town in our District that needs accommodation, SAIT and MRU have

cont'd on page 3 ...



limited affordable space. Let Bev know and she will help you.

Volunteer Update:

VOLUNTEER at: www.rotarycalgary2025.org/volunteering

Thanks to those that have already signed up to volunteer. White hats will go to those who do minimum 2 shifts. You can pick up the hats a week or so before convention at Calgary Tourism or at the Big Four during convention. Volunteers working the airport will be able to pick up at the airport. Shifts will be divided into 3 shifts, 3-5 hours each. Training provided. Positions available will be sent out April/May. Watch your inbox.

Total number of volunteers:

District 5360	323
Calgary Chinook	13

Thanks to all of you that have signed up to Volunteer. Bev would like to see this number increase to at least 10 more. Contact her should you have any questions or if you are having trouble signing up. Remember, you do not have a paid registration to volunteer. There will be opportunities at C-Train Stations, Calgary International Airport, Calgary Pathway to Convention Campus, Convention grounds, Hotels, Signature Events and Uniform Distribution.

Any events held in the Saddledome and BMO Centre (Convention Campus) will require a paid registration.

Bev asked each of us to kindly read the update.

Rob thanked Bev for all her work involved with being our Club Champion.

6th Annual "Second Chance Art Sale"



hosted by the Rotary Club of Calgary Heritage Park

Bill Skinner, President of the Rotary Club of Calgary Heritage Park, told us about this fundraising project which earned them \$40,000 last year. They fill the Acadia Rec Centre with 'second hand' art (estimated 2,000 pieces), and sell it over two days, April 11th and 12th. They are asking for us



to consider donating art (can be dropped off at Calgary Co-op stores until March 30th), and also to attend and consider purchasing a piece for your own use.

New Membership Report

Sharon Fraiman



Sharon began her presentation by highlighting that we will be hosting a membership meeting on Thursday evening, March 27th from 5:30pm to 7pm. There will be a \$30 per member fee, but guests will have no cost. There will be a cash bar, as well as a variety of munchies to enjoy.

Sharon introduced a list of 100 different ways to encourage your friends and associates to join Rotary. She will arrange

to have this list forwarded to our membership shortly. The introduction notes that research shows that 90% of people who join Rotary do so because a friend invited them to do so. Ironically, 90% of Rotarians have never invited anyone to come to a meeting, let alone join. So it is not surprising that the number one recommendation is to ask someone.



Sharon got everyone involved by a circulating from table to table, asking individual Rotarians for suggested ideas on how to find and encourage new members to join. There were many good ideas expressed and discussed, including participating in community projects, wearing our Rotary pins and thereby stimulating discussion about Rotary, asking our associates to attend a meeting and learn about what Rotary does, social media posts, and inviting friends and associates to attend social events such as our upcoming Membership Evening.

Our guest speaker, who happens to be a ToastMaster, suggested that it might be a good idea if we attended a number of ToastMaster meetings so that we could make a five minute presentation explaining what Rotary is, and why they should consider investigating and potentially joining.

After this procedure was complete, she then circulated between the tables asking how would you present yourself as a Rotarian to another Individual. In other words, what would you say to a potential membership candidate about the value of Rotary. Once again, lots of good ideas were expressed, including helping local and international communities as well as having good fun and fellowship.



Sharon concluded her presentation by asking each of us to do our very best to invite a potential new member to attend our reception on the evening of March 27th at the Carriage House, 5:30 pm to 7 pm. If you have any questions or concerns in this regard, please contact Sharon or Rob.

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Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Bev announced our birthdays for March. We have five member **Birthdays** during the month with Graham Boone starting us off with his birthday on the 2nd, Brennen Pell on the 8th, both Stephen Pick and Pam Montgomery on the 9th, and Garth Plunkett on the 28th.

Our single **Spousal Birthday** during March is Judy Thompson on the 25th.

We have no Anniversaries during the month of March.

Congratulations and best wishes to all!

Anniversaries of joining Rotary:

Special note: Chinook Rotary was established in March, 1977

Jim Thompson	48 years (Charter Member !)
Ian Burgess	48 years (Charter Member !)
Vlad Sasarman	23 years
Alex Soutar	19 years
Dale Perret	17 years



Chase the Ace

The winner of today's draw was George Van Schaick who won \$63, however he was not in attendance. Rob will contact him to have him make his card selection. The Club received \$65 and our jackpot is now \$2,034. Our next draw will be from a 23 card deck and will be made at our March 18th meeting (if George hasn't won it).



Sunshine Report



Rob advised that George Van Schaick had a fall and hurt his shoulder. He is recovering while wearing a sling. George Kimura told us that Marlene Doherty (Dan's partner) continues to progress after her recent surgery.

Good News/Bad News

- Hank made a \$16 donation to note that this is the 16th anniversary of his becoming a member of the Chinook Rotary Club.
- Paul donated \$5 to report on the success of the two Chinook Rotary curling teams which took part in the Rotary curling bonspiel this past weekend in Olds, Alberta. Both George Kimura's team and Joe Hooper's team made it through the round robin, and into the playoffs before bowing out in the semifinals. George's team includes Bruce Bohnet, Wayne Wiebe and Paul Gaudet and Joe Hooper's team includes Neil Beatty, Keith Wellon, Garth Plunkett, and Hank Popoff.

Bottle Drive

Bev reminded everyone that we are holding a bottle pick up at their residence with the final date to drop off being next Tuesday, March 11th. She advised that if it is convenient, people can take their bags of cans and bottles to next week's luncheon at the Legion and she will take them from that point. Bottles can also be dropped off at the Tonkinson residence (by the driveway) any day between now and the 11th. Thanks for your participation!

Photos courtesy Sharon Fraiman and Stephen Pick

Guest Speaker

Our speaker today is Laura Chambers who is here to tell us how we can impact change in our city.

Dates to Remember

- Our next informal get together will be "Lager at the Legion" next Tuesday, March 11th, at Legion # 285 located on Horton Road, at noon.
- Rob advised us that Tuesday, March 18th will be our next regular meeting at the Carriage House at noon. Our speaker will be Jason Guildford of Gems for Gems, which helps domestic abuse victims.
- Kindly remember that our Membership Reception is being held on Thursday, March 27th, in the evening from 5:30pm to 7pm at the Carriage House. Please do your best to invite a potential new member.



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". Have a great Rotary week! Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.



RI Convention 2025



MAGIC ALL AROUND

21-25 JUNE 2025 • CALGARY, CANADA

Register today at convention.rotary.org

#Rotary25

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Month

March 18th
March 27th

Jordan Guildford — Gems for Gems
Membership Mingler at Carriage House Inn
@ 5:30pm, \$33 per member, cash bar

Environmental Month

April 1st

Michelle Eng, Refugee Ministries Pastor, FAC Calgary

Youth Service Month

May 6th
May 20th

Jay McNeil, President, Calgary Stampeders
Sharon Fraiman, Charity Work Update



Donations for AlphaHouse

Alpha House came to speak to our Club ... an amazing presentation. I asked what they are short of right now and she said they were ok with clothing, but can always use hygiene items, socks and underwear for men and women.

Hygiene items that come to mind include:

toothbrushes, toothpaste,
dental floss, mouthwash,
deodorant, soap, shampoo,
conditioner, body lotions,
feminine products, hand
sanitizer, shaving cream, razors,
nail clippers, chapstick, comb
and brush, et al ...



And of course, underwear and socks and anything else you can think of.

I will be at Lager at the Legion on March 11th, the in regular meeting at the Carriage House on March 18th, and the evening meeting at the CHI on March 27th. You can also drop off your donations at my house (12119 Lake Louise Way SE). I will deliver at the end of March.

Bev Tonkinson

Fairview Mentoring March 7th



Lager @ The Legion March 11th



Photos courtesy Sharon Fraiman

