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OCTOBER

Rotary 



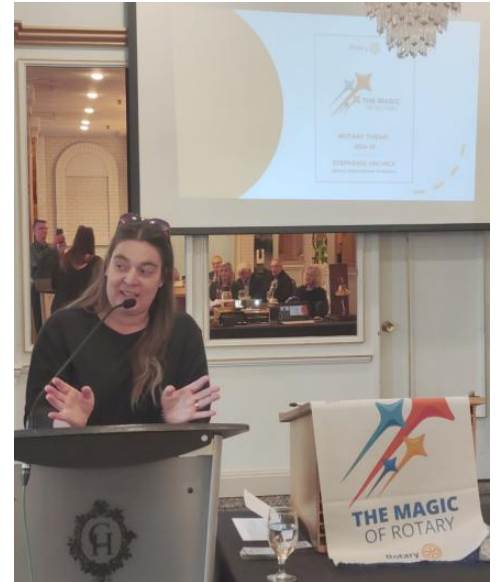
2023-2024 Officers and Directors

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Anthony Tonkinson, Past President
Dale Perret, Secretary
Vlad Sasarman, Treasurer

Pam Montgomery, International Service
Dean White, Youth Service
Brennen Pell, Community Service
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Keith Wellon, Club Operations
Peter Bickham, Club Financial
Sharon Fraiman, Membership
Hank Popoff, Rotary Foundation

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

Rob introduced our guest speaker, District 5360 Governor Christina Hassan. Christina is an Estates Practitioner, assisting families in estate planning, estate administration, guardianship and trusteeship applications, and representing adult disputes and estate litigation. She was born and raised in rural Ontario, and has carved her career much like she has contributed to her family farm — through dedication, collaboration, problem-solving and entrepreneurial spirit. She earned a Bachelor degree in Science, and a Masters in Public Health from the University of Waterloo. Christina and her husband decided to make Calgary their home, and the foundation for their careers.



Christina's exceptional career accomplishments include her recognition as one of Avenue Magazine's "Top 40 under 40". She firmly believes that her clients deserve a formidable advocate who possesses qualities of diligence, creativity, assertiveness and compassion. Christina is an avid Rotarian with a deep commitment to embodying the Rotary motto of 'Service above Self'. Her dedication to volunteerism has garnered her numerous accolades, including District Governor of Rotary District 5360, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal, the United Nations People of Action Young Innovator Award, Paul Harris Fellow, Faculty of Health Young Alumni Award, and the Terry Fox Humanitarian Award. While wholeheartedly dedicating her time to her career and Rotary, her highest priority lies in spending quality time with her husband, children, and their family dog, Jolie.

Christina began her presentation by thanking us for welcoming her to our club today. She advised that her presentation today would be two parts: the first during which she would relate to us her Rotary journey, and the second would be an outline of what's happening at the district.

Her Rotary journey began at the age of 13 years old when she went to Rotary with a boy who was an exchange student. Discussing the opportunity with the new exchange student and finding out that it included many new friends, the opportunity to learn a new language, and being away from family for a year, all resulted in her developing a real interest in becoming an exchange student herself. She found a Rotary Club near her home, and prepared by getting her passport and visiting the club. She advised the club members that she could be ready to embark on her Rotary exchange student journey within two weeks, and that she was willing to go anywhere. The members thanked her for showing an interest in becoming an exchange student, however told her that she was too young at this point to do so. They invited her to participate in various volunteer situations over the next couple of years, and by doing so, they developed a close relationship which ultimately did lead to Christina becoming an exchange student (to Germany). Christina came back to Canada determined to become a Rotarian as soon as possible. She stayed connected with Rotary by becoming an Interact member while

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President Rob called our meeting to order at 12:15, welcoming all in attendance.

Indigenous Fact

Deerfoot-Bad Meat was born in 1864 on traditional Blackfoot territory (now the Blackfoot Indian Reserve) on the Western Canadian plains. He was the son of Nato-West-Sitsi (Medicine Fire) and nephew of Big Chief Crowfoot. By 1880, Deerfoot-Bad Meat had become an exceptional long distance runner working as a messenger for the Blackfoot Confederacy running between camps in the North-West Territories and the Montana Territory. He continued to run successfully in many more local races in the Calgary area and beyond, defeating challengers from as far as away as Europe. In 1886 he won the prestigious Dominion 1-Mile Race, coming within a second of breaking the world record for that distance.

We had 27 participants at our meeting today which included 3 **Guests:** Guest Speaker and District Governor Christina Hassan, and Josette Fraiman and Kim Levenson, guests of Sharon Fraiman. Our guests were introduced by Alex Soutar and welcomed with our 'Welcome to Rotary' verse.



Rob **thanked** Paul for being our scribe today. He also thanked Brennen and Alex 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. In addition, we also wish to thank both Peter and Neil for operating our payment system.



Good News/Bad News:

Sharon reported that her dad, Haim, is currently hospitalized with an infection. Stephen donated \$5 due to some proofreading omissions in our recent e-Arch. Rob apologized for an error he made during Ribfest when he combined revenue from two sources which should have been kept separate.

Chase the Ace

The winner of today's draw was Tammy Truman who was not in attendance. She won a weekly prize of \$75, the Club received \$100, and our jackpot is \$1,191. Next week's draw will be from a 35 card deck. Rob will be in touch with Tammy to see if she can select the Ace of Spades.



Sunshine Report

While there was no illness reported (thankfully) among our members, it was highlighted that access to the obituary of Jack Steen has been circulated by Rob and is also in today's e-Arch. It notes that a Celebration of Jack's life is being held at the Highland Stock Farms West House (232152 Range Road 52, Bragg Creek) on Friday, September 20th from 2:00 to 5pm. More detailed directions are included in the obituary.

Ribfest Report

Rob provided an initial report noting that we raised approximately \$3,850 from our 50/50 and water and pop sales. We have been promised a minimum of \$5,000 for our weekend's work. We should have a final number by month end.

Jeff Cato Band Concert

Rob announced that our upcoming fundraising and fellowship concert is scheduled to take place exactly one week from today, on September 17th, commencing at 6pm. Ticket sales are not progressing as quickly as we would like so we are reminding all our members to kindly purchase at least two tickets, and hopefully more to include your family and friends.

With the assistance of Brennen Pell we currently have three different bands arranged to perform on the evening of the concert. While tickets are easily accessible on the Internet (details provided on the front page of our ClubRunner website), if anybody has difficulty acquiring tickets in this manner, you can contact either Rob or Bev for assistance. If all else fails, you are able to show up on the evening of the concert and purchase tickets at the

door. If you are taking this route, please contact Rob so he can make sure that Ranchman's is aware of how many we expect for dinner.

We are still seeking items for our Silent Auction and if you have anything to donate, please contact Sharon. If anyone has extra tickets, they can be donated through Bev to our sponsors. For example, while Hank and Janet are currently on a cruise, they nonetheless have purchased four tickets to support the Club and Bev will be passing the tickets to alternative users.

Rob emphasized that this event is replacing our meeting next week, and the \$30 entry fee is identical to our normal luncheon cost and therefore, our members will not be spending additional funds to attend the concert. He reminded everyone that our club has been challenged in recent years for fundraising opportunities and now that we have one organized, we really do need our members to support it. This event represents both a fundraising opportunity as well as a fellowship evening.

International Service Chairperson Needed

Rob noted that our club continues to seek a volunteer to take over from Graham Boone as a Chairperson for International Service. He asks everyone to kindly consider taking on this opportunity. We have an experienced Director in Pam Montgomery, and

Graham is available to train and encourage the new Chairperson. Please reach out to Rob or Pam or Graham if you are interested.

Guest Speaker

Rob introduced our guest speaker, District 5360 Governor Christina Hassan.

Dates to Remember

Rob reminded us that we will not be having a regular noon meeting next week, as our evening concert will be taking place at 6pm at Ranchman's on Tuesday, September 17th.

We will not be holding our regular evening meeting this month due to the fact that we will already have had three meetings (considering our evening concert as a meeting).

September 17th 6pm at the Ranchman's Club for
The Summer Round Up event

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, 'The Magic of Rotary'. Have a great Rotary week!

District Governor

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she was in high school, and joined Rotaract while attending University. She also met her husband through Rotary. Here in Calgary, they are members of the Fish Creek Rotary Club, and they consider their Monday evening dinner meeting to be their date night.

Christina developed Stage 4 Thyroid Cancer while in high school, and credits Rotary relationships with giving her the strength and encouragement to face the battle of dealing with the cancer. At the age of 23, she was given a clean bill of health and decided that it was time to give back. She arranged to travel to Uganda for a period of four months to teach a course on public health. She was provided with information showing children dealing with disease and death in Uganda, however when she was actually in the classroom in Uganda, she realized that she did not have the actual experience needed to appreciate what the local people were dealing with. She visited the Rotary Club in Uganda and got contacts which allowed her to work in the local hospital providing assistance in the delivery room. She saw some very challenging situations, but gained a great deal of experience during the four months delivering babies and working in the hospital.

Upon returning to Calgary from her visit to Uganda, she shared her experiences with her Rotary Club. This led directly to them building a helpful solution to assist with providing equipment and assistance to the Ugandan hospital. Christina learned through the miracle of Rotary, that she could play a part in helping others around the world with their needs and issues.

The second subject which Christina wanted to address today was our District. She advised that she has found that the district board is very strong and providing great governance to our district. She

noted that one of the most important resources in the district has to do with membership (led by Jeff Foss). Our district is the only one in North America that is membership positive as of July 31st (after the first month of the 2024/2025 Rotary year).

Christina then discussed the upcoming Rotary International Convention being held in Calgary next June. She noted that they expect up to 30,000 people to be visiting Calgary for this Convention. She advised that in the eyes of many Rotarians, Calgary's first Rotary International Convention which was held in 1996, was considered to be the best ever they attended. She believes that this opinion is built upon western hospitality, and it is our goal to offer the same hospitality to all the Rotarians who will be visiting our city next June. We will need 1,000 volunteers to make this happen. She noted also that there will not be a District Conference in the spring of 2025, due to the fact that the international convention is occurring in Calgary during the same month.

Christina wrapped up her comments by advising that she will stay with us after the meeting so she can meet any members who have any questions.

Rob thanked Christina for her excellent presentation and referred to her as an inspiration to all Rotarians.





Bring us your empties!!

Tuesday October 15th !

Please put your bottles in plastic bags ... the bigger the better! Consider reaching out to family, friends and neighbours to increase your collection! If you have bottles but not the means to deliver them, please contact Paul G and we will try to arrange pick up. Any members who can help pick up bottles for delivery to Tonkinsons' driveway, please advise Paul.



Special thanks to Bev and Anthony for once again hosting the pick up site at their home.

Community Economic Development Month

October 1st

October 15th

October 15th

Gem Munro, Co-Founder and Director, Amarok Society

Kent Griffiths, Royal Canadian Legion, Centennial Calgary Branch #285

Bottle Drive!! ... drop your empties off at Tonkinsons' driveway

Rotary Foundation Month

November

November 5th

Friendship Exchange to Brazil

Speaker from the Calgary Food Bank



The Summer Round-Up September 17th

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