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District 5360 Governor Martin Parnell
Rotary Club of Cochrane

Our meeting is on ZOOM ...
Join in
today @ noon!



Habitat for Humanity Jorges Torres

George introduced our guest speaker, Jorges Torres, a representative of Habitat for Humanity. He is originally from Mexico and received a social scholarship which brought him to Canada 12 years ago. He is very proud to be working in Calgary and helping the less fortunate find homes of their own.



With the help of sponsors, donors, community partners and volunteers, Habitat for Humanity builds homes alongside future homeowners to provide a solid foundation for better, healthier futures. Families purchase their homes with no down-payment and no interest, and mortgage payments never exceed more than 25 percent of each family's total household income. Since 1990, they have partnered with more than 300 families across southern Alberta, affecting the lives of more than 900 children.

Right now, one in five Canadians is spending more than half of their income on the cost of housing. In Calgary, there are more than 4,000 people on the waitlist for social housing.

Parents have jobs and are working hard to provide for their children, but challenges like high rent, chronic illness, or poor living conditions prevent them from ever being able to save and break into the housing market. Home ownership is simply out of the question. But the struggles of these families don't need to define their futures. With the stability of a home they can truly afford, parents can thrive at work, kids can thrive in school, and families can make confident plans for their future.

Families have to qualify for this program:



- Families must have children under 18
- At least one parent must be working full time
- Their annual income must be a minimum of \$35,000
- They cannot own real estate
- They must be Canadian citizens or Permanent Residents.

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P.O. Box # 42041
Southland Crossing RPO
Calgary, Alberta T2J 7A6
info@chinookrotary.org
www.ChinookRotary.org

Rotary
Club of Calgary Chinook



18 January 4th, 2022

Scribe: Paul Gaudet



President George called our meeting to order at 12:02, welcoming all participants. He introduced an enjoyable version of O Canada which included pictures of many places in Canada, from polar bears to mountain lakes.



We had 26 members and two guests in attendance today: our guest speaker Jorge Torres, and Garfield Ganong, a Rotarian from Calgary West and our ADG. It is also notable that Sandy Swan participated by ZOOM from her winter home in Mazatlan, Mexico.

George advised that Paul continues as our scribe for January, and he then thanked Stephen and Anne for designing and creating our e-Arch for the benefit of all our members.



Chase the Ace:

Rob then introduced our Chase the Ace segment by advising that the daily winner will be receiving

\$81, and that there is \$696 in the 'Pot' should the winner select the Ace of Spades. Bev Pettigrew won the daily prize, and Rob will contact her so she will have an opportunity to pick the Ace.



Sunshine Report

George asked for any information on the health of our members. Bart reported that Al Pettigrew was in the South Health Campus for a few days, but is expected home today and is feeling better.

Sergeant at Arms

Rob presented a series of cartoons with a COVID vaccine theme, complete with background music, which brought smiles and chuckles around the room.

Members' Minutes

George asked if anyone wished to address the Club, and Tammy raised the issue of our recently announced fund raising project to collect used clothing and other items for delivery to Value Village. She pointed out that we likely would not be raising much money through this process, and perhaps there was a better community benefit organization we could link up with? Paul outlined that this



was an idea which came from a member and was supported by others, so we decided to give it a try. He agreed that the money raised would be small and that we should by all means be on the look out for other partnerships.

Garfield pointed out that there was a 3K walk and lunch event being sponsored by our District, and that we should take a look at our District website and consider signing up.

Good News/BadNews

- Jim Thompson announced that his grandchild just got married on Saturday.
- Rob reported that he recently attended a Masters Bowling Tournament in Red Deer, got on a hot streak and won first place!
- Neil told us that he recently had occasion to visit Medicine Hat and was told that they were not experiencing the high levels of COVID in that area.
- Bill Stemp reported that his daughter (who recently joined Alaskan Airlines as a pilot) has just come down with COVID and was in quarantine.
- Sandy (participating from Mexico) advised that she and Jim had a great visit with Bev and Anthony at Guadalajara.

George highlighted our recent announcement about our upcoming **Bottle Drive** scheduled for February 16th (drop off at the Tonkinsons' driveway on the 15th). He thanked Paul for making the arrangements, and Bev and Anthony for allowing us to use their property.

He noted that the "new member worksheet" has been sent to each of our members, and that he has heard back from a few already. He asked everyone to review the worksheet and consider filling it out. It should be forwarded to George, Sandy or Moe. Moe would be happy to follow up with any identified prospects.

Our next meeting will be on ZOOM at 7pm on the evening of Thursday, January 27th. The speaker for this meeting is still to be determined

Our next noontime meeting will be on Tuesday, February 1st, (ZOOM to be determined) and our speaker will be Dan Murphy from the Kerby Centre.

George thanked everyone for attending today and offered best wishes to all. Meeting adjourned at 12:56pm



Before you judge
antivaxers, walk a
mile in their shoes.



Habitat for Humanity

... cont'd from page 1

They are currently active with 40 residences in Calgary; 32 in Silver Springs, and 8 in Radisson Heights, as well as 2 in Medicine Hat. They have upcoming projects selected in Cornerstone (Calgary) and in Brooks.

When families are given the opportunity to own an affordable home, they become financially stable and rely less on social services. They become part of a larger community where everyone can prosper and thrive.

Many Habitat families move from subsidized rent into home ownership and become tax payers, rather than using social services that are funded by tax-payer dollars.

There is a 60 per cent reduction in food bank usage by Habitat partner families.

70 per cent of partner families donate time and money to charities.

Habitat for Humanity ReStores are home and building supply stores that accept and re-sell quality new and used building materials, and many other items. Shopping at your local Habitat ReStore is a socially conscious decision, as funds generated are used to fund Habitat for Humanity Southern Alberta home building projects. It's also an environmentally conscious decision, as much of what is sold is product that is new, gently used or customer returns that would otherwise end up in a landfill.

what we do

We bring the community together to help families build

- **Strength;**
- **Stability;** and
- **Independence**

through affordable home ownership.



BUILDING STRENGTH, STABILITY AND INDEPENDENCE



Since 1990, Habitat has helped more than 400 families buy an affordable home in southern Alberta.

The Habitat for Humanity houses cost approximately \$100,000 to build, and funds are provided from various sources: donations from the public, sponsorships, ReStore revenue, gifts in kind and volunteer activity. The Province also provides a small amount of assistance.

Jorges opened the floor to questions and there were quite a few asked. We learned that the location of sites is determined mostly by land availability, and that there are very few foreclosures as the owners are strongly motivated to succeed, and the Habitat administration works closely with their owners to avoid such a development. The new owners do in fact have title to their properties and can improve or make changes as they see fit. While they do have a right to sell their property, Habitat reserves the first right to purchase it so they can move another owner in. Owners have to contribute to their new home in some fashion, volunteer hours building, or perhaps volunteer hours at the ReStore. There is a current waiting list of nearly 100 families, with currently 15 homes under construction.

George thanked Jorges for presenting to us today and advised him that in appreciation we would be making a donation to "Polio Plus", Rotary's program to eradicate polio from our world.

'Skip the Depot' Fundraiser

Bring us your empties!!

Members and Friends, drop off your bottles/cans in
Tonkinsons' driveway on
Tuesday February 15th !

The address is **12119 Lake Louise Way SE**, in the community of Lake Bonavista. (phone # 403 271 4026)




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.



the community need

-  **20.4%** of households in Alberta are in core housing need.
-  **84,000** households are making \$60,000 or less and spending more than 30% of their income on house. *Saving for a down payment is virtually impossible.*
-  **Affordable housing was ranked as one of the top three concerns of Calgarians in the 2020 Vital Signs report.**

beyond the build

Since 1990, we've partnered with
400 families
 affecting the lives of
900 children



how we do it



No down payment



No interest



Monthly mortgage payments set at 25% of income

who qualifies?

- Families with children under the age of 18
- Working full-time
- Minimum \$35,000/year
- Don't currently own real estate
- Canadian citizens or Permanent Residents



where we build

- Communities across southern Alberta
- Airdrie
- Brooks
- Calgary
- Foothills
- Drumheller
- Medicine Hat
- Mountain View



current developments



32 homes
Silvercreek, Calgary



8 homes
Radisson Heights, Calgary



2 homes
Medicine Hat, Alberta

upcoming developments



11 homes
Creststone, Calgary



2 homes
Brooks, Alberta

the impact

-  **79%** of homeowners say their Habitat home is safer than other places they have lived.
-  **76%** of homeowners say they spend more time together as a family since purchasing their home.
-  **83%** of homeowners have indicated that they have made connections in the community since purchasing their home.

donate

Donate your new or gently used furniture, appliances, home décor or building materials.

Receive a tax receipt for items valued at \$20 or more.



shop

Shop thousands of home improvement items at 40-80% below retail prices.



the impact



Diverts more than 2,500 tons of waste from local landfills.



Generates approximately \$1 M for Habitat for Humanity Southern Alberta each year.

how to help

For each home, we need to raise \$100,000+

- Comes in the form of
- Donations
- Sponsorships
- ReStore revenue
- Gifts-in-kind
- Volunteers



how to help

Donate to us on our website:
 Visit our website www.habitatsouthernab.ca and make a tax deductible financial contribution.

Sponsor a Build Day

A unique opportunity to build group morale through teamwork and giving back! Teams of 12 people contribute on all aspects of the build from framing and electrical to painting and landscaping.

Volunteer at ReStore

Become a customer service or warehouse volunteer!



In Memoriam

Joseph Thomas Sorenson (Tom) January 18, 1940 - January 25, 2022

Joseph Thomas Sorenson of Calgary died on January 25th at the age of 82. Tom was a pillar in the community and his passing will be felt by many. He worked as Vice Principal at Dr. E P Scarlett High School from its opening in 1970 until 1992. After his retirement, E P Scarlett created the "Tom Sorenson Award", which is presented annually to the student, male or female, that has achieved a high standard during their three years at Scarlett in academics, athletics and school involvement.

He was a founding member of the Chinook Rotary Club, and served in almost every volunteer capacity including President. We are confident that he parked more cars for Spruce Meadows than anyone else alive; helping to raise funds for Rotary projects. Tom was super engaged in the Rotary Student Exchange program. He helped enable dozens of Calgary high school students to study abroad, while bringing many foreign students to Calgary high schools. He truly embodied the "Service Before Self" motto.

In Memoriam

Celebration of Life : Thursday February 03, 2022
 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
 Sundance Chapel, 100 Sunpark Dr SE, Calgary, AB
calgaryherald.remembering.ca/obituary/joseph-sorenson-1084314197



Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month

February 1st
February 15th

Danielle Murphy and Lori Wilson, Kerby Center
Natasha Guillot, Calgary Horticultural Society
"Skip the Depot" Bottle Drive — drop your empties @ Tonkinsons'
Dixon's Networking Night, 7 - 8:30pm — on ZOOM
Speaker: Dr. Lal Mattu, Calgary Fish Creek — Third Academy

Water and Sanitation Month

March 1st
March 22nd

Genevieve Johner, Calgary Humane Society
Richard Moxley, Debt Counsellor and Author

Maternal and Child Health Month

April 19th
April 27th

Mike Moore, VP of the Calgary Roughnecks and Calgary Hitmen
FunDrive Fundraising Project Delivery Date — collect gently



RI Theme for 2022-23



Rotary International President-elect Jennifer Jones wants members to imagine the possibilities in the change they can make to transform the world. Jones, a member of the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, Canada, revealed the 2022-23 presidential theme, "Imagine Rotary", as she urged people to dream big and harness their connections and the power of Rotary to turn those dreams into reality.

"Imagine, a world that deserves our best," Jones told incoming district governors on 20 January, "where we get up each day knowing that we can make a difference."

Jones, who will make history on 1 July by becoming Rotary's first female president, gave a live online address to precede Rotary's annual training event for district governors from around the world, the International Assembly. The Assembly was rescheduled because of the COVID-19 pandemic and will now be held virtually 7-14 February.

Jones told the incoming governors about a chance she took when a member asked for assistance in getting a young peace activist out of Afghanistan during the U.S. troop withdrawal last year. At first unsure how she could help, she relied on "that certain Rotary magic" and contacted a former Rotary Peace Fellow she had met a few years earlier. Less than 24 hours later, the activist was on an evacuation list, and soon she was on her way to Europe.

Imagine Rotary, the theme for 2022-2023 explained by incoming President Jennifer Jones:

The theme graphic was designed by an Australian indigenous artist to link with the Melbourne convention in 2023.

- Circle — connections to one another
- Dots around it — Our People — There are 7 dots because of our Rotary's 7 areas of focus
- Circle + dots around it — Navigation star, our guiding light
- Green solid line — digging stick (used when doing hard work) ... for us it's People of Action, and represents the tools for getting things done

Colours: Purple, Green and White
Celebrate DEI — Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Freedom to express ourselves differently, but still with a special connection.

Purple — Polio
Green — the Environment
White — Peace



Represents 'Empowerment and Newness' and also the colours were utilised for the women's movement, giving us the opportunity to grow our female membership.

**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

Spring Cleaning 'FunDrive'

April 27th Delivery

Before then, consider spring cleaning, or just plain clearing out things you no longer need or have space for! Collect "gently used" soft goods (clothing items) and other items and deliver them to the club for delivery to Value Village. The goods will be separated into categories, weighed and we would be paid by the pound.

So go ahead, get some big bags and find an out of the way place to start collecting those old clothes which don't fit anymore or that you know that you just won't wear. We've got lots of time to collect and perhaps your family or friends might add to your collection?

We have begun bagging clothing and other items ... we need some sort of space where we can collect these large bag as they accumulate over the next few months. Any ideas or suggestions? Contact Paul G.

Donate used clothing & household goods

