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2022-2023 Officers and Directors

Bev Tonkinson, President
Anthony Tonkinson, President Elect
George Van Schaick, Past President
Dale Perret, Secretary
Al Holt, Treasurer

Stephen Pick, International Service
Dean White, Youth Service
Neil Beatty, Community Service
Bruce Bohnet, Club Service
Ted Wada, Club Operations
Anne Dale, Club Financial

RI President Jennifer Jones
Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, ON, Canada
District 5360 Governor Steve Leavitt
Rotary Club of Raymond

Classification Talk

Pam Montgomery

Pam opened her presentation by showing us a lovely painting that she created of one of her dogs. She began painting as a child and is now a professional artist and a member of the Carstairs Artists' Guild.

Pam talked about how impressed she was with all of Rotary's local and international initiatives. She was happy to participate in this year's Ribfest and was made to feel very welcome by Chinookers who told her that she was going to bring down the average age of our Club (which she in fact did, because she advised us that she was 59, and I believe our average is over 70). Pam comes from a family of volunteers (her Mom volunteered at CNIB and Bob volunteered in many roles including Rotary) and says that her parents taught her the importance of helping others.

She had a 25 year career as a teacher and retired to experience other areas of interest, such as volunteering in her community and returning to school to become a Funeral Director. So, why would anybody make such a seemingly drastic career change? Pam proceeded to outline a period of her life which provides the answer.

She had an idyllic childhood with great parents and confirms she was spoiled. She was a competitive swimmer, worked hard and had the opportunity to travel the world attending various competitions. She has two adult children, one a teacher and the other a millwright. She has re-married and lives currently in Carstairs with her husband, Mario. She is also excited to be a new grandma. She volunteers in her community including as President of the Carstairs Heritage Festival & Parade of Kilts, which is an annual Scottish themed event.

This outline sets out an exciting and rewarding life, which it was. However, there were low periods including a period of major depression where she decided that it was time for a career and lifestyle change. Throughout her recovery, she did some different types of volunteering including becoming a "friendly visitor" at the Salvation Army Agape Hospice, providing comfort and care for patients and their loved ones. She developed a love for this role and it is this interest which led her to develop a career as a Funeral Director. Her next goal is to open her own Funeral Home in Carstairs, however there is quite a financial risk attached to this strategy so final decisions are still pending.



So why is Pam joining Rotary? In her own words "It is because kindness, altruism and caring for others provides a path to a meaningful life". The bonus is that she gets to spend more time with her great Dad!



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December 20th, 2022

Scribe: Paul Gaudet

President Bev called our meeting to order at 12:15, welcoming all participants, followed by the singing of O Canada. We had 6 guests today, bringing our total to 26, which is pretty good given the minus 40 weather.

Our **Indigenous Fact** for the day tells us that the largest reserve in Alberta by population is Blood No. 148, held by the Kainai Nation. It covers 1,343 square km and is located south of Lethbridge. As of 2021, there were 8,517 people living on the primary reserve.

Bev thanked Paul for being our scribe, as well as noting that our greeter organizer (Bruce) had to travel to Edmonton at the last minute so we are without formal greeters today. Bev asked everyone to ensure all our guests were welcomed. She thanked Stephen and Anne for the great job they do in creating our e-Arch, and Neil for setting up our meeting room.

Our **guests** were welcomed on a table-by-table basis, and included Bill Leclair, a visiting member from the Rotary Club of Calgary Stampede, Lois Beatty, Lyla Stevens, and three honorary members were also noted as being in attendance today: Janet Popoff, and Bruce and Pat Williams.

A special welcome to Ruth Wylie who is recovering from a serious health setback. Ruth is getting stronger each day and was feeling strong enough to join our meeting today. She advised everyone to "listen to your body" when not feeling well, as doing so saved her life. Welcome back Ruth, and keep recovering.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Bev announced that we have no member birthdays during December, but we do have three spouses of members that do: Lois Beatty, Sharon Bickham and Jim Swan. Happy Birthday to all. Our anniversaries include Stephen and Anne, and Wayne and Muriel. Congratulations to both couples.

Sunshine Report

Bev reports that Pat Hutchinson has been hospitalized at the Rockyview with angina issues. He will be scheduled for surgery shortly. Pat extends a Merry Christmas to all and looks forward to seeing us in the New Year. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Rotary Foundation

Both Rob and Anne took to the podium to ask all members to consider supporting the Rotary Foundation and the CRCF now that we are in the tax planning time of year.



Anne then made three **Paul Harris Pin Presentations** to our members. Paul G and Anthony both received their PH +6 pins, meaning that they have donated (to the Rotary Foundation) totals in excess of \$7,000 USD. Ruth Wylie received her PH +8 pin (max level) for her donations in excess of \$9,000 USD.

Sergeant at Arms

Hank was our Sgt for this meeting, and began by announcing that visitors are exempt from any fines, as are all members who are over 80 and are accompanied by their

parents. (Not impossible but difficult to arrange?) Hank then read out a long list of "crimes" and asked everyone to tally their own total at a rate of a \$2 per crime. A sample of such crimes include not wearing name tags or Rotary Pins, not attending our fellowship lunches at Peanuts, not attending our Christmas Party, not wearing Christmas attire today, not volunteering for community service, etc. I have no way to know how much in fines flowed to our Club, but I'm thinking Rotary's 4 Way Test got quite a work out?

Good News / Bad News

- Bev reported that she and Anthony are scheduled to travel to Mexico on Boxing Day, and will be meeting family there to enjoy some heat and relaxation.
- Dave W reports that he and Ruth have a vacation booked in Palm Springs from March 23rd to April 4th, however Ruth cannot travel out of country for health reasons, so they are seeking to transfer this arrangement to an interested party. Contact Dave for further details if you are interested.
- Bruce Williams shared a heartwarming story about his grandson who is being treated for cancer. The boy's dad was trying to sell a vehicle on social media, and got an enquiry from an interested party. Unfortunately it was all but impossible to arrange a business meeting due to responsibilities for his son's treatments. It turned out that the interested buyer, after understanding the situation, arranged to visit (in the company of his own son), both Bruce's son and grandson at the hospital. They brought a gift of a Flames jersey with "Williams" on the back. It seems that the interested buyer was Darryl Sutter, coach of the Calgary Flames, and he has stayed in touch with the Williams family on a weekly basis since this meeting. Bruce shared that he now has a special respect for Darryl who went out of his way to provide comfort to a family of complete strangers who could use it.

Rotary Minutes

- Dave Wylie told us about a new initiative our Club is offering, to set up the spouses of our members as "Friends of Rotary", thereby giving them access to our emails. It seems that often our members don't share information about our activities or events, and perhaps it might be helpful if our spouses received such information directly. If you would like to participate, please advise Dave or Bev of your partner's email address.
- Bev highlighted the Larry Kwong Dinner (sponsored each year by the Rotary Club of Stampede Park), which is being held on January 27th at 6pm at the Regency Palace Restaurant on Centre Street and costs \$50 per guest. We have already filled a table for 10 and are working on a second table. Bev and Anthony are regular attendees and highly recommend this annual event.
- Bev also provided an update on the new 4 ton truck recently acquired by Community Kitchens, costing \$186,000 and funded by a collaboration of 11 Rotary Clubs. Chinook donated \$2,000.

Chase the Ace

Rob presented our Chase the Ace raffle, first with Tammy picking a card as she had won at our recent evening meeting. She missed picking the Ace of Spades, so Rob pulled a winning ticket for today's winner, Garth Sabirsh, who was not in attendance. We are now down to 29 cards remaining, and a pot of over

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\$1,800 !! Rob reminded us all that we will have three draws during January, so if you would like to play (and we hope you will), kindly send \$30 to Al prior to our first meeting on January 3rd.

Ribfest Update

Due to our meeting running late, Rob had only a limited time to present this update and there was no time for questions or further discussion. This will need to be done at a subsequent occasion.

Rob advised that these results have been somewhat delayed due to the need to ensure that all relevant information has been included. He noted that we had a successful event from a number of viewpoints: marketing worked well, sponsorships went well considering our late start, and our crowds were generally great. The bad news and most important metric is profitability, and on this measure we came up short. The event generated a loss of \$18,000 which means our two Club partners (Chinook and Centennial) lost \$8,000 each.

The reasons for this loss, notwithstanding what appeared to be a good crowd, are many and mostly can be attributed to our decision to put on a first class event without close monitoring of an approved budget. The organizing committee made the decision to spend the money to put on a great event, but due to inflationary pressures and a number of last minute cancellations which left us vulnerable to more expensive replacements, our costs came in high.

Our Committee has reviewed these results and believe there is a discernible path to profitability based on specific areas which can readily be improved. For example the "Ribbers" have already agreed to increase their contribution from \$3,500 to \$5,000 per truck (4), thereby increasing our revenue by \$6,000. Secondly we

will be tighter and stricter with our budget in the various committees as we know areas in which we can trim outflows. Lastly we need to leverage our Rotary connections to increase sponsorships, and also to find suppliers which may be able to provide better pricing for goods and services (and hopefully some full in-kind donations).

Our Committee agrees that a minimum profit \$25,000 needs to be earned if we are to continue our participation in this event. Rob believes this can be achieved in 2023 with the greater brand awareness which we have created, and stricter budget allocations. It takes time to build this type of project, and he asked the Club for one more opportunity to prove this event can be a great community and event fundraiser for our Clubs.

Next Year's Board Nominations

Anthony announced that our Board for 2023-2024 is almost complete, but we do need another Director so are looking for another volunteer to join the group. Please contact Anthony if you have any questions or would like to step forward.

Dates to remember

December 27th	no meeting
January 3rd	regular meeting
January 10th	Pints at Peanuts
January 17th	regular meeting
January 25th	Bottle Drive drop off

Bev thanked everyone for attending today, and wished a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. Our meeting adjourned at 1:36pm.

Photos courtesy Bev Tonkinson



Rotary

Club of Calgary
at Stampede Park



LARRY KWONG MEMORIAL CHINESE NEW YEAR DINNER

Friday, January 27, 2023
Regency Palace Restaurant
335 Centre Street South

CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF THE RABBIT!

Menu:

- Deep Fried Vegetarian Spring Rolls(10)
- Grilled Pork Dumplings
- Won-ton Soup
- Pineapple Sweet & Sour Boneless Pork
- Ginger Beef
- Stir fried Prawns with sugar peas
- Lemon chicken
- Salt & pepper squid
- Chicken fried rice
- Fresh Sliced Oranges

Cocktails: 6:00PM
Entertainment: 6:30PM
Dinner: 7:00PM

\$50 per person. To order and pay for your tickets, go to: www.rotarycs.org and follow the links.

*Seating limited to 250, so purchase your tickets ASAP.
Payment required at time of placing ticket order.*

‘Skip the Depot’ Fundraiser



**SAVE your
EMPTIES!**

BOTTLE DRIVE

Members and Friends, drop off your bottles/cans in
Tonkinsons' driveway on

January 18th to 21st !

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.**

Queen's Jubilee Award presented to Dale Perret



A Message from Sri Lanka

I'm sending this because some members will remember Stephanie from the Rotary Club in Sri Lanka. We did a friendship exchange with them.

Bev Tonkinson

From: stephnie rodrigo <rotary.stephnie@gmail.com>
Date: Mon., Dec. 19, 2022, 5:43 p.m.
Subject: Meeting with the first Woman Rotary International President Jennifer Jones, at the Black Tie Dinner, Shangri-La, Colombo

My dearest friends,
I would like to share a very special moment with you of my meeting with Jennifer Jones, the first Woman President of Rotary International. She visited Sri Lanka from the 13th to 16th December 2022. An Inter City Meeting and a Black Tie Dinner was held in her honour on the 14th of December 2022. I had the opportunity to meet her and she is a wonderful, humble lady. She motivated us more to carry out our service to the community.

May Rotary International grow from strength to strength in the coming years. Wishing you a wonderful holiday season.

Warm regards,

Stephanie



A Message from RC Los Altos Quetzaltenango, Guatemala

From: María Fabiola Fuentes González <fabiolafo@hotmail.com>
Date: Sat, 17 Dec 2022 at 08:26
Subject: Happy Holidays!

Greetings from members Los Altos. We appreciate the opportunity to work with you to benefit our communities. Thanks to this support this year we were able to continue with Wash's training of teachers in the seven schools of San Martin Sacatepequez, strengthening the skills and knowledge of the teachers so that they can replicate them in their students. Also in the next few days work will begin in the Moises Agustin school, where the children will benefit from the equipping of the school with the Rachel system and additional repairs.

Thank you very much. We wish you to having happy holidays and please share with our Rotarian friends and members for Chinook the attached card of appreciation for the invaluable support provided.

Best Regards
Fabiola Fuentes, Secretary
Los Altos Quetzaltenango



Vocational Service Month

January 3rd
January 10th
January 17th
January 18th - 21st
January 26th
January 27th

Kelly Falardeau, 7x Bestselling Author and Amazon Best-Selling Author Strategist
Pints @ Peanuts
Elaine Wilson, Senior Director Operations, Calgary Urban Project Society
Bottle Drive — drop you beverage containers off at Bev & Anthony's — 12119 Lake Louise Way SE
Evening Networking meeting
Larry Kwong Annual Memorial Chinese New Year Dinner, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Stampede Park
6pm, Regency Palace Restaurant, 328 Centre Street S, \$50pp — contact Bev to join the
Chinook contingent attending
Pints @ Peanuts



Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month

February 7th
February 21st

Lisa Despas, Citizen Services Specialist — Service Canada Community Outreach Program
Kourtney Penner, City Councillor Ward 11

Global Grant Report

Submitted by Graham Boone

This is a thank you to all the Rotary Clubs which donated to the Global Grant 2121831: Dental Services, Shirak, Armenia. The "Professional Exchange" mentioned in the application, but not funded through the GG, was completed during the first week of November.

This is a photo of a plaque on permanent display at the new Karagheusian clinic in Gyumri. It indicates all the donors. Major donors (5,000 USD and over) are indicated in bold print. Also here is photo was taken at the clinic.



The project is now complete. The report is 80% +/- complete waiting on a review of the NGO's statistics and completion of the sustainability section.

Let me know if you'd like a copy of the report once it's been submitted. Power Point presentations concerning our trip to Armenia are available if you're interested.

Best regards,
Jack D'Orsay
President, RC Sydney Sunrise District 7815 (formerly 7820)

You can ink to a Facebook posting of the clinic's "official" opening. I understand an English version may be in the works.

www.fb.watch/h6dBcsqD0a/

Community Kitchen's New Truck

It's been 16 months since the Community Kitchen Project (CKP) had their delivery truck stolen from the parking lot at their northeast warehouse. But now a brand new white truck with a refrigerated box on the back to haul food is parked at the loading dock. The vehicle, a critical part of the operation to pick up food donations from businesses all over the city, was purchased with funds raised by the community to help replace the stolen vehicle.

The truck was taken in August 2021, and when Calgary police found it, it was in bad shape, trashed by the thieves. That left CKP without a vehicle to pick up and deliver food donations to its warehouse. Over 400,000 people depend on CKP and the many programs they run.

ROTARIANS STEP UP: Bill Lawless is a Rotarian with the Rotary Club of Calgary West who volunteers with his club to sort food at CKP. "They let us know shortly after it was stolen, so I immediately put together a communication to other clubs and asked who's interested," he said. "We were able to generate 11 of our 12 clubs here in Calgary to put money towards the purchase of the truck."

The truck now has decals on the box recognizing many of the donors who paid for it.

