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Did You Know?
AGM Election of Board Members Today!
Casino ... Save the Date
Donation to the Legion

DECEMBER IS DISEASE PREVENTION & TREATMENT MONTH

Combat diseases, promote healthcare access, and support medical research initiatives.



2025-2026 Officers and Directors

Wayne Wiebe, President
Keith Wellon, President Elect
Rob Wolfson, Past President
Dale Perret, Secretary
Vlad Sasarman, Treasurer

Bev Tonkinson, International Service
Dean White, Youth Service
Ted Wada, Community Service
Neil Beatty, Club Service
Brennen Pell, Club Operations
Peter Bickham, Club Financial
Sharon Fraiman, Membership
John Charrett, Rotary Foundation

RI President Francesco Arezzo
Rotary Club of Ragusa, Italy

District 5360 Governor Manon Mitchell
Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown

Ujamaa Grandmas Charlotte Holmlund

To be rescheduled ... unfortunately our electronics team was not able to adjust our computer system to successfully access Charlotte's presentation. We will find a solution and reschedule Charlotte in the near future.

Charlotte's presentation will be about Ujamaa Grandmas and the incredible work being done through the Grandmothers Campaign.

She is currently the volunteer Board Chair for Ujamaa Grandmas in Calgary, where she helps strengthen community connections, inspire others to get involved, and raise funds for the Stephen Lewis Foundation's Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign.

She'll also share stories from her recent trip to South Africa and Eswatini, where she and 15 other members of grandmothers' groups from across Canada visited community based partner organizations that are changing lives every day.



Introducing our speaker who did not have opportunity to speak because we couldn't get our projector to work as evidenced by the blank screen in the background, in spite of heroic efforts by George and Gordon! Embarrassing? You bet! Fortunately Charlotte Holmlund, wife of our member Rob Dempsey, was very understanding and gracious, and has agreed to come back in the new year!



UJAMAA GRANDMAS

Bags, Babies & Beyond Annual Sale

October 17 & 18, 2025
Nerle Loop Communities Association

UJAMAA GRANDMAS

2025 Fabric & Yarn Sale

Friday, May 02, 2025 - 10:30 AM to 6:00 PM
Saturday, May 03, 2025 - 10:30 AM to 5:00 PM
Sunday, May 04, 2025 - 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM

at
Garrison Calgary Club
2288, 47 Avenue SW, Calgary

85 Tickets required on Friday only at EVENTBRITE
Saturday and Sunday, \$2 added at checkout
Credit and debit only, NO CASH

Donations made to Support JCI (JCI) at the following table/host at the Garrison Calgary Club

- Saturday, May 02, 2025
- Sunday, May 03, 2025
- Monday, May 04, 2025

Benefit for: United Fabric & Yarn Sale - United fabric and yarn sale. Help us craft beautiful fabric and yarn for our members and the community. Donations made to Support JCI (JCI) at the following table/host at the Garrison Calgary Club

Proceeds to Support Local Programs

For more information please contact: info@ujamaagrandmas.com



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



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

Indigenous Fact

Treaty 7 First Nations (presented by Keith)

Treaty 7 is one of 11 numbered Treaties signed between First Nations and the Crown between 1871 and 1921. The treaty

established an area of land for the tribes (a reserve), promised annual payments, provisions, or both, from the Crown to the tribes, and promised continued hunting and trapping rights on the land surrendered. In exchange, the tribes ceded their rights to their traditional territory, of which they had earlier been recognized as the owners.

Club Business

We had 28 members and 3 guests at our meeting today, which included our guest speaker Charlotte Holmlund, our former member Francis Akinnuoye (guest of Bill Stemp), and Rob Jessee (son of Fred Jessee). Our guests were introduced by Ron May and welcomed with our 'Welcome to Rotary' song.



Wayne thanked Paul for being our scribe today. He thanked Stephen and Anne for their regular production of our e-Arch and our two greeters, Ron May and Keith Wellon. In addition we also wish to thank Neil and Hank for collecting our lunch payments.

Sergeant at Arms — Ted Wada

Firstly Ted provided information regarding our upcoming Salvation Army Christmas Kettles volunteer project. We will be managing three days, November 20th, 21st and 22nd, at the Christmas Kettle located at Chinook Mall just outside the bookstore on the first floor. The shifts will only be two hours each (with the exception of the last shift, which will be 2 1/2 hours). Ted advises that all the shifts have been taken ... thanks to everyone who signed up.



Ted then fined past winners of 'Chase the Ace', members who have neglected to welcome our new members, and Neil for helping to beat Ted's curling team.

Paul Harris Fellowship Presentation

John Charrett noted that November is Foundation Month in Rotary. He proceeded to present a PH +7 pin to Fred Jessee who has reached a donation level of \$8,000 USD. It was noted that Fred is 99 years old, a wonderful milestone.

John also noted that we have presented PH pins in recent meetings to Anthony, Alex, and Graham Boone. It's great to see this level of donation support.



Membership Minutes

- Christmas Party on December 3rd at the Carriage House
Tammy advised us about our upcoming Christmas Party which includes a great dinner followed by headline entertainment. We have confirmed over 60 attendees which will nicely fill our Desert Palms Room. Cocktails are scheduled to start at 5pm.



- Fellowship Meeting on November 27th
Wayne told us about next week's evening meeting (5:45pm) which is being held at the pub (Blowers & Grafton) in Shawnessy. We met there last month and the food was great.

- Board Nominations

Wayne asked if anyone was interested in nominating any of our members to a position on our next year's Board of Directors. There were no nominations made so Wayne advised that any nominations could be made directly to himself prior to our Annual General Meeting being held on December 2nd.

Chase the Ace

George arranged our draw for this week, and Bruce Bohnet's ticket was chosen (he chose a black ace but it was a club, not a spade, so close ...). The Club's portion is \$92. We are drawing from a 46 card deck with a \$480 pot.



Sunshine Report

Jim Thompson is still dealing with his injured ankle and resulting lack of mobility. We send him our best wishes and look forward to seeing him soon.

Bill Stemp's Announcement of new business relationship

Bill advised that he and our former member, Francis Akinnuoye, have established a professional legal arrangement where Francis will be providing litigation services.

Rotary Project to Provide Generators for Ukraine

If you have been following the war in Ukraine, you know that one of the targets for Russian drones has been many of Ukraine's power generation plants. This has resulted in very serious

cont'd on page 3 ...

repercussions for the Ukrainian population, so Rotary is doing its best working with Rotary Clubs in Sweden to provide generators, which are then supplied directly for use as needed in Ukraine.

Last year the Rotary Club Of Calgary, working with Swedish partners, were able to supply 170 generators and the Swedish clubs supplied about 190. The Swedes have access to generators and the logistics can be handled well from there. The plan this year is to use the same process, gather as much money as we can and send it to the Swedes to handle the purchasing and shipping of the generators to Ukraine. The most common generator that we finance is a small unit that can be bought in Sweden for about \$500. As the winter is coming quickly, we are trying to get some funding together by the end of November so the generators can be delivered as soon as possible.

If any of our members would like to contribute to this initiative, funds can be sent to the Rotary Club Of Calgary North Foundation by e-transferring to: www.rccn952foundation@gmail.com

Tax receipts are available as long as the transfer includes donor name, address and email. Also note that the funds are for generators. Checks can be mailed to 1804 Crowchild Trail NW, Calgary, Alberta, T2N 4T6. Contact is David Thompson at the Rotary Club of Calgary North ([david.a.thompson@shaw.ca](mailto: david.a.thompson@shaw.ca)) (403-680-3985).

Polio Plus Update — Hank Popoff

Hank told us about the story of Ramesh Ferris who is the current District Governor of district 5370. Comments from an article describing Ferris' position re Polio:

“When people see me walking with my crutches and braces, if I’m not wearing shorts, they do not think of polio,” says Ferris, who contracted the disease at six months old. “But when people see my legs, they’re like, ‘Oh, what happened?’ It starts a discussion around what people can do to work together for a polio-free world.”



Ferris tries to wear shorts whenever he’s hiking or using his hand-cycle, a three-wheeled device powered by hand cranks. And he has found other ways to channel his athleticism into the fight against polio. In 2008, he hand-cycled 7,140 kilometers across Canada to raise awareness and funds for polio eradication. Using a 27-speed hand-cycle and consuming 5,000 calories a day to maintain his energy, Ferris travelled 400 kilometers (249 miles) every 10 days from British Columbia in the west to Newfoundland in the east. His ‘Cycle to Walk’ trip raised funds for Rotary International’s End Polio Now effort and other anti-polio projects.

Ferris has joined Team End Polio, a campaign by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative to raise awareness about the need to wipe out the disease. Team End Polio’s starting roster of top international athletes includes several who, like Ferris, have been directly affected by the disease. All are determined to speak up on social media and at sporting events.

“Polio is one of these forgotten-about diseases that is ‘out of sight and out of mind,’” says Ferris, a member of the Rotary Club of Whitehorse-Rendezvous, Yukon, Canada.

Photos courtesy George Van Schaick

The effort to fully eliminate polio has been a massive project. It has reduced cases by 99.9% over four decades, and today the wild poliovirus endures in just a few places.

Hank asks each of us to consider supporting the Polio Plus Society by agreeing to donate \$100 USD per year until polio has been eradicated completely. Bill Gates continues his agreement to commit a two to one donation as a match to funds raised by Rotary.

Guest Speaker

Charlotte Holmlund ... to be rescheduled
Unfortunately our electronics team was not able to adjust our computer system to successfully access Charlotte’s presentation. We will find a solution and reschedule Charlotte in the near future.



Dates to Remember

- November 27th
Fellowship meeting at Blowers and Grafton at 5:45pm
- December 2nd
Chinook’s Annual General Meeting, and
Spencer Tonkinson will tell us about the Real Estate Market
- December 3rd
Christmas Party at the Carriage House at 5pm

Wayne 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, “Unite for Good”. Have a great Rotary week! Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.

In Memoriam

John Chisholm McBean

November 23, 1940 — November 15, 2025

John Chisholm McBean passed away peacefully on the early morning of November 15th, 2025, at the age of 84, at AgeCare Seton in Calgary. John is survived by his children — John, Elizabeth, Scott, and Marianne — along with his brother Bob and his sister Ann, and his extended family Dwayne, his grandchildren, his great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.



In Memoriam 

John was a Harvard and Queen’s University graduate, holding degrees in BSc, MBA, and registered as a Professional Engineer. He spent his career as an entrepreneur and enjoyed his involvement in the Glencoe Club, Rotary Club, and Petroleum Club. He loved trains, music, watching CNN, and tuning into Wheel of Fortune. Travelling, good wine, and celebrating his Scottish heritage brought him joy throughout his life.

After a long battle with Parkinson’s, John’s struggle has come to an end. May those who loved him find peace and comfort in their memories. John had a remarkable life and will be dearly missed, with laughs over limitless memories ever countless.

No service will be held. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Parkinson’s Association.



Disease Prevention and Treatment Month
December 16th

District Governor Manon Mitchell — Christmas Music
AGM and Election of Board Members for 2026/27



Did You Know?

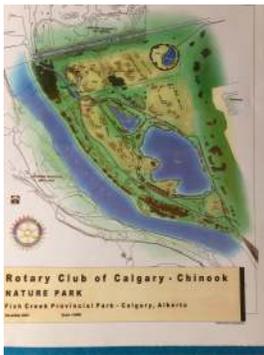
Jim Thompson, President 81/82, Charter Member

MY CLUB, THE ROTARY CLUB of CALGARY CHINOOK

Turning back a bit from the first review, it should be noted that we took on a major fund raiser, Spruce Meadows Events Parking shortly after our charter. We celebrated our 10th Anniversary with a dinner party at the Glencoe Club, where we took a group photo of male members and a separate group photo of spouses as memories. The first major community project launched in the early 80s ... trees along a pathway in South Glenmore Park, with a tribute plaque on a large rock, still present.

With the change of membership to include women, the weekend away golf and winter ski ventures were discontinued (common accommodation, and golf turned to mixed field tee box start) sadly. Newer activities like curling accommodated all.

Ed McLean and I were charged with responsibility of finding another "foot print" type project, like other clubs have in the city. Complicated. We looked at South Glenmore Park for perhaps a historic barn placement to become our meeting place and community use. Way too costly! Others ideas were too. In 1996 we were given the opportunity to develop a Nature Park on lands in Fish Creek Park, under lease to the MacKenzie Meadows Golf Club. The golf club found it would not be practical to develop and suggested the Nature Park idea to park officials. The rest is history and the park developed and was dedicated in 2002, and all 3rd party donors acknowledged.



Our 25th Anniversary was hosted by Spruce Meadows who also gifted us \$25,000. We had several club social events with fund raising inclusions at Spruce Meadows. They included a few

Lobster Dinners with silent auctions, a chuckwagon entry party for all Rotarian sponsors etc. Another major project, a lab at the Baker Cancer Centre was well received by the medical staff there.

Our own Integrity Award Program with PH awards to worthy citizens, ran for many years, honouring ordinary citizens doing extraordinary things. High School Debates annual competition was another amazing success, and we won the Rotary District award for best club project of the year. The Nature Park, by the way, won the recognition of Rotary International.

In the early 1990s, I had the pleasure to represent our club, with representatives from other Calgary clubs in a bid to bring the 1996 RI convention to Calgary. After two trips to RI headquarters in Evanston Illinois, we were successful and created what was deemed to be the most successful convention ever held to date, with the full support of our enthusiastic city.

Stay tuned for the 3rd review of our club history to follow.



AGM and Elections

Remember! It was decided to move the AGM to TODAY's meeting in order to facilitate that we achieve a quorum. Come and support your club!



Casino Volunteers

We are booked for our casino on **May 13th and 14th, 2026** at Elbow River Casino. Please block these times in your calendar so you can be available to volunteer.



This is Chinook Rotary's major project to raise money for our charitable commitments. Further details will be provided by Bruce Bohnet and Joe Hooper.

Donation to the Legion

Cribbage group making the Chinook donation of \$1,000 to the Horton Legion.

