Rotary

the e-Arch

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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

Cyber Security

Rob Dempsey

Our Speaker today was our member Rob Dempsey, who was introduced by Paul Gaudet. After receiving a degree in Mathematics and Computer Science from Sir George Williams University, Rob worked in various roles. These included Programmer through to IT Director at a Crown Corporation, coal mine and a trust company. He joined Hewlett-Packard in the early 1980s and had various roles over a 30+ year career. He most enjoyed providing cyber-security consulting services to Fortune 500 corporations and governmental organizations. He carried out many international assignments, which included extensive work in the United States, Mexico, Brazil, Europe and Asia. They were successfully delivered in challenging environments.

Rob's personal interests include trying to figure out his wife and two daughters, currently a work in progress. His activities have included general mountaineering, sky diving, biking, skiing, kayaking, and being a hopeless golfer. He is a fan of the Saskatchewan Roughriders and whoever is playing Winnipeg.

Rob's presentation today was about the Cyber Threats which we have to deal with today in many parts of our daily routines. As a typical senior, your scribe admits to a general lack of understanding of technological issues so this summary will be very general. Kindly chat with Rob directly for details.

- Home Routers
  - set a high security level
  - use a strong password
- Passwords
  - use long, unique, numbers, special characters, change every 90 days
- Credit cards:
  - vulnerable to insecure or dodgy websites, card skimmers and/or ghost taps.
  - use low limit cards for your own protection, insert the card rather than tapping, use NFC protection in your wallet or purse
- Your Devices
  - 'harden' the device
  - utilize automatic updates
  - beware of downloading applications, sketchy websites
  - dispose of devices after deleting everything, might need to use a hammer

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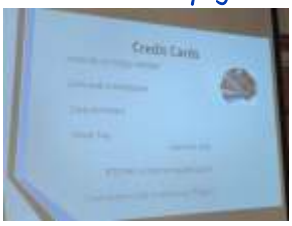

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Rotary
Club of Calgary Chinook

Meeting Minutes

May 5th, 2026 **Scribe: Paul Gaudet**

President Wayne called our meeting to order at 12:15, welcoming all in attendance and reminded everyone of Rotary's theme for this year, "UNITE FOR GOOD".

Indigenous Fact

Many of Calgary's highways reflect First Nations connections. Crowfoot was born in 1830 in Rupert's Land (where we are now), and was a Chief of the Siksisa. His father and mother were Kainai. He was five years old when his father was killed during a raid on the Crow tribe, and a year later, his mother remarried a man of that Siksika people among whom he was brought up. Crowfoot was a warrior who fought in as many as 19 battles and sustained many injuries, however he tried to obtain peace instead of warfare. He is well known for his involvement as lead negotiator in Treaty 7 and did much negotiating for his people.

Crowfoot worked hard to build relations between the Blackfoot and Hudson's Bay Company and the North-West Mounted Police. This effort by Crowfoot sometimes led him to come into conflict with other members of his Nation, such as when he stopped a group of Blackfoot warriors from raiding a Hudson's Bay caravan.

In 2008, Chief Crowfoot was inducted into the North America Railway Hall of Fame where he was recognized for his contributions to the railway industry. He is well known for his contributions to the Blackfoot Nation and has many memorials to signify his accomplishments. He died in 1890 of tuberculosis.

Club Business

We had 23 attendees at our meeting today, all of which were members. There were no guests or visiting Rotarians.

Wayne thanked Moe and Stephen Pick for being greeters and welcoming all who attended. He thanked Paul G for being our scribe today. He also thanked everyone who help our meetings run smoothly each week. In addition we also wish to thank Neil and Hank for operating our payment system.

- **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Bev Tonkinson

Bev announced our birthdays for May. We have three **member birthdays** this month including George Kimura on May 3rd, Haim Fraiman on May 7th, and Al Holt on May 9th.

We have four **spousal birthdays** for May: Bev Pettigrew on May 5th, Beti Gaudet on May 6th, Carol Van Schaick on the 27th, and Lise May on the 30th.

We have 2 **anniversaries** during the month of May: Al and Bev Pettigrew celebrated their 68th Anniversary on May 2nd, and Jim and Judy Thompson will celebrate their 61st on May 15th.

May Anniversaries of joining Rotary

Hank Popoff	51 years of service from May 8th, 1975
Al Pettigrew	42 years of service from May 1st, 1984
Bill Stemp	40 years of service from May 1st, 1986
Peter Bickham	20 years of service from May 22nd, 2006
Bev Tonkinson	14 years of service from May 1st, 2012

Congratulations and best wishes to all!

Member Minutes

- **Rotary Cribbage**

Bart Dailley

Bart announced that our next cribbage evening would be Wednesday May 6th at the Legion on Horton Road. Come at 5:30 and plan for dinner at the Legion after which we'll begin the game around 6:30.

- **Rotary Book Sale**

Neil Beatty

Neil thanked all those who have volunteered to help out at the Book Sale which is taking place at the Calgary Curling Club. Our volunteer shifts run from May 7th to the 10th. The parking location for our volunteers is immediately south of the Curling Club building.

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He asks that we plan to arrive for our shifts approximately 10 minutes prior to the shift commencing.

- **Rotary District Conference**

Rob Wolfson

Rob provided a brief report on our Rotary District Conference which took place in Red Deer this past weekend. He was pleased to note that we had 10 of our members in attendance, who were a part of a record attendance of 395 attendees. The Conference was a rewarding experience with great speakers and an informative House of Friendship. A highlight was the announcement that our District was highlighted for having the most net new members (101) — new sign ups less those who didn't renew — during the current Rotary year.

- **Upcoming President's Dinner**

President Wayne

Wayne announced that we have scheduled a President's Dinner to honor last year's President, Rob Wolfson, on the evening of Saturday, June 6th. Thanks to the hospitality of Anthony and Bev Tonkinson, we are holding the event at their home in Lake Bonavista. Further details will be provided shortly.

- **Millarville Racetrack**

Rob Wolfson

Rob advised that he has been in touch with our contacts at the Millarville Racing and Agricultural Society, and that they are looking forward to having our members volunteer at their upcoming summer events. We will get additional information regarding dates (Canada Day Races for sure), and volunteer opportunities in the near future.

- **Upcoming Casino**

Joe Hooper

Joe advised our members about our upcoming Casino being held this year on May 13 and 14th at the Elbow River Casino. It is important to note that this event (which is held every two years) provides approximately $70,000 for our club, which is used in servicing our community projects to support those in need.

- **Update re our Award Winning e-Arch**

Keith Wellon announced that Stephen and Anne Pick will be 'retiring' from many years of producing our regular Arch and, in recent years, our e-Arch. Our appreciation for all their hard work over many years seems so inadequate. They are fantastic Chinook Rotarians! They have so earned their 'retirement' from this ongoing responsibility. As a result we will require a volunteer (or two) to develop a new regular newsletter. Stephen has volunteered to assist in the 'hand off'.

Photos courtesy George Van Schaick

Children Are Quick

TEACHER: Why are you late?

STUDENT: Class started before I got here.

- **Sergeant at Arms**

Bart Dailley

Bart identified a number of 'felonies' for which he fined the 'suspects' a loonie each:

- Moe and Stephen (as greeters) were held responsible for the fact that we had no guests or visiting Rotarians in attendance today, depriving us from enjoying our welcome song.
- Gordon Juricic, as a tour guide in Banff, was held responsible for the lack of tourists coming to Canada.
- Rob Dempsey was charged with not eating his broccolini.
- Sandy Swan was held responsible for there being no snow in Mazatlan.
- Bob Montgomery was fined for bragging about his kids and grandkids.
- President Wayne was fined for challenging the authority of the Sgt at Arms by having the Good News / Bad News.

- **Chase the Ace**

Rob Wolfson

Bob Montgomery's ticket was drawn resulting in his winning $78 (with $104 to our Club). We have 36 cards left in our deck so the odds are getting better. Our next draw will be on May 19th for the $1,173 jackpot. While Bob did pick an Ace, it was a Diamond, not a Spade, so he didn't win the Jackpot. Wayne encourages our membership to support this draw 2 or 3 times a month by transferring $10 per meeting to our Treasurer, or by paying at the door.

- **Sunshine Report**

Garth Plunkett updated us on his treatment and progress. He is feeling well, doing ok, and presently receiving intravenous chemotherapy. He joked about his 'funny' hair cut and thanked everyone for their support.

Joe Hooper reported that he recently had coffee with Alex Soutar who is also feeling ok and still driving.

Neil was pleased to report that Lois is doing better and walking without a cane.

Wayne announced that a long time (46 years) former member, Harry Nazarchuk, has recently passed away and to the best of our knowledge there will not be a celebration of life. Wayne asked for a moment of silence in remembrance.

- **Good News / Bad News**

George reminded everyone of Sharon's MDA special Stampede Event which is taking place on May 31st at the Carriage House.

Anthony advised that their granddaughter (who resides in BC) has decided to attend University in Calgary, which makes them very happy, and that their son was

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Meeting Minutes

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nominated as Realtor of the Year in Calgary. While he didn't win the award, it is an honour to be nominated.

Guest Speaker

Our Speaker today was our member Rob Dempsey, who spoke about cyber security.

Dates to Rremember

- We will be meeting at the Horton Road Legion for a casual lunch and fellowship on Tuesday, May 12th.
- Our next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, May 19th at noon at the Carriage House. Our speaker will be Jay McNeil, President of the Calgary Stampeders and a 3 time CFL All Star.
- We are planning our evening fellowship meeting (5:30-7pm) on Thursday, May 28th. Details to be provided.
- Kindly note that there will be no meeting on Tuesday, June 2nd, due to our President's Dinner scheduled for Saturday, June 6th.

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. Have a great Rotary week! Meeting adjourned at 1:10pm.

Father Greg McLellan Memorial Bursary

by Dale Perret

I an enclosing some info on our Father Greg McLellan Scholarship Award recipient at St Mary's University for this year, and that I attended on behalf of our Club. It was an amazing evening, as always.

ST MARY'S UNIVERSITY

January 23, 2026

Mr. Dale Perret
Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook
2116 21 Ave SW
Calgary, AB T2T 0R9

Dear Dale,

Thank you for making dreams possible.

Your recent gift of **$2,000.00** in support of the **Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook Father Greg McLellan Memorial Bursary** at St. Mary's University is more than an act of generosity — it is a lifeline for students facing financial barriers and a meaningful investment in their ability to find purpose. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, your gift will be matched, doubling its impact. This means twice the opportunity, twice the support, and twice the possibility for students who are working hard to build brighter futures. ***Please let us know your preference regarding the additional funding available. Would you prefer to have an award of $2,000 for 2026-2027 or two awards?***

I am very pleased to let you know that Angela Kokoruda was selected as the bursary recipient for 2025-2026. A thank you letter and photo from Angela are enclosed.

Here are some excerpts from her awards application:

> I am currently studying Psychology because I believe there has never been a more critical time to address society's mental health needs. With over fifteen years of experience working with children, I have seen how deeply mental health can shape their development and success. My goal is to become a child psychologist supporting children, especially those who have faced trauma, and give them the skills and resilience they need to thrive.
>
> I am the Vice President of the Centennial Football Family volunteer group, participate in meetings, fundraising, activities, etc., all year long. I am also a Sunday School teacher for the children in my church family. I teach on the 4th Sunday of every month.

At St. Mary's, students achieve more than academic excellence. They build lifelong skills, forge meaningful connections, and discover purpose that shapes their future. Your generosity — now multiplied — helps make that journey possible. Because of you, students can focus on learning, growing, and preparing to lead lives of meaning and impact.

In our most recent Marian Update newsletter, you met students like Pascal, Amanda, Riley, and Dakotah. Their stories reflect the transformative power of your support. Your matched gift helps ensure students like them can stay in school, pursue exceptional academic credentials, and become thoughtful, compassionate leaders and engaged citizens.

Your support does more than ease financial burden. It empowers students to find their voice, discover their calling, and move forward with confidence and purpose. With your gift being doubled, its ripple effect will extend even further — touching countless lives through the graduates you help shape today.

On behalf of everyone at St. Mary's University, thank you for believing in our students and in the power of education. Because of you, they are not only earning degrees — they are finding purpose and shaping a stronger future for us all.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Heather Haldee
Manager, Donor Relations and Stewardship

P.S. Our annual Awards Dinner will be held on Thursday, February 26. Invitations are coming soon. Please mark your calendar.

Dear Mr. Perret,

I am sincerely grateful to the Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook for awarding me the **Father Greg McLellan Memorial Bursary** for the 2025-2026 academic year.

As a single mother, returning to university as a mature student required courage and persistence. I was initially hesitant to take this step, and after being diagnosed with leukemia at the end of 2024, the financial and emotional strain of continuing my education became even more challenging. This bursary has lifted a significant burden and has reinforced my determination to continue—because I am committed to not allowing cancer to stop me from achieving my goals.

I am currently studying psychology at St. Mary's University, a subject I genuinely love. After many years working as a preschool teacher, I noticed a growing number of neurodivergent children and felt a strong desire to understand what may be happening within their lives and the environment. Psychology has become more than an academic pursuit; it has been a source of purpose and strength during one of the most difficult periods of my life.

I chose St. Mary's University because of its smaller class sizes and supportive learning environment. As someone with learning disabilities, this setting allows me to build meaningful relationships with my professors, actively participate in class, and ask questions with confidence. This award helps ensure I can remain in an environment where I am able to succeed academically and continue working toward a future where I can support children and families with compassion and informed care.

Alongside my studies, I remain actively involved in my community. As the parent of a 17-year-old student-athlete involved in football, wrestling, and rugby, I value the important role that sports play in youth development, discipline, and belonging. Through my volunteer involvement with sports committees, I have helped support initiatives that ensured players were fed before games, provided healthy snacks after practices, and assisted in organizing a celebratory event following the team's city championship win this year.

Your generosity reflects a deep commitment to service and community. This bursary has had a meaningful and lasting impact on my education, my future career goals, and my personal well-being during a very challenging time.

Thank you for your kindness and belief in students who are striving to make a difference.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Angela Kokoruda
St. Mary's University

Rotary's Areas of Focus

PEACEBUILDING AND CONFLICT PREVENTION | DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT | WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE | MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH | BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY | COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | ENVIRONMENT

Calgary Reads Big Book Sale Parking

by Keith Wellon

Thanks to the leadership of Neil Beatty and Paul Gaudet, we completed a very successful parking duty for the Calgary Reads Big Book Sale. It was only through the persistence of Paul that he was able to fill all 48 shift positions for the first busy sale days, May 7-10. Neil not only was the liaison with the Calgary Reads folks, he was the Lead for five shifts himself!!

After these first 4 days, the Calgary Reads folks said they were ahead of last year's pace (when they netted about $550,000!). They were very effusive in their thanks for the Chinook parkers. They remember how hard it was for them when they were doing it themselves, and even when three other Rotary clubs tried to do it.

It is also the biggest annual fundraiser, outside of the Casino, for our Chinook Club, earning us $10,000! We had 16 members mostly doing at least two shifts, as well as 3 members of other clubs (John Hickie, Asif Abdul and Dave Wylie), and 6 friends or family.

Special thanks to Neil, Paul and Beti Gaudet, Hank and Janet Popoff, Bev and Anthony Tonkinson, Garth Plunkett, Moe Tynan, John Charette, Keith Wellon, Wayne Wiebe, Joe Hooper, George Kimura, Rob Dempsey, Dale Perret, Peter Bickham, and Stephen Pick.

Very positive, but there is a "needs to improve" aspect. Of our 45 members, there are of course several who are not able to physically do parking, and a few were away. But we need to do better next year — Paul had to work this hard for over a month, right up to just days beforehand, and most had to do 2,3,4,or 5 shifts. Morning, evening, week day and weekend shifts give lots of flexibility, and it is probably the easiest fundraising you could do. We need more members to spread the load next year.

Cyber Security

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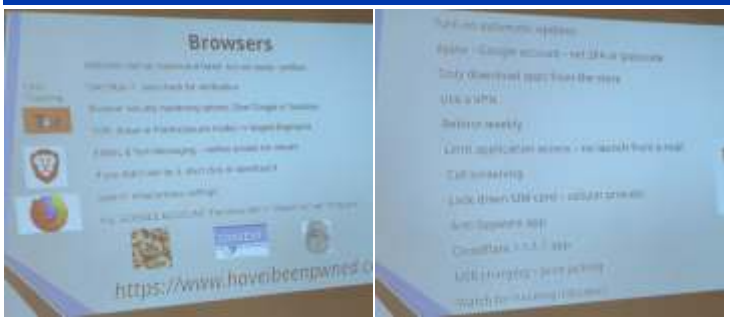

Rob concluded his remarks by noting that he is riding in this year's "Alberta Ride To Conquer Cancer" and would appreciate any donations for this worthy cause. Search Rider for "Dempsey" or www.touralberta.ca

Joe Hooper thanked Rob for his presentation and advised him that we would be making a donation to Rotary's Polio Plus in appreciation for his presenting to us today.

- Browsers
  - websites can be copied and faked
  - use https:// and check for verification
  - emails and text messaging are not private or secure
  - if you didn't ask for it, don't click on it or download it
  - search 'email privacy settings'
  - turn on automatic updates
  - only download apps from the store
  - use a VPN
  - reboot weekly
  - limit application access - no launches from email
  - anti spyware app
  - watch for hacking indicators

What's Up !!

Youth Service Month

May 19th	Jay McNeil, President, Stampeders
May 28th	Evening Meeting at the Pub, location TBA

Rotary Fellowships Month

June 6th	President's Dinner honouring Rob Wolfson, a catered dinner at Tonkinsons'
June 16th	Lynn Van Egmond, founder of Soft Landings (downsizing and relocating)

Maternal and Child Health Month

July 7th	President Wayne Wiebe — Year End Report Keith Wellon — Plans and Goals for 2026-2027
July 21st	Sheldon Smithen's — Antiques

Everyone Come !!

Saturday, June 6th

We will be honouring Past President Rob Wolfson with our President's Dinner! President Wayne's goal is to have 100% attendance. Contact other members that we haven't seen recently, and encourage them to attend.

The event/dinner will be casual and hosted at Bev and Anthony's home, beginning at 5pm, with dinner — brisket on a bun, coleslaw, beans, Caesar salad and dessert — at 6:15pm. BYOB

$25 per person, Hank will have the Moneris machine at the event for those paying with a credit car or you can e-transfer. No cancellations/refunds after June 1st.

Shelter Box Hero Award

Membership Info

PE Keith Wellon recently finished a webinar on Rotary's new **Prospective Membership Management System**, and thinks all our club members should be aware of it. This is used when a someone interested in Rotary goes onto Rotary's web site and expresses interest.

In the old system, these enquires were monitored at the RI and District levels, and forwarded to a club the District thought appropriate. RI came up with a new system because 75% of such prospective member enquires were not dealt with!! And over 48,000 unanswered are still on file!!

In the new system, the person enquiring selects which club the enquiry goes to. Within the system, each club must ensure it identifies who this initial email goes to (normally the Membership Lead). And also ensure the club info on Rotary.org is current and enticing. If no action is noted by the receiving club within two weeks, emails automatically go to the District and main club executive. If still no action in another 9 days, automatic emails go to RI. Until the club responds, the prospective member will be getting automatic emails thanking them and promoting Rotary.

While most of Chinook's new members come through our members, this system should work well for us (with a little upfront work on the RI website).