Rotary

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UNITE FOR GOOD

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Fly Fishing on the Bow River

Doug Pippus, Fishing Guide

Our speaker, Doug Pippus, was introduced by his long time friend, Bart Dailley. Doug has pastored two churches in Calgary, and has served the Lord for 47 years now.

He started "Living Waters Fishing Adventures" in 2003 through which he guides fly fishermen on the Bow River each year. He is also an athlete having played University hockey, and remaining active in an active floor hockey program. He and his wife Sharon are approaching their 47th anniversary and are parents of 3, and grandparents of 7. Doug agreed to become our speaker today on very short notice (which we greatly appreciate) and will tell us some fish stories.

Doug opened his remarks by noting that our Bow River is world famous in the fly fishing world. He has provided his guiding services for visitors from around the world ... Japan, Europe, etc. He began this sideline business in 2003, motivated by a desire to supplement his income and assist covering the many expenses of his Pastoring trips to West Africa.

His services include a 'Day for Two' (8 hrs, fishermen and/or women), spent mostly in his 16 ft boat (no motor). Basically they float down the river for approximately 12 to 14 miles, and lunch is included. The cost for the day for two guests is $750. Doug tells us that there used to be an estimate of 1,500 trout per mile in the Bow River. He believes it might be less these days.

In addition to the fishing experience, the scenery around the Bow River is spectacular. There are buffalo jumps, high cliffs, and a variety of animals to see such as elk, moose, and deer, as well as birds of many species.

Doug proceeded to tell us about a few of his experiences on the river:

- A corporate event with several boats, with one guide hollering at a guest about his inclination to spend his time birdwatching rather than fishing. Doug was embarrassed by the guide's rudeness, however it turned out that the guest had a wonderful day. He was a birdwatcher and travelling down the river that day, he saw 3 species which he had never seen before.

- One day a guest put his expensive rod down in the boat while leaving his line floating in the water. A brown trout pulled the entire rod into the river and it was lost. Later in the season another fisherman accidentally hooked the rod, reeled it in, and it was mailed back to the owner.

- One day one of Doug's guests was fly fishing when a sea gull (which was swooping down to the water to catch the flies and bugs) happened to select the guest's dry fly, and before anyone could react,

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

Rotary
Club of Calgary Chinook

Meeting Minutes

April 21st, 2026 **Scribe: Paul Gaudet**

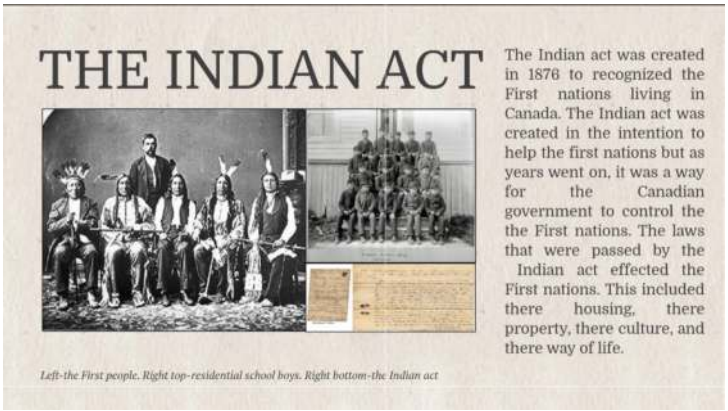
President Elect Keith called our meeting to order at 12:15, welcoming all in attendance and leading us in singing O Canada.

Anthony announced that Fred Jessee's wife (Mae) has passed away.

Indigenous Fact

Keith Wellon

This is the 150th Anniversary of the Indian Act which, unfortunately and tragically, represents a history of oppression and resistance. The Indian Act came to be developed over time through separate pieces of colonial legislation regarding Aboriginal peoples across Canada, such as the "Gradual Civilization Act of 1857". In 1876, these Acts were consolidated as the Indian Act.



THE INDIAN ACT

The Indian act was created in 1876 to recognized the First nations living in Canada. The Indian act was created in the intention to help the first nations but as years went on, it was a way for the Canadian government to control the the First nations. The laws that were passed by the Indian act effected the First nations. This included there housing, there property, there culture, and there way of life.

Left-the First people. Right top-residential school boys. Right bottom-the Indian act

Numerous quotes make it clear that the native peoples of Canada were considered as savages needing to be civilized. A quote from our first Prime Minister, John A. Macdonald in 1887: "The great aim of our legislation has been to do away with the tribal system and assimilate the Indian people in all respects with the other inhabitants of the Dominion as speedily as they are fit to change."

A partial listing of the Act's legacy:

- A ban of cultural ceremonies off and on reserves which lasted for over 75 years
- They could not leave reserves without permission
- They could not wear ceremonial clothing off the reserve
- Native women marrying non-natives lost their status, while the opposite did not
- Allowed the establishment of the Residential School System
- Amended in 1921 to outlaw the hiring of lawyers by Indians attempting to assert their treaty rights

Recent years have seen positive modifications but it remains as troublesome legislation.

Club Business

We had 29 attendees at our meeting today which included 4 **guests**: Copelan Manzer, our Inclusion Alberta representative, Nick Crowston (guest of Sharon), Susan Clark (guest of Kim), and our guest speaker Doug Pippus (guest of Bart). Our guests were introduced by Rob Dempsey and welcomed with our 'Welcome to Rotary' song.

Keith thanked Paul for being our Scribe today. He also thanked our Greeters for making everyone feel welcome. In addition we also wish to thank Hank and Neil for operating our payment system.

District Conference, Red Deer
May 1st to 3rd

Keith reminded us about our upcoming District Conference from May 1st to May 3rd in Red Deer. The registration cost is currently $399 per person. First timers will receive a 30% discount. We are hopeful we can reach 12 attendees, so please consider joining our group. Registration closes on April 24th.

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Meeting Minutes

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Member Minutes

- **Annual 'Calgary Reads' Book Sale**

Neil Beatty

The Book Sale is coming up and we still need additional volunteers to help park cars on the three afternoon shifts. We will be working on two paved and lined parking lots, so the job is relatively easy. Our volunteers will be parking their own vehicles just south of the Calgary Curling Club building. We will be forwarding the standard waiver to each volunteer for their signature. Keith highlighted that our volunteers will be covered by Rotary insurance.

- **Casino Volunteers needed**

Bruce Bohnet

Bruce Bohnet reminded us all to volunteer for our upcoming Casino in May (13th and 14th) at the Elbow River Casino on McLeod Trail. He emphasized the importance of this fundraising opportunity which generally provides our Club with around $70,000 every two years which we use for community support. We currently have one position vacant, a chip runner on the day shift of May 13th.

- **50th Anniversary Dinner Date Set**

Our Club's 50th Anniversary will be next March and we have booked the date of Monday, March 15th, 2027 for the event, at the Carriage House. Mark your calendar!!

- **Millarville Racetrack**

Keith asked our members to mark down Canada Day, July 1st, regarding Millarville's day of activities at which they will be asking our members to help park vehicles and sell tickets.

- **Meals on Wheels**

Bob Montgomery

Bob noted that is the 5th Anniversary of our Club participating with this community organization to deliver lunch to a specific route in Calgary. The same group of members have continued to get this job done: Bob, Hank, Neil, Dale and normally Wayne (given this year off due to his Presidential responsibilities). The organization is always looking for additional volunteers and Bob is happy to promote their cause. A hearty thank you to these 5 members (and to Keith who also volunteers).

Notification of Family Loss

Pam Montgomery

Pam told us about the sudden passing of her husband Reg. He was 70, active and in good physical condition. Unfortunately he sustained a leg injury while skiing which led to surgery and during recovery, he suffered a blood clot and died. The family will be holding a Remembrance on Sunday May 24th from 2pm to 5pm at the Carriage House and our membership is invited.

Pam also thanked us for our kind thoughts and prayers.

- **IODE Canada**

Susan Clark

Susan Clark is a member IODE in Calgary and visited us today to note their 125th Anniversary and tell us about IODE Canada's activity in our community. They are a national women's charitable organization in which women of all ages, from all walks of life and backgrounds, meet in local chapters for fun, friendship and community volunteerism. Members volunteer with and for people, focusing on Children, Education and Community Services. Each IODE chapter has the autonomy to choose and support projects in their own community. With just a few monthly hours, they make a difference and form lifelong friendships.

- **Good News / Bad News**

No news items today.

- **Sunshine Report**

No updates today.

Chase the Ace

Our draw winner (of $54) today was Dick Snel. Our Club earned $72 on today's draw. The pot is currently $1,095 and growing. There are 37 cards remaining in our deck.

Guest Speaker

Today's guest speaker was Doug Pippus, speaking about fly fishing on the Bow River.

Dates to Remember

April 30th	We will be holding an evening pub get together at 'Limericks' from 5:30 to 7pm.
May 5th	Our next regular noon meeting at the Carriage House. Our speaker will be Rob Dempsey who will be discussing Cyber Security.
May 19th	We will be back at the Carriage House to hear from the President of the Calgary Stampeders, Jay McNeil.

Keith asked everyone to stand and join in reciting Rotary's 4 Way Test. Rotary's Theme this year is "Unite for Good". Have a great Rotary week! Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.

Photos courtesy George Van Schaick

Rotary District 5360
Celebrate
District Conference 2026 / May 1-3
Register now and join in on the learning and fellowship!!

What's Up !!

Youth Service Month

May 5th	Rob Dempsey — Cyber Security
May 13th & 14th	Casino volunteering @ Elbow River Casino
May 19th	Jay McNeil, President, Stampeders

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	Keith Wellon — Plans and Goals for 2026-2027
July 21st	Sheldon Smith's Antiques

Membership and New Club Development Month

August 18th	Annual Picnic in our Nature Park

Fly Fishing

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the bird was trying to fly away with the line. Doug tells us that ultimately they were able to free the bird.

Doug wrapped up his presentation with a few 'truisms' he has seen during his fishing career:

- The worst line tangles usually occur just before the best fishing spots.
- Hooking a fish is one thing, landing it is another.
- When one focuses only on fishing, one tends to miss the scenery.
- Those who listen to their guide seem to catch the most fish.
- Lady fishers tend to do better than the male fishers as they are better listeners.

Hank thanked Doug for his entertaining presentation and noted that a donation to Polio Plus would be made in appreciation for his presentation today.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Friday, June 6th

We will be honouring Past President Rob Wolfson with our President's Dinner! The event/dinner will be casual and hosted at Bev and Anthony's home.

The dinner will be catered by a company that specializes in events like this, and we are hopeful that the cost will not exceed $50/couple. Bring your own beverage.

Let's have 100% attendance to honour Rob's service, not only for serving 2 terms as President, but also as District Governor Elect for District 5360.
Rob is the first District Governor from Calgary Chinook, which will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary in 2027.

Annual 'Calgary Reads' Book Sale

It's time for us to assist the Rotary Club of Calgary's Book Sale by helping to park the vehicles which attend this extremely successful event. We are well paid for our services and the funds raised are important to our Community Service efforts.

This year the event commences on May 7th at the Calgary Curling Club, off Memorial Drive, and runs for over a week. Our parking services however are only required on

Thursday May 7th, Friday the 8th, Saturday the 9th and Sunday (Mother's Day) the 10th.

Please help out and select a shift or two (or more) and join us. We will be providing specific location and project information shortly.

If you have questions or concerns, contact Keith Wellon or Neil Beatty as they are our co-ordinators for this project.

Casino Volunteers

We are booked for our casino on **May 13th and 14th, 2026** at **Elbow River Casino**. ***Please volunteer !!***

This is Chinook Rotary's major project to raise money for our charitable commitments. **Sign up now!** Contact Bruce Bohnet or Joe Hooper.