

# ROTARY NEWS

RCCSP Weekly Bulletin February 15th 2024  
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**Welcome to the February 15th meeting of the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park. My name is Bryan Walton, and I'm honoured to be the President of this Club for 2023-24.**

**Please join me in the singing of O'Canada and Rotary Grace.**

Head Table (L-R) : Gord Weicker, Mike Ruttan, Cathie Saroka, President Bryan Walton, Mike Law, Jim Fitzowich



**Speaker: Mike Law- Net Zero to 2035**

**Bring a guest next week. Register Early!**

**We are back in Rotary House!**

Click [HERE](#) to register for next week's meeting and [HERE](#) for this week's meeting link

# Today's Meeting:

**Sue Lasher** introduced today's (many) guests, followed by the Welcome Song.

**Jim Hutchens** pulled today's 50/50, with help from our guest speaker, Mike Law. President Byran Walton thought a guest would win the \$145 pot. Nobody claimed the first draw, so we had to redraw, which was lucky for our winner, **Sharyl Madigan!**

Sergeant at Arms, **Spencer Tonkinson**, wasn't very generous today as he coughed up happy bucks from two of our members. He then asked the room some Valentine's Day-themed questions and he fined every other table!

**Cathie Saroka** spoke on today's classification piece. She grew up in Winnipeg and Golden but built her life in Calgary. She established a family-owned glass fabrication business along with her partner, **Greg Saroka**. Their entrepreneurial spirit ignited with a simple conversation morphing from a casual "What should we do today?" to the bold declaration, "Let's start a business." Through the highs and lows of entrepreneurship, Cathie's vision for their company developed. She envisioned more than just profits; she envisioned a workplace where happiness thrived. Cathie's dedication to fostering a positive work environment extends beyond the business realm. She passionately advocates for mental health awareness and addiction support, leaving us with two key points.

1. Have empathy for those whose stories we may not fully understand, especially around the topic of Mental Illness and Addiction.
2. A culture of support and positivity not only enhances employee well-being but also contributes to overall success and fulfillment.

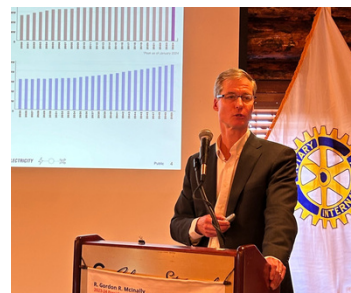
**Deb Sands** acknowledges those 'newer' members who had the opportunity to get their red stripes removed. Congratulations Greg Smyth, Dale Struksnes, Bob Steele, Max Feldman.

## NET ZERO TO 2035

**Mike Law**

Our Guest Speaker was introduced by **Jim Fitzowich**

"For Alberta, this is the first year that renewables generation has provided more generation than coal on an annual basis" AESO 2022 Annual Market Statistics



Between January 12 and 15, the AESO faced four Grid Alerts, with Alberta hitting a record peak load of 12,384MW on January 11. An Emergency Alert on January 13 prompted a 200MW load reduction. Reasons for the Emergency Alert included extreme cold causing high demand, low wind, the strain on neighbouring jurisdictions, some natural gas generation outages, and concerns over equipment malfunctions. The risk to life and property from potential issues with rotating outages was a significant concern. Furthermore, Alberta's transition away from coal generation has led to a notable reduction in electricity sector emissions. However, this transition has also contributed to increased prices in recent years. By 2035, AESO predicts 35-40% of Alberta's domestic generation will come from renewables, including hydro and biomass. Emissions are predicted to drop to less than 10 Mt annually by 2030 without changes proposed in the Clean Electricity Regulation. The emissions difference between decarbonization by 2035 and 2050 is minimal, around 22 Mt between assuming carbon pricing of \$170 by 2030 and supports like Investment Tax Credits. While a carbon-neutral future is certain, timelines are still up for debate. The priority is finding a path forward that achieves this goal within reasonable timelines while maintaining reliability and affordability. AESO is collaborating closely with the government and stakeholders to ensure a safe, affordable, and reliable grid both now and in the future. To watch the video and the presentation slides please go to <https://rotarycs.org/page/meeting-videos>

**Dale Struknes** thanked Mike for presenting to our club this afternoon.

Mike, in recognition of your time with us today we will be making a \$100 donation to the Calgary Rotary Clubs Foundation which supports local initiatives here in our community.



## 2024 ROTARY "KIDS AT HEART" Golf Classic Monday, July 29th , Cottonwood Golf & Country Club

In today's meeting, Gord Weicker talked about the Kids at Heart program. In just two years, our Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park's "Kids at Heart" Golf Tournament has raised over half a million dollars for six incredible charities in our community. These charities aim to provide children with safety, nourishment, love, support, and opportunities for a brighter future.

For our 2024 Rotary "Kids at Heart" Golf Classic, our selection committee has chosen three outstanding charities to partner with Kids up front, YouthLink Calgary Police Interpretive Centre and Kid Sport.

**Kids Up Front Calgary:** They believe all children should have access to enriching experiences such as sports, arts, and cultural events. By supporting Kids Up Front, you're helping create a more inclusive community where every child feels valued and connected. Visit their website at [kidsupfrontcalgary.com](https://kidsupfrontcalgary.com).

**YouthLink Calgary Police Interpretation Centre:** This crime prevention program empowers vulnerable children by providing them with essential knowledge and skills to make informed decisions and stay safe. Through interactive sessions with police officers, kids learn about important topics like healthy relationships, gangs, drugs, and cyber safety. Learn more at [youthlinkcalgary.com](https://youthlinkcalgary.com).

**KidSport:** They believe that sports play a vital role in children's recovery after the pandemic. By supporting KidSport, you're helping kids develop critical life skills, improve academically, become leaders, and enhance their mental health and well-being. Sport is a gift that can positively impact a child's life forever. Explore their work at [kidsportcanada.ca/alberta/calgary/](https://kidsportcanada.ca/alberta/calgary/).

At the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park, kids are always our passion and priority. We're committed to investing in the lives of children and youth to create lasting change in our community. Whether through sponsorship, golf registration, or contributing to our auctions, you can join us in giving children the bright future they deserve. Let's make a difference together!

Please watch today's YouTube video to watch Gord speak more on Kids at Heart. Thank you so much for presenting today!

## Contribution to Calgary Charities

The Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park is pleased to share it will provide funding totalling a record \$854,098 to over 50 worthy Calgary and area charities this year. These funds were raised through ticket sales to the 2023 Rotary Dream Home and Stampede Millions 50/50, organized by the Calgary Stampede Lotteries during the 2023 Calgary Stampede.

To read more on this exciting news click [HERE](#)

## Paul Harrison Fellow Award

**Mike Ruttan** highlighted the outstanding contributions of several remarkable Rotarians who have exemplified the spirit of service and gone above and beyond in their dedication to making a difference. These exceptional individuals were recognized with the prestigious Paul Harris Fellow award, a testament to their unwavering commitment to Rotary's ideals and their extraordinary efforts to uplift communities and individuals in need. Congratulations, **Mel Gibson** – PHF, **Carol Rosdobutko** – PHF +3, **George Deegan** – PHF +6, and **Ted Rowsell** – PHF +8. Thank you all so much for your contributions to the Club and world.



# Announcements

Health & Wellness  
Your health and Wellness contact  
for January is Dorothea Schaab  
[schaabd@gmail.com](mailto:schaabd@gmail.com)

**Feed the Hungry** program at St. Mary's Hall has been serving Sunday meals since 1993. The Roman Catholic Diocese together with many individual and corporate sponsors have faithfully maintained the program for over 30 years. For these impoverished individuals, Sundays are often just another day of trying to find food, shelter as well as a sense of community. To help these folks, Feed the Hungry provides a full sit-down meal, which includes a hot entrée, salad, bread, desert and an assortment of beverages each Sunday. Volunteers are an integral part of this community outreach program and is an opportunity for supportive volunteers to be part of this program to ensure these folks have for a few hours a warm and welcoming experience. Our Rotary Club will "Sponsor and Serve" the Sunday meal on March 24 th 2024. In order to do this we will require approximately 65 volunteers for the following:

## **Volunteer Information:**

**Date:** Sunday March 24th 2024

**Location:** St. Mary's Hall (221 – 18 th Avenue SW)

*\*Surface parking for volunteers available on site\**

- Morning Shift: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm (Hall Set Up Teams)
- Afternoon Shift: 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm (Meal Service Teams)

**TO VOLUNTEER:** go to the site listed below & choose your duty team...

*\*please note the number of volunteers for each team varies and the link will show current availabilities.\**

Rotary will have up to March 17th to fill all available positions. Any vacancies after March 17th will be filled by non-Rotarians.

Volunteer Site: <https://feedthehungry.flocknote.com/signup/156374>  
Contact **Ken Farn** at [kgfarn@telus.net](mailto:kgfarn@telus.net) with any questions or problems

## Partners In Print

**COME JOIN THE  
ROTARY PARTNERS**

**VALENTINES  
COFFEE PARTY**

Cookies & Squares

10 AM

FEB 16

Coffee, Tea, Juice

**FREE**

Door Prizes & Surprises

Please RSVP to Pat Neuman at  
[pneuman647@gmail.com](mailto:pneuman647@gmail.com)

WHERE: ASPEN HEIGHTS  
RETIREMENT RESIDENCE  
15 ASPEN SUMMIT DRIVE SW  
FREE PARKING

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

Veteran's Food Bank  
March 5, 2024, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Veteran's Food Bank Calgary Warehouse  
#114 - 4303 26 Street NE, Calgary, AB T1Y 7K2  
15 volunteers required.

Please contact **Brenda McKinley**,  
[b-mckinley@hotmail.com](mailto:b-mckinley@hotmail.com),  
or text 403-870-4292 to register.

Thank you,  
Brenda



# Announcements

## Larry Kwong Memorial Chinese New Year Dinner



What a grand event!! Our Chinese New Year Dinner was an outstanding success!

Thank you to the committee of Coordinator **Keith Davis**, MC **Corinne Wilkinson**, **Toby Oswald-Felker**, **Marietta Maier**, **Tony Ng**, and **Michael Zacharki**!! You all outdid yourselves! The Lion Dancers performed early due to other busy commitments on Chinese New Year's Eve, but we were so pleased everyone attempted to come earlier than expected.. lots more time to visit!! Our MC Corinne, rejigged the program and everything turned out great!! Everyone enjoyed the wonderful door prizes donated by GR Richardson!! Big winner of the \$700 pot from the 50/50 was **Denise McLeod**!

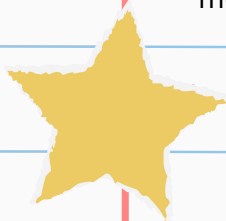
We had one of the largest number of guests in a few years including representation from several other Calgary and District Rotary clubs. It was wonderful to have as guests, many District Exchange students and their hosts, some coming from Lethbridge. The students were absolutely delighted to be with us. Thank you **Dorothea Schaab** for orchestrating this. We love having the students attend our events!! All the chatter in the room throughout the evening was a true indicator that a good time was had by all!

## From the Secretary's Desk



1. ALL communication to Megan/the office is to please go to [admin@rotarycs.org](mailto:admin@rotarycs.org). ClubRunner only sends out and does NOT receive emails.
2. ALL communication to me is to please go to [secretary@rotarycs.org](mailto:secretary@rotarycs.org).
3. I am still waiting for many of our members to communicate with me regarding RCCSP items and information that are contained within your homes, offices and computers. Please connect with me - even if you have nothing to report - so I can finish this review. Thanks!
4. Today I caught up with many of you for your license plate and parking pass numbers - thanks! To those who I did not get the information of, please email me the information so our information is correct.

*-YOURS IN ROTARY,  
LUANNE WHITMARSH*



This week's meeting link: <https://youtu.be/No0xTd4dWQc>

Closing:

Note- SIGN UP FOR NEXT WEEK'S MEETING EARLY

Next week's meeting: February 22nd in Rotary House

Closing words: As you go about your business this week, remember simple acts of kindness go a long way to creating hope in the world.

And with that, our meeting is adjourned. Thank you for coming. Have a great Rotary week!

Final reminder to register for next week's meeting:  
[www.rotarystampedepark.com](http://www.rotarystampedepark.com)

REMINDER

REMINDER

#### NEW MEMBER PROPOSAL

**Paul Bourassa** has been proposed as for active membership to the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park with a proposed Classification of Lawyer.

If any Member objects to **Paul Bourassa** joining our Club or to HIS/HER proposed classification an objection must be filed in writing with the Club Secretary, Luanne Whitmarsh: [secretary@rotarycs.org](mailto:secretary@rotarycs.org) prior to *February 22nd*.

# Calendar

## FEBRUARY

- 1st: Partners Presentation
- 2nd: RCCSP Wine Club
- Feed the Hungry at the Mustard Seed
- 4th: Fiddler on the Roof
- 6th: Calgary Food Bank
- 7th: Business Club
- 8th: Valentine's Day Meeting
- 9th: Chinese New Year Celebration
- 16th: Partner's Valentines Coffee Party
- 22nd: Bring a Guest Day
- 29th: Holly Singer- Milk Jar

FEBRUARY						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				 1	 2	3
 4	5	 6	 7	 8	 9	10
11	12	13	 14	15	 16	17
18	19	20	21	 22	23	24
25	26	27	28	 29		

## MARCH

- 3rd: Jubilations Dinner Theatre "The Beach Boys of Summer"
- 9th: St. Mary's High School Big Band Annual Dinner
- 10th: Social Committee - Everly Brothers
- 17th: Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- 23rd: "Rock the Nation" at Studio Bell

MARCH						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
 3	4	5	6	7	8	 9
 10	11	12	13	14	15	16
 17	18	19	20	21	22	 23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

## HELPFUL INFORMATION

Jubilations Dinner Theatre "The Beach Boys of Summer" 5 pm. Cost is \$54. Contact Pat Neuman at pneuman647@gmail.com.

"Walk Right Back"- The Everly Brothers \$66.60 at Grey Eagle Casino. Contact Pat Neuman at pneuman647@gmail.com.

"Rock the Nation" at Studio Bell (National Music Centre) 12 noon show, followed by lunch at King Eddy.