



RCCSP Weekly Bulletin January 6th, 2022 Volume Number 67, Issue Number 23

Club of Calgary at Stampede Park

Rotary

Editor: Bev Ostermann Photography: John Shield Videography: Steve Mason / Jamie Moorhouse

Happy New Year and welcome to the January 6th meeting of the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park. I am the Club's President, **Craig Stokke**.

2021 was a year of uncertainty. We never knew from one minute to the next what was going to hit us. Obviously that caused a lot of stress for many people. So I figured I would spare you all the grief of 2022 so I searched the Internet and came up with a list of extremely credible predictions. So here is what's going to happen in 2022:

- 2022 will be warmer than 2021
- Norway will win the most medals at the 2022 Winter Olympics
- Migration to Alberta will be strong and there will be gains in Alberta real estate
- Democrats will lose their majorities in the US House and Senate
- Calgarians will become somewhat disillusioned with their Mayor
- We will move to the endemic phase of COVID-19
- An asteroid shower will destroy the Earth
- Psychedelic drugs will be decriminalized or legalized in at least one US state
- As long as the psychedelic drugs come before the asteroid shower, we're all good.

Please join me for the singing of O Canada followed by Rotary Grace.

HEAD TABLE: Sharyl Madigan, Wendy Giuffre, Glen Godlonton, Todd Richardson, Natasha Richardson





GUESTS: Myrna Dube-Thompson announced that Dave Leslie, Natasha Richardson and Ernie Kubitz (Zoom) attended. Myrna had President Craig start the Welcome Song (he really wished that Hugh Delaney was present!).

Announcement: Thank you to PP Penny, PE Jim, and PEN Bryan for chairing the meetings while I was in Hawaii doing volunteer work. I spent my days reading to the blind... giving sponge baths to seniors... that kind of thing. It was strictly business.

50/50: Michael Zacharki awarded \$70.00 to Wendy Giuffre







CLUB NEWS:

DINNER CLUB: Dinner Club is looking for members to start activities in January. Registration closes January 7, 2022. See the guidelines and form attached to the bulletin email. Please contact **Pat Neuman**

R.I. CONFERENCE: See bulletin for Registration Link. We have a great contingent going to Houston and look forward to building on those who are registered. This will be a good opportunity to learn about the organization of an RI Convention, which will come in handy with our efforts on the 2025 event.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS: Contact for January: Dorothea Schaab

- George Adam: is stable and recovering at Unit 74 (Rockyview) following his recent fall in which he cracked his hip.
- Carol Cairns: is still recovering in hospital. Thoughts are with Jim. And Carol.
- **Roger Jarvis**: is resting at home and doing okay.
- Tony Ng: continues his recovery. He is walking on his own but still needs to work on his arm functions to get to 100%.
- **Bryan Targett:** is looking forward to a healthy 2022. Since last summer he has been recovering from procedures for a valve replacement, a new pacemaker and a hip replacement.

Sergeant-At-Arms: John Fitzsimmons was on fire today!!

- All Zoom participants they were charged \$5.00 so they continue to engage with our Club
- If you took your Christmas tree down already is cost \$5.00 as it is Ukrainian Christmas
- President Craig was fined \$10.00 for border tax
- If you are in the US on Zoom that will cost you \$10.00
- Wendy Giuffre got fined \$10.00 but she donated the \$70.00 she won today! Happy bucks:
- Fitz contributed as his daughter was married last weekend
- Jim Bladon contributed as his wife is feeling better after a hospital stay and COVID
- **Paul Brick** noted that the Partners won the Bracko Brothers tree event!
- Natasha Richardson contributed in honor of Todd becoming a member
- Ken Copithorne contributed as he is happy that everyone is happy!
- Jim Hutchens contributed as he is starting to feel better and his brain scan showed there was still a brain!

Next Week's meeting: We are back at Rotary House for our AGM. While guests are generally encouraged to attend our meetings, our AGM would be the exception as we will be discussing club business.

JANUARY 13TH MEETING: RCCSP Annual General Meeting LINK: <u>https://rotarycs.org/event/january-13-2022--rccsp-annual-general-meeting/</u> Please register by 9:00 am on January 7th

JANUARY 20th: ROTARY HOUSE: Burns Day Celebration LINK: https://rotarycs.org/event/january-20-2022--robbie-burns-day/

Final words:

As always, I finish by encouraging you to ask yourself: What do you need from our Rotary Club this Week? What does our Club and Community need from you this week?

TODAY'S MEETING LINK: <u>https://youtu.be/Q_tUsPj7T0U</u>









TODD RICHARDSON: INDUCTION

President Stokke: We have the privilege of inducting a new member today.

Glen Godlonton introduced **Todd Richardson.** I have the great pleasure to introduce my new buddy, Todd Richardson. Todd is a Calgary boy, born in Calgary in 197. After a short stint in elementary school, he graduated from Henry Wisewood High School in 1986. As Todd grew up around cars, he decided to further his education by completing an Automotive Related Business Management course at Georgian college in Barrie Ontario. Evan at an early age he was learning how to run and manage an automotive dealership.



Right after his College Graduation in the early 90's, Todd started at Charlesglen Toyota and took on various roles including Financial Services Manager. Shortly thereafter, Todd was lucky to marry his lovely wife of 29 years Natasha, then along came their first child Alexander.

In 1993 Todd took on the role of Financial Services Manager at Stampede Toyota with a long-time friend and business partner, Glen Rempel. In 1995 Todd returned to Charlesglen Toyota again as the New Vehicle Manager and then their second child, Zoe, was born. Todd was a hard worker and was soon promoted to General Sales Manager.

Todd was always striving to learn so in 1997 he went back to school for more formal education. He attended the National Automobile Dealer Academy in Washington Virginia. He graduated from the NADA General Dealership Management Program. And, then Julia, their 3rd child was born.

With the new millennia in 2000, Todd was promoted to General Manager ad took over daily operations of Charlesglen Toyota. During his time as manager, the dealership won the prestigious President's Pride Program for dealership excellent for over 11 straight years!

Always helping out, Todd served on numerous boards and committees including Toyota Advertising Association and was on the Dealer Communications team as Chairman for Parts and Service. Todd has always been community minded. He is a huge supporter and advocate for Calgary Children's Hospital. Through the dealership he is regularly involved in raising funds for various other charities.

The next big step for Todd was in 2008. Along with partners Glen Rempel and his father Glen Richardson, he applied for and was awarded the second Lexus franchise for Calgary. Between 2008-2011 while not only managing the dealership he helped manage the construction of the new Charlesglen Toyota in the Northwest Auto mall. Once new Charlesglen was complete he was instrumental in overseeing the design and construction of the new location of Lexus of Royal Oak – also in the auto mall. In 2014 they opened Royal Oak and in 2021 he became the majority partner! Todd is very proud that the dealership has won the Lexus Pursuit Award 5 out of 7 years.

Todd is a lifelong learner. In the early 90's he attended the Dale Carnegie Course and them in 2010 he followed up with the Leadership Course as well. Todd has served on the Better Business Bureau for 4 years, advocation that businesses should always conduct themselves with integrity and trust. He is currently a member of TEC Canada which is a worldwide Executive Leadership Program-Peer group of like-minded business leaders.

Fellow Rotarians, I present to you our soon to be newest member Todd Richardson!

Past President Sherry Austin: This is a generational induction. We are most fortunate to have had Todd's parents, **Glen and Jeanette Richardson** dedicated to our Club for nearly 45 years. Their children / grandchildren have been immersed in Rotary since the beginning. Todd's sister Kari is a strong member of the Rotary Club of Canmore. inducting a new Rotarian into our Club is the highest honour bestowed upon a past president. Inducting a friend into our Club makes this process very personal. I feel as if you and Natasha have been part of our Club for ages. You've already been amazing supporters of our fund raisers and social events. You and your family have worked Dream Home shifts and attended the SIS Golf Tournament for years. It will be wonderful to have you with us full-time.





TODD RICHARDSON: INDUCTION

Now, for your formal induction: Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who come together to make positive, lasting change in communities at home and abroad. Our guiding principles have been the foundation of our values: service, fellowship, diversity, integrity, and leadership. There are many Rotary Clubs in Calgary and the surrounding areas and they all serve their communities in diverse and significant ways.

Our motto: Service Above Self

Solving real problems takes real commitment and vision. For more than 100 years, Rotary members have used their passion, energy, and intelligence to take action on sustainable projects around the globe. From literacy and peace to water and health, we are always working to better our world, and we stay committed to the end. We are getting closer and closer to eradicating polio from the planet.

Rotary throughout our City and surrounding area has also completed numerous projects for our local community that involve working with youth, seniors, schools, the homeless, persons with disabilities, and others in need. Buildings have been erected, facilities renovated, parks built, and essential equipment supplied all over our City. You will see many products of Rotary generosity in our Club such as the Rotary/Flames Hospice, the park outside Ronald MacDonald House at the Children's Hospital, MRI machines for our hospitals, Southern Alberta Urology Centre, playgrounds for the disabled, Project neuro-arm, Rotary/Mattamy Greenway, bursaries and youth leadership facilities at Stampede Park, and scholarship programs to help kids finish high school and then succeed in postsecondary and so very many more. Our Stay-In-School Program has ensured that numerous youngsters beginning in Grade 6 are mentored, supported, and funded until they have completed their postsecondary programs.

For our guests: We are you; we come from all walks of life. But most importantly, we are all volunteers. Rotarians donate their time and resources to help create a better, healthier and stronger community for you.

Todd, our Club expectations: Attendance is very important to our Club as we believe that meeting together builds bonds of fellowship that will help us to fundraise for our charities and volunteer in our community.

To create fellowship, I encourage you to continue to have lunch at a different table every week so that we can get to know you and you can learn about us. Involvement in a variety of committees will allow you to learn more about our Club and allow us to use your considerable expertise.

We believe in the Four Way Test and try our best to integrate its principles of truth, fairness, goodwill, and benefit to all into our daily personal and professional lives. This Test keeps us grounded in unity. You will see that we support one another in good times and we will have your back in times of challenge.

Todd and Natasha, while we are living in uncertain times with this pandemic and some of our members seem at a distance, please know the spirits of your new Rotary friends, wherever they may be today, are shining through in unison to welcome you into our Club. We look forward to you enriching our lives as I hope we will enrich yours. Welcome to the world wide fellowship of Rotary. Welcome to the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park.

Announcement: Craig Stokke: we have the honour of removing the red stripe from Sharyl Madigan. For those who are not aware, our club has a tradition to place a red stripe on the badge of newer members. This is not intended to identify a probationary member. The moment you're inducted to the Club you become a full member, but the stripe lets members know you're newer to the Club, gives them an opportunity to introduce themselves and get to know you. Once you have completed some tasks that are intended to make you more familiar with the Club, such as attending a board meeting, speaking to the Club, the red stripe is removed. Wendy and Sharyl will you please come up here, and Wendy will do the honour.











PRESIDENT'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS:

Peeling the onion ...

This has been a crazy year. With Covid, it sometimes feels like we're shovelling the driveway during a blowing snow storm. But I'm not complaining, I'm extremely grateful I don't have to deal with blizzards like Penny and Chas had.

Winston Churchill said "Never let a good crisis go to waste".

And we haven't. Starting in Penny's year, Covid provided an opportunity to do a deep dive into how the club works. We've been able to peel back the onion to evaluate the Club's economics, committee structures, and operations. And as we've done that, some long-term issues and opportunities have become more apparent.

Covid has exposed (or escalated) some challenges the Club is facing from an operational standpoint. We've always been great at community service.. it is the Club operations side where we can do better.

On the Club operations side, our operating expenses continue to exceed our income, and while I understand that not a new problem, if there is one thing covid has shown us, it's how vulnerable this Club is to uncertainty.

Our Club needs to remain financially viable in order to continue our great work.

Next week is our Club's AGM. At that time, our Club Treasurer Don Mintz will take us through our financials in detail, so I'm not going to get into it here, but the bottom line is we need to find a path to long-term operational sustainability (without relying on a handful of generous members to bail us out each year).

I know this topic has been kicked around for a long time, and events like Rock 'em Sock 'em have gone a long way to helping our bottom line, but we can't stay complacent. We need to continually look for new opportunities, sustainable opportunities that will bridge the gap between Club income and Club expenses.

We all know, when times are good issues can take care of themselves. But over the last two years we have learned to expect the unexpected, and balancing our books is something we need to have serious conversations about.

Member re-engagement: In my opening address I stated the biggest challenge I saw for the upcoming year was member re-engagement. That hasn't changed

There have been several positives so far this year. We're back in business:

- * Stampede
- * Golf Tournament
- * Committees are getting to work

Growing in-person attendance:

- * We're here every week
- * Members feel safe
- * Great speakers
- * Fellowship

We take care of each other and we are a family

None of this is anything new. This is what this Club has been doing for 66 years. But, to bring more members back into the fold (or to bring new members into the Club) there is more we can do. Here are a few things that have been happening:





PRESIDENT'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS:

Committee Collaboration: Last fall, I began an initiative to encourage committees to work together, share resources, and set common goals.

There are so many examples where the left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing. This leads to disjointed goals (and considerable duplication of work and tasks).

By default we are going to be the lead club for the 2025 convention - which is only thee and a half years away. So now is the time for our Club to take a leadership position and develop and implement systems that can be shared with other clubs in our district to grow Rotary as we lead up to the convention.

Two obvious areas to start are membership and communication. If we want to take full advantage of this opportunity, our committees need to start working together to establish common goals, and share ideas and skills.

This past October and November, I hosted joint meetings with members of the membership & recruitment committees, the Strategic Planning committee, and the Bylaws & Governance committee.

The point of these meetings was to develop a plan for these committees to work together to ensure any membership, recruitment, and retention strategies that we implement will actually align with our strategic plan. And if (during this process) we learn our strategic plan is outdated, it can be updated in real time, with full engagement of the membership committees. And at the same time, we can ensure the Club's bylaws align with what it is we want to do. Then, we have a fully vetted plan that we're ready to implement.

It is critical that our club members and committees are part of our planning. I will soon be reaching out to Al Johnson and Murray Flegel (as chairs of key membership committees) to pick up where we left off in the fall and get their committees planning and strategizing.

Communications is another key pillar. I am very excited that our club is finally paying attention to social media and has started implanting its communications strategy. This is HUGE. While you may not pay attention to social media, the next generation of Rotarian does. The charities we support do, and mainstream media does.

Deb Sands, and Sarah Brown (Don Bacon's Granddaughter) have done a great job of launching this initiative. For the first time, we are regularly posting on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

All Club members and committees are encouraged to provide content for social media; and you don't have to be on social media to contribute. All you need is email. Send your images and messages to <u>social@rotarycs.org</u> and the social media team can take care of the rest.

Over the next six months we will continue to expand our social media presence, and look for ways to improve the website.

Rotary Kids at Heart: As many of you know, our amazing Stay-In-School (SIS) program has met, and actually exceeded, its funding requirements. So, the question was raised "*what to do with our highly successful golf tournament"*? With input from our major sponsors, including Supreme Windows and the Richardson family, the Rotary Kids at Heart program was born.

Each year, Toby and her committee will seek worthy charities to benefit from tournament proceeds (and assist with the tournament). So, if you are aware of a worthy recipient, please reach out to Toby.





PRESIDENT'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS:

Club Investment Policy: The SIS fund now sits around five million dollars. In Penny's year, an ad-hoc committee led by PE Jim was formed to determine whether we are getting maximum return on Club investments and to review our Club's existing Investment Policy. Fortunately, the CRCF had recently gone through a very intensive review of their policy. The new CRCF policy provided an excellent framework for our Club to adapt to our needs. Our new policy will ensure Club investments are managed responsibly; with a goal of maximizing returns, managing volatility, and protecting the capital.

Fund Management Proposals: Based on this new Policy, the Investment Committee requested investment proposals from two highly respected, competent managers - Keith Bekker with Richardson Wealth (the fund's current manager) and Mawer investments. Mawer is one of the higher performing managers of the CRCF portfolio. Both mangers made first class, professional proposals. In both proposals, it was clear that the new Investment Policy would lead to considerably higher returns for the SIS funds than the fund has been getting historically.

After reviewing both proposals, there was a thorough evaluation process by our Investment Committee. In the end, the committee recommended, and the Board approved, transferring the portfolio from Richardson Wealth to Mawer. This was, of course, a very difficult decision, but both the board and the Investment Committee recognized that they have a fiduciary duty to ensure these funds are invested to their highest return, within the acceptable risk. And with that, Mawer did clearly come out on top. As such, members can feel confident that our investments are well managed.

Stampede Showband: It was great to be back at the Stampede selling lottery tickets. Some of you may not know, but Stampede Lotteries actually has three partners; in addition to our Club and the Kinsmen Club of Calgary, the Calgary Stampede Showband has sold 50/50 tickets in the Grandstand for many years. All things considered, our Club had a very successful Stampede. If you recall, we received around \$600,000 from this year's proceeds. For a number of reasons, Covid being one, one of our partners, the Stampede Showband fell short of their funding needs, putting many of their events and workshops at risk. A significant shortfall would be devastating to the band and cause significant damage to their program.

As such, our Club stepped up and approved a one time donation in the amount of \$50,000 (from our Dream Home funds) to support the kids, and help the Showband remain world class.

Thanks for your support

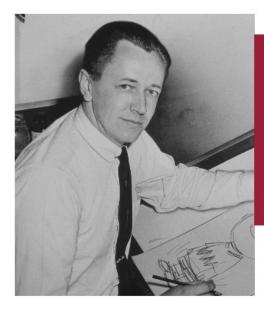
In closing, I would like to thank each and every one of you for your support. I sincerely hope you are enjoying Rotary and that your needs and interests are being fulfilled. Thank you.

... President Craig Stokke





Rotary Valentine's Day Luncheon February 10



Rotarians, Partners and Guests

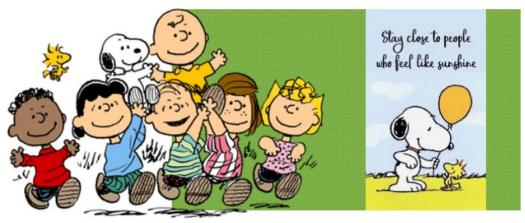
Aake a date with your partner, your friend, your amily, a fellow Rotarian, or a complete stranger for our Rotary Valentine Luncheon Thursday, February 10 at our own Rotary House at Stampede Park. Everyone is welcome to our Chocolate Affair

Charles M. Schulz (creator of Peanuts) said....

"All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt." Just ask Lucille and Ethel



Tickets are \$50 per person and must be reserved in advance following the normal link you will receive from Kathyann. We apologize, as a special occasion luncheon, drop in coffee and sandwich options are not available as we have limited capacity and a special meal. Please reserve early so our Stampede culinary team can create and serve a wonderful Valentine luncheon to everyone.







VISITING LARRY KOPER: Submitted by Bryan Walton





We had a very nice visit with **Larry Koper** at his retirement residence over the holidays to present a little token of our appreciation for his volunteer efforts at Stampede.

I invited another Stampede volunteer (**John Fitzsimmons**) and member of our Rotary Club to join me, with Larry's daughter Kathy, so Larry could see familiar faces.

We presented an enlarged photo of the International Agriculture Committee in which Larry is front and centre. I must tell you that this little gesture from our group really touched Larry and the rest of us present (his daughter Kathy, John and me).

The message on the back of the photo: "Larry thank for your dedication and service to the Calgary Stampede from all your friends on the International Agriculture Committee".

Larry was in great spirits and we had a good time reminiscing about the Stampede and our Rotary Club.





Here is a message sent out after from Larry's Daughter, Kathy McAvoy:

Thank you to all involved with this. It was really special for my Dad. He will be talking about this for a while, for sure. He really loved his time with Rotary and misses you a lot. Happy New Year to all of you- I hope it brings better days ahead!







2022 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION NEWS



Make global connections that ignite local action at all the convention events. Don't miss your chance to Discover New Horizons and join us in Houston, Texas June 4 to 8 2022

There will also be a virtual convention option offers the opportunity to participate in events and share in the convention experience with your friends, family, club members, and community.

CLICK THE LINK



REGISTER NOW!

ARE YOU GOING TO HOUSTON? Several members of our club have registered. If you are going please let **Don Taylor or Murray Flegel** know. Club Members have frequently come together for social activities. Don or Murray will ensure that you are kept up to date on such activities. **Kathyann is listing names on website and creating an ad-hoc Committee List to keep everyone "in the know".**

DISTRICT CONFERENCE NEWS

To register go to www.discon5360.ca



COMMUNITY KITCHEN VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY Submitted by: Earl Huson

Here are our Community Kitchen Volunteer needs for 2022. Our task is to assist with the packing of food hampers.

Monday February 7th:5Tuesday March 15th:1Monday April 4th:5Tuesday May 17th:1Monday June 13th:5Tuesday July 12th:1Monday September 12th:5Tuesday October 18th:1Monday November 21st:5Tuesday December 6th:1

5:00 pm to 8:00 pm 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm



<u>PLEASE NOTE</u>: The coordinator of the Community Kitchen is not vaccinated. This person is required to have a Covid test completed showing negative every Sunday night.

They work two shifts a week which are Mondays and Tuesdays therefore a test on Sunday covers them for two days. We are informing you so that you can make a decision that is appropriate for yourself. —Many thanks, Bill Lawless

Contacts: Earl Huson at: (403) 686-0828 / <u>ehuslink@telusplanet.net</u> Ken Farn: at: (403) 560-6770/ <u>kgfarn@telusplant.net</u> Thank you for volunteering and representing our Club at this very worthwhile all-Clubs volunteer effort.

The Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park is active on FACEBOOK, IN-STAGRAM and TWITTER

This can be accessed though our Website: **www.rotarycs.org** at the bottom of the Home page.

To follow, simply click on icon of platform you wish to enter. Please send all interesting info to: social@rotarycs.org









PARTNERS in PRINT



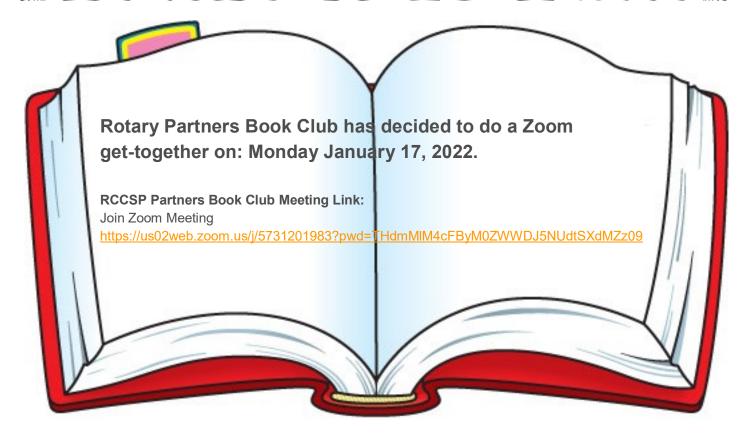
Christmas Tree Competition

Happy New Year Everyone:

I received word this afternoon from Bracko Brothers that we won FIRST PLACE in their Tree Decorating Competition!! I want to thank you all for your very generous support of this worth while cause. We had over 2300 items of food donated just from our group. Overall, from all of the participants there were over 9000 food items collected. These will be donated to the Calgary Food Bank. Well done everyone!!

We will be receiving word in a day or two as to when the presentations of the cheques will be made to all participants. A big THANK YOU again to all of you Partners and members of the RCCSP for all of your support.

Rhonda Yaskowich, President Rotary Partners of Calgary at Stampede Park









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Club of Calgary at Stampede Park

MEMBERSHIP DOCUMENTS: Submitted by Penny Leckie

Various committees in RCCSP have created documents that include great ideas, suggestions and recommendations of how to increase membership, enhance member experience and improve membership retention. What we haven't done well is share this information with the committees that can actually implement these changes.

We're asking members to search computers/records for these documents and forward them. **Penny Leckie** has graciously volunteered her employee: to be the "point person" who will gather the info and merge the documents into a single PDF that can be shared with members of membership committees. Once the committees have all the suggestions in one document, it will be easy for them to review the documents and see what ideas they would like to implement. Kristie's email address is: kristle.panfili@taxtherapist.ca

DIRECTORS / COMMITTEE CHAIRS: DOCUMENT AND MATERIAL RETENTION

Please begin having discussions with all Committee Chairs about the importance of keeping digital documentation of all committee "works" that are currently going on. Please keep **digital** copies of your committee info so that we continue to engage with the technology we just spent the last year learning how to do during the pandemic

The Archives Committee are in the process of digitizing all of our Club Documents, Minutes, Financial Statements and any other relevant information for referential and historical purposes.

We also want to continue this policy moving forward so that we will have collective information moving forward. Please contact Secretary **Luanne Whitmarsh, Kathyann Reginato** or a member of the Archives Committee if you require any further clarification on how to do this. **Thank you**

2021/2022 RCCSP OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President President-Elect Past President Club Secretary Treasurer Partners President Community Service Local/Int'I Director Fundraising Director Member Experience Director Meeting and Events Director Meeting and Events Director Membership and Recruitment Director Operations Director Youth Service Craig Stokke Jim Fitzowich Penny Leckie Luanne Whitmarsh Don Mintz Rhonda Yaskowich Don Taylor Mark Ambrose Wendy Giuffre Myrna Dube-Thompson Tony Fisher Stan Cichon Walter Flores





