

**Rotary**

Club of Calgary  
at Stampede Park



# ROTARY NEWS

RCCSP Weekly Bulletin June 18, 2026  
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Sgt@Arms: Blake Pelham



**Welcome to the June 18th meeting of the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park. My name is Gordon Weicker, and I am honoured to be your President for 2025/2026.**

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

Head Table (L-R) : Jon Monk, Sundae Nordin, Alicia Kessler, President Gordon Weicker, Margaret Jokuty, Lisa van Hemert



**Presentation:  
Community Service  
Grants**

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Dream Home  
Kick off Party**

**Next Week:  
June 25<sup>th</sup>  
Changing of the  
Guard meeting**

Click [HERE](#) to register for upcoming meetings.

Click [HERE](#) to watch the meeting video.

# Today's Meeting:

**Blake Pelham** introduced our guests, followed by the welcome song...

As Sergeant-at-Arms, **Blake Pelham** opened with a humorous "time-travel" story about arriving from 1976 to 2026. He then playfully fined several Rotary members for their enthusiastic reactions when a rarely seen committee member unexpectedly attended a meeting, while recognizing those who showed restraint or support. The speech was a lighthearted roast that generated plenty of laughs.



Speaking on behalf of the Kids at Heart Golf Committee, **Sjoert Zuidhof** thanked members and donors for their support, highlighting recent contributions to the upcoming golf tournament. He encouraged members to make a \$30 donation to have their names added to the Legacy Board, noting that donations are tax-deductible and will be matched by the Matt Rumpel Family Foundation. He emphasized the committee's commitment to supporting Calgary youth and thanked members for their generosity.



**Lisa van Hemert**, speaking on behalf of the Community Grants Committee, described the committee's process for reviewing and allocating funds from club fundraising efforts. She explained that 54 applications were carefully evaluated using a structured scoring system to ensure fairness and equal weighting of all members' input. She highlighted that funding decisions were made transparently based on ranked results and available resources, ensuring strong stewardship of donated funds. She also noted additional funding of \$140,000 approved by the board and introduced several community organizations that would share how the grants are being used to support their work.



Sundae Nordin, CEO of Community Kitchen, thanked the Rotary group for their long-standing support and volunteer involvement. She highlighted the impact of their funding on programs that serve thousands of children across 45 low-income schools, focusing on nutrition, safety, and life skills education, as well as providing healthy food.

She explained that grant funding helped purchase and equip a new delivery van used to support school and library programs. She emphasized how this support strengthens their ability to reach children through multiple initiatives, including summer library programs, and expressed deep gratitude for the club's ongoing commitment to improving the community.



Alicia Kessler and Sheryl Barlage from Discovery House thanked Rotary for its support and described their work providing safe housing and trauma-informed services for women and children escaping domestic violence. They explained how families receive counselling, case management, and wraparound supports to help them rebuild their lives.

They highlighted ongoing renovations to shelter apartments, including recovery from flood damage and upgrades supported by Rotary funding. The improvements are designed to create safer, more comfortable, home-like environments, helping hundreds of families over time and strengthening long-term community impact.



Margaret Jokuty and Brittany Eckert from Providence thanked Rotary for its support in creating accessible, purpose-built learning spaces for children with neurodiverse needs. They explained that Providence serves over 1,000 children across Calgary and recently completed major renovations to their North Mount school, which is now fully operational and expanding due to high demand.

They highlighted how Rotary funding helped design specialized, sensory-friendly classrooms with customized learning supports to promote independence and development. These improvements strengthen early intervention services, helping children build communication, confidence, and learning skills while also supporting families through their journey.



**Jon Monk** thanked representatives from Community Kitchen, Discovery House, and Providence for presenting their work. He highlighted how meaningful it is for Rotarians to hear directly from organizations making a real difference in Calgary, supporting families, children, and vulnerable community members.

He emphasized that their efforts improve lives across the city and reinforce why Rotary members are committed to supporting community initiatives. He closed by thanking the speakers and acknowledging their important contributions.



**President Gord Weicker** finishes off today's meeting by announcing that, on behalf of the club, we will be making a \$100 donation to CRCF in the names of each representative in recognition of your time with us today.

I've attached a link to the PowerPoint featuring charities, projects and dollars they received this year from the club through the grants committee.  
Click [HERE](#) to view

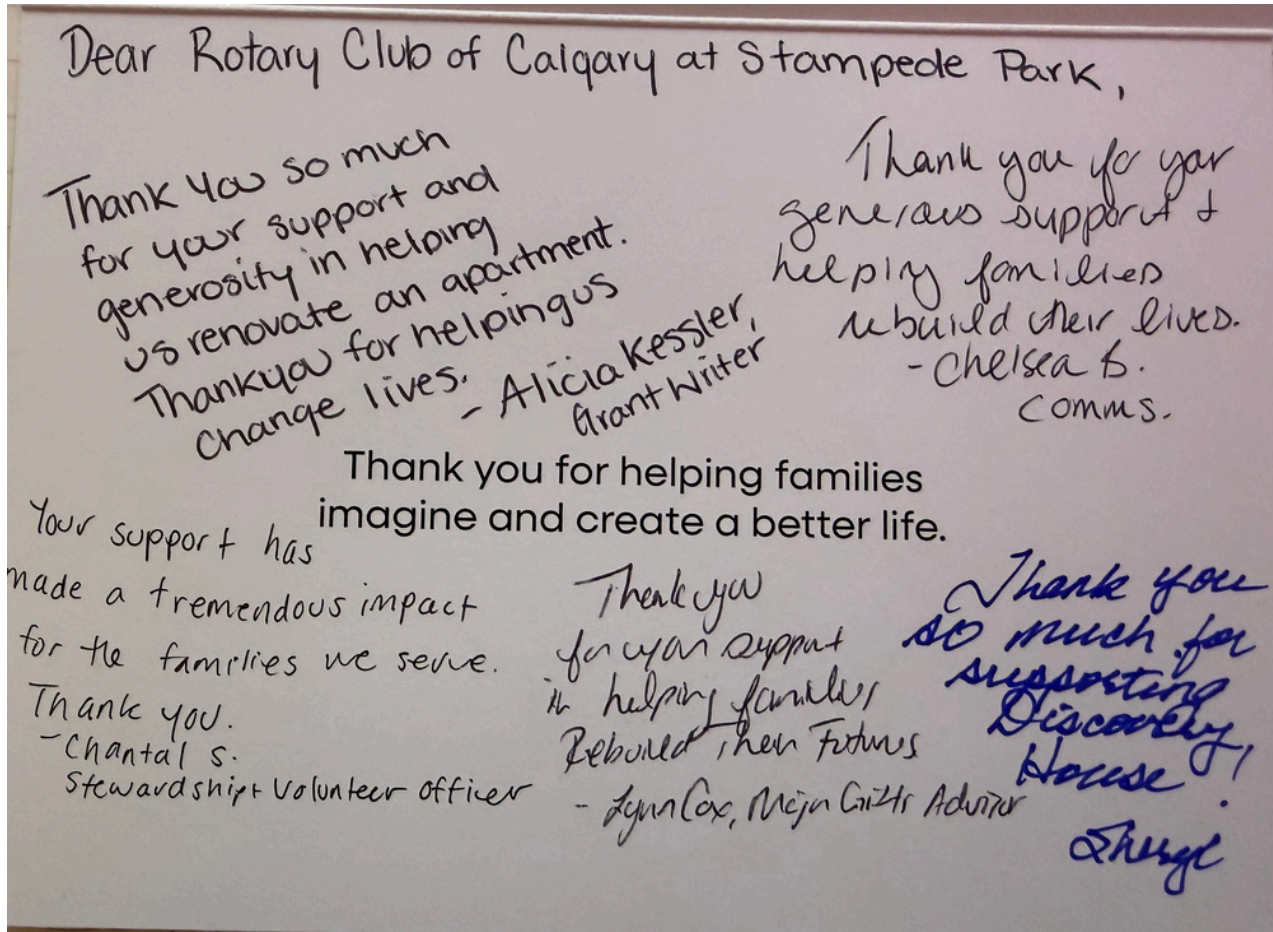
President **Gordon Weicker** informed the club that as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, membership fees will be increasing by \$50

Click [HERE](#) for the photo gallery

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## Announcements

### Thank you letter from Discovery House



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## ROTARY HOUSE DONATIONS

Minimum \$1000 donation for name on Donor Wall  
E-transfer at [donations@rotarycs.org](mailto:donations@rotarycs.org)

# Announcements

On June 16th, **Jim Bladon, President Gordon Weicker, Jim Hutchens** and **Dale Struksnes** attended the 1-year anniversary celebration of the new RMH. RCCSP sponsored the new park with the Flames, if you recall. What a heartwarming morning!



## Calgary Consular Corps Black Tie Dinner in support of U of C International Affairs Student Bursary.



Rotary Youth Exchange counsellors, host families and friends shared a birthday dinner with Valentin Fraunknecht on June 17 to celebrate Valentin's 17th birthday (actual day is June 18). A wonderful evening of conversation and food was enjoyed by all at the Austrian-Canadian Club. Clockwise, from lower left: Marianne Jost, (RCCSP Partner); John Hsu (Rotary Club of Calgary-Downtown-counsellor); **Kathy Demorest**, RCCSP host family; Theresa and Tyler McIsaac, host family; Barbara Young (Rotary Club of Calgary-Downtown, counsellor); Chris McIsaac, host family; Valentin Frauenknecht; and **Dorothea Schaab**, RCCSP youth opportunities). Valentin returns to Munich, Germany on July 15. The McIsaac's daughter, Abigail returns from her exchange in Italy on June 25.



# Announcements



CELEBRATE  
**CANADA DAY**  
&  
**HONOUR THE HALL**

The Royal Canadian Legion No.1 needs your help!

Join us for an afternoon of live music and connection while we raise critical funds to preserve one of Calgary's treasured historic landmarks.

 JULY 1ST, 2026  
12 PM - 5 PM

 116 7 AVE SE,  
CALGARY, ALBERTA

*Celebrating 100 Years of the Royal Canadian Legion*  
onelegionyyc.ca

Click [HERE](#) for tickets

Quarterly Report  
Legacy Project Flames Rotary Sports Zones



Click [HERE](#) to view the update.



## Leave Your Mark for Kids at Heart

This year, Kids at Heart is introducing a special new fundraising initiative that allows every supporter to leave a visible mark of generosity.

For a minimum donation of **\$30 or more**, you will have the opportunity to add your signature to our **Kids at Heart Recognition Board**. This board will be proudly displayed in plain sight as golfers crest the hill and drive down into **Cottonwood Golf Course** on tournament day.

Your signature will represent more than a donation. It will be a symbol of your support for the children, families, and community programs that benefit from Kids at Heart. Every name on the board will help tell the story of people coming together to make a meaningful difference.

As you make your donation, you will be invited to sign the recognition board and become part of this lasting show of community support.

To make your donation, please visit **rotarykidsatheart.ca** and click the **Donation** button. Donations made through the website are eligible for a tax receipt.

To donate by cash or cheque, please contact **Sjoert Zuidhof** at [zuidhofsjoert@gmail.com](mailto:zuidhofsjoert@gmail.com) or **Sharyl Madigan** at [sharylmadigan@shaw.ca](mailto:sharylmadigan@shaw.ca)

**Please register for this event ASAP!!  
There will be no walk-ins and no payment at  
the door, so please pay when registering.**

**The Rotary Club of Calgary at  
Stampede Park**

**Cordially invites you to  
Dream Home Kick Off**

**Thursday, July 2, 2026**

**8:30 am**

**Breakfast at 9 am sharp!**

**Celebration Tent  
Heritage Park  
1900 Heritage Drive SW**

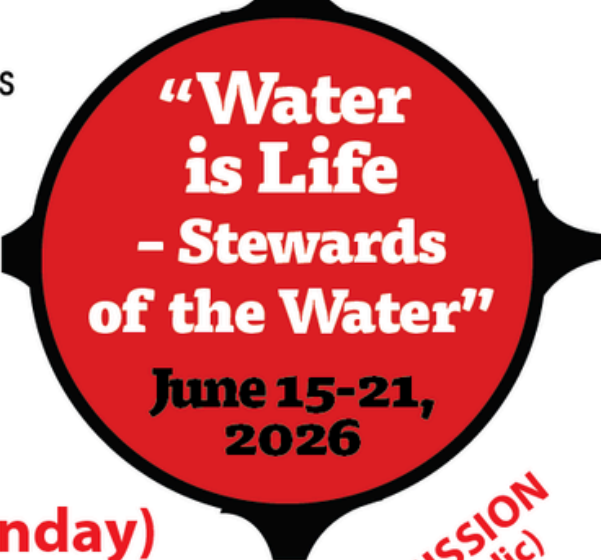
**Program starts at 10 am followed by  
Calgary Fiddlers and Bailey and the Boys**

**\$55 per person**

**Register at [rotarystampedepark.com](http://rotarystampedepark.com) by June 26**

**NO WALK INS!!**

# National Indigenous Family Day & POWWOW



**When:** June 21, 2026 (Sunday)  
10:00am to 6:00pm

**Where:** Enmax Park, Elbow River Camp  
Calgary Stampede Grounds

**FREE ADMISSION**  
(open to public)

**Program Schedule**

- 10:00am - Site Opens
- 10:00am - Children's Corner till 1:00pm
- 11:00am - Traditional Initiation Pow Wow  
Registration till 11:30am
- 12:00pm - Grand Entry
- 1:00pm - Traditional Initiation Pow Wow  
- Hand Games Tournament
- 5:30pm - Closing Ceremonies
- 6:00pm - Site Closes



**Feature Attractions**

- Indigenous Arts & Crafts Market (11:00am-5:00pm)
- Exhibitions of Inuit and Metis (10:30am-5:00pm)
- Children's Corner (10:00am-1:00pm)
- POW WOW (1:00pm-5:30pm)
- Handgame Tournament (1:00pm-4:30pm)

**Drum Groups**

Host Drum - Young Gunz Drum Group  
First 3 Drum Groups Paid



Supported by



Aboriginal Awareness Week Calgary (AAWC) 2026 Circle Team



Community Members & Local Indigenous Artists



## **Closing:**

**Next week: June 25<sup>th</sup>,** Changing of the Guard meeting

**The week following: July 2<sup>nd</sup>** Dream Home Kickoff  
Party

*Thought of the day!*

*“Cowboy Wisdom”*

*The trail is long, the sun rides high,  
Clouds drift slowly through the sky.  
A cowboy knows, come loss or gain,  
You ride through sunshine and through rain.*

*Tip your hat, lend a hand,  
Leave things better than you found the land.  
For at the end of the day,  
It's kindness that lights the way.*

*Please think about this as we as we  
“Unite for Good!”*

## **Social Media Links**



[Facebook](#)

[Linkedin](#)

[Instagram](#)

# Calendar

## JUNE

**June 4<sup>th</sup>** - Valentin Frankenknecht of Germany

**June 5, 6, 7** - Invermere Golf Weekend

**June 11<sup>th</sup>** - Joel Cowley

**June 12<sup>th</sup>** - International Dinner

**June 18<sup>th</sup>** - Community Service Grants

**June 21<sup>st</sup>** - Okotoks Dawgs

**June 25<sup>th</sup>** - Changing of the Guard meeting

JUNE						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	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	1	2	3	4

## JULY

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Dream Home Kick Off Party

**July 9<sup>th</sup>** - No Meeting

**July 16<sup>th</sup>** - No Meeting

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>** - TBD

**July 27<sup>th</sup>** - Kids at Heart Golf Tournament

**July 30<sup>th</sup>** - No Meeting

JULY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 <b>No Meeting</b>	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 <b>No Meeting</b>	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 <b>No Meeting</b>	31	1

### **DATES TO REMEMBER - SAVE THESE!!**

**May 28<sup>th</sup>** - Presidents Gala

**June 5, 6, 7** - Invermere Golf Weekend

**June 12<sup>th</sup>** International Dinner

**June 21<sup>st</sup>** - Okotoks Dawgs

**July 2<sup>nd</sup>** - Dream Home Kick off party