

Rotary

Club of Calgary
at Stampede Park



ROTARY NEWS

RCCSP Weekly Bulletin March 19th, 2026
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Sgt@Arms: Carol Rosdobutko



Welcome to the March 19th meeting of the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park. My name is Gordon Weicker, and I am honored to be your President for 2025/2026.

Please join me in the singing of 0 Canada and Rotary Grace.

Head Table (L-R) :David Keiser, Sharyl Madigan, Chris Mulley, President Gordon Weicker, Greg Masterson, Michael Vanderzande



**Presentation:
St. Mary's Four Way
Speech Contest**

**April 2nd
Grants &
Endowments**

**Next Week:
March 26th
Dr. Dustin Pearson**

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

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

Today's Meeting:

David Field introduced our guests followed by the welcome song.



Carol Rosdobotko was our Sgt@Arms for this meeting. Due to limited time **Carol** asked everyone to add \$2 to the pot.



Pat Neuman came up to talk to us about "Walk With The Earth" more information on pages 5 and 6.

Ken Farn talked to us about Feed The Hungry. More information on the following page

President Gord reminded everyone that the District Conference is coming up on May 1-3 2026. Please consider registering for this conference! Click [HERE](#) for more information!

Chad Hason shared an initiative to strengthen Rotary's brand and increase awareness of its impact. He emphasized that a brand is defined by actions, and the external communications team will support members by providing content to share. A more active LinkedIn presence will highlight Rotary's work, and members will be encouraged to easily share posts with their networks. This collective effort will help expand Rotary's reach and visibility.



Sjoert Zuidhof and **Sharyl Madigan** provided us with an update on the Kids at Heart Golf Tournament. Last year, together, we raised \$300,000 for children in our community. This year, our goal is \$500,000. A generous anonymous community leader will MATCH every NEW and INCREASED sponsorship dollar raised up to \$100,000. That means when we push beyond last year's total, your support doesn't just help — it doubles.

Your Sponsorship Made Possible:

- Life-changing youth mental health counselling.
- Recovery and healing for young burn survivors.
- Mobility programs that transform a child's daily life.



This is not a hard ask. It is a heartfelt invitation.

An invitation to stand with us. To lead with purpose. To demonstrate that when business leaders lead with heart, communities grow stronger.

In our Drive for Five, every new dollar carries twice the impact. Twice the healing. Twice the hope.

Let's drive this across the finish line — together. With your sponsorship. With your donation. With your leadership.

Sponsorship Packages information is available on the website

[Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park – Event Ordering Page](#)

Michael Vanderzande expressed appreciation for the club's long-standing partnership with St. Mary's High School, which dates back to 1993, and highlighted the importance of supporting students. He shared his experience judging student 4 Way Test speeches, noting the energy and strong sense of community within the school.

He emphasized that student success is a collective effort involving families, teachers, and the broader community, and that the club is proud to play a role in that support.

Chris Mulley introduced each student individually.

First was Kantochukwu Anikwe, whose speech focused on the culture of overconsumption.

Next was Hiruy Ghebrehiwet, who spoke about how AI will not replace us.

The final student, Dera Okoye, discussed how COVID accelerated digital culture and reduced empathy online.

Please watch the meeting video linked on page 1 to hear all three of these amazing speeches.

Michael Vanderzande praised the students for their confidence and growth, noting how impressive it is that they are only in grades 10 and 11. **Michael** commended all three for their strong performances and encouraged them to be proud of their achievements.

Michael also highlighted key messages from the speeches, including the importance of kindness and remembering the person behind online interactions.

Michael then announced the winners:

Hiruy Ghebrehiwet received third place winning \$200

Kantochukwu Anikwe placed second winning \$300

Dera Okoye took first place winning \$500

President Gord finished off the meeting by thanking the students for coming and congratulating them for all being winners!



Click [HERE](#) for the photo gallery

Announcements

Feed the Hungry

April 19th 2026, is a Special Day so there will be a busy program. They are cooking the food on site again, thus will need volunteers for the day.

Volunteers are divided into teams:

- Morning Set Up Team 10:30 - 12:30 pm
- Afternoon Service Stations 12:15 - 4:00pm (Will Include Kitchen Activities; Dessert Service; Table Service & Beverage Service)
- Other Afternoon Teams: Monitors for Front Door; Monitors for Family Door; Recycling Duties

For more information please click [HERE](#)
To volunteer please click [HERE](#)

Please contact **Ken Farn** for questions
Phone: **403-560-6770**
Email: kgfarn@telusplanet.net



NEW MEMBER PROPOSAL

Jenn Lau has been proposed for active membership in the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park, as sponsored by **Jill Conroy** and seconded by **Lisa van Hemert**, with a proposed classification of Architect.

If any Member objects to **Jenn Lau** joining our Club or to HIS/HER proposed classification, an objection must be filed in writing with the Club Secretary, **Gail Williams**: secretary@rotarycs.org prior to **March 21st**.

WALK WITH THE EARTH: BRINGING COMMUNITY TOGETHER FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND INDIGENOUS YOUTH EMPOWERMENT.

DO YOU WANT TO SUPPORT INDIGENOUS INITIATIVES, CARE FOR THE EARTH, AND MAKE A REAL IMPACT IN YOUR COMMUNITY? WALK WITH THE EARTH LAUNCHES APRIL 2026, AND YOU'RE INVITED TO BE PART OF ITS FIRST YEAR!

WHAT IS WALK WITH THE EARTH?


WALK WITH THE EARTH IS AN ANNUAL, YOUTH-LED FUNDRAISING WALK HOSTED IN ROTARY PARKS AND COMMUNITY TRAILS ACROSS CANADA.


MORE THAN A WALK, IT'S A CHANCE TO RECONNECT WITH LAND, REFLECT, AND MOVE WITH PURPOSE. EACH EVENT IS PLANNED WITH ROTARY CLUBS, HIP, ELDERS, AND Y2Y YOUTH ALUMNI, CENTERING COMMUNITY, RELATIONALITY, AND RECONCILIATION.

 WHITBY, ON • LOWER MAINLAND, BC • CALGARY, AB • WINNIPEG, MB

 5KM WALK AS AN ACT OF CEREMONY, ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP, & RECONCILIATION

YOUTH PARTICIPANT EXPERIENCES

 "I THINK I'D BE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON IF I DIDN'T GO TO HIP, MEET THE PEOPLE I DID, AND LEARN THE LESSONS THAT I LEARNED." - DAVID HORN; PARTICIPANT FROM 2023 HIP EVENT HOSTED IN WINNIPEG

 "100% OF PARTICIPANTS WOULD RECOMMEND HIP'S IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE TO OTHERS, SHOWCASING THE PROGRAM'S EFFECTIVENESS AND IMPACT" - HIP IMPACT REPORT 2024

WHERE YOUR SUPPORT GOES


FUNDS DIRECTLY SUPPORT THE HIP Y2Y PROGRAM, BRINGING 25 INDIGENOUS AND 25 NON-INDIGENOUS YOUTH TOGETHER FOR A WEEK OF CULTURAL LEARNING, LAND-BASED EDUCATION, AND RELATIONSHIP-BUILDING.


 COST PER YOUTH: ~\$5,000

THIS COVERS TRAVEL, FOOD, ACCOMMODATION, AND PROGRAMMING, ENSURING YOUTH CAN PARTICIPATE AT NO COST, REGARDLESS OF LOCATION OR FINANCIAL BARRIERS.

WHY THIS EVENT MATTERS

 ROOTED IN INDIGENOUS TEACHINGS OF RECIPROCITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO LAND, HIP PRIORITIZES SUSTAINABILITY.

 AT THE 2024 Y2Y GATHERING, PARTICIPANTS PRODUCED ONLY 19 LBS OF WASTE IN SIX DAYS, NEARLY 100X LESS WASTE PER PERSON THAN THE CANADIAN AVERAGE.

 THIS EVENT DOESN'T JUST RAISE FUNDS, IT BUILDS AWARENESS, RELATIONSHIPS, AND LASTING IMPACT.

LOOKING AHEAD

ORGANIZERS HOPE WALK WITH THE EARTH BECOMES AN ANTICIPATED ANNUAL DAY OF LEARNING, WALKING, AND COMMUNITY ACTION. AS THE EVENT GROWS, MORE FAMILIES, STUDENTS, LOCAL GROUPS, AND ROTARIANS WILL WALK SIDE BY SIDE IN SUPPORT OF SUSTAINABILITY, RECONCILIATION, AND YOUTH LEADERSHIP.

GET INVOLVED

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY RESOURCES OR TO SUPPORT HIP'S Y2Y PROGRAM, VISIT THE WALK WITH THE EARTH WEBSITE OR THE HONOURING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES WEBSITE. TO REGISTER, DONATE, OR JOIN A TEAM, SIMPLY SCAN THE QR CODE.



WALK WITH PURPOSE. WALK FOR COMMUNITY. WALK WITH THE EARTH.

WRITTEN BY EMMA WARD

Announcements

Walk with the Earth

HIP is a Rotary led charitable organization with a National Board (Directors are both Indigenous and Non-Indigenous - many are both Rotary members and Indigenous) with District Coordinators in all regions of Canada.

Alumni Youth leaders across the 4 selected cities for 2026, have volunteered and developed this walk to support the future Y2Y camps.

Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park in partnership with HIP Y2Y (Honouring Indigenous Peoples, Youth To Youth) and local youth like Bishop Carroll High School Student Alumni Lily Beaton, presents **Walk with the Earth**, a reconnection to the earth, one another and truth and reconciliation action.

All funds raised through this event directly support youth attending the annual HIP Y2Y forum which takes 50 youth (25 indigenous and 25 non indigenous) from across Canada for a week. They will never forget the camp and where they were learning, leading and connecting with others. Students are selected by personal attributes, passion about cultural understanding and adaptability and community engagement and leadership. Applications are circulated to all High schools in each province, including all First Nations High schools.

Register to fundraise or donate online through Canada Helps and support the next generation of youth.

Walk with Purpose, Walk with Community,

Walk with the Earth. Walk with the Earth will take place on Saturday, **April 18 th at THE SITE – Bragg Creek**

(the former Kiwanis Camp at Hwy 8 and 22), with Opening Ceremonies by Youth Leaders, Honourable Elder, sponsors, and special guests. Opening is at 11 am and the walk will be 2.5 km or 5 km culminating at 1 pm. The route is fully accessible.

Can't walk the route? Volunteers always welcome to help with registration, passing out water and cheering on participants.

Clear your calendars! Register your team. Come out for a wonderful walk in the beauty of nature.

More information is in the link below!

<https://honouringindigenouspeoples.com/walk-with-the-earth/#sp-rqveza>

If you have any questions please contact Pat Neuman

pneuman647@gmail.com 416-889-5673

Announcements

Rotary
Club of Calgary
Heritage Park



DONATE ART FOR CHARITY!

**DROP OFF BINS AT SELECT CALGARY
CO-OP STORES UNTIL MARCH 30, 2026**

Donated artwork is sold and proceeds support Rotary community investment projects focused on youth, women and seniors.

Look for the marked donation bin near the checkouts at participating Calgary Co-op locations: Macleod Brentwood · Forest Lawn · Richmond · Dalhousie · Oakridge Shawnessy · Crowfoot · West Springs · Auburn Bay

FOR LARGE DONATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT ROTARYARTSALE@GMAIL.COM



[BIT.LY/SECONDCHANCEARTSALE](https://bit.ly/secondchanceartsale)

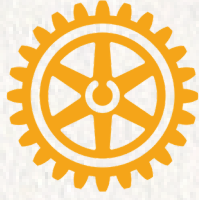
SPONSORED BY



CALGARY CO-OP

Rotary

Club of Calgary
at Stampede Park



Closing:

Next week: March 26th - Dr. Dustin Pearson

The week following: April 2nd - Grants & Endowments

Thought of the day!

According to Buddha,

"If you deeply observe, everything is your teacher!"

Please think about this as we as we

"Unite for Good!"

Calendar

MARCH

March 5th - International Women's Day

March 12th - St Patrick's Day

March 19th - 4-way speech competition

March 26th - Dr. Dustin Pearson



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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

APRIL

April 2nd - Grants & Endowments

April 9th - Jessica Janzen

April 16th - Destiny Whitney, General Manager of the 7 Chiefs Sportsplex on the Tsuut'ina Nation.

April 23rd - Alex Fitzowich

April 30th - New Members Celebration



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29	30	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

DATES TO REMEMBER - SAVE THESE!!

March 6 - Tribute to George Strait - Gil Grand

March 20th - International Dinner (MARKOS KITCHEN)

April 18th - Walk with the Earth

April 24th - "The Barber of Seville" Opera

June 21st - Okotoks Dawgs

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

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