

ROTARY NEWS

RCCSP Weekly Bulletin March 26th, 2026
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Sgt@Arms: Blake Pelham



Welcome to the March 26th 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) Hans Tiedemann, Coutney Karcher, Kim Hickson,
President Gordon Weicker, Dr. Dustin Pearson, Terry Allen



**Presentation:
March 26th
Dr. Dustin Pearson**

**April 9th -
Jessica Janzen**

**Next Week:
April 2nd Grants &
Endowments**

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.



Blake Pelham was our Sergeant-at-Arms for this meeting. He had us play a trivia game where he asked several members the same question. If anyone answered correctly, everyone else had to pay \$3. If you got the wrong answer you pay \$10. **Sharyl Madigan** got the answer correct!



President Gord reminded us about Feed the Hungry! More information on the following page.

Courtney Karcher from Inclusion Alberta came up next to provide an update on the Rotary Employment Partnership. She shared insights on the program's progress, highlighting its impact in creating meaningful employment opportunities and fostering inclusive workplaces within the community. For more details and a complete overview of her presentation, please watch the meeting video linked on page 1.



Terry Allen introduced our guest speaker today. Dr. Dustin Pearson is a senior scientist and the research operations manager for the Evict Radon National Study. His work studies the dynamics of radon gas within the residential environment, how multiple lung carcinogens work together to increase cancer risk and the biology of alpha particle exposure. Dr. Pearson's work will develop one of the first wholistic understandings of multiplexed non-tobacco lung cancer exposures in Canada and establish up to date - lung cancer risk estimates, with the goal of expanding early lung cancer screening and reducing lung cancers in Canada.



Dr. Dustin Pearson began by introducing radon as a naturally occurring radioactive gas from the ground and a leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. As part of the Evict Radon National Study at the University of Calgary, he emphasized that his research is independent and focused on providing unbiased scientific data. He explained that while smoking remains the primary cause of lung cancer, a significant portion of cases in Canada are not related to tobacco. Environmental factors—especially radon—play a major role. Radon enters homes from the soil and can accumulate to dangerous levels indoors, where people spend most of their time. Radon emits alpha particle radiation, which can cause significant damage to lung tissue when inhaled. Over time, this exposure increases cancer risk. The link between radon and lung cancer has been well established through decades of international research, and it is now classified as a known carcinogen.



Dr. Pearson highlighted that radon risk depends on three main factors: location, the type and construction of the home, and occupant behavior. In Canada, about one in five homes exceeds Health Canada's recommended radon levels, with similar risks found across different housing types and regions, including Calgary.

He noted that newer homes and certain living patterns—such as spending more time indoors—can increase exposure. This is particularly concerning for younger families, who may be more likely to live in newer homes with higher radon levels.

The key message was that radon is a serious but manageable risk. The only way to know your exposure level is to test your home using a long-term test (at least 91 days). If high levels are detected, effective mitigation systems can significantly reduce radon concentrations.

Dr. Pearson concluded by encouraging everyone to test their homes and take action if needed, emphasizing that radon exposure is a solvable problem with the right awareness and steps.

I encourage everyone to watch the meeting video linked on page 1 to hear the full presentaion. You can also find some links to more information in Dr Pearsons presentaion.

Kim Hickson thanked our speaker for his presentation. She also announced that a \$100 donation would be made to CRCF in Dr. Dustin Pearson's name in recognition of his time with us.

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



March 20, at Marko's Kitchen - 5708 1st St. SE

32 Rotarians and guests enjoyed sumptuous Eastern European food, all "homemade" by our Host Zika. Zika carefully prepared an "organic" menu of various European foods.. 9 main items on the buffet! Then, assorted desserts! All delicious!! Everyone went home well fed! A few had take home boxes from our buffet...

We dined on white linen tablecloths with blue and gold napkins.

A great event!



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



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)

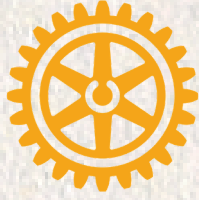
SPONSORED BY



CALGARY CO-OP

Rotary

Club of Calgary
at Stampede Park



Closing:

Next week: April 2nd - Grants & Endowments

The week following: April 9th - Jessica Janzen

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 - TBD



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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