



Club of Calgary
at Stampede Park



RCCSP Weekly Bulletin March 30th, 2023 Volume Number 68, Issue Number 35

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Welcome to the March 30th meeting of the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park. I am the Club's President-Elect, Bryan Walton filling in for President Jim Fitzowich.

Head Table: Tom Gump (Aide to President Nominee Stephanie), RIPN Stephanie Urchick, Mayor Jyoti Gondek, **Craig Stokke** & Mark Starratt (Co-Chairs Calgary 2025 HOC), , RI Convention Chair Bryn Styles



President Elect Bryan Walton

Next Friday, April 7 marks the 68th anniversary of the Charter Night of our Club which was known at the Rotary Club of Manchester back in the day.

Our sponsor was the Rotary Club of Calgary (Downtown Club) and they were looking for a project in 1955 to mark the Golden Anniversary year of Rotary International and secondly to have a Club that was closer that High River and Banff for make-ups.

From Peter Penner's history book on our Club, the following;

On February 17th, in advance of the official Charter Night a meeting was hosted by the Downtown Club in the "Crystal Ball Room of the Palliser Hotel with thirty eight of the new Rotarians and their proud wives in attendance." This new bunch was "unusually vocal and visual, so much so that some wondered at this "lusty offspring the Calgary Club was spawning". Any you know what...we haven't looked back!

Please join **Glen Potter** and me for the singing of O Canada followed by Rotary Grace.





Announcements:

Visitors and Guests: **Bryan Walton** welcomed all guests and they stood as we provided a loud rendition of our Welcome Song!

Health and Wellness:

Health and Wellness contact going forward and into April is ; **Brenda McKinley** Tel 403 870 4292
Email: b-mckinley@hotmail.com .

Rotary Employment Partnership—Inclusion Alberta

Our new Inclusion Alberta Rep, Marya Abma, came to visit with us last Thursday and she was to have the Partnership Overview and contact information sheet with her in quantities so that we could put at least 3 or more on each table for members to take with them. Unfortunately that did not happen and just by luck she did have enough of the pamphlets but with no contact information to just have one per table – so of very limited purpose. Please find the correct pamphlet with Marya's contact information on it [here](#)



Mark Starratt introduced Mayor Joyti Gondek. Mayor Gondek is our 37th Mayor and she will be the Mayor during our convention.

Mayor Gondek – thanks so much for the invitation to be here again! She gave greetings in all 7 Treaty languages. She welcomed the team from RI and said how excited she was to have the Convention in Calgary in 2025. Mayor Gondek said she has had a busy week of ALL ROTARY ALL THE TIME! The projected impact of the convention is for 17-25 (or 35) thousand Rotarians and families bringing in approximately \$54 Million in economic benefit.

Mayor Gondek then bestowed upon the RI team the customary 'White Hat Award' where they took the Oath and we all sealed it with a strong YAHOO! **Craig Stokke** thanked the Mayor for being with us today.



Continued on next page...



White Hat Ceremony Continued:

Joe Connelly provided the history of Calgary's white hat ceremony:



The Smithbilt Legend: Smithbilt's founder, Morris Schumiatcher, was only 18 in 1910 when he convinced his father to move their large family to Canada from Russia. As a young and eager entrepreneur, Morris set out to build a successful business of his own, borrowing a loan from his local bank to purchase Calgary Hat Works. Smithbilt Hats was then born. Smithbilt Hats concentrated on the local market and soon gained a reputation as the best hat manufacturer around. As Smithbilt produced mostly dress hats with small brims, these styles that flourished in the East and Europe. In 1926 however, Morris began a cooperative effort with local businessmen and the Stampede Board to promote western wear for spectators as well as partisans in the Calgary Stampede. The Stampede was providing a focus for local manufacturers who responded by developing products of western style. The Stampede started the buy local movement about 100 years ago! Increasingly Smithbilt made Western hats a specialty, and in 1946 Morris created the first white cowboy hat. He was very proud of the White Smithbilt, and indeed this small contribution to the Canadian identity became a symbol of the Stampede and of course Calgary.

The white Smithbilt, proudly work by local officials, was traditionally presented to visiting dignitaries and Royal guests. It is now known throughout North America and the rest of the world. As the years passed, the company continued to improve its products and presentation. The company's ownership passed to Morris's son Judal and then to the long-term employee Marshall Harvey. In 2003 the Harvey family passed the Smithbilt torch to a family friend.

The family of oilman Bill Herron debuted the 'White Hat' in the Stampede parade in 1947 and took the best-dressed prize with their matching black and white outfits, horses, saddles and bridles. Schumiatcher invested heavily in white felt after this auspicious debut and in 1948 became the first 'White Hat' Stampede. In that same year, the Calgary Stampeders won a chance to compete in Toronto against Ottawa for the highest honor in Canadian Football, the Grey Cup. Calgarians were so excited about the prospect of their home team playing in the Grey Cup that a group of prominent local citizens organized a special train to take fans to Toronto. 250 Stampeders donning the Smithbilt white hat, a chuckwagon, 12 horses and a host of entertainers headed to Toronto. Don Mackay, then Alderman, led the Calgary contingent in its high-spirited and much publicized event. The start of the tradition of the Grey Cup reverie was born when he rode a horse into the Royal York Hotel, a tradition that has continued each time Calgary is in the Grey Cup since!

The tradition of being presented with a White Hat was started by former Calgary Mayor Don Mackay. City officials in Calgary continue to give white cowboy hats as gifts to visiting dignitaries as the city's symbol of hospitality.

Today, the company is owned and operated by Cam Clark; a proud supporter of the Calgary Stampede. Dedicated to the preservation of western values and traditions, he is committed to moving the legendary Smithbilt name forward with an emphasis on quality and service.





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Craig Stokke thanked the House Committee for being patient during a very busy week making their jobs a lot more complicated this week.

Bryan Walton introduced **PP Bill Leclair** for an CRCF update:

Bill Leclair: Today, I have the honour on behalf of the Club of recognizing not one, not two, but three major donations to CRCF.



Last Thursday, Bill Gray, Chairman of the Stampede Foundation gave Recognition to Roger Jarvis for leaving an insurance policy to their Foundation. He said they were thrilled to receive it and we, at the meeting, gave a nice round of applause. It is a little-known fact that Roger left an identical insurance policy to CRCF amounting to over \$52,000.00. This will be a happy day in Heaven for him!

Secondly, **Sherry and Steve Austin** topped up their donations to CRCF by \$80,000.00 to establish a \$100,000.00 endowment known as the **Sherry and Steve Austin** Endowment for Animal Welfare dedicated to the wellbeing of both wild and domestic animals. Anyone can donate to that endowed fund at any time. Huge thanks to both of you. This is a wonderful donation!

Just last week we completed the acceptance of a major gift to CRFC from our deceased member Bill LeSourd. The new endowment is named the Bill and Betty LeSourd endowment. These funds will be available for our international projects if required. The Endowment was set up at \$2,005,033.94! Bill and Betty's children, Rob and Jean will come to a luncheon to coincide with the presentation of funds to a chosen charity. Specific donations to that Endowment can be made at any time as well. Two things Rob and Jean liked were the simplicity of the legal agreements and the low administration fees of Rotary which are less than half of one percent.

If you remember last week, I used the word awesome. It is absolutely awesome to recognize these major donations but more importantly and just think about this, to grasp that in a few years we will be receiving annual payments of \$500,000.00 from CRFC every year forever.

Neil Fraser, you did a tremendous amount of work in finalizing these donations. Well done my friend.

PE Bryan Walton to introduce Craig Stokke and Mark Starratt as Co-chairs for the 2025 Rotary International Convention in Calgary!!

Craig Stokke welcomed us all to the kickoff to the Calgary convention. Thank those who have already registered to volunteer and remind everyone of opportunities. If you want to get onboard of this exciting journey, please email **Luanne Whitmarsh** at l.whitmarsh@shaw.ca Craig thanked Cassandra, Shelly and David (who are with us today) from Tourism Calgary and the team at the Calgary Stampede for all their support.





Mark Starratt said he was delighted to be here today and he knows how RCCSP 'gets things done' and are the BEST partners. There may be an opportunity to become a host home for Rotarians as we wind up the planning so that out of town members can participate and not incur a lot of costs. Mark introduced Bryn Styles (RI Convention Chair) from Barrie Ontario, and Tom Gump (Aide to President Nominee Stephanie) who gets people to the conventions!

Craig Stokke introduced RIPN Stephanie Urchick.

Stephanie has the task of guiding this great organization of 1.4 million people and we know she is up for the task. What Craig knows of Stephanie so far: Stephanie is very prepared. She already knew the 7 foods of Alberta (which I did not know, so here it is: Bison, this is Alberta's indigenous food, Beef, there are over five million head of cattle in Alberta (half of Canada's beef supply), Canola, Canola is short for Canadian Oil, Red Fife Wheat, Saskatoon Berries, and Root Vegetables). She also knew most of the Stampede and CEO Joel Cowley was amazed! Also, Stephanie is from Pittsburg and likes all of their sports teams AND she is a Hamilton Ticats fan!! We know we will have her swing to Calgary Flames and Stampeders fanbase soon!



When Craig asked Stephanie why the Hamilton Ticats, she said she used to be the Regional Scout for them! Craig then told us that Stephanie wanted to be a spy! So, we have a very, very prepared spy who already knows everything about us!

Seriously, Craig said as a father of 2 young ladies and a husband he is proud of Stephanie's success of becoming the second female president of Rotary.

RIPN Stephanie Urchick: please see the video recording of the meeting to hear Stephanie's speech as it was uplifting and amazing! My notes are a small reflection of how she captured the attention of everyone in the room!

She welcomed us, people in the Rotary Family. She told us of her background (stuff that Craig had not already told!). 32 years ago, a friend invited her to a meeting, she loved it and the rest of the story is Rotary and Rotary in her life. She traveled to many countries observing projects; giving babies malaria medication in Mumbi and learning of a bio-water projects in several countries.

She knows she is a different person as a result of being a Rotarian, and knows that we all are too. We make a difference. One of the recent projects she spearheaded was to complete the RI Strategic Plan. A very in-depth process of engagement, learning, evaluating and finally finishing was an amazing project. Please take the time to review it.

She encouraged our Clubs to go back to look for the big ideas from others. Increase your impact, reach, partnerships and adapt where/when necessary. Make sure your succession plan is workable and working. Make sure everyone feels that they belong!



Thank the Speaker: Mark Starratt thanked Stephanie for her help, engagement and her uplifting approach. He gave Stephanie with a copy of the history book of James Wheeler Davidson who had strong ties to Calgary and was known as the “Marco Polo” of Rotary to thank her for her time and commitment.

In Closing **Bryan Walton:** President Nominee Stephanie, Bryn & Tom, thank you for taking the time to visit us today. Our Club will also make a donation to the Calgary Rotary Clubs Foundation in honour of your presentation today. This gift will help support our community in the years to come.



New Member Proposal:

Terry Kellam has been proposed for active membership to the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park as Sponsored by George Deegan and Seconded by **Benno Nigg** with a proposed Classification of University Fund Raiser.

If any Member objects to **Terry Kellam** 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 prior to April 6th, 2023.

Thanks from Luanne to all members of the Club who helped make today be a great one! The house team, the food ordering, the patience and all is really appreciated! Also, welcome back to Sarah Brown from holidays – we are very happy you had a great time!



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THIS WEEK'S MEETING LINK: <https://youtu.be/eka3knISZ2g>

In Closing:

Next week's Meeting: We are back at Rotary House and we will celebrate member **Don Taylor** with his Rotary profile. This should be an interesting meeting. If you have a friend or Rotarian from another club who may be interested please consider inviting them to our meeting.

I would remind the **Programs and Tours Committee** that we are convening immediately after this meeting is over.

Please get your tickets for April 13 to hear our Premier speak. The tickets have to be purchased by April 6th. Reminder – there will be NO sales at all at the door that day so please get your tickets now. We know that there is some concern about parking passes for this meeting and we will have more information shortly for you.

Final words: Remember this in the week ahead... a simple act of kindness will make the world a better place and as you go about your business... Imagine Rotary!

Thank you for coming. Have a great Rotary week!

Final reminder to register for next week's Meeting by 9am tomorrow!!



www.rotarystampedepark.com



Are you going to the 2023 Rotary International Convention? This time in Melbourne, Australia! If you are planning to go please let me (admin@rotarycs.org) know so I can update the names on our Website. <https://rotarycs.org/page/who-s-going-to-the-convention/> As well as the District Convention in Lethbridge.



VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY !!!

Volunteers are required to build Good Food Boxes.

April 17th, 2023 - 5-8pm Monday evening shift

June 6th, 2023- 1-3pm Tuesday shift (usually a daytime shift but I could make this an evening shift starting at 5PM)
Email Earl or Ken to sign up for a shift.

Earl Huson (403) 686-0828/ ehuslink@telusplanet.net Ken Farn: (403) 560-6770/ kgfarn@telusplant.net **EARL AND KEN REALLY NEED YOUR HELP!! THANKS FOR VOLUNTEERING!!!**



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WATER CHANGES EVERYTHING

Apr 25, 2023 11:45 AM - 2nd Annual James Wheeler Davidson Luncheon (JWD)—**Downtown Rotary Club (optional)**

We celebrate the legacy of James Wheeler Davidson by focusing on the impact of clean water and sanitation projects around the world.

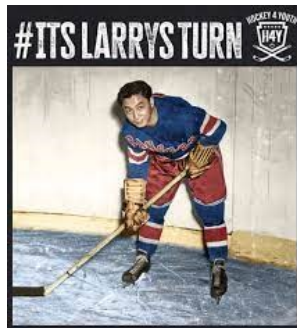
Without JWD's persistence and diplomacy where would we be as an international organization? Many of the clubs in our district partner with Rotary and organizations such as CAWST to provide the education and services needed to provide a basic human right: clean water.

Join us as we connect learn and grow in celebration of JWD and all the WASH (Water and Sanitation and Hygiene) projects we've run Internationally. Get your tickets [here](#)

Let's Get Larry Kwong Into the Hockey Hall of Fame!

Please sign the petition "**Induct Larry Kwong into the Hockey Hall of Fame #ITSLARRYSTURN**"

The goal is to reach 10,000 signatures and we need your support. You can read more and sign the petition here: <https://chng.it/2xfDKTtJR4>



Tomato Guy - Dave Read has tomato plants ready for pick-up end of March. Please phone or text if you are interested. Limited number available. Thank you.

Cell 403-921-5856

Home 403-271-5856





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Premier of Alberta Honourable Danielle Smith

APRIL 13, 2023 12:15 – 13:30

(Doors open at 11:00)

PALOMINO ROOM – BMO CENTRE – 20 ROUNDUP WAY SE

Registration: www.rotarystampedepark.com

Advance ticket purchases by April 6 - NO tickets sold at the door

Cost: \$65





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ROTARY STAMPEDE PARK

INVITES YOU TO ATTEND A
NEW MEMBERS EVENING OF

WINE WHEELS & JAZZ



APRIL 21 | 7:00PM-10:30PM|
7677 112 AVE NW |
COCKTAIL ATTIRE|



LEXUS OF ROYAL OAK



Clubs

Social Committee is taking you to Grey Eagle Resort Event Centre to see the Legends Show on March 31. Get your tickets by calling Sjoert Zuidhof.. 403- 471-6275 or email him at zuidhofsjoert@gmail.com
Tickets still available for Legends Show at Grey Eagle Resort...March 31...\$58.
Tickets are going fast so don't delay!!

New Member Event

Friday, April 21

7:00 to 10:30 pm at Lexus of Royal Oak - 7677 -112 Ave NW

Cost: \$49.95. Dress: Cocktail attire

Register at; <https://rotarystampedepark.com/product/rccsp-new-member-event-april-21st-new-member-event-lexus-royal-oak/>



There is no Meeting on April the 20th in lieu of this event.

New Member Event "Wine, Wheels and Jazz":

Todd Richardson says **SAVE THE DATE of April 21 for our New Member event** to be held at Lexus of Royal Oak! We will have live jazz music featuring Vitaliia Vash, wine tasting by Co-op Wines, a fun "Name that Rotarian" contest, Lexus new technology presentations, and more. It will be a great opportunity to mingle with the new members and it will be tons of fun – hold the date and more information will be forthcoming!

Hiking Club

Greetings from Wednesday morning hikers below (and Phil) at Votier's Flats in Fish Creek Park. We thought it was fun to highlight the photo with the Rotary reference on the sign. .

This morning's hike was sunny though a bit cool. We sure enjoyed each other's company and visiting as we walked. We needed to modify our routes a couple of times due to the large "lakes" of water/ice on the paths – not quite swim season yet! All taken in stride and a wonderful time was had – lovely picnic lunch on our return.

Thanks everyone for a great winter season and look forward to seeing you in May!

-Leslie



Rotary



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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	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	

Calendar of Events

April 6th: Rotary Profile - Don Taylor



April 13th: Premier of Alberta - Danielle Smith
Meeting in the Palamino Room



April 20th: **No Meeting** in lieu of New Member Event on April 21st.



April 21st: New Member Event. Get your tickets today at;
<https://rotarystampedepark.com/product/rccsp-new-member-event-april-21st-new-member-event-lexus-royal-oak/>



District 5360 Convention in Lethbridge - May 5th and 6th

Rotary
District 5360

