

ROTARY NEWS

RCCSP Weekly Bulletin May 21, 2026
 Volume Number 71, Issue No. 38

Administrative Assistant: Grayce Glassford
 Bulletin Editor: Grayce Glassford
 Photography: Glen Godlonton
 Videographer: Steve Mason
 Sgt@Arms: Jim Fitzowich



Welcome to the May 21st 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): Evan Strong, Kathy Demorest, Stan Cichon, President Gordon Weicker, Jim Szautner, Max Feldman

**Presentation:
 Annual Stay in
 School Scholarship**

**June 4th
 Valentin
 Frauenknecht**

**Next Week:
 President Gord's
 Gala**

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

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

Today's Meeting:

Guests were introduced by **David Field** and asked to remain standing as they were serenaded with the Welcome Song.



Jim Fitzowich our Sgt@Arms for this meeting, welcomed guests and joked that, instead of fines this week, the club would focus on “happy bucks” in celebration of public education. After asking Rotarians if they had a favorite teacher, they encouraged those who did to donate a loony to the club, while joking that anyone without a favorite teacher should contribute two dollars instead.

Lisa van Hemert highlighted the long-standing success of the club's Dream Home ticket sales, which raise over \$750,000 annually to support local community programs and families. She shared that this year's sales are already more than 10% ahead of last year and could become the biggest Dream Home campaign ever. She encouraged members to sign up for volunteer shifts.

For assistants, please email shifts@rotarycs.org



President Gord announced recognition from Rotary International District 5360, honouring **Gail Williams** as a member of the PolioPlus Society. The recognition included three different PolioPlus Society pins and a certificate.

Ken Copithorne led a lighthearted auction in support of the Kids at Heart golf tournament and the Stay in School initiative. Before the auction, he shared a humorous management joke with the audience.

The auction featured a \$500 gift certificate to Major Tom restaurant, hosted by Mary McPhee, which sold for \$600, and four VIP tickets to an event at Spruce Meadows, which sold for \$550.



Kathy Demorest thanked attendees at the Rotary Stay in School scholarship event and welcomed students, families, and guests. She emphasized that the program supports students not only financially but also through mentorship, encouragement, and a strong community network committed to helping them succeed in their education and future goals. She recognized the many Rotarians and volunteers involved over the years, asking past and present committee members and supporters to stand in appreciation, highlighting the broad community effort behind the program. She concluded by introducing the current chair of the scholarship committee, **Stan Cichon**, to continue the program



Stan Cichon spoke about the Rotary Stay in School scholarship program, reflecting on its origins in 2000–2001 and how it has grown into a fully sustainable, long-term initiative supporting students through post-secondary education. He highlighted the program's funding history, major milestones such as reaching a \$5 million goal, and its expansion to support more students over time. He emphasized the importance of mentorship, strong school partnerships, and the dedication of volunteers and committee members in achieving the program's high student success rate. He also recognized current mentors, school administrators, and committee members for their contributions, thanked them for their service, and noted the program's ongoing impact in helping students pursue education and career pathways.



Max Feldman introduced four scholarship recipients from Sherwood School and St. John XXIII, highlighting their achievements, extracurricular involvement, volunteer work, and future career goals in fields such as medicine, engineering, architecture, and veterinary science. He emphasized the students' leadership, community service, and drive to make a positive impact.

He expressed pride in the students and the success of the scholarship program, then introduced guest speaker Jim Szautner from SAIT, noting his background in post-secondary leadership, apprenticeship education, skilled trades, and SAIT's long-standing connection to the program.





Jim Szautner, the Dean of the School of Construction at SAIT, spoke about SAIT's connection with Rotary and reflected on early mentorship experiences that shaped his perspective. He outlined SAIT's role as a major applied post-secondary institution in Alberta, including its campuses, programs, industry-focused training, apprenticeships, and strong employer satisfaction with graduates.

As Dean of the School of Construction, he emphasized how the future of work is increasingly interdisciplinary, using skilled trades as an example of how technology such as AI and data centres is changing traditional roles. He highlighted the importance of combining technical expertise with broader skills like critical thinking, curiosity, and citizenship. He concluded by encouraging students to build these foundational skills to remain adaptable in a rapidly evolving workforce.

Kathy Demorest thanked Jim Szautner for his presentation and offered appreciation for his insights and reflections on the future of work.

She highlighted the value of his message about thinking creatively, connecting past and present experiences, and linking his discussion back to Rotary's mission. She concluded by recognizing the important role SAIT plays in developing future generations of students and expressed optimism about the future.

President Gordon finished off the meeting by announcing that we will be making a \$100 donation to the CRCF in Jim Szautner's name in recognition of his time with us during this meeting.



Click [HERE](#) for the photo gallery

Announcements

New Host Family

Our exchange student, Valentin Frauenknecht, is being hosted by **Kathy Demorest** for the balance of his exchange through the Stampede.

If you and your family wish to include Valentin in a family outing, a meal, or another special event please contact **Kathy Demorest** to schedule the event.

Health and Wellness

Murray Flegel, Tony Ng, and Lynn Topp are all at home recovering.

Rotary



Club of Calgary
at Stampede Park

Wonderful Fun and Fellowship for All to Enjoy!

2026 Invermere Golf & Social Weekend

June 5th, 6th and 7th

At the Newly Renovated Copper Point Golf Club

Save the date and start planning now!

Friday, June 5th

Golf on The Point

9 Holes

\$65 Including Cart

Dinner Welcome Cocktail Party Reception 6:00 PM

Beef burger with choice of
salad or fries **\$28**

or

Chicken burger with choice of
salad or fries **\$28**

Saturday, June 6th

Golf on The Ridge

18 Holes

\$100 Including Cart

*Afternoon shopping and sightseeing option
for those not golfing is a big hit for your
consideration.*

Evening Dinner Reception 6:00 PM

3 Course Plated Dinner with choice of
Chicken, Fish, or Steak **\$40-48**

Sunday, June 7th

Hosted Brunch at Austin's Cabin

With all the trimmings.
Fresh food, coffee, champagne
and orange juice, etc.



Calgary Stampede

JULY 3 – 12, 2026

COMMUNITY ROUND UP

PRESENTED BY



SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2026
9 A.M. – NOON

7 CHIEFS SPORTSPLEX &
CHIEF JIM STARLIGHT CENTRE

19 BULLHEAD ROAD, TSUUT'INA NATION, AB, T3T 0A6

FEATURING A **FREE** PANCAKE BREAKFAST
AND **FREE** FAMILY FUN!



KinFest

Music Festival

MILLARVILLE RACE TRACK ISLAND CAMPGROUND

June 19-21st 2026

CELEBRATING SUMMER SOLSTICE

15 BANDS!
CAMPING,
FOOD AND
MORE!

FATHER'S DAY
FREE PANCAKE
BREAKFAST
LIVE MUSIC!

A COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER HOSTED BY:
KINSMEN CLUB OF CALGARY



SCAN ME!



GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY AT:
CALGARYKINSMEN.CA

Closing:

Next week: May 28th - President Gord's Gala
***Off-site, no meeting**

The week following: June 4th - Valentin Frauenknecht

Thought of the day!

As Nelson Mandela once said,

*"Education is the most powerful weapon
which you can use to change the world."*

*Please think about this as we as we
"Unite for Good!"*

Social Media Links



[Facebook](#)

[Linkedin](#)

[Instagram](#)

Calendar

MAY

May 7th - WA Ranches (**Off Site**)

May 14th - International Service Grants Committee

May 21st - Annual Stay in School Scholarship

May 28th - Presidents' Social (**Off-site**)

May

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	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	5	6

JUNE

June 4th - Valentin Frankenkecht of Germany

June 5, 6, 7 - Invermere Golf Weekend

June 11th - Joel Cowley

June 12th - International Dinner

June 18th - Community Service Grants

June 21st - Okotoks Dawgs

June 25th - Deborah Yedlin

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

DATES TO REMEMBER - SAVE THESE!!

May 28th - Presidents Gala

June 5, 6, 7 - Invermere Golf Weekend

June 12th International Dinner

June 21st - Okotoks Dawgs

July 2nd - Dream Home Kick off party