Rotary
Club of Calgary
at Stampede Park

ROTARY NEWS

RCCSP Weekly Bulletin November 26th, 2026
Volume Number 72, Issue No.17

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



Welcome to the November 26th meeting of the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park. My name is Larry Kennedy, and I am honoured to be your President for 2026/2027.

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

Head Table (L-R) : Wendy Lorraine Hennel-Meier, Bryan Walton, Shondell Sabad, Kim Moody, Lisa van Hemert, Larry Kennedy





Presentation: Rotary Foundation and CRCF	December 3rd Christmas Party	Next Week: November 26th Kim Moody

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...

Shamira Wallace shared her personal journey from Uganda to Calgary and how her childhood experiences inspired her passion for early childhood education. After losing both parents at a young age, she found safety and encouragement through school, inspiring her goal of creating a safe, supportive environment for children.
She pursued a career in education in Rwanda, eventually becoming a principal and participating in international teacher training. In 2017, she moved to Calgary with her husband and four children. She later purchased and expanded Fledglings Educare Centre and opened Montrose Daycare & Childcare during the pandemic. Today, her three locations care for nearly 300 children and employ 35 staff members.
Shamira also shared why she joined Rotary, explaining that its commitment to service reflects her own values. She has joined the Stay in School, International Grants, and Social committees and looks forward to contributing to the club.



Lisa van Hemert reminded members that November 30 is the deadline to apply for endowment funding through the Stella Mario endowment Fund and the Brawn Family endowment Foundation. The Stella Fund supports charities needing vehicles for individuals with special needs, while the Brawn Family Foundation supports mental health initiatives, including dementia. Applications can be accessed through the QR codes on the cards provided at the tables, and members were encouraged to share the information with eligible charities.



Blake Pelham introduced **Wendy Hennel-Meier** as the newest member of the Rotary Club.
Wendy's interest in Rotary began after meeting **Blake** and learning more about the club and its activities, including the Dream Home.
Wendy graduated from the University of Calgary with an English degree in 2000 before pursuing accounting, earning her CPA and later completing an MBA. She is currently the CFO of Canis Corp, a Calgary construction and property management company. Previously, she worked with First Nation Power Development, helping Indigenous nations participate in renewable energy projects, and continues to support violence prevention programs with Paul First Nation.
Wendy and her husband share a blended family of four adult children. **Blake** welcomed her to the club, highlighting her energy, curiosity, good humour, and commitment to making a difference.





Past President Bryan Walton conducted the induction ceremony for **Wendy Hennel-Meier,** officially welcoming her to the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park. He highlighted Rotary's global reach, with 1.4 million members across 200 countries, and encouraged **Wendy** to visit other clubs, participate in weekly meetings, and attend district and international conventions.
He emphasized Rotary's motto of Service Above Self and the Four-Way Test, encouraging **Wendy** to contribute her time, talents, and resources to make a difference in the community and around the world. He welcomed her to the fellowship of the club and encouraged her to get involved at a pace comfortable to her.



President Larry gave **Wendy** her new member package and welcomed her to the club.

Spencer Tonkinson led the club's Happy Bucks fundraiser with a humorous taxation theme ahead of guest speaker Kim Moody's presentation on taxation. Members were encouraged to contribute through lighthearted questions and jokes about CRA audits, income tax, tax write-offs, and which Canadian taxes they would eliminate.



Lisa van Hemert introduced guest speaker Kim Moody, a Calgary-based Chartered Professional Accountant, registered trust and estate practitioner, and tax specialist. Kim is the founder of Moody's Private Client and Moody's Tax, specializing in tax and estate planning for business owners, executives, professional athletes, and high-net-worth individuals.
Kim is a regular Financial Post columnist and publishes a weekly newsletter covering tax policy, leadership, and economics. He is also the author of Making Life Less Taxing, an Amazon bestseller, and Leadership Compounds. He has held several leadership positions within Canada's tax community and received numerous awards for his contributions. **Lisa** welcomed him to share his knowledge and insights on taxation.



Kim Moody discussed the federal government's November 2026 budget, focusing on taxation, government spending, deficits, and the need for meaningful tax reform. He criticized the projected $62.3 billion deficit, rising national debt, and increasing interest payments, arguing that government spending and accounting practices were misleading. He also questioned the decision to separate operating and capital budgets, suggesting it made the government's financial position appear stronger than it was.
Kim explained that the budget offered limited tax simplification rather than meaningful reform. He discussed proposed measures affecting entrepreneurs, artists, capital investments, and tax deductions, highlighting concerns about fairness and which industries would actually benefit. He emphasized that Canada's tax system remains unnecessarily complicated and that meaningful reform should focus on equality, certainty, convenience, and efficiency.
He concluded by warning that today's deficits become tomorrow's liabilities and taxes, ultimately leaving future generations to carry the financial burden.



Shondell Sabad thanked Kim for his candid presentation and emphasized the importance of having open conversations about government deficits and their long-term impact. He noted that today's borrowing will ultimately be paid for by current taxpayers and future generations, including their children and grandchildren. He applauded Kim for speaking out on the issue and sharing his message with the Rotary Club.



President Larry Kennedy thanked Kim Moody and announced that we will be making a $100 donation to CRCF in his name.

Click HERE for the photo gallery



Announcements

How to Donate to TRF & CRCF

CRCF	The Rotary Foundation (Canada)
Online: https://www.calgaryrotaryfoundation.ca/	**Online:** https://trfcanada.org/
Cheque: Payable to CRCF	**Cheque:** Payable to TRF Canada
E-transfer: calgaryrotaryclubsfoundation@gmail.com	**Public securities:** Rotary Foundation Canada securities form
Public securities: CRCF contribution page	
ADVANTAGES TO DONATING PUBLIC SECURITIES	
Avoids capital gains on shares donated.	
Get official tax receipt for amount donated.	

Rotary
Club of Calgary
at Stampede Park

Closing:

Next week: December 3rd - Christmas Party

The week following: December 10th - Jim Burns

Rotary is a place where strangers quickly become friends, and friends become teammates in service. For all you guys do, thank you for your service.

Social Media Links

Facebook Linkedin Instagram

Calendar

NOVEMBER

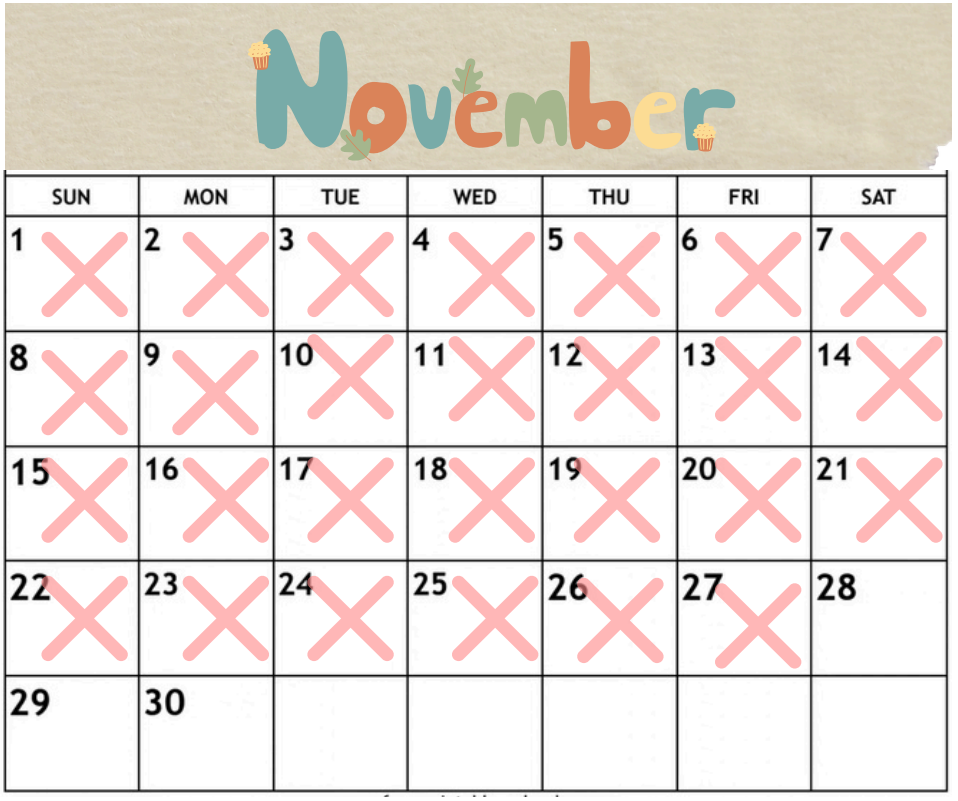
~~**November 5th** - Ryan Copithorne~~

~~**November 11th** - Rotary Remembers~~

~~**November 12th** - **No Meeting**~~

~~**November 19th** - Rotary Foundation and CRCF~~

~~**November 26th** - Kim Moody~~



DECEMBER

December 3rd - Christmas Party

December 10th - Jim Burns

December 17th - Christmas Social/St. Mary's Choir

December 24th - No Meeting

December 31st - No Meeting



DATES TO REMEMBER

~~**October 24th** - Oktoberfest at the Austrian Canadian Club~~

~~**October 29th** - Halloween Lunch at Rotary House~~

~~**November 6th** - International dinner~~

~~**November 11th** - Rotary Remembers at Carriage House~~

December 3rd - Club "Old Tyme Christmas" party at Heritage Park

December 17th - Club Social - Grandstand

January 10th - Brunch at Stage West