Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park

ROTARY NEWS

RCCSP Weekly Bulletin November 5th, 2026
Volume Number 72, Issue No.15

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



Welcome to the November 5th 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) : Graham Carstairs, Kevin MacLeod, Ken Copithorne, Bryan Walton, Ryan Copithorne, Larry Kennedy





Presentation: Ryan Copithorne	**November 12th NO Meeting**	**Next Week: November 11th Rotary Remembers**

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...



Frances Schwartz shared her background and long-standing involvement with Rotary, having been a member of four clubs across three provinces. Growing up on a farm outside Red Deer, she described returning to Calgary as feeling like coming home.
Frances has spent much of her career in the nonprofit sector, working with the Canadian Red Cross in disaster response, hospice care, grief support, and victim services. She has supported communities through major disasters, including the Red River Flood, Okanagan wildfires, Alberta floods, and Hurricane Katrina. She holds a Master of Social Work and an MBA and has received the Queen's Jubilee Medal and Senate 150 Anniversary Medal.
Today, **Frances** is the Executive Director of Foothills Country Hospice Society, providing palliative care and grief support to individuals and families throughout the region.
She closed by emphasizing how the Rotary value of Service Above Self has guided both her personal and professional life. She thanked her sponsors, **Kim** and **Sharyl,** and the club for the warm welcome.



Glen Godlonton informed us that Bow Valley College has invited our club for a tour on November 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There are only 10 spots available, so anyone interested is asked to email **Glen** as soon as possible at **glen@godlonton.com.**



Mike Ruttan reminded members that November is Rotary Foundation Month and encouraged everyone to participate in giving. He emphasized that the committee is focused on participation rather than the dollar amount donated.

Rick Jakubec spoke to us about community kitchens. More infromation on the following pages.

Pat Neuman reminded members to register for the club's Christmas party on December 3rd at the Wainwright Hotel at Heritage Park**.** Please Click **HERE** to registher.

Spencer Tonkinson reminded members that applications for the Brawn Family Endowment Fund, which supports mental health initiatives, and the Mario Stella Endowment Fund, which supports transportation for people with disabilities, are open until November 30th.

Carol Rosdobutko led the Sergeant-at-Arms segment with a Remembrance Day-themed quiz, testing members' knowledge of Canadian history and traditions. Questions covered the significance of the two minutes of silence, In Flanders Fields, the adoption of Remembrance Day in 1931, the red poppy, and where it should traditionally be worn. Fines were collected for incorrect answers and participation. **Carol** concluded by encouraging members to remember and honour all those who have served our country and recognize their courage and sacrifice.



Kevin MacLeod introduced **Graham Carstairs** as the club's newest member, sharing that he had known **Graham** and his family for over 15 years. Born and raised in Calgary, **Graham** has more than 30 years of experience in the insurance industry and currently works with HUB International, specializing in risk reduction and business growth. Throughout his career, he has been involved in major disaster response efforts, including floods, wildfires, and hurricane recovery in Puerto Rico. **Graham** and his wife Susan have two children, Alexandra and Grayson. He enjoys travelling and scuba diving and is looking forward to becoming involved with the club.





Sherry Austin formally welcomed **Graham Carstairs** to the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park. She shared an overview of Rotary's work locally and internationally, highlighting major club projects such as Rotary Flames House, accessible playgrounds, youth scholarships, and community arenas. She encouraged **Graham** to attend meetings, get involved in committees, participate in social events, and embrace the Four-Way Test. **Sherry** closed by welcoming him into the Rotary family and expressing how pleased the club was to have him as a member

President Larry Kennedy presented **Graham** with his membership package and Rotary badge, formally welcoming him to the club.





Bryan Walton introduced guest speaker Ryan Copithorne, a fourth-generation rancher from the Calgary region with extensive experience in large-scale ranching and cattle operations. Ryan owns Cows and Control Inc., a consulting and livestock marketing company, and serves as President of the Western Stock Growers' Association. He holds an MBA from Queen's University and a degree in finance and continues to actively ranch west of Calgary.



Ryan Copithorne discussed the current state of the Canadian beef industry, including rising beef prices, reduced cattle numbers, and the impact of prolonged drought and strong consumer demand. He explained how advancements in genetics, feeding practices, and dairy-beef crossbreeding have helped maintain beef supplies despite Canada's declining cattle herd. Ryan also highlighted challenges facing Canadian ranchers, including competition from lower-cost international beef, an aging ranching population, and the loss of agricultural land. He discussed opportunities to strengthen the industry through improved beef marketing, sustainable land management, and encouraging younger generations to enter ranching. He emphasized the important role cattle play in maintaining healthy grasslands, supporting wildlife, storing carbon, and reducing wildfire risks through grazing. Ryan concluded by stressing the need to rebuild Canada's cattle herd and create opportunities for the next generation of ranchers.



Ken Copithorne thanked Ryan for his informative presentation and recognized the Copithorne family's long history in the beef industry, dating back to the early 1880s. He praised Ryan for providing a clear overview of the industry's history, current challenges, and future needs. **Ken** also highlighted agriculture's importance to Alberta's economy and the connection between the livestock and grain industries, noting the beef animal's unique ability to convert forage into high-quality protein.

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

Click HERE for the photo gallery



Announcements

Dinner Club – An Evening of Friendship & Fellowship! One of my favourite Rotary social activities is DINNER CLUB! Always a wonderful time, and such a great opportunity to get to know fellow members on a more personal level – without the busyness, excitement and (sometimes!) noise of our weekly meetings. I was delighted to host Allan and Wendy Johnson, along with Pat and Harold Neuman, for an evening filled with laughter, great conversation and wonderful fellowship. Of course, there was plenty of food (perhaps a little too much indulging!) and a few libations (perhaps more indulgence!) to round out the evening. Good friends, good food and lots of laughs – what more could you ask for? A memorable evening enjoyed by all!



Rotarians Community Kitchens located in northeast Calgary needs your help. As a volunteer you would be needed to help fill food hampers. It would require you to be on your feet for up to 3 hours per shift. The shift to be filled is as follows:

Monday November 23rd, 5–8 PM

Please forward your name and email address as a volunteer to Rick Jakubec:
rjakubec@shaw.ca

Community Kitchens
3751 21st ST NE Calgary

Rotary Casino 2026

Please consider being a volunteer for the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park
Last year our 2 day take away was over $ 82,000.00

Dates:
Thursday, December 17th
Friday, December 18th
Place: cowboys Casino @ Stampede Park

Shift Times Available:
Thursday December 17/26
6:30 PM to 3:30 AM (2 cashier & 1 chip runner shifts)
11:00 PM to 3:30 AM (2 count room shifts)

Friday December 18/26
6:30 PM to 3:30 AM (1 general manager & 2 chip runner shifts)
11:00 PM to 3:30 AM (4 count room shifts}

Contact: **Lynn Grant** @ 403 819 8786 or Lynngrant3927@gmail.com
Please respond ASAP as I have to admit names to ALGC



JOIN US

Please RSVP by November 10th, 2026 to rsvp@inclusionalberta.org or 587.338.7728.

Dear Friend,

On behalf of Inclusion Alberta, I invite you to join us for our annual **Changing Lives, Changing Communities** fundraising event.

Come hear powerful stories of lives changed through inclusion, opportunity and belonging—and see the difference your generosity makes possible.

Your support changes lives, strengthens families and builds more inclusive communities.

Together, we can create a future where everyone belongs.

Sincerely,

Tina Trigg
President, Inclusion Alberta

SPONSORED BY:

CUE Concordia University of Edmonton · Milkjar · DHL · ATCO · Alberta Blue Cross · UFA · ATS Traffic · cenovus energy · Agricultural Community Foundation

YOU ARE INVITED TO

OLD TIME CHRISTMAS

December 3 at 11am

Wainwright Hotel at Heritage Park



$75 per person

Bring your partner, spouse or a guest
Lunch is turkey with all the fixings
Open bar

Register at rotarystampedepark.com

Please bring warm clothing items for Inn from the Cold, non-perishable food items for the Calgary Food Bank or children's toys for The Salvation Army

NEW MEMBER PROPOSAL

Wendy Lorraine Hennel-Meier has been proposed for active membership in the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park, as sponsored by **Blake Pelham** and seconded by **Pat Neuman**, with a proposed classification of Accounting / Finance

If any Member objects to **Wendy Lorraine Hennel-Meier** joining our Club or to her proposed classification, an objection must be filed in writing with the Club Secretary, **Gail Williams:** secretary@rotarycs.org prior to **November 12th.**

Rotary
Club of Calgary
at Stampede Park

Closing:

Next week: November 11th - Rotary Remembers
(November 12th - NO lunch meeting)

The week following: November 19th - Rotary Foundation and CRCF

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

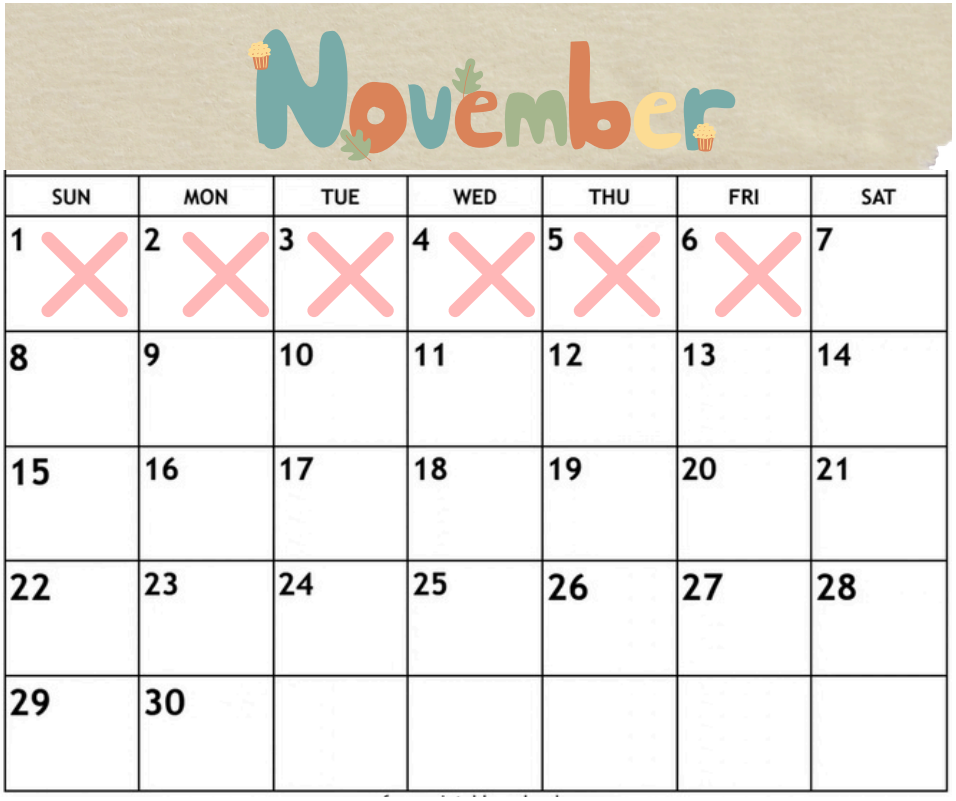
~~**November 5th** - Ryan Copithorne~~

November 11th - Rotary Remembers

November 12th - **No Meeting**

November 19th - Rotary Foundation and CRCF

November 26th - TBD



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 X	2 X	3 X	4 X	5 X	6 X	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

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



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 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26
27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve		

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