



ROTARY NEWS

RCCSP Weekly Bulletin September 10th, 2026
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Sgt@Arms: Jim Fitzowich



Welcome to the September 10th 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 O Canada and Rotary Grace.

Head Table (L-R) : Jim Fitzowich, Steve Austin, Janet Matthews, Wyane Meikle, Bryan Walton, President Larry Kennedy



Presentation:
Wayne Meikle The
Fish Creek Park story

September 24th
Jim Fitzowich

Next Week:
September 17th
Calgary Opera. Sue
Elliot. CEO & GM

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...

Steve Austin and Courtney Kachur shared an update on the Rotary Employment Partnership and recent government funding changes. Inclusion Alberta will continue the program in Rotary District 5360, including Calgary, but lost funding in another district. They stressed the importance of the 25-year relationships built through the program and asked Rotarians to help support its future. A \$50,000 challenge gift has been pledged, with additional fundraising needed.

Despite a 48% reduction in revenue, Inclusion Alberta remains committed to supporting individuals and families. Rotarians were also encouraged to attend the November 17 fundraising breakfast at the Calgary Westin.

Joe Connelly came up and talked about the Poppy Fund. More information on the following page.

Ted Stack spoke on behalf of the International Service Committee and asked for two or three additional volunteers. He explained that more committee members are needed to handle the many international project and funding requests the club receives. Members interested in helping were encouraged to contact him.

Jim Fitzowich, Sergeant-at-Arms, led a lighthearted "Yes or BS" quiz based on current news headlines. Members answered questions about Calgary Mayor Jeremy Farkas, federal support for Alberta's economy, and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's visit to Calgary. The quiz was designed to be fun while raising money for the club through small fines for incorrect answers. Jim thanked everyone for participating before turning the meeting over to the guest speaker.

Bryan Walton introduced guest speaker Wayne Meikle, highlighting his extensive career in forestry, provincial parks, urban park planning, and environmental work. Wayne eventually oversaw Fish Creek Provincial Park in Calgary.

Wayne Meikle spoke about the history, development, and management of Fish Creek Provincial Park. He shared stories from his years overseeing the park, including its creation, environmental challenges, and the importance of preserving its natural and historical features.

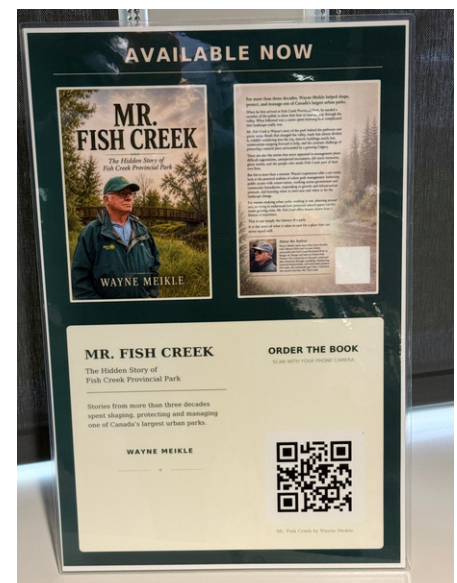
He discussed the devastating 2005 flood, the rebuilding of the park, efforts to preserve historic buildings such as the Ranche House, and the strong connection Calgarians have with Fish Creek.

Wayne also spoke about his book, *Mr. Fish Creek*, which captures the park's history and many behind-the-scenes stories from his career. Proceeds from the book support Friends of Fish Creek.

Janet Matthews thanked Wayne Meikle on behalf of the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park for his fascinating presentation on the history of Fish Creek Provincial Park. She highlighted his decades of involvement with the park and his insights into balancing Calgary's growth with protecting its natural environment, wildlife, pathways, wetlands, and heritage.

Janet noted that Wayne's long connection to the park has earned him the nickname "Mr. Fish Creek" and thanked him for sharing his knowledge, stories, and passion with the club.

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



Click [HERE](#) for the photo gallery

Announcements

Community Kitchens

Community Kitchens located in northeast Calgary need 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 shifts to be filled are below:

Monday, September 14th, 5 pm to 8 pm
Tuesday October 20th, 1 pm to 4 pm
Monday November 23rd, 5 pm to 8 pm

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

The Poppy Fund is desperate for volunteers as they only have about 10 days available for sales.

If you can spare 3 or 4 hours to help out, the veterans would be most appreciative...(as would I!)

Shifts start right after Halloween and are at major malls and grocery stores.

To sign up, or if you have any questions, please contact
Kristen @ (403) 561 -7832.

NEW MEMBER PROPOSAL

Frances Schwartz has been proposed for active membership in the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park, as sponsored by **Kim Hickson** and seconded by **Sharyl Madigan**, with a proposed classification of Non-Profit Leadership.

If any Member objects to **Frances Schwartz** joining our Club or to HIS/HER proposed classification, an objection must be filed in writing with the Club Secretary, **Gail Williams**: secretary@rotarycs.org prior to **September 24th**

Comments: Former Rotary Member of the Nechako, Orillia, Calgary Downtown and Sherwood Park Clubs



INVITATION TO THE ROTARY PARTNERS

WELCOME BACK BREAKFAST & ANNUAL BOOK SALE

Tuesday, September 22, 2026
Willow Park Golf & Country Club
639 Willow Park Drive SE, Calgary
Cost: \$35.00 per person



MENU

Canadian Back Bacon Eggs Benedict
Breakfast Sausage
Bacon
Pan-fried Baby Red Potatoes
Fresh Baked Croissants, Banana Bread & Muffins
Fresh Fruit Platter
Fruit Yogurt
Freshly Brewed Coffee & real Tea Blends
Juice Served to Tables

Registration: 9:00am / Program: 10:00am / Brunch: 10:30am
Need a ride? Contact Joan Walton at 403-651-7561

Confirm attendance, payment and food allergies
NO LATER THAN September 15 to
Karen Grant 403-239-8987 or partners@rotarycs.org ONLY

BRING YOUR BOOKS & BAGS FOR THE SALE

Proceeds to CanLearn Society

CASH ONLY



Announcements

25.05.24

Opinion Piece for Calgary Herald

In the weeks ahead you will be hearing more about the Rotary International Convention that is coming to Calgary on June 21-25, 2025. Up to 20,000 Rotarians from around the world will descend on our great City.

Given the current times, several Rotary members thought it would be appropriate for Calgarians to learn more about a peace initiative with our friends in the US that was conceived, promoted, and is nurtured to this day by Rotarians on both sides of the border. It all began when a group of Rotarians from Cardston, Alberta invited fellow Rotarians to the Prince of Wales Hotel in Waterton Lakes National Park on July 4-5, 1931 for a good will meeting. Over 100 Rotarians from Montana, Saskatchewan and Alberta attended the meeting. At that meeting there was a consensus to advocate for the creation of an International Peace Park that would encompass both National parks. It was resolved, "that the proper authorities be petitioned to commence negotiations to establish the two parks indicated as a permanent International Peace Park, which will be definitely set aside for this laudable purpose, pledging our loyalty and allegiance to foster all international relationships". Canadian and American Rotarians reached out to their respective federal governments and in the days when things could get done expeditiously, the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, a first in the world was commemorated on June 18, 1932!

It's worth noting the words of our leaders of the day. Prime Minister Bennett said, "It is my earnest hope that this great International Peace Park stretching across our common frontier and in which citizens of both our countries may seek recreation, may forever remain a permanent memorial of all that neighbourly relations should be between adjoining nations". And from President Hoover: "Dedication of the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park is a full gesture of the good will that has so long blessed our relations with our Canadian neighbours, and I am gratified by the hope and the faith that it will forever be an appropriate symbol of permanent peace and friendship".

Authorized by the U.S. Congress and Canada Parliament, the designation of the peace park combines the 203-square-mile Waterton Lakes National Park in Canada with the 1,600-square-mile Glacier National Park in the United States. The arrangement allows both national parks to operate as separate entities under the peace park mantle. Thereafter, the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park Association was created to perpetuate the message of peace and good will inspired by this monumental achievement. Rotarians agreed to meet annually at a Peace Park Assembly which alternates between each country. Rotarians from over

200 clubs across four districts partake in the Assembly, usually on a September weekend which culminates with the Hands Across the Border Ceremony. The ceremony which normally takes place over a long white ribbon and sometimes at the border, includes Rotarians, members of the indigenous community, park staff, politicians and other government officials. After the speeches the groups form an East-West line, with Americans on the South side and Canadians on the North side who embrace with a handshake and recite the Peace Pledge: In the name of all we hold sacred, we will not take up arms against each other. We will work for peace, maintain liberty, strive for freedom, and demand equal opportunities for all. May the long existing peace between our nations stimulate other peoples to follow this example.

This Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park Association endures and stands to promote the creation of Peace Parks around the world with a message of Peace and Understanding. In a world that seems in constant turmoil the pursuit of Peace is something we can all strive for because the alternative is not the solution for humanity. May Peace Prevail on Earth!

Bryan Walton is the Past President of the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park and a former Director of the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park Association.

Announcements

Waterton Glacier International Peace Park

Club members, please read the attached article penned by Past President Bryan Walton about the Waterton Glacier International Peace Park. For many years our club has participated in the Annual Assembly of the Peace Park Association that is composed of the four Rotary Districts 5360, 5390, 5370 and 5080. This year the Assembly will be held in Kalispell, MT. September 25 th to 27 th. The program is outlined below. Please note the organizers have arranged a special rate of \$99.00 US/night. The link is in the Registration information below.

[Register NOW](#) for WGIPPA 2026 Assembly-Kalispell

Jeff Mow, former Glacier National Park Superintendent, is the Chair of the Organizing Committee and is putting together a wonderful program for us.

SCHEDULE of EVENTS

Friday September 25

- 2:00 - 4:00 - Peace Conversation at the Wheeler International Peace Park Center in Glacier National Park.
- 3:00 - 5:00 - Registration Opens at the Red Lion Hotel, Kalispell
- 3:00 - 5:00 - Shopping and Historic Walking Tour of Downtown Kalispell
- 5:00 - 8:00 - Welcome Reception at the Glacier Art Museum
(walking distance from the Red Lion)

Saturday, September 26

- 8:00 - Registration Opens (Morning Coffee)
- 8:30 - 12:00 - Hands Across the Border Golf Tournament (9-Hole Scramble)
- 9:00 - Assembly Opening, Land Acknowledgement, Introductions
- 9:15 - 10:30 - Mariah Gladstone, Food Sovereignty on the Blackfeet Reservation
- 10:30 - 11:00 - Break
- 11:00 - 12:00 - ShinNaasha Pete, Conserving Whitebark Pine on Native lands
- 12:00 - 1:00 - Lunch with an Update on Yellowstone to Yukon Initiative
- 1:00 - 1:45 - Carmen Hancock, Waterton NP Update
- 1:45 - 2:30 - Dave Roemer, Glacier NP Update
- 2:30 - 3:00 - Break
- 3:00 - 5:00 - Assembly General Meeting
- 5:00 - 6:00 - Happy Hour
- 6:00 - 10:00 - Gala Buffet Dinner with Keynote Speaker Diane Boyd

Sunday, September 27

- 9:30 - Non-Denominational Church Service, Apgar Campground Amphitheater, Glacier NP
- 11:00 - "Hands Across the Border" Ceremony, Apgar Campground Amphitheater, Glacier NP
- 1:30 - Tour the Waterton Glacier International Peace Park Center at the Wheeler Property

Hope to see you in September!!

For the next few weeks the main entrance to the new Rotary House will not be accessible do to some construction. We ask everyone to use the entrance on the north side of the building for the time being.

This also mean the chair lift will not be available during this time. If you require help up the stairs, please let us know so we can ensure someone is there to assist you.



Closing:

Next week: September 17th - Calgary Opera. Sue Elliot. CEO & GM

The week following: September 24th - Jim Fitzowich

As we leave today, let us remember that even small acts of service can result in lasting impact. Together through Rotary, we have the opportunity to strengthen our communities and make the world a better place.

Social Media Links



[Facebook](#)

[Linkedin](#)

[Instagram](#)

Calendar

SEPTEMBER

September 3rd - Judy Riege

September 10th - Wayne Meikle The Fish Creek

Park story

September 17th - Calgary Opera. Sue Elliot. CEO
& GM

September 24th - Jim Fitzowich



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	31	1 X	2 X	3 X	4 X	5 X
6 X	7 X	8 X	9 X	10 X	11 X	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3

OCTOBER

October 1st - Kids At Heart Charity Presentation

October 8th - TBD

October 15th - Chris Johnson, Old College
External Relations

October 22nd - Field of the Crosses

October 29th - Halloween



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Columbus Day	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween