



**RCCSP Weekly Bulletin September 14th, 2023**  
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Photography: Paul Brick  
Videography: Steve Mason  
Administrator/Bulletin Editor: Sarah Brown

**Welcome to the September 14th meeting of the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park. My name is Jim Bladon, and I'm honoured to be the President Elect of this Club for 23-24.**

**Head Table: (L to R) Bob Wiens, Jim Frantz – Founder of Investing Hope Foundation, Bogota Columbia, Spencer Tonkinson, President Elect Jim Bladon, Ron Ghitter, and Catherine Brownlee.**



Please rise and join me in the singing of O'Canada and Rotary Grace.



## Top Seven Over Seventy

We were lucky enough to have TWO of the TOP SEVEN OVER SEVENTY in the room today. Our very own **Benno Nigg** and today's Guest Speaker, Ron Ghitter were both recognized as The Top Seven Over Seventy, to see the article please click [here](#).





## Announcements:

**Visitors and Guests:** **Greg Smyth** did a wonderful job of introducing our guests today and we sang our beloved Welcome Song.

**Health and Wellness:** Health and Wellness contact for September and October is **David Read**  
Tel 403-271-5856 or 403-921-5856 or email [nread@telusplanet.net](mailto:nread@telusplanet.net)



**NORM DEVITT** has been moved to Sarcee Care today. The visiting hours are from 8:15am-8:30pm. He would love visitors!! Please go and see our Normy.

**PAUL BRICK'S** Sister, Joan Rogers, passed away suddenly this week, we are sending our well wishes to the Brick Family

**Mark Bedford—Jim Fitzowich** reports; It is with sadness that we notify you of the passing of Rev. Dr. Mark Bedford Sunday morning in hospice in Penticton BC. His 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday would have been September 13<sup>th</sup>. He is Kathy Fitzowich's father. Mark was a member of Calgary South Rotary from 1971– 1984. Gardie Shaw was Mark's sponsor

**50/50 : Neill Magee** asked Guest Speaker Ron Ghitter, to pull the lucky ticket and the winner was **Wendy Giuffre**.



**Pickle Ball:** Pickleball opens Friday, September 22 with a beginner lesson and rules taught by our very own **David Schwarz** and fellow Canadian Pickleball champion, Rich Pal. Please try and bring a Pickleball paddle as we only have a few available. Comfortable gym clothes and shoes are best. Change rooms are available. Lesson starts at 4:00. Any other questions, please call **Deb Sands** at 403-703-7301. Here is the sign up link! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D49A8AC2CA1FDC70-44237972-pickleball>

**Social Committee—** The Social Committee has many exciting events coming up, too many to include in this Bulletin—Please Click [HERE](#) to view the enter update and stay tuned for a more in depth update next week!

**Terry Fox Run— Glen Godlonton** is asking for a couple more volunteers for the Terry Fox Run this Sunday. It was so much fun last year! Email Glen to sign up if you haven't done so yet. [glen@godlonton.com](mailto:glen@godlonton.com)



**Sgt of Arms— Spencer Tonkinson** was Sgt. Of Arms today and he started off with some border line inappropriate Dad jokes as his Wife Courtney had their second baby. He then redeemed himself from not showing up on his last Sgt. Of Arms shift by fining himself first. Spencer then spoke about Norm Devitt and encouraged everyone to go visit him and mentioned how important it is to take care of the things we may have let slip under the rug because we are too busy. Great job Spencer!

**WildFire Evacuee Help—**We have all heard the devastating news of the evacuations underway due to the wildfires in the Northwest Territories. Our hearts go out to those displaced and having to leave their homes without any understanding if they will survive the wildfires. If you wish to help, you can donate to the United Way NWT Emergency Response Fund, <https://nwt.unitedway.ca/2023-emergency-response/>, through this Canada Helps link. <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/90073?v2=true>.





## Announcements Continued: Bethany Care Foundations 20th Anniversary Celebration

### *Two Decades of Impact*

*Join Us for Bethany Care Foundation's 20th Anniversary Celebration*

Date: Wednesday, September 20th, 2023 Time: 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm (registration opens at 3:00 pm | short presentation at 3:30 pm) Location: The Rotary Atrium, Bethany Riverview Address: 2915 - 26 Avenue SE, Calgary

Please join Bethany Care Foundation as we celebrate the milestones we have achieved together to support Bethany Care Society, providing innovative, meaningful programs and comfortable, home-like spaces for seniors and adults with complex care concerns.

Come and experience the impact of your contributions first-hand through this immersive event with live demos, interactive exhibits, and tours!

### Event Highlights

- Music Therapy Program: Experience first-hand the transformative impact of our music therapy program, which plays a crucial role in supporting the well-being of our senior residents on their aging journey.
- Interactive Exhibit: See, touch, and feel some of the innovative tools used to enhance the lives of our residents. Gain insights into how we create a nurturing environment and foster growth and happiness.
- Sensory Room Tour: Register onsite for a 10-minute guided tour of our sensory room. Discover the therapeutic benefits of this serene space designed to stimulate the senses and promote relaxation.
- Open your Mind through Arts (OMA) Program: Learn about our inspiring OMA program, where our talented residents express their creativity through various art forms. You will also have a chance to win an art piece lovingly crafted by one of our residents.

Click [HERE](#) to register and secure your spot for this memorable celebration! We look forward to honouring all of you for your dedication, generosity, and support for our community as we help Albertans age well.

## Rotary Challenger Park Golf

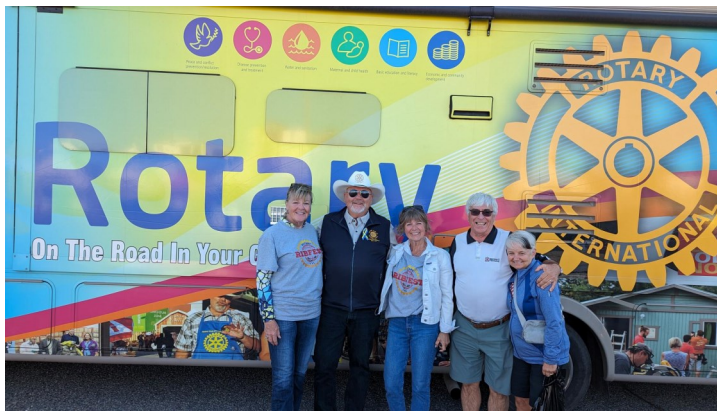
President Bryan shared these photos from the Rotary Challenger Park Golf which our Club helps sponsor.





## Announcements Continued: RibFest

A number of our members volunteered at and attended Rotary RibFest last weekend in support of our fellow Rotary Clubs of Calgary Chinook, Calgary East, Centennial, U of C Rotaract Club and The Rotaract United Club. The collaboration of these clubs to host this memorable weekend fundraiser for youth charities around Calgary was inspiring. Besides the incredible competition of 4 Nationally Renowned Rib Vendors, there was a silent auction, a terrific market for shopping, AND fabulous live music all weekend that left many of us dancing into the night! It was wonderful to run into old friends, and to make new ones! Well done Rotary RibFest – we look forward to next year's event! - **Kathy Demorest**



## Brawn Family Foundation Rotary

In the spirit of celebration, we invite you to join us at the Grand Opening of the **Brawn** Family Foundation Rotary Park. This is Alberta's first park designed and dedicated to youth mental health recovery.

This free, fun family event will take place on **Saturday, September 23 from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm**. Join us for a formal program featuring Mayor Jyoti Gondek, as well as entertainment and park tours.

Brawn Family Foundation Rotary Park is located at 1205 17A Street NW. There is limited street parking available, and paid underground parking at the The Summit: Marian & Jim Sinneave Centre for Youth Resilience, which is next to the park.

Please register via our Eventbrite link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/brawn-family-foundation-rotary-park-grand-opening-tickets->

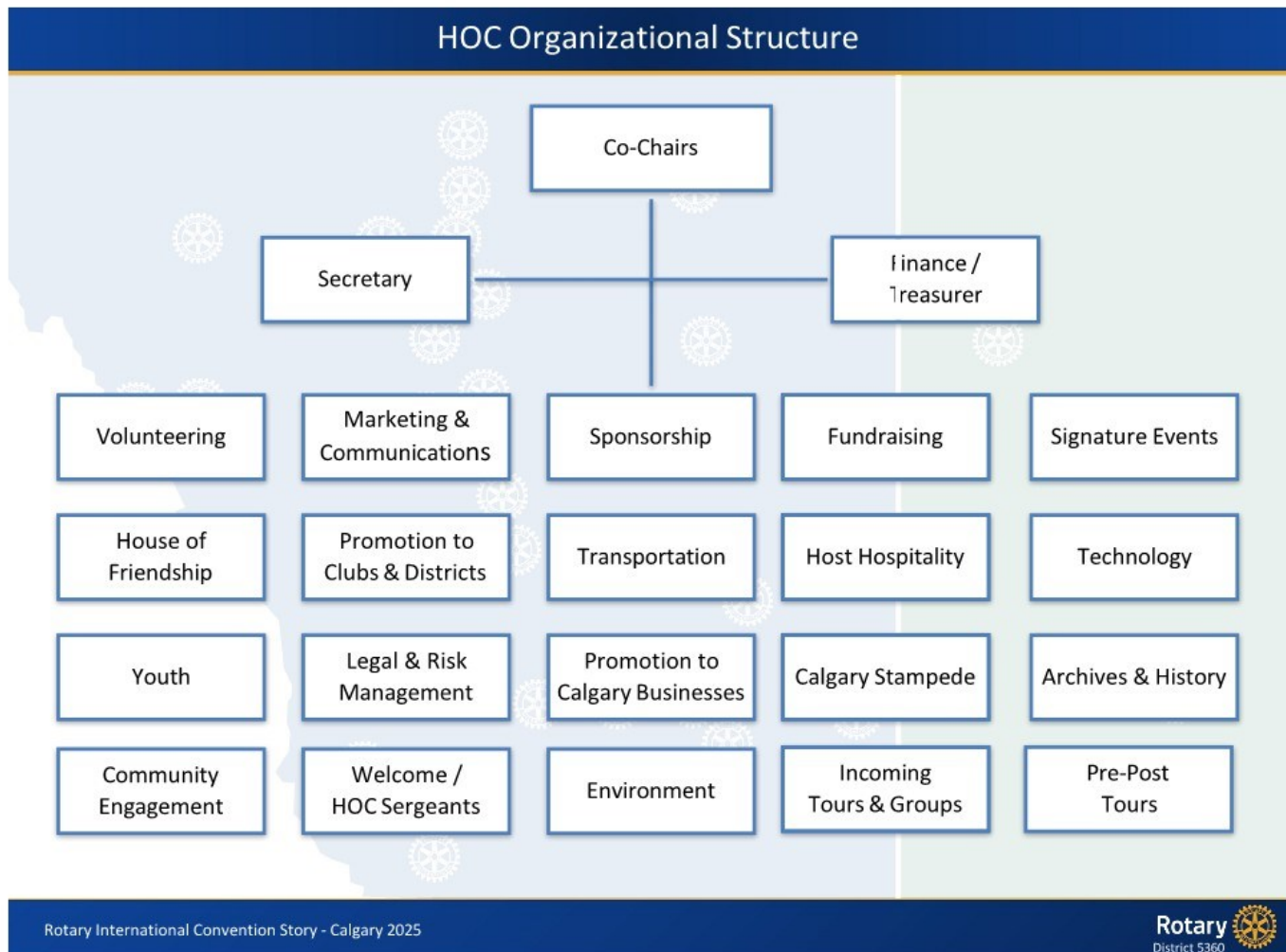
## Outgoing Exchange Student—William Wei

We received this photo from William, on a boat in Germany with his Sponsor Family. Thanks Marietta for sharing!!

It is great to see William enjoying himself on his exchange, reminder you can follow him on Facebook at William Wei (photo of a cat is his profile, or IG @whoatsbagels







## 2025 Convention Volunteers

**Craig Stokke**, HOC Chair for the 2025 Rotary International Convention is requesting Volunteers in the above mentioned areas. If you are able to volunteer, please email **Luanne Whitmarsh** at [l.whitmarsh@shaw.ca](mailto:l.whitmarsh@shaw.ca)

Signing up for “anywhere you need help” is not helpful, please choose an area (or 2) to Volunteer in when submitting your requests to help.

Thank you—Convention Committee





## Additional Presentation— Jim Frantz – Founder of Investing Hope Foundation, Bogota Columbia



**Bob Wiens** introduced Jim Frantz and Jim spoke about the impact a Rotary Grant has made on the project in Bogota, we gave him a Grant when he was first starting out and it is amazing to see the impact that has made with all of his hard work since then. Our Bob Wiens has worked with Jim in Bogota as well and we couldn't be more proud!

I highly recommend watching the recording of the Meeting to see Jim's presentation and to see the numbers which really emphasize what an impact they are making!



To watch the recording of the Meeting click [HERE](#)

## Main Presentation— Ron Ghitter— Politics in our changing community



**Catherine Brownlee** introduced MR. Ron Ghitter to the Club today.

As mentioned on page 1, Ron was also selected as one of the Top Seven Over Seventy in Calgary! What an accomplishment. Senator Ron Ghitter has a very impressive bio and has been involved in many impactful causes throughout his long life, to read the impressive bio about Ron Ghitter, please click [HERE](#)



Senator Ron Ghitter spoke about the Politics in our Changing Community today, there were so interesting points and some points that might make some people uncomfortable but it was very interesting none the less. I highly recommend watching the recording of the today's Meeting to see his speech in it's entirety.

To watch the recording of the Meeting click [HERE](#)



**THIS WEEK'S MEETING LINK:** [https://youtu.be/Yw3Bd\\_o-VaY](https://youtu.be/Yw3Bd_o-VaY)

## In Closing:

**Next week's Meeting:** We are off site at Spruce Meadows. You must register by tomorrow at noon so we can advise caterers of numbers. Map for venue and parking will be in the Bulletin. We are suggesting arrival at 11:30 for a 12:15 start.

**THERE WILL BE NO WALK-INS!!!! PLEASE REGISTER BY TOMORROW IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND!**

**Closing Words:** As you go about your business this week remember simple acts of kindness go a long way to *Creating Hope in the World*.

**And with that, our meeting is adjourned. Thank you for coming. Have a great Rotary week!**



Final reminder to register for next week's Meeting by tomorrow morning

[www.rotarystampedepark.com](http://www.rotarystampedepark.com)





### Host Families Needed

The Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park  
requires host families  
(September, 2023 through July, 2024)

**Meet our 2023-2024 Inbound Student, 16-year-old Marino Farella from Italy**

- Lives in the historical town of Rutigliano, Bari in the south of Italy
- Is close to his parents and older sister who is attending university
- Loves soccer; super fan of INTER, the famous football (soccer) club of Italy.
- Enjoys watching TV series with family, cooking and has a passion for travel and beautiful places.
- Will attend Grade 11 at Crescent Heights High School



#### Who Can Be A Host Family?

- Any caring and responsible family with an interest in hosting a young person from another land.
- Families with small children make great host families. Young children experience having a Big Brother or Sister; Exchange students may share a new language for the young children.
- "Empty Nesters" or retired couples often have more time than younger families to spend with the exchange student and they enjoy having a young person to host.
- Families with high school age children help the exchange student integrate into the school activities.
- Single parent families or single adults make good hosts.
- Families do not need to be affiliated with Rotary to host Rotary Youth Exchange Students.

#### How Long Will I Host a Rotary Youth Exchange Student?

The typical length of stay is about two to four months. This provides the student with an opportunity to experience different cultures and family traditions. The student is in Calgary from late August 2023 to July 2024.

#### Rotary Youth Exchange Changes Lives

Whether you're a student or a host family, Rotary Youth Exchange opens doors, opportunities and minds.



For more information on the Host Family program  
or for an application to host  
Contact Gail Williams  
or email [gailwi45@telus.net](mailto:gailwi45@telus.net)  
Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park







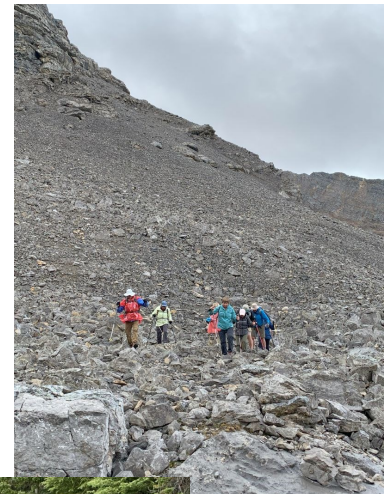
# Partners in Print

We start Book Club again on September 18, 2023. The cost is \$20 for a yummy breakfast buffet and discussion about books that you have read. Email [janetopp@shaw.ca](mailto:janetopp@shaw.ca) if you'd like to join us. Our Book Sale will be on September 6th 2023 at the Partners luncheon. **Jane and Maureen**

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## Hiking Club

We had 15 hikers on the trail to Arethusa Cirque on a day that started with spitting rain. I tried to get all the hikers to behave for a group picture but there's always one misbehaving. We had many water crossings but it is always better when friends help you cross. There were a lot of rocks up there and crossing them proved a challenge. Some of us posed on the summit rock protuberance. It wasn't scary at all. The rock formations were awesome! This hike had it all - some late flowers, a little rain, some mud, lots of rocks and scree and some falls, but we all survived to tell the tale. - **Pat Farn**







# Welcome Back to Regular Programming

**September 21st:**

**Spruce Meadows—OFFSITE—Field Trip**



**September 28th:**

**Jim Gray—Update on the Green Line**



**October 5th:**

**Rob Roach— Foot Traffic Report on Migration**



**October 12th:**

**TBD—TBD**

