



RCCSP Weekly Bulletin September 7th, 2023
Volume Number 69, Issue Number 7

Photography: Paul Brick
Videography: Steve Mason
Administrator/Bulletin Editor: Sarah Brown

Welcome to the September 7th meeting of the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park. My name is Bryan Walton, and I'm honoured to be the President of this Club for 23-24.

Head Table: (L to R) President Bryan Walton, John (Fitz) Fitzsimmons, Glenn Potter, Patti Pon, Max Feldman, and Stan Cichon.



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



Our very own **David Read's, (The Tomato Guy)**, tomatoes were in today's salad and they were delicious!! Dave always has his tomatoes in his trunk on Thursdays if you're wanting to get some please contact David. Email; nread@telusplanet.net



Announcements:

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

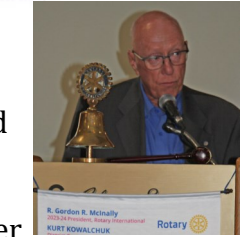


Health and Wellness: Health and Wellness contact for September and October is **David Read** Tel 403-271-5856 or 403-921-5856 or email nread@telusplanet.net

NORM DEVITT welcomes visitors, Norm to room 33, unit 71 on the 7th floor of Foothills 10th. He is in good spirits, telling jokes, and looking forward to lunch at Rotary, given the meals at Foothills. He is very much looking forward to visitors. He will be moved to Sarcee Care at a later date. We will keep you updated.

GAIL WILLIAMS had a bad fall, she has some bleeding on her brain but is back home now. We are sending all of our well wishes to you Gail!! Get well soon!

50/50 : Neill Magee asked Fitzy to pull the lucky ticket and the winner of \$147 was **Don Bacon** who donated it back to the Rotary Foundation.



Pickle Ball: Opening day for Pickleball is now, September 22nd. Reason for the change is the first hour of that event will be an "introduction to learning Pickleball" with Canadian National Champions **David Schwartz** and Rich Pal. We are so lucky to have David as a member in our club! Unfortunately, David is on holiday until later this month but will be available for teaching on September 22. Also, the equipment is on a short delay. (A THANK YOU shout out to Glen Richardson for helping with this expense!) Please stay tuned for a "sign up" application coming soon!" debbie@priorityleasing.net

Incoming Exchange Student: Want an opportunity to contribute to the club and help a 17 year old athlete? This is your opportunity to host our inbound exchange student, Marino, from Italy. He arrives August 20th and is initially staying with **Stacey Johnson**. He's attending centrally located Crescent Heights High. Please reach out to **Stacey Johnson** or **Gail Williams** now with questions and interest! -**Rudy Ruberto See more info on page 6**

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 volunteers for the Terry Fox Run again this year. It was so much fun last year! Email Glen to sign up if you haven't done so yet. glen@godlonton.com



Sgt of Arms— **Jack Thompson** was our distinguished Sgt of Arms today and he is now known as Johnny Appleseed from giving everyone some delicious apples from his and Myrna's tree (**which he is asking if anyone wants more apples and are able to pick them their selves, to contact Jack or Myrna**) he kept with the apple theme today and drained some pockets with some apple idioms. Way to go Jack!

To see more photos from today's Meeting by clicking [HERE](#) and to watch the recording of the Meeting click [HERE](#)



Announcements:

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner? Dinner Club

Don't delay.. sign up for the Dinner Club now (deadline is August 31!!) as we would like to see our snowbirds get an opportunity to host and perhaps "dine out" with our other members before they leave for the winter ...That is my "urgency" in getting members signed up early!!

If you were a member last year, and haven't changed any of the info, you need to just let me know you will join again.

If you are new to this, it generally means you host 4-5 members (spouses/partners) once and you are invited out twice, by other members. Fill out the attachment...

Your menu need not be gourmet, just easy and simple... our purpose is not gourmet meals, but to get to know people better!! You can entertain in a restaurant, or at your home for lunch, brunch, dinner..or even a weiner roast in the backyard!! Last year, no one had a duplicate in guests or hosting, which worked out really well ...thank you, Greg and Joanne M. for giving me good advice!!

For those of you who have yet to host from last year, please do it asap.. please be fair to the ones who are expecting to be invited out.. It sometimes, can be trying to get people together, but if you set two/three dates and you can't get your assigned guests together, please go ahead with the most popular date and ask other members to round out the table.



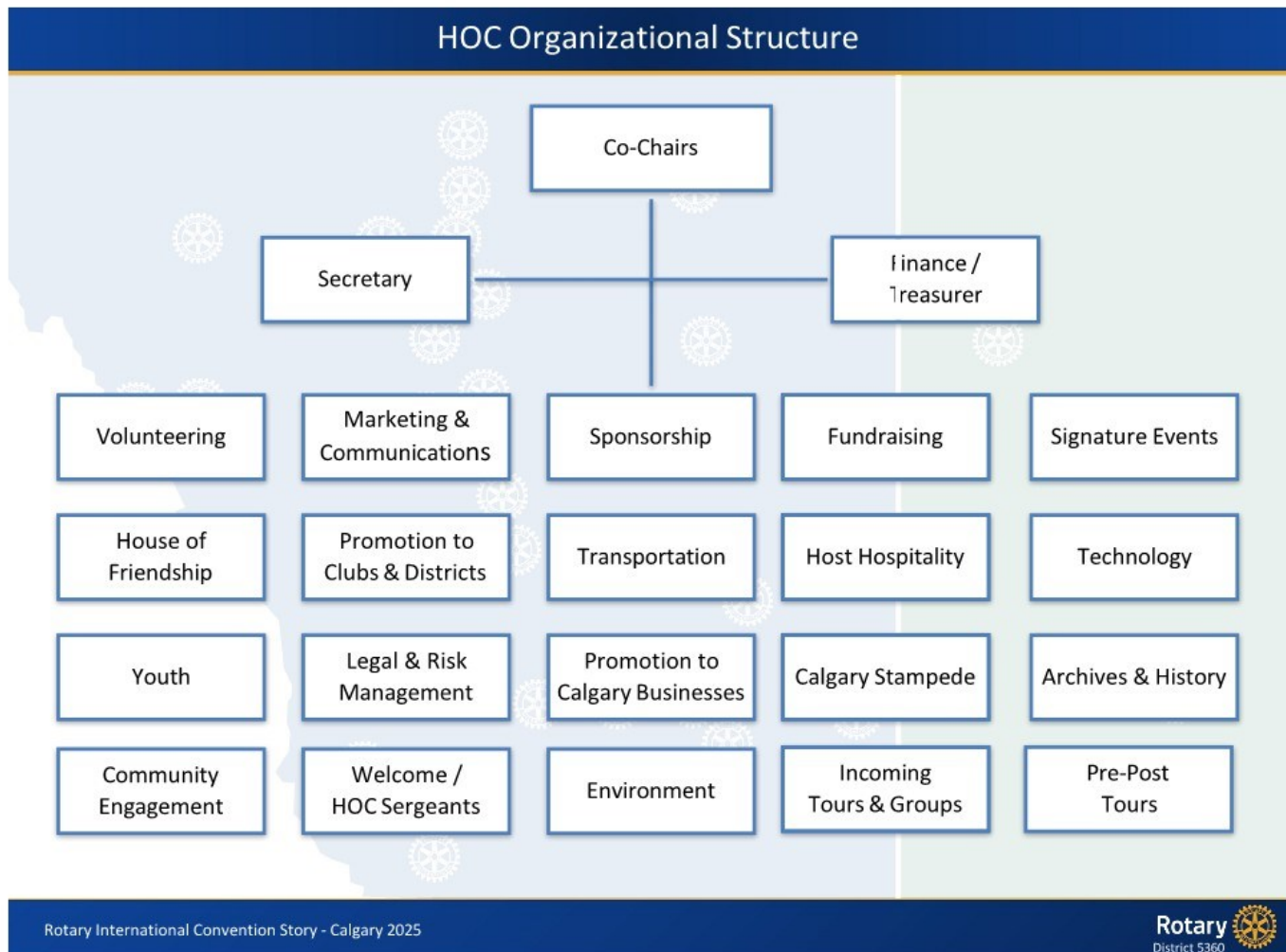
Bonus: To add a little fun for the Dinner Club members, we will be having a Wine Tasting evening in early October...date to be confirmed shortly.

Contact **Pat Neuman** (pneuman647@gmail.com or 416-889-5673) to sign up.

Membership Update: John Fitzsimmons, as Membership Director, shared some stats on Membership growth, to see the documents that were on the slides, click [HERE](#)



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>.



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

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





Main Presentation— Patti Pon— Developing Arts in Calgary

Glenn Potter welcomed Patti Pon to the Podium with this great introduction.

“President Bryan, ladies and gentlemen, I’m delighted to welcome to our podium today, Patti Pon. Patti is the President and CEO of Calgary Arts Development. She is a veteran community and arts champion with an extensive track record of leadership and service in Calgary and beyond.



Back in Jan./Feb, as I was working on developing a Fine Arts data base in preparation for the 2025 Convention, I opened The Calgary Herald to find a schedule of events for something called “The Chinook Blast”. Looking at all the events, I realized how “uninformed” I really was about the magnitude of the “arts scene” in Calgary. In the lower corner of the page was information about the schedule and the Calgary Arts Development. And so, we met, but first, I’ve done a little “digging.”

In 2020 Patti completed her full nine year term on the Board of the Calgary Foundation. In 2021 she was elected as the first person of colour to the Board of the Calgary Stampede. She is a founding member of the Asian Heritage Foundation and a past chair of Canada’s oldest public radio station, CKUA Radio Network in Edmonton. She also served as a board member for the Calgary Bid Exploration Committee which explored the potential for Calgary to submit a bid for the 2026 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games.

She has been awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal, the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and the 2013 Harry and Martha Cohen Award recognizing significant contributions to Calgary’s theatre community.

Ladies and Gentlemen please welcome to our podium today, a true champion of the Arts – Patti Pon, along with her assistant Helen Moore-Parkhouse.”



Patti then spoke about the Arts in Calgary and connected some main points to our Convention in 2025. To see Patti’s entire presentation please watch the recording of today’s Meeting by clicking [HERE](#)

Max Feldman then thanked the Speaker as he is friends with someone on her Board. Max did a great job at the Podium as a new Member he is sure getting involved! Way to go Max!

President Bryan then shared; “Patti in recognition of your time with us here today we will be making a \$100 donation to the Calgary Rotary Clubs’ Foundation in support of our community. Thanks again.”



Rotary Exchange Program

HOST FAMILY APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED -By Dorothea Schaab



Gail Williams, Chair of Youth Opportunities and Leadership has asked me to advise you that we are accepting applications for host families for our inbound Youth Exchange Student, Marino Farella. Special thanks to **Stacey and Kathy Johnson** and their family for being his first host family. We want Marino to experience our diversified Canadian culture and this happens as he is involved in daily home life with a number of different families. Please give thought to this opportunity to participate in molding this young person's life.

The close bonds formed between host family members and exchange youth often lasts for many, many years. For me, I'm still in touch with students from as far back as 13 years ago. And I know some of you have attended weddings, and hosted students as they have returned to Calgary for vacations ... most recently Hannah from Austria.

So please give this consideration, especially our new members. Not only is this a life changing year for our students, but your horizons will also be expanded. Information on applying as a host family has been distributed through recent emails and it will be in the Bulletin this week as well. Please contact **Gail Williams** for more information.



2023-24 Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange student Marino Farella arrived from Italy on Sunday, August 20. Saying Benvenuto are, from left, **Stacey Johnson, host parent; Rick Jakubek; Marino; President Bryan Walton; Marietta Maier, outbound counsellor; Gail Williams, inbound counsellor and chair, Youth Opportunities.**

Dorothea Schaab, photographer.

And Marino enjoying Stampede Park



2023-24 Outbound Rotary Youth Exchange student William Wei departed for Germany on Monday, August 21. Saying Bon Voyage are, from left, **Dorothea Schaab, Marietta Maier, outbound counsellor, Gail Williams, chair, Youth Opportunities.**



And William with his Host Family in Germany!



THIS WEEK'S MEETING LINK: <https://youtu.be/FoR27sXJi9U>

In Closing:

Next week's Meeting: We are back in Rotary House to hear from Ron Gitter on the Changing Politics in our Communities. Bring a Friend Meeting, so if there is anyone you know who might be interested in joining Rotary or just someone you want to share your Rotary experience with, invite them next week!! We will have a Bring a Friend Meeting once a month so start planning who you will bring.

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





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
Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park





Protecting Vulnerable People Policy Requirements 2023-24

It is critical that our Club is following the requirements for certain Club members to volunteer with the vulnerable population. The requirement to be an approved volunteer is to be screened following District 5360 procedure. Currently, District 5360 has identified the following Committees where volunteers should be screened:

- NGSE, RYLA, RYPEN, RAYEC Program Lead
- District Board
- Protecting Vulnerable People Committee
- Club Interact Advisor
- Club Stay-in-School Mentor (when student is under 18 years of age)
- Club Youth Service Committee
- Club Youth Scholarships & Awards

Club Vulnerable People Programs (e.g. Seniors, New Immigrants)

In addition to the above there is a separate application and set of requirements for a family hosting a student.

Screening Requirements:

There are 4 requirements to be approved as a volunteer working with the vulnerable population:

1. Interview of the potential volunteer by the Club;
2. A current Police Information Check (including a Vulnerable Sector Check);
3. Current training in the Youth Protection Awareness course (online), and;
4. Three independent references (not family and only one Rotarian).

Once all of these requirements have been met, the volunteer is approved to commence working with the vulnerable population. The current Policy requires this screening be completed before any one to one activities occur with a member of the vulnerable population.

The pandemic stopped most, if not all activities and programs in Rotary for the last 2-3 years and the District database shows most of our members don't have any of the requirements to volunteer with the vulnerable population. This is NOT required if you don't have any one to one involvement with the vulnerable population. For example, If you wish to take our inbound student for an activity or drive them to our Club meetings and have another adult (or adults with you) with you, you do **not** require screening.

My plan is to communicate with all of the Chairs of Committees who have the potential to have one to one contact with the vulnerable population and advise of the requirements. I will work with those Committees to ensure screening is completed before any activity with the vulnerable population takes place.

Please contact Carol Graham (Club Protection Officer) at grahamca1120@gmail.com or (403) 861-4225 with any questions or assistance.



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 if you'd like to join us. Our Book Sale will be on September 6th 2023 at the Partners luncheon. **Jane and Maureen**

District 5360 Opportunity

Here is an opportunity for Young Professionals in your club to attend this event in September. Over the past several months Phoenix MacLaren and Kamil Kanji have been developing a two-day training during the upcoming "Learning to Lead" event in Toronto to bring Rotary and Leadership Development to members ages 25-40... those a little newer to the work world, newer to the Rotary world.

What will go down:

- We will discuss different District Committees and how to become actively involved- honing their leadership skills, while providing excited committee members for your district.
- We will explore The Rotary Foundation by developing grant projects- smaller projects to apply for District Grants; larger projects to apply for Global Grants; understanding how DDF works and the importance of giving, especially how easy Rotary Direct makes
- We have invited Toastmasters to join us, a partnership started a few years ago, to enhance public speaking skills - finding our voice in an organization of leaders.

Finally, we will address Communicating Across Generations - for the first time, we have 5 different generations working together - let us all learn to communicate better with each other.

More information can be found on the website - <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/50077/page/2023-learning-to-lead>

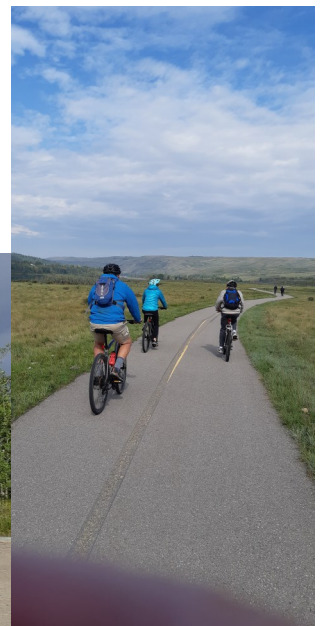
Costs to attend include; airfare, registration (\$575 – includes all meals except breakfast), and hotel accommodation (\$175).

Hiking Club

(Biking Club today!)

Seven intrepid bikers took on monster hills at Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park and won!! We did 20 Kim's and only ran for cover when a single raindrop fell on **Ken Farn's** nose. Fortunately that was it for the wet weather.

Socializing over coffee at Good Earth after the ride was enjoyed by all. –**Larry Stein**





Welcome Back to Regular Programming

September 14th:

Ron Gitter—Politics in Our Changing Community



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

