



Brian Jean, Leader of the Wild Rose Party and Opposition



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Bulletin Chair: Bev Ostermann
Editor: Bev Ostermann
Photographer: Clive Pringle

Blake Pelham introduced our Guest Speaker, **Brian Jean**, Member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta and Leader of the Official Opposition.

Mr. Jean has lived in Fort McMurray since he was 4, attending Prairie High School in Three Hills. He holds a BSc, MBA and Law Degree and practiced law in Fort McMurray for 11 years. He was elected as the Conservative Member of Parliament for Athabasca Riding in 2004 and served as an MP until 2014. During that time he served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, and travelled extensively, both internationally and domestically, representing the government. He was directly responsible for Canada Post, the Canadian Mint and other crown corporations.

He oversaw all legislative matters involving transport and infrastructure, including the roll-out of the \$45 billion infrastructure action plan and also sat as a regular member of the Finance, Justice and Human Rights, and Industry Committees. In 2012, he was appointed as Queen's Counsel. He has worked as a farm hand, logger, publisher, business person, lawyer and inspirational speaker. He was the Chairman of the Children's Health Foundation in Northern Alberta, Chair of the Alberta Summer Games, President of the Downtown Business Association and Director of the Chamber of Commerce in Fort McMurray.

In 2015 **Brian** returned to politics and was elected leader of the Wild Rose, subsequently winning his seat in Fort McMurray-Conklin and thus became Leader of the Opposition on May 5, 2015. Demonstrating his support of Alberta's key industry, he recently mused that "Perhaps if Energy East carried raw sewage, the Mayor of Montreal could get behind it".



Brian Jean, Leader of the Wild Rose Party and Opposition

Mr. Jean noted that Wild Rose will have to work harder in Calgary to improve his name recognition. (He had a lot of fun with that throughout his talk). He is the youngest of 11 children and has lived in Fort McMurray since there were only 1500 residents. His father was a rancher, who moved to Fort Mac to work on the original GCOS, and later started several businesses in the growing city. He is a proud, passionate Albertan, noting that there are many things the Alberta can be proud of. We are the world's largest givers, on a per capita basis, to charities and health care organizations. Albertans hold the most patents/capita in Canada, demonstrating our entrepreneurial drive. Never apologize for standing up for Alberta.

After spending 10 years in Ottawa, he considers **Steven Harper** to have been a great Prime Minister. He knows of only one broken promise, that being on income trusts. There were reasons for that, and it turned out to be the right decision. On distribution of infrastructure funds, he noted that **Harper** insisted on a per capita allocation across Canada.

The economy in Alberta is not good. There were 100,000 job losses in the private sector last year, the worst since 1982. During the NEP under Trudeau almost all of the businesses in Fort McMurray went bankrupt; the only survivors were government monopolies. The same thing is happening again. Average earnings in Alberta decreased last year for the first time since the 80's. This is bad for the rest of Canada, but most Canadians do not realize it. That is why the equalization formula must be changed, and the Wild Rose has struck a non partisan panel to review the formulae and application. It must be fair to all Canadians and recognize valid differences between provinces.

Low oil prices are likely to remain for some time. We are now competing with our only customer and this is not sustainable. Our governments must lead the charge to get pipelines to tide water so we can access new customers, or our primary industry will die. When oil was at \$100/bbl, we were losing \$30/50 million per day because of discounted prices in the US market and we cannot survive in that scenario. He feels that the current Alberta government is disconnected from the people. Ten out of twelve chiefs of staff live out of province and are from ex-NDP governments. Asking one chief of staff if he knew any laid off Albertans, the answer was "no". They don't know what is happening outside their own circles. Alberta had a \$17 billion rainy day fund several years ago, but will have \$50 billion in debt in a few years. Interest on debt will be \$2 billion/year. There is no excuse for the current situation.

Wild Rose has 22 MLA's and 30 staff, all dedicated, passionate Albertans. If they form the next government there will be no draconian cuts, they don't solve anything. The focus must be on the future, without assuming oil will come back. The only way to attract new industry and capital is through reduced taxes and stable policies. Wild Rose will not be bringing forward any policy positions that can be appropriated by other parties until the next election is imminent, but they will develop shadow budgets. In the near future they will be pushing the government to abandon damaging policies, but they are idealogues and will resist change.

Responding to a question about uniting the right, **Mr. Jean** stated that the impetus for this must come from party members on all sides and not be driven from the top down. Discussions have started, but no secret meetings or back room deals will be tolerated, and it will take time.

Jim Fitzowich thanked **Brian**, stating that his name will not be forgotten by these Albertans, who are a receptive audience committed to free enterprise, and happy to have a business man leading the Opposition. **President Murray** stated that a donation to the Stay in School Program will be made in honour of our speaker, and publicly apologized for his name flub, stating he knows what it is like to called the wrong name.



RCCS: CLUB NEWS



President Murray Flegel began the meeting with some interesting Trivia.

This Day in History:

- 1929 First Academy Awards are announced
- 1972 Neil Young receives a Gold Record for "Harvest", the only #1 album of his career
- National Drink Wine Day

President Murray Flegel then asked everyone to join **Lisa Fernandes** and himself in the singing of O'Canada and Rotary Grace.

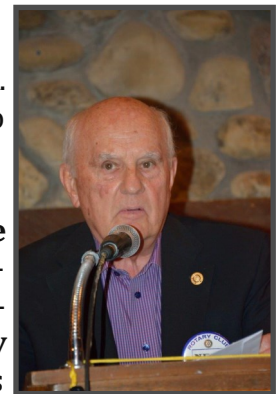
President Murray introduced the head table: Rotarians **Terry Allen** and **Mel Gibson**, Sergeant at Arms **Jason Kruse**, the **Right Honorable Brian Brian**, (??? – **Murray** paid big time for that flub!), leader of the Wild Rose Party, and **Blake Pelham**.

Visitors and Guests: **Lydia Lytwyn** introduced a large number of visitors and guests, including our exchange student, **Annina Arvo**.

50/50 Draw: **Neil Fraser** awarded the 50/50 draw of \$160 to **Bob Brawn**. Winners of the Grey Cup pool were also announced: Grand Prize of \$300 to **Harry Pelton**, \$100 to **Bill Sumner** and to **Gena Rotstein**.



Health of the Club: **Earl Huson** advised that **Wayne Smith** is doing well at Colonel Belcher and welcomes visitors in the mornings, **Paul Diemert** is back home after a hospital stay, **Kirk Rankine** is now in the Beverley Centre, **Larry Kwong** is feeling better and is being well cared for by his ladies, **Harris Dvorkin** is improving but still house bound, and **Susan Brick** is building her immunity back up after her treatments and is being well looked after by sister **Ruth** and by **Paul**.



Sergeant at Arms: **Jason Kruse** collected from **President Murray** for his flub, and from all of the draw winners from today. Also from many others with an eclectic series of questions about our guest speaker, **Brian Jean**, Canadian history, why is wine red or white, and what is the etiquette for pouring wine? (ladies first, then gentlemen, then the person who ordered the wine).



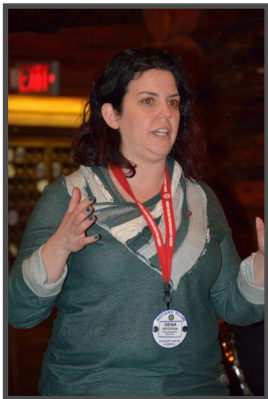


RCCS: CLUB NEWS



Dream Home Moment: Dana Hunter noted that the Dream Home is now under construction on the grounds, and gave us some number associated with the Dream Home to consider.

- 39: years of partnership with Stampede Lotteries
- 132: days until the start of Stampede
- 2: number of lotteries we will be selling for this year (details to follow)
- 1100: number of shifts we have to fill this year
- 10: days to sell tickets, and the average number of km/shift walked by a Shift Superintendent
- 35: number of charities that benefited from our efforts last year.



Ron Prokosch filled in for **Anni** to announce the upcoming Shelter Box Dinner on April 9th being organized by all of the Exchange Students. This is a very popular affair so get your tickets early.

Gena Rotstein asked for an expression of interest in a Linked In/Social Media information luncheon that will be scheduled for some time in March, details to follow.

President Murray closed the meeting reminding everyone to be a Gift to The World





2015 RCCS: CALENDAR, HEALTH & TRANSPORTATION

FEBRUARY 2016

Feb 25 Kelsey Claeys: Between Friends

MARCH 2016

March 3 Honorable Greg Clark: Leader of Alberta Party

March 10 Legends Series: Terry McDonough

March 17 St. Patrick's Day

March 24 Jesse Sacha: The Impact of the YEX

March 31 Jay Ingram: Beakerhead

APRIL 2016

April 7 Dr. Reynold Bergen: Cattle Hormone Facts and Myths

April 14 Steve Allen (Chair): Calgary Economic Development

April 21 New Members Auction (Evening Meeting at Carriage House)

April 28 Jody Mosely: Calgary Airport Authority (At Stampede Club House)

MAY 2016

May 5 Ian Anderson: Transmountain Pipeline

May 12 Linda Powell: STARS Air Ambulance

May 19 To be announced

May 26 To be announced

JUNE 2016

June 2 Stay In School Luncheon at Carriage House Inn

June 9 Charities Day at Carriage House Inn

June 16 Dr. Dru Marshall: Provost of the U of C (At the Club House)

June 23 Paul Siska: Outbound YEX Student (At The Club House)

June 30 Changing of the Guard and WCS and Large Grants Presentation

JULY 2016

July 7 Dream Home Kickoff at Ranchman's Cookhouse and DanceHall

July 14 No Meeting: Dream Home Operations

July 21

July 28 No Meeting: Stay In School Golf Tournament



HEALTH AND WELLNESS: Contact Earl Huson at: (403) 686-0828 or: ehuslink@telusplanet.net if you know of anyone that is not well or is there anyone you know that could use a visit.



TRANSPORTATION: Contact Gui Salazar at: (403) 875 5146 (Cell) or (403) 281 9719 (Home) or: salazars@telus.net if you know of anyone that may need a ride to meetings



RUN FOR L'ARCHE



The Run for L'Arche is looking for volunteers for their event on March 19 at Eau Claire Market in Calgary. Currently there is a big need for race Course Marshals.

Here's the link to the event website:

<https://www.rogersinsurance.ca/rogers-insurance-run-for-larche/>

And here's the link to register as a volunteer:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?eidk=a07ebg00u2381f64c39&oseq=&c=&ch=>

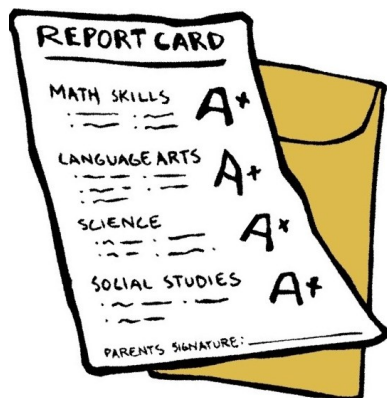
It's a fun filled event for a great cause with only a few hours of time commitment. Please sign up today. Thanks!

Questions? Email: runforlarche@rogersinsurance.ca or 403-476-4450



RCCS: STAY IN SCHOOL MENTORS / MEMBER PROPOSALS

Stay in School Mentors:



It is that time of year again where we need you to send to me report cards for all our students (including students attending post-secondary institutions). I have some, but not all.

There are a number of outstanding reports from the last school year and if you have those please send as well. Remember; our students have a signed contract to live up to and reports cards within 15 days of receipt must be sent to the Mentor. That is part of the agreed upon contract. Thank you

Submitted by: Earl Huson



The following proposed new member has been approved by the Board of Directors. If any Member objects to him joining our Club or to the assigned classification, an objection must be filed in writing and delivered to the Club Secretary by: February 25th, 2016 (10 days in total).

Name: Major Guy Simms Classification: Religion

Proposed by: David Read

Seconded by: Glenn Potter



The following proposed new member has been approved by the Board of Directors. If any Member objects to him joining our Club or to the assigned classification, an objection must be filed in writing and delivered to the Club Secretary by: February 25th, 2016

Name: Sid Smith Classification: Real Estate / Industrial

Proposed by: Murray Flegel

Seconded by: Ken Farn



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PARTNERS IN PRINT

LUNCH BUNCH IN THE DESERT



Top Left to Right: Sharon Irving, Linda Legare and Donna Jakubec

Bottom Left to Right: Wendy Miles-Copithorne, Betty Stein and Wanda MacNeil

Joanne Martin and Lois Silverthorne missing



RCCS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONTACT INFORMATION



Rotary House Park- ing Stickers and Passes

Please remember to pick up your **2016 Validation Sticker** for your
Parking Pass from me at any meeting.

There will be a **\$20.00 replacement cost** for all
lost/stolen Parking Passes

If your pass has been damaged and you need a
new one just provide me
with the damaged pass and it will be replaced
at no cost.

Thanks,
Kathyann Reginato

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

If you would like something in-
cluded in our bulletin please
have it submitted to:

kathyann@rotarycs.org

by Thursday in order to be in the
bulletin produced on Monday.

Please send word attachments of your
story and all photos must be sent as at-
tachments as well.

We would love to see Rotarians out and
about in the community



Contact Us

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Visit us at: www.rotarycs.org

2015-2016 Club Officers

President: Murray Flegel
President-Elect: Ken Farn
Past President: Allan Johnson
Secretary: Ted Rowsell
Treasurer: Larry Kennedy
Partners President: Maureen Watson

2015-2016 Directors

Club Membership & Foundations

Luanne Whitmarsh
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Glenn Potter
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Club Service: Ways & Means

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Community Service (Ways & Means)

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International Foundation & Vocational Ser- vice

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