

# Waterton Peace Garden Project

This project began in 2023 when the Waterton Lakes National Park Superintendent offered an area of land to the Waterton-Glacier Peace Park Association (WGIPPA) for a Peace Garden. The Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park agreed to sponsor the application for the District Grant and the Rotary Clubs of Calgary Downtown and Lethbridge East were Local Club Partners.

The site which was provided by the Park was a narrow piece of property that had already been developed with a sidewalk and rocks. The park staff had intended to place a high fence around this area and plant it with native plant species. The fence was intended to deter deer from browsing on plants which were going to be planted in the area.

Our planning committee of WGIPPA members, met via zoom for several months discussing possible ways in which we might help in the development. and recommended to the park staff that the site would be more appropriately developed as a rock garden with larger rocks and the placement of a Limestone Peace Pole.

We were given permission to proceed with a plan that involved clearing a layer of soil in the garden and replacing it with larger stones for the primary landscaping. The major concern was to reduce the maintenance of the area.

During the past two years the following changes have been made to the site using the funds provided by the District Grant.

In September 2023 we placed and dedicated a temporary Peace Pole at the garden. Recently, this pole was used at the Rotary International Convention in Calgary where RI President Stephanie Urchick emphasized the importance of peace and the symbolism of Peace Poles.

A permanent Limestone Peace Pole was placed in a prominent location in September, 2024. This pole has 7 different languages engraved on it with the phrase – “Let Peace Prevail on Earth”. The translations of this phrase which are engraved on the pole are indicative of the languages spoken by the indigenous bands in the Waterton area and the people who settled this area,





## Summary

The planning and the development of the Waterton Peace Garden has been a two - year project that has entailed numerous meetings via Zoom and in person. We have had support from many Rotarians and workers from the community. The staff of Waterton Lakes National Park have been very helpful as advisors and providing materials where it was appropriate to so.

Thank you to the members of the three Rotary Clubs who supported the initial grant request and to the Rotary District 5360 Grants Committee for their support and advice.

A special thanks to those Rotarians and Rotary Clubs who provided additional funds to help defray some of the extra costs entailed in finishing the project.

During this year and for many to come, thousands of visitors to Waterton Lakes National Park will come to the Peace Plaza and the Peace Garden and will learn about the work that we do as Rotarians. Our Peace Pole and Garden will be there for many generations.

Thank you for your support .

Terry Allen  
Project Lead  
Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park



2023 Rotarians -Peace Pole  
Dedication



2025 -Rotarians from around the  
world visiting the Peace Garden prior  
to the Rotary International  
convention