

April 11, 2013

Posted by Larry Kanters

A happy group of Rotarians and significant others boarded the bus at 11:15 am to go on our field trip excursion to Red Deer College. After arriving we were greeted by Janice Wing Director of Development and Community Relations who introduced us to the other RDC representatives entertaining our group Jim Brinkhurst, Eric Kokko, Michael Donlevy and Paul Sveen.

After a delightful lunch the tour commenced in the Centre for Corporate Training and progressed to the Centre for Innovation in Manufacturing. Eric Kokko did most of the commentary of the tour through this section. He pointed out that after SAIT, RDC is the largest trade school in Alberta. It is well positioned being midway between Calgary and Edmonton to communicate and work with various industries in advancing certain manufacturing methods involving robotics and also in areas of Health Applied Research. Eric Kokko displayed some 3D models that were produced as a result of requests from some of the 400 company liaisons such as a model of a canine rear leg joint requested from Neil Embleton the helicopter flying orthopedic veterinarian, as well a cluster of gears requested by an oil servicing company. President Bryn was especially impressed by the model of the icosidodecahedron.

Next was a tour of the RDC library which has the distinction of having interchangeable borrowing privileges with the City of Red Deer library. Quite a relaxing studious ambiance for the hard working RDC registrants. After this we had the opportunity to disturb some of the RDC faculty by going through their lounge as a short cut on our way to the culinary arts area. When in the culinary arts area we were told that reservations can be made by the general public for an evening of fine dining experience to sample the gastronomic efforts of the culinary arts students. Reservations could be made by phoning RDC and it was recommended to make the arrangements well in advance since the dates booked up quickly

A tour of the Arts Centre was next. Some of us had the opportunity to view the performance centre where certain stage events are held as well as the sessions of the annual Red Deer Kiwanis music festival. The Arts Centre at RDC is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year.

With our lunch and tour at its conclusion, the Rotarians and others were escorted to our comfy motor coach for the sojourn back to Innisfail. Arrival at the Legion was right on time at 2:00 pm and a good time was had by all (I think).

By the way, Gavin Bates asked me to let everyone know that there are still tickets available for the April 24th Friendship Dinner so if you can sell more tickets please let Gavin know.