

A particularly crowded session was hosted by the Rotary Action Group Against Slavery, which fights human trafficking around the world. Earlier in the week, the action group had unveiled a permanent peace pole in downtown Calgary. The breakout session featured Cheryl Perera, founder and president of the Canadian nonprofit OneChild and a nominee for the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize. She told how she — seeking a way to fight child trafficking while still a teenager — served as a decoy for a government sting operation in Sri Lanka.

“I wanted to get an insider’s look into the child sex trade,” she said. “I contacted [someone in] the government branch that was tasked with protecting children and asked if there was any way I could watch an undercover operation happen. He said, ‘Yes, actually, you can play the decoy.’”

Perera aided in the capture and arrest of a perpetrator. The experience cemented her commitment to the issue and was part of what led her to found OneChild, which mobilizes children and teens to raise awareness about child trafficking.

In the House of Friendship exhibition hall, it was impossible to miss a 20-foot-tall tipi sponsored by Rotary District 5360 (parts of Alberta and Saskatchewan, Canada). The tipi was equipped with numerous learning tools to inform visitors about the concerns of Indigenous peoples.

“We’re very proud as a district to sponsor this exhibit, but we also don’t want it to be the last,” said Rotary member Cam Stewart, a 2023 Rotary People of Action honoree. “We [want] to help Rotarians around the world do more work with their Indigenous populations.”

As the convention’s final day drew to a close, Bryn Styles, chair of the 2025 Calgary Convention Committee, reflected on the success of the event.

“Everybody has told me how much they like the venue,” Styles said. “This building is just beautiful — warm and welcoming. And people love Calgary. I’ve just gotten rave reviews.”

Many attendees were already looking forward to upcoming gatherings. The chair of the 2026 Taipei Convention Committee, Andreas von Möller, enthusiastically invited attendees to the 2026 Rotary International Convention in Taipei, Taiwan.

“The 34,000 Rotary members of Taiwan invite you to explore and truly experience the culture, impressive countryside, National Theater, and beautiful temples throughout the city,” he said. “The 2026 convention will provide an experience that will remain with you for the rest of your life.”

# THE EARLY RISER

EVERY ROTARIAN  
US \$100  
EVERY YEAR



7/25/2025  
Volume 43, Number

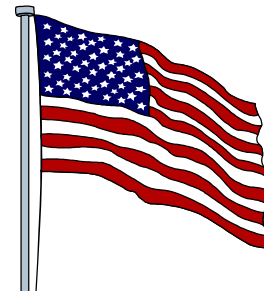
## THE ROTARY 4 WAY TEST

First: Is it the TRUTH?

Second: Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Third: Will it build  
GOODWILL and BETTER  
FRIENDSHIPS?

Fourth: Will it be  
BENEFICIAL to all  
concerned?



## ROTARY PRAYER

Oh Lord, and giver of all good, we  
thank Thee for our daily food.

May Rotary friends and Rotary  
ways, help to serve Thee all of our  
days.

# THE ROTARY CLUB OF WICHITA FALLS NORTH

**SERVICE  
ABOVE  
SELF**

## 2025-26 R.I. and D5790 Officers:

President of Rotary International: Francesco Arezzo

5790 District Governor: Jon Bullock

**The Rotary Club of Wichita Falls (North), Texas**

President: Matthew Milhollon

Website: [www.wichitafallsnorthrotaryclub.org](http://www.wichitafallsnorthrotaryclub.org)

## ***FUTURE PROGRAM ASSIGNMENTS***

July 25 -----Dr. Stacie Haynie, President of MSU ~ Julie Day  
August 1 -----River Bend Tour ~ Mike Crocker  
**August 8 ----- DG Jon Bullock ~ Official Visit**  
**August 15----- Board Meeting**  
August 22 -----Larry Gunnell ~ TBA  
August 29 ----- WFISD CEC / Jennifer Spurgers ~ Phil Waggoner  
September 5----- Ajay Kumar  
September 12 ----- Bill Neale  
September 13 -----Feeding the Refuse @ 12:00 One Group  
**September 19 ----- Board Meeting**  
September 26 ----- TBA  
October 3 ----- Rob Noble  
October 10 ----- Oku Okeke  
**October 17----- Board Meeting**  
October 24 ----- Jeani Secord  
October 31 ----- Troy Secord

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### **NEWS FROM OUR LAST CLUB MEETING HELD AT THE HOSPICE OF WICHITA FALLS**

President Matt led the club in the Rotary Prayer and the Pledges.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, there was no weekly program. There was a discussion of things that need to be discussed. That sounded kind of like Yogi Berra!

It was noted that some of the airmen at the 364<sup>th</sup> need help with college tuition.

There was a discussion over what to do with the dictionaries that the club has. There was an idea of giving them to the backpack feeding program of simply giving them to Joe Clement for Scotland Park Elementary School.

Ann led a discussion over the new dues structure for the 2025-26 Rotary year. There was also a discussion about a club credit card that no one seems to know anything about.

It was noted that Joe is resigning from the club. The club would like to make him an honorary member.

There was a large discussion about the flag program and everybody's responsibilities to the program. Everyone needs to help, or make prior arrangements.

Membership is the number one concern for Rotary North.

The raffle raised \$17.00 and Linda was the winner. She received \$5.00 for drawing the 3 of clubs. If this week's lucky winner draws the ace of spades, they will win \$6.00 + ½ of what is raised today.

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### ***NEWS FROM ROTARY INTERNATIONAL:***

FINAL DAY OF 2025 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTED  
CURRENT AND FUTURE ROTARY LEADERS

The 2025 Rotary International Convention in Calgary, Canada, concluded in a spirit of fellowship and rejuvenation. Addressing the event's closing general session, Rotary International President Stephanie A. Urchick urged members to recognize the power of their relationships.

"Rotary's most powerful asset has always been you, our members. But we are only as strong as the people who stand beside us," she said. "We talk a lot about goals and strategy. But without friendship, without encouragement, none of it takes hold. Rotary works because we belong here. ... This is our community, and it matters."

The session also featured Rotary's future leaders. President-elect Francesco Arezzo described his commitment to the 2025-26 presidential message, Unite for Good.

"[It] means involving all members, but not only members, in our service. It means involving [partner] organizations ... local administrations, other voluntary associations. In short, it means 'expand our reach,'" said Arezzo, who was selected earlier this month as the next president. "Let us create one great shared dream that unites us, that excites us, that changes the world and changes our lives, too."

Attendees spent the morning exploring various ways to maximize their impact. One breakout session, The Amazing Peace Race, explored how clubs can incorporate the eight Pillars of Positive Peace into their projects. The session Literacy Alive focused on the success of an initiative to build early reading skills in children in Belize.