May 2024 Megan Stokke

CALGARY 2025 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION





We are thrilled to announce that registration for the 2025 Rotary International Convention in Calgary will officially open on May 26th. This marks a significant milestone in a journey that began back in 2015. As we enter this exciting new chapter, we warmly invite you to join us in preparation for an event that promises to be unforgettable.



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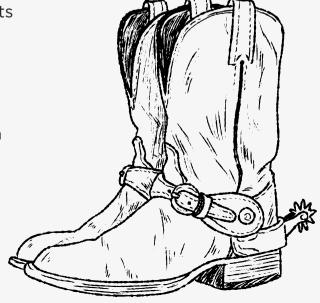


WHAT TO Expect on May 26th?

May 26th marks the opening of the 2024 Rotary International Convention in Singapore, and Calgary's first opportunity to share our vision to the world while offering a glimpse into the future. In Singapore, a team of passionate Rotary volunteers will work side-byside with our partners from Tourism Calgary to promote our district and invite Rotarians from across the globe to experience our western hospitality.

Rotarians who will not be joining us in Singapore will have the opportunity to register online at <u>convention.rotary.org</u>. Additionally, we will be launching our local Host Organizing Committee website at <u>rotarycalgary2025.org</u> where you can learn about:

- **Signature Events:** Get a first look and buy tickets for the special events we have planned.
- Host Hospitality: Learn about, and register for the warm hospitality we are eager to share.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** Find out how you can contribute to the success of our convention.





Pre & Post Tours: With the legendary Calgary Stampede following immediately after our convention, the festive spirit will be electric—perfect for an extended celebration. We will offer our guests an opportunity to explore the stunning landscapes of Alberta and District 5360 before and after our event.

Early Bird Pricing Until May 31: Take advantage of early registration; not only for the best rates but to show the Rotary world the strength of our commitment and excitement for the convention. It's a powerful way to signal our readiness and enthusiasm to Rotary International and our community. Let's give everyone added confidence in the success of our event.

A Call to Action for All Rotarians: We encourage you to think big—how can you and your club make the most of this once in a generational opportunity? Let's use this convention as a platform to showcase Rotary's transformative projects, throughout our district and around the world. Let's expand Rotary's influence and awareness. Invite your friends and family to experience the spirit of Rotary, amplifying our impact within and beyond our community.

Be an Ambassador: Invite Rotarians globally to experience the warm hospitality of Calgary and District 5360. Together, let's promote our vibrant city and its businesses, advance our charitable causes, build new and stronger relationships, and say "thank you" to outgoing Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick for a job well done.

Stay Informed and Engaged: You can anticipate regular updates through our monthly newsletter, but we also urge all clubs to appoint a "Convention Champion" to keep everyone informed and involved as we move forward. Ask your club President if your club has appointed a champion. Join a committee, become involved.

Stampede Campus: Set against the backdrop of the Scotiabank Saddledome and the brand new, state-of-the-art BMO Convention Centre, the 2025 Calgary Rotary International Convention is poised to be a spectacular event, with the added benefit and convenience of having our facilities side-by-side. We are proud of our district Rotarians, our convention volunteer team, and the dynamic energy of Calgary. Together, we look forward to making history and we want to thank you, once again, for your enthusiastic support. We are excited to collaborate with you as we prepare to welcome the world to Calgary in June 2025!

Warm regards,

Craig Stokke & Mark Starratt

Co-Chairs, Calgary 2025 Host Organizing Committee

See full article by Craig Stokke and Mark Starratt by clicking HERE



SHARE WHY YOU LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE

Calgary, Alberta, CANADA proudly welcomes Rotarians from around the globe for the 2025 Rotary International Convention June 21 – 25. The last time the convention was in Calgary was 1996 – we have so much more to show off!

Alberta is blessed with tremendous natural beauty like our majestic Canadian Rockies to the west, our ancient dinosaur era with hoodoos and dinosaur bone digging to the east, and Indigenous roots and history to the south. Of course, outstanding places to see and

experience right in Calgary like our world-renowned Calgary Zoo, our unprecedented culinary scene, and The Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth – The Calgary Stampede.

We have created, especially for Rotarians, the best of the Best of Alberta pre and post tours to encourage Rotarians to arrive early and/or stay late. Trips are offered in three directions with spectacular scenery around every corner and our promise to spoil guests with our famous western hospitality every moment.

With creative itineraries and varying tour lengths to choose from, we are confident they will match up with many travel plans to RI 2025. Itineraries that include places like Banff, Lake Louise, Canmore, Jasper, Waterton Peace Park, Blackfoot Crossing, Cowboy Trail, Royal Tyrrell Museum and the Hoodoos, Kananaskis, and the ultimate Canadian Rockies trip that explores both Alberta and BC.

Talking to friends from the USA? Remind them that the current exchange rate is an estimated \$1.37 CAD per \$1 USD. That's a 37% savings on their extended stays, shopping, dining and exciting experiences simply thanks to the exchange rate. (Many Americans don't actually realize how far their dollar goes in Canada until they arrive).

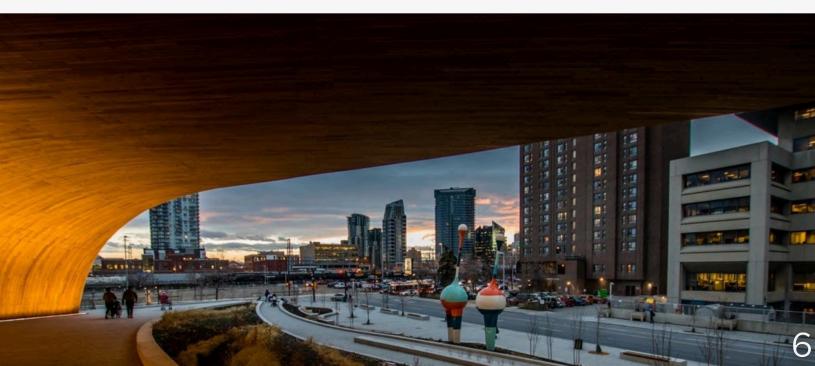
When it comes to shopping, remember Alberta is the only province in Canada that does not charge a provincial sales tax. We are a tourist shopping haven - spread the word!

We've laid it all out for our guests. Come for the Rotary 2025 International Convention June 21 – 25. Experience our beautiful province June 26 – July 3. Stay for the opening two days of the famous Calgary Stampede that will include the parade, rodeo, chuckwagon races, grandstand show, fireworks finale, and all the corn dogs one can eat July 4 and 5.

Encourage Rotarians to experience one or more of our incredible pre and/or post trips to check off a few of their national and international bucket list destinations. After all, we are privileged to live in this country and province that is on SO many people's lifetime travel bucket list.

Proudly share why we love calling this place home.

The pre and post trips will be showcased in detail on the Calgary Host Organizing Committee website.



See full article by clicking <u>HERE</u>

HOST Hospitality Night

Host Hospitality Night is an RI Convention tradition in which delegates are given a memorable evening of local hospitality and international fellowship. Local customs and interaction between guests and hosts is an integral part of this experience.

Our 2025 Host Hospitality Committee will be working hard to provide this most favorite and sought after experience for all visiting Rotarians and spouses/partners. We want this evening to be special and full of great memories. The night for this dinner is Monday, June 23, 2025!!



To accomplish this, we need all Rotarians in District 5360 to participate in this evening of local dinners and fellowship; to share the hospitality which Calgary and District 5360 (and Alberta!!) are well known for.

This takes the efforts of all of us and here's how you can participate:

Decide who you will team up with – ask which fellow Club members and their partners will actively participate. Who can you team up with? Start planning how many can you host? Or would your Club prefer to do a large event?

Choose your venue, whether that be your home (most popular by visiting Rotarians), a restaurant, a progressive dinner with others, a Club event, etc. We are a very multicultural city, but we do have serious Western Roots so a barbecue or a dinner with Western flair might just be the most exciting event for most, an example at best. We will also have some delegates who are vegetarian and of course, we will be able to host them!! It also isn't necessary to have a formal dinner. Focus on it being easy so you can entertain your guests, not be in the kitchen all night!! Simple, friendly and hospitable. For those Rotarians who are unable to entertain in their home, maybe host a dinner at a restaurant. Or help someone else who has more room to entertain in their home.

Hosts are responsible for the expenses incurred for the evening including transportation. Just to let you know, all delegates who are wearing a Convention badge will have complimentary access to Calgary Transit. You can also enlist club members to pick up your guests and bring them to dinner. Bus transportation will be provided for larger groups over 50 to Clubs outside Calgary (We will provide bus transportation to 1.5 hours radius of Calgary). But, for those of you in clubs further away, how about entertaining at a Club event, in Calgary, at a restaurant, or larger venue? We have searched out several possible venues that could be booked for the evening. We will ensure that every delegate who wants to attend Host Hospitality Night gets their wish!! The idea is to have FUN while you entertain other Rotarians from around the world, and that they go home to talk about the wonderful time here in Calgary at Host Hospitality Night. They will remember this night for years to come!

Remember, we can't do this without everyone's help and we thank all of you in advance for helping make this a super successful Host Hospitality Night. We will be visiting clubs very soon to detail this more and get your commitment.

Let's "Treat the Rotary World to Dinner" on June 23, 2025!!

Pat Neuman & Mary McPhee

Co-Chairs

See full article by Pat Neuman and Mary McPhee by clicking HERE

