

INPUT FROM CLUBS

Proposal for Theme JWD Annual Luncheon



Background

James Wheeler Davidson (JWD), a Rotary Club of Calgary (RCC) member 1914-'32, RCC President 1919-'20, District Governor 1923-'24, RI Extension Committee '21-'32, Third Vice Pres and Director of RI 1927-'28, had been dubbed the "Marco Polo of Rotary" for his exemplary work in expanding Rotary internationally.

In 1921 he and fellow Canadian Lt. Colonel James L. Ralston of the RC of Halifax traveled to Australia and New Zealand at the request of the RI board to introduce Rotary clubs to Australasia. Together they chartered 2 clubs in Australia and 2 clubs in New Zealand. Their trip was co-financed by 37 Canadian Rotary Clubs (\$2902) and RI Board (\$2000).

JWD embarked in 1928-'31 with his wife and daughter on a world trip that yielded 23 new clubs in 12 countries from Greece to Taiwan. Much of the current knowledge of JWD's life and Rotary impact is courtesy of years of research and articles written by Dr. Robert (Bob) Lampard of the Rotary Club of Red Deer. *The Life and Times of James Wheeler Davidson* is a 335-page compilation published in 2006 by Bob and RC of Red Deer for Rotary's Centennial.

Objective

Inspired by the 100th anniversary celebrations of Rotary in Australasia in 2021, and the renewed interest by many clubs in SE Asia about JWD, the Rotary Club of Calgary hosted the first Annual James Wheeler Davidson luncheon in 2022 to commemorate this remarkable individual and celebrate the legacy of his work.

We are in the planning stages of this year's celebratory event, hoping that in 2025 we can celebrate with Rotarians from the clubs chartered by JWD as part of the RI Convention here in Calgary.

We are therefore seeking the following:

- a) **Rotarians** to help plan the celebratory luncheon by participating on the committee
- b) A current **Theme** for the 2023 luncheon planned for April 25, 2023

What Could the Theme be?

We are looking for proposals for the theme of the 2023 luncheon. The theme should be aligned with proven legacy of significant impact. Do you know of a great speaker aligned with your desired theme? Is your club involved in an international project with a club chartered by JWD?

Please submit your PROPOSAL for a theme with the following information:

- **The summary should be on a single page.**
- **Theme:** <Describe the theme e.g. Clean Water, Disease Prevention, Empowering Girls etc...>
- **Impact:** <Why did you choose this theme? What has been the proven impact of our are clubs regarding this theme? What other clubs and organizations have been involved? Does this complement or build on the JWD legacy? Could it build toward the 2025 convention in Calgary? Which RI focus areas have been impacted?>
- **Speaker:** <Who would you propose as speaker(s) who will bring to life this theme in an engaging way? Why would this speaker attract people to attend the lunch?>

Deadline

Those wishing to **join the planning committee** OR **your proposed theme**, with speaker(s) name(s), should be submitted to Lisa van Hemert (lvhrotary@vanhemertgroup.ca) by October 25th.

Thanks for your consideration of the great fellowship event.