



The Weekly Westerner

Box 4572, Station C, Calgary, Alberta T2T 5N3

Grey Eagle Hotel, 3777 Grey Eagle Drive (Corner of 37 St SW and Glenmore Drive) Mondays
12.10 pm - 1.30 pm

President: Ben Kormos **President-Elect:** Tim Anderson **Past President:** Terry Felton
Secretary: Marlene Doherty **Treasurer:** Karl Herzog
Directors: Debbie Barry, Judy Cochran, Bill Fitzsimmons, Gustavo Jimenez, Gerry Meek,
Les Morgan, Orlin McMillan, Duncan Stanners
August 21, 2017 Edition: 51.6 Reporter: Duncan Stanners Editor: David Williams

This meeting, club service was provided by:

- **David Williams** on set-up
- **Bill Lawless** and **Gail Williams** on cash
- **Clair Bildfell** on 50/50
- **Judy Cochran** on Lobsterfest sales
- **Ken Montgomery** and **Garfield Ganong** greeters
- **Garfield Ganong** on AV

Our members missed the solar eclipse that happened on this day, as it peaked as we sang the national anthem led by **Des DeFreitas**. **Duncan Stanners** provided the invocation consisting of two quotes on service:

"I slept and dreamt that life was joy.
I awoke and saw that life was service.
I acted, and behold, service was joy."
Rabindranath Tagore

"Service which is rendered without joy helps neither the servant or the served.
But all other pleasures and possessions pale into nothingness before service which is rendered
in the spirit of joy."
Mahatma Ghandi

President **Ben Kormos** greeted us all, thanked those who provided club service, the Tsuu T'ina nation for hosting us and the staff who prepared and served our meal. Ben introduced the head table **Tanya Ward-Shur**, our speaker, **Terry Felton**, **Dan Doherty** and **Tim Anderson**.

Ken Montgomery introduced our three guests for today: Laurie Thurston, guest of Duncan Stanners; Jud Graham, guest of Larry Doyle; and Bonnie Baldwin, guest of Mike Carlin.



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There were approximately 45 people present.

Lunch today was a tasty carrot and ginger soup, beef stir-fry, rice and spring rolls, with red velvet cake for dessert.

President Ben once more challenged the club to "Name that Tune". This week's selection was "Moving in Stereo" by The Cars, "The Light" by The Tribe and "Hurt" by Johnny Cash. The common theme was perspective. Our club members didn't do well on this contest....

We were all treated to the induction of our newest member **Bonnie Baldwin**. We all know and love her from the 10 years she's been providing entertainment at our Stampede fundraiser and other functions, but Bonnie also has the Rotary spirit of service with the Mustard Seed, Feed the Hungry and various charity music nights. Bonnie has 3 sons and 6 grandchildren. She was introduced by old friend **Mike Carlin**, and given the Rotary charge by past DG **Mike French**.



The **50/50 of \$41.00** was won by our guest **Jud Graham** for the second week in a row...he'll be able to join the club and pay his dues on his winnings at this rate.

Sergeant-at-arms **Marlene Doherty** quizzed us on club and RI history and called for "Happy Bucks". **Chris Davis** noted our efforts to help Calgary host a future RI conference. **Judy Cochran** enjoyed her two weeks at Comox. **Tim Anderson** celebrated winning during his annual trip south of the border.

Announcements

- **Debbie Barry** noted that the club came through once again, with 72 tickets sold for Lobsterfest
- **Steve Strang** reminded us to mark our calendars for Feed the Hungry on Oct 22. We need lots of volunteers, so please sign up, ask friends family and prospective Rotarians to join in the fun.

TODAY'S PROGRAM: "The Path to Reconciliation"

Terry Felton introduced our speaker Tanya Ward-Shur from the Red Deer Native Friendship Society <http://rdnfs.com/>. Tanya is Blackfoot Metis and holds a MA in Leadership Studies. She

May 4 - 6, 2018: District Conference, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Calgary

June 23 - 27, 2018: Rotary International Conference, Toronto



My Passion, My Moments, Our Rotary

The Weekly Westerner spoke with passion at the District 5360 conference.

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Tanya started her presentation with a smudge ceremony, explaining its significance, and followed with the Medicine Wheel.

Next we viewed the history of First Nations/Whites from the aboriginal perspective, "Just get over it" . For those not present, it's an eye-opener <https://youtu.be/r5DrXZUIinU>

She recommended a book called "[The Inconvenient Indian](#)" by Thomas King.

In the end, it's all about land. Aboriginal people view the land as their mother. The land grab by immigrants resulted in a systematic and planned effort to eliminate the Indian culture by such means as denying the right to vote, isolating and restricting tribes on reservations, taking native children away from their families and brainwashing them in residential schools for 7 generations and other actions. This has resulted in cultural, historical and intergenerational trauma. The effects on First Nations people have been horrendous, and are marked with harsh statistics on suicide, addiction, life expectancy, child mortality, education and other aspects. The fact that there are over 100 reserves within Canada that do not have potable water is, frankly, shameful.

In response, the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada](#), now under the auspices of the [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#) in Winnipeg, issued 94 calls of action in 2015. You can read this report here:

http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/File/2015/Findings/Calls_to_Action_English2.pdf

In addition, Canada has now adopted the United Nations "Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples", which can be found here:

http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf

The objective at this point in time is to move forward together, to live as one. This will be a long and muddy path to overcome the guilt and shame of our white ancestors and the hate and resentment of the aboriginals.

So what can we do? Tanya provided a Project of Heart:

1. Learn indigenous history
2. Learn the history of where you live
3. Create a gesture of reconciliation
4. Meet and listen to a survivor of the residential schools
5. Do social justice
6. Join the community conversation

An example of a gesture of reconciliation may be found in Rotary Red Deer's support for the Peace Path at the Asooahum crossing:

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<http://www.reddeeradvocate.com/life/coyote-ales-indigenous-presence-for-canada-150/>

Here in Calgary, the [Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee](#) has issued a report called "White Goose Flying" <http://www.calgary.ca/CSPS/CNS/Documents/CAUAC/White-Goose-Flying-Calls-to-Action-CAUAC.pdf> . You can support the Calgary Indigenous Friendship Centre <http://calgaryfriendshipcentre.ca/>.

Dan Doherty, who has a long history helping First Nations youth, thanked our speaker for a very moving and thought-provoking presentation.



Closing Comments

President Ben announced that the first Rotary After Hours meeting was a success and another is planned soon. Next week is a team meeting, where each team will be discussing membership - how can we make our club more inclusive?

Coming Events

August: Membership and New Club Development Month	
7	No Meeting: Family Day
14	World Community Service: A Jubilee Programme
21	Tanya Ward-Shur: Native Friendship Society
28	Team Meeting, and Hannah's YEX presentation
September: Basic Education and Literary Month	
4	No Meeting: Labour Day
11	District Governor Rick Istead
18	Youth Exchange: A Jubilee Programme
25	Ghada Al Atrash: "Stripped to the Bone", a Portrait of Syrian Women
October: Economic and Community Development Month	
2	Dr Charles Samuels: Centre for Sleep and Human Performance
9	No Meeting: Thanksgiving Day
16	Todd Hirsch: Economist
22	Feed the Hungry at St Mary's

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23	Noon meeting cancelled in favour of an evening Assembly
30	Hallowe'en Programme: Costumes and Magic Tricks
November: Rotary Foundation Month	
6	RI Foundation and Calgary Rotary Clubs Foundation
13	No Meeting: All Clubs Remembrance Day Meeting
20	Grey Cup Special Weekend Presentation
27	Roger Chaffin: Calgary Police Chief
December	
4	TBA
11	St Matthew's School Children's Choir?
18	Jubilee Programme: End of Jubilee Year
25	No Meeting: Christmas Day!