



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)
Fridays 12:15 - 1.30 pm

President: Terry Felton **President-Elect:** Ben Kormos **Past President:** Gail Williams
Secretary: Malcolm Harrison **Treasurer:** Karl Herzog
Directors: Tim Anderson, Judy Cochran, Marlene Doherty, Arien Knight, Chris Ritter,
Duncan Stanners

December 16 2016 Edition: 50.21 Reporter: Les Morgan Publisher: David Williams

Several substitutions resulted in the front desk being staffed by **Larry Doyle** and **Steve Strang**, with **Chris Ritter** selling 50/50 tickets. **Bryden Horwood**, supported for a while by **David Williams**, greeted all arrivals.

In Terry Felton's absence, Past-president **Tony Knight** presided and called us to order at 12:15. **Robyn Braley** led us in fine form singing *O Canada* and **Tazim Azaria** provided the invocation.

Seated at the head table were Tony Knight, Tazim Azaria, David Williams, **Carolyn Christison**, **Joe Klassen** and our guest speaker, **Dr. Michael Duggan**.

Our visitors and guests, introduced by Bryden, were: **Lorne Kinnee (Bill Tapuska)**, **Norm Devill** (Calgary South), **Dan Vokey (Dan Doherty)**, **Eduardo Watman** and **Beverley Picard (Claude Massé)**, **Bethany Ross** and **Jessica Zutz (Bill Fitzsimmons)**, **Bev Chinney** (Airdrie) and **Jannalee Anderson** (The Rickards). Robyn led our song of welcome.

Hot Seats

- **Lori Mattei**, our exchange student, updated us on his week's activities. He helped deliver Christmas wreaths, attended a Christmas party, saw his first real live reindeer and 'retired' from school for the winter break.
- **Sa'adat Keshavjee** invited us to nominate a student for the Adventures in Citizenship in Ottawa from April 29 through May 3. Nominees should be 16 years old and exemplary students in Grade 11. Please submit nominations to Sa'adat.
- **Gail Williams** urged us to contact our team leaders with respect to meeting roles to which we can commit during the month of January. She also reported that our contributions to the Rotary Foundation(s) now total \$40K. A further \$80K would be matched by our mystery benefactor.
- Robyn advised that the Christmas Brunch is sold out. Should anyone still wish to go, please let Bill Tapuska know in the event that there might be any late cancellations. Also, come prepared

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to be entertained at our meeting on December 23, at which several excellent guest artists will wow us with their musical talents. Guests are encouraged to attend.

- **Arien Knight** updated the funding status for our signature project – the atrium. Three recent donations, each in the amount of \$15K, have been received from Calgary East, a Calgary East member and the Berkhold Foundation. To date, we have raised \$311K.
- **Dan Doherty** described the upcoming fundraiser by RCCW and Engineers Without Borders to support small businesses in Africa. The critically acclaimed documentary *Poverty, Inc* will be shown, followed by a discussion of the role of business in alleviating poverty. The event will be held at the Plaza Theatre on January 18. Tickets are \$25. Dan will send an email with details.
- Jannalee Anderson is a liaison with Rotary's Honduras projects. She reported that these projects are moving ahead extremely well with a huge impact on the local populations. A report to the coordinating task force is forthcoming, and the participation of RCCW is very much appreciated.
- **Bill Quinney** expressed the view of President Terry that our current meeting time allotment of 75minutes is challenging in comfortably accommodating our typical meeting agenda. Consideration is being given to extending our meetings to 90 minutes. Note that our special Jubilee meeting on January 9 will begin at 12:00 noon. Attendees are encouraged to arrive at 11:30am.

The **50/50** pot of \$45 was won by Claude.

Claude invited **Marie Rickard** and **Bill Fitzsimmons** to briefly describe two projects previously approved by our board: the Malawi one-year scholarship in the amount of \$1K and the installation of a rainwater collection system in Uganda for \$2K. Attendees ratified both contributions.

Induction

Carolyn Christison introduced two new club members, **Paul Sandhu** and **Paul Mangat**, and described their histories, both their businesses and their enthusiasm for Rotary. **Chris Ritter** inducted them into our club and they were warmly welcomed. Bill Quinney will mentor Paul S and **Bill Lawless** will mentor Paul M.



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Sergeant at Arms

Don Campbell required a loonie from members who, foolishly, were not wearing a Rotary pin, and a toonie from members who had not brought in a prospective member in recent years.

Rotary Moment

Chris Davis described how, in the late 80s, one man had had a vision to utilize undeveloped land owned by the Calgary Airport Authority to provide service to the disabled or disadvantaged in our community. This was the beginning of the Challenger Rotary Park, a project to which every Rotary club in Calgary subsequently subscribed and which exemplifies how all Calgary clubs used their collective resources and leverage to build such a wonderful facility.

Guest Speaker

Joe Klassen introduced our guest speaker, Dr Michael Duggan. While Dr. Duggan's nominal role is a professor at St Mary's University, he spreads his expertise and passion far more widely, leading research through committees and organizations studying Islam, Christianity and Judaism in a search for peace across all religions.

Dr. Duggan told us of his conviction that there has never been a time in the world when so many people are engaged in doing so much good. Rotary is a prime example.

His experiences awoke in him a "survivor's guilt" and an awareness of not to take any breath for granted. We must understand the trauma of war refugees in a new way that is different from our historical understanding of economic refugees. We have opportunities to become better citizens of the world and we grow through our experiences with them.

Refugee families are enormously courageous and supportive of each other. The 12-month support that our government provides these newcomers to Canada is very beneficial to them, but the support must continue. There is no defined end to the need for sustaining them and our relationship with them. Private sponsorship can be much more successful than government sponsorship, because it continues much longer and fosters better interaction and integration into our society.

Key factors to their success are an ability in English and employment. We are encouraged to seek the services of skilled refugees for applicable projects, providing them with an understanding of Canadian businesses and the dignity of being employed.

Cell phones connect people to the world, for better or worse, and are essential in helping refugees connect to each other and to the supports available.

The refugee crisis is ongoing and we must ensure we maintain/increase our cultural expansiveness.



David Williams thanked Dr. Duggan for his extremely thoughtful perspective. A donation to Operation Eyesight has been made in his name.



Other Business

- Bill Fitzsimmons presented a cheque for \$5K to Bethany Ross and Jessica Zutz in support of Brown Bagging for Kids. This money will provide 5000 meals to needy students at EP Scarlett High School.



- **Helen King** made a final call for anyone wishing to join the dinner club.

Tony Knight adjourned the meeting at 1:30pm after asking Rotarians to check the bulletin for details on upcoming.

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Coming Events

December: Disease Prevention and Treatment Month	
2	USA Consul General for Alberta and Saskatchewan: Tom Palaia
9	Paige MacPherson – Canadian Taxpayers Federation
16	Dr Michael Duggan, St Mary's University
23	(Team Meeting) Christmas Singalong
30	No Meeting
January: Vocational Service Month	
2	No Meeting
9	50th Anniversary Programme
16	John Brown, University of Calgary
23	The Bethany Project field trip. Evelyn Buckley, Speaker
30	TBA
February: World Understanding Month	
6	Economic and Community Development – Ken Montgomery
13-14	Strawberry Shortcakes: preparation and delivery
20	No Meeting. Family Day
27	Tom Hickerson U of C, Curator Davidson Papers
March: Literacy Month	
6	Team Meeting
13	Michael Chiasson: Youth Motivational Speaker
20	Lieutenant Governor Lois Mitchell
27	TBA
April: Maternal and Child Health Month	
3	Vimy Ridge Centennial
10	No Meeting
12	Wednesday evening: Spring Assembly
17	Easter Monday. No Meeting
24	Field Trip to Rotary Challenger Park
May: Youth Service Month	
1	TBA
8	TBA
15	TBA
22	No Meeting: Victoria Day
29	TBA
June: Rotary Fellowship Month	
5	TBA
8	HAPPY 50th BIRTHDAY CALGARY WEST!
12	TBA
19	Business Meeting and Turnover of Gavel to Ben Kormos
26	Canada Day Celebration Meeting

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