

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: Bill Fitzsimmons **President-Elect:** Marlene Doherty **Past President:** Gerry Meek
President-Elect-Nominee: Linda Anderson
Secretary: Gail Williams **Treasurer:** Don Edie
Directors: Judy Cochran, Gord Cox, Darren Grierson, Barb Hames,
Ken Montgomery, Drew Turnbull

Together We Are People of Action - Building Community

Special Rotary International President Nominee Jennifer Jones Edition:
December 21, 2020 54.22 Reporter: Don Vokey Editor: David Williams

This week the regular club meeting was pre-empted by a special meeting with Rotary International President Nominee, 2023-24 **Jennifer Jones'** presentation on Zoom organized by the Lethbridge Rotary Club.

Lethbridge Club President Allen Friesen welcomed all Rotarians and opened the meeting with a special singing of *O Canada* by the Malawi Uphill Both Ways School Girls Choir.

Helen Henderson – first female member of the Lethbridge Rotary Club and a past president welcomed the following special guest: RIPN Jennifer Jones; **District Governor Mary Turner**; Rotary Club members from Lethbridge East, Lethbridge Mosaic, Lethbridge Sunrise, Calgary Chinook, Calgary Heritage Park, Calgary West, Medicine Hat, Olds, Red Deer, and Stettler. Over 300 Rotarians from these clubs and others were on the Zoom call.

Dennis Chinner introduced Jennifer Jones, Rotary International President Nominee. A member of the Rotary Club of Windsor Roseland. She will be the first female president of Rotary International. She is currently a Rotary Foundation trustee and a member since 1997. She has had the following roles: Rotary International Vice President, director, training leader, committee chair, moderator, and District Governor. She played a lead role in the Rotary rebranding effort as chair of the Strengthening Rotary Advisory Group. She is the co-chair of the End Polio Now Count Down to 50 campaign committee which aims to raise 150 million dollars to support eradicating polio. She is the founder and President of Media Street Promotions Inc. in Windsor. She was chair of the University of Windsor Board of Governors and Chair of the Windsor Access Regional Chamber of Commerce. She has been recognized for her service with the YMCA Peace Medallion, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, and Wayne State University Peacemaker of the Year award. Jennifer also holds a Doctor of Laws degree. She helped raise critical funds for Covid 19 relief through a Hash Tag Covid Response Telethon that had more than 65,000 viewers. Rotary International awards include Service Above Self award, and Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service. She and her husband **Nick** are members of the Rotary Foundations, Archie Klumpf Society, the Paul Harris Society and the Bequest Society.

RIPN Jennifer Jones – Jennifer started her presentation by introducing her young niece, **Olivia**, and thanking President Allen Friesen and District Governor Mary Turner for inviting her to the meeting. She was happy for the opportunity to address people that she had met during the inaugural Bernie Carrier Golf Tournament. She then started to describe with Olivia, her brother Dave’s daughter, how Olivia and her friends are involved in her brother’s Rotary club.

A few years ago, while preparing for a television interview, Jennifer was to give about Rotary her brother came out with the following statement “In order to live in the community you want, you have to build it”. Following up on this his wife and he started encouraging their club members to involve their children in their weekly club meetings. Their meetings always start with the children reciting the Rotary Four Way test.

Olivia then described a project that she and her young Rotary friends are working on for her Rotary club. Olivia’s mother was introduced to a man who made useful items out of recycled materials including skateboards and speakers out of Tim Horton coffee cup lids. The children are now collecting recyclable materials including bottle caps, Tim Horton lids, plastic beverage containers, etc. to help this man with his projects.

Jennifer congratulated her niece and her friends on their interest in the environment and recycling and how it supported Rotary’s new Priority Area on the Environment to be launched 01 July, 2021. Eighteen million dollars of this year’s global project grants had some form of environmental component to it.

Jennifer then reflected on the impacts that the Covid pandemic has had on our communities and how Rotary members have reacted as “People of Action”. The pandemic has impacted all parts of our lives, not only physical health but also mental health, food scarcity, and personal well-being. Rotary members have been there supporting communities in all these areas. She is encouraged by the arrival of vaccines that target this pandemic and noted that her husband, Nick, who is a family physician, has already received his.

Other things giving us hope include Rotary’s role in defeating Polio and how that experience could be used to support Covid 19 vaccination efforts. Rotary has significant infrastructure in place in more than 70 countries that has been highly successful in eradicating polio which could also support Covid eradication. Rotary, as an organization, has shown that vaccines are safe and can effectively support national vaccination efforts.

Rotary International is working on the development of a toolbox to help the organization with Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Jennifer believes that Rotary’s unique approach to diversity can act as a model for society to begin to understand the power that diversity brings to society.

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One of the driving forces for Rotary membership is service and anyone regardless of age and creating opportunities for service and leadership for younger members is going to connect them in a more meaningful way. For clubs interested in creating opportunities for school age children like Olivia to join and participate in regular club meetings, information is available from Olivia's dad who can be contacted through our District office.

Jennifer's Rotary commitments going forward include completing the role as President Nominee this year; next year as President Elect, which is a planning year with appointment of Aids, Convention Chair, the moderator of the International Assembly, and the development of goals and theme for her year as president. If everything goes as planned, the Jones family will be moving to Evanston, Illinois, for two years starting 01 July 2021 for Jennifer to take on the president role.

Jennifer then talked about the partnership with toastmasters. Partnerships allow for each of us to build on the strengths that each organization has to the betterment of all in our ability to be of service to society.

The Lethbridge Club is forming a committee to assist children who have suffered trauma in being more productive as young adults and wondered if Jennifer knew of any resources available to assist the club in providing this service. A Rotarian in Michigan is running a program based on mentorship for young adults impacted by childhood trauma and Jennifer can provide contact information for those clubs interested in pursuing this.

Kimberly Davis, president-elect of the Lethbridge Rotary Club, thanked RPIN Jennifer Jones for her presentation today and gave thanks for the opportunities and technologies that assist us today.

District Governor Mary Turner thanked Jennifer Jones for making herself and her niece, Olivia, available to meet with district 5360 today and told her how proud we all are of her taking on the role of Rotary International President. She then introduced the District 5360 Polio Chair, **Marlene Doherty**, to elaborate on the District's achievement in raising funds to support Rotary efforts to eradicate polio

Calgary West President Elect Marlene Doherty Presentation

The December End Polio Newsletter stated that this year had a record-breaking World Polio day fundraising and District 5360 contributed significantly to this. In normal years, the District would hold indoor spin cycling events on World Polio Day to raise funds, but this year such events would not be possible. **Vic Marris** from the Sylvan Lake Club came up with the idea of a club cycling challenge through the summer with participants challenged to ride 5360km and raise \$1.00 per km. Fourteen clubs participated in the challenge and participants managed to ride a total of 47,075 km which is equal to the circumference of the Earth - so, participants rode around the world to eradicate polio. In addition, on World Polio Day additional fund-raising events were held which resulted in a record breaking 70,000 dollars US being raised by District 5360 for the Rotary End Polio campaign. This was an increase of

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27,000 dollars over last year. Marlene is the District 5360 Polio Chair and it was in that capacity that she was presenting the results of her program.

Sergeant at Arms – Santa (Pat Killoran (Past DG from Lethbridge))

Santa thanked Rotary members for inviting him to be the sergeant-at -arms from the North Pole for this meeting and noted that his work was almost done with only four more days left before Christmas. His penalties and awards for Rotarians listening in were as follows:

- With only four more shopping days before Christmas, any Rotarian who had not finished their Christmas shopping for their life partner was guilty of “present procrastination” and should contribute \$5 to the Salvation Army Kettles.
- Rotary and Rotarians are much like Santa, doing work in their communities and around the world. There are 20 clubs in the District doing projects around the world as well as projects in the communities where their clubs are located. For having this opportunity, each Rotarian who has participated in one of these projects should put a Happy Buck or two into one of the Salvation Army kettles when they pass one by.
- Santa noted that both President Nominee Jennifer and District Governor Mary were both born and raised in Ontario and both are married to physicians. For this, each need to pay a fine for “medical monkey business” and contribute to the Salvation Army Christmas Kettles.

The meeting closed with Olivia reciting the Rotary Four Way Test.

Coming Events

	2021 – IT’S A BRAND NEW YEAR!
	January: Vocation Service Month
4	Club Engagement: VSC: Review of Scholarships and Initiatives
11	Understanding Loneliness: Patricia Morgan
18	Club Engagement: Team Meeting
25	Brian Lee: Healthcare - United States, Canada - China?
28	Evening Meeting: Past Presidents #3
	February: World Understanding Month
1	Membership, Initiatives and Recommendations
8	Brandon A: CEO NorthRiver Midstream - Current State of Oil and Gas in Canada
15	No Meeting. Family Day
18	Evening Meeting. Megan Bailey: Climate Change Economics
22	Ron Barmby Sunlight: Climate Change presentation with a different perspective
	March: Literacy Month
1	Club Engagement
8	TBD
15	Club Engagement: Presentation and Proposals for DDF: Pre-approvals
22	TBD
25	Evening Meeting. Past President Series #4



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29	TBD
	April: Maternal and Child Care Month
5	No Meeting. Easter Monday
8	Evening Meeting. Green Shirt Day
12	Club Engagement: Sprint Assembly
19	TBD
26	Club Engagement: Developing Projects and Discussion