

# 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:** Gerry Meek **President-Elect:** Bill Fitzsimmons **Past President:** Tim Anderson  
**Secretary:** Karl Herzog **Treasurer:** Judy Cochran  
**Directors:** Marlene Doherty, Darren Grierson, Ken Montgomery, Alex McFadden

## **Together We Are People of Action - Building Community**

February 24, 2020 Edition: 53.27 Reporter: Don Campbell Editor: David Williams

**Dilpriya Mangat** and, eventually, **Bob Pearson** were the greeters. and ensured we were all properly identified with our name tags. **David Williams** gave an occasional assist.

**Garfield Ganong, Eduardo Watman, Marlene Doherty** and **Cory Tretiak** staffed the front desk.

**Sa'adat Keshavjee** was the first to the lectern to talk to us about the importance of water in the work Rotary does. March is Water and Sanitation Month. RI has clean water, sanitation and hygiene initiatives in several third world countries. Lack of clean water and hygiene means a lowered rate of infants getting through their first two years, and reduces life expectancy where sanitation is of a low standard.

Dilpriya Mangat spoke of an initiative to address heart disease and issues around hospitalization: Changing Heart, chronic disease management. She mentioned also training people in response, which, when prompt, can be critical in the damage done and survival rate.

**Marlene Doherty** let us know that next Saturday there is a skating party from 1:30 to 3:30 at Bowness Park. Skates are available for rent. Bring your own scarf!

Marlene also reminded us with a last call for signing up for the Dinner Club groups. Monday at the Danish Canadian Club will be the final opportunity. This activity is an excellent glue for the friendships that bind our club together, and fill a large part of the social side of being a Rotarian. Jump in and enjoy!

Dilpriya Mangat introduced **Mrs. Raman Kapoor**, president of DIL Walk Foundation. This is a volunteer-run charity, and an acronym for Do It for Life (DIL). "Dil" also mean "heart" in Punjabi. The acronym WALK, focuses on Wellness, Access, Linkages and Knowledge. They actively work toward increasing the awareness of chronic disease across the life continuum in vulnerable populations, such as women, children, ethnic minorities and refugees.

May 1 - 3, 2020: District Conference, Calgary  
June 6 - 10, 2020: Rotary International Conference, Honolulu

Mrs. Kapoor distributed their magazine, *Engine to Engine*, which relates to the connection between our brain "engine" and our heart "engine". 100% of funds raised go directly toward community initiatives. The DWF supports the CHARM Clinic, the only outpatient clinic in Alberta to manage chronic diseases. They also have help free CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) training events for the general public. They annually hold a fundraising gala as well.

If you are interested, there is a PDF file of the magazine at

[https://dilwalk.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/DILWALK-Engine2Engine-Edition-2019\\_compressed.pdf](https://dilwalk.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/DILWALK-Engine2Engine-Edition-2019_compressed.pdf)



*Raman Kapoor, Dilpriya Mangat, and Gerry Meek*

**Steve Strang** announced the need for prospective students to attend RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards). Required are seven suitable nominations, not relatives, aged 15 to 18. The cost to cover each is \$450, and the club will cover five, as *Cory Tretiak has raised money to pay for two*. Please put nominations forward ASAP, as the deadline is approaching.

#### **Guest Speaker**

**Gordon Cox** introduced our guest speaker, **Court Ellingson**, from the City of Calgary's Economic Development Department: [www.calgaryeconomicdevelopment.com](http://www.calgaryeconomicdevelopment.com). Court used a PowerPoint presentation to show us how the city is not doing as badly as many perceive. His arguments, well supported by statistics, were compelling.

To begin, he let us know the economy of Calgary is less dependent on oil and gas than most believe. The oil patch accounts for less than 30% of our GDP. Although there have been large job losses due to the

drop in the price of oil, there are more people working in Calgary than there were in 2014, and our GDP/Capita is higher today than in most other Canadian cities.

Although there has been a lot of movement between provinces in the past few years in the pursuit of job opportunities, as people departed Calgary there was a counter-movement, and also people who left have been returning. Calgary's last net loss in population was in 1982. The city keeps track!

Intentional diversification has been a priority for decades, and the development of artificial intelligence has emerged as the primary shift, with the most conspicuous being the replacement of low-end jobs such as bank tellers and cashiers.

The largest development in industry has been agribusiness, with several crop sciences head offices locating here. Manufacturing has grown at the rate of 24%. Calgary has the most new venture start-up companies in Canada.

We are seeing a change in worker demand, with a shift coming for more emphasis on life-long learning.



**Darren Grierson** thanked Court, and presented him with our world-travelled Boltman, manufactured for us by Motive Action.

Next week our meeting will be moved to the Danish Canadian Club on 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW. Please review in detail the agenda circulated by e-mail last week, and bring ideas to put into the group discussions.



President Gerry's quote of the week: "The most valuable experience comes not from what has happened to an individual, but rather from what an individual learns from what has happened to them"

**Coming Events**

<b>March: Literacy Month</b>	
2	<b>Town Hall/Teams Meeting</b>
9	Cameron Diggon: Homes for Heroes
16	Mark Milke: Author, Columnist, Keynote Speaker
23	<b>Meeting cancelled</b> in favour of March 26 <b>Assembly</b>
26	<b>Evening Assembly</b> (Tentative)
30	Jim Donihee: National Energy Board COO, RCAF Wing Commander
<b>April: Maternal and Child Care Month</b>	
6	"In Step" (Tentative)
13	<b>No Meeting - Easter Monday</b>
20	LCS Committee Presentation
23	Evening meeting at the Joyce
27	Prof Jon Fennell: Alberta Watershed Water Management
<b>May: Youth Service Month</b>	
4	YEX Program: Margot Robins and Friends
11	Todd Hirsch: Economist
18	<b>No Meeting - Statutory Holiday</b>
21	Evening Meeting
25	TBA
<b>June: Rotary Fellowship Month</b>	
1	TBA
8	Mark Neufeld, Calgary Police Chief
15	Can Learn Presentation
22	Gerry Meek Day. Programme TBA.
29	Canada Day Special - Immigration and New Canadians: Peter Veress
<b>July Stampede and Okanagan Cherries Month</b>	
3	Parade Breakfast
6	Stampede Yahoo!
13	TBA
20	TBA
27	TBA