



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: 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

January 30, 2017 Edition: 50.26 Reporter: Les Morgan Editor: David Williams

The front desk was ably managed by **Steve Strang** and **Kurt Schurer**. **Orlin McMillan** sold the 50/50 tickets. **Bill Quinney** endeavoured to sign up members for a bus trip to and from the district conference, and we were welcomed to the meeting by **Marvin Pawlivsky** and **Chris Davis**.

President Terry Felton called the meeting to order, and **Gerry Meek** led us in singing our national anthem. The invocation was delivered by **Marlene Doherty**.

Seated at the head table were President Terry Felton, guest speaker **Mike Colborne**, Marlene Doherty, **Steve Rickard**, **Pat Romerman**, **Ben Kormos** and **SAA Garfield Ganong**.

Marvin introduced our visitors and guests: Mike Colborne (guest speaker), **Owen Obasohan** and **Erin Palashniuk** (guests of Pat Romerman and members of Rotary Employment Partnership), **Julie Cahoon** (guest of Ben Kormos), **Wally Gardiner** (High River) and **Gerry Groncet** (Fort McMurray).

Our club received a "Thank you" card from MRU for our sponsorship of three students in 2016 – 2017.

Ben Kormos moved that our Monday meetings begin henceforth at 12:10 pm, rather than 12:15. The motion was carried.

Hot Seats

- **Bill Quinney** explained that he was arranging for a bus to transport members to and from the Red Deer conference on the Saturday of the district conference. Refer to his earlier emails for details. Members are *strongly* urged to attend at least the Saturday sessions, particularly given the visibility of our club's record this year. A target of at least 50 members attending has been set.
- **Marie Rickard** informed us that 2000 strawberry shortcakes have been sold to date. Our target is 5000. Please help in reaching that number. More volunteers are required for both production and delivery. Please let either Marie or **Shelley Dyson** know how you will assist.
- **Clare Bildfell** again stressed the importance of registering for organ donations. He told the story of a dying cystic fibrosis patient in a Toronto hospital. In a first of its kind operation in

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Canada, her heart, lungs and kidneys were placed on artificial bypass for six days until lungs became available for transplant. The surgeon in the success story was our own **Sa'adat Keshavjee's** nephew.

The **50/50 pot** of \$33 was won by guest speaker, Mike Colborne, who donated his winnings to our club.

Sergeant-at-Arms

SAA Garfield Ganong was in fine form. Many potential infractions, each calling for a toonie, included:

- not happy to see him,
- not at last week's field trip,
- not attending last week's movie screening,
- not wearing a pin,
- not having read the Rotary magazine,
- not volunteering to help with the strawberry shortcakes,
- not knowing the first year of their production,
- the total number produced,
- the total number of volunteers and the total revenue.

It was an unusually expensive lunch for many!

Ramacrisna Institution

Ben Kormos made a presentation, illustrated with photographs, of his experiences with the Ramacrisna Robotics Education project at a vocational school in Betim, Brazil, during a Rotary Friendship Exchange with the Rotary Club of Belo Horizonte.

Ben visited the school in 2016. Students there receive vocational skills education and training in an area beset by extremely poor economic and social supports. In partnership with the Brazilian club, RCCW contributed \$1,000 to Phase 1 of a robotics project. This money was spent on additions to their library, essential to the educational success of the students. Phase 2, underway, will provide equipment, supplies and teachers to train some 260 students in robotic sciences. This phase required \$20,000 US, of which 50% was provided by RCCW, to enable the students to reach requisite intellectual and creative levels of expertise in robotics science. Subsequent phases of this project are currently being discussed.

Guest Speaker

Steve Rickard introduced our guest speaker, Mike Colborne. Mike is CEO of four companies in the Pacific Western Transportation Group, which offers bus services such as Red Arrow Motorcoach, Southland School Buses and nine municipal transit systems. Operating in four provinces and the Yukon, they have 4000 engaged employees and more than 3000 buses. Mike sits on several boards, including CAREERS: The Next Generation, a non-profit association raising youth awareness about rewarding careers in the trades. Mike is a member of the Calgary Downtown Rotary Club and he and his club, together with Inclusion Alberta (formerly AACL) and Human Services Alberta have formed a partnership: the Rotary Employment Partnership.

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The objective of this partnership is to create employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities. They particularly include intellectual disabilities and encourage RCCW to perhaps become more involved with them (**Note:** Pat Romerman is significantly involved) and assist in obtaining employment for someone who has a disability. He noted that participation in this partnership does not require any financial commitment. Human Services provides funding and support to developmentally disabled people to live, work and participate in society. Rotary's role is to open doors and build connections.

Having a job is important to a disabled individual on so many levels: financial, self esteem and sense of belonging. 80% of the disabled in Alberta are unemployed, relying on government assistance and living marginalized lives. Those who have a job tend to be absolutely committed to it.

The partnership has created 440 jobs in Alberta since 2001, with 51 of them in Calgary. These jobs vary from labourer through data management and administrative roles. On average, obtaining a job results in a 44% increase in personal income. The benefits to employers include an enhanced reputation as an inclusive corporate citizen and loyal committed employees.



Pat Romerman thanked Mike for his informative, enlightening presentation, and gave him a Boltman, crafted from our own Karl Herzog's training endeavour, Motive Action.

President Terry closed the meeting, offering special thanks to Marie Rickard for her ongoing, superlative role in RCCW's strawberry shortcake fundraiser.

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Coming Events

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	Manning Innovation Awards (Tentative)
April: Maternal and Child Health Month	
3	Vimy Ridge Centennial
10	Evening Meeting: 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	David Poulson: Author and Radio Announcer
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
July	
3	No Meeting
7	Friday: CWRC Stampede Parade Breakfast
10	Stampede Yahoo!
17	TBA
24	TBA
31	TBA