

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: Tim Anderson **President-Elect:** Gerry Meek **Past President:** Ben Kormos

Secretary: Chris Davis **Treasurer:** Judy Cochran

Directors: Debbie Barry, Robyn Braley, Don Campbell, Bill Fitzsimmons, Gustavo Jimenez,
Les Morgan, Alex McFadden, Orlin McMillan, Melody Warman

District Governor: Dan Doherty

Together We Are People of Action - Building Community

March 11, 2019 Edition: 52.28 Reporter: Marie Rickard Editor: David Williams

Lots of chatter with fellowship happening over a soup/salad/sandwich buffet lunch. The welcome desk was manned by **Chris Ritter** and **Les Morgan** today. 50/50 ticket seller was **Holland Berry**. Greeters were **Claude Massé** and **Paul Graham**.

President Tim Anderson called the meeting to order, and we sang *O Canada*. **Debbie McMillan** gave the invocation.

We inducted four new members today! Wow! Past president and long-time member **Sa'adat Keshavjee** lead the induction. He was assisted by the current and future leadership of the club, that is, President Tim Anderson, **President-elect Gerry Meeks**, **President-elect-designate Bill Fitzsimmons**, and **President-elect-designate-nominee Marlene Doherty**.



After the pinning ceremony, **Darren Grierson** was also on hand to welcome the new members and to tell them about mentors. Darren then asked each new member to introduce himself or herself.

May 3 - 5, 2019: District Conference, Olds
June 1 - 5, 2019: Rotary International Conference, Hamburg



Barbara Hames is passionate about service and was inspired by Marlene's commitment in her service in other organizations and Rotary. She is actively volunteering. She recited the 4H Motto for us so the Four Way Test will be no problem for Barbara.

[Editor's Note: The 4H Motto Creed and Pledge:

I pledge my head to clearer thinking,
my heart to greater loyalty,
my hands to larger service, and
my health to better living,
for my club, my community, my country and my world.]

Brook Bayou is an instructor at Calgary Catholic Immigration Society and IT support specialist. He was previously a member of the Rotary Club of Addis Ababa Bole, Ethiopia, from 2012 to 2014. He was also a Rotaractor. He has just been in Calgary for 1½ years. He is married to Selamawit Temanu.

Peter Josty transferred his membership to Calgary West Rotary Club from the Calgary Olympic Club where he is a past president. He lives very close to us in Lakeview. He stated that he has come to join the Welsh Mafia here at Calgary West! **[Editor's Note:** Cymru am byth!] He has a wife, Norma, and two grandkids. He likes camping, hiking, mountaineering and other outdoor pursuits. He worked for Northern Chemical until 2003. He started his Rotary membership in Sarnia, Ontario. He is participating in some interesting work with entrepreneurship. I did not capture all of Peter's information about his employment and passions so please seek him out and ask him to share.

Bill Dowhaluk came from Portage la Prairie and went to school in Winnipeg. He worked in Australia for five years, but has resided in Calgary for many years and is now retired from oil and gas production and

engineering. He has a wife and three children. He has been involved with Inclusion Alberta as a board member. Inclusion Alberta and Rotary have partnered to find workplace opportunities for the developmentally disabled.

Welcome to all the new members! Darren also made an appeal for mentors. See Darren or Orlin, if you are interested.

President Tim then proceeded to raffle off a Calgary West Rotary ladies golf shirt won by Gerry Meeks.

Announcements:

Golf Prizes for 2018 – Bill Fitzsimmons

For the Low Gross – **Alex McFadden**



For the Low Net – **Claude Massé**



- Congratulations gentleman. Better late than never!

Water is Life! Banquet and Dance – Duncan Stanners

- Saturday, March 30, 2019
- Marda Loop Community Association Hall, 3130 16 St SW
- 6:30 – 12:00 midnight Cost: \$60.
- Meal by Chris Lee and friends.
- **Come and bring your friends. Ticket sales are low currently so please go online and purchase.**



Honduras Economic and Community Development – Bill Fitzsimmons

- \$402,000 has been raised for this Microcredit project for Phase 5
- \$15,000 came from Calgary West Rotary
- Our partner in all of this is Opportunity International
- Bill presented the big cheque to Ed Temple a representative from OI

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- Ed announced his trip to Honduras next week and thanked the hard-working committee
- Phase 6 is being implemented by a Rotary Club in Ontario

Sergeant-at-Arms

Malcolm Harrison commanded respect. He suggested that his mandate was much like the Attorney General of Canada and he was big on fines. On your honor, if you did not respectfully welcome the sergeant-at-arms, the fine was \$1. No pins also fined \$1. The following folks were identified as not in integrity with their dealings with Malcolm, so Tim Anderson, **Steve Rickard**, Alex McFadden needed to pay for inappropriate remarks or interference. A pass was given to Paul Graham and Claude Masse for showing true respect. He also fined fellow-SAA **David Williams** for some obscure reason!

Debbie McMillan won the 50/50.

Guest Speaker

Gerry Meeks introduced our speaker of the day, **Krista Poole**. Krista happened to have a birthday today and so we serenaded her appropriately.

Krista is an advocate for learning needs. She is the executive director of CanLearn. It is the 40th Anniversary of the organization this year. Gerry also likes Krista because she brings Gerry cookies!

CanLearn is a registered charity that helps children, youth and adults with learning, attention and literacy. It was founded in 1979 and called the Calgary Learning Centre. Their mandate is to unlock potential. In a study of 16 to 24-year-old youth, Canada ranks 17 out of 23 countries for literacy, and



numeracy (OECD 2016). 38% of adult Calgarians underachieve in literacy, 15% have learning disabilities or attention disorders. 23% of youth fail to complete high school.

Literacy is important because it is protective. Youth with literacy issues are more likely to drop out of school, have poor mental health, be impoverished, be involved in the judicial system, less healthy and become involved in addictions. This becomes cyclical in the family. When a child drops out of school the cost is \$16,000 per child per year.

Why is literacy an issue? Because it is not a priority for government and people around us. During 2010 to 2014, five national literacy organizations closed their doors. There is a lack of training for Literacy facilitators. There is a lack of innovation in the field. There is a myth in the field that is supported by flawed research concluding that meaningful progress will not be made.

CanLearn provides family literacy programs, after-school ready programs for Grade 1 & 2. They advocate and train literacy facilitators. They also provide myth-busting by innovating and providing informed research to transform the embedded social-emotional component of learning. They are advocating at universities to train teachers in introduction to reading. When we create strong readers by Grade 3, when these skills are needed, high school dropout rates will fall.

There is a gap in the Grade 7 to 8 programming at junior high schools. Social-emotional learning in literacy is important here. Highly skilled volunteers are needed. Students need a relaxing environment since school is perceived as stressful. A pilot group was asked what would help. Students identified relaxation, music, working as a group, passionate facilitators, no boring lectures, being current, hip supportive and welcoming, dealing with stress and anxiety. A new pilot project was funded by the Burns Memorial for one year for Grade 7 and 8 students at risk. CanLearn developed a curriculum with three volunteers, two hours/week for 10 weeks. It was called P4L. Feedback from the pilot project was good. Literacy helps unlock potential!

Krista answered a variety of questions. The first question was about the stats and did they contain English as a Second Language learners? The answer was no. A question was asked about technology to help learners. Although digital literacy is important, it is not important for preschoolers and not needed. Reading is not instinctual. Using books for learning is important at this stage. Krista stated that there are no long-term studies on the use of technology at this young age, and we do not understand the effect. The technology does not span a generation yet.

Tazim Asaria thanked Krista for telling us about CanLearn and presented her with the Boltman. At the end, Krista was also presented with a birthday cake!

President Tim ended the meeting. He made note that Gerry Meeks will be conducting the meeting next week. There will be an evening meeting on Thursday, March 28, and the subject will be Sundown Safari from the participants in the club that recently travelled to Africa.



Coming Events

March: Literacy Month	
4	LCS Community Project – Monica Ercolessi – Sonshine Community
11	Literacy Program - Krista Poole, CEO Can Learn
18	Armstrong the Guide Dog with Bill Faulkner
25	Noon Assembly and Team Meeting
28	Thursday Evening: Rotary West at the Joyce
April: Maternal and Child-Care Month	
1	Homes of Hope, 15th Anniversary - Dan and Marlene Doherty
8	Gary Mar: CEO of PSAC (Petroleum Services Association of Canada). Former Alberta rep in Asia and Washington.
15	Dr John Rook. His background is with the Homeless Foundation, Mustard Seed and Salvation Army.
22	No Meeting: Easter Monday
25	Thursday Evening: Rotary West at the Joyce
29	Dr. Marie-Claire Arrieta, U of C – Microbiome and Child Immunity
May: Youth Service Month	
6	Meals on Wheels – A Calgary West Project
13	Rotary West – In House “Fun and Fellowship” Program
20	No Meeting: Statutory Holiday
23	Thursday Evening: Rotary West at the Joyce
27	Laura Pipolo – Youth Exchange – Adventures in Citizenship – RYLA
June: Rotary Fellowship Month	
3	Manning Innovation Awards (Tentative)
10	Dr Phil Langill: U of C Professor, Astronomy and Astrophysics
17	Gavel Turnover, Anderson To Meek. Team Meeting
24	Special Red and White Canada Day Programme
27	Thursday Evening: Rotary West at the Joyce
July: Stampede Parade and OK Cherries Month	
1	No Meeting: Canada Day
8	Stampede Yahoo
15	TBA
22	TBA
29	TBA
August: Membership and New Club Development Month	
5	No Meeting: Statutory Holiday
12	TBA
19	TBA
26	
September: Basic Education and Literacy Month	
2	No Meeting: Labour Day

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