



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

November 26, 2018 Edition: 52.17 Reporter: Don Vokey Editor: David Williams

Claude Massé greeted us with a warm smile and our nametags once his work organizing wreaths was completed. **Steve Strang** and **Les Morgan** got us properly registered for attendance, ensuring we would eat, and signed in our guests. **Paul Graham** sold the 50/50 tickets and **Debbie McMillan** registered us for Christmas Brunch, December 16 at the Pinebrook Golf Club.

President Tim Anderson got the meeting rolling at 12:13 with the call to order.

Robyn Braley performed double duty leading the assembly in the national anthem and giving the Invocation.

This meeting was focused on supporting Alpha House and **President Tim** thanked his wife, **Linda**, for helping him realize that several of the old shirts hanging in his closet that he never wore, but might some day, would better serve the clients at Alpha House. The club response was overwhelming as two SUVs were required to take the donations to Alpha House!

President Tim introduced the head table as follows: **Marie Rickard** - to introduce the speaker; **Lorelei Higgins** – Speaker; Linda Anderson – to thank the Speaker; **Steve Rickard** – to Induct a new member; and **Dalbir Rattan**, the new member being inducted into the club.

Les Morgan informed the meeting of the following Guests: Lorelei Higgins; **Jallaina La Monaca** - guest of **Lorenda Carlsen**; **Christine Rendell** - Calgary East and District Governor Elect; **Peter Josty** – Calgary Olympic; **John Fortunka** – Calgary Fish Creek; and **Rick Istead** – Calgary Fish Creek.

Robyn Braley led the assembly in a rousing rendition of the Calgary West welcome song.



Steve Rickard inducted new member Dalbir Rattan as the newest member of Calgary West. Dalbir was born in India in 1949, emigrated to Canada in 1972, and settled in Calgary in 1976. He has worked for Pitney Bowes, owned a hotel, and worked in real estate. He says he is willing to volunteer for almost anything.

President Tim's "How well do you know Calgary West Members". This week's subject was **Bill Tapuska**, and the correct answer to what has he done was "Oversaw the construction of St. Michaels Catholic Church in living colour".

Announcements

- President Tim announced the marriage of **Duncan Stanners** and **Laurie Thurston**.
- Linda Anderson thanked the club for supporting A Woman's Heart last week and reminded everyone that next week it will be collecting for Stephen's Backpack.
- Robyn Braley presented a poster with the new Rotary Logo on it and advised that members would be seeing more of it over the next few weeks
- Lorenda Carlsen asked that club members who could help with Christmas wreath delivery as either drivers or navigators please sign up on the sheet being circulated. 427 wreaths are ordered and 372 are to be delivered in Calgary. Six are still available for purchase.
- **Sa'adat Keshavjee** reminded everyone that there is still time to donate to the Paul Harris Foundation.
- **Ken Montgomery** asked any club members, with time starting in January, to act as coordinators for the Club's Stampede Breakfast to please contact him. The Stampede Breakfast is a significant fund raiser for the club.
- President Tim announced that, starting in January, there will be an evening meeting on the last Thursday of the month in addition to the regular Monday lunch meeting. The Thursday meeting will be more of a social event.

Sergeant-at-Arms

Larry Doyle wore the sergeant-at-arms medallion and, to the delight of all, announced that there would be no fines at this meeting! He did announce a happy toonie for the Stamps' win on Sunday. Other happy bucks were **Bill Lawless**, Tim Anderson, **Steve Strang**, and **Bill Fitzsimmons** who announced that the Honduras Project had received a global grant of \$300,000 which increased the funding to \$2.3 million over the last five years.

Guest Speaker

Marie Rickard introduced Lorelei Higgins as a previous Rotary Exchange Student and currently the recipient of a Rotary Peace Fellowship to attend the Rotary Peace Center in Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok Thailand. She has worked in Indigenous Affairs in both North and South America as, well as



Asia. She is presently employed by the City of Calgary in Indigenous Strategies and her presentation would be about how the City of Calgary is on a journey with Indigenous peoples, both living in the city, as well as the communities that surround the city.

Lorelei Higgins started by describing her experience as a Rotary Exchange Student from Edmonton in 1998, when she traveled to South Africa for a year. There, she became very interested in the plight of indigenous peoples and how people can be misjudged because of their heritage. She is Metis and her hosts in South Africa could not understand why she could not speak French given her heritage.

After completing her university studies, she went to Bolivia to assist in a project to improve the living conditions of an indigenous community there. The project has been able to obtain sustainable funding, and is still running.

She then introduced the Truth and Reconciliation Commission report and the 94 recommendations made to align government policy with the UN 2015 Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. She then focused on the impacts on Canada's residential schools on indigenous people and communities. Starting in 1876, around 150,000 indigenous children were placed in residential schools and it has been estimated that upwards of 6,000 died (1 in 25).

Alberta had one residential school, St. Dunstan's Calgary Indian Industrial School located in Ogden, which operated from 1896 – 1907. A 17-year-old Piikani Nation boy, Jack White Goose Flying, died in 1989 in a shack on the grounds where sick children were quarantined. He was buried at the site and his identity was lost until, as development threatened the site, a newspaper asked Albertans if they could identify who was buried there. The mystery was solved when Steve Gladstone identified Jack as one of the boys who had attended the school with him. To commemorate Jack, the Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee developed the White Goose Flying report in 2015 in response to Calgary City Council's request for how to respond to the Truth and Reconciliation report locally. The report was adopted by Council in 2015.

Lorelei was assigned to help implement the White Goose Flying Report. The City is proposing a Calgary Indigenous Relations Office, which is now included in the City budget. Edmonton has had a similar office since 2007, and Vancouver has just created one. Toronto is still trying to figure out how to respond. A key objective is to create space for indigenous people to participate in discussions and set policy.

Linda Anderson thanked Lorelei for her informative talk and presented her with Calgary West's famous Gold Hat Boltman.



Coming Events

December: Disease Prevention and Treatment Month	
3	Team Meeting
10	Field Trip and Tour of the New Calgary Public Library
17	Children's Choir: St Matthew's School
24	No Meeting. CHRISTMAS EVE!
31	No Meeting: New Year's Eve
January: Vocational Service Month	
7	Tina Varughese - Motivational Speaker
14	Keith Blake, Chief of Police, Tsuut'ina Nation
21	Dominik Diamond - Jack FM: Special Robbie Burns' Day Programme
28	Stuart Cullum: President of Olds College
February: World Understanding Month	
4	World Community Service Presentation
11	St Valentine's Day Programme
18	Family Day. No Meeting
20	Evening Meeting: Rotary West Radio LIVE
25	Field Trip Lougheed House: Kristin Evenden, Executive Director
March: Literacy Month	
4	Local Community Service Presentation
11	TBA
18	TBA
25	Noon Assembly and Team Meeting
April: Maternal and Child-Care Month	
1	TBA
8	TBA
15	TBA
22	No Meeting: Easter Monday
29	TBA
May: Youth Service Month	
6	No Meeting (because of District Conference)?
13	TBA
20	No Meeting: Statutory Holiday
27	Youth Programme: RYLA, Adventures in Citizenship, YEX
June: Rotary Fellowship Month	
3	TBA
10	TBA
17	Gavel Turnover, Anderson to Meek. Team Meeting
24	Special Canada Day Programme