

April 29, 2025

Volume 42 - Issue 24

"Together we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change - across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves!"

The Rotary Club of Calgary comprises professional and community leaders brought together in fellowship to make a better future.



Birthdays

Lindsay Marczak
Gord Graham

April 30
May 3

Anniversaries

Steve Allan	45 years
Sandra Elliott	30 years
Michael Pierson	15 years

President Joe's Inspirational Quote

"Political economy means that everybody except politicians must be economical"

- Stephen Leacock

Were You There?

Doug McMillan

President Joe Fras opened the April 22, 2025 club meeting followed by Michael Pierson leading a rousing "O Canada" with the approximately 65 people present (including 7 guests). The invocation by Tom Loucks reminded us of the importance of what we leave behind.

President Joe thanked the front of house volunteers (Bill Redmond, Ron Hymers, Chris Ward) and announced Gord Graham is back at work from home. Michael Broadhurst introduced members with birthdays (see above in COG).

Rotary Exchange student Trinidad (Trini) Araneda from Santo Domingo, Chile thanked Rotarians for making her stay in Canada both educational and enjoyable. She leaves for home July 12, 2025 with very good memories (school, food including maple syrup, Canadian lifestyle) and especially new friends.

Madeleine King reminded those present (and all club members) of the great opportunity provided by the Rotary convention in Calgary. If one cannot attend the full conference, there is opportunity to register for the House of Friendship only on Saturday June 21, 2025. It is believed that registration from our club may be less than from other Calgary clubs- and we should lead the way. Could we ever get **100% registration?**

As a related item, some members may not yet be registered on the Rotary website www.rotary.org. Please join to access a wealth of learning materials, including sections of the Learning Centre which may provide assistance with your life outside of Rotary.

Brian Guichon showed a picture of the new Rotary shirts (two styles- \$73 and \$81) which will be available for order on the club website with availability by June 15th. There are still a few of the present style shirts available. Regardless of the style you choose, a Rotary shirt should be a MUST for all club members (editorial comment).

Angelina Hayes was welcomed as a new club member (see other article in this COG)

Stacey Pinney announced the Big Book Sale volunteer shifts had been all filled. Barb Young showed pictures of Ferdinand the Fire Truck after successful delivery in Guatemala.

Guest Speaker Trevor Tombe, a Professor from the University of Calgary School of Public Policy, was introduced by Terry McMahon. Trevor spoke about the current tariff situation indicating that those who were not confused were not paying attention!

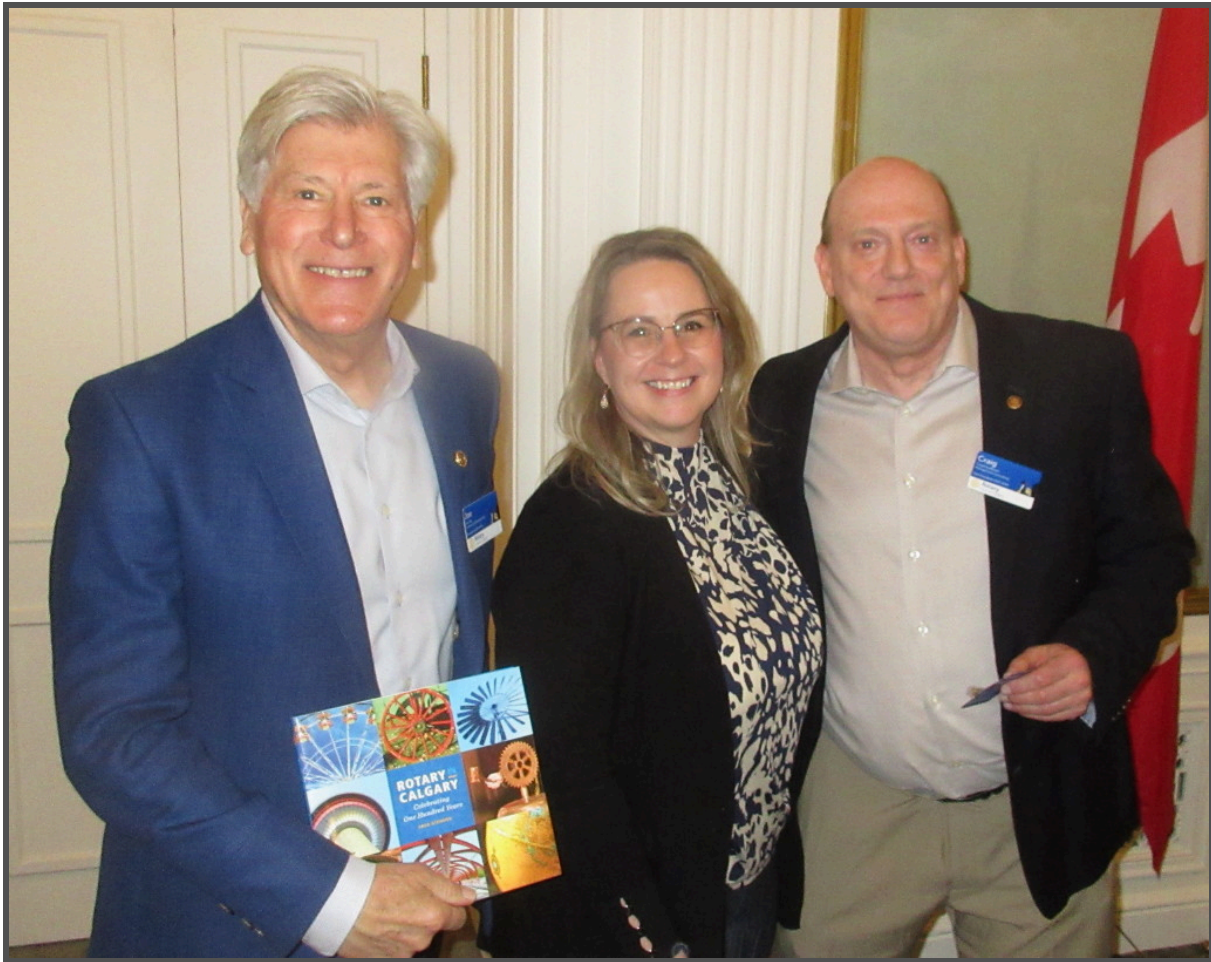
He showed graphs indicating that Canada's GDP per population has shown little increase in the past decade and that this limited growth was less than almost all (except Luxemburg) industrialized nations. Canada's response to US tariffs (including Canadian tariffs, limited buying of US products and decreased US travel) will have only a small effect; our productivity needs to increase to provide some protection during turbulent economic times.

May 6, 2025 is the Club Assembly. This is an opportunity for all club members to listen and contribute to club activities. Please plan to be present.

Joe closed the meeting with the Stephen Leacock quote above in this COG. Stay tuned for continuing words of wisdom.

Photos:

1. Craig Henderson introduces new member Angeline Hayes, with President Joe
2. Youth Exchange Student Trini with President Joe
3. President Joe thanks our speaker, Trevor Tombe
4. Stacey Pinney on the book sale
5. Barb Young reports on the fire engine trip











Welcome to New Member, Angeline Hayes

Diane Macdonald

When Craig Henderson introduced Angeline at the lunch meeting on April 22nd, he related a great story about her discovery of our Club. This past Christmas, Angeline and her two sons, Colton and Kyle, were staying at the Palliser Hotel, where, many years ago, her late mother had been employed as a telephone operator. She happened to notice the “Rotary meets here Tuesdays” plaque, which prompted her to consider rejoining Rotary. She had been a member of the Rotary Club of Drumheller several years ago.

Angeline grew up in Calgary, did her post-secondary education in British Columbia and now works as a pre-board screening officer at the Calgary airport. She is fluent in French and has done on-line courses through the Harvard Business School. Angeline has been involved in many charitable endeavours, with Rotary and other community organizations. Oh, and one more thing – she may be the only member of our Club who has jumped out of an airplane!

Please introduce yourself to Angeline when you see her at a meeting. Welcome, Angeline – we're delighted to have you as a member of the Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown.



Ferdinand- our Fire Truck in the Calgary Herald, April 25 2025!

Madeleine King

CITY-REGION

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025 CALGARY HERALD A3



Ferdinand the fire truck is unloaded from a U.S. Air Force Lockheed C-5 Galaxy at the La Aurora International Airport in Guatemala City.

Former Calgary fire truck to provide much-needed support in Guatemala

New chapter follows years-long 'struggle' to transport vehicle to Central America

STEVE WILKINSON

After a truck that saved lives in Calgary for more than a decade will do the same near Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, after winning there this month.

Ferdinand is the same given to the former Calgary Fire Department engine that was given to Calgary firefighters for several decades to fight fires in the Central American city.

After a five-year wait due to pandemic-related delays and the complexity of crossing multiple borders, Ferdinand arrived in the country's capital, Guatemala City, on April 8.

It was then driven from there to Quetzaltenango, where it will primarily be used to help with the quality of life of the people.

"It's so fulfilled that it's actually got there ... it's been a struggle at times," said Barbara Young, a former City of Calgary board member.

Young received the initial request for the engine in 2019 from Marco Herrera, a fireman in Guatemala.

"They have a volunteer fire department in Quetzaltenango, and they needed a fire truck," Young said.

Herrera said fire companies in Guatemala have a hard time getting equipment, especially vehicles.

La Esperanza's volunteer fire brigade was relying on an engine from 1980, which has many issues, according to Herrera.

Initially, Young tapped Billie Roberts, a volunteer fireman, who

knows Calgary's fire chief.

They were able to coordinate with CFM outside the City of Calgary to make the donation possible — but then COVID hit.

With border lockdowns and the world at a standstill, Ferdinand had no home — at least not yet.

"When they took delivery of the truck, they needed a place to store it ... I said, well, I'll have to call the spot out here," Bill Roberts said, a fireman and owner at Rocky Fire County Fire Services.

Although the shop just north of Calgary was used as a temporary home for Ferdinand, it housed the engine until it was shipped this year.

"The truck ended up being our last longer than we'd anticipated and we kind of adopted it as our own," said Roberts, noting that they took care of regular maintenance.

Roberts said CFM was helpful in providing needed information,

including where to source parts. Rocky Fire County Fire Services even came to test the engine's pump.

A privately funded program in the U.S. transferred the truck to Canada and underwritten its flight, with no cost for what's being transported, according to Young.

"Someone the whole time has been U.S.-based," she said.

"We've got the truck company in the American Embassy," said Young.

With the help of Lake Forest Park Rotary Club in Washington State, they were able to get Ferdinand on the way.

After about a year of waiting, the engine was shipped to Guatemala City.

Loaded onto a truck, Ferdinand was taken to the Costa Rica border crossing in southern Alberta, having dealt with the paperwork beforehand.

"I called the border by the U.S.

at the airport, and the guy was wonderful ... he said he wanted his picture taken with our truck," said Young.

After crossing the border without a hitch, Ferdinand was loaded onto a Lockheed C-5 Galaxy transport plane at the McChord U.S. Air Force Base in Washington State.

Ferdinand will be the only staff at Quetzaltenango, but Young is happy to see it go, said Ferdinand.

"It's really going to help where it was most needed," she said. "It's really going to help where it was most needed," she said.

The volunteer firefighters hope to get the vehicle into service as soon as possible, but Ferdinand's full operation will start May 15, while they wait.

With few fire hydrants in Guatemala, Ferdinand's built-in water tank will be a boon.

"They're going to be able to reach more communities with this fire truck, they're going to be able to respond faster," she said, adding that they're grateful for everyone who helped make it happen.

"We're just really, really grateful," she said.

will be in the middle of the

Heritage Calgary CEO announces he's leaving 'an amazing organization'

KEVIN STRANER

After years of helping preserve and tell the city's history, Heritage Calgary's executive director and CEO is set to depart the public sector organization next month.

Josh Trapp's final day as the head of Heritage Calgary will be May 15. He said he is taking on a similar position with the Alberta Historical Foundation.

"It's absolutely amazing. Heritage Calgary — it's an amazing organization," said Trapp, who also set up the organization's board of directors from 2018 to 2021.

Heritage Calgary, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, is responsible for maintaining the city's inventory of more than 900 evaluated historic resources. It also evaluates any new potential heritage assets, promotes public awareness of Calgary's history and administers city council on matters related to local heritage conservation.

The organization also hosts the annual Heritage Calgary Awards, which celebrate individuals and organizations that have contributed to the city's heritage conservation. Another program is a public historic site-to-site program, a historic routes called Heritage Walkers, and the creation of more than a dozen self-guided walking tours through some of Calgary's oldest neighborhoods.

As executive partner, Heritage Calgary is primarily funded through an operating grant from the municipal government.

While Trapp has previously argued in council that his organization is underfunded in contrast with a growing workload, he said Heritage Calgary has made "considerable investments" in heritage preservation over the past decade. He cited grant programs and pilot projects as examples, including a property tax credit for owners of historic buildings and the Historic Block Program.

"I think people will often think the city needs to do more, but when you look at the investment, the city has made in the past 10 years, they've been significant," he said.

Trapp said that when he first became CEO, he was Heritage Calgary's sole employee. He said the organization has grown over the years, and now has a team of five employees.

"We have heritage organizations reaching out to us all the time and asking for evaluation services (the heritage assets)," he said. "They're amazed at the investment the city has and the support it has."

In a news release, Heritage Calgary's board chair, Laureen Rice, thanked Trapp for his leadership over the past decade, which included strengthening the organization and leading a strategic partnership with the city.

"The last decade has been a time of rapid growth and change for Heritage Calgary, and we're grateful for the leadership and vision of Josh Trapp," she said.



Josh Trapp is leaving Heritage Calgary after 20 years. He is taking a position with the Alberta Historical Foundation. (403) 243-8888 or (403) 243-8888

the media, public history, city administration, property services and other Calgary departments working to learn more and get perspective on the city's history and heritage.

"It's a wonderful commitment to preserving and sharing the stories that shape our city — not just what we see, but what we feel and what we are. It's a wonderful commitment to preserving and sharing the stories that shape our city — not just what we see, but what we feel and what we are."

Trapp said he is grateful for everyone who helped make it happen. "We're just really, really grateful," he said.

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Mini-Auctions at our May Meetings

Laurene Wilson

Short auctions will be held at each of our May lunch meetings, on May 13th and May 27th.

May 13th Auction: Funds raised will go to Alpha House – Among the items to be auctioned:

- Four tickets to the Stampede Rodeo, value \$800.00
- Three nights at Sean Baylis' Canmore condo, value \$900.00
- One night with breakfast and parking at the Banff Springs Hotel, value \$650.00
- A painting donated by a client of Frank Hall

May 27th Auction: Funds raised for our Club – growing new member events and recruitment; fellowship events; programs that support monthly meetings; technology to run organization more efficiently. Among the items to be auctioned:

- Two tickets to a Flames game next season
- Gift certificate for \$1250.00 from a plant nursery, donated by Michael Colborne

If you have a donation for this event, please email Laurene Wilson, Club Secretary.

Convention June 21-24 Update

Madeleine King

After attending an information session for club champions last night I now have some further news to share.

- The Host Hospitality spots are all sold out. Great news!
- The website: <http://rotarycalgary2025.org> is the most helpful – it's newly upgraded by our Host Organizing Committee and it's great. It's even got step-by-step instructions on how to register for the Convention
- Through that website you can sign up for their monthly newsletter – or follow them on social media (Facebook, LinkedIn or Instagram)
- Buy a white hat through that website; we want everyone to be wearing them! If you've registered as a Volunteer with the Host Organizing Committee (not for our club BBQ) and you do two shifts you'll receive a free white hat and vest at the start of Convention
- On that website, the tours look amazing – and might be worth it even for us locals; check them out!
- Consider attending the Convention special version of the Grandstand show – everyone should be there but wait for further news before purchasing tickets.

Career and Financial Wellness Camp for Teens

John Crosser, RC Fish Creek

Do you know of young people aged 14 – 17 who would enjoy / benefit from a camp here in the city on career and financial wellness?

The Adventures in Career and Financial Wellness Camp is designed to help teens make better career and financial decisions. See brochure below for registration information for July 3- 6, 2025.

This is part of our Rotary District Youth Program. Our own Eric Bennett, Communications Director and Past President, is one of the keynote speakers.

[Read more...](#)

Peace Fellowships Applications Deadline

Marie Rickard, District 5360

[Applications accepted online](#) for the Rotary Peace Fellowship each year from 1 February – 15 May

As a humanitarian organization, promoting peace is a cornerstone of Rotary's mission. By carrying out service projects, supporting peace fellowships and scholarships, and partnering with others, Rotary members take action to address the underlying causes of conflict—including poverty, discrimination, ethnic tension, lack of access to education, and unequal distribution of resources. One of the most effective ways we build peace is with our Rotary Peace Fellowships that train peace and development professionals to become effective catalysts for peace.

The fully funded [Rotary Peace Fellowship](#) (which covers tuition and living expenses) increases the capacity of dedicated peacebuilders from communities around the world to prevent and resolve conflict by offering academic training, field experience, and professional networking.

Each year, applications are accepted online beginning on 1 February and must be submitted by 15 May. Applications are considered final upon submission. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

If you know someone who might be a good candidate for a Rotary Peace Fellowship, please submit a short [referral form](#) with their name and email address. We'll contact them with information on how to apply.

Follow the Rotary Peace Centers on [Facebook](#).

Please write to rotarypeacecenters@rotary.org with questions.

When is the COG published?

You can find past issues on our website under [Members > COG Bulletins](#)

If you'd like to have us publish an article or have an idea about what we should be publishing, please forward your ideas to Madeleine by the FRIDAY before the Tuesday publication date. You are also welcome to contact either Madeleine, Doug or Diane to discuss any idea you may have.

Here are the remaining publication dates for the first half on 2025:

- May 20
- June 3, June 17

If you enjoy reading the COG, [let us know](#) because your comments are the only way we know we are hitting the mark and this is our reward!

Proudly Presenting Our Corporate Members



Upcoming Events

[👉 New Rotary Shirts – Now Available in Royal Blue & Navy! 🔥](#)

Apr. 24, 2025 - May 23, 2025 Mountain Daylight Time (UTC-06:00)

[Big Book Sale Set Up](#)

720 3 St NW

Apr. 27, 2025 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time (UTC-06:00)

[Rotary - May 6 luncheon - Rotary Community Impact Hour](#)

133 9 Avenue SW,

May 06, 2025 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time (UTC-06:00)

[Frank n' Stein \(1st TUESDAY\)](#)

CHECK YOUR EMAIL

May 06, 2025

4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

[Luncheon - Celebrating Calgary Stampede Presidents](#)

May 13, 2025 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time (UTC-06:00)

[Frank n' Stein \(3rd TUESDAY\)](#)

CHECK YOUR EMAIL

May 20, 2025

4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

[Luncheon - Guest Speaker Mark Garner](#)

May 27, 2025 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time (UTC-06:00)

[Frank n' Stein \(1st TUESDAY\)](#)

CHECK YOUR EMAIL

Jun. 03, 2025

4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

[President Joe Fras - Club Annual General Meeting](#)

Jun. 17, 2025 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time (UTC-06:00)

[Frank n' Stein \(3rd TUESDAY\)](#)

CHECK YOUR EMAIL

Jun. 17, 2025

4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

[View entire list](#)

COG Staff - July 1, 2024

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Rotary Club of Calgary - Chartered April 1914 as Club #949

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