

*Rotary Club of Calgary | Downtown*

**COG**



**June 20, 2025**  
**Volume 42 - Issue 29**

***"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

John Hsu	June 21
Ebenezer Mensa	June 22
Paul Chave	June 23
Bob Holland	June 25
Nathan Koenigsberg	June 25
Riz Nathoo	June 27
Meaghan Ralston	June 28
Craig Henderson	June 29
Dave Richardson	July 1

## Anniversaries

Eva Friesen	30 years
Howie Shikaze	20 years
Steve Stein	15 years

## President Joe's Inspirational Quote

"Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves "

Paul Harris

## The Club's Annual Meeting

Madeleine King

President Joe Frasc called the meeting to order shortly after noon with the many members and guests present having successfully entered the Fairmount Palliser Hotel (our "club home" for 110 years) fully secured for the G7 Meeting at Kananaskis. We sang O Canada with Michael Pierson at the keyboard. The Invocation by Bob Taylor was a reading of the Pledge to the Commonwealth, an organization in which Rotary is represented as are over 50 independent countries. Its values are similarly inspirational to those of Rotary; Bob asked us to bear them in mind during our international Convention.

Members were asked to introduce their guests.

President Joe thanked the front of house volunteers, Ann Haessel, recent member Berti Kawooya and Greeter Steacy Pinney.

New member Mag Radwan was introduced by Membership Director Craig Henderson, and new corporate member Ann Logan for the Calgary Library Foundation Association was introduced by her long-time colleague in literacy Steacy Pinney. Please see their stories below.

Our first Legacy Grant Recipient, the Glenbow Museum, was represented by their President and CEO, Nicholas Bell, who gave a heartfelt thanks to the club for our donation of \$250,000 towards their newly expanded students' room. She explained how it will help them increase student experiences at the facility and help offer students that all-important early-in-life cultural exposure.

Charvi Shah, former president (or co-president) of both the Western Canada High School Interactors and the University of Calgary Rotaractors, invited everyone to the Picnic in the Park hosted by the UCalgary Rotaractors as part of Convention Wednesday June 25 at noon - 6pm at Celebration Square in East Village.



George Brookman asked for more Convention volunteers, including from those not attending Convention, as requested by Volunteer Chair for Host Organizing Committee Farid Bedwany.

After time for food and fellowship, President Joe commenced the Annual Meeting at 12.45pm, calling on Treasurer Joel Snodgrass to first present the financial report.

Both the Treasurer and then the President outlined their priority areas demonstrating to an enthusiastic audience their priority areas of achievement. A lively question and answer session ensued, which mostly consisted of supportive and grateful comments.

Their reports (and those of other Board members) are available on our new website in the Members' Section. The new website is at <http://www.rotaryclubofcalgary.org>

President Joe thanked our Office Manager Jo-Ann Clarke for all her work for him as President and for the club throughout the year.



Everyone is invited to attend the ground-breaking event celebrating our Signature Legacy Grant of one million dollars at noon this Friday June 20 at Pineridge Community Association in collaboration with the Flames Foundation and the Stampede Park Rotary Club.

There followed the annual traditional hand-over to incoming President Bill Hamilton and the naming of the new board of directors who will be more fully introduced at President Bill's first meeting in July.

The next club meeting is on Thursday June 26 (because of Convention running until the previous day) at the Palliser at noon; for details please see information below. The topic: Addictions and Mental Health.

President Joe ended the meeting with his special quote which he suggested would be relevant during Convention. The quote is printed above.

President Bill was invited to close the meeting by "ringing" our very special bell (gifted many years ago by the Calgary Fire Department from one of their early fire trucks).

## Rotary Club of Calgary Club Meeting June 26 2025

Laurene Wilson

The Rotary Club of Calgary is holding a Club meeting focused on Addiction & Mental Health June 26, 2025 (the day immediately following the RI convention) from noon until 2:00 at the Palliser Hotel in the Crystal Ballroom.

Marshall Smith, former Chief of Staff for Danielle Smith, and the Hon. Rick Wilson, the new Minister Mental Health & Addiction, will speak at our event.

Come join in this great event and network with international Rotarians, local non-profits, CEO's of local & international organizations, the RI Mental Health Action Group, along with members of the Rotary Civic Partnership.

Let's come together and show support for working to positively deal with the challenges of mental health & addiction impacting so many!

**Ticket link:** <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/942/Events/june-26-2025-club-mtg-calgary-addiction-mental-health-event>

## Introducing New Member Mag Radwan

Mag Radwan

My name is Mag Radwan, and I'm a first-generation Canadian of Egyptian origin. I'm a pharmacist and the owner of Chinook Guardian Pharmacy and Chinook Medical Centre in Calgary—an integrated healthcare hub focused on fast, friendly, and accessible care. My passion lies in building strong community partnerships, especially with organizations that support vulnerable populations, to help improve access to healthcare for those who need it most.



Outside of work, I'm a proud family man. My wife Sally is a dedicated family nurse practitioner and together we're raising our two young children—Malek (6) and Kenzy (2). We love spending quality time as a family. I also enjoy working out, running, and listening to music to recharge. I'm excited to be part of Rotary and contribute to projects that reflect my personal and professional commitment to service and community.



## Introducing New Member Anne Logan

Diane Macdonald

Please extend a warm Rotary Welcome to Anne Logan, who was introduced to the Club at the lunch meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Anne is our newest member from the Library Foundation, one of our Corporate members.

Anne has been working in the non-profit sector for over 16 years as a festival programmer, fundraiser and book reviewer. Born just outside Guelph Ontario, she received her BA from Queen's University, and began her career in book publishing in downtown Toronto. After moving to Calgary in 2009, she worked at Wordfest as their Programming Manager until 2013. Since then, she has held fund development roles at the University of Calgary, Calgary Reads, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Calgary and Area, and is currently the Associate Director of Development at the Calgary Public Library Foundation. Anne is a strong believer in giving back to one's community through volunteering; she has previously sat on the board of directors of Calgary Reads and the Writers' Guild of Alberta as Past President, and currently sits on the board of directors for Calgary Arts Development Authority. She is also a regular Big Book Sale volunteer. Reading is her true passion, and Anne has been lucky enough to broadcast her book recommendations to the entire city as she has been reviewing books on-air for CBC Calgary's Homestretch radio program since 2013. You can also find her book reviews on her blog at [ivereadthis.com](http://ivereadthis.com).

We're so happy to have you, Ann. Welcome!





## Apologies to Readers for Omission of WCS (Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown) role in some funding of Generators for Ukraine

At a recent lunch meeting Sonny Belenkie said that all the funds used to provide generators to Ukraine were raised privately. In fact, a large contribution (\$25,000 US) was through the WCS committee; well over half of the total was from privately raised funds. He apologizes for the misstatement, as does Doug McMillan, Chair of World Community Services who was also scribe for that club meeting and feels he should have picked up the discrepancy. Both have requested our COG readers know of this error.

## Another Successful Bar-B-Q

Diane Macdonald

Last Thursday afternoon, the Bar-B-Q gang rolled into the yard at West Dover Elementary School, unloaded the grills, tables, propane bottles, garbage cans and all the other necessities to put on a hamburger/hot dog meal for 550 students and their families. The sky was threatening rain, so the school had a back-up plan: we set up in a classroom with two doors, which made it so easy to manage the lineup for food – in one door to get their food and a drink and out the other door. We served beef burgers, veggie burgers and, to be culturally sensitive to many of the families in the area, Halal hot dogs. Apart from about 6 veggie burgers, every last morsel (including mandarin oranges) was eaten.

Our terrific volunteers included some new members (Bertie Kawooya, Angeline Hayes), not-quite-new member, Felicity Lof, and two spouses of members (Beth Brookman and Barb Wong – Sid's wife).

Many thanks to each of you for helping to make this another very successful event.

As we were loading the Rotary trailer at the end, just before the rain started, we had many families call out their "Thank You" as they were heading for home. The staff also commented on how much they appreciated our involvement in their end of the year festival – in fact, they have requested that we return next June.

Photos courtesy of Angeline Hayes – thanks, Angeline!







## 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.

The publication dates for the next Rotary Year will be announced in the next COG issue planned for July 2, 2025.

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

[June 26 2025 Club Mtg - Calgary Addiction & Mental Health Event](#)  
133 9 Avenue Southwest



*Jun. 26, 2025 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time (UTC-06:00)*

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

CHECK YOUR EMAIL

*Jul. 01, 2025*

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

[Sneak - A - Peek](#)

2200 Stampede Trail Southeast

*Jul. 03, 2025 5:00 p.m. - Jul. 04, 2025 Mountain Daylight Time (UTC-06:00)*

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

CHECK YOUR EMAIL

*Jul. 15, 2025*

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

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

CHECK YOUR EMAIL

*Aug. 05, 2025*

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

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

CHECK YOUR EMAIL

*Aug. 19, 2025*

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

[View entire list](#)

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## **COG Staff - July 1, 2024**

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