



The Weekly Westerner

Box 4572, Station C, Calgary, Alberta T2T 5N3
Holiday Inn, McLeod Trail, Fridays 12:15 pm

President: Grant Ritchie **President-Elect:** Don Bateman

Past President: Sa'adat Keshavjee **Secretary:** Brian Wintonyk

Treasurer: Des DeFreitas

Directors: Dick Brown, Frank Burns, Marnie Cardell, Mike Carlin,
Murray Hunter, Duncan Stanners

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Don Alexander had arrived early as usual to set up the room. No matter how early you get there he seems to have everything in its place and looking great! We were glad to also see **Malcolm Harrison** at the Holiday Inn, and appearing to be in good health. He says his doctor will allow him to drive next week. He seemed content with watching **Stan Beveridge and Lynne Thornton** manage the front desk duties. Thanks to **Jim Willson**, the video screen showed birthdays, events, pictures of projects and upcoming topics for speakers. Notable Rotarians having birthdays: **Ron Jones** had his birthday on the 26th, as did **Bill Tapuska** (somewhere else in the world). **Bill Quinney** will celebrate his birthday on the 31st. Information on the screen also reminded us that next week's speaker will be **Paul Miller** from **Trans Canada Pipeline**. Likely his presentation will involve some timely insight into what is happening with the Keystone Pipeline.

Not one to start the meeting late, President **Grant Ritchie** settled everyone down and called on **Des DeFreitas** to lead in the singing of *O Canada*. **Ted Valentine** followed with an appropriate grace. Sergeant-at-arms **Bob Kerr** had some difficulty assigning groups to move to the buffet as there were a number of guests, and they seemed to be well distributed among our membership. He had no problem later in the meeting in finding **Rotarians to fine** - even finding fault with Ted Valentine's delivery of the invocation.

Following our buffet (main course of roast beef), President Grant got right to work. The head table included guest speaker **Judy Hoad, Chris Davis**, doing the introduction, and **Murray Hunter** thanking. Our exchange student, **Knut Buene**, and his guest exchange student, **Oyvind Svensen**, completed the group of six. Lynne Thornton introduced the other guests: **Bob Weins and Jack Thompson** from Calgary South, **Andrew Bitcom**, prospective member (guest of Brent Barootes), **Mahmud Abdulla**, representing those in Chestermere who are working to start a new club. Mahmud took a few minutes to tell us that with **Bill Quinney's** direction (representing District 5360) and assistance, there were at least 13 prospective members for the new club. Since July, the group has been meeting at the golf club and is holding social meetings the last Thursday of each month to promote and inform those in the community who might be prospective members.

PP Garfield Ganong distributed information about the May 25-27 District Conference to be held at Canmore. The Saturday luncheon is sponsored by our club and our attendance at that time is "expected if at all possible". Saturday evening is the gala dinner. **DG Mike French** represents our club, and our



attendance and support of the conference is important.

Despite rumours (and information on the Stampede Website), our Stampede Barbecue **is not** sold out. Last year's information needs to be updated and **Helen King** and **Marg Henschel** (Costa Rica) are working to get this information up to date. Yes we do have tickets for sale.

Knut Buene spoke briefly about a Youth Exchange project whereby they are sponsoring an event to benefit the **ShelterBox** program. A dinner and dance (including exotic desserts buffet) will be held at the Acadia Rec Center on February 11. All proceeds to support Shelter Box. **Desserts "made by hands of loving youth exchange students"**. Support our youth exchange students as they raise funds at this dinner and dance event. For tickets: shelterboxdinner@rotarycs.org, sponsored by District 5360 Youth Exchange.

Ron Brookes reported that the Strawberry Shortcake campaign is now taking form. Production will take place at the Danish Canadian Club on February 13, with an afternoon and evening shift (if needed). CW Rotarians will be needed to deliver their cakes and any ordered by their network of salesmen on February 14 AM. Any one ordering and using Pay Pal will have to include the delivery address. February 8 is closing date for orders. **Chuck Morrison** is coordinating visits to other clubs. Please contact him if you can make a visit to any of the **other clubs to promote this project** in the next week. There is a short window for sales, so **make your sales appeals this week !**

Chuck Morrison introduced **Kendra Marks** representing "It's a Crime not to Read". This project includes the Calgary Public Library, and Calgary City Police. CCP attend elementary schools and the Public Library for reading sessions with some 800 young children. In addition to the focus on improving reading literacy, young people also experience positive relationships with the Library and CCP. Our club has been doing this since 2005 and our donation is annually \$2500, which is directed to high need students at St. Bernadette's Elementary in Lynwood, SE.

Already **Gail Williams** is benefiting from Rotary after her induction last week. She trumped all those "regular" 50/50 winners by having a winning ticket in her first meeting as a CW member.

Guest Speaker

Our guest Speaker, Judy Hoad, was introduced by Chris Davis. She is considered to be an expert in the area of Public Engagement. Currently she is a Consultant at JHoad Consulting, and Chair at INHOUSE Attainable Housing Society (Bridge Attainable Housing Society). Her past includes Senior Consultant in Public Affairs and Public Relations for Enmax, Manager at the City of Calgary. Her experiences include work with the Taxi Commission, Metropolitan planning, Transportation development, Calgary Police Commission, to name a few. She holds degrees from the University of Calgary, and the University of Toronto.

Judy introduced the topic of how in today's world the public engages with government or private agencies. She described the art of public engagement between government, industry and the community as being an art, as well as being a science. Over time she has developed much understanding and insight to Public Consultation and Engagement. She suggests that organizations don't particularly like public consultation as it is time consuming, and known as a political football. There are many examples of years being taken to "complete" projects. Attitudes of *not in my back yard* or *not in my term of office* are



examples that delay “progress”.

Judy expressed the opinion that a “government” should not start out by asking the public if they want something. An example was the Anderson Road Overpass. City didn’t ask if citizens wanted it, but rather the consultation process stressed making it the best for all affected. She also cites a recent City of Calgary survey where the public was asked what kind of budget information people wanted. Cost was \$900,000 and no useful information resulted. The wrong questions were asked. If the public is not engaged properly we have protests: power lines, Bragg Creek tree cutting, SW Ring road, pipelines, Brentwood development, are some current examples. Costs are unpredictably expensive to resolve these situations. Some developers want to avoid any community consultation. A meeting held in front of hundreds of people is not consultation. Judy outlined processes that must be understood by those wishing change, and talked about Democratic Governance. Bylaw development, budget expenditures, transportation corridors, long term planning are examples where the city of Calgary attempts to have public sector understanding. The reason being better solutions, shared information, expertise diversity, mitigation of action impact and effective cost of any action. If a government or private sector organization has no social license, there will not be any development. Development requires that stakeholders must be determined and there must be a spectrum of engagement including: information (websites, newsletters), listening (open houses), consulting (face to face), collaboration (fewer people involved, community associations), empowering (making decisions). Consultation should not be done until other things are in place. People need to understand before they support. The pipelines currently in the news are failing examples of public consultation and engagement.

Several good questions were asked by members following the presentation, and our speaker’s insights should make an excellent lead into next week’s topic and speaker.

Murray Hunter thanked Judy on behalf of the club and she seemed pleased to receive her Boltman.

Coming Events

February 3	Paul Miller, SVP Oil Pipelines, TransCan, Keystone
February 10	Dr Sam Lee, University of Calgary research: Alcohol, the Good, Bad, Ugly.
February 17	Classification talks
February 24	Din Ladak, CEO Catholic Immigrant Service
March 2	Tent Field Trip, Tsu T’ina First Nations Reserve
March 9	Peter Menzies, CRTC Commissioner
March 16	Karl Herzog, Organiser of Rotary Everest Trek 2012
March 23	
March 30	Kimberly Cornish, Permaculture Project, Eastern Namibia/Botswana
April 6	Meeting Cancelled
April 13	
April 20	Assembly
April 27	Four Way Test