



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

President-Ron Trant, Past President-Dunc Mills

1st Vice-President-Jack Bowen, 2nd Vice-President Martin Marshall

Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-David Burnett,

Directors- Dan Hasinoff, Bruce Foy, Jim Lepp, Sheldon Weatherby

Peter Carter (Ex-Officio)

Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte

Club Website: www.edmontongyroclub.com

JULY 2022

Those celebrating their birthdays are **Jack Bowen** on the 1st, **Ray Dallaire, 65 years** on the 16th, **Martin Marshall** on the 17th and **Leon Lubin** on the 18th.

Those celebrating their wedding anniversaries are **Ken and Arden Korchinski**, 58 years on the 11th; **Barry and Valerie Walker**, 52 years on the 11th and **Jack and Joyce Brown**, 22 years on the 15th.

OFFICIAL CLUB NOTICE

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

PURSUANT TO ARTICLE XIII-AMENDMENTS

Notice is hereby given that proposed amendments to the June 21, 2016, Constitution and By-Laws will be discussed with members on **August 16, 2022**.

Copies of the proposed amended Constitution and By-Laws dated..... will be provided to all members prior to the August 16th meeting.

John Boyd began with a xylophone tune and **Immediate Past President Dunc Mills** welcomed 18 Gyros to the July 5th luncheon meeting held at the Derrick Golf and Winter Club.

Ken Korchinski led the singing of Cheerio and **John Boyd** presented an Irish blessing.

Treasurer David Burnett presented a **Report on the Financial Statements For the year ended April 30th, 2022**. The Club is in a very strong financial position with surplus funds in the General Fund, the Convention Fund, and the Benevolence Fund.

On a motion by **Treasurer David**, and seconded by **Leon Lubin**, the Financial Statements were approved unanimously.

Our guest speaker, **Dunc Mills**, has been the **Tournament Director of the McLennan Ross Alberta Junior Tour** for all 27 years the tour has been operating. *The 'MAC ROSS' as it has become known got its start in the mid-1990s when McLennan Ross and Sun Media teamed up to promote and coordinate the existing junior golf events being held around Alberta.*

The goals of the Tour include:

- Provide young Albertans the opportunity to develop their golf games in a series of coordinated tournaments throughout Alberta in a fun, but competitive environment.
- To make the tournaments challenging for the elite level junior golfer, but also to provide young players just starting out their first exposure to well organized tournament competition.
- To give back to the development of junior golf in Alberta by assisting host courses with funding for their junior development programs.
- To educate players and developing referees with the understanding and application of the Rules of Golf.

Six core values are at the heart of the Alberta Junior Tour:

- Teach responsibility by developing qualities of leadership and integrity, while assisting juniors in becoming productive members of the adult community
- Teach the Rules of Golf, etiquette, and fundamentals
- Provide golf at a minimal cost
- Provide an environment that encourages and promotes good sportsmanship and friendship among junior golfers
- Provide opportunities to travel and play a variety of high-quality courses
- Provide post-secondary workshops to assist juniors with their preparation for higher education

There are 24 tournaments on the schedule this summer. Each event is organized by the local golf club and promises to encourage any junior boy or girl born in the calendar year of 2003 and later who are just getting started with tournament play.



Dunc Mills

Dunc then provided some interesting facts from the book entitled “**A History of Golf in Alberta 1912-2012**” sponsored by the Alberta Golf Association to celebrate its Centennial Anniversary in 2012.

Alberta’s first golfers were two Irish brothers, David and Albert Browning who lined up their red-painted “guttys” (Gutta Percha balls) and drove them with hickory sticks into the prairie rough near Fort McLeod in **1885**. By **1890**, members of the North West Mounted Police had a few holes laid out beside their barracks, adding golf to their sporting activities of coyote hunting, polo, and marksmanship. In **1895**, the Officers at Fort Macleod established the first club in the Northwest Territories, the **Macleod Golf Club**.

*In Edmonton and Calgary, the lawyers, accountants, and businessmen naturally understood the social value of formalizing their golfing friendships as clubs. They followed the lead of the NWMP officers and established the **Edmonton Country club in 1896** and the **Calgary Golf and Country in 1897**.*

Willingdon Cup Play

Lord and Lady Willingdon donated the prestigious trophy that has been awarded to the nation's best provincial men's teams since 1927. The tournament began when amateur status precluded any financial reimbursements, and the western provinces wanted to fund their best amateur players attending the **Canadian Amateur Championships** held in eastern Canada. (Lord Willingdon was Governor-General of Canada from 1926-31.) To accomplish this, the golfers were sponsored as a team and then were able to play in the Amateur following the Willingdon Cup matches.

Alberta entered teams beginning in 1928 but didn't win until 1960 when Bob Wylie, Keith Alexander, Neil Green, and Eddie Schwartz brought the trophy home. Alberta has won the Willingdon Cup 15 times.

The meeting ended with Dunc Mills drawing cards and asking golf questions and those with correct answers receiving a Titleist ball and the losers receiving two tees.

Jim Lepp was the Free Lunch winner.

John Boyd began with a xylophone tune and **President Ron Trant** welcomed 36 Gyros, Gyrettes and guests to the July 19th luncheon meeting held at the Derrick Golf and Winter Club. **Jim Lepp** led the singing of Cheerio and **President Ron** presented the Grace.

Shannon De'Aeth, Philanthropy Officer, University of Alberta Foundation introduced **Dr. Louis Hugo Francescutti**.

Over the course of his career, Dr. Louis Hugo Francescutti has made it his mission to raise awareness of public safety and to promote injury prevention. Born in Montreal, Dr. Francescutti received his combined Doctor of Philosophy (Immunology) in 1985 and his Doctor of Medicine in 1987 from the University of Alberta. While training as a general surgery resident, he became fascinated with the subject of trauma prevention. In 1994, he completed his further studies in injury control while working toward a Masters of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

After completing his residency in preventative medicine at the School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University in 1995, Dr. Francescutti joined the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton, where he became an emergency and preventative medicine physician. In that role, he witnessed first-hand the devastating impact of preventable injuries. Dr. Francescutti currently works as an emergency physician at the Royal Alexandra Hospital and the Northeast Community Health Centre in Edmonton.

Dr. Francescutti advised that he just finished working a night shift as an emergency physician and that our system is overwhelmed. **Presently, every second emergency patient tests positive for Covid-19.** Six percent of the Alberta population consumes 65% of our health care dollars. **Twelve percent of emergency patients are homeless.** Many homeless shelters are unsafe due to gang violence. One example he cited was a 44-year-old homeless person who accessed the ER system 587 times in one year at a cost of \$3000 per visit. The Edmonton Institution houses about 5,500 inmates and a majority of those are released to homelessness.

Young people that experience physical, mental, and sexual abuse are dramatically impacted in their place in society. There are also a number of other factors that influence our health, such as inactivity and smoking. Regular connections with people keep you healthy. He cited the Gyro organization as an important example of lifelong friendships that maintain health.

Homelessness has been rising in Edmonton due to factors, such as a decrease in affordable housing, job losses, rising eviction rates, and overcrowded shelters. Many people sleeping in shelters are required to vacate the shelters each morning, leaving them without a place to go.

“There is a lot of moral distress among healthcare providers having to discharge someone into homelessness.”

“It’s the worst feeling for doctors and nurses and social workers to say to a person, ‘That’s all we can do’. And you are basically on your own”

We have a **“sick care system”** not a health care system.

I am involved in in a pilot project called **Bridge Healing Asamina Kochi**, which translates from Cree to “try again”. It’s organized by a group of social workers and emergency physicians, along with other community members. Our goal is to release the homeless back into a healthy living situation that would help them get off the street and find housing.

We have a partnership with **Jasper Place Wellness Centre**, which is an Edmonton based Community Development Organization which implemented **Housing First** (1,100+ previously homeless individuals housed) in a quick, less costly, and effective manner. They also run an employment program which generates one million dollars of payroll annually back to the community, operate a primary health clinic and host food security programs across West Edmonton.

There are currently three newly built 12 suite buildings that are nearing completion at 162 Street and 82 Avenue that will be run by Jasper Place Wellness Centre. The **Bridge Healing Project** has requested operating funds from Edmonton City Council to operate a pilot for one year in one of the three 12 suite buildings.

Under the pilot, patients at the Royal Alexandra Hospital who are homeless would be asked if they are ready to get out of homelessness. If they say yes, the healthcare provider would use an app to sign them up for an available space at one of the West Jasper Place 12 suit units.

Healthcare and social support would be provided, along with short-term work opportunities, and involvement in growing fruits and vegetables as part of the West Jasper Place Wellness Centre's operation of the building. Clients would have 30 days to live in the building while they are supported to find short-term or permanent housing.

The ultimate goal is to have Bridge Healing facilities across Edmonton providing services addressing complex, social, health and mental needs for these individuals.

Dr. Francescutti was thanked for his enlightening presentation and responded to a great many questions.

President Ron drew the names of two Gyros who were given copies of a book entitled "**Hardwired**" -**How Our Instincts to Be Healthy are Making Us Sick**, co-authored by Dr. Francescutti.

Jean Warrack was the free Lunch Draw winner.



Dr. Louis Hugo Francescutti

“Fast Fred”

Upcoming Events:

Gyro District VIII Convention, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Sept. 22-25, 2022



**Gyro Curlarama, Canmore Inn & Suites, Curling at Banff Curling Centre
November 4-6 Sponsored by the Gyro Club of Calgary.**