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Editor

Allan Douglas Phone/Fax 433-5409 January 18, 2005

President Dick noted the significant improvement in the weather and welcomed us to another great day in Paradise. Jack Ellis led us in Cheerio and John Ross asked the blessing. There was a good turnout of 35 Gyros and guests.

Val Pohl brought his guest Phil Ensalmo, Allan Warrack introduced the guest speaker Diane Kieren and her husband Tom, Allan Douglas introduced our returning friend Wayne Tingley, and John Ross stepped in to introduce Martin Sawdon who was invited by Marty Larson and David Burnett, neither of whom could attend.

Diane Keiren has completed two terms as a Board Member of the Vanier Institute for the Family which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. It was established by Governor General Georges and Pauline Vanier to promote the well being of families. They established an endowment fund, to which the Government of Canada contributed, so core funding is in place. The organization is independent, non-aligned and non-partisan.

Diane noted that that the role can be uncomfortable at times because some issues they must address are contentious. There is not one family, families take diverse forms but they are the primary place in any society. The Institute collects and analyzes information on families from census data and develops strategies to articulate a family perspective in public policy development. They reflect the multiple perspectives of the types of families in Canada.

Recently published material based on the last census reveal the following trends: fewer couples are legally married, more couples are breaking up, families are smaller than they used to be, family violence is underreported, children face a transition when their parents marital status changes, multiple earner families are the norm, inequality is worsening, and women still take on the majority of the workload.

Two interesting finding from the research are that 50% of males and females can expect to marry by the age of 50, and more

common-law couples are having children. Also, the vast majority (98% range) want a traditional family of a stable long-term relationship with children etc. However, there are many reasons why people cannot attain that aspiration. The Institute estimates that it takes \$164,000 to raise a child to age 18.

John Plunkett thanked the speaker on our behalf. I want to thank Fred Schulte for taking notes and providing them to me, greatly improving this report.

Walter Yakimets won a free lunch.

More from the early days of Hollywood Squares. Q. True or False, a pea can last as long as 5,000 years? George Gobel: Boy, it sure seems that way sometimes. Q You have been having trouble going to sleep. Are you probably a man or a woman? Don Knotts: That's what's been keeping me awake.

Dave Duchak reported on games 6 and 7 of the hockey pool. On January 8th the Road Runners were visiting the Manitoba Moose and they were tied 1:1 after one. The winners were Jean Morter and John Ross. The second and third periods both ended 3:2 for Edmonton and Yvette Stroppa and Mike Connelly scored big money.

We were visitors again in game 7 on January 15th. For the first two periods Edmonton led 1:0 Gordon Brook and **Shirley Larson** got combined cheques. San Antonio Rampage won the game with a score of 2:1 and Jean Thompson and Pat Millard won \$25.

SECOND POSTING: Eric Spink has applied for membership in the Edmonton Gyro Club. He and Christina Gauk live at 11548 78 Ave. and their postal code is T6G 0N5. Telephone 436-5242 and email is spinklaw@shaw.ca. Eric is self-employed as a lawyer. He is sponsored by Marty Larson and Seconded by Fred Schulte.

SECOND POSTING: Harry Kocil also has applied for membership in the Edmonton Gyro Club. He and his wife Kerry live at 217 Whiston Road T6M 2C8. Telephone 481-1008 and email at hkocil1@telus.net Harry is a podiatric physician. He is sponsored by Marty Larson and Seconded by David Burnett.

FIRST POSTING: Fred Dunn has applied for membership in the Edmonton Gyro Club. He and his wife Sally live at 327 Lessard Dr., and their postal code is T6M 1A6. Their telephone number is 487-6185 and email is ftd@shaw.ca. Fred is an investment advisor with Sanders Wealth Management Group. Fred was proposed by Marty Larson and seconded by David Burnett.

FIRST POSTING: Marty Larson and David Burnett have recommended another friend, Martin Sawdon, for membership. Martin and his wife Nesta live at 5038 Thibault Way, Edmonton T6R 3J1. Home phone 438-7086, e-mail martin@coachingworks.ca Martin is a Professional Speaker, Business and Personal Coach. His company name is Coaching-Works! Business phone 468-1097 Martin states on his website "I've been 35

for over 20 years now and getting younger day by day" !! Check it out at www.coachingworks.ca

President Dick presented Ron Neuman with his Certificate of Membership.

Fred Schulte reported that Mort Morter has had back surgery and is recovering at home.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Walter Yakimets reported that the Valentine's Party will be held at the Edmonton Petroleum Club on February 8, 2005. The cost will be \$45 with wine and \$40 without. Refreshments will be served at 6:00 with dinner at 6:30. Please make cheques out to the Gyro Club of Edmonton and give them to Walter or Mike Matei.

Our next meeting will be at the Mayfair on February 1st and the speaker will be Ron Berezan who will talk about the Giovanni Caboto Park rejuvenation. Some new members might not know that this was originally Gyro Park #1 so we have some proprietary interest in its evolution.

On February 15th, **Gord Robertson** has arranged for Dr. Bruce Miller to be the speaker. His topic will be "My initiation as a new MLA". We will also welcome new members.

Our Annual Bocce night will be on March 7th 2005. **Victor Jagoldas** encourages as many people who can to come for 5:30 so that some of the games can be played before dinner. The meal will be served at 6:30 and afterwards the thrilling competition will continue. If enough games are completed before dinner the grueling pace will not have to continue into the wee hours of the morning.

The District VIII Interim Convention will be held March 18-20, 2005 at Fairmont Hot Springs Resort, in Fairmont, BC if you are planning to attend you will need to make your room reservation by mid-January.

Our annual Prostate Golf Tournament is scheduled for Friday June 17, 2005.

The District VIII Annual Convention will be held June 23-26, 2005 at the Regina Travelodge, in Regina, SK

Walter Yakimets has booked the same venue for our Christmas party on December 6, 2005.

Same Old Bull

Allan

