



Royal City Men's Club

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Anniversary Luncheon

April 11th, 2013

The Royal City Men's Club met in the Trinity United Church Gymnasium on the above date. There were 40 members, two guests and the guest speaker in attendance.

President Soren Sondergaard called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone at 10:30 a.m. This was half an hour later than usual to accommodate the RCMC Anniversary Luncheon planned to start at noon. He noted the good attendance, given the inclement weather outside, and introduced guests Normand Genest and Bill Rowley. He then recognized John Brookfield and extended condolences on the loss of his wife.

Soren offered a travel joke to set the scene for Ken Marchant to introduce the guest speaker, Dr. Alan Gordon from the University of Guelph.

Dr. Gordon's topic was "Old Quebec, or How Quebec City Became Historic." He gave a detailed explanation of how tourism in the early 1800s began with people walking about on their own, and that they generally thought the main attraction of Quebec was as an access point to abundant natural beauty outside the City. However, the Battle of the Plains of Abraham and attraction to "the spot where General Wolfe died" gave Quebec an advantage over other tourist sites. Entrepreneurs initially began printing simple walking guides to sights of interest, which gradually became more plentiful and expanded to include an explanation of what the tourists were seeing. In short, the consensus on what was important to see, and why that emerged from the accumulated choices of independent tour entrepreneurs shaped how Quebec City became "Historic" versus "Old".

Dr. Gordon answered a number of questions from members before time was called at 11:35.

Ken Marchant thanked Dr. Gordon and presented him with a book on the history of Guelph as a token of appreciation for his informative presentation. Members gave him a warm round of applause.

Gary Repta advised that the next event would be the BBQ on August 22nd.

It was noted that the Coffee Club will meet as usual at Edinburgh and Woodlawn Tim Horton's and the Guelph Airport at 10:00 on Thursday, April 18th..

Bob Paul noted that the Dying With Dignity group who spoke at the last meeting was planning a workshop on completing the "Advance Care Directive", and there was a brochure on the bulletin board if anyone was interested.

Soren advised that the next meeting would be on April 25, with Gloria Cardoso speaking on "Support Services that Help You Stay Longer in Your Home", and adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

All present quickly got organized for the Anniversary Luncheon. Perfect organization on part of the House and Activity Committees, and excellent catering from The Pour House.

Gordon Framst
Secretary