

SOUTHERN ALBERTA PIONEERS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS



Southern Alberta Pioneers Memorial Building • 3625 4th Street SW Calgary Alberta T2S 1Y3 • Phone 403-243-3580

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President's Message

by  **President 2025**

I hope this newsletter finds you happy and healthy and I trust that you enjoyed some great summer adventures with your family and friends.

Since our last newsletter, we have celebrated the 70th anniversary of the Southern Alberta Pioneers Memorial Building. The 1955 dedication was on June 8th making our celebration even more special with our event also falling on June 8th this year.

We hosted an Open House to which we invited our neighbours in the communities of Rideau Park and Park Hill. Many SAP members and their families welcomed them, sharing a beautiful, large custom cake.

Our annual Stampede Pre-Parade Breakfast was held for the last time at Rotary House. Sandy Pedlar again hosted the event with help from Katie Fipke and Director Kyle Graham.

These devoted members got up very early to prepare a wonderful breakfast for the participants riding in the Stampede Parade.

Meeting in Rotary House for the last time was most significant for Sandy who has faithfully served in this role for over 20 years.

Sandy also served perfectly as our wrangler to coordinate our wagon, drivers, and outriders. Thank you, Sandy.

Friday evening, following the success of the morning parade, I was very excited to represent SAP at the Stampede President's Reception. The event was held in the beautiful Palomino Room in the BMO Centre in Stampede Park.

I know I made a great impact sharing our pioneer story with many, many people as they couldn't ignore me wearing my 1890's top hat and tails (and blue ribbon). It was the most significant party in Canada that night with the presence of the Prime Minister, Premier, Mayor ... and Shania Twain!

The Stampede BBQ was a great success once again due to the many dedicated volunteers.

Dylan Viste served as our head honcho and worked hard to make sure everyone had a wonderful time on a spectacular summer evening. My role as MC looked a little different this year as I also performed my President duties! Dylan was great in performing for us and I was pleased to share the entertainer tent with him. Thank you, Dylan.

Our Stampede photo display at the Western Oasis in the BMO Centre again drew many people. The display was a comprehensive collection of



Continued on next page

photographs, maps, and newspaper reproductions assembled by our Historical Committee, led by Alan Lynas.


This group of volunteers contributes countless hours to best represent the Southern Alberta Pioneers at Stampede time and beyond. Our great volunteers also came out to make the Stampede Breakfast a huge success. Jeff Hill was joined by Kyle Graham this year to plan the event, and I was happy to perform my classic country songs. I believe the breakfast we serve is second to none due to our amazing team of volunteers. Thank you for your dedication to serve throughout the year.

The Historical Committee has been fortunate to have had the leadership of Alan Lynas for some

**We'd like to introduce you to
Gerry Longpre and Alan Lynas**

**the great
grandsons of two
of Calgary's most
significant
citizens,
Peter Prince and
Colonel James
Walker.**

**Calgary wouldn't
be what it is
without the contribution of our pioneers and their descendants.**



six years. Alan has now chosen to step down as chairman but will still be an active contributor. Great Grandfather, Colonel James Walker, would be proud of Alan's thoughtful guidance. Thank you, Al.

Our success as an organization

is due to a very competent Board of Directors, Officers, and Committee Chairs with whom I have enjoyed serving as your president this past year. I look forward to seeing you at the AGM on October 18th. Happy trails!

Photo by Carla Begalke

**Past Presidents of the
Southern Alberta Pioneers and their Descendants**

July 5th, 2025



Stampede Princess Breanna Correia		First Nations Princess Pacey Strangling Wolf							
John Douglas 2009	Dave Wake 2011	Kathleen Rogers 2012	Russell Moore 2025	John Hutchings 2020	Sandy Pedlar 2019	Roy Clark 2015	Shawn Hendry 2022		

Membership Report

by Sharon Hoiland, Membership Secretary

Membership update since the last newsletter.

Welcome to

Returning Descendant Members

- ♦ Catherine Clynych - Descendant of Edward & Ellen Burke, Davisburg 1889
- ♦ Bruce McDonald- Descendant of David Lambert Mudimad, Fort Standoff, 1883
- ♦ Maureen Neubeker - Descendant of Percy Irving, 1886

New Descendant Members

- ♦ Renae Edey - Descendant of William Brown, Queenstown, 1889
- ♦ Bruce Sutherland - Descendant of Albert Edward & Helen Mary (Weston) Bannister, Davisburg, 1884
- ♦ Alexis Sutherland - Descendant of Albert Edward & Helen Mary (Weston) Bannister, Davisburg, 1884

New Friend Members



- ♦ John Whittaker
- ♦ Susan Gannon
- ♦ Cheryl Cohen
- ♦ Calvin LeFurgey
- ♦ Melissa Best
- ♦ Doug Porter
- ♦ Sandra Porter
- ♦ Marilyn McNeil-Morin

New Gold Card Member*

- ♦ Drewe Nelson

In Memorial

- ♦ Iyla Ayleen Brewster
- ♦ Harold William (Ro) Riley
- ♦ John Francis Wilcock



© Field Day Paper 2022

Please notify any member of the Membership Committee of member deaths, changes to mailing or email addresses or to phone numbers. We can be reached at membership@pioneersalberta.org.

The current membership committee includes:

- ♦ Sharon Hoiland (Chair and Membership Secretary)
- ♦ Joan Christianson (Telephone Tree)
- ♦ Lynne Marquess (Cards and Remembering)
- ♦ Megan Ballard (Administration) and
- ♦ Maureen Peckham (Guidance and Wisdom)

If you are interested in joining the committee, have ideas or have time to volunteer, please contact Sharon at membership@pioneersalberta.org

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS AS AT AUG. 31, 2025

- ♦ Descendant members – 235 with 92 in arrears
- ♦ Descendant Gold Card – 106
- ♦ Associate members – 29 with 11 in arrears
- ♦ Associate Gold Card – 29
- ♦ Friend members – 36 with 7 in arrears
- ♦ Honorary members – 5

Total: 440

***Note: Gold Cards are given to SAPD Members when they turn 80.**

Membership Dues: \$40 annually

1. Send a cheque to: SAPD, 3625 - 4 Street SW, Calgary, Alberta T2S 1Y3 Attn: Membership.
2. Send an auto-deposited e-transfer to membership@pioneersalberta.org
3. Please write the names of those members for whom the fees are being paid either on your cheque or in the message space in the e-transfer.

Thank you to everyone who have paid their Membership Fee for 2025

Note: Only paid members can participate at the AGM (e.g., nominate, vote)

Our New Membership Portal is Live!

by Sharon Hoiland, Membership Secretary

We are excited to announce that our new Membership Portal is up and running, and Megan and I are now processing all membership changes through it. This Newsletter has been emailed to you from the Portal as well!



Soon you'll be able to find online step-by-step instructions for everything you can do on the SAPD Membership Portal. But, until then, you can log into the Portal now by going to

<https://sapd.getcommunal.com/login>. Use your email address and the Forgot Password link to add a password to your account. Once you have successfully added a password and logged into the Portal, you will be able to:

- Update your name, email address, mailing address and telephone number.
- View your new membership card, which, for descendant members displays your Pioneer family(ies), including when and where they arrived.
- Download your membership card to your Apple or Google wallet or to a PDF file to print.
- Receive timely Membership Renewal

reminders 15 days prior to renewal.

- Pay for your membership renewal using a Credit Card. Others can still choose to pay offline by cheque or e-transfer.
- Starting November 1st, you'll be able to renew your membership for the 2026 year.
- Set your membership to auto renew each January (Credit Card needed).
- Determine if your membership is in a grace period (2025 dues not paid) and pay for your 2025 membership, which is needed to attend and vote at the AGM this October.

Note: We are not using the Family Members feature of the Portal, please don't enter data in this section.

If you know of anyone wanting to join the Southern Alberta Pioneers and Their Descendants (SAPD), tell them they can fill out their application and pay the fee in the Membership Portal by going to <https://sapd.getcommunal.com/memberships> and clicking on the Select Membership button.

Some processes will still be done manually including:

- renewing memberships for multiple family members
- renewing memberships by cheque or e-transfer

If you have any questions or corrections, or need assistance using the new Membership Portal, please contact the membership committee at membership@pioneersalberta.org

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CAROLYN HEATON
B.Sc. Pharm.

TIM HEATON
B.Sc. Pharm. M.Sc.



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SOUTHERN ALBERTA PIONEERS'
and THEIR DESCENDANTS

Annual General Meeting



Saturday, October 18, 2025 at the Memorial Building
Lunch commencing at 12:00 PM. Meeting follows at 1:00 PM
Presiding: Russell Moore, President 2025

AGENDA

1. Pot luck lunch coordinated by Karen Clark
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held October 19, 2024
3. Business arising from the minutes
4. President's Report — Russell Moore
5. Treasurer's Report — Brian Rogers
6. Membership Report — Sharon Hoiland
7. Committee Reports
8. Election of the SAPD Board of Directors for 2026
9. Introduction of the Incoming President
10. Incoming President's Remarks
11. Motion to Adjourn

The Southern Alberta Pioneers' Foundation meeting will follow the SAPD's AGM to appoint Directors to the Foundation Board.

There will be an early-bird draw at the 2025 AGM for the Fairmont Door Prize that will be awarded at the Round Up.

All members are encouraged to attend the Annual General Meeting. Members must be in **good standing and not in default of their fees** in order to attend.

If you wish to renew an inactive membership, a renewal table will be set at the AGM; it will close at the commencement of the meeting (1pm) – or – Memberships can be renewed as directed on our webpage at <http://pioneersalberta.org/dues.html> in advance of the meeting. For more information, please contact Sharon Hoiland, Membership Secretary, at membership@pioneersalberta.org.

Members who wish to Nominate another Member for a Board Position may contact:

- Pamela Hilton at 403-360-4050 or whitehawkranch@gmail.com or
- Dexter Nelson at dexter@xplornet.com

103rd Annual Round Up

Dinner, Dance & Silent Auction

Saturday, November 1, 2025
Alberta Ballroom, Fairmont Palliser Hotel

Elegance! The Alberta Ballroom at the Fairmont Palliser Hotel is an elegant room in an elegant hotel. Although our roots are “ol west and country,” for most of us, this is the one opportunity in the entire year to dazzle in our finest attire. We ask that you dress formal or semi-formal to preserve this night of elegance.

- ◆ Tickets are \$110 per person
 - ◇ The non-refundable tickets must be purchased **by Monday, October 20** in one of three possible ways:
 - Drop a cheque off at the Memorial Building **OR**
 - Mail to: SAPD Memorial Building
3625—4 St. SW, Calgary, AB T2S 1Y3
Attention: Dexter Nelson
 - E-transfer to
membership@pioneersalberta.org
E-transfers are set to auto-deposit
 - ◇ When you purchase tickets, tell us the names of who the tickets are for in an email or enclosed note, and state your seating and/or meal preferences, dietary restrictions, or allergies
 - ◇ Tickets will be picked up at the RoundUp
- ◆ 5:30 pm Cocktails
- ◆ 6:30 pm Dinner
- ◆ Post-dinner: Introductions and Speeches
- ◆ Silent Auction
 - ◇ We are counting on members to find or be Donors or Corporate Sponsors for Silent Auction items
 - ◇ When arranged, contact Russell Moore in advance at president@pioneersalberta.org
 - ◇ **Corporate Sponsor donations must be made to the Southern Alberta Pioneers FOUNDATION to be eligible for an Income Tax Receipt**
- ◆ 8:30 pm: Dancing

President's Announcements:

1. We are always looking for extra volunteers to help run this event. Email me at president@pioneersalberta.org to say we can count on your help.
2. Two guests at the AGM will have won the Early Bird Draw to end the night with a stay at the Fairmont Palliser.

Following the Round Up, consider staying the night at the 

The SAPD has a century-old relationship with the Fairmont Palliser Hotel. Once again, this historical downtown Hotel is pleased to give guests to the SAPD Round-Up a special guestroom reservation rate for the night of Nov. 1, 2025. It's important to book your reservation through this link.

<https://book.passkey.com/go/SOUTH1125>

Fairmont Palliser Hotel, 133-9th Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2P 2M3

Remembrance Day

November 11, 2025

Lest we forget our many
pioneer & family veterans



NOTE: *SAPD Social Events are for
SAPD Members and Invited Guests only*

Other Social Events



Pioneers Memorial Building Christmas Decorating

Please join us on November 15, 2025 at 10:00 am to decorate the Memorial Building and get an early start at commencing the Christmas Spirit! Extra hands always make this a fun and festive time. John Hutchings, 403-613-9798

We'd love your help to take down the building decorations on January 3 at 10:00 am.

Christmas Luncheon

Join us for a traditional Christmas meal with all the fixings—Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Vegetable, Salads, Rolls + Butter, and a cash bar—at the Memorial Building on December 6. We expect to open our doors at 12:30 and set out the buffet lunch at 1:30. Ticket prices to be determined, although, once known, purchases will be available by e-transfer and tickets can be picked up at the event. All members and their friends and relatives are welcome, and we encourage families with younger children to bring them along. Holiday music and carolling will follow lunch.

First Annual Robbie Burns Night

by Patrick Taylor

I think everyone has sang *Auld Lang Syne* on a New Year's eve. Well, this very old favourite



was written as a poem by Robert Burns, Scottish poet and lyricist, in 1788. The melody was added in 1799.

To remember Burns birthday, the first annual Robbie Burns Birthday Celebration is scheduled to take place on Saturday, January 24, 2026 at the Memorial Building. The event will start at 6 pm and it will be a night to sample everything Scottish, including scotch tastings.

Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased by e-transfer to the membership@pioneersalberta.org; please specify that the transfer is for Robbie Burns Night.

Stampede Barbecue

by Dylan Viste, 2025 Stampede Barbecue Convener

The Southern Alberta Pioneer Association hosted their annual Stampede Barbecue on July 5, 2025. This year, we had about 150 attendees; that would be ten people more than in 2024. The weather was a bit cooler and windier this year, but it was still an enjoyable time.

We hired *Alpine Catering* to serve an excellent and highly praised roast beef meal. This year, the caterers also provided take-home containers for guests who didn't want anything to go to waste.

Alcohol sales were about what we expected and non-alcoholic beers sold well this year.

We had various activities throughout the evening including:

1. Harry the Horse and the Stampede rodeo welcome team
2. Guitar music provided by Dylan Viste
3. Time honoured songs by Russell Moore
4. Short speeches from the Stampede Princess Breanna Correia and the First Nations Princess Pacey Strangling Wolf
5. Ten different door prize draws (more than last year)

Like every year, many volunteers were involved in making this happen and I would like to thank everyone who helped with this big day.

- Lana and Martin Jones



- Cole Viste
- Carla Begalke
- Colin Wake
- Marcel Hebert
- John & Rhonda Hutchings
- Nancy Thompson
- Patrick Taylor & his son
- Pattie Liz Melville
- Russell Moore

Continued on next page



SAPD
President
Russell Moore
introducing
Princesses
Breanna
Correia and
Pacey
Strangling
Wolf





Our guests got away from the hustle of the city, ate the best Alberta beef, quenched their thirst, visited, rested, engaged in the music and speeches, and enjoyed the sunshine.

- Brian & Kathleen Rogers
- Shawn Hendry
- Alex & Lark McInnis
- Edie Jackson
- Calvin Robb
- Valerie McKinney

Once again, I would like to thank everyone for supporting this fun day and time-honoured tradition.



Here are our guests watching Russell's introduction of the Princesses and the ladies' inspiring presentations.

Photos by Val McKinney

Pre-Stampede Parade Breakfast and Stampede Parade Surry Passengers

by Sandy Pedlar
& Katie Fipke



What a lovely day for a parade! We began our day with a pre-parade breakfast at Rotary House. A time to gather, socialize and mingle as our ancestors did in years gone by. It was somewhat surreal knowing that this would be our final function and last group of Southern Alberta Pioneers & their Descendants to utilize this beautiful log building. A heartfelt thank-you to Katie Fipke and Kyle Graham (Director) for helping with preparation, set up and take down, and getting our participants on their way.

Our participants rode in a replica 8-seat covered surry and we were escorted by outriders Wendy Thon and Jane Newbold. These individuals are an integral part of our Parade Day entry. Their many years of expertise and experience ensures our safety should anything go awry.

We were honoured and privileged to have had such a fine group of SAPD members represent us in this year's parade. Your commitment to getting up early and dressing in period style costumes brought elegance and authenticity to the period in which our ancestors lived. Your bright smiles and enthusiastic spirit engaged the crowd and brought awareness. You were amazing ambassadors for our organization.



Driver Brad Lorne with wife, Louise,
riding shotgun



Honorary Pioneer Lady Maureen Hill and
daughter Robbin Legg



Honorary Pioneer Gent John Douglass (Shaw)
and wife Molly Douglass



Katie Fipke, Director Patrick Taylor
and his daughter Audrey Bangs

Also see
next page

Stephen Avenue 1883-1930

by Marcel Hebert



For a few years, Marcel Hebert, a member of the SAPD Historical Committee, has been researching and building models of Stephen Ave. 100 block west and we can't think of a better way to show respect to the Pioneers of Southern Alberta, in "keeping their stories and memories alive."

The findings from Marcel's meticulous research were shared through his presentation in July at the Southern Alberta Pioneer Memorial building as part of Historic Calgary Week put on through the

Chinook County Historical Society. The story was also picked up by CBC and the Calgary Herald.

The Stephen Avenue 1883 – 1930 stories, models, pictures and maps makes you feel like you are stepping right into the history of Calgary. The following two participant quotes sums things up:

"I really had a hard time keeping track of all the new information, and important stuff, to me. You hit me with a machine gun of eureka moments, and a few big bazooka blasts. It was amazing, really. Excellent research, modelling, coordinating the two, and presenting three totally synched ongoing display methods/means.....and a map/building handout for everyone to refer to. You are a Master Knower & Presenter of your material, and I followed everything you said and did with astonishment. I would/will definitely see your movie, a Virtual Classic, again and again."

"The presentation helped to capture the dynamic development prevalent in those early years. I have fond memories of the appearance of that block in the early fifties. Every afternoon I spent being a 'news boy' selling Calgary Herald newspapers on that and adjacent streets. Thanks for your contribution to making Calgary history come alive!"



Molly Douglass, Russell Moore and Katie Fipke posing in front of the Rotary House Fireplace

BULLETIN BOARD

Click on the links below to browse the [website](#) of the SAPD.

⇒ [Southern Alberta Timeline](#)

⇒ [Pioneer Profiles](#)

⇒ [SAPD Archives, Publications](#) and [Library](#)

⇒ [Initiatives](#): information about our Historical Photo Display & Pioneers Digital Memory Project

⇒ [Historical and Other Related Alberta Sites](#) includes links to places of interest

⇒ Cards & Remembering: Notify the office at membership@pioneersalberta.org to report any illnesses or a death in your family.

⇒ Historical Committee: Contact Russell Moore at 403-618-6277 to ask about committee meetings or how to have your Family History entered into our archives.

⇒ Send your stories, articles and photos to Val McKinney at newsletter@pioneersalberta.org by the last week of the month prior to these publication months: January, May and September.

NEWSLETTERS CAN BE READ AT and PRINTED FROM www.pioneersalberta.org/newsletter/

⇒ Advertising: You are welcome to advertise your business in the newsletter. Contact Brian Rogers at treasurer@pioneersalberta.org.

Members are encouraged to support the businesses that advertise in this publication.

*Who are your
Southern Alberta ancestors?
What can you tell us about
them?*

*Please share your memories
and stories by sending them
to us at
newsletter@pioneersalberta.org.*

*Our members would love to
read about your history.*

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