



GYROLIFE



GYRO - A FRATERNITY OF FRIENDSHIP

February 2026

In Calgary since 1921

Groundhog Day

February 2



February 2



Last year this page gave you a bit of an education about Groundhog Day. But did you know that before the groundhog took over, Canadians were genuinely torn between using the **bear** or the **groundhog** as the February 2 weather prophet. In the late 1800s, newspapers often referenced the bear emerging from its den as the key sign of winter's end. Some papers even called February 2 "bear or groundhog day," reflecting the uncertainty of the era.

Canada came surprisingly close to having a national **Bear Day** instead of Groundhog Day.

Whether it's Wiarthon Willie, Gary the Groundhog, Balzac Billy, or some Bear no one has ever heard of, the predictions have proven to be famously **unreliable**. The tradition isn't about meteorology; it's about community, good fun, and it gives us something to smile about while we wait for the snow to melt.

Gyro In January

On January 15, fifteen of us gathered for lunch at the Horton Road Legion. The plan was simple: eat, then unleash our inner pool sharks and dart champions. But as it turned out, the lunch lasted longer than a curling bonspiel with so much chatter, we

barely noticed the cue sticks gathering dust and the dartboard looking lonely. We came for the games, but stayed for the conversation. A great time was had, just not quite as planned (unless the plan was to set a new record for longest lunch without moving).

On January 27, forty Gyros, Gyrettes, and friends gathered at the Blackfoot Inn for lunch. We were fortunate to have Dean Tucker, Chair of WPC Energy Canada give an excellent presentation entitled “Canada’s Energy Future”. **For those interested, Larry Fenton has a copy of Dean’s power point presentation which he is able to share.** Following are the highlights of that presentation.

Energy Industry Outlook: Key Insights for 2026

Canada and especially Alberta, stands at a pivotal moment in global energy. Dean offered a clear-eyed look at where the world is heading and how our country can play a leading role.

Global Demand Keeps Rising

Despite rapid growth in renewables, global energy demand continues to climb. Population growth, economic expansion, and the digital revolution (including AI and data centres) mean the world needs *more* energy, not less. Oil and natural gas remain essential components of the global mix for decades to come.

The Transition Is Real, But Not Instant

Renewables and nuclear are gaining ground, yet fossil fuels still supply roughly 81% of global primary energy. Even in optimistic scenarios, natural gas and oil remain near today’s demand levels through 2050. The world is transitioning; but it’s transitioning gradually.

Canada’s Energy Strength Is Undeniable

Canada is a top global producer of oil, natural gas, uranium, hydro, and hydrogen. The sector supports nearly 900,000 jobs and contributes almost a quarter of national exports. Energy remains one of the country’s most important economic engines.

Alberta: The Heart of Canadian Energy

Alberta continues to anchor Canada’s energy leadership. The province has delivered major emissions intensity reductions, world class operational expertise, and the infrastructure that keeps North America running. Alberta’s innovation in cleaner production and technology positions it as a global benchmark for responsible development.

A Major Challenge: Building Anything

Canada’s regulatory system has slowed or stalled many major projects including pipelines, LNG terminals, mines, transmission lines, and even renewable installations. Over the past decade, roughly \$280 billion in energy projects have been cancelled. Meanwhile, the U.S. has built a world leading LNG export industry in the time Canada has spent debating its first major project.

Signs of Momentum

There are early indications of a shift in Ottawa toward more pragmatic, investment friendly policies. A streamlined, predictable approval process (ideally within two years) is essential if Canada wants to compete globally and attract the capital needed for major projects.

The Path Forward

Canada has the resources, the talent, and the global reputation to become the world’s preferred supplier of reliable, responsibly produced energy. With clearer regulatory pathways and continued innovation in emissions reduction, the future for Canadian (and especially Albertan) energy looks increasingly bright.

More Gyro In January



Gyros, Gyrettes, and friends gathered at Jubilations on January 28 to enjoy *Let It Be*, the Beatles tribute. Unlike last year, the weather cooperated beautifully. The music of the Beatles brought back wonderful memories, and the Jubilations staff were efficient, welcoming, and worked hard to ensure everyone enjoyed the evening.



Great music, good food, and easy camaraderie combined to make it a thoroughly enjoyable night for all.



What's Happening in February

On Monday, February 16 Gyros will attend a hockey game featuring the Calgary Hitmen vs the Everett Silvertips. It should be fun!

On Wednesday, February 25, Gyros will meet at the Hotel Blackfoot. Following lunch there will be a presentation by Haysam Kadri, a Calgary actor, director, educator, and artistic director of Alberta Theatre Projects.



Another clue that you are getting old is if the oxygen masks drop down from the ceiling when your birthday candles are lit.

Only two Gyros are blowing out candles this month

Ken Baker on **February 2 and**
Bernie Somerville on **February 15**

- I don't mind getting older..but my body is taking it way to seriously.
- At my age I don't need an alarm clock. My bladder wakes me up just fine.
- I've reached the age where my train of thought often leaves the station without me.
- I finally got my head together..and now my body is falling apart.
- I don't call them wrinkles, I call them "experience lines."
- I'm at the age where happy hour is a nap.

Gyro Conventions / Miscellaneous

The **2026 International Convention** will be hosted by Gyro International and held right here in **Calgary, from July 13 to 17** (that's only 5 1/2 months away). Since it's happening on our home turf, Alan Pentney and I have been asked by the Executive Council to coordinate the details. We'll likely need a helping hand as things ramp up.. so don't be surprised if you get a call as the date approaches!

Because the convention follows immediately after the Calgary Stampede, Gyros from other clubs are being encouraged to arrive early and enjoy the festivities. Before Calgary was officially confirmed as the convention location, I sent out an email asking whether members might be willing to open their homes. A few of you responded positively, which was wonderful to see. Now that it has been

confirmed that the convention will be held here, we need to gather a **clear list of members who are willing to billet** and help make this experience truly memorable for our guests.

Preliminary details:

- Billeting would likely involve 1–2 nights during Stampede week (Saturday and Sunday)
- Hosts can specify how many guests they can accommodate
- More information will follow as planning progresses

To keep yourself informed of the upcoming events please refer often to the club calendar on

Gyro International



Presents to the
Gyro Club of Calgary
This
Testimonial of Friendship
In recognition of your
One Hundredth Anniversary
November 12, 1921 – November 12, 2021

W. Masdoni, M. Hall
International Secretary/Treasurer

On November 23, 2021, members of our club joined friends from the Stampede City Club for a memorable celebration at the Wainwright Hotel in Heritage Park. It was a wonderful evening, highlighted by the presentation of a plaque from Gyro International recognizing our club's 100 years in Gyro.

For several years the plaque has enjoyed a nomadic existence, resting first in Skinner's basement, then Baker's basement, and most recently Fenton's basement. Now the image of the plaque has been added to our website and can be found by clicking on "**Our Story.**" **If you would like to see the real thing you can schedule a "viewing" at Larry's place.**

Take a look and enjoy a little piece of our history.

The Carters have a new address

105—1858 Sirocco Dr SW, T3H 3P7

OK, that's it for this month.

Over and out!

Ken Baker, Bulletin guy