

The Calgary Burns Club

The Calgary Burns Club held their 34th annual Burns Supper & banquet on Friday January 22nd at the Calgary Convention Centre with some 750 men in attendance in Highland Dress. A full evening included a four course dinner, each course being introduced by a series of humorous "Removes" presented by two members of the Club; a popular Club tradition of "uncertain" origin. During the meal, entertainment was provided by the Calgary Police Service Pipe Band and Dancers, and later on past-president Jim Osborne recited Tam O'Shanter which he illustrated with slides. Following the meal the evening followed traditional lines with the Immortal Memory being delivered by Willie Young from Ayrshire, Scotland. Willie is a successful lawyer and former Premier Division football referee, he is an accomplished wit, raconteur and highly regarded after dinner speaker who was greatly appreciated. The Toast to the Lassies and also to Absent Friends followed - in particular the Absent Friends brought lumps to many throats. Throughout the evening the Calgary Burns Club Singers sang a number of songs, some by Burns but also including several other toe-tapping numbers. The Singers of course had performed at the Edinburgh Tattoo in August of 2009 and were anxious to "strut their stuff" and show off the "Auld Scotland" kilts they had all worn on the Esplanade.



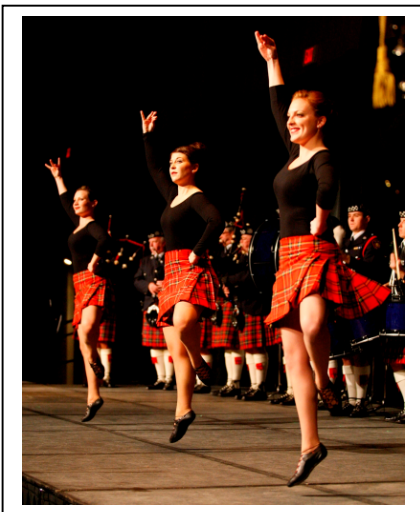
Derek Larg addressing the haggis



Willie Young delivers the Immortal Memory



Bob Ferrier sings "Ae Fond Kiss"
Backed by the Calgary Burns Club Singers.



Calgary Police Service Pipes and dancers



The head Table singing Auld Lang Syne