



**SERVE TO  
CHANGE LIVES**

**At meeting. Ann Harrison, Bob Eamer, Hugh Graham, Dave Schulz, Frank Adamson. Gail Levay, Jan Cripps, Paul Snack, Paul Allen, Keith McConkey, Lance Wiebe, Mel Groom, Mike Taylor, Irene Newton, Bev North, Angela Carter, Annie Holtby.**

**ROTARY CLUB OF FONTHILL  
WEEKLY MEETING AGENDA  
Wednesday, April 13th, 2022  
Hybrid Meeting**

**1. Welcome Guests** – Angela Carter is with us today as Friend of Rotary.

**2. Land Acknowledgement - Keith**

*We begin this gathering by acknowledging the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Metis and Inuit people and acknowledging reminds us that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.*

**3. Toast: Gail**

To the Queen and Canada, To the Office of the President of United States, and To the President of Rotary International

**4. 4-WAY TEST: Bob**

Of the things we think, say, or do  
Is it the truth?  
Is it fair to all concerned?  
Will it build good will and better friendships?  
Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

**5. Invocation: Janet**

As we gather here today as members of Rotary, we pray that we are ever mindful of opportunities to render our service to fellow citizens and to our community. Keeping in mind always the enduring values of life, exerting our efforts in those areas and on those things upon which future generations can build with confidence. Let us continue to strive to make a better world.

**6. Presidents Report, Correspondence and Announcements. Ann**

**Thanks** for everyone who went to the Home Show, Rotaractors and Rotarians.

**Scholarship Info.** Criteria were sent off to Crossley for two candidates. You can private message Ann if you'd like to read the essays.

**Crossley Team** met with Ann and Mel virtually about the project for amphitheatre – making a flattened performance area, wooden benches and some plantings with our grant. It's a bit of a change in plan.

**SlapShot** is happening again. It's also virtual again and we have funding for TWO.

**Next Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup>**. We're meeting in the MCC area, ready to go with Clean Up around water run off areas. Could set up a table where rain barrels are being picked up – we could have a table. Jan is wondering where to send the students at 10 am. **Ann** will have answer by the end of the day. **Dave** said people have been signing up on Clubrunner. **Frank** says yes to table for Canada Da sign sales, Arches' T-shirt sales. Dave can set up two volunteer lists.

- 7. Guest Speaker – Irene Newton, President, Ukrainian Canadian Congress Niagara Chapter – introduced by Ann** – It's a pleasure to introduce Irene Newton, a retired elementary principal who is the leading representative of the Ukrainian community. Irene has been working at the Ukrainian Church as collections come in. Thank you for joining us today, Irene. Thank you for coming and doing this work helping Ukraine and helping to arrange for Ukrainians coming to Canada.

**Guest Speaker – Irene Newton, President, Ukrainian Canadian Congress Niagara Chapter. It's wonderful to see how the community is coming together.** The Ukrainian Canadian Congress is a non-profit organisation. Other groups are working with us – churches, Youth groups, Canadian National Federation, Canadian Orthodox Community. We continue our work with everyone in mind. When it started, people were immediately asking what they could do. We had to coordinate the collecting, where to put it - floor to ceiling, wall to wall – cargo containers were put in.

**Rosewood Estate Winery in Beamsville** who also sell honey was wonderful. The family has been sending trucks, skids and taking collection to Toronto. All went to grant warehouse near airport. 5% admin fee - everything went directly to Ukraine. Back with deposition of presidents, we worked with this organisation.

**Donations** included clothing and food. There was so much we couldn't send it! We really needed medical supplies and military protective gear, boots, etc. We asked people to donate money. Miest Association stepped up to ship donations for free. That ran out and we had to raise more money. The amount of donations was amazing! Rotarians donating and helping us get what was needed. Right now, shipping is still going on – now trying to use it for war torn people coming into Canada.

**A system is set up.** Ukrainian Canadian Congress Niagara people are housing where they take full responsibility, \$23,000 a year. It's nice for people to step up but many only want them for a month with expectation that they'll have an apartment after. Who will pay for this? True refugee says they're never going back home and they get money, 3 months housing and health care. With Ukrainians, it's a **Visitor's Visa so no money is available.** Red Cross's main settlement agency is at the airport and they decide where they go. OHIP, emergency shelter, access to housing - Ontario Works Program helps even if it's coming to family. **Ann asked** if the expectation of those lodging them is to feed, clothe, etc. **Irene.** Those providing lodging can apply for 48 consecutive days of help and then need to reapply – up to 6 months. Government will provide shelter and \$500.

**The main agency** to step up was the Canadian Ukrainian Emergency Society. They know what to do and already have a number of cities in the north ready to take families. The Canadian Ukrainian Congress seems to want to work on its own. The biggest issue will be day care. Quite a few groups are offering jobs – hotels, restaurants, wineries, steel companies, hair salons. **A catch for women is daycare.** Diana Huson is on the committee with Irene. We are willing to create daycare through the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Niagara. Each representative has her own agenda. The Federal approach with the Red Cross is not overly evident. There's no overt welcome. We want to be able to give new plug-ins, new SIM cards. Our refugees are asked if vaccinated and if not, they have to spend 2 weeks quarantine in a Vax Hotel.

We need to coordinate with the Feds. **This afternoon, I have a meeting with Defense Minister Anita Anand.** We're grateful for all the help we've received.

**Shelters.** Every shelter needs to be inspected. Criminal record checks are required for those taking Ukrainians into their homes. (Ukrainians got their criminal record checks as they came into Canada *before* they got their papers.)

**Ann.** Thank you Irene for your broad based analysis. Any comments?

**Mike.** Thank you, Irene. Bless you and Congress for magnitude and scope of work. You're doing it! When I delivered goods, I was overwhelmed by what was happening.

**Irene.** Government is not putting a limit on how many can come. A lot went to Alberta. There have been three times as many applications as have come in. People have filled out Canadian Visa applications. Some want to stay near home. Trudeau has said Canada will admit as many as we can.

**Dave.** Over time, people have short attention spans. I there's to be peace today, lots of work needs to be done to rebuild. We want to keep it on the agenda.

Irene/ The longer it goes on, people become complacent which is what Putin wants. Even now there's a lull in the fighting but eastern Ukraine is under fire every day/ The Canadian Congress National has brought up daily comments. Putin is threatening Sweden and Finland not to join NATO or they'll be sorry. There's pressure to push for charges against Russian president.

**Lance.** You mentioned the Red Cross. Are other countries having same issues?

**Irene.** Probably in different ways. The Red Cross is an international organisation helping out everywhere. They do take a 30% administration fee. Government does double the donation money. The onus is in the east. The Red Cross has set up a place on the Russian border. They were taking people to Russia and they were told that was wrong.

**Ann.** It's very complicated. Good luck with your meeting today. Thanks for joining us and for your and your team's efforts! As a thank you to our speakers, we make a donation to the **Lincoln-Pelham Libraries.**

#### **8. Rotary Moment and Happy Loonies – Dave**

**Dave.** Consistent with our guest speaker's message, it's very impressive how Rotary has responded to the Ukraine situation.

**Lance.** Great presentation! On personal note, Brianna went back to school to upgrade. She was accepted to Nursing School and we're ecstatic.

**Ann.** Michael tested positive for Covid. We're coping.

**Bob.** I appreciate Irene's presentation.

**Hugh.** Thank you, Irene. It gives me better insight into what people are dealing with. Sandy and Hugh ventured out into public with the Home Show. Surprising how many didn't wear masks. Good to see so many out.

**Mel.** I survived a week of symptoms. No one else in family got it, so Ann, you may be able to dodge the bullet.

**Irene.** Thankful for my husband's support!

**Paul A.** A friend in Toronto reached out to Harvard. Two women are coming with two children - a friend is housing them and they'll be coming to Niagara.

**Angela.** My son had a baby boy. It's the best thing. Thanks, good to be here.

**Annie.** Thankyou, Irene.

**Mike.** Youth Raffle of the sunflower/sky Ukraine flag print. \$500 was raised for the Rotary Emergency Fund going to Ukraine. Happy Easter! Family coming!

**Gail.** Put hands up if you have an item for the TV Auction!

**Frank.** Thanks, Irene. Hopefully we're here for the long run. I just got back from Pullman, WA with family.

**Paul S.** Enlightening presentation! It's important for us to see how lucky we are in Canada. For Family FunFest, we are at \$12,000 fundraising.

**Ann.** I'll email Irene's address. No meeting next week but email will alert as to meeting place on Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Paul.** Still a need for May speakers. Please let Paul know.

**Ann.** This is a holy time for many people right now.

## 9. Birthdays and Anniversaries

**Birthdays:** Roy (6<sup>th</sup>); Kevin (15<sup>th</sup>) Frank (30<sup>th</sup>)

**Rotary:** Randy Momot

### Next Meetings/Events:

April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Earth Day Clean up – please sign up and meet at the MCC at 10 a.m.

April 26<sup>th</sup> – Joint Hybrid Meeting with Niagara Rotary Clubs – Please sign up via Eventbrite

got their criminal record checks coming into Canada before they got their papers.