



## WEEKLY MEETING Minutes

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

Collins Acheampong, Bob Eamer, Hugh Graham, Mel Groom, Ann Harrison, Paul Hewitt, Annie Holtby, Crystal Lambkin, Carolyn Mullin, Dave Schulz, Paul Snack, Mike Taylor, Lance Wiebe, Maria Araujo, Fred Leppard, Guest Speaker – Carolyn with her Niagara College hat on

### 1. Welcome!

### 2. Land Acknowledgement – Mike

*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. National Anthem – Carolyn and All

### 4. 4-WAY TEST – Lance

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?  
Cheers, everyone!

### 5. Invocation – Annie

A few quotes from Louise Penny's April Newsletter.  
There are few, if any, Canadian men that have never spelled their name in a snowbank. (Douglas Copeland)  
My friends, love is better than anger. Hope is better than fear. Optimism is better than despair. So let us be loving, hopeful and optimistic. And we'll change the world. (Jack Layton)  
We peer so suspiciously at each other that we cannot see that we Canadians are standing on the mountaintop of human wealth, freedom and privilege. (Pierre E Trudeau)

### 6. Collins – Welcome everyone. First home show this past weekend for me. Very interesting!

**Any thoughts, Hugh?** Thanks to those who helped set up/take down. There was a Birthday Celebration in the Kinsmen Room so couldn't return stuff till today. Chelsea and Karly were great student volunteers!

**Update for Sharon.** Council of Legislation – Frank is in Chicago attending as a rep from District 7090.

**Ann.** The tree planting for Crossley is not cancelled/cancelled – to be continued.

**Paul S.** There's a meeting next Monday at White Meadows. It'll give us a better perspective of things. We're checking out sponsors – some interest already. Richard at White Meadows says the compound is ours to please. **Amber of Food4Kids** is setting up a link. We hope to have it soon to pass along to responsible person.

**Lance.** New Event at Canada Day Celebrations. Kids are painting a snow plow! We have 3 bouncers. There will be a house decorating contest, and a prize for best float. **Dave Sherwood** is helping out with that!

7. **Today's Presentation –Lance introduced today's speaker, our very own Carolyn Mullin who will be sharing her Niagara College story today!**

**Carolyn. Research and Innovation.** It's not tied to any school. Applied Research is when you apply Research to Industry. Everything in Niagara College has an outside industry partner. This has been going on for 25 years but since July 2011 and 200 Million, we have 3 new buildings, more than 2500 programs and services with more than 550 faculty members and 1500 students! Innovation Centres match programs. Project teams provide tech leads and paid students.

**Niagara College is in the top 10 and placed in Top 50 Research Colleges.** Any inkind, actual funding is cash from Individual Partners.

**Tech Services** charge a fee for service. There's Applied Research and Course Based Research within the classroom.

**Students and Faculty** have descriptions of what they've done. Actual Innovation Centres have added a Media division. Also a Lemon Drink- cold and wonderful. 'Upubalabo!'

**Walker Advanced Management Innovation Centre** is scanning from the size of a dime to the whole building. **Recent partners** include Darling Mimosa, Sobrii – 0 Alcohol, Airbus Helicopters, Raw Pest Food, Greenhouse Tech Network with Niagara College, Vineland Research and Innovation, University of Guelph, SONAM, Conestoga, Fleming, George Brown and Queen and a few more. Feds and Province are regular funders. Last year – 235 projects!

**Question.** For small business, it must be a struggle to have a good website.

**Lance.** South of the border and tariffs – are we looking at more aggressive looking afield like South America?

**Paul.** With state of immigration, how does it impact school?

**Carolyn.** It has a hugely negative impact. Province does fund student activity. Work permits have been frozen by the feds – ALL college programs. We *need* trades. We didn't catch up with housing. Now we have to figure out how to. Funding is 4 local students to 1 International. Those International students used to have to have \$10,000 in a Canadian account. Now it's \$25,000!

**Layoffs** are coming; we won't be able to avoid them. Our funding is definitely based on working with industry.

**OK? Applause.**

**PresentationLink**

<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/289/Documents/en-ca/0d1f33a8-a68e-4c1f-ae1c-2c133ce6ffa3/1/>

**8. Rotary Moment and Happy Loonies**

**Lance.** Leafs won!

**Maria.** Happy to be here and for spring coming!

**Crystal.** Happy when travelling. Paris and London during next spring break!

**Dave.** Wonderful positivity from Carolyn!

**Annie.** Thanks, Carolyn. Great presentation!

**Mel.** Look at our talent right here!

**Carolyn.** Every one of us has stories to tell. My job is to pullout those stories. Blue Jays won and Bernie and Tess were there in person.

**Collins.** My daughter turns 10 today!

**9. Meetings to come**

**April 23, Domenic's for Social Breakfast**

**April 30, Board Meeting**

**May 7, Weekly Meeting, Guest Speaker, Jim Steele, Climbing Kilimanjaro**

**May 14, Weekly Meeting, Guest Speaker,**