



## ROTARY CLUB OF FONTHILL

### WEEKLY MEETING AGENDA

August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 (Zoom meeting 55)

**ZOOMING: Dave Schulz, Bob Eamer, Mel Groom, Ann Harrison, Lance Wiebe, Grant Eamer, Paul Snack, Keith McConkey, Hugh Graham, Michael Jacques, Troy Killick, Jan Cripps, Annie Holtby, Tawnya McCready.**

1. **Land Acknowledgement: Lance**

*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.*

2. **Toast: Keith**

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

3. **4-WAY TEST: Keith**

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?

4. **Invocation: Bob**

For Peace in a world where many walk in fear,  
For Food in a world where many walk in hunger,  
For Friends in a world where many walk alone  
We give humble thanks.

5. **President's Report/Correspondence/Announcements:**

a.) **Thank you – Hugh and Sandy**

A great end of the year get together last week. Wonderful to see everyone for the first time in a long time. Perfect weather, location, program, desserts!.

**b.) Next week's meeting – "Serve to Change Lives" conversation**

Our Business General Meeting is still in Zoom format with Break out rooms. Guiding questions will be provided.

**c.) Upcoming events and opportunities**

i.) **Bandshell this Thursday and every Thursday** – sign up through ClubRunner.

**RETURN OF THE BREAKFAST MEETING – Aug 18<sup>th</sup>** meeting at the Pelham Grill in their tent outback. They don't open till 8 but are happy to have us at 7:15 am. Bob promises an Open Mike Meeting with few announcements.

**6. Guest Speaker – Intro by Bob** I was introduced to Tanya by another Rotarian in another club. Tanya and her husband Hank are trainers and owners of the Winterdance Dogsled Tours, parents of 4 children and custodians of 2500 Maple Trees on their property in Haliburton.

**Tanya McCready from Winterdance Dogsled Tours.** Tanya is a wonderful storyteller and hers IS a wonderful story. I'll give some highlights but you can go to <https://www.winterdance.com/keynote-speaking/> or <https://www.winterdance.com/> for more details. In Guelph where they attended University, Tanya and Hank fell in love with a husky pup by chance in a pet store in a mall. They visited her three days straight and fell in love. After watching Race Across Alaska, they realised that huskies do better with a friend. They're pack animals. They added another. More mayhem and then another and another to make 4. That's a team. Added a 5<sup>th</sup>! A friend suggested that if they loved the dogs so much, they should figure out a way to make money with the,. Their business plan took them to 30 banks and 30 refusals. A friend sent it up to Huntsville and they were given the loan. Buying their property and arranging for a house and kennel, etc., they found nothing was ready. Attention was paid to the kennel and they ended up spending the first winter in the kennel.

From their move to Haliburton to their growing of a team and teams, to their 2010 trip to Anchorage with 4 kids and their team, to Hank's adventures and Tanya's support (big time) to the major lesson learned:- no matter how much you love your team, if you don't take care of yourself, you aren't taking care of your team, it's a moving story of their love for the cross Alaska race, for their dogs, for their lifestyle. Supported by their maple syrup business, by cabins in the woods rentals and of course their 'drive your own dogsled' opportunities, they have the means to continue the adventure, fulfilling in so many ways, of dogsledding at its best.

WOW!

Ann thanked Tanya for the awesome presentation.

Questions arising.

Paul S. How do the dogs navigate? There IS a trail – small lathes of wood so if running at night, the lights pick up on it. A blizzard can come in and wipe out trails. Dogs find their way – instinct and great leaders.

Michael. How can you make sure they're always focused? Great question, Michael. Dogs are the best in our kennel = also professional and athletic. They're passionate, hard driving and know they're on a mission.. Mushers' main challenge is when the females are in heat – bit of a

problem. Other than that, the drive to get to the end is paramount to the dogs. What Hank is feeling is translated

Gord Eamer. Are there additional challenges coming from the South? Yes, getting stuff there is a big challenge. Shipping through borders is more of a problem. It's no problem to the Yukon. North in Alaska you have the lower temperatures and the change to tundra.

Ann. The Your story resonates with all of us.

#### 7. **Rotary Moment and Happy loonies – Jan**

Jan's Rotary Moment AND Happy Loonie We took our road ikes out yesterday and headed through Allenburg. Gratitude for the pedestrian path. 15 years ago a pedestrian bridge was installed, funded by all the Niagara clubs. John Crossingham spent a year and a half in 2006 rallying clubs and raising \$150,000 for the bridge. Bridges symbolically links us all.

**Gord E. We have a tie to Hank's family through his niece and marriage.**

**Hugh.** Thanks to everyone who showed up at the Bandshell at PEACE Park.

**Troy.** We were up north for 5 days feeding the mosquitos – took Hugh's cookies with us – the girls had 2 each night.

**Keith.** Thanks for the presentation. Felt myself getting colder. I've finished my summer course in umpiring and am very thankful.

**Mel.** Thank you Tanya. We were all riveted.

**Paul S.** Things are opening up. Bandshell tomorrow night, ogf buddies have booked a place and our flight for the fall.

**Michael.** Tanya, a very cool presentation. At work the other day I was filling shelves with noodles and noticed they were shaped with Rotary symbols. Thought tat was cool too.

Lance. Great story Tanya. We do have connections in Haliburton so will check it out.

Annie. Thanks, Tanya. Wonderful story.

Tanya. I talked to a BC club the other day and I'm so happy our forests are wet.

Bob. Thanks, Tanya. I'm very interested in the link between Hank and the dogs. The importance of leadership.

**Dave.** Great presentation. I also didn't know about the Rotary bridge.

**Ann.** I've been on that bridge, walking. It's my mom's 91<sup>st</sup> birthday. It was the 1<sup>st</sup> day in the room with Ann's son in a long time.

#### 8. **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Birthdays, Randy and Carolyn, August 19<sup>th</sup>, Pat on August 28<sup>th</sup> and Bob on August 30<sup>th</sup>. Mel and Rick's wedding anniversary is August 30<sup>th</sup>. Bob, Emma and Michael all joined Rotary in August.

#### **Next Meetings:**

Anything else for the good of Rotary?

Next meeting is next week, August 11<sup>th</sup>. 'Serve to Change Lives Breakout Sessions.

**Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> - ZOOM meeting**

**Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> – Pelham St Grill**