



**ROTARY CLUB OF FONTHILL
WEEKLY MEETING AGENDA**

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Hybrid Meeting

Sean and Paula Racher, Lance Wiebe, Frank Adamson, Bob Eamer, Carolyn Mullin, Hugh Graham, Paul Snack, Annie Holtby, Mike Taylor, Dave Schulz, Ann Harrison, Michael Jacques, Mel Groom. Guest speaker –Brilee Sears

Welcome to our Guest Speaker Brilee Sears from Niagara This Week

1. Land Acknowledgement: Ann

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.

Toast: Paul

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

2. 4-WAY TEST: Paul

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?

3. Invocation: Dave

We, as Rotarians, are dedicated to the ideal of service to maintain a high ethical standard in our business and profession

And to dignify our vocation by enhancing international understanding, good will and peace through people united in this ideal of service.

4. Presidents Report, Correspondence and Announcements. Assorted

Free Skate. Paul. December 16th. We're collecting perishables for Pelham Cares. Cash donations would go to them as well.

Social Breakfast: Ann. Tuesday, December 20th at Dominic's on the 20. Please register on Clubrunner by tomorrow. Starts at 8 am!

Pathstone. Ann. We donated \$3000 to Pathstone to support their Welland Site. They're behind because of increased prices and availability but hoping May 23rd will be their opening day.

Guest Speaker Brilee Sears from Niagara This Week.

Introduction Ann. Brilee is a Journalist - new to Niagara and new to Niagara This Week. She'll tell us more! **Brilee.** I'm originally from a farm near Gettysburg. Through the Maryland Rotary District 7390, I went on Youth Exchange to Czechoslovakia where I met my husband also on Youth Exchange. We didn't date till two years after the end of the Exchange. I went to Emerson College in Boston - one of the best in the US for Journalism! In College, I'd go to the TV station for work rather than Starbucks. I was senior writer for WHDH where I did interviews and covered two impeachments, mass shootings and race riots. Not a safe job! I had to balance being a woman and being young in journalism. The older reporters were trained to show two sides to everything. With Trumpism, it had gone away from that- e.g the stolen election.

It's been great to move to Canada, to Niagara. Niagara This Week drew me away from shootings and to more fun things. Niagara this week is tied in with St Catharines Standard and the Welland Tribune. My focus is back in print and good news. I'm engaging with the Community and the Chambers of Commerce – NF, SC, Welland, FE, Port Colborne and Lincoln. They struggle to get information to me where I could have helped if I'd known sooner. Please keep in touch regularly and it'll keep Rotary in my mind.

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Paul. How do the upper decisions affect you? **Brilee.** Subscriptions and money related items are corporate. I just have to do my job – there are enough levels above.

Mike. Any current ties with Rotary? **Brilee.** I was involved with Rotaract back in Boston. **Mike.** There's a lot of room for a voice like yours.

Paul. Which club was your husband with for Youth Exchange? **Brilee.** Woodstock.

Lance. Isn't the value in bringing things back together? **Brilee.** My reporting is something that is happening. It's hard to get two far apart views in the same room. During the pandemic, I worked at home. My long term goal is to stay in Journalism. I see myself as a reporter for a while, getting to share 'good' in the world. In 10-15 years I'd like to be an editor.

Carolyn. I have a print journalism diploma. It's interesting and heartening that Brilee wants to stay in print journalism.

Frank. Brilee covered my campaign. I found it fair and balanced.

Carolyn. Thank you, Brilee. Our club makes a donation to our local Lincoln Pelham library in thanks for our speaker's time and presentation.

Happy Loonies

Annie. Last week Hugh mentioned that across clubs involved in the TV Auction, there was a 57% return for a \$126,000 Total. If you add in our cash donations, Fonthill's return was 67%. Very happy with this!

Lance. Concerning the Maple Leafs, I've had an attitude adjustment – I used to say 'yah' but wait till May! Now I'm just enjoying!

Bob. Happy to listen to your presentation. Now you're in!

Hugh. It's fun to watch the Leafs. Ovechkin is getting his three goals to tie Howe. **Brilee.** Very accomplished!

Mike. I'm impressed with your presentation. I will be in touch with you re Youth Exchange.

Ann. Thanks, Brilee. Hope you are enjoying the calm!

Dave. I'm grateful to be here. I now have spider gloves!

Sean. I'm happy with our new den and recliner.

Paula. I'm happy that the drum at the Summer Games was reproduced by the Indigenous Art Council for each place represented in the Games.

Frank. Thanks, Brilee. A different gun culture!

Mel. Woke up under the weather! I also bought season's tickets for Jackfish!

Carolyn. The College system, in their applied journalism program, always had students spending a month going to a newspaper. The College would always say students should be sent to community newspaper.

Brilee. Being in Welland has been a long process. We're having our 1st Christmas in our own place. I'm glad to be back where the heart is.

Next Meetings/Events: December 16th – Free Skate and Collecting Perishables for Pelham Cares, December 20th –Social Breakfast at Dominic's on the 20. 8 am

No meeting between Christmas and New Year's.

First meeting in 2023– January 4th .