

Zooming: Hugh Graham, Mike Taylor, Andy Glavac, David Schulz, Leo/Cookie, Heather Scott, Bob Eamer, Paul Snack, John Cappa, Mel Groom, Kevin Vallier, Frank Adamson, Carolyn Mullin, Lance Wiebe, Annie Holtby, Keith McConkey, Ann Harrison.

1. Open meeting: – welcome everyone

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: **Mel**

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: **Heather**

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: **John**

**Let My Eyes Be Opened**

Let me awake and see the beauty that surrounds me all around.

Let me hear the singing birds make their wonderful sound.

Let me thank God for my health that has been good to me so far.

Let all my dreams come true when wishing upon a star.

Let me be thankful for friendship that was lovingly given me.

Let me never forget the caring that was made for me to see.

**Betty Opheim, Fargo West Rotary, Fargo, North Dakota District 5580**

6. President's Report/Correspondence/Announcements:

- Tax receipts have been issued to those donating cash for the TV Auction. This is another reminder to pay dues, Dues are due.
- Rotary Honoring Indigenous People (HIP)– District Committee  
The letter that Ann wrote for the recent District Newsletter about Brian Kon's presentation January 13<sup>th</sup> had an invitation within the first 15 minutes of Newsletter being published for someone to join this newer committee honoring Indigenous people.

# Rotary



# Rotary Opens Opportunities

People DO read it. If someone is interested in joining HIP, please contact Jim Dawson at 519 5833328 [energyprojwd@gmail.com](mailto:energyprojwd@gmail.com).

- District Conference registration – Frank  
Registration is up on the District Website. Please register today. It's FREE!!!!  
Conference runs Monday, Tuesday, Thursday evenings and Saturday morning.  
Monday, March 15 (7 to 9 PM): Conference Week Kick-Off & Virtual Happy Hour Social  
Tuesday, March 16 (7 to 9PM): "Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)"(evening)  
Thursday, March 18 (7 to 9 PM): "YOUTH, the Future of Rotary" & Engaging Breakouts  
Saturday, March 20 (9AM to 12PM): "International Service Project Saturday"
- Jackpot Flowers – Dave  
The owner of Jackpot Flowers owed a large flower distribution company that went to NY and Philadelphia. It's mostly dried up with Covid. He realized at the same time that charities were hurting and he decided to give 10% of sales to a charity. When it reached \$500, it goes to the charity plus anyone who has purchased flowers has their name entered into a \$100 draw. There's a form to participate on his site. Mel commented it'd be great to have a place to put that money and Ann suggested Women's Place. This would be on top of the grant we're putting in so wouldn't affect us. Everyone was in favour. In chat, Mel said she and Heather would be approaching Women's Place.
- President-Elect – Hugh  
We don't have a President Elect. We've talked directly to individuals, we've sent out emails about considering the position. Dave commented that it's not till 2022-23 so there's time for some experience and knowledge before then. Paul shared the great training that the district does at PETS. Frank said it would be good to have a fireside chat. Hugh will reach out to Andrew to set one up and work his magic.
- Watershed project – John  
It's early days now, waiting for first steps. Hopes everyone has read the document that was sent out. What can we do locally? Think of locations. Frank said if we could do something in concert with Welland, there's a lot of lake in Port Colborne and no Rotary Club anymore. Lance mentioned his son-in-law was in charge of the beaches and that in the spring, some of them are terrible and would need work. The group on Facebook is posting photos of their areas at the Lake.
- Family Day fun – Ann  
During Family week, there is a virtual family day from February 12-15<sup>th</sup>. One of the events is a scavenger hunt whose app is Goose Chase. It's for individuals and families; It's encouraging people to get out safely. Dave has made a poster about our participation – asking people to have their or their family's photo taken beside a Rotary Wheel that's already in place in town. There was something in the Voice of Pelham explaining everything. The town is providing prizes.
- Pay It Forward – Meghan/Pau[  
From today till Sunday, Valentine's Day, Rotarians going through Tim's will pay for a coffee for the person behind in line. Or leave a tip for the worker that's standing there all day serving people. Just say courtesy of the Rotary Club of Fonthill. KIS.
- Gervason Family appeal – Hugh  
The letter sent by the family is very touching. As a Club we don't give to individuals or families. It's certainly a worthy cause. The family started a Go Fund me page to raise

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\$250,000. They've raised over 30,000 to date and anyone who'd like to help out is welcome to use that site.

7. Speaker: Fabulous February Pod - Tia Taylor, Mel Groom, Heather Scott, John Cappa, Christian Baranowski, Kerry Ould, Mike Bertrand (Corp Membership), Keith McConkey, Kevin Vallier  
Introduction: Carolyn, Ms Fabulous

Carolyn asked a question of each of her POD and here are the questions and answers of those here today. Before revealing the answer, the rest of us guess the identity.

And now for the question! What is something that people wouldn't necessarily believe about you?

Answers:

1. I was a kindergarten dropout.
2. I always wanted to be a singer in a R&R band.
3. I once received a Christmas gift from the San Diego Chicken
4. I was removed from a Christmas Play as the Virgin Mary for bad behavior.
5. I can't stand cottage cheese. I've also coloured my spouse's hair for the last 15 years.
6. I was told I didn't have the security clearance to meet Princess Diana but managed to do so and not get arrested.

Here are the members of Fabulous 6 in attendance today. Carolyn, John, Kevin, Heather, Keith, Mel. Take a guess those who weren't here Wednesday. 'The Rest of the Story' is at the End of the Minutes.

Next week: Feline Fostering - Leo/Cookie will be joining us again.

Thanks: Hugh mentioned that Pelham and Lincoln libraries are joining together but that the Pelham Library will be able to keep donations intended for it to stay separate for the amalgamation. So we'll continue to thank our speakers with a donation to the Pelham Library. Thank you Carolyn and Fabulous February POD.

8. Birthdays: None  
Rotary Anniversaries: Frank (Feb 01/91); John J. (Feb 09/10)
9. Rotary Moment: None this week

10. Happy Loonies: Kevin

John. This is a personal Happy Loonie this week. I take a contract role with a Jordan company and 2.3 of his time will be with their affordable housing venture. I'm looking forward to it.

Carolyn. The sun is coming in right now. A note of positivity. I'm happy how things went this morning.

Heather. IT was fun today.. Happy to come to Rotary and start the day.

Keith. Kids are back at school. No screen time. School is giving them more structure in their lives.

Mike. I'm happy it's bright in the mornings now and at the end of the day too!

David. Looks like we'll be out of house arrest after Family Day.

Bob. I had Facetime with my two granddaughters. They're happy to be going back to school.

Annie. Carolyn's session was fun; our pay it back starts today and with the Jackpot Flowers we have \$500 to give NOW to Women's Place for desks. All positive.

Paul S. Zak's happy to be back at school. I've already signed him up for golf lessons at Sawmill for the summer.

Hugh showed us a real photo op he had on a plane from Aspen to Denver – Princess Diana and the boys were on board too. No digital copies made.

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Frank noted we have 10 people signed up for donation blood and 7 are on Zoom today!

Mel. The second vaccine is here for retirement homes and her mom!

Lance watched Toronto play and win – He's navigating TSN easily now.

Ann was with her mother in Toronto for lunch this week.

Andy. It's awesome to be with an enthusiastic group in the morning. I also did a 5K walk with my daughter for Open Arms Mission.

Kevin. The Covid numbers are going down and we're coming out of house arrest. Montreal and Toronto on TV and we got a good deal on baseball with Spring Training starting.

11. Action Item: Think of someone in our club who would make a great President Elect. **ACTION: All**

12. And now 'The Rest of the Story'

1. Mel was the Kindergarten dropout. As a banker, Her father (and family) moved around a lot and they moved to Bruce Mines in the middle of the year. Mel wasn't allowed to continue with Kindergarten but was allowed into Grade 1 in the Fall.

2. Kevin always wanted to be a singer in a R&R band. Closest he got was to be a roadie. Kevin grew up in Sarnia. Friends of his were in a band and he was jealous. He thought it would have been cool. The band's name was Gypsy Rose and Kevin shared a long haired picture of them. **David** was the only one who guessed correctly.

3. Keith once received a Christmas gift from the San Diego Chicken. From 2003-2005, Keith was a pro baseball umpire. In Minor Leagues it's all about entertainment. The San Diego Chicken sent everyone a Sears Roebuck Gift Card to thank them. Keith was the only one who thanked him and then received a Christmas gift from the chicken.

4. For bad behavior, Heather was removed from a Christmas Play in Kindergarten as the Virgin Mary. During naptime, she and a friend were arguing about napping beside a cute boy. For punishment, Heather lost her lead in the play. Her dad was a police officer so she was also 'punished' at home.

5. a) John can't stand cottage cheese – its texture, its look. 'I'll eat anything but not that!'  
b) He has coloured his wife's hair the last 15 years. John was a L'Oreal rep in an earlier life and had to learn how to USE the colour so tried it with his wife and is still doing it!

6. Carolyn was told she didn't have enough security to meet Princess Diana but managed to do it and not get arrested. Her crazy amazing start to journalism with the Niagara Falls Review started noon first day. Credentials had already been given out before she started work. She was told to go to Table Rock. People had been lined up for hours. She was to do a colourful story about the atmosphere. Denis Cahill of the St Catharines' Standard was taking a photo of Diana and Carolyn was in the crowd behind. The photo was on the front page.

**NEXT WEEK: FELINE FOSTERING**