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**WEEKLY MEETING Minutes**  
**Wednesday, February 19, 2025**

Collins Acheampong, Frank Adamson, Hugh Graham, Paul Hewitt, Annie Holtby, Carolyn Mullin, Sharon Pfeifer, Dave Schulz, David Sherlock, Lance Wiebe, Guest Speaker Paul Hewitt, Classification Talk.

1. **Welcome**

2. **Land Acknowledgement – Sharon**

*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 - Hugh & All**

4. **4-WAY TEST – Hugh**

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 - Bob**

6. **Collins – Welcome everyone.** Some business before our presentation.

**Board Meeting** is next week in the concession area downstairs here at MCC. All members are welcome.

**Family Day. Collins.** We were here on Monday. Paul talked to a number of people. Well over 120 stopped by. Paul made business cards for Family Day we can use going forward. There's a QR code that points people to our website. Food Donations came in.

**Breakfast Meeting.** The 19th of March meeting will be at EL Crossley for a breakfast meeting. We can have 30 people. Please sign up on Clubrunner.

**Next Speaker** on March 5<sup>th</sup> is Dave Sherlock re the Welland Canal.

**District Conference is April 5. PLEASE register at the District site. [Rotary7090.org](http://Rotary7090.org)**

**Fonthill Kinsmen Home Show.** Hugh. It's April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> – two days. There's a signup sheet for helping out. Bandshell is going to join us.

7. **Introduction of Paul Hewitt by Collins.** Paul needs no introduction. His presentation says it all. I'm looking forward to what he has to say!

8. **Paul's Presentation.** This is about me and how I got here! I came to Brock in 2001 with the intention of becoming a teacher of Math and Geography. That didn't work out according to plans and I started managing Mac's Stores (now Circle K.) I married in 2004 and had three kids, With Sherry's three we have 6 from 14 to 36!



In June 2017, we put a bid on a Fonthill home - and were successful! Almost 10 years!

We love to travel – camping, cottages, mountains, islands like St Marten. I love baking but promise to stay out of butter tarts! Also love pool time, golfing (not good at it) and reading. In 2024 I switched to Mortgages and I'm still trying to get out of Parkland. I'm always looking for ways to help.

Question about CHIP. Both husband and wife have to be 55 years old at least. You can get 55% of the value of your home. They'll look at how long you've been in the home. Say you want \$200,000 – the first 10 years you don't lose much equity, you're adding to it. You can get a lump sum or monthly payouts. Some use it for trips or it goes to the kid's first house. If you pass, survivors have 6 months to a year to sell the house. OR have to pay for it.

Parkland deals with fuel based companies. We try to bring another brand to us. I dealt with Gail's place. With new owner it will be a Shell company - not part of Parkland.

How come prices change by the hour? Everyday it goes up. At midnight prices drop. The computer tracks who goes first. It's a 5 am start depending on who. The best price is after 10 am.

I'm now with Dominion Lending. There are 45 in that group and I have a mentor. Referrals and networking happen in that group.

**It started with a wallet.** Ontario Street, St Catharines. Is that a wallet on the road? There was money, identification – we continued into the Ti-Cats game since it was Sunday and then brought wallet to the Police Station. Mark and Darlene were from NOTL and called us to thank us for returning the wallet. They asked us if we wanted to go to an event put on by the Rotary Club of NOTL and it sounded like fun so we went. It WAS fun and that's how I got into Rotary. I looked for a closer club and reached out online. I was put in touch with Frank! The rest is my Rotary story!

**Thank you, Paul!**

### **Rotary Moment and Happy Loonies –**

**Bob** – I can see why Gail changed her prices once!

**Lance.** Took Maria to Algonquin Park. Everything was snowed in. We tobogganed the food in. Stayed in Gravenhurst.

**Frank.** Always wondered about reverse mortgages!

**Sharon.** Glad you decided to come to Rotary! I very much appreciate you. Insightful and relatively new Rotarian. It'll be a challenge to connect with you to inspire environmentally. How can we partner?

**Paul S.** You know my stories about son Zac and his love of driving. He likes to drive fast. I told him that sooner or later you'll get stopped. He replied they won't stop me for going 10 km over the speed limit. Off to Port Colborne with friends. A call asking where the insurance was. He'd been stopped. \$40 fine. Hope your kids are safe!

**Hugh.** Putting in \$5. If you talk about your business you get fined. We have a repeat customer. One family has done 16 mortgages over the years. Just this one family.

**Carolyn.** It's the business part of being Rotarian.

**Collins.** WE have so much in common. Thank you

**Paul H.** Watched my daughter play basketball at Brock!

### **Meetings to come**

**February 26, MCC, Board Meeting** – in MCC Concession Area - All members are welcome

**March 5, Weekly Meeting.** Dave Sherlock speaking about the Welland Canal