



**ROTARY CLUB OF FONTHILL
WEEKLY MEETING AGENDA**

Wednesday, February 15th

Hybrid Meeting

Dave Schulz, Frank Adamson, Bob Eamer, Carolyn Mullin, Ann Harrison, Hugh Graham, Paul Snack, Troy Killick, Annie Holtby, Michael Jacques, Marcel Jacques, Mike Taylor, Pauline Oliver, Sean Racher, Paula Racher, Kabir Ahmed, Mel Groom, Gail Levay, Roy Kirkup, Michele Starwalt-Wood. (21)

1. **Welcome** to everyone! Especially our visitors – Marcel Jacques, Michele Starwalt-Wood.

2. **Land Acknowledgement**

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:**

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

4. **4-WAY TEST:**

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?

Invocation: Bob

With our friends beside us, and no person beneath us,
With the bonds of Rotary between us, and our worries behind us,
With our goals before us, and no task beyond us,
With a thirst for knowledge, and a dream for a polio-free world,
We are thankful for our Rotary friends

5. **Presidents Report, Correspondence and Announcements. Troy Paul Harris Evening.** Last day to register is February 18th.

Rotary Farm Fest Meeting after this one.

6. Guest Speakers include President Troy Killick and his Classification Talk, Membership Chair Frank Adamson and Induction of New Members, and Frank Adamson and Paul Harris Presentations for the Jacques who couldn't be here next week for Official Ceremony.

Paul Harris Presentations. Frank is presenting an award for a Citizen and for a Rotarian. Rotarian Michael Jacques has changed the lives of many. Frank had invited Michael to speak at his District Conference that had a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Theme. Michael has an invisible disability. It's clear life is not fair. With hard work, he can overcome most obstacles. Michael is an annual guest lecturer of the Ontario Police College. Ontario's Community Living Group is there to advocate for people with experiences of Michael. The point is that everyone belongs. Community Living Ontario is a nonprofit advocacy group for individuals with disabilities. Michael was nominated as a representative from Pelham. He then became President and is now Chair. He's also on the Minter's Advisory Council on Special Education. Michael is the only one there WITH a disability and does well. The Ontario Lieutenant Governor met with Michael. The Federal Government recommended Michael to the Queen's Trust, an advocate for young people. There are presently 39 Canadian members. Michael has met with the senior executives of Sobeys where he's been working since 2007. He was named Citizen of the Year by the Kinsmen in 2014.

Michael Thanks, I only do it to make things better.

Frank. And now I'd like to call up Marcel Jacques to become a Paul Harris Fellow in appreciation for EVERYTHING you've done for your son. Your support has allowed many doors to open for Michael. I believe he calls you his Executive Assistant.

Marcel. In the last 4, 5 years, Michael has done over 400 presentations across Canada and into the United States. He does a podcast every week with 80,000 followers from the US and South America, He talks and shares his story. In the last 3 weeks, Michael has gone to Brock and spoken to every new teacher. University of Western Ontario has asked Michael come for a keynote speaker on invisible disabilities. It's been my pleasure to support and be there to ensure he can reach as many as possible. This has included being the 'driver.'

Frank. Both Michael and Marcel have the heart for Service above Self. Presentations of pin, medallion and certificate. They'll be in Florida next week.

Next 'best' thing is induction of our two new members

Frank as Membership Chair. I'm glad that Michele is here (zooming) as the District Membership Chair and that she will be District Governor in 3 years. To the new members, **Sean Racher and Kabir Ahmed** – You as new members are becoming a part of a larger thing. We have 2 countries in our District. Worldwide we have 46,000 clubs and 1.3 million Rotarians. When you sign up for MyRotary at rotary.org you can gain all information about Rotary. From classes to local and worldwide projects, club locations throughout the world in case you're in the neighbourhood, Fellowships you can join from Motorcycles to RVs, Winemaking to Skiing. Opportunities for International Conferences, Friendship Tours, Youth Exchange and of course, Service above Self! Everything is there to find. Ask your fellow members! So many leaders in Fonthill! Rotary creates Life Long Leaders Life Long Learners.

I'd like to invite Paula to step forward for Sean. Paula although not becoming a full member is very much involved – especially in the upcoming Farm Fest. **I also ask that Kabir join us.** We add members to extend the spirit of Rotary in the community. Our new members are worthy representatives of our 'calling.' We're admitting them to our Fonthill Club but also a worldwide association. Welcome with all our hearts to the Family of Rotary. **I invite everyone to come up and welcome Kabir and Sean into our club.**

Kabir answered some questions and told us a bit of his story. Born in Pakistan, Kabir was 7 when the family moved to Dubai and then at 13, moved to Canada, to Toronto. He came to the Niagara Peninsula to attend Brock U. A variety of jobs brought him to Banking, first at CIBC and then the move to Pen Financial Credit Unions. A very short Classification Speech!

President Troy's Classification Speech. I'm in Wealth Strategies, a CFO for clients. I work with individual families. I do the investment side so clients don't have to deal with it, e.g., Management Planning; Cash Flow Management.

I was born and raised in Niagara. I went to Laurier. Meridian at the time was Niagara Credit Union. I was a teller in the investment area. Then I moved to an Investment Company where I did analytics. From there I went to CIBC and worked with a team of Chartered Financial Analysts and finally achieved CFA – Certified Financial Accountant. I'm very proud of this achievement as only 18% make it through the course.

I'm into outdoor sports, challenging sports, and find it great to show my kids that world. They've embraced it and I look forward to more adventures including swimming with the dolphins and diving this coming year. (Troy is also a great woodworker and made, as part of a Rotary project, a Lending Library for the Fonthill Club – Beautifully designed!)

Rotary Moment and Happy Loonies

Frank. Judy and I were married 50 years the 17th February.

Pauline I'm grateful to Michael and to my son.

Paula. I've signed the first Contract in my new work!

Kabir is happy to be where he is.

Mel was away in Panama and went to an English Rotary Club. I closed my eyes and it was HOME.

Michael. Thank you for the Paul Harris award. Happy to be part of Rotary. Means a lot.

Gail. My daughter has one of your books, Michael. I also have a picture of Roy from 29 years ago. Congrats to our recipients. I'm proud to be part of Rotary. 29 Years.

Dave. Grateful for my daughter's new puppy. Home, Rotary, is a safe place to be.

Paul. Zac applied for a job last week and he got it! At White Meadows Farm.

Ann. Congratulations, Marcel and Michael! Happy to be here after 1st Covid.

Annie. Welcome to our new members, Sean and Kabir! I loved everyone greeting them. It was the practice of my first club out west and it made me realise the one thing I'd been missing! Congratulations to Marcel and Michael. Well deserved.

Mike. 16 Days in Algonquin Park with Youth exchange. Wonderful! Thanks for our new members, our new Paul Harris honorees.

Bob. Happy to be a Rotarian. Congrats to new members!

Hugh Sandy and I had our 53rd Wedding Anniversary yesterday. I am happy to promote the longevity of marriage. Congrats to our Paul Harris Fellows and welcome new members. Rotary is a fantastic place to be.

Carolyn. We completed the \$5000 donation for Food4Kids.

Troy. Welcome Sean and Kabir!

Next Meeting March 1st – Weekly Meeting