



"Where everyone is kin; with a sense of worth, over all the Earth"

~ adapted from Robert Burns/Gordon McInally, RI President 2023-24

WEEKLY MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday January 3, 2024

Hybrid Meeting

Frank Adamson, Paul Snack, Hugh Graham, Dave Schulz, Bob Eamer, Annie Holtby, Lance Wiebe, Mike Taylor, Carolyn Mullin, Ann Harrison, Mel Groom, Collins Acheampong, Sharon Pfeifer, Satoka Hiyashi, Speaker Nancie Taylor.

1. **Welcome Nancie Taylor, our guest speaker from Food4Children**
2. **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.

3. **Toast & National Anthem. Frank & Carolyn**

- a) To the King and Canada, To the Office of the President of the United States, To the President of Rotary International and To the Office of the Prime Minister of Japan.
- b) National Anthem

4. **4-WAY TEST. Frank**

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. Annie**

Wishing you gratitude for years past,
Joy in the present, and
Hope for the future!

6. **President's Report. Correspondence and Announcements**

Pathstone. We received a thank you from Pathstone and some of their updates.

Invoices went out for Jan-June dues.

Dave. Check out the links, etc., in the Newsletters.

Town of Pelham request. They are looking for volunteers from Service Clubs for the **Silver Stick Hockey** Tournament. Game times – 4:30 and 8 pm.

Cluster Grant (International) that we are part of this year is an Xray Machine for a hospital in Bolivia where Lezlie Murch was a TE Student way back.

Discussion about Kinsmen's Home Show. Board approved participation IF we get enough volunteers to staff it. It's the first weekend in April, the 6th and 7th. If we don't get enough, we won't do it. We could talk about the Tree Planting. We could have Satoka there with her blazer! We could have a mirror with question over it – 'Do You See Yourself in Rotary?' Etc.

Satoka is here because it's still a school holiday.

There was a District campaign for all Interact and **EL Crossley Interact won \$100!**

7. **Introduction of today's Speaker. Mike Taylor introduced Nancie Taylor**, all the way from Sault Saint Marie. Nancy wanted to explore where she'd like to volunteer and found her place with **Food4Kids.**

Nancie. Food4Kids is for the severely undernourished. There is a growing list of need alongside higher costs. Cathy McCann first talked of Food4Kids and the little boy waiting outside school an hour before the breakfast program. When asked why he was so early, he replied that he hadn't had anything to eat all weekend. That was its start.

We provide healthy packages, pack it and get volunteers to deliver it to the participating schools. We received a lot of gift cards during Covid. It's available to kids from K to 8.. Two new schools this year; they can come from all over the region- sometime 1 or two students, sometimes 10 students – it varies. **We have 500-1000 on our waiting list. There are at present 500 being served every weekend.** It costs \$15/week for each child and costs \$600/year for each. The summer program is separate from the school year.

We're holding a **fundraiser this month – a Paddle Party on January 24!** You can buy a ticket for \$15 or by a table. When you get your ticket, you get the number of your paddle. Welland Jackfish tickets, Wine Tours, Raptor tickets – for example.

Volunteers. Some try it to see how they like it, some are regular, some are on call. At our free skate, Nancie could publish a list of what's most needed. People could drop off at the skate. Head Office is at 115 Cushman Road # 27A.

Lance. How is your financial situation? **Nancie.** We're doing well. We have an amazing Executive Director.

Hugh. What's the cause of the wait list of 500-1000? Nancie. It's more that we don't have funds for them. Executive Director approaches a school, talks to the Principal and Vice Principal. The Principal and the Vice Principal talk to teachers and parents. One of our new board members was a teacher. Niagara Falls and Prince Colborne bought into the concept and Welland followed.

Carolyn. Thank you, Nancie!

In honour of you speaking today, we make a donation in your honour to Pelham Cares for their New Comer Program.

PAC Program for January.

Irene Newton from the Canadian Ukrainian Congress is speaking next week, the 10th. We need the new large cheque for making the presentation. **Sharon Pfeifer is our speaker the following**

week, the 17th. Board Meeting follows on the 24th in MCC's Concession area (everyone welcome) and Breakfast at Dominic's is the last Wednesday of the month, January 31st! Please sign up on Clubrunner!

8. Happy Loonies. Mike. Len and Patty Stolk are taking Satoka for 3 months.

Collins. Wonderful time with Family at Christmas! Excited for this New Year with Rotary!

Dave. Paying ahead for next two weeks and for Sharon and Collins!

Sharon. Happy to be here. Spent time with family.

Bob had fun Boxing Day. Today is also a good day. He and Rose are taking the grandkids to Willy Wonka!

Paul. Zak just got his license. He wants to get out more for practice!

Annie. There's a TM course with 16000 attending in Hyderabad India (they were aiming for 10000) and another sister course for 2000 at the same time at the University (MIU) in Fairfield Iowa. I'm attending the evening meetings by zoom. I would have loved to be there in person and had been there in 1983 when there was A Taste of Utopia 7000 strong. That was 40 years ago! If I have to wait another 40 years, I'll be 117 so I'm happy to be on zoom now! (I'll throw more Happy Loonies in next week)

Hugh. Everyone was home for Christmas! New Year's Eve was family time with Jean isolating. As has been alluded to before, Rotary is second family to a lot of us.

Frank. It was a quiet Christmas with just Judy and me. We celebrated the New Year in with Tina and Dave.

Mel. Community Grant cheque was sent off. Father-in-law had serious UTI which was cleaned up but he's not well enough to go home so has gone to Portal Village in Port Colborne and he's loving it!

Lance. Happy New Year! We went north – no snow! Made it till midnight!

Ann. Spent Sunday am – New Year's Day, at Toronto General. My mom had a fall and there was a viral infection. She's home now with 24/7 care. I'm making chicken noodle soup to bring up.

Satoka. Happy New Year! I enjoyed Christmas!

Nancie. I enjoyed time with Eli over the holidays. Loved family time up North. Father-in law is still in the hospital.

Mike. It was the first time we had our own house up in the Sault. I invite others to come there. Happy New Year, everybody.

Carolyn. We had a good fun time. All 4 of us are going to a family wedding. Dad was in an accident before Christmas. He's OK, just cracked ribs. A bit concerned the hospital hadn't found his cracked collarbone. He's in for surgery today – he's OK.

Next Week, January 10th Irene Newton, Canadian Ukrainian Congress

January 17th Julie Andrews, Lincoln Pelham Library

January 24th Board Meeting MCC Concession area, Everyone welcome.

January 31st Breakfast at Dominic's. Please sign up!