



**ROTARY CLUB OF FONTHILL
WEEKLY MEETING AGENDA**

Wednesday, January 4th

Hybrid Meeting

Dave Schulz, Frank Adamson, Bob Eamer, Carolyn Mullin, Paula and Sean Racher, Ann Harrison, Hugh Graham, Paul Snack, Troy Killick, Annie Holtby, Roy Kirkup, Mike Taylor, Mel Groom, Gail Levay, Lance Wiebe, Bev North, Michele Butler.

1. Welcome to Michele Butler, Regional Manager, Scientists in School, our Speaker today. Welcome, Sean Racher, new member to be confirmed and his wife Paula Tacher.

2. Land Acknowledgement Annie

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: Frank

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: 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: Lance

6. Presidents Report, Correspondence and Announcements. Troy

Auction Update. Hugh had an update from the Treasurer who is looking to get out the cheques. For the items that weren't picked up, we had two – Niagara Electric and James Dalton – that didn't sell. Thank you for all the successful canvassing. We probably have \$16,000 altogether.

Family FunFest. Paul. White Meadows has stepped up. Enough space there for us to tap into their electrical. It's more compact with 250 parking spaces. Maybe we could sell the tickets in blocks of time on Effingham. Check the dynamics. Rename Farm FunFest? Sell tickets like before? Sponsors will be there. Janet is committed to the project but has other commitments. Richard Bering has connection with the farm. Maybe a lead sponsor would be the Ontario Farm Board. We have the location and there's no charge for it. June 17 is Father's Day Weekend, We definitely need help!

7. Guest Speaker –Michele Butler, Regional Manager, Scientists in School.

Introduction: Mike Taylor welcomed Michele. Michele was a teacher who stayed at home with her young family. Then she heard about the Scientists in School project that was a great fit. She spent 4 year presenting and now is Coordinator. Welcome Michele!

Michele. This project, Scientists at School, has been here since 1989 in Toronto and Durham and in the Niagara area since 2007. It's a charitable organisation. A couple of women felt teachers needed support in the classroom and started by developing two workshops. They thought it would run for several years but it grew to six women and in Pre Covid, there were over 500 presentations. Now, they are in the process of rebuilding.

Bringing Science to the Classroom is a Professional Learning opportunity for the elementary school teacher. They're expected to know every science! They can choose from something that's already a passion to something they know the least about and want to learn more! It's hands on: Microscopes, specimens for touch and feel, critical thinking, asking questions and exploring. It's making sure ALL children are exposed. 2500 workshops were offered across the country! Covid made them make a shift so they were having virtual workshops so across Canada, it was found in communities in the North, and remote communities. Our Donor Fund could adopt an entire school and fund 1 per classroom and every child.

The Kit provides everything they need. Each had his/her own kit in Covid. Virtual learning but the presentations were live and students have equipment at each of their desks. Teachers watch the pace and can slow down or speed up. It's grown from 3-10 presentations through Covid. We still need to get back on site – we need to rebuild. We have two models really – the Virtual (60 minutes) and Onsite (90 minutes). Onsite has starting in the Toronto area and then to Niagara. The experiences in elementary impacted their science experiences in high school. The program starts in Grades 5, 7 and 8. In high school, there's an increased positivity I science and more girls are involves. The have more recall in high school of what they were taught in elementary STEM concepts. We're hoping to be supporting more schools. There is a cost. No schools pay the full price. That was pre Covid. Now there's a drop of 70% participating. \$6500 would be the cost for the whole program per school.

Lance. Are the presenters volunteers? **Michele.** They work part time and get an \$85 honorarium.

Troy. What about Glynn A Green and AK Wigg? **Michele.** Before Covid they were involved, every school was involved. There's a high need to re-engage the schools.

Paul. Thanks for your presentation. Why would this NOT be part of the curriculum?

Michele. High School Teachers are trained in special sciences. Elementary School teachers are expected to do everything! We have experienced presenters and the equipment. It allows the elementary teacher to engage with the kids as they're learning.

Paul. We have a Family FunFest which is a trade show for Not for Profits. Michele's program would be perfect for this one day. **Michele.** We also have workshops for the community. Family FunFest would allow us to set up a few activities. Hopefully by spring we'll be able to help out.

Troy. Concerning funding, who makes up the funding gap? **Michele.** Our long time funders and donors! \$300 is cost per workshop. The schools pay \$230. We can reduce that cost for schools. It's \$6500 to cover every classroom.

Troy. Thank you as a parent of 2 girls who love science. A great presentation. We provide a donation to the Lincoln Pelham Pubic Library in your name as a thank you.

Hugh. I received an application to go into the Home Show. Do we want to participate? Kinsmen are letting us in for 1/2 price. Dates are April 15 and 16.

Paul. A good thing to do.

Motion: That Rotary participate in the Kinsmen's 2023 Home Show.

M/S/C Paul Snack/ Ann Harrison/All

It would entail 2 hour shifts.10 am-4 pm.

Hugh will contact the Kinsmen.

Rotary Moment and Happy Loonies – Mel

Annie. Welcome, Roy. Great to have you back. Our breakfast social on the 20th was FUN.

Carolyn. Tess is doing Bio Med at Guelph! Food Science at Niagara has 2 great videos for 2 different age groups.

Frank. I'm happy to be here!

Mike. Candlelit hockey games! Quiet.

Lance. Blood pressure has come down with Hockey!

Bob. Happy to see everyone!

Roy. Glad to be back and see friendly faces! Happy 2023!

Paul S. Christmas was postponed but it's ongoing now!

Ann. We're busy for Ukrainian Christmas. My daughter will be home.

Hugh. Christmas wasn't a big dinner this year but it was quiet visiting. We have family visits in the next two weeks.

Dave. I'm happy to see Roy. RI had cancelled him but we worked it out. We have a new puppy, Maisie!

Troy. We have a lot planned so it's an exciting year ahead.

Gail. Happy to be here! I stayed with daughter in Beamsville over Christmas. Happy to see Roy!

Paula. Happy to have friends over for New Years!

Sean. Happy to have a family Christmas!

Mel. I know Michele from across the street. She helped Kathryn as a little girl. Rick and I had a wonderful time in Barbados.

Michele. We started New Year's Eve with parents & sisters & hubbies – a first time.

Next Events:

January 11 – Guest Speaker is Darren Fry, A.Sc.T - Walker Industries Environmental Division - Recycling.

January 18 – Guest Speaker is Dr. Lyszak - Optometrist

January 25 – Board Meeting

Keep this date! February 23rd for this year's Paul Harris Fellowship Awards