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## WEEKLY MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, July 10, 2024

Collins Acheampong, Frank Adamson, Bob Eamer, Hugh Graham, Mel Groom, Annie Holtby, Crystal Lambkin, Carolyn Mullin, Dave Schulz, Michael Taylor, Lance Wiebe, Satoka Hayashi, Janni Bak, Sylvia Rosiana and Jennifer Boese (Niagara Dream Centre).

1. **Welcome Guests – Collins**      **Guests: Sylvia Rosiana/Jennifer Boese**

2. **Land Acknowledgement -Frank**

*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 – Lance**

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

4. **4-WAY TEST – Lance**

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**

Our dear Bandshell Concerts is bringing to the Bandshell, with sponsorship help from our dear Rotary Club, the Momentum Choir – a highly disciplined, professionally facilitated performance choir composed of adults who live with a disability. Momentum's passion for music is infectious. As soon as the music starts, disability takes a back seat. Momentum's mission is to provide an authentic musical experience in which the gifts of unique artists can be given an opportunity to 'belong, believe and inspire.'

Our part on August 15<sup>th</sup> is to be part of the sharing of this summer's Choir with our community. I hope many of you will join us and hear THEIR invocation.

### **President's Report, Correspondence and Announcements – Collins**

**How can we continue the Magic of Rotary?**

**YOUTH EXCHANGE (HOST FAMILIES)/SUMMERFEST- July 20/SUPPERMARKET- September 5 - volunteer opportunities on radar**

**Correspondence:** Thanks for those who attended/participated/assisted at Canada Day (kids zone) event. **Big thank you to Lance and Judy!**

**Lance.** We had Great Weather on Canada Day and resulted in record numbers of young families!

**BIG Thanks** to the following volunteers who made the rotary Event a BIG SUCCESS: Tina and Dave, Annie and Peter, Crystal, Collins, Judy, Dave Swan.

Also to Tove Bowman for her IZZY knitted dolls with \$150 proceeds to End Polio Now.

We had excellent volunteers supplied by the Town and from EL Crosley. Thanks Janet!

Steve Dube supplied a whole host of games the kids and adults enjoyed all afternoon!

Sandastik once again generously donated the sand for the crafts. Always a **BIG CROWD PLEASER!**

We also had 4 face painters from EL Crossley who were kept busy and a Balloon artist.

Sno Cone sales also helped offset some of our costs and we will be donating the proceeds of \$471 to the Club!

The live music was great through the afternoon.

**Overall a Great Way to Celebrate Canada Day and see all the young families who are new to the area!**

Always in need of more help to tear down and set up, so **if available for next year, your help is greatly appreciated!**

**Youth Exchange - Meet Maria!** She is eagerly anticipating her year ahead in Canada as this year's incoming grade 11 youth exchange student from Sao Paulo, Brazil.

We are urgently seeking 3-4 host families within the Fonthill/Pelham (E.L. Crossley jurisdiction) area who would be willing to open their homes to Maria during her stay. The Rotary Club of Fonthill will provide comprehensive support, guidelines, and financial assistance of \$300 a month to all host families.

*Please consider hosting Maria with your family!*

**Mike. Janni Bak, a former Youth Exchange** is here for our meeting – she's also here to attend a wedding of a friend from high school from her YE time.

**Thanks to Dave** for promoting our need for hosts for Maria! We have one secured, 2 likely and one in the wings.

6. **Guest Speaker Introduction.** Lance introduced Sylvia Rosiana and Jennifer Boese from the Niagara Dream Centre.
7. **Presentation by Sylvia Rosiana and Jennifer Boese from the Niagara Dream Centre.** Sylvia introduced Jennifer as her right hand in their work with the Dream Centre in helping the homeless. At the start, they'd stop and talk with people and they, in turn, would start sharing from the heart. They began to provide a food program, a food

pantry, shared fellowship – it was more about consistency. Now 800 meals are given out a month. A lot of people want to take part. The homeless are grateful for what's done for them. We have many volunteers.

**Sylvia's story.** At age 19, Sylvia was a model travelling to Japan and other international destinations. Everything was provided for her and the other models but it was the hardest of times for Sylvia. After 10 years she quit that life, moved home, married and had two kids which was very fulfilling. She also became a successful realtor at the time too. She had a serious car accident, the relationship ended, her father passed away. Sylvia felt she was at the bottom. She asked God for help which led to working with the Homeless, leaving the Real Estate career and then working full time with the Dream Centre. She also met and was inspired by Josephine who came from Africa. She also met Brian, one of the homeless who eventually became like a brother to her. That was 8 years ago.

**Jennifer joined three years ago.** She had been a Registered Nurse and both she and her husband joined together as a Dream Centre presence one night in Niagara Falls and four in St. Catharines. They were recognised by their white hats and white shirts. Recently Jennifer has become involved as the volunteer coordinator.

They gather items for colder weather, toiletry bags –practical things. Their offers to also pray with them gives hope. It's a Ministry that gives back.

The L.A. Dream Centre has been running 30 years. The Niagara Dream Centre is in its early years. We're holding our first Annual Golf Tournament in September, a Best Ball, on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Hugh.** How many volunteers?

**Jennifer.** 50 volunteers that use the same teams each night.

**Mike.** Homeless Organisations exist- I'll send you an email so you can connect.

**Sylvia.** Often it's a need arising and you have to deal with it right then.

We're seeing more families. We used to see more men. Now, we're seeing women, younger women too.

**Collins.** In Hamilton, there was an old bus shelter with people lying on the floor at night. I couldn't believe this was happening in Canada. We moved just after that encounter to Fonthill.

**Thank you so much for coming and sharing your story with us.**

We make a donation to Pelham Cares to thank our speakers. Thank you.

#### 8. Rotary Moment and Happy Loonies

**Mike.** I'd like to thank Satoka for being such a wonderful youth exchange student. She was a joy to watch as she settled in with her host families, the other youth exchange students and her new friends at EL Crossley. She's been a great Ambassador for Japan and appreciative of her Canadian time. We will miss your spirit!

Enjoy your last days here!

**Hugh.** Our church does breakfast and Sandi and I do the third Thursday. There were 66 coming and now we're up to 102. Wherever you can help, it's very good!

Our family golf game is in St Mary's next weekend. This year there are 4 brothers, a brother in law, nephews and a friend – it's growing.

**Mel.** Exchange is alive and well. I'm going to miss you Satoka!

**Bob.** Sorry I missed breakfast the other day!

**Crystal.** New Rotary Year resolution. I'm going to join you in more meetings and volunteer opportunities.

**Lance.** I'm happy Canada Day is over. I'm disappointed to hear of Canada having homeless but glad there are people out there helping.

**Collins.** In Africa, there are many homeless having one meal a day. To hear what's happening even in Niagara! Thanks for coming and sharing your story.

I'm also thankful for Dave who answers my emails in a few hours.

**Carolyn.** Virtual hug to Satoka! Absolute pleasure to know you!

Thank you, Sylvia and Jennifer for the work you do!

**Dave. Thanks** Lance and Judy. Thanks, Mike. For all the work through the year!

## 9. EVENTS:

**July 20:** Summerfest Service Club Volunteer

Day. Email [info@rotarycluboffonthill.ca](mailto:info@rotarycluboffonthill.ca) to volunteer.

**August 15:** Momentum Choir at the Fonthill Bandshell – Our Sponsorship

**Sept 5: Summer chill supper market bar service** – Last Bandshell Concert for the year

**Sept 13:** Rotary Welland and Fonthill Annual Golf tournament (Youth Resources Niagara)

**Check our website (events page)/ keep an eye on emails; visit district calendar**

## 10. Meetings

**Next Week: Wednesday, July 17:** No meeting because of Summerfest

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 24:** Fonthill Rotarian Frank Adamson will share his experience cycling Battlefield Bike Ride to raise funds for Wounded Warriors Canada.

**July 24 (after)/31? Board meeting**