



WEEKLY MEETING Minutes

Wednesday, June 19, 2025

Collins Acheampong, Frank Adamson, Paul Allen, Mel Groom, Ann Harrison, Paul Hewitt, Annie Holtby, Troy Killick, Carolyn Mullin online, Sharon Pfeiffer, Dave Schulz, Paul Snack, Mike Taylor, Pauline Oliver, Nancie Taylor, Phil Hannah, Lance Wiebe. Madison Killick online)

Guest Speakers **Maria Araujo Youth Exchange student Incoming 2024-25 & Ryan Bradley, YE Student Outgoing in 2023-24.**

1. Welcome!

2. Land Acknowledgement – Ann

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 –All

4. 4-WAY TEST – Ann

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?
Cheers, everyone!

**5. Invocation. Paul
Spirit of Life**

6. Key Events. Collins. Carolyn and Madison Killick are online this morning.

Cornhole Tournament. Paul S. Everything is falling into place. Help setting up is needed for 230 to be ready for 4pm. Some sponsors have people playing – need names. **Canada**

Day. Lance. Set up is 230. First shift is 230-5, second shift is 430-7. **We have enough adults.** We still need some young uns – 13-14 to help with the fishpond.

7. Today's Presentation – Ryan Bradley, our returned YE Student from last year and speaking as this year's Jr RYLA rep. Ryan thanked Laura Kenny for all her organizing! (Laura was also a Youth Exchange student who went out some years ago.) There were 40 of us and 4 tables where it was especially easy to meet your group of 10. There was a lot of activity with the tables. You got to grow with your group and do everything.

The keynote speaker, Joel Hilche gave an interesting analogy of a mousetrap. If you put your

hand on it in a certain way, it doesn't react. Brain sprouting – an analogy on how we'd live life. How to influence friends – 30 items. How to present "How to create change." It's cool how you can work with others, to be around like-minded people, wanting to make a change. Campfire was at the end. A culmination – we were grounded and I'll be talking with them going forward. We played Guitar Tag in the dark!

My intent is to continue with Rotary starting with University and Rotaract. I'll be taking Journalism.

Ann. What's better for Junior RYLA age wise?

Ryan. I'd say two years younger. I learned so much in my year away. Ideally for Jr RYLA, a few years younger than me for maximum

Mike introducing Maria. A couple of weeks ago we had our NY Weekend. Ask for the summary of the many events. Maria us a vibrant spirit with boundless energy. She didn't just participate: her efforts here will be recognised by her home. During the Algonquin trip, Maria truly understood cold. Just ask Mike, Maria rarely said no to experiences. Cheerleading and soccer at school and Interact participation – she embraced Service.

Maria. NOTL – I loved it! It's very beautiful. Jamestown, Holiday Valley, NYCity, Orlando (family there), Canadian Food – especially butter tarts! Zoo in Toronto, Interact, Student of the month. Snow shoeing, skating!

Learned. Be yourself. Be more independent. Connect with people. Survive a winter. Be responsible.

Key moments. Fall – change of colour unique. Birthday lasting one week!

Questions.

Did you have fun? Yes

When are you going home? July 18th

Mike. Huge thanks to home stay parents. You made a HUGE difference!

More news. Hugh.

8. Rotary Moment and Happy Loonies.

Hugh. Welland and Fonthill Golf Tournament will not be doing a tournament this September. On again for following year.

Lance. Great meeting! How Rotary develops Youth!

Nancie. Happy son has Grad!

Mike. Happy on Monday to see Eli walk across the stage.

Frank. Went to the changeover for District. Very nice. Collins talked about strengths, youth and autoclave.

Sharon. Youth brings energy, I'm grateful for the district grant for trees. Best attendance at an event yet. Nice to see everyone again. Thankful for hosting.

Ann. Thanks, Maria and Ryan. Interact on day of Paul Harris had a playday and raised \$700 for the Rankin Run.

Paul A. Thanks to Maria and Ryan for their YE here and Belgium and Thanks Ryan for Junior RYLA share.

Paul S. Nice to see how you present! Son Zak received a Rotary Medal from the Welland Club – only one at his school.

Annie. Proud of both Maria and Ryan. Both are great ambassadors for Rotary. You'll be missed, Maria!

Carolyn. Parental Proud & Grand Parental Proud. This week is first evening of the Thursday Fonthill Bandshell Concerts with The Dirty Pioneers!

Kelly B. Sarah has been with Interact with Ryan.

Ryan. Very proud of Maria. Happy how it went, worth it!

Phil. Went to Bahamas as my dad was ordained – went with my daughter.

David. My family is Rotary.

Collin. Thanks, Maria! Where can I take you, you've been everywhere! So much joy, you have a bright future. Frank encouraged me and I agreed to take on the Assistant Governor position.

9. Meetings/Events to come

July 1, 230 pm at Harold Black Park –Canada Day Kids activities.

July 9, 5-8 pm Passing the Torch from Collins Acheampong and Frank Adamson.

July 16, Weekly Meeting. Guest Speaker. Marty Misener re Shaver Hotel Dieu Foundation