



### WEEKLY MEETING AGENDA

March 10 2021– (Zoom 40)

ZOOMING – Mike Taylor, Dave Schulz, Hugh Graham, Paul Allen, Ann Harrison, Annie Holtby, Bob Eamer, Andy Glavac, Heather Scott, Tina Turner (cameo farewell appearance), Paul Snack, Kevin Vallier, Frank Adamson, Mel Groom, Gail Levay, Keith McConkey. John Cappa, Carolyn Mullin.

1. Open meeting: – welcome everyone - introduce guests

2. Land Acknowledgement: **Paul A.**

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: **Andy**

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: **Paul A.**

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: **Bob**

With our friends beside us, and no person below 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.

6. President's Report/Correspondence/Announcements: District Conference **Hugh**

- District Conference Reminder (no meeting next Wednesday) - 4 sessions, Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 7-9 and Saturday 9-12
- T-shirt order – **Mel**  
Mel is ordering navy blue T shirt with Rotary Club of Fonthill on front and Rotarians at Work on the back. It's \$17 for Men's and \$20 for Women's. Let Mel know.
- Welland Anniversary – Wine Tasting – April 1 – **Hugh**  
Welland's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary wasn't celebrated last spring so they are holding a 101<sup>st</sup> celebration a la Zoom on April 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be greetings from DG Frank Adamson, a legacy update of Welland's project and a winetasting with a wine connoisseur. Those wishing to drink the wines will get a list ahead of time. There is no cost.

# Rotary



# Rotary Opens Opportunities

- **Town of Pelham Easter Hoppin' – Ann**  
Similar to Family Day, the town is offering prizes again for a Easter Hunt. Dave has 12 images of Easter eggs on our Website. People have to text in where they found the eggs. People also have to bake cookies with a Rotary theme. Bonus for those putting a Rotary Wheel on.
  - **Great Lakes Watershed – John**  
John is still getting together with partners - hoping to nail down a location or events. The great thing is that there's pent up energy to DO something. The City of PC would like us to cover the Marina and shoreline area thee – the beaches are being covered by the staff.
  - **Garage Sale: Annie (Motion)**
  - **Motion:** that the Rotary Club of Fonthill join with Rotary Club of Welland for an online Spring Garage Sale (now called Rotary Spring CleanUp)  
Moved: Annie Holtby Seconded: Mel Groom Carried  
Action: Meeting on Monday to clarify the timeline. Annie to send details after meeting.
  - **Electronic Board Meeting Hugh**  
**Motion:** that we approve and fund a project to send birthday and other occasional cards as required.  
Project duration will be to the end of the 2021-2022 Rotary year, and will be reviewed prior to completion.  
Moved: Dave Schulz Seconded: Ann Harrison Carried: 8/12  
This was initiated to keep members engaged. Action: Gail has agreed to do this and we'll purchase stamps from Costco for savings.
  - **MyPelham and Lions - Paul S** mentioned that he'd seen Lion posts in MyPelham about new members. Some PR and a shout out. Someone thought there was a close relationship between MP and Lions. Dave said that whatever he's sent to MP, they've included it.
  - **Voice of Pelham- Hugh**  
The Voice has a Public Service space and Rotary was there last week. Hugh thanked the editor and told him of our upcoming 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary coming up.
  - **Benevity donations – Hugh**  
Benevity is a Community Impact Fund. Hugh became aware of it with Troy's \$500 donation via Benevity. Then we received another \$15/month from a former Rotarian who wanted to keep supporting Rotary. Heather said from her experience a monthly donation is a perfect fit for Planned Giving. Donor should be approached.
7. **Speaker: Kevin Vallier – membership classification talk.**  
Introduction: **Andy**  
It's my pleasure to introduce Kevin. I'm a big believer that everyone has a story. That he is a single dad of twin teenage girls is the biggest thing I learned. Kevin will tell all of that and more.  
Presentation: **Kevin**  
Kevin shared his screen of photos marking things in his life. He said he appreciated the opportunity to do his talk. Coincidentally, his first photo was him in a vineyard! He said he was happy to be back in Rotary. He'd been with the St Catharines club earlier.

# Rotary Rotary Opens Opportunities

He grew up in Sarnia. His parents are still there. His daughters were 13 last October. They were blessed to have their great grandmother up to last year. She was 96 and still on her own. When told she had cancer, she said 'look at that, the same cancer as Alec Trebek!'

Kevin went to Brock U and stayed in Niagara. He got a Degree in Psychology. Niagara College had Public Relations and he applied for it. On the 1<sup>st</sup> day, everyone was piling in – 30 students, 29 women and 1 man, Kevin. His first job was with the St Catharines Stompers. Next was at the Shaw Festival Theatre. He didn't know a lot about Theatre but had a good boss and was surrounded by incredible talent.

Most of Kevin's career was in Health Care. Hotel Dieu in 1999 – he spent New Year's at hospital in case things computer wise crossed up.

Recently, Kevin has been named the Executor Director of Ontario Farm Marketing.

Kevin has a love of pets, in this case his dog, Jasper.

Triathlon is the story that defines him. There was an Iron Man in Hawaii on TV when Kevin wasn't feeling great – misdiagnosed, he'd ended up in Hamilton's Health Sciences. Ulcer Colitis. At his worst he was down to 120 pounds, having blood transfusions, iron injections. The doctor told him he didn't know how sick he was. Doctor also said with the twins coming, he wouldn't have time to be sick. Kevin decided that the disease wouldn't run his life. The twins DID take his mind off his disease; he got off his meds and exercised more. He'd heard of the 'brain gut' connection. Stress is definitely a trigger for flare ups.

With the Triathlon, it was getting to the start line and the work that went into that. It was being able to travel again. He made a trip to Fenway Park in Boston and took the tour.

In Dr. Marshall's waiting room, in a frame on the wall, is a Hamilton Spectator article, Kevin's Ironman medal and a picture of him and the girls from that Muskoka Triathlon that had been a fundraiser. Kevin had run into someone with colitis who'd read his story and it had given her hope and resolve.

What's his favourite part of the Triathlon? Probably the run because it means it's almost finished. The best part is getting out of the water. The biking is good but draining. The run is hot; you're sore; the roads are lined with people with funny signs. (I think there's a good chance this note taker will not be running a triathlon!)

Kevin coached the girls in the early years when they played soccer. Now they play hockey and it's been awesome coming together as a team. Coaching girl's hockey is very enjoyable.

It's a pleasure to be back in Rotary.

We're going in the right direction with Covid 19 – getting the vaccines rolled out.

Thanks for listening.

Hugh Thanked Kevin. He appreciated Kevin's conversation and sharing of his story. Wonderful stories! As for all speakers, Kevin's presentation will be recognized with a donation to the Pelham Library reflecting our literacy focus.

Any questions? How did you get into coaching kids? Kevin. It was the only way he could get kids registered for baseball – he had to sign up for coaching!

8. Birthdays: Paul A. (March 5); Mel (March 19)  
Rotary Anniversaries: Tia (Mar 17/10); Meghan (Mar 20/19); Ann (Mar 23/16);  
Janet (Mar 27/19); Pat (Mar 29/06)
9. Rotary Moment and Happy Loonies: No Time Today.
10. Have a great day – No Meeting on March 17. See you at the Conference