



Unite for Good

WEEKLY MEETING Minutes
Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Frank Adamson, Collins Acheampong, Paul Allen, Bob Eamer, Hugh Graham, Ann Harrison, Annie Holtby, Sharon Pfeifer, Dave Schulz, Dave Sherlock, Paul Snack, Mike Taylor, Touti Gendre-Guittard, Lance Wiebe, Don Haber, Karen Rush, Guest Speaker Darren Fry, Walker Industries

1. Welcome!

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. National Anthem – All

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- Frank

With our friends beside us, and no person beneath 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 and the meal we are about to share.

6. Updates, Correspondence, etc.

Ann Harrison note re **Purse Bingo**. Oversold. Amazing donations!

Interact Crossley. They are pushing 35 in membership. Keen Executive is meeting every 2nd week. There's a poster challenge happening right now for Food and Security.

Auction. Hugh told the history of the Auction to bring everybody up to date.

Frank. We'll be presenting our cheque to the Legion for Poppy Drive tomorrow. There's a member event at the Legion.

Mike. Gave a brief history of Youth Exchange.

THE TRAIL. There was a long discussion. Frank went to Council for support. Bruce and Frank were at Welland Club's noon meeting. There was an article in Thorold today. Rice Rd to

Martens – 9 kilometres is in Thorold. \$200,000 from Town of Fonthill – 2 grants denied. Cribbs said it could still go ahead. Asked for naming rights – the Gail Levay Trail. PATH and Conservation in favour.

Darren is here from Walker today. Rankin is in favour of our plan. (He can use 50% of what's left from Roads to pave.) Hopefully, Walker will be favourable too!

7. Introducing Darren Fry, Project Manager, Walker Industries.

Niagara is his home – a former rugby player, 5th Generation. Several years ago, he updated us and we've invited him again!

Darren. Walker Industries is well known. From composting to collecting oil from restaurants! We like to use things that people throw out! For instance, shingles are made up of asphalt and concrete and can be used for golf cart paths, etc. Soil and Mulch- one of the largest sources in Canada! **Peat free soils!** Harnessing energy from landfills to power communities. Food grown from compost and then back to the soil. Site **Rehabilitation.** Peat is often in products, but mining peat fields is not great! Clean wood when highly pressured becomes fluffy fibre – provides bulking. It's an **innovative process** with the goal to be peat free. Harnessing energy from landfills to power communities – Walker **collects gas that powers the papermill in Thorold. Powering General Motors now.** Partnered with Enbridge. Take 50% methane – state of the art. From collecting gas and cleaning it, we're **powering 18,000 homes!** It reduces needs for pipelines.

CNE is committed to sustainability and has a goal to be the most sustainable fair in Canada – it's been operating 146 years!

Behaviour and awareness. Adding compost to the soil enhances that soil. There is a 5 year study on whether a farm on composted landfill can improve? It's had great results showing 10-15% better. Vineland has 40-50 acres of rehabilitated Vineland Quarry land.

Niagara Big Move Cancer Ride - \$33,000 raised by Walker team.

Supporting Community Safety provides access to training grounds.

Paul. Our Cornhole tournament will happen again in June or July. Our 2nd Annual. We're looking for sponsorship and Walker is invited to support and/or compete as well!

Bob. Quality Control is very Important. **Darren.** Add wood chips to compost, blow Oxygen through and it will be without odours.

Paul. Is it all minced up? **Darren** Add woodchips to compost as it arrives.

Microplastics? Darren definitely an issue! We **must** get rid of microplastics! Double the effort getting rid of microplastics.

Frank. Thanks so much, Darren. A lot has happened since you last informed us. We'll get you back again!

Happy Loonies

Paul. 6 weeks without Zak. He's home for a day this weekend.

Paul A. I got Ryan's book!

Ann. Looking for tips on Alsace Lorraine – Lots of Rotary! Rotary in Basil is raising \$ with the Red Cross.

Sharon. Ball's Falls Festival this Thanksgiving! There's a 50-50 draw going towards Planting Trees. I'd love to be in partnership with Walker! NPC Online Raffle!

Bob. I'm amazed by Walker – a tour would be great!

Hugh. I'm happy to be on ice with a new league and very happy to be back!

Annie. Thanks, Darren, for Walker Enlightenment!

Don. Our family is having a get together at Thanksgiving.

Dave Sch. I'm excited about Ryan coming. He wanted to regenerate interest in Youth Exchange!

Lance. We went west and cycled the Trestles outside of Kelowna. 72 K trail ride -It was built to renew the trestles burned in one of the terrible fires. 50,000 are using these trails – it was a fantastic trip.

Collins. It's amazing what Walker is doing. My brother works there.

Tutie. This is my first Thanksgiving. Next week I'm going to Montreal with my homestay sister. I'll be speaking French!

Mike. Nancie and I are going on a River Cruise from Switzerland to the Netherlands next Tuesday!

Frank. So happy we're such a strong Club!

Meeting Adjourned.

8. Rotary Moment. Happy Loonies.

9. Meetings/Events to come

Board Meeting Oct 22nd - Concession First Floor. Everyone Welcome.

Regular Meeting Oct. 29th - Tutie's First Presentation

Regular Meeting Nov. 12th – Ryan Bradbury, 'A Life within a Year- How Rotary Youth Exchange Changed Our Lives.'