



LONDON NORTH ROTARY CLUB VOL 41

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A group of 12 Rotarians met.

President Doug welcomed us.

Regrets were received from Mary Margaret (still busy with maple syrup), Ken, Margaret and Peter (finalizing a deal).



Today's **guest speaker** is Larry MacKinnon. He is responsible for Business Development at the LEDC.



Some **announcements** followed: The East Coast Kitchen Party is be-

ing actively prepared. Some 400 participants are already registered. Information about the **President Dinner** was delivered. Dr Vic has sent an email about the menu. The cost is \$60 and \$50 for a veggie meal. Members are urged to inform him about their choices as soon as possible.

John spoke of a **sewing event** aiming at making Camping Kits for children who will attend Stevenson Children's Camp. Date: April 28, 2018 starting at 9am at OPSEU Hall at 1092 Dear-

ness Dr, London, ON.

Golf tournament: letters to sponsors and contact information are issued. Ensure follow-ups are done.

An update on **Robotics competition** is summarized by Colin. The team did much better than expected. Both in Waterloo and London. They were beaten by better endowed teams. President Doug expressed the Club's congratulations and we will be meeting the team some time in the future.

Tom announced a job opening at his Church.

Happy Bucks: \$20 from Tom whose grand grandson was christened recently. \$5 from Colin. \$4 from Kevin for having announced the details of our meeting late. \$20 from Dennis whose daughter and son had their birthday. \$ from Andy for just being happy. \$3 from Lin who had a nice trip to Ottawa last week.

TALK

Arun introduced Larry McKinnon, a Certified Economic Developer through the International Economic Development Coun-



cil. He has been an instructor at Western University and Fanshawe College in Entrepreneurship and Research Methods. He participates in many community-building initiatives.

He started by stating some quick facts about London: 450,000 population, 270,000 labour force, highways facilitating connections in North America and a flow of \$2 billion per day. These aspects clarify London competitive stance. It is also



important to mention its diverse economy: health care and social assistance, manufac-

turing, construction, trade, educational services, finance, insurance and real estate...

LEDC focus is INVEST, GROW, VENTURE, TALENT AND ENGAGE.

Some target sectors to enhance London's attractiveness: manufacturing (33,000 employees), food and beverage (7000 employees), Health & Life Sciences (21,000), Digital Creative (9000).

It is also crucial to have industrial land. The concept of Quality of Life or Place weighs in business decisions. Additional information was provided during the Q/A



period.

Transportation policies under discussion in London; use of abandoned



business land; growth boundaries.

WINE DRAW

Won by Kevin who donated it to

our guest speaker.

President Doug thanked Larry for his informative presentation. He offered him a Polio Certificate.



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