
Kiwanis Club of Brantford Newsletter 06-February-2025

1 message

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**A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER from and about
THE KIWANIS CLUB OF BRANTFORD**

Meeting at the Best Western Brantford Hotel & Conference Centre:
Every Thursday at 12:00 noon

Current Membership – 43



E.C. & C. District

Governor

Pamela Rodney White
KC of Constant Spring

Governor Elect

Cynthina Blackman
KC of Pride of Barbados

Immediate Past Governor

John Chave
KC of Barrie

Secretary/Treasurer

Jim Steele

PROGRAM FOR February 06, 2025

Patti Berardi, Station Manager, Rogers TV

HEAD TABLE

President Nancy Thompson, Guest Speaker Patti Berardi,
Introducer Randy MacKenzie, Thanker Paulette Hauk,
Funmaster Alf Hauk and others as invited by the House
Committee

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, February 13 – Valentine’s Day Gala– Bring your
partner for lunch!

KC of Brantford

Division Lt. Governor

Angel Vieth

KC of Kitchener–Waterloo

Club Officers

President

Nancy Thompson

Past President

Alfred Hauk

President–Elect

Maureen Henry

Treasurer

Jim Steele

Secretary

Dave Lewis

Club Directors

2 Year Term

Ross Pope

Karen Adams

Joanne Murray

1 Year Term

Randy MacKenzie

Leo Vos

Bob Wade

Thursday, February 20 – James Poppin, Criminology Professor, WLU

Thursday, February 27 – Amy Campbell, Heart Health – Beating Strong

Thursday, March 6 – Anniversary of Club Founding

Thursday, March 13 – Pam MacDonald, Master Gardener

Thursday, March 20 – Bob Saunders on the 50th Anniversary of Metric System

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

Kiwanis social getaway event to the Oban Inn February 7th and 8th. Carpooling available. Please confirm that you have your reservation to Pallo.

March 17th: Pasta night at Piper Arms. Details and sign up sheet to follow.

June: Dinner and music night at Brantford Golf and Country club (date to be confirmed)

August 9th: Family potluck/picnic

September 13th: Port Dover play and dinner

KIWANIS CONVENTIONS

Eastern Canada & Caribbean District Convention – Niagara Falls, May 29 to 31, 2025

Kiwanis International Convention – Pittsburgh, June 25 to 28–2025

BIRTHDAYS

Doug DeLaronde – Birthday – February 1

Pallo Sahota – Birthday – February 6

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

None

ANNIVERSARIES OF DATE JOINED

Randy MacKenzie – Joined – February 7, 2002

EDUCATIONAL SPOT

Our Club is part of a Kiwanis District made up of the 6 eastern provinces of Canada and 15 nations in the Caribbean including Jamaica, Bahamas, Barbados, Aruba and Trinidad and

Tobago. We are called Eastern Canada and the Caribbean. (EC & C) District.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"Challenges are gifts that force us to search for a new center of gravity. Don't fight them. Just find a new way to stand." —Oprah Winfrey

**To view the highlights of last week's meeting,
please click on page down.**

Last Week's Meeting Highlights



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Highlights of the Thursday, 30 January, 2025 Weekly Meeting

President Nancy , welcomed all members and Guest Penny MacKenzie, Jose Cuesta and Guest Speaker Daniela Cuesta Figueroa.

Phil Hoekstra directed the 50/50 draw, with Leo Vos and Maureen Henry holding potential winning tickets. Maureen Henry found the Joker and won the pot. Sorry Leo. The pot begins anew next week.



Bob Saunders was today's Funmaster, and opened with a somewhat philosophical thought.

How do you think, the unthinkable?

Bob's 2nd offering was more funmasterish.

Curtis & Leroy saw an ad in the Newspaper and bought a mule for \$100. The farmer agreed to deliver the mule the next day. The next morning the farmer drove up and said, "Sorry, fellers, I have some bad news, the mule died last night." Curtis & Leroy replied, "Well, then just give us our money back." The farmer said, "Can't do that. I went and spent it already." They said, "OK then, just bring us the dead mule."

[Click Here to see what happened.](#)



Moving on, Bob tried to celebrate Anniversaries of Joining the Club or Birthdays but found that we have none for the second week in a row. Therefore we celebrated that we had, "None".

Moving on to Happy Stories

- Leo Vos noted that last week he was skiing in Collingwood, that it was very windy and cold but had a good trip. He thanked Bob Saunders for a new joke.
- Ken MacNaughton had just returned from a "trip" in Central America where he had a great time but injured his foot. He is now up and about and home safely.
- Randy McKenzie thanked his wife Penny for the suggestion of having Daniela Cuesta Figueroa as our speaker for today.
- Nancy Thompson was also, just returning from a Vacation and look quite relaxed.

Penny MacKenzie Introduced our Guest Speaker, Daniela Cuesta Figueroa who is the Community Connections Coordinator for the YMCA Immigration Settlement Program here in Brantford. Penny works with Daniela at the YMCA immigration site, coaching new Canadians how to speak English.



Daniela Cuesta Figueroa, thanked us for asking her to speak to our Club. She works with the YMCA Employment & Immigration Services and has been the Immigrations Connections Coordinator since she came to Canada in 2022. She said she was sorry if her English was sometimes wrong.



The purpose of this Employment and Immigration Service is to guide Migrants, based on their needs to help navigate the unknowns that they face. The Settlement Workers answer questions, supply services to all ages, set up mentorship connections and supply process assistance.

Daniela spoke in detail about the Overall Comprehensive New Migrants Support Services and how to **get employment**.



Daniela highlighted the **Settlement Worker’s in Schools Program**, with details about how to enroll Children in school, Group settings for children, and One-on-One support. She reviewed the Supporting Newcomers Integration Program and English Conversation Circles and the Canada Connects Program.

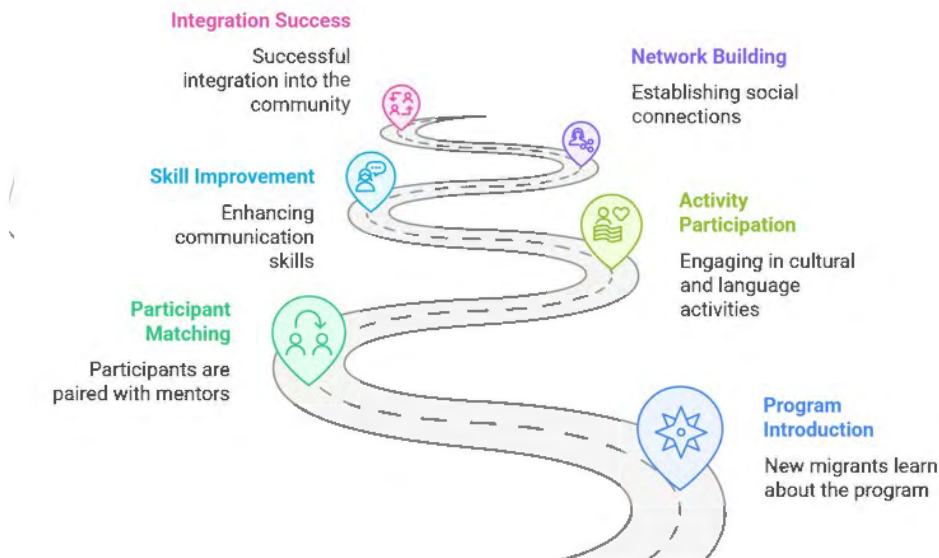


Daniela next spoke to the more detailed needs of Newcomers.

If you have no way to communicate, how can you get a Job, and if you are unable to support yourself and your family, you end-up with identity and self-esteem issues.



Employment & Immigration Services and the Canada Connect Program and many sub services help many volunteers to help Newcomers to learn to communicate, gain self-confidence, get a job, help their family and be a successful member of the community.



IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD

Daniela open the floor to questions, with several received that were answered readily and with passion.

Jim Steele gave the official thanks for the presentation to Daniela, noting that, we had made a donation to a Charity we like to support and that charity is the Brant Community Healthcare System Foundation. Jim also noted that Daniela's English was not only very good but better than many Canadians we know.

A very warm and appreciative applause was given to Daniela for her presentation by all present.

As President Nancy returned to the podium she mentioned that Daniela's presentation was very good and, some emotional parts had caused Nancy and a few others to tear up.

President Nancy called for any Announcements or Committee Reports

- Pallo Sahota reminded us that next weekend a social event would be happening in the Niagara region and that several social events will be announced in the Newsletter in the next few weeks.

President Nancy thanked all members and Guests and wished them well.

Final thought of the day: "An open door is a welcome that makes a stranger a friend" Anonymous

If there is nothing else for the good of Kiwanis, we will adjourn this meeting with the ringing of the Bell.

Have a good Weekend.

Meeting adjourned

Following are some candid pictures from this meeting.



