
Kiwanis Club of Brantford Newsletter 10-April-2025

1 message

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Mon, Apr 7, 2025 at 4:59 AM

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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 APRIL 10, 2025

Join us at a special Division 5 Interclub Meeting to hear from members of the Brantford Kiwanis Aktion Club. Aktion Club is the only community-service club for adults living with disabilities. Aktion Club allows members to develop initiative and leadership skills in service their communities while enabling their integration into society.

HEAD TABLE

President Nancy Thompson, The Aktion Club Representatives, Introducer Nelson McClinchey, Thanker Randy MacKenzie, Funmaster Bob Saunders. (Special table for Aktion Club Members required?)

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Thursday, April 17 – Brian Wood, Bell Homestead

Thursday, April 24 – National Volunteer Week

Thursday, May 1 – Annual General Meeting

Thursday, June 19 2025, Ploughman's Lunch

Thursday, May 8 – 'Invite a Guest'

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

Friday, June 27 2025, Dinner at the Brantford Golf and Country club – details to follow

August 9th: Family potluck/picnic

September 13th: 2:00 PM Port Dover play and dinner ("Here on the flight path" Norm Foster")

KIWANIS CONVENTIONS

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

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

BIRTHDAYS

Ken McNaughton – Birthday – April 8

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Ken & Robin McNaughton – Anniversary – April 13

ANNIVERSARIES OF DATE JOINED

Leo Vos – Joined – April 8, 1999 (26 Years)

EDUCATIONAL SPOT

Iceland has the highest per capita Kiwanis membership among the Kiwanis nations. About one in every 200 Icelanders is a Kiwanian, compared with about one in every 1,000 Americans.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Never let the word "impossible" stop you from pursuing what your heart and spirit tell you to do. Impossible things come true everyday. Anonymous

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

Last Week's Meeting Highlights



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Highlights of the Thursday, 03 April, 2025 Weekly Meeting

President Elect Maureen, welcomed all members and Guest Speaker, Anne Marie Peirce, Executive Director, Brant Community Foundation.



Phil Hoekstra organized the 50/50 draw, Joanne Murray and Pallo Sahota held potential winning tickets, but unfortunately they did not draw the Joker. The pot continues to grow.



Funmaster: Jim Steele. In keeping with our topic today, Jim reviewed some statistics which may call your entire worldview into question. (These examples may lend credence to the adage by Mark Twain that, "Figures don't lie, but liars can figure.")

Every Year, Half A Million Italians Are Reportedly Possessed By Demons.

- explaining why they need more trained exorcists
- Italy has a population of 60 million
- If 500,000 people get possessed annually, that's 1 in 120 Italians every year.
- That's 1 in 6 after 20 year
- If you're an Italian who has not been possessed, it's almost impossible to not be related to one who has been.



Every Year, 12,000 Americans Are Accidentally Declared Dead

- When most people make typos, the result is pretty innocuous.
- "one sex" instead of "one sec," or stuff like that
- When the government does it people get wiped off the various databases
- the issue is often caused by clerks filling out forms for actual dead people.
- good luck proving to the government you're not dead.
- They tell you who's dead, not the other way around.

If You Tried One New Coke Product A Day, It Would Take You Nine Years To Taste Them All

- Coke makes more than 3,500 different beverages
- New Coke is really just old Coke in a different can?

Jim had several more of these, 'nuggets of knowledge' but he moved on to Birthdays and Anniversaries' noting the following:

- Joan Griffin – Joined our Club - April 1 - 29 years ago

All Members help celebrating, Joan's anniversary with a rousing round of applause.

Jim called for Happy Stories which were received from:

Leo Vos who related a 10-day trip out west to his son's, where he enjoyed his Grand Children and his Family, while helping them build their new house.

Karen Adams was welcomed back from a 3-month trip to Florida and pleased to be back home.

Jim handed the Microphone over to Joanne Murray who introduced our Guest speaker.

Joanne Murray Introduced our Speaker Anne Marie Peirce, the Executive Director, Brant Community Foundation. Joanne noted that we were very appreciative, for her coming to speak to us about the details of the Vital Signs report of 2024. She indicated that we are aware of the work that is down by Anne Marie and the Brant Community Foundation and that we have used the previous Vital Signs report as part of our Club's, Community Needs Assessment, and we are anxious to see the 2024 version.



Joanne Murry asked Anne Marie Peirce to come to the podium to review Brant's Vital Signs Report 2024.

Anne Marie Peirce was welcome warmly, and gave us a short background about her experience and how the Brant Community Foundation had continued its development.

Anne Marie opened with an overview of the purpose of the Brant Community Foundation followed by details about the Vital signs report.



Introducing the Brant Community Foundation

Vision Statement A strong and vital community that has the resources to enrich the quality of life locally.

Mission Statement To award meaningful and impactful grants to ensure community vitality across Brantford, Brant County, Six Nations of the Grand River, and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, by attracting donations and ensuring the responsible stewardship of our permanent endowment.



Overview

Ensuring community vitality has been our purpose, promise and passion since 1997 when we started connecting donors to community needs and opportunities.

Through the support of our generous donors and our annual grants to the charitable sector, we help build strong and resilient places to live, work and play, where everyone can have a chance to succeed, and no one gets left behind.

The Brant Community Foundation has 3 Key Roles

Three Key Roles

1

We work with Donors as community builders to formulate and realize their philanthropic goals.

2

We share the legacies by making effective grants that reach vital, hopeful, essential and creative programs

3

We provide leadership in our communities by encouraging collaboration among charitable agencies, and facilitation learning and convening opportunities for all.

BCF Impact by the numbers

Total Endowment

\$27M

Professionally managed and overseen by the Board and Finance Committee

Organizations Supported in 2023/2024

91

Local charitable organizations

Grants for 2023/2024

\$930K

360-degree granting to charities across all sectors

Grants Since Inception

\$8.5 M

Impacting charities in Brantford, Brant County, Six Nations of the Grand River and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation

“The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit.”

Copies of the Brant’s Vital Signs 2024 Publication were placed on the tables for each member.

What is Vital Signs?

Vital Signs is Canada’s most extensive community-driven data program. Spearheaded by Community Foundations of Canada and led by community foundations in Canada and around the world.

- Brant’s Vital Signs is a snapshot of the community at a point in time using data points from the most recent census and other sources.
- It uses demographic information representing key indicators for our local communities, which include Brantford, Brant County, Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.
- The 10 key community vitality indicators tell a story about the current issues in our area.
- Indicators include public safety, health and wellness, economy, environment and more.



VitalSigns.

What Does Vital Signs Mean to Our Community?

Vital Signs is Canada’s most extensive community-driven data program. Spearheaded by Community Foundations of Canada and led by community foundations in Canada and around the world.



Uses local knowledge and data to measure community vitality



Supports evidence-based, locally relevant solutions



Inspires engagement and action to solve our most pressing problems

Following are examples of Key information found in the 2024 Vital Sign Publication.

● Gap Between the Rich and the Poor

📍 BRANTFORD FOOD INSECURITY



18% or 1 in 6
Brantford area households experienced food insecurity in 2023

● Gap Between the Rich and the Poor

📍 BRANTFORD FOOD BANK USAGE (2023-2024)

Source: Community Resource Services



15,403
household visits
(+52% since 2022-2023)



769,992
pounds of food distributed
(-6% since 2022-2023)

● Gap Between the Rich and the Poor

📍 2022 SOCIAL HOUSING WAIT TIMES - CITY OF BRANTFORD

Source: Brantford Access to Housing Application Information Guide # 6 City of Brantford Report No. 2023-20#

Seniors 60 years+



2-4
years

up from 9 months to 2.5 years in 2017

Families with Dependents



3-7
years

up from 2 to 5 years in 2017

Non-senior applicants with no dependents



8-12
years

up from 3 to 9 years in 2017

● Gap Between the Rich and the Poor

📍 LOW-INCOME IN BRANT CENSUS DIVISION

Source: 2021 Census Profile#
Canada Ontario

Percentage (%) of population in Brant Census Division that are living with low income

10.9%
of population 0 to 17 years of age

11.9%
11.5%

8.2%
of population 18 to 64 years of age

9.7%
9.1%

11.6%
of population 65+ years of age

15%
12.1%

● Gap Between the Rich and the Poor

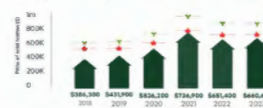
📍 AVERAGE RENT IN BRANTFORD CMA FOR ALL UNIT TYPES

Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation#
Brantford CMA Ontario



📍 PRICE OF TYPICAL HOMES SOLD IN BRANTFORD CMA

Source: MLSPIN "Zillow"#
Brantford CMA Ontario Canada



● Children, Youth and Young Adults

📍 YOUTH HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH RATES

Source: Wellesley Institute#
Brant Ontario

% youth aged 12-19 rating their health as excellent or very good



% youth aged 12-19 rating their mental health as excellent or very good



● Gap Between the Rich and the Poor

📍 INCOMES IN BRANT CENSUS DIVISION

Source: 2021 Census Profile Brantford CMA#
Canada Ontario

Population aged 15 years and over in private households (2021)



\$40,800
Median income of individuals

\$41,200
\$41,200



10.7%
making \$0 to \$10,000 (including loss)

11.6%
12.4%



68.7%
making \$10,000 to \$69,999

65.4%
63.5%



20.6%
making \$70,000+

22.9%
24.1%

● Health

📍 HEALTH OF BRANTFORD CMA COMPARED TO ONTARIO AND CANADA (2019/2020)

Source: Statistics Canada, Table 26-10-0000-01#
Brantford CMA Ontario Canada

% of people who perceive their health as very good or excellent



% of adults (18 years and over) with arthritis



% of people who perceive their mental health as very good or excellent



% of people who are current smokers, daily or occasional



% of adults (18 years and over) with a self-reported body mass index that is considered obese



% of people with high blood pressure



● Safety

📍 CRIME SEVERITY

Source: Statistics Canada, Table 26-10-0000-01#

Ontario CMA's 2022 Crime Severity Index

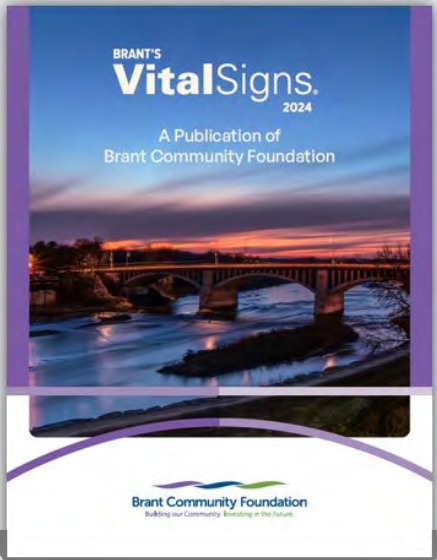
Thunder Bay	103.52
Greater Sudbury	82.75
Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo	79.12
Kingston	76.1
Brantford	75.89
London	73.98
Windsor	68.61
Belleville	67.68
Peterborough	63.95
Guelph	60.56



There are several other Key factors presented in the Vital Signs publications that were on the table for you to review for your specific needs.

Vital Signs in Action

- **Identify partnerships** to work together to address shared goals and priorities.
- **Host discussions** that bring together community members and organizations to discuss the report's findings and explore solutions.
- **Support and/or conduct research** to understand the root causes of local challenges and potential solutions.
- **Advocate for policy change** and for **funding for needed supports and services.**
- **Focus granting, donations, and volunteering** towards issues identified in the report.



Anne Marie finished her presentation by answering several questions from our members.

Kiwanian Bob Saunders officially thanked Anne Marie for her presentation and noted that in recognition of it, we have made a donation to a Charity we like to support. That charity is the Brant Community Healthcare System Foundation.

Bob Saunders passed the Microphone back to President Elect Maureen, who called for any Announcements or Committee Reports.

- Linda Moyer reminded everyone to bring their Food donations to the meeting next week in support of the Kiwanis Kindness Day effort for the Brantford Food Bank.
- PLG Nelson reminded everyone that next week was an interclub and the program would be presented by the Aktion Club of Brantford.
- Leo Vos reminded everyone that tonight was the Trivia Challenge and that we were tight for help, so please show up if you have volunteered.
- Karen Adams announced that we are all invited to the BRAVA Volunteer appreciation evening on Thursday 17 April. More information and Tickets will be available next week.

President Elect Maureen thanked all members and Guest Speaker Anne Marie Peirce

Final thought of the day: "the positive thinker sees the invisible, feels the intangible, and achieves the impossible." Winston Churchill

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 candid pictures from this meeting.

