

## Highlights of the Thursday, 21 May, 2026, Weekly Meeting

President Maureen, welcomed everyone and Guest Speaker Anna Salonen, Fire & Life Safety Educator with Brantford Fire Department to this Thursday 21, May 2026 weekly meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Brantford.



President Maureen called Phil Hoekstra to present the 50/50 Draw with Judy Jones, Phil Hoekstra, Crystal Godwaldt and Linda Moyer, holding potential winning tickets. No one found the "Joker." The "Pot" continues to rise.



President Maureen called Jim Steele to come forward as Funmaster.

Jim Steele came to the podium and told us he had prepared a series of commonly used phrases, giving us a few starting words of each phrase, and asked the members to shout out what they thought the remainder of the phrase would be. After hearing the members' responses, he presented the original phrase and then the current meaning.



Following are a couple of examples.

### **Quantum Leap:**

Origin: Physics Origin (circa 1900): In quantum theory, electrons do not move gradually between energy orbits; they "leap" instantaneously from one discrete state to another.

Current Meaning: By the 1980s, it morphed into an abrupt and extensive advance in policy, business, or general life.

### **Luck of the Irish:**

Origin: Far from being culturally "lucky," the Irish historically endured centuries of severe discrimination, poverty, and prejudice.

Current Meaning: Today, it has largely reclaimed this Irish as a phrase of pride, typically used to express good wishes during St. Patrick's Day.

Jim Steele had a number of interesting and surprising examples of various common phrases most with changes from their origin.

Jim Steele helped us celebrate the following anniversaries and Birthdays:

### Anniversary of joining the Club (Yrs)

Len Makkreel 40 Years

Joanne Murray 36 Years

Kirby Brown 38 Years

### Birthdays (March)      Date

### Happy Stories

**Paulette Hauk** announce that she had a Happy Story about the fact that after lunch today her and Alfred were returning to their, "Holistic Healing Arts Centre" to celebrate its Anniversary as well as the Anniversary of some long-term employees.

Joanne Murray said that she was very proud and pleased that this was her Anniversary of joining the Club, when John Utlely had asked to be her Sponsor. She Joined as the 3<sup>rd</sup> woman to join the Kiwanis Club of Brantford.

President Maureen thanked Jim Steele for his interesting, educational and fun presentation

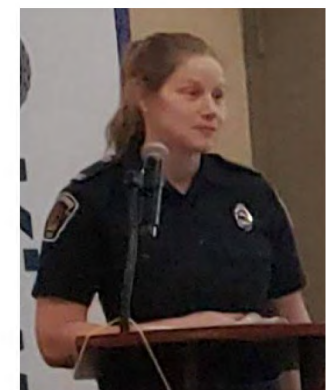
President Maureen called for Crystal Godwaldt to introduce our speaker Anna Solonen from the Brantford Fire Department.

Crystal Godwaldt came to the podium indicating that it was her pleasure to introduce us to Anna Solonen who would be giving us some tips about, Fire Safety in the Home.

Crystal said that, since joining the Brantford Fire Department in March 2026, Anna Salonen has brought a strong background in education and community safety to her role as a **Fire & Life Safety Educator**.

Her experience includes a decade of teaching in public elementary schools in the Guelph region and previous work as a Fire Prevention Educator with a volunteer fire department. Anna is pleased to be presenting today, so please give her a sound greeting.

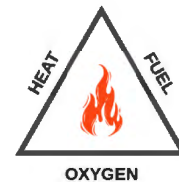
Anna Solonen came to the mike and said that she was very pleased to talk to us today about Fire Safety in our Home. She indicated that even though most of her time is spent teaching children, fire safety building material and technology has changed our homes today and we must be aware of the new risks factors these changes have made.



Anna said that our fire safety efforts in our home should have three (3) Objectives.

1. **Prevention:**  
Understand the basics of fire prevention as well as top fire safety concerns at home
2. **Detection**  
Recognize important fire safety devices at home and why they are so important
3. **Escape**  
Understand the need for emergency preparedness and how to be prepared for a fire emergency

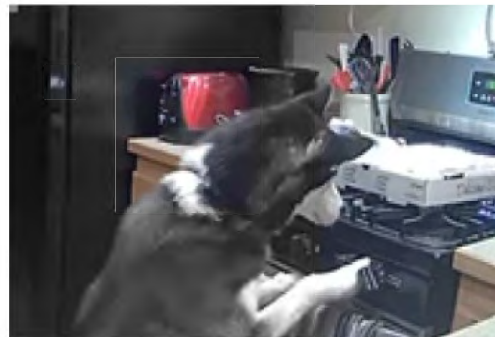
She opened with the question, “What are the component required to start a fire”. After some prompting from her we conceded that, for fire to exist it need Oxygen, a combustible material and heat. She indicated that this was called: “The Fire Triangle” If any one of the sides of the triangle is removed the fire will be extinguished.



To demonstrate how easily and quickly a fire can start, Anna played a video showing how easily a dog and a pizza could start a life-threatening fire.

The primary drivers of residential fires across the country fall into several distinct categories:

**Cooking Equipment:** Unattended stovetops and ovens, overheating cooking oil, and grease buildup are responsible for roughly one-third of all residential fires in Canada.



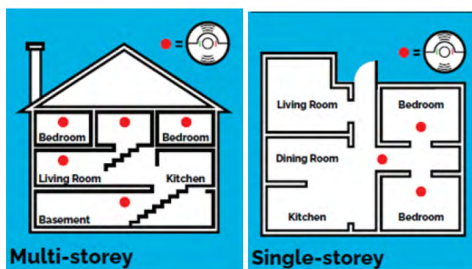
**Smoking Materials:** Improperly discarded cigarettes, as well as smoking in bed or while impaired (which dulls alertness), account for the vast majority of fatal home fires.

**Heating Systems:** Portable space heaters placed too close to combustible materials, dirty fireplaces, and poor venting are major hazards, with a spike in these fires occurring during the colder winter months.

**Electrical Distribution and Appliances:** Overloaded circuits, frayed power bars, inadequate wiring in older homes, and lint buildup in clothes dryers cause a significant number of fires.

**Open Flames:** Unattended candles, matches, and lighters left within the reach of children are also common, avoidable causes of house fires

Anna highlighted the need for proper Smoke alarms.



## ESCAPE

Do you know how you will get outside in a fire emergency?



Anna closed her presentation and answered a number of questions from various members and was thanked by Alfred Hauk, with a speakers Thank You card and informed that: In recognition of her presentation, we have made a donation to a Charity we like to support. That charity is the Brant Community Healthcare System Foundation. Anna was given an enthusiastic round of applause.



President Maureen called for Committee Reports and Announcements:

Joanne Murray, Save the Date Invite a Guest Meeting 25 June 2026

Jim Steele, **Hospital Bed Race** May 23, 2026, Sign-up on the Sheet on each table or contact Jim Steele

Joanne Murray, 04 June INTERCLUB MEETING - Doug Hunt "55" Journey setting record for Stilt Walking

The date for the Kiwanis Club of North Dumfries social event at Richard and Caroline Lee's farm is Saturday, July 18th. More details regarding the July 18th event will be shared in the near future by the North Dumfries Club.

President Maureen, thanked all members and Guest speaker Anna Salonen for joining us today.

President Maureen asked If there was anything else for the good of Kiwanis, seeing none, she adjourned the meeting with the ringing of the Bell.

