

Highlights of the Thursday, 10 September, 2026, Weekly Meeting

President Maureen, welcomed all members to this Thursday 10, September 2026 weekly meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Brantford.

President Maureen called Graham Schram to manage the 50/50 Draw with Karen Adams, Bob Saunders (X 2) and Graham Schram holding potential winning tickets, but no one found the "Joker". The "Pot" continues to grow.



President Maureen called on Randy MacKenzie to come forward as Funmaster.

LG Randy welcomed everyone and opened with some humorous stories that sent everyone chuckling.

One such story follows:

An Old man comes across a frog one day. Frog says, "Kiss me, and I'll turn into a beautiful princess." Old man picks up it up, puts it in his pocket. Frog says, "Hey, didn't you hear me?" Old man says, "Sure did. But at my age, I'd rather have a talking frog."

LG Randy had a few more of similar, "laughability" stories.

LG Randy moved on by helping celebrate Birthdays' and anniversaries



Anniversaries:

Birthdays September

Roger Smith	21
Linda Moyer	22
Stuart Parkinson	30

Anniversaries of joining Kiwanis (Yrs)

Crystal Godwaldt	25
Ross Pope	32

LG Randy called on members for Happy Stories

- Dave Pass mentioned that he enjoyed the Elmira Interclub and often attends the Stratford Garlic festival that is coming up soon.
- Nelson McClinchey noted that the Fish-Fry Interclub held on Wednesday 09 Sept, was attended very well with 11 of our members and partners in attendance at a tasty and fun event sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Elmira.
- Crystal Godwaldt made a donation, as this is her Anniversary of joining the club 25 years ago.
- Leo Vos mention that last week he was playing golf in Woodstock when the heavy rain hit and lightening prevented that from completing their last hole and they ran for cover and safety.

President Maureen thanked Funmaster LG Randy for his mirthful tales.

President Maureen called Paul Simon to the podium as Chair of the Farmer's Market Committee, for an update on activities.

Paul Simon welcomed everyone and while referencing some slides and notes about active current members, the dates and times that we are at the Market collecting produce, when and where we distribute the donations received. Paul described the relationships that have been built between the market management, the vendors, our volunteers and the recipients of the donations, which involves humour, understanding, trust and appreciation.

Paul explained a slide showing the number of pounds of food donated and delivered by this committee from Sept 2019 for Sept 2026 almost every Saturday afternoon.



**Recipients: Salvation Army ~ 50 people, Nova Vita ~ 45 people,
 Rosewood House ~ 20 people, The Blessing Centre ~ + 90 people
 Total since Sept 2019 >>>September 2026 33.4 Tons**

Paul explained how the donation volumes were affected by Covid-19, local political and rules changes effecting the Market Vendors, International politics, National Pride, clashing personalities and personal agendas have had significant impacts on our capability to supply consistent support.

Year	Amt Collected
2019	3,334
2020	6,969
2021	1,953
2022	11,440
2023	12,525
2024	14,300
2025	9,265
2026	6,990
	66,776

Paul Simon then called Dave Lewis to the microphone to give us a brief background and explain how we got to where we are now.

Dave Lewis welcomed everyone and thank Paul for the introduction. Dave explained that prior to Sept 2019 this need was being supported by the Kiwanis Grand River Club and had been since it's official origin in 2002. It is believed that the donation-pickup project started in May 1999 by Bill Doroghty of the Kiwanis Grand River Club. Prior to this date Market Vendors were instructed that if the food wasn't sold by the end of Saturday activity it must be disposed of as Garbage and taken to land-fill.



For about a year before the Kiwanis Grand River Club lost of their charter, some members of the Kiwanis Club of Brantford assisted in the collection of the produce from the vendors at the market.

A partnership was formed with the Paris Club and the Kiwanis Club of Brantford as a joint Service Project and was approved on 14-January 2020. Some of the past members of the Grand River Club joined our respective Clubs.

The Paris-Brant and Kiwanis Brantford projects 1st pick up on 21-September-2019 with Stan Hutchinson, Steve Shantz and Dave Lewis.

We were off to a good start as you can see in the chart above in 2019 to March 2020 when Covid-19 shut us down completely with a good recovery until 2024. When international tariffs and National pride became a significant factor.

This affected not only the vendors but the Recipients. I don't like to use the term "pivot", but some of our vendors pivoted out-of-existence, some new vendors emerged and a few are still participating. Some recipients were able to shift to all frozen products only.

The good news is that our volunteers for the past two years have been consistent and able to share the load effectively. Paul has been able to track the results consistently and monitor that we have good coverage, Roger Smith has been able to share and alternate with Dave since he joined the club, Roxanne has "Spared" as well as, Rob Yuile. Dave Pass may be able to help out as a Spare as well in the future.

The secret sauce? Pure trust and great relationships. Our vendors continue to show up big, keeping community spirits high and the market vibes thriving.

It is a simple "hands-on" job once a week Saturday starting at 1:45PM and you are on your way home by 2:20PM.

Dave handed the mic back to Paul Simon who asked if there were any questions, and there were.

Bob Saunder thanked Paul for giving us an overall view of the Farmers Market and how many aspects of the project there are.

President Maureen called for Committee Reports and Announcements:

- President Maureen mentioned that we are almost complete this years Staples Back to School event but still have a few volunteer spots to fill before the month end. Please sign up if you have the time.
- Remember the Grand Parade in partnership with GRCOA September 19, 2026.
- President Maureen invited anyone who is interested to be at the CSV Saturday 12-Sept @ 8:30 AM if you wish to understand the planning and results for the coming 2026-2027 year.
- Dave Lewis / Jim Steele: Notice to all members. Applications for Kiwanis Club of Brantford Charitable Corporation Grants is now an on-line application process via a registration form on our website. We will be letting any of our past applicants know about this change in process but, if as a member, you know of someone who may be trying to get grants, you will be able to direct them to this address, [Click Here](#).

*The fiscal year runs from October – September. The Donations Committee meets four times per year to present submissions to the Board of directors. **Submission deadlines, for fully documented applications are: Nov. 30, Feb. 27, May 31, Aug. 31.** Successful applications will be notified by the 15th of the month following the deadline.*

President Maureen, thanked all members for attending.

Final thought for the day: For it is in their giving that we receive. St. Francis of Assisi

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.

