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Highlights of the Thursday, 22 October, 2026, Weekly Meeting



President Maureen, welcomed all members and Guest Speaker Linda Moyer, Topic: Grand River Council on Aging and Guest, Lynn Redford, to this Thursday 22, October 2026 weekly meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Brantford.

President Maureen called Phill Hoekstra to handle the 50/50 Draw with Paulette Hauk, Pallo Sahota, Paul Simon (Phil) and David Pass holding potential inning tickets.



Winner



Congratulations to David Pass, who found the joker with only 15 cards to go. Good hunting!!!!!

President Maureen called on Bob Saunders to come forward as Funmaster.

Bob Saunders welcomed everyone and said he had three humorous Stories to get everyone in a mirthful mood.

Following is one example:

The bartender asks what is wrong, and the farmer explains that he has two horses that are identical and keeps mixing them up.

After the bartender suggests various ways to tell them apart—like shaving a tail, trimming a mane, weighing them, or measuring their height—the farmer returns the next day overjoyed and says:

"It worked! I measured the horses and the black one is two inches taller than the white one!"

Bob moved on by helping celebrate Birthdays' and anniversaries

Anniversaries:

Birthdays	October
Crystal Godwaldt	24

Anniversaries of joining Kiwanis (Yrs)

Stuart Parkinson	18
Alfred Hauk	7
Faye Prince	7
Paul Simon	7
Karen Adams	2

Bob Saunders then called on members for Happy Stories

- David Pass has a Happy Story because he found the Joker.
- Crysal Godwald was happy because her birthday is Saturday 24 October
- Dave Neumann was happy because he had a birthday on Monday 05 October

President Maureen thanked Funmaster Bob Saunders and invited speaker Linda Moyer to come to the podium.

Linda Moyer greeted everyone and thank them for their participation in this year's Grand Parade at Kiwanis Field. This year we collected $44,888 with 39 volunteers, about 50% came from the Kiwanis Club of Brantford.



Linda said that when she volunteered initially to help the GRCOA, she start at 5 hours/per week, but it grew very quickly at the program as been a great success. Linda said today she would explain, what happens after the Parade. *The funds collected have been used to develop and give access to members of the community as the critical needs were realized using available funds and many volunteers hours.*

Mission Statement

The Grand River Council on Aging is a registered charitable non-profit organization dedicated to encouraging an "age-friendly community" for all residents. An age-friendly community optimizes opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age.



- Educating the community, including service providers, about interests, strengths and needs of seniors by providing courses, seminars and workshops about ageism and issues faced by aged persons
- Advancing education by conducting research into the concerns, needs and best interests of the aging population and making the results publicly available
- Supporting the social participation and inclusion of seniors through education and activities for successful and healthy aging
- Doing all such things as are incidental or ancillary to the attainment of the above objectives.

- Promoting the voice of lived experience

Linda indicated that as Covid arrived many things had to be re-invented. Due to Covid people were effectively locked in their homes with no physical contact. Zoom and the internet opened a contact method that allowed a great opportunity to communicate in ways that we had not thought of before.

Following are some key services that have been developed by GRCOA for our community since Covid. The development and distribution of these services are where the funds we collect from the Grand Parade are used.



The GRCOA INFO Hub was created to give people a contact point for:

- Civic Participation and Employment
- Communication and Information
- Community Support and Health Services
- Housing
- Outdoor Spaces and Buildings
- Respect & Social Inclusion
- Social Participation
- Transportation

Once this was set up and running there was a demand for: Seniors' Discount Directory for Brantford Brant and the Six Nations



Free Virtual Workshops over 125 free Workshops are available



- Aging In place with Michelle Jamieson
- AI Simplified: Enhancing Senior Living with Tim Philp

- Benefits of Lifelong Learning with Craig Chipps from Laurier
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring Youth with Natalie Michlewicz
- Bone Health with Patricia Barlow
- Bone Health with Cathy Pearcy
- Brant Historical Society with Nathan Etherington

Linda indicated there many more contact linking many services from the Grand River Council on Aging Website.

Following are some other examples:

- Community on the Road
- News Letter
- Calendar (Paper copy)
- Housing Guide for Senior
- Be Heard – reaching out to people with lived experience
- Volunteer opportunities

Check out the Grand River Council on Aging website at: https://grcoa.ca/



Linda closed her presentation by saying that without the volunteer support we literally would not be able to supply these services to our communities seniors.. T

The Grand Parade will be held next year Saturday 05 June 2027.

Linda was given a sound round of applause and thanked officially by Joanne Murray

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President Maureen called for Committee Reports and Announcements:

None:

President Maureen, thanked all members and Guest Lynn Redford for attending.

Final thought for the Day: "There is a fountain of youth: it is your mind, your talents, the creativity you bring to your life and the lives of people you love. When you learn to tap this source, you will truly have defeated age." Sophia Loren

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.









