Email: kiwanisbrantford@gmail.com
Web Site: BrantfordKiwanis.org

Highlights of the Thursday, 19 November 2026, Weekly Meeting



President Maureen, welcomed all members and Guest Speaker Beth Noble-Luciani Topic: Christmas Basket Campaign to this Thursday 19, November 2026 weekly meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Brantford.

President Maureen called Faye Prince to handle the 50/50 Draw with Lynn RedFern and Alfred Hauk holding potential winning tickets. Neither member found the “Joker” and the pot continues to grow.



President Maureen call Alfred Hauk to the microphone as Funmaster.



Alf Hauk open with a few seasonal puns such as:

- Psychologist: What happens to a snowman when the temperature rises. Answer: He has a melt down
- A Dog can't have an MRI, but a Cat can.

Alfred had a dozen of them, so of them were quite good others were quite good Groaners.

Alfred Hauk called on members for Happy Stories

- Lynn Redfern was Happy to have become a member of our Kiwanis Club.
- Paulette Hauk reminded us that Sean Hauk / Elvis is at the Affinity Conference centre Thursday November 26 @ 7:30 PM. Click here to order tickets from Eventbrite.
- Leo Vos mentioned that we are now at 22 teams and still require a few more volunteers to help at to nights event.

President Maureen thanked Alfred Hauk and called Linda Moyer to the podium to introduce our Guest Speaker Beth Noble-Luciani.



Linda Moyer introduced Beth Noble-Luciani Executive Director of Community Resource Service Brantford.

Linda introduce Beth Noble-Luciani as follows:
Beth Noble-Luciani is the Executive Director of Community Resource Service, which operates the Brantford Food Bank and Community Employment Service. Since accepting this appointment she has worked closely with outgoing Executive Director Heather Vanner until her retirement on August 31.

Beth brings more than 15 years of experience in non-profit leadership, fundraising, community engagement, and strategic partnership development. Throughout her career, she has been passionate about bringing people together to strengthen communities and improve the lives of local families.

Board Chair Sean Hauk, said the Board is excited to welcome Beth Noble-Luciani to the organization.

The Board is delighted to welcome Beth as our next Executive Director. She brings an outstanding combination of leadership experience, strategic thinking, and fundraising expertise, along with personal qualities that demonstrate empathy to our clientele and a deep commitment to community. She is exceptionally well suited to lead our organization into its next chapter.

Please welcome Beth Noble-Luciani



Beth greeted everyone and thanked the Club for inviting her to speak about Community Resource Service and the Christmas Basket Campaign.

Beth mentioned that she is new to this job but has had great support from everyone involve at the organization and gave a brief review of 15 Years experience supporting her in this position.

Beth used a slide presentation to set the stage for a truly helpful view of how food insecurity has grown in our community. Beth explained how the Community Resource Service (CRS) Brantford Food Bank function.

- CRS supports residents of Brantford, Brant County, Six Nations
- Groceries reflect household size and provide roughly one week of food per month.
- Households can return for a second visit for produce. Christmas Baskets adds seasonal support.
- CRS Food Share also distributes food from our warehouse to nonprofits across the city and county.

Our warehouse and CRS Food Share



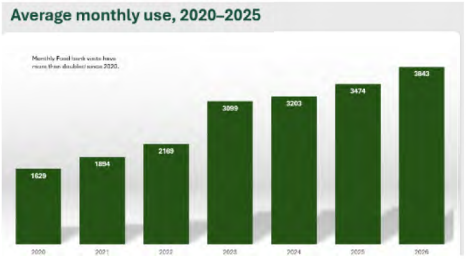
CRS Food Share distributes food to 17 other nonprofit organizations in the city/county. These are organizations served, not additional direct-client visits.

Beth indicated that there were **41,692** visits in 2025. That is about 800 visits every week, averaged across the year.

Visits count each member of the household served as allotments are provided by household size. 1 person visiting to collect for 2 people = 2 counts in the visit stats.

What are we seeing in 2026?

Outpacing 2025 & Three consecutive months above 4,000 visits



Return visits add to the pressure

- **2,632** repeat visits April–October 2026
- Approximately **one-third of clients are children**
- 9% are seniors.
- 72% live in market rental housing.
- 40% report social assistance or disability-related support as their primary income source
- Sharp increase in employed individuals and families using food bank

Year	Working Individuals/Families
2019	12.1%
2025	19.4%

Why this is difficult to sustain

- No government funding, aside from grants
- All funds come from donations and charitable foundations.

- Requires $1.4 million in operating funds - this does not include capital investments or large repairs.
- Our donors are also feeling the pinch.
- Larger food allotments and rising visits mean more food is needed, with added pressure on staff, volunteers, storage and delivery.
- Funds to retain good staff are limited – and the job can be difficult emotionally and physically.



Christmas Baskets

- The same community need, shapes this program.
- Households are provided a grocery gift card and toys for children.
- Most grants and foundations do not allow funding for gift cards, which means this program relies 100% on donations from individuals.



How Kiwanis members can help – long term

- helping to bust myths about registered charities and their spending
- Less than 10% of our funds are spent on "Admin"
- We can do more with charitable dollars: due to the Food Share program and our Warehouse – an increase in our purchasing power impacts the entire community. One gift will support the entire network of food security organizations in Brantford/Brant.
- Distribution costs are necessary part of our work, and those costs are increasing too (ie. the price of gas)
- Most food bank clients are renters.

Beth thanked us for being such a friendly and receptive audience.

Paulette Hauk thanked Beth for her engaging presentation and informed her that we had made an donation to the Foodbank to show our appreciation.



President Maureen called for Committee Reports and Announcements:

- **Leo Vos** reminded everyone that the Trivia Challenge was at 7:30 Pm tonight and that we were now at 23 Team.
- **Bob Saunders** reminded everyone that the Christmas Cookies are now for sale and that, if you contact Bob Saunders or Dave Lewis by email through the week we will have product at the next weekly meeting for you to pick it up. If you are unable to be there we can arrange to deliver it to you.
- **Phil Hoekstra** is now selling Christmas trees at St James Church in Paris at **Great Prices.**
- **Phil Hoekstra** Thanked Faye Prince for managing the 50/50 draw today and being so sympathetic to the losers.
- **Beth Noble-Luciani** announced that there was a Flyer on the tables, where you can order Tim Horton's Holiday Cookies from 30 November to 06 December and that 100% of the funds will be donated to local Charities.

President Maureen, thanked all members and Guest Speaker Beth Noble-Luciani, for attending.

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.

