



Kitchener-Waterloo  
Kiwanis Club  
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[www.KwKiwanis.org](http://www.KwKiwanis.org)

[www.kiwanis.org](http://www.kiwanis.org)

## Newsletter

May 31/2025

### Club Officers:

**President:**

Daisy Arseneault  
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**Past President**

Marilyn Motz  
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**President-Elect:**

TBD

**Secretary:**

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**Treasurer: Maureen Farkouh**

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**Directors:** Lou Gere, Ian Inglis, Alan Chalmers, Paula Rand, Kevin Twomey, Marilyn Motz, Joan Richardson-Horsey

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*Send photos & news to newsletter editor Steve Rand  
at [waterloorands@gmail.com](mailto:waterloorands@gmail.com)*

### "Who" is Kiwanis and what is our Impact?

Kiwanis clubs and members conduct service projects. They hold fundraisers. They donate to the Kiwanis Children's Fund and scholarship programs. They change children's lives in their own communities and through international initiatives - helping young people develop mentally, physically and emotionally.

Every year, Kiwanis members stage more than 150,000 service projects, devote more than six million hours of service and raise nearly US\$100 million for children, families and communities around the world. Kiwanis club projects are based on community needs. We build playgrounds, purchase medical equipment, run foodbanks, develop youth leadership, restock libraries and much more.



### President's Message:

May was a difficult month for K-W Kiwanians as we said goodbye to our longtime faithful member, Shelley Des Cotes. Shelley worked tirelessly until she could serve no more. She attended our

Annual General Meeting in April (see photos below) and gave us more special memories with her family that will last a lifetime. Even at the 2025 District Convention in Niagara Falls, Shelley was mentioned and honoured by many colleagues who were familiar with her commitment and years of service - especially her service to our Key Club youth. K-W Kiwanians also honoured

### **Join us:**

Chartered in 1921, we are the oldest service club in the Kitchener-Waterloo area. We are always looking for new members to serve the community ! Interested in donating a little time, money, or elbow grease to serve the needy, the deserving, and kids throughout the Waterloo Region? We are welcoming new members to the club all the time who want to help do exactly that. They have stepped up to help and we need still

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### **1. Regular Meetings**

At our Board and club meetings we get together for fellowship and planning. Prospective members are welcome to attend. The meetings are free (except there is no free lunch !) and once a month we host expert guest speakers to discuss a wide range of topics that give us insight and inspiration to carry over into our activities and projects. Board meetings are currently held at 5:00 pm on the first Tuesday of the month at the Westmount Golf Club in Waterloo. Check our calendar for other (evening) meeting times or contact our membership chair to confirm time and place at [kwkiwanisclub@gmail.com](mailto:kwkiwanisclub@gmail.com).

### **2. Activities & Events**

For a complete listing of past and future events and volunteer opportunities, see our complete calendar at [kwkiwanis.org](http://kwkiwanis.org).

Shelley at her Celebration of Life. At the same time, Kiwanians prayed/sent positive healing vibes for Joan Richardson-Horsey, who fought her way to better health and received permission to leave hospital to attend Shelley's Celebration of Life. Our Kiwanis family is strong, even when we have challenges! Thank you to everyone who has lifted our Kiwanis family at this time.

more volunteers and members to socialize and serve with integrity. Join us in our efforts to provide scholarships to deserving students, help run the Kiwanis Park Kids Day or Wonders of Winter (Festival of Lights), have some fun at Bingo night, or support our Food4Kids volunteer teams. Pick some of our activities and let the good times roll. Reward yourself with service. Become a leader. We are celebrating over 100 years of community service.

### **April 18 Elmira Kiwanis Club Fish Fry.**

These shots just in - photos from last month's fundraiser in Elmira! K-W Kiwanians will go just about anywhere to get their French fries, battered haddock and coleslaw!



*LG Angela Vieth joins Elmira Kiwanians at the April fish fry.*



*Better batter brings big bucks by beautiful baking at the Elmira fish fry. Attendees received ample portions of haddock, fries, and coleslaw and enjoyed good fellowship.*

Elmira Kiwanis Club volunteers staffed the kitchen for their Good Friday Fish Fry in Lions Hall from 4:00-6:30 pm and were joined by some of our very own K-W members. The cost of dinner was \$25 for half a pound of haddock, fries, coleslaw, assorted pies, coffee, pop, water and Jean Stacey's condiments!



*Jean Stacey dishes it out at the Elmira fish fry.*

**May 3** The quarterly Divisional Council Meeting (DCM) for Black Walnut Division 5 was held in the Kiwanis non-profit Housing Building at 1195 King Street East, in Cambridge this month. Registration and coffee hour began at 9:30 am. Business was transacted from 10:00 - 12:00 and then a light lunch was served.



*Attendees at the DCM meeting in Cambridge*

Also this month, the affordable housing committee met with representatives of Harbour Concepts, our new property management company. Effective immediately, Harbour Concepts will take over the renovation project at Cedar Court and will handle regular maintenance moving forward at both Valleyview and Cedar Court apartments.



*The affordable housing team and Jeff Ireland, the owner of Harbour Concepts, launch a new contract for property management in the Cedar Court Common Room.*

**May 6** The K-W Kiwanis Board met at Westmount Golf & Country Club.

**May 12** The Stratford club hosted an interclub dinner at the Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans Complex in Stratford. Social hour began at 5:30 pm and was followed by a roast beef dinner at 6:15 pm. The speaker for the evening was Lois Adamson, Director



of Education for the Stratford Festival, speaking about plans for the 2025 season.  
**May 20** Our regular club meeting took place at Westmount Golf & Country Club. The annual general meeting (AGM) that was held last month highlighted the long service to our organization by Shelley Des Cotes. Because there were too many special moments to share in the earlier April newsletter, photos from that occasion have been included in the present newsletter.



*Marilyn Motz addresses attendees at the annual general meeting*



*Shelley offers a few remarks after being honoured at the dinner and is joined by her husband Steve Des Cotes.*



*Shelley basks in the glow of well-deserved recognition by Kiwanis for decades of dedicated service as club secretary, Key Club advisor, and webmaster.*



*Shelley poses with bouquets presented to her at the AGM.*

**May 21** The Guelph Kiwanis Club hosted the 37th Sports Celebrity Dinner at the Italian Canadian Club. This event was an entertaining evening of cocktails, raffles, live and silent auctions, and a delicious dinner. Individuals were inducted into the prestigious Guelph Sports Hall of Fame for 2025 and Broadcaster Brian Williams shared stories of his 50 year career in sports as the keynote speaker. All proceeds supported the Kiwanis Club of Guelph charities including Belwood Lodge and Camp, the Kiwanis Music Festival of Guelph, the Staples Back-to-School Program, and the Teen ETCH Creative Writing Contest.

**May 22** Bingo night at the K-W Gaming Centre injected the anticipated monthly funding into our academic bursary program, which provides half a dozen awards of \$2000 to deserving students and several smaller awards to Key Club members.

**May 29-31** Lieutenant Governor Angela Vieth, Daisy Arseneault & Mareen Farkouh represented our K-W Kiwanis Club at the Eastern Canada and Caribbean (EC&C) District Convention in Niagara Falls, one of

the world's most famous natural wonders. Our leadership trio was able to learn about strengthening our club by attending workshops, networking with fellow Kiwanians, enjoying award presentations, voting for the future Vice Governor and enjoying the host entertainment night.

The theme of the 2025 convention was "Come alive in '25". Some attendees took this message to heart time and viewed the falls by helicopter or zipline, getting a bird's eye view of the Skylon Tower and Skywheel. Others got wet on the Wet Wild Cruise looking up at 13 stories of water from below the Falls. The meeting itself offered a program of education and inspiration in the beautiful setting of the Marriott Fallsview Hotel & Spa. LG Angela participated in the ceremonial flag processional, proudly representing Division 5 and the KW Kiwanis Club.

Over 600 attendees came to Niagara Falls from across Eastern Canada and the Caribbean representing 17 countries in total. Many Kiwanians from Division 5 were also in attendance representing Guelph, Stratford, Brantford, Paris-Brant, Cambridge and North Dumfries.



*Opening remarks in the ballroom of the Marriott conference hotel*



*The organizing committee in the lobby of the Marriott at the EC&C convention*



*The opening parade at the EC&C convention and a Scottish fashion statement for the occasion*



*The Elmira booth offering maple syrup in bottles and jugs. Their maple sugar candies sold out quickly.*





(L) Maple sugar products from Elmira Kiwanis raised funds for the club at the convention. (R) A room with a view of the falls

### 3. Upcoming Events & Volunteer Opportunities

For a complete listing of past and future events and volunteer opportunities, see our Event Calendar at [www.kwkiwanis.org](http://www.kwkiwanis.org).

**June 7** The Cambridge Kiwanis Club will host a summer InterClub event at Sunrise Therapeutic Riding & Learning Centre in Puslinch starting at 11:00 am. Afterwards will go to a restaurant (TBA) for lunch. Sunrise has asked everyone to RSVP for planning purposes. To let them know you will attend, please contact [Geoff.Capes97@gmail.com](mailto:Geoff.Capes97@gmail.com) (president Cambridge Kiwanis). For more information on Sunrise Therapeutic Riding & Learning Centre, see <https://sunrise-therapeutic.ca/> or call Tel:519-837-0558

**June 8** The Paris-Brant Kiwanis club plans to hold a teddy bear picnic from noon-1:00 pm. See their website for details (see the Paris-Brant website link under "Contact Us" on our website [kwkiwanis.org](http://kwkiwanis.org)).

**June 10** The monthly Board meeting will be held a week later than usual in order to consider the affordable housing budget financial report.

**June 17** Monthly club meeting

**June 19** Bingo night

**June 21** Executive Training Day. 2025-2026 Club Executive Training will take place from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm in Stratford. Lunch will be \$20 and the learning priceless!

**June 25-28** Leadership training courses will be offered at the Kiwanis International Conference in Pittsburgh.

### 4. Service Leadership Clubs

K-W Kiwanis runs Leadership clubs to engage young students in community service.

*Circle K International for college students:*  
The University of Waterloo Circle K club runs service projects with the guidance of an approved Kiwanis advisor. Currently it has a roster of over two dozen members.

Back in March, CKI club officers Ginny and Cesar helped organize the Grand River Hospital Fundraiser (photo). Circle K members also hosted the 2025 district convention (DCON) in Waterloo for clubs from all over Eastern Canada. The event included a full day of energy, service, and celebration. Members labelled hygiene kits for donation and collected non-perishable food for the local food bank.



Circle K members Ginny and Cesar prepare tables for the Region of Waterloo hospital fundraiser.



*Circle K attendees at DCON 2025 in Waterloo*

The DCON agenda included workshops on fundraising, inspiring speakers from the Kiwanis Family, and District Board elections and concluded with recognition of outstanding clubs from across the province. In March, Circle K District Governor Shradhaa Srikanth also launched a newsletter for Eastern Canada CKI members – the Governor’s Gazette. The first issue is available at our website [kwkiwanis.org](http://kwkiwanis.org) under “What We Do – Leadership Clubs”.

Circle K International (CKI) is the largest student-run volunteer organization of its kind, with over 12,600 members on over 500 campuses in 17 countries. However our club is especially proud of our local up-and-coming group of civic leaders. CKI mirrors the mandate of Kiwanis at the university level in making our community a better place to live, through service, with a special emphasis on helping children.

*Key Club for students aged 14-18:*  
High schoolers can apply to become members of our K-W Kiwanis Key Clubs. Members run their own meetings and devise service projects in the Waterloo Region to develop leadership skills.



*Former Keyclub president Heeva (centre) joins advisor Shelley Des Cotes, Mike Wolf and Circle K members Ginny and Cesar at the hospital fundraising dinner.*

Last month Key Clubbers sent out health kits to the district and held their own event with entertainment by PopNation kids at the Adventure-4-Change facility in Waterloo. Kyle Christy was the Master of Ceremonies.

Keyclubbers are eligible to attend the annual leadership conference that Kiwanis International runs for their age group. Key Clubbers also have the benefit of guidance and record-keeping by an approved advisor from our Kiwanis Club.

## **5. Membership**

Interested in joining us? Let us know at [kwkiwanismembership@gmail.com](mailto:kwkiwanismembership@gmail.com) or contact a member of K-W Kiwanis whom you may know. Just have questions? Send us email at [kwkiwanisclub@gmail.com](mailto:kwkiwanisclub@gmail.com).

## **6. Committees & Reports**

Committee reports are received at the monthly Board meeting by the K-W Kiwanis Club Board Members. Committee work ensures the smooth functioning of our club and all members are encouraged to participate in at least one of our eleven committees. Typically, assignments require an average of only 1-2 hours per month. K-W Kiwanis committees have the charters outlined below. Check the club calendar and connect with your committee chair each

month to verify when and where your meetings will take place.

### ***Affordable Housing***

Charter: Work with Property Management to oversee the operations of the Cedar Court and Valley View housing units owned by Kiwanis. Report to the Board.

Chair: Lou Gere

Members: Daisy Arseneault, Ian Inglis, Stephen Rand, Angela Vieth, Greg Wood

### ***Fundraising***

(a) New Ideas (Research and develop ideas and activities to raise funds for general club use or for a specific reason as agreed from time to time. Review “New & Existing Service Projects”).

Chair: Maureen Farkouh

Members: Daisy Arseneault, Paula Rand, Jean Stacey, Angela Vieth, Sandeep Shroff

(b) Bingo (Organize, recruit and train volunteers for bingo. Proceeds are applied to our academic bursary program.)

Chair: Lou Gere

Members: Maureen Farkouh, Gary Keller, Mike Wolf, Greg & Michelle Wood, Roy Weber

### ***Bursaries***

Charter: Determine criteria for the evaluation of academic bursary applications. Receive and review applications. Select recipients and personally deliver the awards.

Chair: Lou Gere

Members: Jan Alexanian, Gary Keller, Stephen Rand, Paula Rand, Jean Stacey

### ***Membership***

Charter: Provide advice to anyone who may need help in their approach to prospective new members. Meet quarterly to plan membership recruitment and retention. Approve new member applications and bring them to the Board. Review honorary members annually. Check on absentee and delinquent members.

Chair: Marilyn Motz

Members: Daisy Arseneault, Maureen Farkouh, Ian Inglis, Kevin Twomey, Angela Vieth

### ***Music Festival***

Charter: Continue to refine and improve all aspects of the renowned K-W Kiwanis Music Festival. Undertake fundraising, volunteer coordination, and sponsorship.

Chair: Ashley Close

Members: Danielle Beck (Festival Coordinator), Jaime Downey, Ian Inglis, Angela Vieth, Mike Wolf, Rosalind Keith (Volunteer Coordinator), Martin Lacoste Maxine Metzger (Social Media & Marketing), Fiona Stante, Angela Veith (Fundraising Coordinator), Roy Weber (Sponsorship Coordinator), Mike Wolf (Treasurer)

### ***Service Leadership Programs***

Charter: Provide liaison between Kiwanis student organizations and our membership. Look for every opportunity to initiate Kiwanis student organizations and activities. Provide necessary support to all sponsored Kiwanis student groups. Help out with Key Club and Circle K Leadership training.

Chair: Shelley des Cotes

Members: Angela Vieth, Kevin Twomey, Sandeep Shroff

### ***Program & Club Meetings***

Charter: Plan and improve the regular club meetings to keep them interactive, fun and informative. Make everyone feel that time spent at meetings is “time well spent”. Maintain sociability among members as a top priority by planning outside activities that foster good fellowship.

Chair: Daisy Arseneault

Members: Keri Cameron, Kevin Twomey



***Financial Review Committee***

Charter: Perform an annual review of the financial reports of the treasurer and Property Management.

Chair: Greg Wood

Members: Andre Arseneault

***Marketing & Public Relations***

Charter: Raise awareness of Kiwanis in our community. Publicize events and club news. Maintain the club website and social media outlets. Distribute a regular newsletter to keep members up to date and assist with community outreach and recruitment.

Chair: Stephen Rand

Members: Daisy Arseneault, Kevin Twomey, Andre Arseneault

***New/Existing Projects***

Charter: Assess all requests for funds submitted to the club with respect to how well they meet our criteria and make their recommendations to the membership. Manage existing projects, recommend their continuance or discontinuance. Search for new club service projects, making sure they meet our criteria, and present them as options to the membership.

Criteria:

- (a) regional effect, not national
- (b) involves children and youth
- (c) Improves quality of life in some way
- (d) Maximize member involvement

Chair: Daisy Arseneault

Members: All club members