



Kitchener-Waterloo
Kiwanis Club
P.O. Box 38046
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www.KwKiwanis.org

www.kiwanis.org

Newsletter

April 30/2026

Club Officers:

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Send your photos & news to newsletter editor Steve Rand at waterloorands@gmail.com

What is the Kiwanis club and what is the impact of our members?

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:

My sincerest congratulations to everyone who had a part in making the 2026 KW Kiwanis Music Festival a great success! Thank you to our dedicated Festival Committee members, chaired by Marilyn

Motz, our Festival Coordinator Danielle Beck, and dozens of volunteers. A special shoutout to our volunteer coordinator Rosalind Keith who ensured venues were in order, cheques were distributed, audio was functioning, adjudicators had the assistance they needed, musicians were registered, and music organized. Rosalind provided a cheering and supportive face to nervous

participants and their proud family members and friends. Music Education is key to supporting literacy, math, culture and quality of life in our community. Everyone who volunteered witnessed the pride of the young participants who presented their music. I am so grateful to everyone who helped to make this year's Festival a stunning success.

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

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.

1. Regular Meetings

Kiwanis is an Ojibway word that means “We share our talents”. At our Board and club meetings we get together for fellowship and to plan community service projects. 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 Kitchener. Check our calendar for other (evening) meeting times or contact our membership chair to confirm time and place at kwkiwanisclub@gmail.com.

March 17 We would like to share a few more photos from the March Celtic Cabaret since it was so well attended on St. Patrick’s Day. The Jazz Room on King Street was packed and attendees enjoyed great Irish tunes by the Rusty Nail and Celtic Music Group of Elmira, clog dancing by the Intensely Irish Dance and Kaleidoscope Irish Dance & Movement troupes, a silent auction, wine pull, comedy by Vinni Vinelli, and singing by Mary-Catherine Pazzano.

2. Activities & Events

For a complete listing of past and future events and volunteer opportunities, see our complete calendar at kwkiwanis.org.



(Left) Angela Vieth at the microphone (Right) Alan Chalmers served as the master of ceremonies



Shane Guse fiddled in rare form, making for a fun-filled evening.



Both the Intensely Irish Dance and Kaleidoscope Irish Dance & Movement troupes kicked up their heels for the crowd.



The Traditional Celtic Music Group of Elmira entertained with mandolins, hammered dulcimer, numerous fiddles, and guitars.



Musicians tune up at the Jazz Room for Celtic Cabaret 2026.

Celtic Cabaret was sponsored by Harbour Concepts. Proceeds went to Food4Kids. Thank you again Harbour Concepts!

April 7 The K-W Kiwanis Board met at Westmount GCC. Also the 2026 K-W Kiwanis Music Festival began today.

April 9 DELC 2026 !



(Left) District Education & Leadership Convention DELC26 attendees (L-R) Esther, Angela Vieth, and Shradhaa Srikanth. (Right) (L-R) Bulletin editor Jianna and Heeva Torabi (past pres. of Cameron Hts Key Club) from Univ. Ottawa Circle K club pose with Jordan Kaye, president of the UW Circle K club at DCON 2026.



The Eastern Canada District Convention (DCON 2026) was held March 8 at the University of Waterloo. This conference provides annual leadership training for Circle K club members.



DCON 2026 attendees participated in training exercises and a community service project to welcome immigrants to Canada.

This month's DELC 2026 conference provided current and former K-W Key Clubbers with leadership training. Last month DCON 2026 provided similar training for Circle K Club members.

April 11 The Paris-Brant Kiwanis Club held an Interclub for all organizations in the Kitchener-Waterloo Region at the Wayne Gretsky Municipal Golf Course in Brantford. Participants celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Club with cocktails at 5:30 and dinner and events at 6:30 pm.

April 21 This month the keynote speaker for K-W Kiwanis was Peter Rasberry, an acclaimed outdoor photographer. His photographic presentation celebrated the beauty, complexity and diversity of the many species we share the planet with here in southern Ontario.



Peter Rasberry addresses Kiwanis members and guests during his photographic presentation at Westmount Golf & Country Club.

Mr. Rasberry's background consists of a 38 year career in Outdoor and Environmental Education. Now, as a hobby photographer,

he is excited to share his deep connection to Nature through some of his images and experiences.



Mr. Rasberry presented a review of his extensive collection of nature photographs at this month's Kiwanis meeting.

Mr. Rasberry's photographs have appeared in the Canadian Wildlife Federation's Canadian Wildlife, and children's Wild magazines. They have also been on exhibit at Environment and Climate Change Canada's Biosphere Museum in Montreal for the United Nations International Year of Biodiversity. For more information see <http://peterrasberry.zenfolio.com>.

April 23 Bingo night at the K-W Gaming Centre again brought in funds for the K-W Kiwanis academic bursary program. Thank you to all the volunteers who made this possible !

April 25 The Kiwanis Music Festival drew to a close today. The Concert Finale will be held May 8 from 7-10 pm at Knox Presbyterian Church 50 Erb Street West, Waterloo.

April 30 The Kiwanis Convention for Eastern Canada & Caribbean clubs began today in Toronto. Details and registration were available at the convention website at <https://ecc2026.org/>. Attendees were asked to register with their club number (K00425 for K-W Kiwanis) and their personal member number. Each club designated voting members in advance for participation in the business sessions of

Kiwanis. Through numerous, breakout sessions and training seminars, participants at ECC 2026 had a great time throughout the week!

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.

May 3 The ECC Kiwanis Convention in Toronto ends today.


May 5 K-W Kiwanis Board meeting.

May 7 Adventure 4Change will hold a cultural event comprising dinner, fashion show, and a keynote speaker at RIM Park in Forbes Hall. The festivities will begin at 6 pm.



May 8 Finale Concert of the 2026 K-W Kiwanis Music Festival will take place at Knox Presbyterian Church 50 Erb Street West, Waterloo from 7-10 pm.

May 11 Stratford Interclub meeting will be held. See calendar entry at kwkiwanis.org for details. RSVP by May 6 to attend.




**Kiwaniis Club of Stratford
Interclub**

Monday, May 11 2026
Army, Navy, & Air Force
151 Lorne Avenue East Stratford

Guest Speaker:
David MacLennan:
the Computer Tutor

*Tips on email scams, passwords,
shortcuts, extending battery life,
& the dreaded “frozen” computer*

Social at 5:30 pm. Roast Beef Dinner at 6:15 pm.
\$20 per person, prepaid by e-transfer to
kiwanisstat@gmail.com
or pay by cash at the door.



Please RSVP by May 6th to: wilf.smyth@gmail.com

May 18 District Caucus Meeting (DCM)
May 19 Annual General Meeting
May 21 Bingo Night at the K-W Gaming
Centre in Kitchener

4. Service Leadership Clubs

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

Circle K International for college students:

The University of Waterloo Circle K (CKI) club is a Kiwanis-sponsored youth group that runs its own community service projects. Currently CKI has a roster of over two dozen members and is actively involved in community events. This month Circle K officers and Daria, director of Fundraising & Communications at Reception House in Kitchener, helped organize the DCON 2026 conference for the Waterloo Region and its project to support immigrants to Canada.

Circle K International (CKI) mirrors the mandate of Kiwanis at the university level to make our community a better place to live,

through service, with a special emphasis on helping children.



(Left) At DCON 2026, CKI president Jordan Kaye reviewed club activities and plans. (Right) K-W Kiwanis President Daisy Arseneault of K-W Kiwanis with Daria at Reception House.



Conferees prepared welcome packets to be donated at Reception House in Kitchener to new arrivals to Canada.

CKI is the largest student-run volunteer organization of its kind, with over 12,600 members on over 500 campuses in 17 countries. However, more locally, K-W Kiwanis is especially proud of our up-and-coming group of civic leaders at the University of Waterloo.

Key Club for students aged 14-18:

High school students can apply to become members of our K-W Kiwanis Key Clubs. Key Club members run their own meetings and service projects in the Waterloo Region to develop leadership skills.

Key Club members are eligible to attend the annual leadership conference that Kiwanis International runs for their age group. Key Clubbers are guided by an approved advisor from Kiwanis. St. Mary's Key Club now has new officers and one of their teachers (Melanie) has agreed to be the club advisor.



Shradhaa Srikanth, former president of the UW Circle K Club, and Caesar Arrijas, both now district officers for Circle K International, lead discussions at DCON 2026 in March.

5. Membership

Interested in joining us? Let us know at 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.

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

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

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: Plan approaches to membership recruitment and retention. Pre-approve new member applications and bring them to the Board. Review honorary members annually. Provide advice for approaching prospective new members. Check on absentee and delinquent memberships.

Chair: Stephen Rand

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: Marilyn Motz

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: Angela Vieth

Members: 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: Stephen Rand

Members: Daisy Arseneault, Kevin Twomey

Financial Review Committee

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

Chair: TBD

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