

**Kiwanis Club of Orillia**  
**Weekly Meeting Monday January 27th, 2020**  
**Theo's Restaurant**

**Present:**

Joanne Watson	Korine Keyzer	Heather Breckles
Dave Breckles	Charles Kelly	Steph Worthington
Mark Riczu	Maria McConnell	Mike Bunn
Lawrence LaFrance	Brandon Peacock	John Morton
John Parker	Dave Burns	Jen Man
Deb Trickey	Peter Borutski	Chuck Burton
Bob Brown	Bruce Waite	John Mayo
Don Haskins	Rob Town	Jim Wenger
Dave North		

**Guests:**      Guest Speaker Mike Burkett

**Oh Canada:**

Simply inspiring today Gang!!!!

**The Blessing:**

I think Korine may have minored in divinity – the blessings have been very thoughtful!!!!

### **Happy Loonies:**

John Morton was down in Cambridge celebrating the arrival of his new great granddaughter – awesome news John and congrats!!!

Rob Town's eldest daughter is now engaged. He met the future in-laws this past weekend in Sudbury and it sounds like they made the cut for team Town...

Korine had a tour of the new rec centre with Mayor Steve Clarke. Sounds like quite the place. Can't wait to see it. Maybe we could hold a meeting there sometime soon.

### **Special Club Update:**

Norah Burns, daughter to Mark and Olivia, is currently recovering from surgery in Toronto. She is making remarkable progress however it will be some time before she can return home to Orillia. Let's keep Norah and the Burns family in our thoughts during this time.

### **Circle K Club at Lakehead University:**

It's official. The Circle K Club has been established at Lakehead University. Our club is the official sponsor. Let's get behind these young people and do whatever we can to make it a success – fantastic news!!!

## **Today's Meeting:**

Mike Burkett, Mayor of the Town of Severn was our guest speaker today. Mike is married to Melody and they have two sons. He belongs to the Washago Lion's club and is a member at the Coldwater Legion. He is currently serving in his third term as Mayor of Severn.

Severn is the largest township in Simcoe County covering over 550 square kms. It has a population of just under 14,000 people. It stretches from Tay and Oro Medonte Townships in the south to the Severn River and Muskoka in the north and from Ramara Township and Lake Couchiching in the east to Georgian Bay in the west. It has over 450kms of roads of which 390kms are paved. In partnership with Parks Canada, it also helps manage the stretch of the Trent Severn waterway which flows from Lake Couchiching at Washago to Georgian Bay at Port Severn.

Some of their current projects include new bridge construction taking place at Lock 45, Port Stanton and Lock 42. There is also roadwork underway at Gloucester Pool and on the Utoff Line. The township also manages three waste-water facilities. Affordable housing is an issue and a top priority for 2020. It is also interesting to note that Severn Township has an operating fund with a surplus of over \$20,000,000.00. Imagine that, a municipality with money in the bank!!!! You're kind of bucking the trend there Mike!!!

Thank you so much for being with us today Mike. It sounds like we residents of Severn are in good hands!!!!

## **Kiwanis Ski Day:**

The big day is next Friday February 7<sup>th</sup> at Mount St. Louis. Just a reminder to bring a ski lock if you have one. Sadly, theft is a real problem at public hills. That's why I like skiing private ones, my stuff isn't worth ripping off at those places!!! Anyhow, if you don't have a lock don't sweat it. When leaving your skis just mismatch them with another Kiwanian and place the mismatched pairs away from each other on different ski racks. You'd have to be a real loser to steal two different skis!!! Après chez Nous any time after 3:30 pm.

## **Song of the Day:**

I sat with Joanne Watson at this week's meeting. We were chatting and during our conversation the verse "Happy, happy, happy" came out. She'd mentioned that she remembers when that song was a hit. For you Joanne, hopefully this is it.

<https://youtu.be/foepOwQlXpI>

## **Next Week:**

Were all back at Theo's next week when my good buddy Jedediah Levene will be our guest speaker. He will bring us up to snuff on this year's Ontario winter games. That's all for now, see you next week everyone.

**Thought for the Day:**

**“To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake one must first stand out in the cold”.**

**Aristotle**