**Summer A-15 Cabinet Meeting Minutes**

3:00 PM August 20th, 2017

Breslau Dog Guide Facility

1. Call to order and Welcome – DG Charlene Dwyer

Attendance as indicated:
**Voting Cabinet**

DG Charlene Dwyer IPDG Wayne Litt (R) 1st VDG Kevin Banfield 2nd VDG Tracey Leary

CS Rick Banks CT Peter Oswald RC George Corrin RC Tony Davidson

RC Duane Malcolm ZC Henri Callebert ZC Cecilia Fulker ZC Linda Vinette

ZC Harvey Woods

1. **COMMITTEE CHAIR**

PRC Paul Anstett PDG Dan Ayim PRC Rick Bell Lion Jason Crowe

PRC Deb Cserhalmi Lion Janet Dawson-Brock(R) PDG Tim DeBlock(R) Lion Lyle Fair (R)

PZC Gerry Haliburton Lion Allison Henkell Lion Mark Henkell (R) PDG Thom Herrmann

PDS Dennis Lougheed Lion Joanne McQuiggan(R)PDDG George Patton Lion Bob Pearson(R)

PDG Nancy RansomLion Garry RansomPRC Bill RobinsonLion Bob Rutter

PCS Ted Rypma PDG Diane Smith PDG Doug Smith PDG OJ Wilura

PID Art Woods PDG Denis Vinette

Also in attendance were approximately 33 other Lions.

1. National Anthem of Canada.
2. Welcome
3. Setting of Protocol – VDG2E Tracey Leary
4. Additions to and Approval of the Agenda –.
	1. MOTION to approve the agenda. Carried
5. District Governor’s Remarks

**We Serve!** Our motto says it best…service is the reason that our global organization exists. Our motto is timeless. It is as relevant today as it was in 1917, and it will inspire us into our next century of service. We have had the opportunity to reflect and celebrate on our past 100 Years of Service, now it is time to look ahead into our future!

As individuals we can only do so much. As we Lions, Lioness and LEOs stand together there is no limit to what we can achieve….The Power of We!

Our Centennial continues to June 30th, 2018 for your Club to qualify for the Centennial Service Challenge Awards.

As we move forward together in our great District of A15, we will share the service model for the 21st century from Lions International focusing on the five key areas, Environment, Hunger, Vision, along with: Diabetes and Pediatric Cancer. These service areas will be incorporated into the Club Activity Reporting categories in My LCI. With the ever increasing number of people living with Diabetes as well as the affect this disease has on the body as a whole, a focus on Diabetes Awareness is a key area of focus for service in your Community. Reach out to your local Canadian Diabetes Chapter to see where your Club could provide service to those in your community with Diabetes. Another important way to help is a donation to Lions Camp Dorset where those with Diabetes can have a fun vacation with their family while undergoing Dialysis. The Pediatric Cancer portion has opportunities for your Club to assist a local family whose child is undergoing cancer treatment by way of providing Gas Gift Cards, Grocery Gift Cards or a donation toward parking and travel costs to Cancer Treatment Centres. Another way could be a donation to Camp Trillium who hosts children with cancer.

We encourage your Club to harness the enthusiasm as well as the desire to serve within our Youth in our LEO Clubs by engaging them in your projects as well as developing new LEO Clubs throughout the District. The power of action increases when we work together for the betterment of our communities as well as our global village! We encourage you to look within your Club to develop plans and strategies to strengthen and grow which in turn leads to more hands and more service.

We encourage you to download the new **MyLion** mobile app. It is a great tool to share your Club’s service projects with Lions from around the world and to gain insight for new projects. Although we might add this app is experiencing “glitches”, which is quite common with any new mobile application as it gets up off the ground and running. Over time you should see an improvement in its functionality.

Does your Club benefit from the use of occasional volunteers that are not in your Lions Club right now? (Episodic Volunteer). These volunteers will help to increase service and may become Lions sometime down the road!

Through the past few years you have become familiar with the Global Leadership Team and the Global Membership Team which was created to work together to develop plans and strategies to assist our Clubs with membership for such aspects as growth and retention, as well as identifying and developing leadership within our Clubs as well as the District Cabinet.

Lions International has now introduced “The Global Action Team” which consists of the Global Leadership Team/The Global Membership Team and now a third team member has been created, that being the Global Service Team who will be developing plans and strategies to assist Clubs with strong service support.

Further along in our Cabinet Meeting today you will hear more about this exciting new team approach!

Did you know that in 2017 our District A15 reported 59,225 hours of service, with 683,632 people served? There were 3,401 participants reported, we collected 51,878 pairs of eyeglasses, we planted 1,650 trees, we raised $718,217 (U.S.) with we donated funds of $820,259! I am sure the numbers are much higher than that which was reported. Just think of what we would achieve if all of our Club Secretaries completed their Activity Reports on My LCI? One of my goals this year would be to increase our Lion Hours of Service to 100,000 hours, and reach 900,000+ people! Service and membership reporting is vital to assist LCI with developing further programs and training/assistance for our Lions. Your reports also reflect the strong service and membership component here in A15. Your Global Action Team as well as our District I/T Chair is here to help you, just reach out, we are happy to help!

**Our Lions Clubs International** President Lion Dr. Naresh Aggarwal’s stated:

“I want to give every Lion the same goal for the next 12 months. My dream is that every Lion will serve 10 people each month. If this happens, we will serve 170 million people this year— a big increase from our current level of 100 million and a big step toward our goal of serving 200 million annually by 2020. This is the focus of all my meetings around the world.”

How do we achieve that goal?

**The Power of We**

Standing together in service. As individuals, we can only do so much. But when 1.4 million Lions work together, there is no limit to what we can achieve. If each of us invested just $10 each month in service or served just one more hour per week, we could truly change the world.

**The Power of Action**

Transforming hope into action. Lions are active in communities all over the world. Let’s take advantage of our global presence by engaging each Lion in service early and often. We must address the urgent needs of our communities by selecting projects that convert every hour, dollar and member into service.

**The Power of Service**

Making the impossible possible. It all comes down to one thing—service. Our purpose has always been to provide service to those in need. Solving our world’s greatest problems is within reach if we work together. But only through service can we change lives and make the world a better place.

**The Future is Now …..** The time to act is now. We can and we will make a lasting impact on our communities and the world.

Your A15 District Leadership team is here to assist you as we look to the future. We are here because of you and for you! Together we are strong and when we believe in each other and our Clubs, those who need us most will benefit!

We believe in you, each and every one of us a Lion, Lioness and LEO is a member of our A15, standing together in Service … always remember … “Kindness Matters”

1. Installation of District Officers – Carried out by PID Lion Art Woods.
2. Approval of Minutes of the June 4th,2017 Cabinet Meeting.
	1. MOVED that the Minutes be approved as circulated. Carried
3. Motion to Ratify the Actions of the Previous Cabinet
	1. MOVED that the Actions of the previous Cabinet be ratified. Carried.
4. Secretary’s Report- as provided page 2.The Secretary thanked Lion Garry Ransom and PCS Ted Rypma for their considerable assistance in creating the directory and updating the A-15 Lions website.
5. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Secretary’s report. Carried.
6. Treasurer’s Report
	1. Report and Financial Statements – pages 4 through 9
	2. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer’s report and Financial Statements as presented. Carried.
	3. MOVED that the 2017-2018 Budget be approved as presented. Carried.
	4. A reminder that Lion Peter’s will be retiring from his position at the end of the 2017-2018 year and that anyone wishing to gain valuable experience should apply to the Governor as soon as possible.
7. Cabinet Reports
	1. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Cabinet Reports. Carried
8. Committee Reports – See pages 12 to end
	1. Committee Chairs were introduced.
	2. LCIF – VDG1 Kevin Banfield. Kevin explained the position of the new Club LCIF Chair. Goals for this year are to raise $25.00 per member and to create a Melvin Jones per District.
	3. Peace Poster - Lion Janet Dawson-Brock - see page 16
	4. Youth Camp and Youth Exchange – see page 17
	5. Lions Quest – PDG Denis Vinette see report. Just a reminder to remember our second Canadian national program. See page 14.
	6. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the other Committee Reports. Carried.
9. New Business
	1. Global Action Team Presentation – GLTDC – Dennis Lougheed – see page 14
	2. New Club Workshop - PRC Jim Keron – Additional information will be provided however this workshop will take place in Thamesford on Sunday November 5, 2017 at 1:00 pm. The driver is to promote a new club in Embro. Paul Baker from LCI will be leading the session. These same techniques can be used in any community and would encourage anyone in the District is encouraged to attend. More to follow.
	3. Question and Answer session –
		1. A question from the floor about outgoing youth and how that works. We will address that concern going forward.
10. Award Presentation – IPDG Wayne is away on personal matters and Special Awards will follow at the next Cabinet meeting
11. Good and Welfare
	1. Directory Pickup
	2. Lions 100 year Centennial Flags – there are still flags that have not been picked up.
	3. Upcoming Events
		1. Copetown – have tickets for a raffle. Quilt and Hockey Shirt
		2. Certificates were presented to Clubs that helped with meals for the Youth Camp but were not able to attend to pick them up. - Bayfield, Drumbo, Fergus, Galt-Cambridge.
		3. A reminder to update your information for your bulletin.
		4. Charlene introduced us to a new Lions Song in order to “rock” the District for 2017-18.
		5. Thanks to Rockwood Lions for Dinner and setup
		6. Next Cabinet Meeting is October 25 at 7:00 pm in Monkton.
12. Lions Grace & Dinner
13. Adjournment –4:26 PM

**SECRETARY’S REPORT TO CABINET**

Clubs did an excellent job of updating their information to MyLCI by May 15. There were a couple of clubs due to circumstances that were unable to update on time, however; all have been now been completed. Any changes going forward are to be made in MyLCI, with updates to the Directory appearing on the website as in previous years.

Centennial Flags are on hand and must be picked up, as well as the Directories. I am looking forward to a new Lions year.

**TREASURER’S REPORT TO CABINET**

My first duty today is to summarize the financial statements as at June 30, 2017 to close off the last Lions year. The financial statements in the package have been reconciled to the statements for bank accounts and all GIC investments as at June 30. The financial statements fairly reflect the financial position of the District. The informal audit of the financial statements has not been completed as of this writing but will be completed shortly – with a report to the District Governor / Cabinet to follow.

ADMIN – for clarification, I add the following:

* The Balance sheet fairly reflects the positon of the District ADMIN account and the Bank account balance of $7,206.03 is after any outstanding cheques for expenses etc close to year-end clear with 1 exception – the 2017 Convention committee is owed $557 which can be paid when their final financial report is received and accepted by Cabinet.
* Investments include $24,159.02 (1.40% to June, 2018) for the reserve, $7,789.12 (1.25% to December, 2017) of surplus held parked in a GIC to earn some interest – these total $31,948.14. As well, there is $6,000 from the International Director account invested at 1.50% to January, 2019 to earn some interest on those funds.
* We ended the year with a surplus of $7,473.72 for the 2016-17 year. Our revenue was very closely aligned to the budget. For expenses, there are 2 line items that are above budget by small amounts but several where the budgeted amount was used sparingly or not at all. This provided the surplus. One item in particular is the $1,500 budgeted for Centennial Project – unused in the year

From the surplus, I am recommending some funds be retained as follows:

* + $2,500 be moved to replenish the DGE Partner Travel Fund (balance currently $1,736 but expenses for 2017 have to be paid out when known).
	+ $1,500 be set aside in a Centennial Project account to be used at the direction of Cabinet for either our District Centennial Project and/or any future purpose related to Centennial celebrations for Lions in Canada in 2020.
* With the remainder, **I am proposing a rebate of dues to the Clubs in the amount of $2.00** per member based on the number of members invoiced in September, 2015. This rebate will be netted off the invoice for 2016-17 and will amount to approximately $3,014. The balance of the surplus will be retained in ADMIN.

TRUST – balance sheet is straight forward and reflects balances for applicable District & Lion project accounts. I have provided some Committee Chairs with info on their respective project. If there are any new Committee chairs that need some history on activity etc for your committee, let me know and I will provide as much as possible. GICs held here include:

* Vision Screening $5,234 at 0.70% to July, 2017; Youth Camp Capital $7,845 at 1.50% to Feb, 2019; Lions Quest $7,689.93 0.50% flexible; Youth Camp regular $12,911 1.40% to Jun 2018.
* Note the Centennial Project has $15,790 available but that is expected to be used in the near future to move our Gate Project towards completion.

**2017-18 Administration Budget**

My second duty today is to present the administration budget for the 2017-18 Lions year. The proposed budget is included with the package and compares to the actual results for the previous 3 Lions years. I add the following:

* Revenue will be down slightly with fewer members – as at August 1, membership reported is 1,453 (down 54).
* Expenses are similar in most categories. We have reduced the number of pins by 50; an amount for potential Centennial celebrations and costs is set at $1,200; as part of the Global Action team, a third team Lead is in place for 2017-18 so that budget has been increased to $1,900.
* As in past years, the budget provides for an Honorarium of $50 per Committee Chair – paid in June to help defray minor expenses.
* Liability Insurance – an amount is budgeted in anticipation of needs.
* For Club Treasurers, the following will be invoiced in September:
	+ Per member $8.50 (District Dues) + $1.00 (Convention Fund - reduced from Max amount of $1.40 so surplus can be reduced) + $1.50 (membership assessment to support GMT/GLT/GST Committee Chairs) plus $0.25 (International Director’s Fund) = $11.25. As well, a charge of $25 per Club for the Leadership Seminar. Note this total will be reduced by any rebate approved.
	+ The District will again invoice for MDA dues as well - $14.50 per member as at Aug 1.



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**CABINET REPORTS**

**DG –** Charlene Dwyer

**We Serve!** Our motto says it best…service is the reason that our global organization exists. We have had the opportunity to reflect and celebrate on our past 100 Years of Service, now it is time to look ahead to our next century of humanitarian service! As individuals we can only do so much. As we Lions, Lioness and LEOs stand together there is no limit to what we can achieve….The Power of We!

 As we move forward together in our great District of A15, we will share the service model for the 21st century from Lions International focusing on the five key areas, Environment, Hunger, Vision, Diabetes and Pediatric Cancer. We encourage your Club to harness the enthusiasm as well as the desire to serve within our Youth in our LEO Clubs by engaging them in your projects as well as developing new LEO Clubs throughout the District. The power of action increases when we work together for the betterment of our communities as well as our global village! We encourage you to look within your Club to develop plans and strategies to strengthen and grow which in turn leads to more hands and more service.

Your A15 District Leadership team is here to assist you as we look to the future. The team is here because of you and for you! Together we are strong and when we believe in each other and our Clubs, those who need our help will benefit! We encourage you to download the new **MyLion** mobile app. It is a great tool to share your Club’s service projects with Lions from around the world and too gain insight for new projects. We also encourage you to benefit from the use of Occasional Volunteers that are not in your Lions Club right now (Episodic Volunteer). These volunteers will help to increase service and may become Lions sometime down the road! Our next Century of Service is here; let’s share the passion for service together for the betterment of our own communities and globally as well! We Serve……The Power Of We!

* Lion Charlene Dwyer (Char)

*“Solving our world’s greatest problems is within reach if we work together. But only through service can we change lives and make the world a better place.” - Lions Clubs International President Dr. Naresh Aggarwal (2017-2018)*

**1St VDG** – Kevin Banfield

As Our International President says - Welcome to our new century! As we embrace the future of Lions Club International and celebrate our past successes, let us continue to touch our communities and world around us. From climbing new mountains (last year's theme), we can see new horizons, more people to serve, greater challenges and opportunities. It all begins with our attitude, our willingness to take up new ways to connect - the MyLion global platform is waiting for you - our continuing quest to grow the skills and talents around us, and, most of all, our innate ability to impact positively our fellow human being. I challenge you, every member of A15, to grow in service and to keep focus on the new horizons before us.

**2nd VDG** **–** Tracey Leary

They say “Team work makes the dream work”. I am very pleased to be a part of this team heading into the next century of service. We are blessed in our district to have so many passionate and knowledgeable Lions willing to volunteer their time and energy to improve a community or to help the less fortunate anyway they can. I am sure we can all think of at least one of those “ah ha” moments where we witnessed firsthand the difference that we make when we work together as a team to accomplish a goal we would not have been able to do on our own all while having fun with other likeminded individuals. I am looking forward to getting out and meeting with you and having fun while “WE SERVE”.

**ZC 51E** – Linda Vinette

Well, I’ve got the oil changed, the wheels balanced, the engine checked, High test gas in the car and I’m ready to be part of DG Char pit crew. With DG Char in the driver’s seat and the right team working with her, we will place First in Service for our Zone, our Region and our District.

Goals are to increase membership and membership satisfaction, providing service to our communities, ensuring awareness of our service activities and developing leadership. How am I going to do this… by showing how much I enjoy being a Lion with personal satisfaction and by inspiring others.

Together we will make the next century in Lionism stronger by reaching a new level of service with increased membership.

Some of the activities that I’ve done so far as Zone Chair;

Planted trees with PDDG Darryl Nichol of the Rockwood Lions at Arkell (outside of Guelph),

Attended the Lions International Convention in Chicago,

Participated in a rejuvenation round table workshop for the Guelph University Lions Campus Club

Communicated with the clubs in my Zone for club visits and Zone meeting

Prepared 2 meals at the Bruce Murray Youth Exchange Camp

Attended the Youth Exchange International Night in Copetown

I am looking forward to my year as Zone Chair for 51E.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**LCIF –**1st VDG Kevin Banfield

Lions Clubs International empowers Lions around the world to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace, and promote international understanding through Lions Clubs. LCI is the global leader in humanitarian service. But how do Lions gather the resources to carry out large scale or global projects? LCIF!

LCIF is your Foundation! LCIF supports Lions’ efforts to serve their communities worldwide. The foundation receives no funding from membership dues. The programs are funded by donations from Lions like you.

At a glance, LCIF seems simple – providing support for the efforts of clubs worldwide in serving their local and global community through grants. And, while it is true that the concept is simple, the results are life-changing for so many individuals throughout the world.

The Foundation provides grant funding for large-scale projects that clubs can’t do on their own.

As a nonprofit, LCIF relies solely on donations from Lions and others who share our mission, which is why it is important for not only our clubs to support the Foundation but for us as individual Lions, too.

Since being founded in 1968, LCIF has given out more than US$870 million in grants! It is always impressive to hear that number, but it is even more impressive and touching when you think about the millions of lives that Lions changed through those grants. Right now in Canada we receive about $1.50 for every dollar WE donate to LCIF.

Our Foundation changes lives around the world, and right in your own back yard.

The foundation’s grants are grouped into six categories.

**Standard Grants** are the most common type of grant, awarded for large-scale Lions’ humanitarian projects. Grants must be for projects that serve a large number of people and are beyond the scope of a district or club to carry out alone.

**Core 4 fund large-scale** projects in specific areas related to Lions’ four core service commitments: preserving sight, combatting disability, promoting health, and serving youth.

**International Assistance** grants foster partnerships between Lions clubs in developed countries and those in less-developed regions. Grants can be used for projects such as medical missions, health care and clean water.

**Emergency grants** assist Lions in helping their community following a natural disaster. Funds must be used for immediate needs like food, water and clothing.

**Major Catastrophe** grants are awarded by the LCI President and the Chairperson of LCIF for major disasters. Lions do not apply for these grants.

**SightFirst** grants are awarded to fight preventable and reversible blindness. Grants can be used to build hospitals and clinics, train doctors, distribute medicine and raise awareness of eye-disease.

We now have a new club role, **LCIF Coordinator**.

The LCIF Coordinator will serve as ambassadors for Lions Clubs International Foundation in their clubs. They will share the stories of LCIF programs, motivate others to support LCIF, and enable the foundation to advance its humanitarian work in their communities and around the world.

The LCIF Club Coordinator is nominated and elected as an officer to serve a one-year term. The LCIF Club Coordinator works closely within the local club leadership team and communicates directly to the LCIF District Chairperson to ensure alignment with district goals.

So, you’re reading this and ask yourself why do we need a club LCIF Coordinator?

It’s simple. There is more demand for grants and we are also moving into new areas in response to global needs and the interests of our members.

I encourage each club/president to elect or appoint someone to this very important role in our association.

Should you need any other information please feel free to reach out to me as you’re A-15 District Chair.

**Lions Quest** – PDG Denis Vinette

Firstly, I would like to express my appreciation to District Governor Char for entrusting me with such an important responsibility as Lions Quest Chair for District A15. I promise to build on the efforts of my predecessors in this role.

I would like to let you know that I had the opportunity of participating in a full Lions Quest K-12 workshop in Oakville. What a wonderful and enlightening experience. As I participate in these and other Quest events, I learn a more and more about the high value of the program and of the material that LQ offers to anyone who undertakes to bring this program to their classroom and community. This year, with modern and updated program materials in place, Lions Quest is bringing new and exciting resources to empower our young people with the life tools they need to deal with the ever changing pressures of growing in today’s challenging world.

Let us always remember: One trained Lions Quest educator or community service individual will impact not one or two young persons but will, over the years, help support and empower 10’s, if not 100’s, of young people to make better life choices and deal with life challenges in a practical and confident manner.

Be proud of the fact that we, as Lions, provide this program and remember to encourage your club and your members to support Lions Quest by offering to host workshops and/or provide funding of materials for the school and community based programs that Lions Quest provide each and every day.

Lions Quest is “THE” social and emotional skill program. Lions Quest is “OUR” program.

**Global Leadership Team – District Coordinator** – Lion Dennis Lougheed

Changes made to the session formats and content at the District and Club Officer Training Seminars presented in May were well received by attendees. Your Global Leadership Team consisting of myself and PDG Diane Smith met along with the full Global Action Team to further evaluate and plan the follow up session for District Officers held earlier today. Implementation of the new Global Action Team structure consisting of Global Leadership, Global Membership and the new Global Service team has commenced. Planning for sessions explaining the Global Action Team structure as well as the new digital era communication tool, MyLion to the membership is underway. Sessions will commence once International more fully rolls out the material associated with these changes and we are able to best evaluate workable timelines for implementation. Changes are being initiated which we hope will make attendance at Zone and Cabinet meetings more meaningful and lead to greater attendance. Further evaluation of the impact of the May training and subsequent changes will occur throughout the fall with a Global Action Team roundtable in January to draft plans for the 2018 Club and District Officer Training.

LCI offers two Leadership Institutes of interest and value to those Lions wishing to advance their leadership skills. [The Emerging Lions Institute (ELLI)](http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/resources/leadership-resource-center/development-programs/emerging-leadership-institutes/index.php) provides training to those Lions who wish to pursue club level leadership positions. [The Advance Lions Leadership Institute (ALLI)](http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/resources/leadership-resource-center/development-programs/advanced-leadership-institutes/index.php) provides training for those wishing to pursue district level leadership positions. Applications for both Institutes held November 11th-13th in Denver Colorado are available from the links provided. Applicants are responsible for travel expenses and a US$125 participation fee. A level of District assistance with respect to the participation fee is available. Applications must be submitted by August 28th and signed by the District Governor and The Global Leadership Coordinator.

**Additional Information – Global Action Team**

The introduction by LCI of the GAT model is the latest in the evolution of administrative structures designed to enhance our organization’s effectiveness.

The **actions** we take as an organization to achieve all that our motto suggests are conducted at all levels of our organization from our own communities to a **global** outreach and are most effective when we move past individually driven actions to **team** driven actions. By coining the moniker **Global Action Team**, LCI has focussed our perspective on those three core view points and is tweaking organization of program, resource development and delivery along those lines in order to emphasize this view.

Additionally, LCI is drawing our attention to the reality that in order to fulfill our motto “**We Serve**", we must focus on three critical elements, the members and non-members who serve, the leadership we provide and the service opportunities available. By providing for key people at each organizational level to head up membership development, (Global Membership Coordinators), leadership guidance and instruction, (Global Leadership Coordinators) and service opportunity development and success sharing, (Global Service Coordinators) all under the oversight (supervision) of a Global Action Team Chairperson we can maximize and continue to grow our service to those in need.

Each administrative level of our organization will have an Action Team Leader – President, Governor, Council Chair etc. Each level will have a Global Leadership Coordinator, Global Membership Coordinator, and Global Services Coordinator.

These components of how we go about planning and providing for membership growth development and service are what we have always done. There is no increased demand being made of our time. There is a refocusing to bring the service aspect more clearly into the picture.

At the club level, although the President is by default the Action Team Chairperson, the Vice President is by default the Leadership Coordinator and the Membership and Services Coordinators are to be elected, every indication is that “getting the job done” in the name of service is more important than strict adherence to who actually carries out the roles within the club. Note that “job descriptions” of these roles were sent to the clubs in early August.

At the District Level, the District Governor is the Action Team Chairperson, PRC Bill Robinson is the Global Membership Coordinator, PDG OJ Wilura is the Global Services Coordinator and PCS Dennis Lougheed is the Global Leadership Coordinator. The club level Global Action Team will look to the District Global action Team for support and Guidance throughout the year. While the District Team will be directing material, suggestions and opportunities down to the Club Level, its focus is one of support to the Clubs so they may be as effective as possible in carrying out the service projects that the Clubs determine to be their priorities.

**District Bulletin Editor** – PZC Gerry Haliburton

This is an introduction, more than it is a report. I am stepping into the shoes of Lion Bob Pearson, who has been doing a great job for some time. I have been in contact with him, and we will be in close contact to ensure I stay on track, and to get assistance as needed.

I have been a Lion since November, 1989, always in the St. Marys club. I have been President, Secretary, and Bulletin Editor for the club. I was Zone Chair for 37W in 1994-95 and 95-96.

My message here is to encourage everyone to contribute to the District Bulletin and LION Magazine. In reading both these publications, I find a sense of pride in what our great organization is doing for those in need. I also enjoy seeing new ideas presented, or a new way to develop and work an old one.

I would ask the Zone and Region Chairs to encourage all their clubs to submit their bulletins to me, so we can all be informed of the activities around us. Requests for publication in LION magazine must also be sent to me at bulletin@a15lions.org.

The Bulletin Competition rules are under review, and I will have more news on that subject at a later date.

I look forward to working with all of you to keep the lines of communication open. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

**Peace Poster Contest** – Lion Janet Dawson-Brock

The future of Lions International is our Youth. This is a project that has to be started as soon as possible in the Lion’s year. Peace Poster Kits are free to the Clubs, just contact Janet and she will get them to you. The deadline for entries is November 15th,, 2017. Janet is also the MDA chair for Peace Poster and Essay Contest. Clubs, please remember to donate to these very worthwhile projects and attend the MDA convention in St. Catherines including the Youth Luncheon to meet some of these wonderful young adults.

Lions Foundation Report – PRC Deb Cserhalmi

Our new sponsor for our Dog Walk had a very successful first walk this year. The Spring Walks have raised a total of $1,482,379.72. Congratulations to everyone who participated, especially those who hosted a walk. District A-15 had 13 clubs who hosted (or co-hosted) walks as well as 5 Pet Valu stores. If your club does not host a walk, perhaps consider joining with your own Pet Valu next year. District A-15 raised 91,698.40.

Separate from the walk, our District was very generous to LFC this past year. From July 1,2016 to June 30, 2017, $109,562 was donated. We were second only to District A-2 in MDA. They raised $115,415.00. Can we beat that this year? 44 clubs contributed to LFC including 2 Lioness Clubs. Can we get 100% of our clubs to donate separate from the Dog Walk?

Please Mark October 14,2017 on your calendar. It’s Open House at the facility in Oakville. The Open House starts around 9:30 -3:00. (last year’s time, check with website closer to date [www.dogguides.com](http://www.dogguides.com) )They have lots of demonstrations, a silent auction and the gift shop will be open.

Feel free to contact me at lfc@a15lions.org if you would like me to speak to your club or need puppies for your event. You can also contact Dog Guides directly at <https://www.dogguides.com/forms/New%20Event%20Form.pdf> and fill out the form to get Puppies or speakers to your event.

Thanks for supporting YOUR CANADIAN Foundation.

**Youth Camp and Exchange –** Lion Allison Henkell

We had 23 youth from 18 different countries, 1 youth liaison and 3 counsellors. The youth stayed with 11 different host families in 9 different communities. We were in camp for 11 days and 10 nights and we travelled 1,487 kilometers in 2 vans.

We went canoeing, trampolining, and swimming. We learned about Mennonites and how soldiers lived during the war of 1812. We saw the Blue Jays pull out a victory at the bottom of the ninth inning and listened to the youth chant “Let’s Go Blue Jays” for many blocks on our walk to the vans. We saw the city of Toronto from the top of the CN Tower and saw the majesty of Niagara Falls from a boat at the base of the falls. We learned about traditions celebrated around the world, had a visit from Santa and scrambled madly to try and get candy out of a ball of plastic cling wrap. We got to see first-hand the work being accomplished with fund raised by Lions when we toured the Dog Guide facility in Oakville. We sang songs, danced dances, and told stories and ate way too much. Most of all, we got to watch as youth from around the world went from strangers to best friends in 11 short days. For that, we want to say thank-you to the Lions who support this camp. Mark and I are honoured to be able to be the Directors of this very awesome camp.

When the budget was originally submitted for camp this year, the cost budgeted was $22,205 for an anticipated 20 participants; we are currently sitting with expenses of $25,262 for 26 participants. The full details of the actual vs budgeted costs will be available soon. The camp was funded with $5,500 collected from the youth (they each pay $250); $10,250 was donated by 17 different clubs which leave about $9,500 to be pulled from the camp bank account. In total, 29 clubs were involved with the camp either by making a donation or coming out to prepare meals at the camp. Some clubs did both. We are very grateful for the support.

We are beginning the planning for next year’s camp. We have been contacted by Five Oaks and they would like to talk to us about going back to use their facility. We are planning on talking with them soon. When we were packing up to leave Blue Springs we had a discussions with the Ranger there. He indicated that he was going to speak to management about getting us a discounted rate if we chose to go back there next year. We will also be in discussions with them. We would encourage the 30 clubs that were not involved in the camp this year to get involved. We are looking for other Lions who can partner with us to promote the camp throughout the District. Because of our work schedules, Mark and I are not able to come out to visit each club. We would like to have volunteers who can do this promotion for us.

This camp is an awesome undertaking in that we are able to positively impact youth from around the world. It is also an awesome undertaking in that a lot of time, planning, and money go into making it a success. We can’t do that without you.

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**Elmira Convention Report** – PID Art Woods

PID Art thanked Convention Chair Lion Nancy Chiasson for all of her work.

Income - Registration total was $8,670, banquet $5,776; rooms $7,685; raffle $2,975. Total Income $31,165.

Expenses – Facilities including tent rental $9,000 Meals $8,000 Total Expenses $27,409

Surplus = $3,756.

Thanks to all who attended. 510 Lions registered and 160 came to the banquet. All the best to Guelph Lions for 2018.