**Summer A-15 Cabinet Meeting Minutes**

7:00 PM October 25th, 2017

Monkton Lions Club, Monkton

1. Call to order and Welcome – DG Charlene Dwyer

Attendance as indicated:

**Voting Cabinet**

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

CS Rick Banks CT Peter Oswald (R) RC George Corrin RC Tony Davidson (R)

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

ZC Harvey Woods

**COMMITTEE CHAIR**

PRC Paul Anstett PDG Dan Ayim (R) PRC Rick Bell Lion Jason Crowe (R)

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

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

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

PDG Nancy RansomLion Garry RansomPRC Bill RobinsonLion Bob Rutter(R)

PCS Ted Rypma(R) PDG Diane Smith PDG Doug Smith (R) PDG OJ Wilura

PID Art Woods (R) PDG Denis Vinette

Also in attendance were approximately 41 other Lions.

1. Welcome and the National Anthem of Canada.
2. Moment of Silence
3. Lions Grace and Dinner
4. Setting of Protocol – VDG2E Tracey Leary
5. Additions to and Approval of the Agenda – Some changes to the printed Agenda circulated at the metting. The agenda emailed was correct.
	1. MOTION to approve the agenda as emailed. Carried
6. District Governor’s Remarks

It’s hard to believe that we have reached the end of our first quarter of our Lions year already. Time is flying by. It has been so wonderful to see the Power Of Service within our District as our Lions Clubs work together on projects as well as increasing their service to their communities and LCI. We are elated to see the number of Clubs increasing their membership. Increasing membership is vital to your Club and the District, more hands for more service as the ever increasing demand for our help continues. Just as equally important is “retention” of our current membership, ensuring that our Lions members are both satisfied and active in their Clubs.

One year ago here in A15 we had 1472 members and we currently sit with 1458 members (-14 for the year)…**this month** we had an opening balance of 1451 members, we added 12 new members but dropped 5, and we are +7 so far in October. Our District has made it into the Top 10 Most Improved Districts in Multiple District “A” for August and September.

So far this year 37 clubs have reported activities, 22 have not reported. In our current year we had 312 activities reported, we have reported 14,825 Lion hours, we have served 101,904 people with 691 participants, we have collected 5,340 eyeglasses so far, planted 12 trees, we have raised $123,012 U.S funds, and we have donated $110,785 U.S. funds.

Your District Cabinet along with our Global Action Team have been working hard to ensure that your Club has the tools and assistance you need to grow your membership, identify service projects and planning as well as identifying future leaders not only within your Club but within the District, it is a team effort and we are here to assist you with whatever you may need, all you have to do is reach out to us.

The team is currently working on enhancing the District and Club Leadership seminar, more details on that to follow.

At the Multiple District level there is also much work being completed from the team to ensure they have the tools necessary to assist our Districts within MDA. An increase in the Rules of Audit for District Officers was voted upon with an increase in costs for breakfast of $8, lunch $10 and dinner increased to $15.

At the MDA Caucus meeting more information was provided on the knowledge of the CNIB developing its own service dog project for the visually impaired….this news came as quite a surprise to the sitting MDA Caucus with information provided that this project has been at least 2-3 years in the works but with little interaction between CNIB, the Lions of Canada nor the Lions Foundation of Canada. While it is not to say “they can’t” develop this program, there has been quite a discussion with Executive Director Sandy Turney at LFC as CNIB had been providing inaccurate information as to waiting times and availability of our Canine Vision Canada Dog Guides. At our next MDA meeting at our Friday evening Caucus meeting we will have a representative from CNIB attend our meeting to answer questions as to where the funding is coming from for the training of these service dogs and is any of this money coming out of donations from Lions Clubs, they will also provide more information on this subject. Lions are being asked to continue to support Lake Joe and if you are donating funding to CNIB that you specify where you would like your donation to go.

At the Lions International level, after the LCI Board of Directors meeting following the International Convention in Chicago, some amendments to the LCI Constitution and By-Laws were completed, and since our District aligns our Const and ByLaws with International, there will be more information on those amendments coming forward, most have minimal impact with a slight change in “wording”. These amendments will be brought forth at the Winter Cabinet Meeting for the Cabinet to vote on subject to ratification at the District Convention. From what we have heard from CID Lion Tom Gordon there will be further changes coming in the November LCI Board of Directors meeting.

As you can see there is always something to learn, and your District Cabinet as well as your Global Action Team and Committee Chairpersons are doing just that to keep your Clubs informed of the latest information.

We thank you for your service and dedication to your communities, your Club, our District and Lions International. As individuals we can only do so much, but when we stand together in service there is no limit to what we can achieve!

Believe in yourself, believe in your Club knowing that you are truly making an impact on the lives of those who need our help.

**The Power of WE, the Power of Action, the Power of Service is alive and well here in this great District of A15….and always remember “Kindness Matters”!**

1. Approval of Minutes of the August 20th, 2017 Cabinet Meeting
*Available at* [*http://a15lions.org/pages/uploads/Events/CabMinAug 20 2017.pdf*](http://a15lions.org/pages/uploads/Events/CabMinAug%2020%202017.pdf)

MOVED that the minutes of the August 20, 2017 Cabinet Meeting be approved as posted. Carried

1. Secretary’s Report – No report
2. Treasurer’s Report
	1. Report and Financial Statements as of September 30 2017 - *See Pages* 4 *through 8*
	MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer’s report and Financial Statements as presented.
	2. MOVED to approve the transfer of $1,500 from the Youth Fund to Effective speaking to be repaid over the next two years as outlined in the Treasurer’s report.
	3. MOVED to receive the Effective Speaking Budget as presented. Carried
3. Matters Arising - none
4. Cabinet Reports – *see pages 11 through 13*
	1. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Cabinet Reports. Carried
5. Committee Reports and discussions – *Pages 13 through 18*
	1. Convention Budget – Discussion – *Page 10*
		1. MOVED to receive the Convention Budget as presented. Carried
	2. Lions Quest – PDG Denis Vinette – *see page 16*
	3. Diabetes – Lion Rick Bell

I am very encouraged that Lions International has made Diabetes one of the focus areas for Lions. One in three Canadians have Diabetes. Cost for treatment are $3.4 billion per year, with 5 to 15 years shorter lifespan. Diabetes contributes to 30% of all strokes, 40% of all heart attacks and the risk of blindness is 25 times greater for diabetics.

What can we do? Host a meeting on November 14 (World Diabetes Day) to generate awareness. There are 25 project ideas to support this initiative. <http://www.lionsclubs.org/resources/EN/pdfs/gst1A.pdf>. Used clothing is one way to fund raise for Diabetes.

* 1. Peace Poster – Lion Janet Dawson-Brock

Who is the future of Lions International?

Yes, our Youth. Can you think of a better way to introduce the Youth to Lions International then through our Peace Poster Contest, Effective Speaking, Youth Camp, Youth Exchange and Out Going Youth?

As you’re A-15 Chair for Peace Poster, I have tried to make it easy for you by ordering Peace Poster Kits. This way, they are here and hopefully they will be at the Cabinet Meeting in August next year.

As you may or may not know, the deadline for entry is November 15, so it is a little late for this year. I have 16 Peace Poster Kits out in A15 so let’s hope the Lions/Lioness get their winning entry to Governor Charlene by that date.

New Hamburg Lions gave their winner $25.00. The District winner will receive $250.00 and the winning entry will be sent to the Council Chair for MDA to be judged. The winner for MDA receives $1,000.00 and the gets sent on to Lions International for a possibility of winning the $5,000.00 first prize along with a trip to the United Nations.

As the Chair for the MDA Peace Poster contest, I am asking all clubs to donate to the Peace Poster at your District and the MDA level. We are in a deficit position at the MDA Level.

We are trying to arrange a Youth Luncheon/Supper at the MDA Convention and we are asking everyone to attend. Thank you for your support.

* 1. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Committee Reports. Carried
1. New Business
	1. Question and Answer Opportunity – Questions about the Honorary Committee and a date. IPDG Wayne will have one in November.
	2. Discussion about the Centennial Project – Very little information is available as to the progress of this project. Questions can be directed to PID Art Woods.
2. Special Presentations & Awards
	1. 100% Secretary – Lorraine Robertson, Margaret DeBoer, Dennis Lougheed
	2. 100% Treasurer – Lorraine Robertson, Phil Hacock, Wendy Scott
	3. Certified Guiding Lions – PRC Deb Cserhalmi, RC George Corrin and RC Duane Malcolm. RC Duane has been assigned to the Guelph University Campus as their Certified Guiding Lion
	4. Presentation of a Certificate of Congratulations to the Monkton Lions Club on their 65th Charter Anniversary.
3. Good & Welfare
	1. Lions 100 Year Centennial Flags - Some clubs have yet to pick up their Centennial Flags
	2. Upcoming Events – Mark your calendars for April 14 and 15th convention in Guelph. Save your used eyeglasses and bring them to the convention for an eye glass sort on the Saturday afternoon.
	3. Inspirational Video – Nic Vujcic – presented at Chicago at the International Convention. <https://www.lifewithoutlimbs.org/>
	4. Lions Club Anthem – it is true we need more practice on this. We Serve as One https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0CEOmDUSotw
4. Adjournment

**SECRETARY’S REPORT TO CABINET**

Nothing to report.

**TREASURER’S REPORT TO CABINET**

The financial statements are presented today as at September 30, 2017. District invoices sent to Clubs include dues for the District AND MD ‘A’ again this year. Funds collected on behalf of MD ‘A’ (invoiced a total of $21,010.50) will be remitted to the MD ‘A’ Treasurer. The District is under no financial obligation on this activity – we are simply collecting and remitting funds collected on the invoice. The financial records have been balanced and reconciled to the bank statements as at Sept. 30. The financial statements presented here fairly reflect the financial position of the District.

ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNTS

* All Clubs have been invoiced for dues for this Lions year based on actual membership as at Aug 1, 2017. This is based on 1,452 members at that date.
* With respect to Expenses vs Budget, there has been limited activity to date and the report is straight forward.
* As of Oct 15, payment has been received from 34 of the 59 Clubs in the District representing some 60% of the amount of the invoices. The remaining 25 Clubs are reminded to forward their payment before the end of the month.

TRUST ACCOUNTS

* The balance sheet for the Trust accounts is an accurate reflection of all balances held in Trust as at September 30, 2017 and all accounts have been reconciled to the Bank records as at the same date. There are several ‘Camp’ and other lines with funds received over the summer – these funds are being remitted to their respective projects in October.
* The $120 in accounts receivable shown on the Trust statement represent funds owed for Centennial Flags from 8 clubs – one has since been paid. Payment from the remaining 7 Clubs should be forwarded immediately to finalize this project.
* The Effective Speaking account had lower donations last year (approx. $4,200) and has some outstanding expenses to be paid for accommodations at the MDA competition in May. To cover the outstanding costs and provide some funds to support the start-up of 2017-18, I am recommending the transfer of $1,500 from the youth account for short term support – to be repaid over the next 2 Lions years. The District & MDA Effective Speaking competitions take about $6,000 to operate – approx. $4 per Lion Member in District A-15. When Clubs are planning their project support for this year, please consider a donation of $5 per member to bolster this account – with a minimum of $100.

MOTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1) Motion to receive the financial statements as submitted.

2) Motion to approve the transfer of $1,500 from the youth account as outlined.



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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Effective Speaking Budget** |  | **2017 to 2018** | **District A-15** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Receipts (estimated)** |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Total |
| Donations from  | 32 | Clubs @ | $225.00 | each | $7,200.00 |
| Less Portion submitted to MDA  | 32 | Clubs @ | $45 | each | $1,440 |
| **Total Income** |   |   |   |   | **$5,760.00** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Expenses:** |  |  |  |  |  |
| A-15 District Competition prize monies, if all categories have participants |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | **1st** | **2nd** | **3rd** | **Total** |
| Pre-Competitive English |  |  $ 50.00  |  $ 40.00  |  $ 30.00  |  $ 120.00  |
| Pre-Competitive French |  |  $ 50.00  |  $ 40.00  |  $ 30.00  |  $ 120.00  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Junior English |  |  $ 90.00  |  $ 75.00  |  $ 50.00  |  $ 215.00  |
| Junion French |  |  $ 90.00  |  $ 75.00  |  $ 50.00  |  $ 215.00  |
| Intermediate English |  |  $ 100.00  |  $ 80.00  |  $ 60.00  |  $ 240.00  |
| Intermediate French |  |  $ 100.00  |  $ 80.00  |  $ 60.00  |  $ 240.00  |
| Senior English |  |  $ 125.00  |  $ 100.00  |  $ 75.00  |  $ 300.00  |
| Senior French |  |  $ 125.00  |  $ 100.00  |  $ 75.00  |  $ 300.00  |
| Particpants Certificates & Frames |  |  |  |  |  $ 75.00  |
| **Prize Total** |   |   |   |   |  $ 1,825.00  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Postage re: correspondence etc |  |  |  |  |  $ 25.00  |
| Year Bars & Patches for club Banners |  |  |  |  $ 55.00  |
| Medals (Gold, Silver, Bronze) |  |  |  |  |  $ 90.00  |
| Judges Honorariums |  |  |  |  |  $ 225.00  |
| District Convention, lunch for contestants and guardians |  |  $ 210.00  |
| Rooms/One night accomodation for MDA finalists |  |  |  $ 900.00  |
| Meals for 5/6 contestants/families at MDA Finals |  |  |  $ 1,350.00  |
| **Total Other Expenses** |   |   |   |   |  **$ 2,855.00**  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Estimated Total Income** |   |   |   |   |  **$ 5,760.00**  |
| **Estimated Total Expenses** |   |   |   |   |  **$ 4,680.00**  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **SURPLUS/(SHORTFALL)** |   |   |   |   |  **$ 1,080.00**  |

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| --- |
| **Lions District A-15 Convention Budget** |
|   |   |
| **Income** |   |
| Raffle and 50/50 |  $ 3,700.00  |
| Registration | $5,100 |
| Hospitality suites | $1,200 |
| Meals | $9,302 |
| Pins | $500 |
| Advertising | $1,000 |
| **Total** |  **$ 20,802.00**  |
| **Expense** |   |
| Meeting Rooms | $3,816 |
| Meals | $10,781 |
| Printing and Postage | $1,450 |
| Raffle | $600 |
| Entertainment | $2,000 |
| Pins | $500 |
| Misc | $875 |
|   |   |
| **Total Expenses** | 20,022 |
|  |   |
| **Surplus (Deficit)** | $780 |

**CABINET REPORTS**

**DG –** Charlene Dwyer

Well here we are at the end of our first quarter of our Lions year already! It has been such a pleasure to visit with you and I am encouraged by the number of our Clubs inducting new members…. The Power of WE and the Power of Service!

While it is vital to our club health & growth bringing in new members it is also extremely vital that we focus on retention of the current membership ensuring each and every Lion is engaged and enjoying their Lions membership. As individuals we can only do so much, but when we stand together in service, there is no limit as to what we can achieve and the impact our service will have on those who need us! On that topic I am so impressed with the Years of Membership Chevrons that are being distributed throughout the district, thank you for continued commitment to Lions International, our great District and to service!

I am very proud to tell you that District A15 has made it into the Top 10 Most Improved Districts in MDA for membership in August and September of 2017, well done Lions!

We are encouraging you to reach out to our Youth, do you have an opportunity in your area to form a LEO Club? I would also like to thank our Lioness Clubs for their dedication and the tremendous support they provide, I am so impressed reading the Lioness Bulletins, keep up the great work!

All Club Board of Directors should be reviewing your LCI Membership dues invoice by now to ensure payment is sent expediently to avoid problems with LCI. We hope that Club Secretaries are using My LCI to report their club’s activities and membership monthly, if you are having any issues or have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to our District Secretary for help or reach out to another Club whose Secretary is well versed in My LCI reporting. Your District Cabinet is here for you and because of you, we are here to help your Club with whatever you may need, all you have to do is reach out to us.

We Serve! Always remember………..Kindness Matters!

**1St VDG** – Kevin Banfield

Since my last report, I have had the opportunity on behalf of our District Governor to be out carrying her message for the year. I am very thankful for the warm hospitality I have received at each club.

During a few of those visits I was my pleasure to induct some of newest Lions to A15. I have also been working on my on line classes in preparation for next year.

I am looking forward to our first round of zone meeting starting in the coming days and weeks.

**2nd VDG** **–** Tracey Leary

I would like to start off by saying a Big Thank you to the clubs that I have already went to visit. It’s been fun and lots of laughs. I look forward to visiting the other clubs in the next few weeks. It’s been a wonderful travel experience into Region’s 9 and 51. It’s been great to see how busy everyone is with service projects and working with their communities. Lots of new and exciting idea’s from everyone.

**RC37** – George Corrin

I’m pleased to say that both Zone Chairs have started to visit their perspective clubs. At the time of my report the Zone meetings have not taken place. 37S Zone Meeting is scheduled, and the 37W Zone Meeting is scheduled for November 8th (Please remember to support your ZC by attending these meetings).

I have had 2 opportunities to serve. The first occasion was with the Zurich Lions Club at their community annual Bean Festival. This club has a very strong presence within the community. The huge pavilion, that has recently been erected, is an excellent reminder to the community of how active their Lions Club is, and their desire to continue to grow and plan for future projects. The second occasion was helping at the Centralia Huron Park with their main attraction Halloween Extravaganza. The tremendous amount of work by this club to create this event for the community is scary. In 37S the Farm Show was another huge success this year, with all clubs contributing their time and energy to raise money for their individual clubs.

Our current Cabinet has conducted two cabinet training opportunities that outlined the new visions of the District. One of the DG’s goals this year, was to have all RC’s and ZC’s complete the “Guiding Lion Program” (ZC37W and myself have completed) in this First Quarter we have had a total of 8 inductions in 37W and some perspective people waiting to be inducted. Exeter is excitedly planning for their 80th Anniversary on November 10th. Before the end of 2017, we hope to have gathered all the necessary data for the club level training needs assessment.

Leadership at times is inherited, in other words good leaders were born, not developed (ie. Monarchy) In Lions International, we develop leaders and they have made available a huge reference library to help build community Lion leaders. As we face the future, I encourage you to go on-line under MyLCI and access all training aids.

**ZC 37S** – Henri Callebert

Zone 37s started off 2017-18 working hard together at our Canada’s Outdoor Farm Show (thanks Governor for your hard work along with us)

I have at this time visited 3 of the clubs in the zone with the most of my visits being booked for November. I have met with the executive of these three clubs and discussed any concerns with them. My individual club reports have been submitted.

Thank you for allowing me to serve

**ZC 51E** – Linda Vinette

Well, my very first zone visit at the Hillsburgh & District Lions had me hitting the ground running with an induction of a New Member, Barbara Byers, and it was truly a joy to welcome Barbara to our Lions family and organization. I spread our International Presidents words of Service by highlighting the many service activities that the clubs have done with them reminding me of the activities that I may have missed. Of course, Diabetes, Vision, Environment, Hunger and Pediatric Cancer where also built into my message and not to forget our District Governors Goals for our district. I also performed a transfer welcome ceremony at Guelph Lions for Lion Herb MacDonald coming from the Mount Forest Lions. I think Lion Herb was taken by surprise.

I have had the privilege of visiting Rockwood and District Lions, Elora Lions and Marsville and Districts Lions. There has been a positive response from all the clubs visited so far. I look forward to the balance of my Zone 51E club visits and my upcoming Zone meeting on November 1st hosted by Rockwood & District Lions at the Rockmosa Community Centre in Rockwood.

My goal at the Zone meeting is to have the clubs share ideas of service, understanding what the Global Service team is all about and a message about Diabetes. It should be an interesting evening.

**ZC37W**- Cecilia Fulker

This has been an amazing road I traveled so far. My first duty was to induct 4 new members in The Zurich Lions. This was done on DG Lion Char's visit. What a great privilege. I then went and helped Centralia-Huron Park Lions. It was fun to help get the haunted College ready. I went for my visit to Centralia-Huron Park Lions with RC George Corrin and Lion Allan and Lion Barbara. I did 3 more inductions there. What a ride. Then I went to Exeter and felt very welcome. I shared my enthusiasm with all the Lions I met. I shared my goals to encourage all clubs to show their pride in all they do. We have a strong zone that will serve and make a difference.

This is a great year for change and I am along for the roller coaster ride.

**ZC9S** – Harvey Wood

Since the last Cabinet meeting in August, most Clubs in 9S have been busy with fundraising activities. Several have had food outlets at area Fairs and this activity allows for public exposure, volunteer opportunities for students along with generating funds for the Clubs to support both local and International activities.

A number of Clubs are reporting new members and we are optimistic the District will be in a positive membership position at year end.

Our first Zone meeting will be held in Lynden on November 2, 2017 with service being our focus. PDG O.J. Wilura will be our keynote speaker.

**RC51/ZC51W**

October has been a busy month! I have visited 5 of my 51W clubs and thoroughly enjoyed their meetings – I believe they have enjoyed my visit similarly. At Atwood, I was privileged to induct 2 new members and award 3 life memberships as well as several other awards. 4 more visits are set for November, and a visit is to be arranged with Mosborough Busy Busy. A combined zone meeting with clubs from 9E will be held before the cabinet meeting, on October 23. Our topic is “Planning for Success”, with a focus on planning a service programme and individual projects within the programme.

I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting with Lion George and Lion Tony (RC37 and RC9) as we discuss our roles and how to improve our effectiveness therein.

I would encourage all clubs to better set up and read their district e-mail. Communications is important, and e-mail is now an expectation rather than an option.

**Guiding Lion for University of Guelph Campus Lions**:

Rebuilding of the club is now underway. 3 members will be officially added before the end of the month. They are already active with a planned fund-raiser for LFC to occur on October 30, from 4 to 8 pm at the Zoup! restaurant near the university campus. Your support of dropping by and purchasing your dinner would be greatly appreciated – 20% of the sales during the event are being donated by the store. Members of Mosborough Busy Busy are bringing by some guide dog puppies to help put the warm and fuzzy into the fund-raiser.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**2018 A-15 Convention Committee – PDG** Nancy Ransom, Gary Ransom, Bob Keleher

Save the date for our District A-15 Convention – Holiday Inn, Guelph - April 13 – 15, 2018.

In keeping with our International focus on “We Serve”, we are going to hold a group eyeglass sorting session as a District Service Project, on Saturday afternoon at the Convention.

Therefore, your hosts, the Guelph Lions and Guelph Royal City Lions, invite all A-15 Clubs to save and bring your used eyeglasses with you to convention.

This will be an opportunity to learn and to see what we can accomplish through “The Power of We”!

**Environment** – Lion Jason Crowe

I really have nothing to report until the photo contest decisions are released by LCI. I expect to hold the A15 memorial forest meeting in January / February as usual and will have something to report then.

**Family and Women’s Membership** – PDG Diane Smith

There is a very slow but positive growth in this sector for our District. I am putting the information in chart form for the months of August and September and have included the other Districts of MDA for comparison.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **District** | **August**WomenTotal | Women% | FamilyTotal | Family% | **September**WomenTotal | Women% | FamilyTotal | Family% |
| **A1** | 272 | 21.99% | 218 | 17.62% | 272 | 21.95% | 220 | 17.6% |
| **A2** | 154 | 12.23% | 127 | 10.09% | 155 | 12.33% | 125 | 9.94% |
| **A3** | 455 | 35.77% | 340 | 26.73% | 455 | 35.94% | 342 | 27.01% |
| **A4** | 338 | 23.13% | 223 | 15.26% | 339 | 23.27% | 221 | 15.17% |
| **A5** | 501 | 40.31% | 233 | 18.74% | 494 | 40.26% | 227 | 18.50% |
| **A711** | 477 | 33.62% | 213 | 15.01% | 480 | 34.14% | 217 | 15.43% |
| **A9** | 316 | 26.03% | 225 | 18.53% | 315 | 26.08% | 224 | 18.54% |
| **A12** | 354 | 34.44% | 244 | 23.74% | 356 | 34.50% | 244 | 23.64% |
| **A15** | 361 | 24.95% | 160 | 11.06% | 363 | 25.02% | 162 | 11.16% |
| **A16** | 359 | 28.25% | 307 | 24.15% | 356 | 28.30% | 307 | 24.40% |
| **MDA** | **3587** | **27.91%** | **2290** | **17.82%** | **3585** | **28.01%** | **2289** | **17.88%** |

I am asking each club in the district to have the following three goals for this Lions year:

* Support or establish one event related to women –for e.g. sponsoring a scholarship at the local high school for a female student in science
* Appoint one person at every fundraiser and service project to TALK about Lions and to encourage Family and Women’s membership
* Be encouraging of Family and Women’s membership on your club website and Facebook page.

**Start the Conversation!**

**LCIF –**1st VDG Kevin Banfield

If you did not see my email a few weeks ago, there exciting news for LCIF – for the 6th consecutive year, the Foundation has received a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, demonstrating our strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency. Only 5% of the charities evaluated by Charity Navigator have received at least 6 consecutive 4-star evaluations! Please be proud of this.

An Emergency grant application for flood relief was submitted by District A-16, Canada, and approved for $10,000.

I have received a few requests for information regarding LCIF’s response to the recent wildfires in California. We are responding to the needs of our Lions as we begin hearing from the districts. And I am receiving updates from our grants department as the disaster is unfolding.

This is what I’ve learned: Our grants department has spoken with current Council Chair Robert Manning in California to get the names of the affected Districts. There are four in total, and we have reached out to all of them. District 4-C1 was approved for a $10K emergency last week, and a $10K grant for District 4-C2 was approved last week. Our grants team is waiting to hear from Districts 4-C4 and 4-L4.

I also wanted to provide an update on the relief efforts underway in Florida. The grants department has been in communication with leadership in Multiple District 35. The Lions in Florida have also expressed tremendous appreciation to LCIF for themselves and the thousands of residents they have assisted thus far. We heard of one particular story from DG Shirley LePage (35-I) last weekend involving a caravan of trucks (all local Lions) traveling to various communities distributing goods purchased with the grant funds.

I am also very happy to report that our district is stepping up and I have mailed off a number of donations, and I know CT Peter has received a few as well. Thank you to everyone who has/are supporting OUR foundation.

**Lions Foundation of Canada –** PRC Debbie Cserhalmi

Classes are starting back for the dogs and clients this fall and your support is needed once again. A donor has offered to match all donations for the Autism program up to $40,000.00. It’s a great way to get more bang for your buck. Remember to let Dog Guides know you want to use your donation for the autism program.

It’s never too early to think about hosting a walk in 2018. Pet Valu is our new sponsor and store owners are eager to help you out. Consider co-hosting a walk with a Pet Valu store next year.

As always, I am available to assist your club any way I can. Want a speaker? I’m available (and I bring puppies!), need puppies for an event you’re having (our pups are a great addition to any events) or just need general info on Dog Guides just contact me at lfc@a15lions.org

A big shout out to ‘the Cambridge Lions Club for donating an item from the wish list, kennel repairs at Breslau. And to all the clubs who have sponsored a team this year, thanks so much for your support.

**Lions Opportunities for Youth** – Joanne McQuiggan

Children and youth continue to be a main focus for our work as Lions. In the new Service Framework, our work with children and youth is embedded in all five areas and is foundation of everything we do. Congratulations to the 15 clubs who have reported 36 activities so far this year, volunteering over 1,000 hours. The services provided range from supporting youth sports and clubs, local festivals, youth dances, connecting with schools to sponsor awards or parent teacher bbq’s. Of course our clubs are always very supportive of our own Lions initiatives including Peace Poster, Leos, Youth Exchange, Effective Speaking and Lions Quest. Remember the Young Leaders in Service Awards and recognize the youth in your community who are contributing 40 or more hours of volunteer service – it’s a positive way to recognize and celebrate the youth who support our work. As we look forward to the future, note that the new Global Service Framework engages children and youth in all areas, as they form a circle that is connected to all five service areas. Looking forward to another great year.

**Lions Quest** – PDG Denis Vinette

A lot has happened in Lions Quest, since my last report. As of this writing, I have met with Lions Quest Director, Joanne McQuiggan, to discuss recent developments in the program and reflect on the future directions and needs. We discussed the efforts of the past few years to revive the program and have committed to making an extra effort to communicate program details and value to the clubs. I received a lot of insight on the best practices in approaching educators and community leaders and am making myself available to present at Zone and Club meetings when requested.

On Sunday, October 15, I participated in a Go To Meeting moderated by PCC Bob Tanner. Lion Bob is on the Board of LQ and helped provide an update on the status and future operational practices at LQ. It was very enlightening and encouraging.

On Tuesday, October 17, I attended a meeting of the Wellesley and District Lions Club and presented information regarding the classroom and the community workshop formats. A significant amount of interest was shown by this very active club and expect to see something come of this in the future.

On September 18, I submitted an application to Lions Quest (LCIF) for $10,000.00 funding as part of the Lions Quest Community Workshop initiative. I am pleased to announce that our grant request was approved and that I should be receiving the details and agreement by the end of the month at the latest. I will be working with Lion Joanne to utilize this funding as best as we can in workshops that instill the benefits of LQ and the Developmental Assets perspective in communities in District A15.

I want to thank all the clubs and individual Lions who have shown a renewed interest in Lions Quest over the past few years and ask that clubs make a special effort to support this program in their annual donations and support for workshops and program delivery.

**Literacy** – PZC Aline Chan

As Literacy Chair, I plan to visit clubs that I have not visited previously, to talk about the Literacy program and what Clubs can do to promote it.

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

Zone Chairs are currently conducting a Training Needs Assessment for each of their clubs as part of their official club visit. Plans are underway for a roundtable workshop to be conducted with those members under the age of 45 in order to collect their wants, needs, desires and vision of what they would like Lions to be for them and others of their age group in order to take up or continue their involvement in Lions. On January 6th 2018, the entire Global Action Team will meet in order to discuss the effectiveness of last spring’s training, the information received from the Club surveys and the Under 45 Roundtable and to begin planning the Spring 2018 Training Program. Plans are already underway to change the Spring Training format from what has been one of positional sessions to more of a topic delivery program involving a menu of sessions related to skills, resources and general knowledge of value to all Lions currently holding or contemplating taking on a variety of Club and/or District positions. Members of your GLT Team have also been invited to present at a variety of Zone Meetings and have met requests for Club Quality Assistance sessions.

**GMT – District Coordinator** – PRC Bill Robinson

There is lots happening in the District as always and much celebrating to be done. Membership seems to always be an issue and I feel that it is an opportunity to ask someone out to a meeting or an event and share in the fun and fellowship that goes on. When more people are around sharing ideas and experiences with one another the possibilities are endless. I want to let you know that the District is here to assist in any way that it can. With the rollout of the Global Action Team consisting of the Service, Membership and Leadership Team Coordinators it truly is a team effort headed up by our District Governor. In the very near future I will be sending out a survey to get some feedback from the members of our District to see how we can better manage the membership recruitment and retention issues that a lot of clubs struggle with. I am available to meet with you, your club executive or your whole club to discuss what the district can do to help you achieve your goals. When the survey comes out I encourage you to take the few minutes and give us some feedback. Not everyone will be getting the survey sent to them so don’t be alarmed, if you don’t we are doing a targeted survey as a pilot to see what the response will be like.

**GST District Coordinator** – PDG OJ Wilura

Just out of curiosity I took a peak at the iconic Webster’s Dictionary to find out what they said about two words:

**Fundraising:** The act of collecting or producing money for a particular purpose, especially for a charity: i.e: a dinner is being held to support a local museum.

**Service:** The action of helping or doing work for someone. Action is also referred to as a favour, kindness, good turn, helping hand and assistance.

Some say these two words are the same but obviously not, as per the definition, but they are very much entwined.

Regardless these activities should be recorded in the Activities Section of MyLCI by all Club Secretaries. The time needed for preparation and the actual hours that all members worked or served should be recorded. Just a remainder, that nonmember’s time cannot be used, according to LCI.

This is not a “spy tool” but a means which allows the flow of event information that can be shared to help other clubs, whether they have an issue with a similar event or need a new idea. District Officers are eager to find out what clubs are doing and this is the simplest way.

District Committee Chairpersons should also provide their hours to their respective Club Secretary for inclusion in the report.

My role is to encourage all clubs to enter their service and fundraising activities on MyLCI. My goal, as well as DG Char, is that all the clubs in A15 end up doing so as soon as possible.

**Hearing & Speech**- PRC Paul Anstett

I am pleased to report that I am currently researching a program offered by Connect Hearing that offers hearing aids at special pricing to individuals that are in need of hearing aid(s) and these individuals are unable to purchase these devices.

Respectfully submitted,

**Peace Poster & Essay for Visually Impaired Youth –** Lion Janet Dawson-Brock

We have one month to go before our deadline for our Peace Poster Contest.  Our winning Peace Posters have to be in the hands of Governor Charlene by November 15th.

I am pleased to say that we have 16 Peace Poster Kits out in our District and I hope all the Lions/Lioness have been in touch with their schools again reminding them of the deadline.

Just think one of our Youth could win $250.00 A 15, $1000.00 M D A and $5000.00 at International.  Wouldn't that be great?

I am asking all of the Lions/Lioness Clubs in M. D.A to donate to their District and at the M D A level towards the Peace Poster Contest.

**Sight Screening & Conservation-** PDG Tim DeBlock

Summer is over and the business of Lions has ramped up.

I have had meetings with several school boards and our volunteer groups involved in the eye screening programs. We have encountered several challenges with new ways of facilitating the reporting but hopefully these are just growing pains and will mature into a less involved way of working with the schools. Many thanks to the volunteers who deliver this program. A kazillion hours if we all recorded them! Clubs can also be involved in helping deliver this service to the children in our communities by budgeting some of your activities funds to the program. As we continue to grow we do require operating monies. We are still waiting for the details of the Ontario Ministry of Health new Public Health Standards and how that will impact the screening program. We are still exploring co-operative new projects with Lions in A1 & A2

There have been several shipments of used eye glasses and RC Lion Duane has communicated there might be a new resource partner in some of our communities for collection. I do have collection boxes.

**Bulletin Editor** – PZC Gerry Haliburton

**Youth Camp Coordinator –** PRC Bill Robinson

It has been a great start to our Lions year with lots happening all around this great District. I want to take this opportunity to remind you of the Camps that are in our Multiple District that provide so many opportunities for the youth in our communities, I would be more than happy to come to your club and discuss all the camps that our MDA support. I know camping season is just wrapping up but keep in mind before we know it we will be looking to pack up the campers and send them off to camp. A lot of the camps would not be able to function without the support of the Lions of A15, any assistance that you can provide either in the form of a monetary donation or to put a work party together and clean up the site or repaint a cabin it is all appreciated and something to be proud or as well. I look forward to hearing from you soon.