



DISTRICT A-15 LIONS CLUBS®
**THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
LIONS CLUBS**



A-15 CONVENTION CABINET MEETING MINUTES
April 30th 2016 9:00 -10:30 AM & May 1st 2016, 10:45 AM - Noon
Lions Hall, Elmira
Saturday 9:00 AM

1. Call to order and Welcome – DG Diane Smith – 9:05 AM
2. Attendance as indicated:

VOTING CABINET

IPDG Tim DeBlock	DG Diane Smith	1 st VDG Wayne Litt	2 nd VDG Charlene Teasdale
CS Dennis Lougheed	CT Peter Oswald	RC Kevin Banfield	RC Debbie Cserhalmi
RC Jim Keron	ZC Rick Banks	ZC Aline Chan	ZC Ian MacFarlane
ZC Tracey Leary	ZC Eric Peterson		

COMMITTEE CHAIR

PRC Paul Anstett	PDG Dan Ayim	PRC Rick Bell	Lion Lorea Boogerman
PRC Vic Bovingdon	Lion PCC Bill Carson	Janet Dawson-Brock	PDG Thom Herrmann
Lion Ernie Kaethler	Lion Rudy Boogerman	Lion Linda Litt	Lion Fran MacFarlane
Lion Pat Mclean	PDG Karen McNeight (R)	Lion Joanne McQuiggan	PRC Robert Montgomery
PID Bruce Murray (R)	PDDG George Patton (R)	Lion Bob Pearson	Lion John Pepper (R)
PDG Norma Peterson	PDG Nancy Ransom	Lion Bob Rutter	PCS Ted Rypma
PDG Doug Smith	PCC Bob Tanner (A1) (R)	Lion Linda Vinette	PDG Larry Wainwright
PCC Todd Wilson	PDG OJ Wilura	PID Art Woods	

In attendance also were approximately 46 other Lion Members.

(R) – Regrets

3. National Anthems of Canada and United States, Moment Of Silence
4. Protocol – Set at the Friday evening Opening Ceremonies.
5. Additions to and Approval of the Agenda - Carried
6. Introduction of International Guests ID Kembra Smith and Lion Bill Lowe – PID Art Woods
7. Approval of Minutes of the February 4th, 2016 Cabinet meeting. Carried.
Available at <http://a15lions.org/pages/uploads/Events/CabMinFeb2016.pdf>
8. District Governor Remarks
Current membership status for the District. We started off the year with 1535 members; currently 1533. Information on the Breslau LFC Gates project –Please refer to the reports of the Cabinet Secretary and the Centennial Coordinator.
Nancy Ransom information as Club Historian, PDG Nancy Ransom reports that a new history link is to be created on our district website.
The Peace Poster theme for the 2016-2017 Lions year is A Celebration of Peace. Kits are available from Lion Janet Dawson-Brock.
I am pleased to say that the Special Olympics Ontario Provincial Spring Games are being held in Guelph this year from May 26-28.
Good news regarding Lions Quest Donations; District A15 currently second in Canada in monetary donations. This represents only 15 clubs participating.
Closing of the Five Oaks Camp. Please refer to the Youth Camp Committee report.
9. Secretary's Report *See Page 5*
MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Secretary's report. Carried.
10. Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements. *See pages 5 through 8*
MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's report. Carried.
11. Cabinet Reports *See pages 9 through 11*
MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Cabinet reports. Carried.



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12. Committee Reports *See pages 11 through 19*
 - 12.1. Future Convention Advisory – PDG Doug Smith
MOVED to endorse the 2018 Convention bid as recommended by the Convention Advisory Committee. Carried.
 - 12.2. Youth Exchange – See Rudy’s follow up electronic submission.
 - 12.3. Lions Home For The Deaf – Lion Gary
 Thank you for your generous support of the three major projects approved for this year, each running on three year commitments;
 \$45 000 for McInnes House Four Season Room Completed
 \$75 000 for CDBA, Paris
 \$120 000 for proposed Ottawa Home to be named after Lion Jack Graydon who served for 44 years as Chair of Lions Homes For The Deaf . During that time MDA raised 4.5 million for homes and facilities We are reminded of the availability of the Helen Keller Fellowship as a way of donating to and recognizing deserving individuals.
 - 12.4. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Committee reports. Carried.
13. Award Presentation
 - 13.1. Gift of Life Banner Patches – Lion Bob Rutter, VDG2 Charlene Teasdale
 For April’s Organ and Tissue Awareness Month
 Rockton Lions, Rockwood Lions, St George Lions, Guelph Lions, Guelph Royal City, Milverton Lions, West Coast Lions.
 - 13.2. Long Tail Award - For visitation to all 58 clubs in the District
 Lion Vi Radcliffe - Woolwich Community Lions
14. Elections and Credentials Update – PDG Doug Smith
 - 14.1. Review of Candidates
 - 14.2. Presentation of additional ballot box from Lion Bob Davy of the Monkton Lions Club.
 - 14.3. We are in compliance with all Constitution and By-Law election requirements including those contained in this year’s amendments.
15. Adjournment until Sunday morning at 10:30 AM – 10:00 PM

Sunday 10:30 AM

1. Call to order – DG Diane Smith – 10:30 AM
2. Attendance as indicated:

VOTING CABINET

IPDG Tim DeBlock	DG Diane Smith	1 st VDG Wayne Litt	2 nd VDG Charlene Teasdale
CS Dennis Loughed	CT Peter Oswald	RC Kevin Banfield (R)	RC Debbie Cserhalmi
RC Jim Keron	ZC Rick Banks	ZC Aline Chan	ZC Ian MacFarlane
ZC Tracey Leary	ZC Eric Peterson		

COMMITTEE CHAIR

PRC Paul Anstett	PDG Dan Ayim	PRC Rick Bell (R)	Lion Lorea Boogerman
PRC Vic Bovingdon (R)	Lion PCC Bill Carson	Janet Dawson-Brock	PDG Thom Herrmann
Lion Ernie Kaethler	Lion Rudy Boogerman	Lion Linda Litt	Lion Fran MacFarlane
Lion Pat Mclean (R)	PDG Karen McNeight	Lion Joanne McQuiggan (R)	
PRC Robert Montgomery (R)		PID Bruce Murray	PDDG George Patton (R)
(R) Lion Bob Pearson (R)		Lion John Pepper (R)	PDG Norma Peterson
PDG Nancy Ransom	Lion Bob Rutter (R)	PCS Ted Rypma	PDG Doug Smith
PCC Bob Tanner (A1) (R)		Lion Linda Vinette	PDG Larry Wainwright
PCC Todd Wilson	PDG OJ Wilura	PID Art Woods	



We Serve

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In attendance also were approximately 39 other Lion Members.

(R)- Regrets

3. Remarks from International Guest ID Kembra Smith
4. Convention Report
Appreciation extended to all those who made this happen
Convention statistics - 471 total registrations, 129 lunches served, 140 banquet attendees
5. Awards presentations
 - 5.1. First Timers Contest – VDG1 Wayne Litt
6 contestants, 4 way tie resolved through random draw, awarded to Ron Prior – Belwood Lions
 - 5.2. Environmental Photo Contest – Lion Linda Vinette
Helen McLeod – Woolwich Community Lions
 - 5.3. Saturday Luncheon Presentation
 - 5.3.1. Special District Appreciation Thank you.
Presented to Lions Rudy and Lorea Boogerman for their years of dedication to the Lions Youth Exchange Program
 - 5.4. Convention Banquet Presentations
 - 5.4.1. International President's Certificate of Appreciation
Presented to Lion Garry Ransom in recognition of his years of service producing our District Directory and to his involvement in the audio visual production used at the memorial and rededication service held each year at convention.
 - 5.4.2. International President's Award
Presented to IPDG Tim DeBlock for exemplary service and personal dedication to the development of new two District Sight and Hearing programs, Lions Quest, the Monkton Lions Fish Camp for Disadvantaged Youth and in particular in recognition of his hard work, humbled dedication and gentle guidance to all.
 - 5.4.3. International President's Special Recognition Medal
Presented to PID Art Woods for his many years of dedicated service to all aspects of Lionism
6. Convention Raffle Results
 - 6.1. 50/50 Draw - \$233 – RC Jim Keron
 - 6.2. Over Night plus Theatre Tickets – Thamesford Lions
 - 6.3. Quilt – Sandy Ladd – Woolwich Community Lions
7. Report from Election Committee and announcing of results
 - 7.1. Credentials Fines
MOVED to donate the \$86 in collected fines to the District Governor's Breslau Breeding Facility Gate Project. Carried.
 - 7.2. Results –
By-Law Changes - 116 cast of 188 available – Carried
Constitution Changes - 116 cast of 188 available – Carried
ZC9E - Lion Ray Drouin – Acclaimed
ZC37S - Lion Paul LaLonde – 17 cast of 26 – Elected
ZC 51E – Lion Neil Hoogendoorn – Acclaimed
RC37 – Lion Tracey Leary – Acclaimed
VDG2 – RC9 Kevin Banfield - 116 cast of 188 available – Elected
VDG1 – VDG2 Charlene Teasdale - 116 cast of 188 available – Elected
DG – VDG1 Wayne Litt - 116 cast of 188 available – Elected
8. Motion to destroy ballots. Carried.
9. Introduction of New Cabinet– DGE Wayne Litt



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- RC9 – vacant
- ZC9S – vacant
- ZC9E - Lion Ray Drouin
- RC37 – Lion Tracey Leary
- ZC37S - Lion Paul LaLonde
- ZC37W – Lion George Corrin - Appointed
- RC51 – Lion Deb Csherhalmi - Appointed
- ZC 51E – Lion Neil Hoogendoorn
- ZC51W – vacant
- CS – Lion Rick Banks
- CT – Lion Peter Oswald
- VDG2 – Lion Kevin Banfield
- VDG1 – Lion Charlene Teasdale
- DG – Lion Wayne Litt
- IPDG –Lion Diane Smith
- 10. DG-Elect remarks
DGE Wayne expressed his thanks to his wife Linda, DG Diane, Cabinet and District Lions and specifically the Elmira and Woolwich Community Lions. Next year’s focus will be on the Centennial Celebration.
- 11. Passing of the Campbell, oldest to newest
- 12. Presentation of Flags to 2015-2016 Convention Host Club
- 13. Adjournment – 11:10 AM



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SECRETARY'S REPORT TO CABINET
April 30th, 2016 – CS Dennis Lougheed

At the August Cabinet meeting, Centennial Celebration coordinator, Lion Dan Ayim, proposed the idea of stone gates at the Breslau dog breeding facility, as our Centennial Legacy project for the District. At the February 9th cabinet meeting, cabinet felt they were short on details and the following motion was made.

District Centennial Legacy Project – Chiligo Rd LFC Property/Breslau Breeding Facility
MOVED, That the District A-15 Cabinet approve looking further into fundraising opportunities and club interest in adopting the project. Carried.

A committee consisting of Lions Dan, PDG Doug Smith and PCC Todd Wilson obtained approval from LFC to proceed and began working on design elements, construction stages and costs. Based upon their work, and the need to hopefully begin the project this spring, passage of the following motion was conducted by email between March 14th, 2016 and March 18th 2016.

MOVED that the District A-15 Legacy Project - Chilligo Road LFC Property/Breslau Breeding Facility be adopted as a District A15 Project. Carried (11 Yes, 0 No, 3 Non respondent)

TREASURER'S REPORT TO CABINET
April 30th, 2016 – CT Peter Oswald

The financial records have been balanced and reconciled to the bank statements as at March 31, 2016. The financial statements presented here fairly reflect the financial position of the District.

ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNTS

- At the time of preparing the financial statements, there is still 1 Club with dues owing for both District and MDA invoiced for 2015-16. The original amount is \$694.50 which includes \$377 (invoiced on behalf of MDA) for the University of Guelph Campus Club. (*Collected just prior to convention.*) I understand efforts are still being made to collect this account. At the time of writing this report, meetings are planned to resolve the account. Should that meeting not be successful, I recommend Cabinet review what further action is required.
- Expenses as a whole are well within Budget at this point in the Lions year. There are some line items that are above the budgeted amount – but we expect to operate within the overall budget allotment for the year. All fees for police checks have been accounted in the admin account at this time – but there will be a portion recovered from the Youth Camp Committee account prior to our fiscal year end.
- Reminder for money from pin sales should be turned over to the Cabinet Treasurer.

TRUST ACCOUNTS

- The balance sheet for the Trust accounts is an accurate reflection of all balances held in Trust and all accounts have been reconciled to the Bank statements as at March 31, 2016.
- Usually the offsetting liability accounts are an exact match (for Quest, Youth, Effective Speaking) and there are some transfers from 1 bank account to another to bring this up to date.



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8:50 AM
2016-04-23
Accrual Basis

District "A"-15 Lions - Admin
Balance Sheet
As of 31 March 2016

	31 Mar 16
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
Cash	
CIBC - Bank Account	10,883.54
CIBC - Investments	30,616.25
CIBC USD Account	8.57
International Director Fund	5,304.23
New Club Assessment Fund	1,870.56
Total Cash	48,683.15
Total Chequing/Savings	48,683.15
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	713.22
Total Accounts Receivable	713.22
Other Current Assets	
Accrued Interest Receivable	400.00
Total Other Current Assets	400.00
Total Current Assets	49,796.37
TOTAL ASSETS	49,796.37
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
A/P USD for LCI	0.01
Total Accounts Payable	0.01
Other Current Liabilities	
Convention Fund	3,604.07
DGE Partner Travel	3,104.60
International Director Suspense	383.25
Total Other Current Liabilities	7,091.92
Total Current Liabilities	7,091.93
Long Term Liabilities	
International Director - Contra	5,304.23
New Club Assessment - Contra	1,870.56
Total Long Term Liabilities	7,174.79
Total Liabilities	14,266.72
Equity	
Balance - July 1/00 - Net	690.54
Emergency Reserve Fund	23,000.00
Retained Earnings	2,849.70
Net Income	8,989.41
Total Equity	35,529.65
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	49,796.37



DISTRICT A-15 LIONS CLUBS®
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8:53 AM

2016-04-23

Accrual Basis

District "A"-15 Lions - Admin
Budget vs. Actual
July 2015 through March 31, 2016

	Jul '15 - Jun 16	Budget	Over Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Advertising	500.00	500.00	0.00
District Directory	235.00	250.00	-15.00
District Dues			
Dues - Collected	13,030.50	13,039.00	-8.50
Total District Dues	13,030.50	13,039.00	-8.50
Interest Earned	72.72	543.00	-470.28
Leadership Seminar Income	1,450.00	1,450.00	0.00
MD 'A' Dues	0.00		
Membership Assessment	2,299.50	2,301.00	-1.50
Pin Sales	1,159.00	1,500.00	-341.00
Total Income	18,746.72	19,583.00	-836.28
Gross Profit	18,746.72	19,583.00	-836.28
Expense			
Awards			
Awards - Cabinet	77.91	750.00	-672.09
Awards - Other	529.82	350.00	179.82
Total Awards	607.73	1,100.00	-492.27
Badges & Patches	1,081.89	700.00	381.89
Bank Charges	69.72	200.00	-130.28
Cabinet Expense	1,437.53	1,850.00	-412.47
Convention Expense	130.52	1,100.00	-969.48
District Chair Expense			
Comm Chair Expenses	0.00	1,100.00	-1,100.00
District Chair - Other	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
Global Leadership & Membership	659.22	2,350.00	-1,690.78
Leo Clubs	0.00	400.00	-400.00
Total District Chair Expense	659.22	5,350.00	-4,690.78
District Directories	1,997.84	1,750.00	247.84
Internet	112.69	100.00	12.69
Leadership Institutes	0.00	675.00	-675.00
Leadership Seminar	0.00	1,450.00	-1,450.00
Liability Insurance	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Pins Purchased	1,757.71	1,760.00	-2.29
Police Check Fees	1,409.11	660.00	749.11
Postage & Telephone	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Printing & Stationery	133.35	350.00	-216.65
USA / Canada Forum	360.00	1,800.00	-1,440.00
Total Expense	9,757.31	19,545.00	-9,787.69
Net Ordinary Income	8,989.41	38.00	8,951.41
Net Income	8,989.41	38.00	8,951.41



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8:43 AM

2016-04-23

Accrual Basis

District "A"-15 Lions Clubs Trust Balance Sheet As of 31 March 2016

	31 Mar 16
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
CIBC- Lions Quest Imprest	1,158.74
CIBC - Eff.Speaking Impst	4,893.44
CIBC - Trust Account	15,004.69
CIBC - Youth	
Youth Exchange Imprest	24,106.65
Youth Investments	12,512.05
Total CIBC - Youth	36,618.70
Investments	
QUEST - Investment	7,567.73
Investments - Other	5,156.20
Total Investments	12,723.93
Youth Camp Capital Fund	7,744.50
Total Chequing/Savings	78,144.00
Total Current Assets	78,144.00
TOTAL ASSETS	78,144.00
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Camp Dorset	2,100.00
Camp Huronda	500.00
Centennial Project	250.00
Cultural Festival	217.11
Diabetes Awareness	3,061.60
Diabetes Tag Day	210.00
District Cook Book	440.40
Effective Speaking Contra Acct	4,793.44
Hearing Conservation	350.00
Hearing Equipment	703.07
Homes for Deaf A-15	50.00
Lake Joseph	100.00
LCIF	200.00
Lions Foundation of Canada	
Dog Guides	425.00
Leash Free Park	5,055.90
Total Lions Foundation of Canada	5,480.90
Lions Home for Deaf People	550.00
LIONS Quest Contra Account	9,226.47
Peace Poster	1,630.37
Reading Action	1,925.00
Vision Screening	1,692.44
Youth Camp / Y. Ex. Contra Acct	36,918.70
Total Other Current Liabilities	70,399.50
Total Current Liabilities	70,399.50
Long Term Liabilities	
Youth Camp Capital	7,744.50
Total Long Term Liabilities	7,744.50
Total Liabilities	78,144.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	78,144.00



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CABINET REPORTS – April 30th, 2016

1st VDG – Wayne Litt

No submission

2nd VDG – Charlene Teasdale

Since the last cabinet meeting on February 9th I have been travelling around this great District quite a bit. I had the pleasure of inducting a new member into the Cambridge-Highlands Lion Club as well as 2 new members into the Hillsburgh & District Lions Club. I am looking forward to inducting 3 new members into the Belwood Lions Club on April 19th. I have attended the 37S/37W Zone Meeting in St. Marys, the 9S/9E Zone Meeting in Brantford and the 51E/51W Zone Meeting in Rockwood. These Zone Meetings were well attended and the New Member Orientation sessions were well received, great work to our Region Chairs! It has been a real pleasure for me to visit the Clubs throughout our District to get to know you better and learn more about your service in your communities. I believe the sharing of ideas as well as challenges help to make our Clubs in the District stronger. I also had a wonderful time attending the Paris Lions Club 85th Anniversary celebrations, congratulations on your wonderful service to your community & I wish you many more! I have also been discussing Leadership throughout the District as this seems to be becoming a challenge as our year progresses. My thoughts are that leadership is another form of service to our Lions family as well as confirming to Lions the fact that there is compensation for your travel and meal costs as you serve in your A15 Cabinet role. I am happy to discuss this more at length as serving on our District Cabinet is very rewarding and a wonderful way to share your passion of all things Lions with others in our District. It has been such an honour to present some pretty impressive years of service Chevrons to deserving Lions throughout the District as well, keep up the good work and I wish you many more. I am looking forward to sharing my Lions passion with you at our upcoming District A15 Convention in Elmira April 29-May 1. It is my honour to serve you, my Lions family. Thank you for your support.

IPDG – Tim DeBlock

No submission

RC 9 / ZC 9S – Kevin Banfield

Very happy to report, that we had our two joint zone meetings this past quarter. Our first joint zone meeting was hosted by the Lions Club of Branford and we had close to 100 members of the 9's in attendance. The topic of discussion for the night was membership orientation and RC's Jim Keron, Debbie Cserhalmi and I, put it on. The RC's liked doing this membership orientation presentation so much we took it to the other regions, and I had a blast working with both Deb and Jim presenting this information to their respective regions. If any club did not receive the power point decks please reach out to me and I will forward all information to them. The Lions Club of St. George hosted our second joint zone meeting. While it was the night of the ice storm we still had a good number of members out, and we had a good round table discussion about club and district leadership along with what is involved with the different roles. We also had past district officers share in their experiences while they were in office.

ZC 9E – Aline Chan

It has been an amazing year as Zone Chair. The zone is strong in community spirit. The clubs have dedicated members who are committed to serve their communities. Often I hear, 'Why should I join a service club'. The benefits are many. Since I have become a Lion in a new community, I have made new friends. Working alongside other Lions over serving breakfasts, marching in a parade, helping with bouncy castles, doing vision screening, I have built lasting relationships. BELONGING makes me feel good. It gives me a sense of involvement in the community. Most of all, I have had fun.



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The clubs I have visited have the same sense of commitment. When I leave each club after a visit, I feel proud of being a Lion. Here, I find people who have found the time to volunteer. After all, volunteering brings fun and fulfillment to our lives and it enriches us.

Keep up the good work, be strong and continue to enjoy your life experiences!

RC 51 – Debbie Cserhalmi

I hope you have all had a successful Lions' year. Healthy clubs should have a good mix of both fundraising and service projects. This year our District Governor asked us to focus on literacy. Books drives, little libraries, reading to shut-ins and young children were all projects that the clubs in the region tackled.

Clubs were also involved in the Centennial Challenge. Clubs can earn special Centennial recognition by hosting a service project that benefits Youth, Vision, Hunger or the Environment. Remember, the only way International knows you have accomplished these goals depends on your secretary sending the reports in. Another way clubs can get involved with the Centennial celebrations is to donate labour or funds to our District project. A stone gate is planned for the Breslau Dog Breeding Centre. A plaque will be placed one side to commemorate 100 years of service internationally and on the other the plaque will commemorate 100 years of Lions in Canada. We have an exciting few years coming up.

ZC 51E – Eric Peterson

Nothing to report.

ZC 51W – Rick Banks

All visits are complete. All required joint Zone Meetings are complete. It is disappointing that we do not have anyone that feels comfortable in taking on the Zone Chair position. Its a great opportunity to get a better understanding of Lions, to meet new people and an opportunity for personal growth as well. It has been a good experience for me. I would like to thank PDG Lion Tim DeBlock for pushing me a bit to take on Regional Chair and Governor Diane for allowing me to help out on District Cabinet for 2015 and 2016.

Thanks to my fellow Cabinet members, the District Secretary, District Treasurer and all those who work on behalf of the District in the various Committees. I am looking forward to Officer Training in May.

RC37 – Jim Keron

Since the last Cabinet meeting the three Region Chairs got together to deliver an orientation session at each of the three Joint Zone meetings. This seems to have worked out well and we now have an orientation session packaged that could be delivered anywhere in the district. The challenge is getting it out to new members in distant clubs that have had good club growth. In any event the real challenge to club growth is not so much in the acquisition of new members as in the retention of members inducted in the recent past. A good orientation session is an aid here but only if the recommendations are implemented. There is nothing better for member retention than getting the new members busily involved with service projects for the community. Put them to work!!

Looking ahead to the convention and getting things lined up for the next Lions year, I will be working with Wayne in a process to vet the meeting dates so that no conflicts occur especially with the zone and joint zone meetings. These need to be schedule on discrete dates even between zones to allow the DG's team to be able to participate. We have had conflicts in each of the last two years. Anyway, far better to fix the problem than complain.

The number of candidates so far for district cabinet positions at this point is quite disappointing. The only real bright spot is in 37S where we have an election for zone chair with two highly qualified candidates, in alphabetical order, George Corrin from Drumbo and Paul Lalonde from Ingersoll. The lack of candidate for Zone and Region Chair positions is quite disappointing. Zone Chair is the best job you could ever get at the district level and Region Chair is great too because you can make of the job what you want.



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Looking forward now we have the club officer training coming up and it would be great to see good club representation at this event. Note that attendance is one of the criteria in applying for the club excellence awards. There is a great deal of good information made available which will make the club operations run smoothly.

ZC 37S – Ian MacFarlane

It has been quite year.

The Zone 37S meeting was hosted by the Innerkip & District Lions on Jan 21st with 27 participants representing 8 clubs. Speakers were Louise Ross, Branch Manager of the Innerkip Library, speaking on Literacy Programs, Lion Rick Bell, Diabetes Awareness Committee Chair, speaking about the Bunk Bed Project and Lion Paul Lalonde describing the Club Pin Project.

Many of the Clubs were involved in their communities during Family Day, holding fundraisers like Fish Fries. elimination draws and dances.

The Joint Zone Meeting was held February 16th, hosted by St Mary's with orientation presentations from RC Jim Keron, RC Debbie Cserhalmi and RC Kevin Banfield.

I have only two clubs left to visit which will be done before the present Lions Year ends.

ZC 37W – Tracey Leary

No submission

COMMITTEE REPORTS – April 30th, 2016

NOTHING TO REPORT AT THIS TIME OR NO SUBMISSION

Constitution & By-Laws – PDDG George Patton, **District International Relations** – PID Bruce Murray, **GMT Membership & Club Growth Team Leader** – PRC Vic Bovingdon, **Hearing & Speech Action** – Lion John Pepper, **Lions Quest** – PDG Todd Wilson, **Nominations** – PCC Bill Carson, **Protocol** – PID Art Woods, **Public Relations & Club Visits Liaison** – PDG Norma Peterson, **Sight Screening & Conservation** – Lion Pat McLean, **Special Olympics** – PCC Bob Tanner (District A1), **Yearbook** – PDG Karen McNeight,

Camp Coordinator – PRC Rob Montgomery

All of the camps have their Wish lists displayed on their websites as to their needs for the upcoming season, if you can assist in any way please feel free to do so.

Annual work week at Lions Camp Dorset is June 9th - 16th, 2016 if you are interested please contact the camp director Steve Woolman at the camp, also there is a way for all to help Camp Dorset and that is to buy a Brick for the facility upgrade at the camp.

For a donation of \$350.00 you can purchase a decorative Brick that will have their name, club name or a message on it for all to see when they visit or come to camp so please contact the camp for further details.

Cleanup for CNIB Lake Joseph Center is May 27-29, 2016 if you are interested in going please contact Sonda via email with your name and phone number and what day or days you would like to help. Email - lakejoe@cnib.ca

Cleanup for the Bruce Murray Youth camp or Five Oaks is May 13-14. Please contact the camp director for further information.

Thank you Governor Diane for allowing me this time to serve you and our great District.

Centennial Coordinator – PDG Dan Ayim

Since the last cabinet meeting approval for the District Centennial Legacy Project – Chiligo Rd LFC Property/Breslau Breeding Facility has been granted.



A committee composed of PDG Doug Smith, PCC Todd Wilson and PDG Dan Ayim, later joined by VDG1 Wayne Litt and PID Art Woods has been soliciting support from the clubs in the district in the form of financial or donations in kind (sweat equity). As part of its fundraising effort, the committee invites you to view T-shirts made of good quality pre-shrunk material on display at the convention. Each Lions Club is encouraged to appoint a centennial chairperson to coordinate the club's contributions to our celebration and help ensure that completed service projects are reported on MyLCI.

Convention Host 2016 – Lion Linda Litt & PID Art Woods

Governor Diane & Members of Cabinet, this is a very brief report as we will be submitting an oral up-to-date report at the meeting held at the convention.

Our Committee is now meeting weekly to ensure that plans are in place for all activities. We believe that this convention will be highly meaningful and enjoyable for all. We do have an exciting array of entertainment and activities for everyone. Registrations have been somewhat slow; but we are receiving more and more each day. Please encourage advanced registrations. We assume all members of cabinet have registered.

Cultural Events – PZC Fran MacFarlane

The change in cultural makeup is evident in our daily news. A15 Lions will have an update on the progress of refugee settlement in the area on May 15th, 2016.

Dr. Iman Arab will speak at the event for new club officers. We will learn how Lions can best serve.

A new project to share recipes with Youth Exchange participants, host families and Lions Club members is started. We will see how food and its preparation reflect culture and see stories about its influence on our lives. Submit your family favorite in the Lions Forum.

Diabetes Awareness – PRC Rick Bell

I was hoping to have updated figures for Project Bunk Bed, but unfortunately, the staff at the Canadian Diabetes Association was unable to give me an update. I will, if I am permitted to do so, have an update at the Cabinet Meeting. I know that funds are still coming in.

District Bulletin & MDA Magazine Liaison – Lion Bob Pearson

The editor encourages all A15 clubs to submit items for publication in a timely fashion. The established deadline is the 15th of each month. There is no limitation on the number of submissions. Editing and formatting assistance is available.

Also part of the newsletter process is the district bulletin contest, the rules and submission guidelines are part of the October issue. There has not been an abundance of entries to date.



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District Historian – PDG Nancy Ransom

The A-15 History Link on our District Website disappeared about a year and a half ago; and has essentially been non-functional since then. I do have the original submissions on my own computer.

I have been slowly sifting through the 40 some boxes of old records passed down to me from PCC Dave Rumble. I have scanned photos, newspaper articles, and items of interest attached to old club membership and activity reports. These are being stored in my home computer for the time being; until such time as a new history link is established on the District website.

As before, any original articles lent by Clubs will be returned to them once I have made copies of them.

To facilitate the gathering of such data, I request that Clubs copy me when they submit stories for our District Bulletin and the Lion Magazine. Your stories will be gratefully received.

Effective Speaking – Lion Ernie Kaethler

I count it a privilege to serve as Chair of this excellent Opportunities for Youth program. Public Speaking stimulates growth of character, enriching our communities by way of our Youth. A successful District Contest was held on April 2nd, 2016, in St George. Hosted by the St George Lions there were 10 Speech Judges, over 40 additional volunteers and 38 Speech contestants plus families.

District A-15, will send a full compliment of 6 contestants to MDA finals in Ottawa, May 6 & 7:

Junior(Gr 4, 5 & 6) English - Presley Ellis, St George; Junior French - Naomi Hackner, Guelph;

Intermediate(Gr 7, 8 & 9) English - Johann Liveta, Guelph; Intermediate French - Bruce Hackner, Guelph;

Senior (Gr 10, 11 & 12) English - Jackie LaRonde; Senior French - Arjun Pandey, both of Ariss & Maryhill LC.

The excitement and commitment of ALL the participants is energizing. Your continuing support - budgeted or otherwise - is definitely appreciated. The solid service purpose, a dedicated 50 plus District Lions Clubs, willing and spirited volunteers, ... all this adds up to meaningful Hope Through Service.

Environment – Lion Linda Vinette

For the Environmental Photo contest, I've received 6 submissions to date. Photos will be displayed at the District A-15 Convention in Elmira on April 29th and the winning Photo will be sent to MD"A" to be voted on May 26th in North Bay. The winning Photo from MD"A" will be sent to Lions Clubs International.

An email flyer was sent to the District A 15 clubs suggesting a celebration of Earth Day on April 22nd with environmental projects and reporting said projects to MYLCI for the Centennial goal challenge.

On April 1st Denis Vinette and I went to the Breslau Memorial Forest and clipped the hedge around the pavilion. The Belwood Lions are donating 4 benches to the Breslau Memorial Forest. The Breslau Memorial Forest cleanup is planned for June 1st and a flyer email has been set to all the clubs for participation. The Breslau Memorial Service will be on Sat. June 11th. Plan to get involved and volunteer.

Future Convention Advisory – PDG Doug Smith

One item to report is the Bid Acceptance for the 2018 Convention. Everyone on Cabinet has received an email copy of the Revised Bid on March 29th. The committee recommends that A-15 Cabinet endorse the Bid for the 2018 District A-15 Convention hosted by the Guelph Royal City Lions and the Guelph Lions Club.

Gift of Life Coordinator – Lion Bob Rutter

April is Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Month, and we in the District have had some significant success in supporting the Trillium Gift of Life Network and MDA in this vital program.

Five clubs took part in the flag raising ceremonies proposed by Trillium, while one club – West Coast Lions in Grand Bend – went one step farther and managed to create and erect a 25-foot banner across the Bluewater Highway at a major intersection in Grand Bend. Lion Charles MacDonald did an outstanding effort to see the project through to completion.



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The other clubs, Rockton Lions, Rockwood Lions, St. George Lions and Milverton Lions each raised the BeAdonor.ca flag at parks in their communities. Bayfield Lions took part in a home show on the weekend of April 15-17.

Guelph Royal City Lions and Guelph Lions worked together at the Guelph Home Show earlier in the month to bring awareness to the many visitors during the three-day event. A special thank you should go out to Guelph Lions for their generous offer of space for the Gift of Life table. The many people who visited the Gift of Life display were very interested in following up on the information we provided.

More must still be done because the need for organ donations is so great. Next year, I would hope that we can double the number of clubs taking part in the annual awareness events.

On the horizon, I am personally involved with several speaking engagements during May and June. My efforts appear to be earning me recognition in various circles and opening doors for organ donation advocacy. As an example, I have been asked to speak as one of several participants at the Kidney Foundation of Canada fundraiser: Celebrity Men in a Fashion Event Kitchener-Waterloo; to be held June 2 at THE MUSEUM, 10 King St., W., Kitchener. Tickets are still available for the expected 200 guests.

Other events I have been invited to take part in include a meeting with K-W Community Spirit Lions, presentations to two church groups in Guelph; another presentation at a retirement community in Guelph and participation at an open house at a second retirement community.

This past year has been a difficult one trying to set up the foundation for an on-going new program. I am certain that it will grow and become a significant advocacy opportunity for Lions to both seek new organ donor registrations and to tell the Lions story as we head into our centennial.

Finally, a thank you from myself to District Governor Diane for offering me the opportunity to become engaged in an effort that touches me personally; especially since I received a new kidney. I know the program works. We must serve those in our communities who await with hope and desire for a life-saving or life-changing organ transplant.

GLT District Coordinator – PDG Denis Vinette

Since my last report, we have had very few venues to promote or develop leadership opportunities in the District. District Governor Advisory meetings have provided little time for presentation from Membership and Leadership. Mention of the benefits of participating in Lions University and attending the USA Canada Leadership Forum was made when possible.

We held a Webinar session on the 14th of April to inform interested members of the opportunities and expectations of individuals undertaking the ZC and RC positions. We had hoped that by clarifying the roles and responsibilities, we might encourage additional individuals to stand for these positions now or in the future. Unfortunately, there were no interested participants other than the GMT chair and Centennial Chair. As a result, more advance notice and promotion will be sent to the clubs regarding a future presentation. This session might be included at the Club Officer training in May.

That said, planning for Club officer training is well underway and will incorporate additional sessions based on the results of a survey taken at different venues in the past year. Some of these items include, the role of the “Committee in Clubs”, “Fund Raising: Working Smarter not Harder” and “How to grow your Admin account!” As of this writing, we find ourselves lacking candidates for 2 Region Chair positions and 3 Zone Chair. This situation is unprecedented in our District and the root causes will be reviewed with my counterpart in Nominations, Membership and with the Honorary Committee.

GMT District Coordinator – PDG OJ Wilura

With election just about completed we prepare for the Leadership Seminars in Baden on May 15th. All clubs pay a fee with their annual dues so there is no cost for members attending. Even if you are not involved on your club’s Board, you are welcome to attend. Refreshments and light lunch to be served.



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We are now encouraging the “end of year drops” to be done in July rather than June. Hard work by members to have positive club growth, then in the last month of the fiscal year the big reduction somewhat deflates the efforts of all. Doing this in July gives members a challenge for membership increase during that current year. I encourage all clubs to look closely at the Club Excellence Award to see if you qualify. I am sure we have more than the usual number of 10-12.

As of this date: 13 Apr 16

	Membership	New	Dropped	Family Units
A15	1535	107	107	78

Some suggestions of where you can gather a wealth of knowledge on membership.

New members:

Use LCI resources found at: <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/lions/invite-members/index.php>

Dropped members:

Use LCI resources found at: <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/lions/strengthen-membership/index.php>

Woman & Family membership:

Use LCI resources found at: <http://members.lionsclubs.org/EN/lions/global-membership-team/gmt-specialists.php>

GMT Club Success Team Leader – RC Paul Anstett

Nothing to report at this time.

GMT Membership Renewal – PDG Larry Wainwright

When it was realized there was not a specific program in the Global Membership Program to address dropped members, a suggestion and outline was presented to then District Governor Lion Tim DeBlock. After discussions and input from the DG, myself and IPDG Lion Denis Vinette a program, policy and chairperson was set in motion for DG Lion Tim's year.

The names of dropped members were sent to the chairperson and 5 of the first 10 contacts made returned to their club or transferred to another club with 3 others indicating willingness to return after a short respite.

Club secretaries were asked to become involved by providing to the chairperson, the dropped Lions name, phone number, resident community and the reason given for dropping the member. To make it easier for the club secretary, a form was made available, in print form at district workshops and zone meetings, as well as being placed on the district website

The idea of the Membership Renewal Program was to give dropped Lions the opportunity to privately and confidentially discuss, with the chairperson, their reasons for leaving Lions. Each individual was given the opportunity to return to Lions with the club dropped from, transfer to another district club or work with a group to charter a new club. Identities and information given was kept confidential. If there was a specific problem with or within a club, this information was forwarded to the sitting Governor with no reference to who made the comment.

There has been some suggestion that this program could be an infringement on the dropped Lions privacy rights and that may be leading to some reluctance to pass on information about dropped Lions. In response, please note that each individual contacted is immediately told the nature of the call, that information discussed was totally private and confidential and asked if they wished to continue the conversation. In all contacts made, not one indicated they did not wish to continue the conversation. Two Lions who returned to Lions in a



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different Lions Club, approached me at the last convention and thanked me for the phone call and for bringing them back to Lions.

There is a need for this program. It has a solid well thought out process however it can only work with a much higher percentage of participation from each club and a new chairperson willing to take the time to make the calls and provide a confidential willing ear. It is my understanding that International GMT leadership is considering a similar program.

Honorary Committee- IPDG Tim DeBlock

The PDG Honorary Committee met for a breakfast meeting, April 30th, 2016, about an hour ago as a matter of fact. There have been continued efforts to openly discuss the concerns for lack of new leadership coming from our Clubs to serve @ the District level. Thank-you to GLT Leader PDG Denis, GMT Leader PDG OJ and PCC Bill for their work on this matter. There is still much work to do however for us to help members realize the gifts they could share to help us serve those in need through these various roles.

Information Technology – PCS Ted Rypma

There is not really much to report. In general, Cabinet Secretary Dennis handles most requests for Club event postings, and places Cabinet documents on the site. The Governors Newsletter is current and available - I expect the April issue will become available after the Convention. I continue to send out e-mail notices as requested, although thankfully most Cabinet members and Committee Chairs look after their own e-mail needs. All Cabinet Officers and Committee Chairs have the ability to send to the Clubs in the District by logging in to the Google Mail site.

The District bulletin board / Lions Forum is managed almost entirely by the Cabinet Secretary, with a reset for new District Officers in the month of July. Activity on these Forums appears to be quite light, and less discussion is occurring than last year.

I continue to receive the occasional request to reset Club and Committee e-mail passwords, and to solve the occasional problem, but with Cabinet Secretary Dennis' capable help, all appears to be running smoothly.

LCIF –RC Kevin Banfield

My update with respects to LCIF this quarter is to encourage each member to donate something to LCIF. You can do this on line at LCIF.org and click Donate or you can send a cheque to Lions of Canada Fund for LCIF c/o Stan Durward, Box 38 Sunderland Ontario L0C 1H0. Please note that tax receipts are only issued on donations over \$20.00 and it has to go to Stan.

There are several ways to get involved with the different grant programs LCIF offers.

The International Assistance Grant (IAG) program enables Lions clubs in developed countries to partner with Lions clubs in less developed regions on projects that make a real difference for communities in need. This program funds collaborative projects that provide direct and immediate services to the disadvantaged. In addition, the program supports projects that aid the blind or disabled.

Key Elements of an IAG Project:

- Addresses important humanitarian needs through international exchange
- Involves at least two Lions clubs or districts from different countries
- Serves a large or particularly needy population by providing long-term benefits
- Project is clearly identified as a Lions' activity
- At least 50 percent of project funding is raised through Lions or other sources
- Grant range is from US\$5,000 to US\$30,000

More information on this program among others can be found at LCIF.org under grants, or please feel free to reach out to myself at lcif@a15lions.org.



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LEO – RC Jim Keron

Having recently inherited this position, not much has been accomplished yet. Current plans call for a visit to each of our Leo clubs and I have had discussions about the possibility of starting a new LEO club which will pick up after the convention. Getting and retaining young members will be critical to the continuance of the Lions movement in the future and LEOs is one way that can be accomplished.

LFC – RC Deb Cserhalmi

The Lions Foundation has been as busy as ever in the past few months. The Breslau Breeding Facility is busy with many puppies. Teams are graduating at a good pace. Fundraising events are in full bloom. As of February, 70 teams have been matched and are now in our communities. Please remember not to distract a working dog or negative consequences may happen. Fully graduated dogs wear red vests, while dogs in training wear green vests. Always ask a handler of dogs in green vests if you can pet them. Sometimes the dog is working on something that needs it's full concentration and the handler might say no. We all know puppies are irresistible, but they need to learn to calm themselves before they can greet someone. The Walk for Dog Guides is the biggest fundraisers and Lions are very involved. Approximately 94% of Walks are run by Lions and their clubs. This year the Walk is on May 29. You can register to walk at www.purinawalkfordogguides.com . If your club is not hosting a Walk this year, please consider donating to another Walk near you. Walks are taking place in Bayfield, Brantford, Cambridge, Elmira, Fergus, Kitchener, Maryhill and Wellesley this spring. Do you have a Lion who deserves special recognition? Please consider the Dog Guides Awards Program. There are lots of awards at different level to honour deserving Lions. Look under 'How to Help' then Lions Clubs Programs. All donations will go to the Lions Foundation Dog Guide programs. When setting your meeting schedule for next year, keep me in mind for one of your speakers. Also if you want us to be part of one of your events let me know, I can get puppies for your event as well. Feel free to contact me at lfc@a-15lions.org

Lions Opportunities For Youth – Lion Joanne McQuiggan

A quick check on our numbers, 22 clubs have reported 88 activities impacting over 12,000 children and youth in District A15 since the start of this Lions year toward the Centennial Service Challenge goal of impacting 25 million young people worldwide. Even more impressively, our clubs have donated over \$270,000 to projects supporting children and youth – great work! Please remind club secretaries to report activities under the “Engaging Youth” theme, as I’m sure we are doing even more, and that almost all clubs have done something toward this theme.

The Lions Young Leaders in Service Award allows Lions the opportunity to give formal recognition to young volunteers with in their community, ages 12-18, who have completed 50 or 100 hours of community service, within a 12-month period. This is a great way to recognize young people who contribute to our service projects. Information is available at www.lionsclubs.org.

There will be a luncheon on Saturday at the MDA Convention in North Bay featuring all of Lions Youth Programs. Please plan to attend, and purchase your \$25 ticket in advance from PDG Ev Spiering, the MDA Youth Opportunities Chair.

Lions Services For Children – IPDG Tim DeBlock

I do not have much to report as far as activity within the Lions Services for Children committee. I would like to acknowledge and congratulate the many things Clubs are doing in serving children in their communities and through our Lion's programs.



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We Serve

Literacy – ZC Aline Chan

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.” - Dr. Seuss, *I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!*

UNESCO: Literacy is a right. It is implicit in the right to education. It is recognized as a right, explicitly for both children and adults, in certain international conventions. It is included in key international declarations.

Cambridge Highlands Lions Club made a generous donation of books to a library in Fez, Morocco, North Africa. The donation was made in person, to the Medina Children's Library. Almost 1000 children have visited the library since its recent opening. 'Neighbourhood pre-schools are beginning to bring their classes to get a head start in reading and the library is firmly anchored in the community'.

We received donations of funds from several A15 clubs. We will be purchasing Scholastic books this summer and they will be distributed to the clubs that donated money to the literacy program. These clubs can do the book presentation in the Fall, to the schools they choose.

Literacy is a fundamental human right and the foundation for lifelong learning.

Long Range Planning – PDG Thom Herrmann

After careful consideration and as we continue to wait for an assigned question by the Cabinet this year the Committee offers in its report to the Cabinet the following version of one of the many Irish Prayers

May God give us
For every storm... a rainbow
For every tear ... a smile
For every care ... a promise
For every problem ... a chance to share
For each dilemma ... solutions to be offered
For each challenge ... opportunities to serve
And next year ... a little work for the Committee

Peace Poster & Essay For the Visually Impaired – Lion Janet Dawson-Brock

I would like to Thank VDG Wayne Litt for asking me to be the Peace Poster Chair for 2016-2017. Thank you Wayne, I hope I can live up to your expectations.

Again, I would like to thank all of the Clubs who participated again this year, lets try and beat the record of having over 20 Peace Poster Kits out in the schools.

Congratulations again to Lydia Wilson for winning for District A 15 and I did go to her school in Elmira and presented the cheque from the District. I believe this weekend there is going to be another presentation to her for \$1000.00. Lydia did not win at the M.D."A" level but even to get that far deserves a lot of credit. I hope to pick up her entry in North Bay so I can share it with you this year.

Peter Oswald has ordered the Peace Poster Kits for me and they are here at the convention, drop by the display and pick your kits up.

Thank you, Governor Diane for asking me to be your Peace Poster Chair.



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Youth Camp & Exchange – Lions Rudy & Lorea Boogerman

We are gearing up for the 41st edition of YEP and look forward to the full support of this great District.

Out bound - We have four (4) youth going abroad, sponsored by the Waterloo, Bridgeport, Fergus and Kitchener Lions Clubs. Destinations are the Netherlands, Hawaii and Australia (x2).

There was considerable activity this year in that eight youth did apply to our program but for various reasons (injury, chosen camp not available, financial situation, etc.) 4 have chosen not to follow through with their application. Koodos to the clubs getting involved with the out bound portion of our program this year. Special thank you to Lion Marysa Rumble –Lauriault, Paris Lions Club for doing such a fantastic job coordinating the outbound portion of the YEP.

Inbound - Invitations have been sent out to 14 youth from 14 different countries.

To date, 9 of the youth have been hosted. We are still looking to confirm accommodations for 5 others. Don't be afraid to take that step. Throughout our visits to 23 clubs this year, we promoted hosting as a 'Club' venture. Three clubs have come on board with that approach and it promises to be a successful campaign without any overbearing on the host family. Thank you to all who have volunteered as host families.

Meals - Requests for confirmation from participating Lions Clubs was sent out at the end of March.

Confirmation has been received from the majority of the involved clubs and I am confident I will hear from the remaining clubs in the very near future. In total 29 Lions Clubs will be involved with providing meals.

Financially - Our YEP account is healthy, thanks to the continued support shown by the clubs of this District.

Youth Camp - Five Oaks has given notice of their intention to close up shop, at least, initially. Information received from a reliable source, as recently as Wednesday, makes us believe their position has changed - you might say 'they are singing a different tune'. As of Nov 15, Five Oaks (Hamilton Conference) will cease operations until a more viable solution is determined to the situation they are facing.

Past history, as in 1994, has revealed a similar situation when the then Board of Directors was dissolved and a new Board elected. Five Oaks, operating as a separate identity was handed their demise and once that occurred, the United Church of Canada took over responsibility of Five Oaks.

And then, the Lions of District A15 came along in 1995.

Similar to what is about to occur today, when it happens, The United Church of Canada again will assume responsibility for the property and programs. A new Board will be installed and that Board will be responsible for and determine at that time what direction they will be heading. To my knowledge, selling the property is not being considered at this time.

And the Lions of District A15 are still here in 2016.

Until we are told otherwise, the possibility of remaining at Five Oaks for our YEP is looking a little brighter than the first of this month. But nothing is guaranteed -stay tuned.

What is guaranteed is the YEP will proceed as planned for this year's camp.

Camp Clean Up - It is a GO! Please mark Saturday, May 14, 8:30 am, on your calendars as clean up day. Many hands make light work. We will stick primarily to cleaning up the grounds, trails and roadways, pathways to the Summer Centre. Bring the necessary tools and apparel for regular yard work – Rakes, clippers, loppers and gloves. Boys with the buzz saws, make sure they are tuned up, revved up, sharpened up and ready to go! There are a number of trees to be felled and/or cut up trails to be cut back. Doughnuts and coffee will be available in the morning. St George Lions Club have offered once again to provide the lunch for us.

Thank you to all of the clubs and the Lions for giving their support to the YEP - without you it just doesn't happen.

Ok, so let's get some more clubs and/or people to step up as host families and we will be ready to welcome our International Youth