



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



**A-15 Cabinet Meeting**

7:00 PM January 31, 2017

Thamesford Lions Club, Thamesford Community Centre, Middleton Street.

Call to Order 7:05 by DG Wayne Litt

Attendance as indicated:

**Voting Cabinet**

DG Wayne Litt	IPDG Diane Smith	1 <sup>st</sup> VDG Charlene Dwyer	2 <sup>nd</sup> VDG Kevin Banfield
CS Rick Banks	CT Peter Oswald	RC Bill Robinson	RC Debbie Cserhalmi
RC Tracey Leary	ZC Ray Derouin	ZC Tony Davidson	ZC Neil Hoogendoorn
ZC Paul Lalande	ZC George Corrin	ZC Linda Litt	

**Committee Chairs**

PDDG George Patton	PDG Thom Herman	PZC Aline Chan	PDG Doug Smith
PID Art Woods	GMT Jim Keron	PRC Paul Anstett	PDG Tim DeBlock
Lion Mark Henkell			

In attendance were approximately 29 other Lions Members.

1. Welcome Call to Order
2. O Canada, Toast to Queen & Country and Lions International
3. Moment of Silence
4. Protocol – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Governor Kevin
5. Lions Grace & Dinner
6. Approval of the Agenda
  - 6.1. MOVED to adopt the agenda as presented. Carried.
7. District Governor’s Remarks

Welcome to our Winter Cabinet Meeting. We have a number of reports filed from the various District Chairs. I encourage everyone to take a moment to look them over. Much time and effort has been expended by the hard working Lions in our district.

Thank you Thamesford Lions for your hospitality tonight. This is an exciting time to be a Lion.

We are now better than half way through this Lions Year. All I can say is thank you to each and every one of you. You have heard it before but you do make a difference.

Let me just take a couple moments to share a few things that are going on.

Some Good news, the papers have been filed with LCI to form a new Specialty Cyber Club in our district. The “Mosbourogh Busy Busy Lions Club,” which will be better known as the “Busy Busy Club.” The club is being formed by a group of Puppy Foster Parents from the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guide Facility. Thank You to the three Lions from the Woolwich Community Lions Club who saw an opportunity and made it happen, Region Chair Lion Deb Cserhalmi, Lions Nancy Chaisson, and Cheryl Bauman. Well done.

Just around the corner is our District Convention. Thanks to Region Chairs Bill and Tracey.

Not only did they go to the Advanced Lions Leadership Institute in Chicago but they came back and both put their nomination papers in for 2VDG. This should prove a very interesting campaign.

The MDA Convention will be held in our District this year, hosted by the Kitchener Lions Club in Kitchener May 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>. If you haven’t had a chance to attend an MDA Convention it’s an excellent opportunity to get a firsthand glimpse at what is going on and see the new format for MDA Conventions.

Oh yes, we must not forget this year the Banner that was signed around our district will head off to Chicago for our Centennial International Convention June 30<sup>th</sup> through July 4<sup>th</sup>.



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Thank you Cabinet for leading us to this point. We need strong new leadership to carry us into the next hundred years of Lionism. Take a chance. Encourage others. The benefits are rewarding. Go for it. Think up new and innovative ways to attract new and younger members, like the cyber club. If you thought you are going to get by tonight without hearing me say: "Where there is a Need, there is a Lion" ... wrong. You are there. Thank You.

Thank You Lions of A 15

8. MOVED to approve the Minutes of the November 9, 2016 Cabinet Meeting. Carried.
9. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Secretary's report. Carried.
10. Treasurer's Report
  - 10.1. A brief discussion on the Secretary's inability to tell Winter from Summer or any other season.
  - 10.2. Report and Financial Statements to December 31, 2017 - (*See Pages 4 through 7*)  
Lion Peter reminded members about the Peace Poster packages available from Lion Janet Dawson-Brock.
  - 10.3. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's report and Financial Statements as presented. Carried.
11. Matters Arising - None
12. New Business - None
13. Cabinet Reports - *See Pages 4 through 11*
  - 13.1. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Cabinet Reports. Carried.
14. Committee Reports - *See Pages 11 through 22*
  - 14.1. Effective Speaking - 1<sup>st</sup>VDG Charlene - Lion Ernie wished to remind Clubs about the Effective Speaking contest and the sponsorship from Clubs required to keep the program functioning. Please send in your donations.
  - 14.2. Lion Mark Henkell - Youth Exchange - Reminder about the Camp Location Change and the need for hosting families. Promotional material is in the works. 22 Applications are now in and 14 youth have been accepted. There is an opportunity for Clubs as a group, to host youth for this program.
  - 14.3. MOVED to receive the Long Range Planning document "District A15 Cabinet & Committee Appointee Job Descriptions Resource Document" as amended January 2017. Carried.
  - 14.4. Elections and Credentials Chair PDG Doug Smith - Voting credentials will be mailed shortly. Reminder about completing slips and bringing member cards. All accounts must be in good standing 15 days prior to the date of the Convention. There are fines. Motion to receive the Elections and Credential Chair report. Carried.
  - 14.5. Convention Host Art Woods - Reminder about the Convention in May at Elmira May 5-7, 2017. Our International Guest will be PID Carl Young who has been invited to bring his banjo. There will be Centennial demonstrations led by the three Region Chairs as well as any other demonstrations. There will be a free lunch on Saturday and costs for the remaining programs are being kept as low as possible. The tent will be in use again. Reminder about the Governor's Centennial Awards. Application forms are available from the Region Chairs.
  - 14.6. Questions were asked about flying the Centennial Flag and where do the clubs order those?  
There will be a flyer sent out to Clubs on ordering.
  - 14.7. PDG Tim DeBlock discussed a request from Drumbo to get involved in the Thames Valley District School Board. There are a number of our clubs in that District. For our District it would be 20 schools and 1400 students. If we did the entire District it would be 125 schools and 11,000 kindergarten students. A reminder that teachers and parents think this program is working.
  - 14.8. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the remaining Committee Reports. Carried.
15. Special Presentations & Awards
  - 15.1. PID Lion Art talked about the special Torch for the Centennial celebration and Lion Paul Anstett paraded the torch while the group sang "It's a Great Thing to be a Lion" in 35 part harmony. The torch will be at our Convention. A reminder to report club Centennial Celebrations to the Centennial Chair.
  - 15.2. GMT Jim Keron presented one of the Centennial Lion's Videos (No. 6).



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16. Good & Welfare
    - 16.1. IPDG Diane Smith reminded Lions about the US/Canada Forum September 21-23, 2017 in Portland Oregon. Applications will be on-line.
    - 16.2. Convention May 5-7 – Elmira
    - 16.3. Centennial Flags – No actual date has been chosen to fly the flags, perhaps for the week of June 7, 2017 or longer.
  17. Adjournment – 8:50 p.m.



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**SECRETARY'S REPORT TO CABINET**

After our Cabinet meeting we will be 60% through our Lions year. Our next big event is of course the Convention in Elmira May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. As requested in my recent email we are still looking for Lions interested in the administration of our District and look forward to receiving your applications.

Rick Banks  
Cabinet Secretary

**TREASURER'S REPORT TO CABINET**

The financial statements are presented today as at January 13, 2017. All bank accounts have been reconciled to their respective statements for December 31, 2015. Then there were some entries that were updated early in January and I wanted that position included in the report. The financial statements presented here fairly reflect the financial position of the District.

**ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNTS**

- Administration balance sheet includes satisfactory bank balance of over \$10,000. At Dec 31, there were outstanding dues owing from 7 clubs (combined MDA and District). All have been contacted with arrangements made/completed for 3 of them at the time of writing – leaving \$2,085 to confirm. I fully expect all to be up-to-date by month-end.
- Once dues are received, we have a further \$1,580.50 to remit to MD'A'.
- With respect to Expenses vs Budget, we are on track – less than 50% of the budgeted expense funds have been allocated to Dec 31 (7,500 of \$18,890).

**TRUST ACCOUNTS**

- The balance sheet for the Trust accounts is an accurate reflection of all balances held in Trust as at January 13, 2017 and all accounts have been reconciled to the Bank records as at December 31, 2016.
- Committee Chairs have received a summary of any fund activity for their respective committees to date.
- There is 1 minor variance for Effective Speaking and the correct balance is \$917.33 – cheque issued from different account has been corrected

**MOTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- I move receipt of the financial reports as submitted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Oswald,  
Cabinet Treasurer  
Lions District A-15.



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



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9:58 AM  
2017-01-14  
Accrual Basis

## District "A"-15 Lions - Admin Balance Sheet As of 13 January 2017

	13 Jan 17
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
Cash	
CIBC - Bank Account	10,174.69
CIBC - Investments	31,520.25
CIBC USD Account	8.57
International Director Fund	6,058.48
New Club Assessment Fund	1,870.56
Total Cash	49,632.55
Total Chequing/Savings	49,632.55
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	2,442.50
Total Accounts Receivable	2,442.50
Total Current Assets	52,075.05
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>52,075.05</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
A/P USD for LCI	0.01
Total Accounts Payable	0.01
Other Current Liabilities	
Convention Fund	2,995.07
DGE Partner Travel	1,736.43
Total Other Current Liabilities	4,731.50
Total Current Liabilities	4,731.51
Long Term Liabilities	
International Director - Contra	6,058.48
New Club Assessment - Contra	1,870.56
Total Long Term Liabilities	7,929.04
Total Liabilities	12,660.55
Equity	
Balance - July 1/00 - Net	690.54
Emergency Reserve Fund	23,000.00
Retained Earnings	3,884.36
Net Income	11,839.60
Total Equity	39,414.50
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>52,075.05</b>



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



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9:55 AM

2017-01-14

Accrual Basis

## District "A"-15 Lions - Admin Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2016 through Jan 13 2017

	Jul '16 - Jun 17	Budget	Over Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Advertising	500.00	500.00	0.00
District Directory	185.00	225.00	-40.00
District Dues			
Dues - Collected	12,614.00	12,809.50	-195.50
<b>Total District Dues</b>	<b>12,614.00</b>	<b>12,809.50</b>	<b>-195.50</b>
Interest Earned	0.00	425.00	-425.00
Leadership Seminar Income	1,450.00	1,450.00	0.00
MD 'A' Dues	1,580.50		
Membership Assessment	2,226.00	2,260.50	-34.50
Pin Sales	750.00	1,250.00	-500.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>19,305.50</b>	<b>18,920.00</b>	<b>385.50</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>19,305.50</b>	<b>18,920.00</b>	<b>385.50</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>Awards</b>			
Awards - Cabinet	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Awards - Other	169.16	450.00	-280.84
<b>Total Awards</b>	<b>169.16</b>	<b>950.00</b>	<b>-780.84</b>
Badges & Patches	478.98	700.00	-221.02
Bank Charges	203.71	350.00	-146.29
Cabinet Expense	506.00	1,800.00	-1,294.00
Centennial Project	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
Convention Expense	0.00	750.00	-750.00
District Chair Expense			
Comm Chair Expenses	0.00	600.00	-600.00
District Chair - Other	0.00	1,800.00	-1,800.00
Global Leadership & Membership	526.38	1,700.00	-1,173.62
Leo Clubs	0.00	250.00	-250.00
<b>Total District Chair Expense</b>	<b>526.38</b>	<b>4,350.00</b>	<b>-3,823.62</b>
District Directories	1,967.60	1,750.00	217.60
Internet	137.61	140.00	-2.39
Leadership Institutes	350.88	540.00	-189.12
Leadership Seminar	0.00	1,450.00	-1,450.00
Liability Insurance	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Pins Purchased	1,769.86	1,760.00	9.86
Police Check Fees	229.39		
Postage & Telephone	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Printing & Stationery	46.33	350.00	-303.67
USA / Canada Forum	1,080.00	1,800.00	-720.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>7,465.90</b>	<b>18,890.00</b>	<b>-11,424.10</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>11,839.60</b>	<b>30.00</b>	<b>11,809.60</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>11,839.60</b>	<b>30.00</b>	<b>11,809.60</b>



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



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10:36 AM  
2017-01-14  
Accrual Basis

## District "A"-15 Lions Clubs Trust Balance Sheet As of 13 January 2017

	13 Jan 17
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
CIBC- Lions Quest Imprest	2,617.79
CIBC - Eff.Speaking Impst	1,154.83
CIBC - Trust Account	13,774.15
CIBC - Youth	
Youth Exchange Imprest	26,074.52
Youth Investments	12,739.62
Total CIBC - Youth	38,814.14
Investments	
QUEST - Investment	7,641.08
Investments - Other	5,156.20
Total Investments	12,797.28
Youth Camp Capital Fund	7,802.58
Total Chequing/Savings	76,960.77
Total Current Assets	76,960.77
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>76,960.77</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Centennial Project	8,852.31
Cultural Festival	217.11
Diabetes Tag Day	1,126.26
Effective Speaking Contra Acct	917.33
Hearing Conservation	850.00
Hearing Equipment	703.07
LCIF - Measles	100.00
Lions Foundation of Canada	
Leash Free Park	5,055.90
Lions Foundation of Canada - Other	50.00
Total Lions Foundation of Canada	5,105.90
Lions Home for Deaf People	50.00
LIONS Quest Contra Account	10,258.87
Peace Poster	845.93
Reading Action	6.12
Vision Screening	1,311.15
Youth Camp / Y. Ex. Contra Acct	38,814.14
Total Other Current Liabilities	69,158.19
Total Current Liabilities	69,158.19
Long Term Liabilities	
Youth Camp Capital	7,802.58
Total Long Term Liabilities	7,802.58
Total Liabilities	76,960.77
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>76,960.77</b>



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## **CABINET REPORTS**

### **1<sup>st</sup> VDG – Charlene Teasdale**

Happy New Year! I find it hard to believe how quickly the time is flying by and we find ourselves in a brand new year! I have to say I truly appreciate receiving a copy of Club Bulletins and reading about your projects and plans, well done. I am also encouraged with the number of Clubs inducting new members into their Lions family, great job. Increasing our membership is crucial but also just as important is retention of our current members. Please do not hesitate to contact the GMT/GLT Team to assist with that aspect, the entire District Governor's team is here to support you. I have been busy since the last Cabinet meeting with new member inductions, I had the pleasure to induct 4 new members into the Rockwood Lions Club and then 6 new members into the Exeter Lions Club. Congratulations to Zone Chair 37W Lion George Corrin & Zone Chair 9S Lion Tony Davidson on very successful Zone Meetings. Due to weather I missed ZC51W Lion Linda Litt's Zone Meeting but I understand it was successful as well, I look forward to attending ZC37S Lion Paul's Zone Meeting. Great job! Congratulations to Region Chairs Lion Bill Robinson and Tracey Leary who attended the ALLI in Texas, they were wonderful ambassadors for our District. I look forward to attending the next round of Zone and Combined Zone Meetings. We as Lions have so much to celebrate in our Centennial Year as well as planning for our future and as Canadians celebrating our 150<sup>th</sup> birthday!! It is also time for Clubs to consider Leadership, it would be great to have a nomination for the A15 Zone Chair position from each Zone, please add this item to your Club Meeting Agendas. I believe in you and this wonderful organization we belong to and I am so proud to be a Lion here in this great District of A15. Let's continue to work together as we look ahead and celebrate our Lions family.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> VDG – Kevin Banfield**

I can't across this story the other day. I was able to use this story at work – and I got thinking it could very easily apply to all of our Lions Club. So rather than giving the typical update that I have been to this and that... I thought I would share this.

#### **The Story:**

3 sales professionals applied to work for a huge company. As they were all evenly qualified, the interviewer decided to set a sales challenge and the person who sold the most would be awarded the job.

The challenge was to sell combs to monks of any temple up in the mountains. "You have 3 days, and the person who sells the most will get the job" said the interviewer.

After 3 days, the 3 applicants returned, and reported their results.

Candidate 1 said "I managed to sell one comb. The monks scolded me, saying I was openly mocking them. Disappointed, I gave up and left. But on my way back, I saw a junior monk with an itchy scalp; he was constantly scratching his head. I told him the comb would help him with his scratching and he bought one comb"

Candidate 2 said "That's good, but I did better. I sold 10 combs." Excited, the interviewer asked "How did you do it?" Candidate 2 replied "I observed that the visitors had very messy hair due to the strong winds they faced while walking to the temple. I convinced the monk to give out combs to the visitors so they could tidy themselves up and show greater respect during their worship."

Candidate 3 stepped up "Not so fast, I sold more than both of them." "How many did you sell" asked the interviewer.

"A thousand combs"

"Wow! How did you do it?" the interviewer exclaimed.





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"I went to one of the biggest temples there, and thanked the Senior Master for serving the people and providing a sacred place of worship for them. He was very gracious and said he would like to thank and appreciate his visitors for their support and devotion. I suggested that the best way would be to offer his visitors a memento and the blessing of Buddha. I showed him the wooden combs which I had engraved words of blessings and told him people would use the combs daily and would serve as a constant reminder to do good deeds. He liked the idea, and proceeded to order a thousand combs" "You got lucky," one of the other candidates said bitterly.

"Not really," the interviewer countered. "He had a plan, which was why he had the comb engraved prior to his visit. Even if that temple did not want it, another one surely would."

"There is more," the third candidate smiled. "I went back to the temple yesterday to check on the Master. He said many visitors told their friends and family about the comb with the Buddha's blessing. Now even more people are visiting every day. Everyone is asking for the comb, and giving generous donations too! The temple is more popular than ever, and the Master says he will run out of the combs in a month... and will need to order more!"

**Learning Points:**

The three different candidates show us the different levels of sales performance:

Candidate 1 displayed the most basic level, which is to meet the prospect's personal needs. The monk with the itchy scalp had a personal need; it was specific to him only.

Candidate 2 shows the next level - anticipating and creating new needs for the prospect. Perhaps the monk doesn't have an obvious need for the comb, but how can it still be beneficial to him? When you can educate the prospect on new possibilities and benefits for his business, you are already outperforming your competitors.

Candidate 3 demonstrates the best level of all; an ongoing relationship resulting in repeat sales and referrals. Everyone was a winner, the monk, the devotees, the 3rd candidate and the interviewer. Help your prospects benefit their prospects, to create maximum value. View each prospect not as individuals, but also their contacts and network beyond them. See each customer as lifetime clients instead of one time sales.

Our beliefs and thoughts shape our actions and ultimately, our results!

What type of planning do you do with each project? Do your project plans include a marketing plan for new members?

How can you identify, create and deliver potential new programs that prospective members might like to be involved in?

Just like any other business, Lions programs have to be flexible and we must be willing to change as circumstances and conditions change around us.

**RC 9 – Bill Robinson**

It has been a quiet year so far, that is about to change as the Region Chairs have been tasked with building some excitement at the upcoming convention. I will be trying to attend as many Zone Meetings as possible to promote involvement with the convention as well as identifying individuals that would like to take on a leadership role.

**ZC 9E –Ray Derouin**

Due to Club activities and Holidays, I've only been able to visit 3 clubs so far. These visits were very informative and showed me that older clubs can entice younger members to join Lionism and the hardest part, retain them.



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I'm looking forward to doing my first induction on Jan 18<sup>th</sup> and hope that there will be a lot more before this year is up.

**ZC 9S** – Tony Davidson – nothing to report.

**RC 51** – Debbie Cserhalmi

Celebrate!

As you all know, Lions turns 100 years old this year. It's a time to take pride in our past and look to the future. All over our towns and villages we see signs of our Lions 'footprints'; signs, buildings, etc. How will we continue to have an impact in the future? New members, especially younger ones, will be leading the way in the next decade or more. Can we find these service minded individuals and once we do, how do we keep them engaged? Will it be business as usual or are we willing to view service with fresh eyes? I think a good combination of both will put us in a great position for the next 100 years.

We are busy working on this year's convention. DG Wayne reminds us that this is YOUR convention! In order to make that happen there are a few things he'd like to see.

- 1) At the Friday night opening ceremony each region is given the opportunity to present their own version of Lionism; past, present or future. This presentation should be 5-7 minutes long. Each club can do their own or we can all get together as a Region. Find some talented members and go to it! As an incentive there is a prize of \$250.00 that can be used to top up your administration account. I will be sending out more info about this soon.
- 2) We would love to see what your club has done as their Community Centennial Project. LCI has awards for different levels of these projects so don't forget to report them to LCI. The convention has set aside an area for your club to exhibit your projects. Let's see what our clubs have done. More info to follow.
- 3) DG Wayne is presenting a special award this year at convention. The Governor's Award will be given to one worthy Lion in each club. Each club will choose a Lion in good standing to thank and recognize for their service in their club. This need not be a long serving member. Think of a member who's always been there when it counts but gets little credit for all they have done for your club. Cabinet members and PDGs should not be considered unless necessary in smaller clubs. The awards are to be presented at the Saturday night's Governor's Dinner. What a better way to honour your member then by buying them a dinner to the dinner! Just add it to your registration form.

Celebrate!

**ZC 51E** – Neil Hoogendoorn

Up to this point I have visited 5 clubs, and found that they are operating very well. Some have prospective members attending their dinner meetings and are busy in the community with different projects. Some clubs are not willing to let the Zone Chair be privy to their inner workings. When visiting these clubs, I feel they are not forthcoming with information about their activities.

I have been trying to communicate our regular message, to try your best to increase membership and to retain current members.

We did have to cancel our Zone 51E meeting in Belwood due to inclement weather.

**ZC 51W** – Lion Linda Litt



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The clubs in Zone 51W are enthusiastic and dedicated. It was a pleasure to visit with each club and to learn firsthand how they are working hard for their communities and Lionism.

All club visits were completed by mid-November. Our District Governor's Advisory Committee Meeting was held at the Paradise & District Lions Club on Thursday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 with special guest speaker Heidi Fraser, Public Programs & Services Coordinator, Canadian Diabetes Association. She delivered a presentation on diabetes and how it affects people and what services are available. There was also a lively discussion on recruiting new members and successful fundraisers. The second meeting is scheduled for January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the Atwood & District Lions Club.

Some clubs in the zone continue to struggle with technology and reporting, which is not completely surprising. They have been referred for assistance and hopefully this will continue to improve.

Our zone started the year with 13 dropped members but we have continued to gain ground and are currently sitting at -2.

**RC37 – Tracey Leary**

I'm glad to report lots of new members in Region 37. I have had the pleasure of inducting 1 in Ingersoll and 1 in Drumbo. I have also had the pleasure of going to visit a couple of clubs in 37S. I look forward to the New Year to be able to get out and visit more of the clubs. 37S just had their second Zone meeting in Drumbo on Tuesday night. Good turnout and even a few from another zone came for a visit. Both Zone Chairs are doing an excellent job!!

**ZC 37S – Paul Lalande – Nothing to Report**

**ZC 37W – George Corrin – No Report**

**IPDG – Diane Smith – Nothing to report.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Bulletin & MDA Magazine Liaison** – Lion Bob Pearson

**Plan of Action:**

- Continue with the established quality of the newsletter issues.
- Continue with quality submissions to the MDA Magazine.
- Encourage A15 Clubs to ensure they have a bulletin editor in place and there are regular entries for the district bulletin contest. Individual club bulletins will identify future district editors.
- Revisit the need for a district logo.

It goes without saying that timely submissions make for a better product. It is realized the time of year has much to do with this area and the rate of submissions will increase as we move through this Lions year.

Please submit your material as soon as practical for next month's issue.



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The normal deadline for the bulletin contest is February 28<sup>th</sup>, that date has been extended to March 31<sup>st</sup>. Contest Rules and an entry form are in the January issue of the bulletin.

Submissions can be in most formats, PDF's are preferred, but most other platforms can be covered. Contact the bulletin editor if you have questions about file formats. Microsoft Word seems to be the most popular format and that works fine.

**Camp Co-ordinator – RC Bill Robinson**

It has been a slow process but I am happy to say that I have put together a short presentation outlining the camps within our MDA. I will be spreading the word to the clubs in the district that wish to learn more about these camps to contact me.

**Centennial Coordinator – PDG Dan Ayim**

I wish to express my appreciation to all club presidents/secretaries who responded to my recent request for information on Club Centennial Legacy projects planned for 2017; with this info and that on the dashboard of MyLCI, the Fall Centennial Coordinator Report was completed, emphasizing the importance of prompt regular reporting on MyLCI.

Let me refer to a recent update sent to all clubs by PDG Doug Smith on the Entranceway district project at Dog-guides breeding facility – Breslau. While thanking the 24 clubs which have participated by donating cash, labour and/or materials, I encourage more non-contributing clubs to consider getting involved. It would be nice to have the project completed before our centennial celebration in 2017. All donations may be forwarded to the Cabinet Treasurer, Lion Peter Oswald.

**Construction Project at Breslau**

On behalf of PDG Dan Ayim and the District Centennial Project Committee, I would like to update A-15 on the progress of the project at the LFC Dog Breeding and Training Facility at Breslau.

All below grade foundations are completed and backfilled. The site has been graded and cleaned up of all debris.

As outlined at the start of the project, the project would be constructed in 3 phases in order that only when funds were available would the committee proceed with construction.

Phase 1 - Footings and Foundation is completed.

Phase 2 - Above grade block work, stone facings and pillar caps. The Split Fieldstone is on site and has been paid for. At this point we are looking for the funding of the Labour and balance of Materials. Budget projections of \$7000.00 - \$8000.00 is required.

Phase 3 - Replica Antique Fencing and Plaques will require approx. another \$5000.00.

I thank those clubs who have already donated both \$ and in the Supply of Materials and or Labour. To date 24 clubs have participated. It is our desire to have all clubs involved this A15 Lions Centennial Legacy Project. Any donation from your club is appreciated.



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Keeping this in mind, work is tentatively scheduled to begin again in early spring of 2017. Hopefully this project will be completed in time for our June Centennial Celebrations.

Cheques can be made out to A15 Centennial Legacy Project and mailed to CT Peter Oswald.

Thanking you in advance  
PDG Doug Smith

**Constitution & By-Laws** – PDDG George Patton – Nothing to report

**Convention Report** – Co-Chairs PID Art Woods and ZC Linda Litt

Your Convention Host Committee has been meeting regularly and plans are well in hand.

As you know, the convention will be held in Elmira with all events taking place at Lions Hall. Accommodations are available at The Courtyard Marriott in St. Jacobs with free shuttle service available between these two venues.

Governor Wayne's wish is that we truly celebrate 100 years of service at this convention. Together we have created several events to help in this Celebration.

1. Each club is invited to display one of its Centennial projects.
2. Each Region is requested to present a Centennial Demonstration Friday night.
3. Each Club is invited to submit a member's name to receive a special Governor's Centennial Award.

The three Region Chairs have volunteered to promote these three events.

We are attempting to reduce the costs of this Convention. To that end:

1. The Saturday lunch will be free (donation only).
2. The Saturday dinner cost will be \$38.00.
3. The Sunday breakfast will be free.

We have Information Flyers, Registration Forms and Raffle Tickets with us today.

**Convention Advisory (Future)** – PDG Doug Smith

The following is the report of the Future Convention Advisory Committee.

In early January, Request for Convention Bids for the year 2018/19 were sent to all clubs. To date no bids have been received. Once received the Committee will review for completeness and make a recommendation to Cabinet.

I have met with the Guelph and Guelph Royal City Clubs at the Convention Site in Guelph and plans are well under way. Dates are April 6, 7 & 8, 2018.

Our upcoming Convention in Elmira is promising to be one of the best yet. All planning is proceeding quite well. Dates are May 5-7, 2017. I am sure that Lion Art and Lion Linda have some more to say about this event.



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**Cultural Events** – PZC Fran MacFarlane – No report

**Diabetes Awareness Report** – Lion Rick Bell

Firstly, I must apologize for not being at the cabinet meeting. At that time, I will be on a tour in South-East Asia and it is hot there.

Since our last cabinet meeting, donations are coming in at a slow rate, but they are coming in for the 100 Kids to Camp campaign. The goal in MDA is to raise \$137,000 or about \$250/club. I have spoken about the campaign at two Zone meetings and pamphlets have been sent to all clubs. I have sent out a reminder to all clubs in the District.

**District A-15 Technology Report** – Lion Ted Rypma – Nothing to report

**District International Relations** – PID Bruce Murray – No report

**Effective Speaking** – Lion Ernie Kaethler

The Effective Speaking program which develops Youth Leadership and community awareness skills is only ONE of many programs that our A-15 District has faithfully supported for many years. Two components are: 1) holding local Club sponsored Speaking Contest, and 2) budgeted donations to support the A-15 District Competitions with winners going on to the MDA - provincial Finals.

Thanks to a number of positive factors, including healthy donations, we enjoyed a small surplus at year's end. Let's do it again, for our Youth, our future stability and well-being.... Your thoughtful budgeted amounts can be sent NOW to: District Treasurer, Peter Oswald, 4 Tristan Court, Dundas Ontario, L9H 7G7 -see page 14 of A-15 DIRECTORY- payable to: A-15; memo line: Effective Speaking.

A few donations have come in, but please do NOT wait - this Opportunities for Youth program is active and deserves your involvement and SUPPORT.

**Speech Categories for the competition:**

**SENIORS** - both English & French - Grades 10, 11, & 12, - Prepared Speech 5 -to- 7 minutes; Impromptu Speech: 2 - 3 minutes;

**INTERMEDIATE** - (Eng. & French) - Grades 7, 8, & 9, - Prepared Speech 5 -to- 7 minutes; Impromptu Speech: 2 - 3 minutes;

**JUNIOR** - (Eng. & French) - Grades 4, 5, & 6, - Prepared Speech 3 -to- 5 minutes; NO Impromptu Speech:

**Pre-Competitive** - (Eng. & French) - Grades 1, 2 & 3 . . . District only - Not MDA, - prepared Speech - Poetry allowed - 2 -to-3 minutes;

Our District A-15 contest will again be held in St George, German Public School (same place as last year) on Saturday April 1st, 2017 starting at 9:00 AM. The Lions MDA -provincial finals will be held in St Catharines on the May 5, 6 weekend.

**Elections & Credentials** – PDG Doug Smith



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Voting Credential Slips will be emailed to District email club address. Secretaries check your District generated emails. Every year, Clubs claim that they never received them. In the last 3 years I have not received any email bounce backs so.....

In order that a fine is not levied @ Convention fill out the slips correctly and bring your current signed membership card!

The rules concerning accounts with LCI, MDA and A15 have changed as of July 1st, 2016. All Accounts must be in good standing 15 days prior to the vote being held. Money will not be accepted at the Convention. With the Convention being in May, there should be no excuse about dues outstanding or not being cleared by the respective billing party.

So have everything in place or 2 Bucks 2 Bucks 2 bucks.

**Environment – Jason Crowe**

**MDA Lions Environmental Photo Contest Guidelines**

Lions and Lioness Clubs in good standing can enter an original, unaltered, black-and-white or color photo (without people) of the environment in the Lions Environmental Photo Contest in each of the following categories:

- - Animal Life
- - Landscape (Urban or Natural)
- - Plant Life
- - Weather Phenomenon

capturing the magnificent beauty and grandeur of our natural environment.

- Lions/Lioness Clubs may submit one (1) 20.3 cm X 25.4 cm (8 inch X 10 inch) printed photo in each of the above categories to their District Environment Coordinator in advance of the 2017 District Convention. The District will select one (1) winner at the District Convention, where the winner should be recognized.

The District will submit one (1) winning photo to Multiple District 'A' no later than May 7th, 2017

**A15 - Breslau Memorial Forest planning**

Please keep the following dates in mind. Our forest continues to grow due to the many contributions and volunteer hours provided by A15 Lions.

- January 2017 TBD – Memorial Forest Planning Committee meeting
- June 7, 2017 – Breslau Memorial Forest Work Party – Camaraderie and Service
- June 10, 2017 – Breslau Memorial Service and Rededication
- 

**A-15 Club Environmental Projects**

Clubs are encouraged to share details of environmental projects they are working on by emailing to:

- [env@a15lions.org](mailto:env@a15lions.org)

**Gift of Life:** – No report



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**GLT District Coordinator – IPDG Diane Smith**

A leadership workshop was held in Elmira on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017. This was an information- sharing session for our Cabinet members, our GMT/GLT leaders from MDA, our Long Range Planning committee members and our Membership and Growth Team Leader. The meeting was aimed at reviewing and enumerating the challenges facing our District, specifically focusing on encouraging members to move forward into leadership roles and retaining our club members. Discussion involved possible solutions to these challenges.

Part of the meeting was dedicated to goal setting and devising a Leadership plan for our District for the next one, two and five years. VDG 1 Lion Char and VDG2 Lion Kevin presented their GLT and GMT plans for the next two years and emphasized the need for working as a team to accomplish these goals.

In the spring the District GLT will hold two leadership training sessions –one for incoming Cabinet members with an emphasis on position –specific training and another for incoming club executive members. This latter meeting is open to all members of the District.

All members of A-15 have a voice in the administration of our District. Please feel free to contact me at any time with suggestions/requests for our training sessions or any questions you may have.

**GMT District Coordinator – PRC Jim Keron**

Christmas and new Years are over and we are now on the second half of this Lions Year. Looking at the most recent Club Health Assessment we are running a bit behind on membership but expect to finish the year in a stronger position. There is a new Cyber club in the process of formation that should add to the district membership.

One thing we would like to stress is a focus on membership retention. While we routinely recruit new members to the amount of 8-9% of the district membership each year, we lose about the same every year. If we could cut our losses we would be in a strong growth position and the envy of most of the districts in North America. Research into why people leave Lions indicates three primary reasons – poor meetings, failure to engage younger members and not enough opportunities to serve the community. All of these are things that we can and must fix.

In January we participated in a cabinet workshop/ training session and in the upcoming months will be participating in some of the zone and joint zone meetings stressing retention as well as working with 1VDG Char as she finalizes here goals and starts planning implementation.

**GMT Membership & Club Growth Team Leader – PRC Vic Bovingdon – No report**

**GMT Club Success Team Leader – RC Paul Anstett**

I am continuing to liaise with Clubs that the GMT/GLT Committee has assisted with CEP/CQI and follow-up. Also continue the ongoing monitoring and postings on the District's Facebook page. I am in contact with the District Governor's team and GMT/GLT regarding various issues that arise in the District pertaining to Membership Growth & Retention.





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**Hearing and Speech Action** – PDG Tim DeBlock

Since our last Cabinet Meeting I have attend two Zone Meetings and several Clubs to discuss the possibility of including a hearing screening during the vision screening process. It has been received well.

We are growing!....and need your help. The inclusion of a hearing screening partnered with the vision screening program by the Kitchener group in the Waterloo School Board, and the same program in all schools in the Avon Maitland and Huron Perth Catholic Boards means we are including 6800 more students in a hearing screening. Thank-you to the volunteers for who ultimately make this possible. With this growth and the School Boards hope of including this component in more schools we need financial support of this program for equipment. Please have your Clubs consider contributing some funds as part of their services for children outreach. I am available for Clubs and Lions who would like to explore possibilities for their own communities.

**History Report** – PDG Nancy Ransom – No report

**Honorary Committee** – IPDG Diane Smith – Nothing to Report

**LCIF** –2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Kevin Banfield

In the last few months I have been forwarding cheques to LCIF - on behalf of LCIF I would like to thank the clubs and individuals that have supported our International Foundation so far this year.

Below is a recap of MDA donations LIONS YTD.

As you can see we at A15 still have some to work to do in getting more clubs involved in supporting our foundation. Only 10 percent of our clubs have supported LCIF so far this year. I do hope with the upcoming two quarters that clubs in our district will chose to recognize a member in their clubs with a MJF or even a progressive MJF.

Please note: if your club wish's to apply for your “Club Excellent Award” one of the criteria’s is to have made a donation to LCIF – which is different from Lions Foundation of Canada (LFC).

Let’s see if we can’t get to 50 percent of clubs making a donation before the end of the year.



**LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL**  
 Club Participation from 7/1/2016 to 12/31/2016  
 Constitutional Area :Canada

Run Date: 1/16/2017 7:32:14PM

DISTRICT	AREA	NUMBER OF CLUBS	CLUBS DONATING	PERCENTAGE	AMOUNT
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A 1	ONTARIO	43	16	37.21%	\$4,230.02
A 2	ONTARIO	41	1	2.44%	\$2,145.51
A 3	ONTARIO	50	19	38.00%	\$6,146.54
A 4	ONTARIO	65	5	7.69%	\$1,528.92
A 5	ONTARIO	53	3	5.66%	\$601.61
A 711	ONTARIO	76	7	9.21%	\$2,481.55
A 9	ONTARIO	45	23	51.11%	\$4,566.88
A 12	ONTARIO	44	8	18.18%	\$3,246.27
A 15	ONTARIO	58	6	10.34%	\$4,389.91
A 16	ONTARIO	53	11	20.75%	\$4,585.64
<b>Totals</b>		<b>528</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>18.75%</b>	<b>\$33,922.85</b>

From our LCIF Trustee's Meeting (per report from PID Garnet Davis, LCIF Trustee) –

### Club LCIF Coordinators

All Clubs are being asked to name LCIF Club Coordinators. The procedure for reporting Club Officers for 2017-18 will include the listing of an LCIF Club Coordinator. Clubs are asked to consider the outgoing President for this position, or consider a Lion who may be interested in serving in this position for a three-year term. This would allow for more regular contact with a Club by the District Coordinator or Multiple District Coordinator in some cases.

### Recent Developments

**Grants** At the most recent meeting of the Board of Trustees of LCIF, 78 Standard Grants worth \$4,538,938 were approved, including 1 from 5M10, 1 from 5M11, 1 from N2, two from U2, and one from U4 totaling \$316,262. (I wish our Canadian Lions had contributed that much!)

### Centennial Coin

Watch for the announcement of the release of the Centennial Coin which will be made shortly. Some of the proceeds from this venture go to LCIF (It could raise \$4M!)

Other recent major grants of \$10,000 Emergency Grant and \$100,000 Major Catastrophe Grant were made toward relief from the Indonesian Earthquake, the Earthquake in Italy, and the Earthquake in Tainan.

### LEO –RC Tracey Leary

There was a new Leo club in the works from the St. Jacobs Lions. Unfortunately, there was insufficient adult support for a possible club cosponsor. So, at this time it will not be pursued any further. Just a note, please keep trying to get our youth involved in Lions! I will try to help in any way that I can.

### Lions Foundation of Canada (LCF) – RC Deb Cserhalmi

It's been another busy season for the Lions Foundation of Canada. Lots of puppies being born and many more teams have graduated in the past few months.

Now is the time to be thinking about hosting your Walk. Smaller clubs are encouraged to join together with other clubs or perhaps your local Pet Store to host a Walk. If you are interested in hosting a Walk, please contact Marilyn DeFazio (Lethbridge) at [mlethbridge@dogguides.com](mailto:mlethbridge@dogguides.com). She will send you a step by step kit on how to run your Walk.



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Speaking about walks, this year the Walk for Dog Guides has a new sponsor! Pet Valu is now the main sponsor for the Walk. Pet Valu is a strong supporter of the Foundation and have sponsored several graduated teams. Welcome Pet Valu.

There is always a need for more foster families for the wonderful pups. The pups go home with families for about a year. The family teaches them socialization, manners and a few commands. The pups go with you almost everywhere as long as they wear their vest. Please contact Sam if you are interested in this wonderful volunteer opportunity. [puppyprogram@dogguides.com](mailto:puppyprogram@dogguides.com).

There is currently work underway to make new legislation for Bill 80 Ontario Service Dogs Act to ensure that service can't be denied for legitimate service dogs. There have been so many instances where service has been denied to our teams after all the time and effort to get them trained.

**Lions Quest** – PDG Todd Wilson – No report

**Lions Opportunities For Youth** – Lion Joanne McQuiggan – No report

**Lions Services For Children** – Interim – District Team – No report

**Literacy** – PZC Aline Chan

As your Literacy Chair, I am sending out information on a program that can bring books into the hands of our children!

As you know, we have a partnership with Scholastic Books Canada. Thank you to the clubs that donated books to their community through the RAP (Reading Assistance Program). Books have been distributed back to the club and went to the schools where you do Vision Screening.

Through a new program that Scholastic has just launched, they are offering us an opportunity to give books back to the children in our community.

Reading Champions are people who:

- bring the joy of reading to Canadian children
- promote a love of reading in their community
- help put books into the hands of children

Each month in 2017, Scholastic will highlight the achievements of FIVE Reading Champions AND donate a library of Scholastic books (retail value: \$1000) to the literacy organization of each Reading Champion's choice!

We have Clubs worthy of this nomination!

From Little Libraries, to reading to the blind, to building a library in Africa, to Lynden Lions initiating a local program in conjunction with the Dolly Parton Foundation's Imagination Library - the project provides a free book each month for each child enrolled, until their 5th birthday

For more information on the Reading Champion program and how to nominate someone, visit [www.scholastic.ca/readingchampions](http://www.scholastic.ca/readingchampions).



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Please nominate people in your Club / community!

Help us celebrate some of Canada's Reading Champions, especially locally! If you would like to buy Scholastic books at half price, contact me. If you would like me to come visit your Club and explain the program, let me know.

**Long Range Planning** – PDG Thom Herrmann –

The LRP Committee has provided to the Cabinet the suggested Guidelines concerning the selection and responsibilities of District Committee Chairs and Portfolio holder. We have recommended the acceptance of those Guidelines.

We have also submitted our suggest Guidelines for a Zone Chair's Responsibilities and Training in A15. We have requested that Cabinet consider these and modify them at their pleasure and then use them to Guide Candidates and the Cabinet in the future.

**Nominations** – PCC Bill Carson – No report

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

This will be my final report as Chair for the Peace Poster Contest. I would like to thank the Governors for asking me to do this and I wish my replacement all the best.

It was a disappointing year compared to last year when we had about 15 Peace Posters out in the schools.

I feel the reason it was down this year as I didn't have the opportunity in September to speak to all of the Lions/Lioness clubs as we did in 2015 when we had "Lions Now."

We had very few submissions this year but I am very happy to say that the NEW HAMBURG LIONESS'S ENTRY WON for A 15. Thamesford Lions came in second and St Agatha Lions came in third. Thank you Lions/Lioness for supporting this wonderful project.

I had the pleasure of going to Sir Adam Beck School in Baden and presented the winner 11 year old Kiera Gallian from Baden with a check for \$250.00. Congratulations Kiera. She is excited about entering again next year. She was sponsored by the New Hamburg Lioness, thanks Lioness Kathy Lantz.

The overall winner for MD A was from A 9.

Thank you Governor Wayne for asking me to be the Peace Poster Chair

**Police Check Gatekeeper:** PDG George Patton – No report

**Protocol** – PID Art Woods – No report

**Public Relations & Club Visits Liaison** – PDG Nancy Ransom – No report



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**Sight Conservation and Screening – PDG Tim DeBlock**

Our screening program continues to grow!

We are currently involved with representatives from A2 to create a screening program that will hopefully be facilitated in all the schools in the Grand Erie District School Board. But with growth also comes expense. In the last two years we have added 3000 students to the program so please have your Clubs consider a financial contribution as part of their services for children budget to help cover the cost of new equipment. I am available for Clubs and Lions who would like to explore possibilities for their own communities.

Thank-you to the volunteers for their work in our current screening programs. They have been in full swing since our last Cabinet Meeting with some completing their program for this year.

I have received a shipment of Used Eye Glass collection boxes. Please contact me to arrange delivery to meet your needs and follow the shipping instructions on page 154 in the directory.

**Technology Support Coach – PRC Rick Banks**

I believe that all clubs have access to their District email account. Small changes continue to be made to names and addresses and thanks to IT Chair Ted Rypma for his continued work on the website. I would encourage you to continue to submit any changes to either Ted or myself.

**Youth Camp & Exchange – Allison and Mark Henkell – No report**

The dates for the Exchange this year are a little later than they have been in the past. This will accommodate those of you who wish to attend the International Convention in Chicago and also host youth. As a reminder the dates for the 2017 Youth Exchange Program (YEP) are as follows:

Saturday July 8 – Youth arrive at Toronto International Airport and travel to their host families

Saturday July 22 – Camp begins

Sunday July 30 – International Night – location TBD

Tuesday August 1 – Camp closes – youth return to their host families

Saturday August 5 – Youth fly out of Toronto International Airport

We have had 14 applications to date and have accepted 10 youth to the program. We are torn regarding how long to wait before accepting youth. We are speaking to each youth before we accept them (via Skype) and we have not had a chance to speak with the other four applicants yet. On one hand we don't want the camp to "fill up" before people have a chance to apply (the application period is open until March 31<sup>st</sup>) but on the other had once a youth has applied to one camp they can't apply to another until they get an answer from the first club. If we hold onto an application for too long it could prevent the youth from participating anywhere.

We have opened the camp up to youth 16-22 which is the recommended ages through Lions International. We are getting several older youth applying this year and we started with more boys applying than girls but right now we are even at 7 boys and 7 girls. Those we have had a chance to speak with seem like awesome "kids" and we are looking forward to getting to know all of them at camp. There is a lot of enthusiasm in the youth who are looking forward to coming to Canada!

We would really like to encourage clubs to recruit host families, this is usually the factor that limits the number of youth we can accept to camp. We have lots of room at our new location, Blue Springs Scout Camp which is located just outside of Acton. We would encourage the clubs to "think outside the box" when finding hosts. It isn't necessary that hosts be Lions members, it is possible that hosting will be someone's first exposure to Lions and it may encourage them to become involved in other ways! Last year one club had a member's daughter who hosted and different members of the club took turns taking the youth to various events. The host family was awesome and the youth had a great time! Perhaps the clubs could look to help a family with the cost of hosting, if that is potential deterrent. We don't have to do things like they have always been done, we just need to ensure



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a safe and rewarding experience for the visiting youth, the families who host, and the Lions who get the opportunity to interact with the youth.

We are also looking for camp counselors for the upcoming year, currently it is only the two of us and our daughter, Jenna, as the youth liaison. We may also be calling on Lions who are available to volunteer to help for just one or two events. For example we are looking at attending a Blue Jay's game and that could be more enjoyable for the youth if there were more baseball fans who could explain the game to them. When there are only a couple of people to explain and lots of youth who don't understand the game it makes it less enjoyable. We will also likely be canoeing again and that is an event that requires some experienced help, we have been fortunate in past years to have some great volunteers and we are hoping this tradition will continue. If there are any questions about hosting or volunteering during the camp please contact Allison and/or Mark.

We are still in the process of reviewing the schedule to determine if there are activities to be added, dropped, or revamped. We have put together the list of all the clubs that were involved in preparing and/or providing meals for the camp in 2016 and will be emailing shortly to confirm their availability for the upcoming year. Any clubs that have not been involved in the past, who would like to be involved this year are welcome to contact Mark and Allison by email at [ycex@a15lions.org](mailto:ycex@a15lions.org) or by telephone/text (Allison 226-228-0874; Mark 519-788-5000).

Thank-you to those in the District who have supported this program in the past whether that be financially, by preparing meals, hosting youth, participating in events of any of the other ways Lions have been involved. We look forward to your continued support in the future and to new individuals and clubs becoming involved in the awesome adventure that is the Lions International Youth Exchange Program!