



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



**Spring A-15 Cabinet Meeting Minutes**

3:00 PM June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Elmira Lions Hall, Elmira

1. Call to order and Welcome – DG Diane Smith – 3:05 PM
2. Attendance as indicated:

**VOTING CABINET**

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

**COMMITTEE CHAIR**

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

In attendance also were approximately 28 other Lion Members.

**(R)** – Regrets

3. Moment of Silence, O Canada
4. Setting of Protocol – VDG2E Kevin Banfield
5. DG Remarks & Updates
  - 5.1. Current District numbers-started the year with 1534; currently we are at 1540 for a net positive growth of 6. My member growth goal for the year was 15
  - 5.2. We are asking that members not be dropped until July so that a more representative evaluation of member growth throughout this Lions year may be obtained. Note that International, MDA and District dues will be billed based upon the member count showing on August 1st rather than July 1st, so clubs have nothing to lose by leaving their drops until July.
  - 5.3. MDA
    - 5.3.1. Tom Gordon was elected as our International Director candidate for Canada for 2017-2019. He received a majority vote of the 501 votes cast on the first ballot.
    - 5.3.2. Proposed constitutional amendments were passed at the convention
    - 5.3.3. A request from the St Mary’s Lions Club to have District A15 request a review of voting procedures at future MDA conventions was made unnecessary as MDA Council took action on that request on a direct motion by DG Diane.
  - 5.4. View pictures of the District convention on the District website. Thanks to Bob Pearson for a job well done. Next year Bob is also going to assist John Daniels with the Lions magazine
  - 5.5. For the Lions Foundation of Canada, as of April 28, 2016, the clubs of our District have contributed \$64, 933.95

- 5.6. To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Lions organization, LCI announced at the Toronto International convention, on July 6, 2014 that there would be a new global initiative to serve 100 million people in four areas by June 30, 2018. These areas are:
- Engaging Our Youth (28,984,642)
  - Sharing the Vision (14, 100, 338)
  - Relieving the Hunger (18,561,977)
  - Protecting the Environment (23, 794,812)
- Currently 85,441, 769 have been served. Therefore International has now increased the goal to 200 million.
- 5.7. District A15 photo winner Helen McLeod placed second at the MDA level
- Transfer of the Chair to DGE Wayne Litt
  - Additions to and Approval of the Agenda – Carried.
  - Approval of Minutes of the April 30<sup>th</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 Cabinet Meeting – Carried.  
*Available at <http://a15lions.org/pages/uploads/Events/CabMinAprilConv2016.pdf>*
  - Secretary's Report  
MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Secretary's report. Carried.
  - Treasurer's Report
    - Report and Financial Statements  
MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's report and Financial Statements as presented. Carried.
    - MOVED to transfer funds in the amount of \$440.40 representing net proceeds of the Cook Book sales from 2014-15 to the District Lions Quest account. Carried.
  - New Business
    - Needed Changes to A-15 Policy Manual, Article 25, District A-15 Volunteer Screening and Police Check Policy  
As a result of actions taken at the Winter 2016 Cabinet Meeting with respect to A-15 Policy Manual, Article 25, District A-15 Volunteer Screening and Police Check Policy (*see <http://a15lions.org/pages/uploads/Events/CabMinFeb2016.pdf> (New Business 10.2)*)  
MOVED, to amend A-15 Policy Manual, Article 25, District A-15 Volunteer Screening and Police Check Policy as attached. Carried.
  - Cabinet Reports
    - MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Cabinet Reports. Carried.
  - Committee Reports -  
MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Committee Reports. Carried.
  - Special Presentations & Awards – DG Diane
    - Long Tail Award(s) - Long Tail Award - Linda Litt (second time winner)
    - Bulletin Contest  
St Mary's Lion – Mary Ann Ferguson – Editor  
Cambridge-Highlands – Editor Margaret de Boer  
Woolwich Community – Editor Cheryl Bauman
    - Club Anniversary Award(s)  
Brantford – 90, Woodstock – 85
    - LFC Certificate for each Cabinet Member for donations in the Governor's name throughout the year.
    - District Service Recognition  
Outgoing Cabinet Secretary Dennis Lougheed was presented with an Appreciation Award for his six years of service as Cabinet Secretary.



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15. District Governor's Remarks  
This is a bitter-sweet moment for me.  
I have enjoyed acting as the District Governor for A15 for this Lions year. I have been impressed with the array of talent I have witnessed and the utilization of that talent in the dedication to service for others.  
Our District currently is strong, but in order to stay strong there are challenges that we must face as we go forward. We must work hard to keep our clubs vibrant and relevant. We need to culture enthusiastic and knowledgeable leaders. We need to have solid club and District structure in order to be able to carry out our mandate of serving. Remember that International estimates that a single Lion, through acts of service, has the potential to positively impact the lives of 30-50 people. I wish our incoming Cabinet, under the guidance of Lion Wayne, all the best in taking our District forward. I want to thank all of the clubs in the District for accepting my theme, Hope through Service, with its special focus on literacy projects.  
A special thank you to the members of my family, especially my husband Paul, for continued encouragement and support. Thank you also to all of the Cabinet members and the committee chairs for your efforts in making our District run smoothly and finally to the members my club, Woolwich Community Lions, for not wavering in the belief that I could do the job.  
If we learn from our past and if we consider present challenges as opportunities, we will be able to look to the future with confidence for what we are yet to achieve.
16. DG Appreciation Plaque & Pin Presentation – DGE Wayne Litt
17. DGE Gavel Presentation – DG Diane Smith
18. DGE Wayne Litt's Remarks  
I am here because you matter.  
Right now there are many Lions getting together around the world. But as I stand here today, I see you as the most important Lions. Not because you came to listen to me speak. Perhaps even in spite of that. But no, it's because you chose to become part of Lions and dedicate your time to helping others right here at home. You learn, you plan, you organize and you execute. That is what it is all about. Getting it done.  
But there's also another part. And without this part, few if any of us would likely continue. You make it fun. And that's why others want to join in. Thank you.  
You have heard it many times but what you do does make a difference. Lionism is best represented by you, at the grassroots level, in the individual clubs. You care about what is going on around you.  
Amidst all the excitement about the 100 years of Lionism, we must stop and take a look at just how we got here. It started with the idea of one dedicated man but it was and continues to be all the Lions, over the last 100 years, reaching out and asking someone to join them in service.  
Just asking. Some times when I hear all the talk about recruitment, I start to think "not this again." It starts to feel like it's all about the numbers. But it's not. It's all about the Service we do. The numbers can show us how it's going. Should we continue the same way or change it up a bit?  
After you, the next most important person is the one that is not here yet. That is the next person that you will ask to join us.  
Finally, we come to the Cabinet and District Governor. We are here to serve you, you the Lions of A-15. We are in an administrative role. We're here to help you make the difference. "You get it done"  
Please let us know what we can do to make it easier for you.  
Oh ... one more thing, what better way to mark the 100 Years of Lions in Service than to celebrate it. So this upcoming year, I have chosen the theme "Celebrate Service". Let's make every event and meeting a "Celebration of Service" and "Make it Fun."
19. Toast, Lions Grace & Dinner
20. Good & Welfare
- 20.1. Traditional annual Peterson wine bottle fund donation of \$18.65 to Lions Quest
21. Adjournment – 4:00 PM



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**SECRETARY'S REPORT TO CABINET**

For the past six years I have served as your District Cabinet Secretary. Fulfilling that role is a responsibility I enjoyed immensely however; the Cabinet Secretary serves at the pleasure of the District Governor. As was announced at the Convention Cabinet meeting, District Governor Elect, Wayne has chosen to make a change. Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, your Cabinet Secretary will be Lion Rick Banks of the Milverton Lions.

Lion Rick and I have established a transition plan we believe will make the transition as seamless as is possible. With respect to correspondence, continue in exactly the same manner as you have been. Until July 1<sup>st</sup> all email sent to [cs@a5lions.org](mailto:cs@a5lions.org) will reach both Rick and I. On July 1<sup>st</sup> that email will go directly to him only. Until July 1<sup>st</sup>, all other correspondence should be directed to me. If it is a matter best dealt with by Lion Rick, I will direct you to contact him.

I have taken great pleasure in serving as your Cabinet Secretary and have every confidence that Lion Rick will serve you well going forward.

**TREASURER'S REPORT TO CABINET**

The financial records have been balanced and reconciled to the bank statements as at April 30, 2016. As my last report was only 5 weeks ago, the financial statements presented here are as at May 23, 2016 and fairly reflect the financial position of the District.

**ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNTS**

- I confirm that all Club dues have been paid for this Lions year.
- Expenses as a whole are well within Budget at this point in the Lions year. But there are a few line items that I want to expand upon as they are above the budgeted amount:
  - o 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.
  - o Badges & patches includes approx. \$500 for District Officer Crests for the next fiscal year – will be adjusted properly after July 1.
- To properly include invoices received but not paid at the time of this report, I have captured these as Payables – there are 4 invoices for Leadership Seminar, printing, Committee Chair expenses and GMT/GLT.

**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 April 30, 2016 and, as above, the financial statements are presented as at May 23.
- Funds held in Trust for projects outside the District (Camp Dorset, Lake Joe etc) will be forwarded before June 30.
- One item that is outstanding from the previous Lions year is the net proceeds of the Cook Book sales in the amount of \$440.40. In reviewing the records and reports, former Lion Ajit had indicated in a Committee report that these proceeds should be directed to Lions Quest (refer Culture Committee Report Nov, 2014)– but instructions to make this transfer to Lions Quest were never provided. My report includes a motion to make this transfer now.



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**TREASURER'S REPORT TO CABINET - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

7:54 AM  
2016-05-23  
Accrual Basis

**District "A"-15 Lions - Admin**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**As of 23 May 2016**

	<u>23 May 16</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
Cash	
CIBC - Bank Account	10,246.00
CIBC - Investments	31,520.25
CIBC USD Account	8.57
International Director Fund	5,687.48
New Club Assessment Fund	1,870.56
<b>Total Cash</b>	<u>49,332.86</u>
<b>Total Chequing/Savings</b>	<u>49,332.86</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>49,332.86</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>49,332.86</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
A/P USD for LCI	0.01
Accounts Payable	1,231.20
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<u>1,231.21</u>
Other Current Liabilities	
Convention Fund	3,604.07
DGE Partner Travel	3,104.60
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<u>6,708.67</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>7,939.88</u>
Long Term Liabilities	
International Director - Contra	5,687.48
New Club Assessment - Contra	1,870.56
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	<u>7,558.04</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>15,497.92</u>
Equity	
Balance - July 1/00 - Net	690.54
Emergency Reserve Fund	23,000.00
Retained Earnings	2,849.70
Net Income	7,294.70
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>33,834.94</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>49,332.86</u></b>



We Serve

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



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7:58 AM

2016-05-23

Accrual Basis

## District "A"-15 Lions - Admin Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July 2015 through May 23, 2016

	Jul '15 - Jun 16	Budget	Over Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
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	558.00	543.00	15.00
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	19,232.00	19,583.00	-351.00
Gross Profit	19,232.00	19,583.00	-351.00
Expense			
Awards			
Awards - Cabinet	77.91	750.00	-672.09
Awards - Other	604.82	350.00	254.82
Total Awards	682.73	1,100.00	-417.27
Badges & Patches	1,573.76	700.00	873.76
Bank Charges	76.72	200.00	-123.28
Cabinet Expense	1,437.53	1,850.00	-412.47
Convention Expense	454.03	1,100.00	-645.97
District Chair Expense			
Comm Chair Expenses	133.39	1,100.00	-966.61
District Chair - Other	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
Global Leadership & Membership	734.22	2,350.00	-1,615.78
Leo Clubs	0.00	400.00	-400.00
Total District Chair Expense	867.61	5,350.00	-4,482.39
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	880.32	1,450.00	-569.68
Liability Insurance	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Pins Purchased	1,757.71	1,760.00	-2.29
Police Check Fees	1,507.42	660.00	847.42
Postage & Telephone	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Printing & Stationery	228.94	350.00	-121.06
USA / Canada Forum	360.00	1,800.00	-1,440.00
Total Expense	11,937.30	19,545.00	-7,607.70
Net Ordinary Income	7,294.70	38.00	7,256.70
Net Income	7,294.70	38.00	7,256.70



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



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7:50 AM

2016-05-23

Accrual Basis

## District "A"-15 Lions Clubs Trust Balance Sheet As of 23 May 2016

	23 May 16
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
CIBC- Lions Quest Imprest	1,158.74
CIBC - Eff.Speaking Impst	717.33
CIBC - Trust Account	11,590.88
CIBC - Youth	
Youth Exchange Imprest	30,066.65
Youth Investments	12,739.62
Total CIBC - Youth	42,806.27
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	76,873.08
Total Current Assets	76,873.08
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>76,873.08</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Camp Dorset	650.00
Centennial Project	3,045.70
Cultural Festival	217.11
District Cook Book	440.40
Effective Speaking Contra Acct	717.33
Hearing Conservation	350.00
Hearing Equipment	703.07
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	9,299.82
Peace Poster	1,367.46
Reading Action	1,925.00
Vision Screening	2,392.44
Youth Camp / Y. Ex. Contra Acct	42,806.27
Total Other Current Liabilities	69,070.50
Total Current Liabilities	69,070.50
Long Term Liabilities	
Youth Camp Capital	7,802.58
Total Long Term Liabilities	7,802.58
Total Liabilities	76,873.08
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>76,873.08</b>



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**CABINET REPORTS**

**1<sup>st</sup> VDG – Wayne Litt**

It has been my pleasure to serve with you, the Lions of District A15, as First Vice District Governor this year and I am very grateful to you for allowing me to the opportunity to serve as District Governor in 2016-2017. Working alongside many of you over the past few years, I know that Lionism is alive and well in the District. Both challenges and opportunities will present themselves in the upcoming Lions' year. The way we react to these situations will shape the way we, as Lions, serve in the years to come.

As we celebrate 100 years of Lions' service, we honor our past and embrace our present. However, it is our future for which we must plan. Moving forward, negotiating the trail not yet travelled, laying the foundation for generations of Lions to build on, the certainty that will prevail is, "Where there's a Need, there's a Lion." In over 200 countries, in hospitals and senior centers, in areas battered by natural disaster, in schools and eyeglass recycling centers, Lions are doing volunteer service, helping, leading, planning and supporting. Because we are local, we can serve the special needs of the communities we live in. And, because we're global, we can address challenges that go beyond.

**2<sup>nd</sup> VDG – Charlene Teasdale**

Happy spring to all! With the great weather arriving it's been so fun to hear of our District A15 Club's fund raising and service projects from cleaning up local roadways, improving parks, hosting Walk for Dog Guides, fish fry events and so much more! These service projects and events bring awareness and focus to what our Lions Clubs do and who we are. Congratulations to all of you. I was so impressed with our A15 Convention hosted by the Woolwich Community Lions Club & the Elmira Lions Club, this was so much fun and the weekend brought learning, fellowship and of course lots of good times! I congratulate our incoming Cabinet members for 2016-2017; I look forward to serving our District with you. We have much to celebrate in this great District. By now our Clubs will have filed their PU101 Club Officer reports for 2016-2017 and the Club Officer Training in Baden was well attended and the guest speaker was interesting and informative. We are blessed to have such talented Lions who provide support and training to our Clubs. I am looking forward to attending Club meetings installing their Officers for the new Lions Year. I believe it is an honour & a privilege to serve on our District Cabinet and I am deeply humbled by your support in my next role as 1st VDG. I do hope that you all enjoy your summer and whatever activities you may be participating in, as we also welcome our International Youth to District A15. Please consider being a host family as well we will be looking for new Camp Councilors as Rudy and Lori will be retiring, these 2 people have done a tremendous job. We have challenges but there are also solutions when we work together.

**IPDG – Tim DeBlock**

I would like to thank the Lions Club of Kitchener for hosting their Annual Past Governors dinner on May 2nd. It was well attended with DG Diane and Lion Chief OJ chairing the meeting. I feel privileged having served on this year's Cabinet and thank-you to DG Diane for your leadership and vision.

**RC 9 / ZC 9S – Kevin Banfield**

Nothing to report.

**ZC 9E – Aline Chan**

No report.





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**RC 51 – Debbie Cserhalmi**

It was nice to see you all at the recent convention here in Elmira. I hope some of you were there to see our fearless DG Diane help PCC Todd build a little library. I think they did a great job and both builders came out unscathed.

I hope some of our clubs will be donating either money or labour to the District A-15 centennial project, new gates at the Breslau Dog breeding facility.

It was a pleasure and an honour to serve as your Region Chair this year. I hope to see more of you again next year as I will once again serve as your Region Chair.

**ZC 51E – Eric Peterson**

Nothing to report.

**ZC 51W – Rick Banks**

I have had very little activity with my clubs for the past two months. After the scheduled visits which we all like to get completed as soon as possible, there seems to be a big part of the Lions year without Club contact. Of course, Zone Chairs are available to answer any questions or help with club issues. I seem to have a very responsible Zone, and have had few if any questions or concerns to answer. Having said that, I have one or two clubs that have not consistently entered their information into the records for Lions International. Lions International is not that demanding. They do want to see what the Clubs are doing, the number of members they have etc. This information is used by LCI to provide information to other organizations and World Governments about the scope of our programs and our ability to assist with large humanitarian projects. If we do not complete that information then our governing body is really "blind" to our efforts. The information we pass along to A15, Multiple District A and our LCI is not about keeping tabs on us, its not about membership dues, its really about assessing our month to month capabilities to generate funds and man power for humanitarian projects. Please keep that in mind when you do your monthly reports. Oh, and by doing your reports, it means that your Zone, Region and District officers will have even less to do. I want to thank all the Club Secretaries and Club officers for doing all the work they do, month after month, year after year. Thanks very much.

A great convention at Elmira hosted by the two largest clubs in the District. A little cool, but we just had to move faster. A very nice Governors Dinner on Saturday night and a good speaker, International Director Kembra Smith.

I was pleased to see the large turn out for Officer Training on May 15th. So many Lions giving up a day to learn a new role, or ways to do things easier and more accurately.

Sure would be nice to have a new Zone Chair for 51 West. I am happy to help in anyway to see someone in that position. Thanks to the membership in 51West for being so easy to look after.

**RC37 – Jim Keron**

No report.

**ZC 37S – Ian MacFarlane**

No report

**ZC 37W – Tracey Leary**

No report.



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**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**NOTHING TO REPORT AT THIS TIME OR NO SUBMISSION**

**District Historian** – PDG Nancy Ransom, **Diabetes Awareness** – PRC Rick Bell, **District Bulletin & MDA Magazine Liaison** – Lion Bob Pearson, **District International Relations** – PID Bruce Murray, **Elections & Credentials** – PDG Doug Smith, **Future Convention Advisory** – PDG Doug Smith, **GLT Liaison** – VDG1 Tim DeBlock, **GMT Club Success Team Leader** – RC Paul Anstett, **GMT District Coordinator** – PDG OJ Wilura, **GMT Membership & Club Growth Team Leader** – PRC Vic Bovingdon, **GMT Membership Renewal** – PDG Larry Wainwright, **Hearing & Speech Action** – Lion John Pepper, **Information Technology** – PCS Ted Rypma, **LCIF** – RC Kevin Banfield, **LEO** – RC Jim Keron, **Lions Quest** – PDG Todd Wilson, **Lions Opportunities For Youth** – Lion Joanne McQuiggan, **Literacy** – ZC Aline Chan, **Long Range Planning** – PDG Thom Herrmann, **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

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.

**Centennial Coordinator** – PDG Dan Ayim

I attended Officer training school hosted by New Hamburg Lions Club; and visited three clubs to solicit support for the district entranceway centennial legacy project on Chilligo road, Breslau.

The project committee is grateful for financial donations and/or labour commitments for the project that we have received to date. Currently, approximately 35% of the resources have been realized. We encourage all clubs which have not yet responded to consider participating so that construction may begin on time. Cheques may be sent to cabinet treasurer marked "legacy project".

Reminder: Lions Clubs International celebration committee has recommended that each Lions Club appoint a celebration chair who, together with the district coordinator, will monitor the service activities of his/her club. Please submit the appointed chair's contact information to cabinet secretary with a copy to centennial coordinator- centcoord@a15lions.org.

Note: Good quality preshrunk centennial t-shirts (sizes Medium, Large and Extra Large) are available for sale at \$15 each. Proceeds go to support the project.

Financial support and donations in kind are still required. We are encouraged to respond to the appeal for assistance.

**Constitution & By-Laws** – PDDG George Patton

Although on several occasions I was contacted by clubs/chairs requesting clarification of constitutional matters my primary activity during this past Lions year was a major revision of the District constitution and bylaws. That was mandated by similar updating of the Standard Form District Constitution and Bylaws (SFDC&BL) by Lions Clubs International. One of the provisions of the SFDC&BL is that changes made to the constitution of Lions Clubs International automatically set the minimum standard for (& override) any (sub)-District C&BL.

Most of what was required was pretty basic stuff but there were some areas where our C&BL had to supersede the SFDC&BF. Much of this evolved from the fact that A-15 is a corporation in the Province of Ontario and, above all others, subject to the laws of same. Changes were circulated and passed by the voting delegates at our recent convention. I am certain that further minor changes may come forward after the International Convention at the end of this month. Regardless, I suggest that anyone referring to our District constitution and by-laws for direction on any District manner also reference the Lions Clubs International Constitution



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(lionsclubs.org/constitution) and SFDC&BL (lionsclubs.org/standard district constitution) as there are points of clarification on several matters provided there.

A large thanks to Cabinet Secretary Dennis for all his help in keeping track of all these major revisions.

**Convention Host 2016 – Lion Linda Litt & PID Art Woods**

The Convention Committee and the members of the Woolwich Community and Elmira Lions Clubs would like to thank the Lions of District A-15 for making this year's convention a great success. We received many positive comments from those attending as well as from our international guests.

Registration this year totaled 471 with 406 Lions, including 6 first timers, 2 Lionesses, 18 Leos and 45 Guests. 128 people attended the luncheon with 140 at the wine and cheese reception and banquet.

Our International Guests were Current International Director Kembra Smith and her husband Lion Bill Lowe. Some very lucky lions left convention a little richer. RC Jim Keron won the 50/50 draw. The Thamesford Lions Club won the Theatre Getaway Package and Sandy Ladd of the Woolwich Community Lions Club walked away with the quilt.

We look forward to seeing you all again at next year's Convention in Elmira on May 5-7, 2016.

Our financial report follows.

**Income**

Lion/Lioness Registration	6,817.00	
Leo Registration -		
Non Member Registration	675.00	
Banquet	5,334.00	
Rooms	7,140.00	
Luncheon	2,196.00	
Pins	1,055.00	
Advertising	3,700.00	
Hospitality room	900.00	
Raffle Draw	4,646.00	
PDG breakfast	190.00	
Bar	261.00	
MISC (UNALLOCATED) -		
 Total Income		 32,914.00

**Expenses**

Advertising	531.00	
Entertainment	2,363.00	
Facilities	6,962.00	
Function and program	1,793.00	
Hotel expenses	8,430.00	
Meals	7,687.00	
Office	2,080.00	
 Total expenses		 29,845.00

**Net Revenue** **3,069.00**



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**Cultural Events** – PZC Fran MacFarlane

I want to send a big thank you to District Governor Diane for embracing the importance of Community and Culture in all she does for A15 Lions Clubs.

We had the opportunity to hear some ways Lions can reach out to many cultures at the recent Officers Training. One idea speaker, Dr Iman Arab spoke about what to tell newcomers regarding "Who the Lions are and the amazing things we can accomplish together". The diverse projects in which we are involved will attract new members.

Although Iman told us many ways of communicating, Lions know, we all smile in the same language.

**Effective Speaking** – Lion Ernie Kaethler

A-15 Lions have again shown their service energy, committed teamwork, and generous budgeted contributions to make our 2015 - 16 Effective Speaking program successful. Thank-you to the St George LC for hosting our District finals on April 2nd. With 9 Clubs registered and 42 contestants. The venue, the hospitality, and the efficient judges, Lions volunteers, participants with families/friends made this remarkable Opportunity for Youth event!

At the MD'A' finals at Algonquin College in Ottawa, May 7th, 40 contestants from 9 contributing Districts competed. Their excitement and energy was spontaneous and infectious! Of District A-15's six(6) entered contestants {all categories}, one(1) FIRST - Junior French, Naomi HACKNER, sponsored by Guelph LC; one(1) Second place - Intermediate French, Bruce HACKNER, Guelph LC; two(2) Third place - Intermediate English, Johann LIVETA, Guelph LC; and Senior French, Arjun PANDEY, Ariss & Maryhill LC. Our program's continued success gratefully acknowledges Zone, Regional and District encouragement and support.

Forward Looking Information:

- Next year's MDA Effective Speaking finals will be held in St Catharines, Thorold LC; on May 7th, 2017;
- 2017, A-15 District finals will be held on Saturday April 1st.
- MD'A' speech competition categories are: SENIOR - Gr 12, 11 & 10; INTERMEDIATE - Gr 9, 8 & 7; JUNIOR - Gr 6, 5 & 4. Pre-Competitive - Gr 3, 2 & 1 ... District only - not MDA (provincial)

I have been honored and appreciated serving the Lions of A-15 as Effective Speaking Chair. I invite feed-back, comments and questions from Cabinet and all A-15 Lions.

**Environment** – Lion Linda Vinette

For the Environmental Photo contest, Helen McLeod won from the Woolwich Lions Club with her photo of a happy pig. The Districts winning Photo was sent to MD"A" to be voted on May 28th in North Bay. The winning Photo from MD"A" will be sent to Lions Clubs International.

I was very pleased to have so many clubs reporting on their environmental activities for Earth Day on April 22nd.

The Breslau Memorial Forest cleanup is planned for June 1st and a flyer email with reminders has been set to all the clubs for participation. The Breslau Memorial Service will be on Sat. June 11th.

It has been a pleasure being the Environment Chair for the past 5 years.

**Gift of Life Coordinator** – Lion Bob Rutter

District A15 made a good start in adopting the MDA-Trillium Gift of Life program in this Lions Year. After some start up difficulties, we were able to involve about 10% of clubs in our District to participate in the April Organ and Tissue Donation Registration Month events for flag raising in communities.

Seven clubs were recognized at the District A15 convention for participating in the month-long awareness campaign. An eighth club – Fergus Lions – which held a three-day home show a few days after the end of the month was also awarded a banner patch for a highly successful event in which I spoke with many of the 4,000 people who attended; especially considering it was held on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evening for four hours each day! It was extremely busy.



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I continue to seek chairs at clubs to oversee local events and activities.

Eleven events, including two pending at this date, have been recorded. An upcoming event set for June 2 is of extreme importance: Kidney Foundation of Canada's Celebrity Men in a Fashion Event. Limited at 200 patrons, the event is a fundraiser for the Foundation's Kitchener-Waterloo branch. I have been asked to speak on kidney failure, dialysis and post-transplant of a kidney.

Outlook for next Lions year is to build on our new strength and to increase the numbers of clubs participating in the program. I will continue to make presentations since at this stage many local Lions are uncertain of their ability to speak with the same authority as I. The day will eventually arrive when I can delegate some of these presentation events to local Lions.

**GLT District Coordinator – PDG Denis Vinette**

Since my last report, we have held our annual Club Officer Training in Baden, on May 15, 2016. A guest presentation from Dr. Amin Arab provided some insight on the difficulties faced by recent immigrants in their effort to integrate into Canadian society. She provided candid information on the simple things that we can do, as individuals and as Lions, to understand and welcome new Canadians. This presentation was very appreciated. I would like to thank PZC Fran McFarlane for arranging this presentation.

Training sessions were provided for President, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership committees. I want to thank CS Dennis Lougheed, CT Peter Oswald, PDG OJ Wilura and you, DG Diane for your presentations and training of our incoming club officers.

This year, an additional event was scheduled for May 24 in Elmira. I was unable to attend but I understand that the sessions went well and we appreciate the extra effort made by the presenters and the attendees.

As you know, I will not be continuing on in this role and thank the Cabinet for all of their support over the past year.

**Honorary Committee– IPDG Tim DeBlock**

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to have served on Cabinet the last several years. It has provided learning, challenges, been rewarding and most of all helped me appreciate the many different personalities and gifts all of you share with those around you. The experience has left a lasting imprint on me and I hope to honor the journey through sharing more of myself with others.

**LFC – RC Deb Cserhalmi**

As of the end of April 114 teams have graduated from the LFC Dog Guides programs. That means new found freedom not just for 114 individuals but also for their family and friends. Gone is some of the worry for those who were living alone. Now they not only have a workmate but they also have a constant companion.

The Purina Walk for Dog Guides is upon us! This year we have 8 walks in our District. Many clubs join with others to host these walks. Last year raised 1,195,154.70. Here's hoping we top that this year. There has been a lot of promotion for these walks and I able to attend a few with both the Fergus/Marsville clubs as well as the group of clubs from Kitchener. Both money and awareness were raised at these events. Having pups out promoting sure helps the cause. The Ride for Dog Guides is also set for June 18 starting in Oakville and ending up in Breslau.

As of April 28th, our District has donated \$64,933.95 with 32 Lions, Branch and Lioness clubs represented. It's been an honour to serve as your LFC Chair this year. If you need a speaker or pups for your upcoming Lions year please contact me at [lfc@a15lions.org](mailto:lfc@a15lions.org)

**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 am hopeful that the Clubs identify the resource of sharing ideas and programs we have collectively to help reach out to children in need.



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

I would like to thank Governor Diane for giving me the pleasure of being the Peace Poster Chair for 2015-2016. It has been a pleasure, and to see the art these young students do is utterly amazing. Congratulations to all of the students who entered the contest this year.

A very special Thank you to all of the Lions and Lioness who took time out of their busy schedule to go to the schools and interact with the teachers. Thank you.

Again, Congratulations to Lydia Wilson on winning at the M.D. "A" level.

VDG Lion Wayne Litt has asked me to be the chair again this year. Lion Treasurer Peter has ordered the Peace Poster Kits and they are here now.

The theme this year is "A CELEBRATION OF PEACE" going along with our 100th anniversary of Lions. Clubs wishing a kit should contact me at 519 501 4853

A very special thank you to Chris at Massels Marine in New Hamburg for designing the Posters for the past three years. Thank you Chris.

**Police Check Gatekeeper** – PDDG George Patton

The District policy regarding vulnerable people was recently combined with other policy matters in a single document but no changes were made at that time. The primary use of the policy was in regard to the District Youth Exchange/Camp program which was an entirely 'in-house' activity.

During the past Lions' year, as a result of the pilot program involving vision screening in which various volunteers shared their vision screening efforts with those running the pilot program, the various school boards determined that police checks would be required. This did not only cover those working in co-operation with the pilot program but with all vision screening activities. As I understand it, effective this September, all volunteers doing vision screening under the District A-15 umbrella will require police checks. Cabinet expressed concern not only about the escalating cost but also the desire express by some individuals that they would prefer to do their own checks. It was also pointed out that our third party provider of these checks (together with all other 3rd party suppliers) cannot do vulnerable persons police checks only criminal record checks. Please note that it appears the school boards are only requiring criminal record checks.

As a result of these concerns Cabinet determined to amend the policy allowing individuals to elect to do their own checks. As well, Chairs are expected to add the cost of any police checks they will require as part of the budgeting process. We developed language to accommodate these changes and Cabinet adjusted Vulnerable Sector Policy.

I continue to provide criminal record checks as requested by any chairs requiring same.

**Youth Camp & Exchange** – Lions Rudy & Lorea Boogerman

- *Camp clean up* - On May 14, 12 very loyal Lions from 6 different clubs battled the elements to make the camp more presentable for our incoming youth. Thank you to those brave souls. Thank you, also, to the St George Lions Club for providing the lunch.
- *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.
- *Inbound* - 15 youth from 15 different countries will be joining us for this year's campaign.
- 10 of the youth have been hosted. There are seven (7) clubs involved so far. Thank you very much to those host families/clubs.
- It is now 'desperation time' to find host families for the remaining 5 youth. Where are the rest of the clubs? District A15 – we need you to 'Come alive and host the remaining five!'
- *Meals* – All meals have been confirmed. Thank you to the 28 clubs involved.
- *Financially* – Our YEP account remains strong and healthy. Thank you to all clubs who have financially supported the program, this year and the previous 40 years.
- *Five Oaks* - No change since last report. No further news is anticipated before July 1, 2016.



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**DISTRICT A-15 VOLUNTEER SCREENING AND POLICE CHECK POLICY (2014 06 22)**

***PREAMBLE***

It is the intention of Lions District A-15 that vulnerable persons be protected while participating in any activity of Lions Clubs International and/or District A-15, as authorized to be conducted in District A -15.

All Lions, Lioness, LEO Club members and volunteers participating in such an organized activity, unless otherwise explicitly exempted by the District A15 Cabinet, are bound by this Policy.

Event organizers, as appointed by the District Governor and approved by the District A-15 Cabinet, are charged with the responsibility of carrying out this policy.

Every reasonable effort will be made to ensure that the provisions of this policy are met.

***DEFINITIONS***

**District Police Check Gatekeeper** – An individual, whose appointment shall be recommended on an annual basis by the District A-15 Governor and ratified by the District A-15 Cabinet, who shall fulfill such responsibilities with respect to the administration of this policy as are separately defined by the District A-15 Cabinet.

**Police Check** – A check, valid for a three year period, consisting of one or more of the following specific checks available: Police Criminal, Police Information, and Police Vulnerable Sector.

**Police Check Service Provider** - An organization ~~with which~~ approved by the District A-15 Cabinet has arranged to provide Police Check related services as defined by the District A-15 Cabinet.

**Secure Storage of Police Checks** - A mechanism approved by the District A-15 Cabinet allowing for the storage of returned Police checks for the duration of their validity in a manner that satisfies privacy concerns and permits access, with the written authorization of the applicant, by the District Police Check Gatekeeper.

**Vulnerable Person** - A person who, because of their age, a disability or other circumstances, whether temporary or permanent, is:

- a. in a position of dependence on others
- b. otherwise at a greater risk than the general population of being harmed by a person in a position of authority or trust relative to them

## ***VOLUNTEER SCREENING***

1. All persons applying to participate in sanctioned Lions Clubs International and District A-15 activities as covered by this policy;
  - a. for those Lions District committees or activities for which a criminal records police check or a vulnerable sector police check is required by Cabinet, the Committee Chair, in consultation with the individual requiring the criminal record check and the District Police Check Gatekeeper shall determine the method to be used to obtain ~~same~~. said check shall ~~provide a Police Check acquired from the~~ a currently approved District A-15 Police Check Service Provider,
  - b. shall not, unless to an agency approved by the District A-15 Cabinet as demonstrating a secure storage mechanism and access process, ~~shall authorize the secure storage of their returned Police Check for the duration of its validity as separately defined,~~ surrender their returned Police Check,
  - c. may be subject to a personal interview by a Lions member committee of at least 3 members as appointed by the District Governor,
  - d. may be required to submit a list of three references. It is understood that these references may be contacted in the course of evaluating the applicant.
2. It shall be the responsibility of the activity organizer(s) to provide applicants with the details on the current Police Check application ~~process~~ processes as established and maintained or known by the District Police Check Gatekeeper.
3. Individuals with outstanding Criminal Code convictions or charges pending for certain offences shall not be eligible to participate in Lions Clubs International and District A-15 sanctioned activities. The offenses include but are not limited to:
  - a. Part VIII Criminal Code-Offenses against Persons
  - b. All forms of assault including, but not limiting the generality of the foregoing, sexual assault, assault with a weapon, threats to a third party or causing bodily harm and aggravated assault
  - c. Sexual Exploitation
  - d. Sexual Interference
  - e. Sexual Touching
  - f. Child Pornography
  - g. Current prohibitions or prohibition orders forbidding the individual to have contact with children under the age of 14
  - h. Using a firearm in the commission of any offence
  - i. Impaired driving and included offenses.
4. It is the responsibility of any person required to produce a Police Check by virtue of this policy to disclose or authorize the disclosure of any charge or conviction of any offence listed in this policy to the activity organizer(s).
5. It shall be the responsibility of the activity organizer(s) to determine whether or not a person applying to participate in sanctioned Lion Clubs International and District A-15 activities as covered by this policy is ineligible on the basis of the results of their Police Check, or any reference checks or interviews conducted.
6. A Police Check obtained under this policy shall be consider valid for three years from the date of receipt however on-going participants shall be required to submit a copy of the Applicant Declaration included as part of this policy document on an annual basis.





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7. It shall be the responsibility of the activity organizer(s) to meet the requirements of those third party organizations who may require a Police Check to be obtained more frequently.

### ***RIGHT OF APPEAL***

Individuals rejected, as participants in activities governed by this policy, shall have the right to appeal the decision to a 3-member panel as appointed by the District Governor. The appeal request must be submitted in writing to the Cabinet Secretary and be accompanied by a fee in the form of a bank draft or certified cheque made payable to District A-15 in the amount of \$100.00. If the appeal is successful the \$100 fee will be refunded. The decision of this panel shall be final.

### ***ANNUAL AND INTERIM DECLARATIONS***

In some cases, acquisition of a Police Check before the commencement of a Lions Clubs International or District A-15 sanctioned activity governed by this policy may not be possible. In that event the District Governor (or the Lions member designated by the District Governor) shall refer to the interview with the applicant, the results of references provided and any other source of information to which they wish to refer. Before being permitted to participate, the applicant must show proof that they have made application for a Police Check as required under this policy and, as an interim measure, sign the Applicant Declaration included as part of this policy document.

Holders of a current Police Check acquired under this policy must, on the first and second anniversary of acquisition, sign the Applicant Declaration as well.

### ***IMPLEMENTATION***

It shall be the responsibility of the District Cabinet to implement this policy and see that its provisions are adhered to. Every Lion appointed to oversee any District Sanctioned Activity involving Vulnerable People shall be provided with a copy of this Policy Document and, upon demand, provide the Cabinet Secretary with proof that it was followed in selecting volunteers.

### ***FUNDING***

~~The cost associated with the mandated acquisition of a Police Check as required under this policy shall be a District A-15 budgeted expense.~~

Committee Chairs for all committees where Cabinet, or third parties, require any type of Police Check, shall build the costs associated with obtaining the Police Check into the committee budget to be approved by Cabinet.

### ***COMPLIANCE FOR NON-LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL OR DISTRICT A-15 ACTIVITIES***



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Organizers of non-Lions Clubs International or District A-15 activities may choose to comply with this policy and access any services provided under this policy as they wish provided that any costs associated with their doing so must be reimbursed to the District.

APPLICANT DECLARATION FORM

**This form is to be used where a required Police Check has not yet been acquired and on the first and second year anniversary of a currently valid Police Check obtained under this policy. Its use does not preclude timely acquisition of a current valid Police Check as required by this policy.**

By signing this form I am guaranteeing that I have not been convicted of or have pending charges for:

Part VIII Criminal Code-Offenses against Persons

All forms of assault including, but not limiting the generality of the foregoing, sexual assault, assault with a weapon, threats to a third party or causing bodily harm and aggravated assault

Sexual Exploitation

Sexual Interference

Sexual Touching

Child Pornography

Current prohibitions or prohibition orders forbidding the individual to have contact with children under the age of 14

Using a firearm in the commission of any offence

Impaired driving and included offenses.

Where the activity is taking place largely in a public location I agree to always have another adult present at all times while interacting with one or more children or vulnerable persons.

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_ Given Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Given Middle Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (YYYY/MM/DD): \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Previous Address (if any) within last 5 years: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_