



**DISTRICT A-15 LIONS CLUBS®**  
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**Fall A-15 Cabinet Meeting Minutes**

7:00 PM November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Atwood & District Lions, Elma Community Centre, Atwood Ontario

1. Call to order and Welcome by DG Diane Smith – 7:10 PM
2. Attendance as indicated:

**VOTING CABINET**

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

**COMMITTEE CHAIR**

PRC Paul Anstett	PDG Dan Ayim	PRC Rick Bell	Lion Lorea Boogerman
PRC Vic Bovingdon	Lion PCC Bill Carson	Janet Dawson-Brock <b>(R)</b>	PDG Thom Herrmann
Lion Ernie Kaethler <b>(R)</b>	Lion Rudy Boogerman	Lion Linda Litt	Lion Fran MacFarlane
Lion Pat Mclean	PDG Karen McNeight <b>(R)</b>	Lion Joanne McQuiggan <b>(R)</b>	PRC Robert Montgomery
PID Bruce Murray <b>(R)</b>	Lion Bill Patterson <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 <b>(R)</b>	PDG Doug Smith	PCC Bob Tanner (A1)	Lion Linda Vinette <b>(R)</b>
PDG Larry Wainwright <b>(R)</b>	PZC Mary Ann Ward <b>(R)</b>	PCC Todd Wilson	PDG OJ Wilura <b>(R)</b>
PID Art Woods			

In attendance also were approximately 60 other Lion Members including Guests  
PCC Tom Gordon candidate for International Director 2017-2019 and Lion Gillian Gordon, PDG Paul Brand & Lion Mary Brand  
PDG Jim Prenger candidate for International Director 2017-2019 and PDG Linda Duffie and PDG Charles Liddle **(R)** – Regrets

3. O Canada, Toast to Queen & Country and Lions International, Moment of Silence, Lions Grace, Dinner
4. Setting of Protocol – RC 51 Debbie Cserhalmi
5. Additions to and Approval of the Agenda. Carried.
6. Approval of Minutes of the August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Cabinet Meeting. Carried.  
*Available at <http://a15lions.org/pages/uploads/Events/CabMinAug2015.pdf>*
7. District Governor - Remarks & Updates
  - 7.1. LCI Suspension Policy Update  
The “old” policy has been restored. Clubs with balances over 120 days in excess of US\$20 per member or US\$1,000, will be suspended. Cancellation of charter will occur if full payment is not received by the 29<sup>th</sup> day of the following month.
  - 7.2. Changes to LCIF Grant Application Deadlines  
Beginning in January 2016, standard grant applications are due no later than 90 days prior to the start of board meetings and will be reviewed in January, May and August.
  - 7.3. Centennial Project  
See also the report of the Committee Chair. Costing estimates are being obtained and we await further detail from the Breslau/Oakville executive.
  - 7.4. Youth Camp Host Family Recommendation  
Each Zone in District A15 be responsible for three(3) host families. Regional Chairs be responsible for the coordination, implementation and securing of host families with a target date of March 15<sup>th</sup>. Following this practice will greatly reduce the stress and anxiety levels of those operating the Youth Exchange and the parents of the Exchange students.
  - 7.5. District Membership  
As of November 4<sup>th</sup> District membership is at 1530 second only to A4 at 1562.
  - 7.6. Eye Glass Collection  
Collection boxes are available from Lion Pat McLean



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8. Formal Introduction of Lion Tom Gordon – PCC Todd Wilson – campaign presentation
9. Formal Introduction of Lion Jim Prenger – PDG Denis Vinette - campaign presentation
10. Treasurer’s Report
  - 10.1. Report and Financial Statements 2014-2015 - *See Pages 3 through 6*  
MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer’s report and Financial Statements as presented. – *With the absence of the Treasurer, deferred to the Winter Cabinet Meeting. Questions regarding his report should be sent directly to him for response.*
11. Cabinet Reports - *See Pages 7 through 8*
  - 11.1. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Cabinet Reports. Carried.
12. Committee Reports - *See Pages 9 through 16*
  - 12.1. Future Convention Advisory Committee – PDG Doug Smith  
See Committee Report  
MOVED to accept the Woolwich Community/Lions Club of Elmira proposed budget for the District A15 Convention of 2016 subject to the availability of funds. Carried.
  - 12.2. Youth Exchange Proposed Budget  
See Committee Reports  
MOVED to accept the proposed 2016 Youth Exchange Budget subject to the availability of funds.  
Carried.
  - 12.3. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Committee Reports. Carried.
13. Special Presentations & Awards
  - 13.1. Dog Walk Certificates – RC Deb Cserhalmi  
Cambridge Highlands – Bronze  
Fergus – Gold  
West Coast – Bronze  
Wellesley – Bronze  
Woolwich Community – Silver  
Marsville – Gold  
Ariss & Maryhill – Bronze  
Guelph – Bronze  
Bridgeport, St Jacobs, Kitchener, Kitcher Pioneer, Kitchener Oktoberfest, Waterloo, Kw  
Community Spirit – Gold
  - 13.2. LCI Certificate of Achievement – Certified Guiding Lion – Lion Dennis Lougheed
14. Good & Welfare
  - 14.1. Next Cabinet Meeting – Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> 2016, Ariss & Maryhill Lions
15. Adjournment 9:00 PM



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**TREASURER'S REPORT TO CABINET**

The financial statements are presented today as at October 2, 2015 – this was the date the invoices for dues were issued. Note that Club invoices include dues for the District AND MD 'A' this year. Funds collected on behalf of MD 'A' will be remitted to the MD 'A' Treasurer. The financial records have been balanced and reconciled to the bank statements as at Sept. 30. The financial statements presented here fairly reflect the financial position of the District.

**ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNTS**

- In my last report at the August cabinet meeting, the final position as at June 30 was recorded with existing retained earnings of 2,692.54 plus a surplus for the year of \$6,395.50. Those statements were reviewed for accuracy and we found the USD account balance overstated at \$75.77– now corrected to \$8.57 (error was in the way the exchange was applied in the accounting program) The difference of \$67.20 reduced retained earnings. Also, due rebates totalling \$4,701 have been recorded – reducing previous year surplus. We start the current fiscal year with an accumulated surplus of \$4,369.70 of which \$1,570 will be moved to New Club Assessment (motion included in last report).
- All Clubs have been invoiced for dues for this Lions year.
- With respect to Expenses vs Budget, there has been limited activity to date and the report is straight forward.

**TRUST ACCOUNTS**

- The balance sheet for the Trust accounts is an accurate reflection of all balances held in Trust as at October 2 and all accounts have been reconciled to the Bank records as at September 30, 2015.

Note also that the review of the books for the past Lions Year has been conducted. All is in order.



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

**District "A"-15 Lions - Admin**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**As of 2 October 2015**

	2 Oct 15
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Chequing/Savings</b>	
<b>Cash</b>	
CIBC - Bank Account	628.34
CIBC - Investments	30,616.25
CIBC USD Account	8.57
International Director Fund	5,304.23
New Club Assessment Fund	1,870.56
<b>Total Cash</b>	38,427.95
<b>Total Chequing/Savings</b>	38,427.95
<b>Accounts Receivable</b>	
Accounts Receivable	36,401.25
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	36,401.25
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
Accrued Interest Receivable	400.00
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	400.00
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	75,229.20
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>75,229.20</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Accounts Payable</b>	
A/P USD for LCI	0.01
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	0.01
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>	
Convention Fund	3,604.07
DGE Partner Travel	1,856.00
International Director Suspense	383.25
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	5,843.32
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	5,843.33
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>	
International Director - Contra	5,304.23
New Club Assessment - Contra	1,870.56
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	7,174.79
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	13,018.12
<b>Equity</b>	
Balance - July 1/00 - Net	690.54
Emergency Reserve Fund	23,000.00
Retained Earnings	4,369.70
Net Income	34,150.84
<b>Total Equity</b>	62,211.08
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>75,229.20</b>



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**District "A"-15 Lions - Admin**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**  
 July 2015 through Oct 2, 2015

	Jul '15 - Jun 16	Budget	Over Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Advertising	500.00	500.00	0.00
District Directory	220.00	250.00	-30.00
District Dues			
Dues - Collected	13,030.50	13,039.00	-8.50
<b>Total District Dues</b>	<b>13,030.50</b>	<b>13,039.00</b>	<b>-8.50</b>
Interest Earned	29.92	543.00	-513.08
Leadership Seminar Income	1,450.00	1,450.00	0.00
MD 'A' Dues	22,156.00		
Membership Assessment	2,299.50	2,301.00	-1.50
Pin Sales	125.00	1,500.00	-1,375.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>39,810.92</b>	<b>19,583.00</b>	<b>20,227.92</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>39,810.92</b>	<b>19,583.00</b>	<b>20,227.92</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>Awards</b>			
Awards - Cabinet	0.00	750.00	-750.00
Awards - Other	529.82	350.00	179.82
<b>Total Awards</b>	<b>529.82</b>	<b>1,100.00</b>	<b>-570.18</b>
Badges & Patches	805.74	700.00	105.74
Bank Charges	27.72	200.00	-172.28
Cabinet Expense	200.00	1,850.00	-1,650.00
Convention Expense	0.00	1,100.00	-1,100.00
District Chair Expense			
Comm Chair Expenses	0.00	1,100.00	-1,100.00
District Chair - Other	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
Global Leadership & Membership	0.00	2,350.00	-2,350.00
Leo Clubs	0.00	400.00	-400.00
<b>Total District Chair Expense</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5,350.00</b>	<b>-5,350.00</b>
District Directories	1,597.82	1,750.00	-152.18
Internet	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Leadership Institutes	0.00	675.00	-675.00
Leadership Seminar	0.00	1,450.00	-1,450.00
Liability Insurance	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Pins Purchased	1,757.71	1,760.00	-2.29
Police Check Fees	622.63	660.00	-37.37
Postage & Telephone	0.00	200.00	-200.00
Printing & Stationery	118.64	350.00	-231.36
USA / Canada Forum	0.00	1,800.00	-1,800.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>5,660.08</b>	<b>19,545.00</b>	<b>-13,884.92</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>34,150.84</b>	<b>38.00</b>	<b>34,112.84</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>34,150.84</b>	<b>38.00</b>	<b>34,112.84</b>



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**District "A"-15 Lions Clubs Trust**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**As of 2 October 2015**

	2 Oct 15
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
CIBC- Lions Quest Imprest	333.74
CIBC - Eff.Speaking Impst	1,743.44
CIBC - Trust Account	9,043.45
CIBC - Youth	
Youth Exchange Imprest	19,331.51
Youth Investments	12,512.05
<b>Total CIBC - Youth</b>	<b>31,843.56</b>
Investments	
QUEST - Investment	7,567.73
Investments - Other	5,156.20
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>12,723.93</b>
Youth Camp Capital Fund	7,744.50
<b>Total Chequing/Savings</b>	<b>63,432.62</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>63,432.62</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>63,432.62</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Camp Dorset	500.00
Camp Huronda	500.00
Cultural Festival	217.11
Diabetes Awareness	500.00
District Cook Book	440.40
Effective Speaking Contra Acct	1,743.44
Hearing Conservation	250.00
Hearing Equipment	553.07
Lake Joseph	600.00
Lions Foundation of Canada	
Leash Free Park	5,055.90
<b>Total Lions Foundation of Canada</b>	<b>5,055.90</b>
Lions Home for Deaf People	550.00
LIONS Quest Contra Account	7,901.47
Peace Poster	1,880.37
Reading Action	700.00
Vision Screening	2,452.80
Youth Camp / Y. Ex. Contra Acct	31,843.56
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>55,688.12</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>55,688.12</b>
Long Term Liabilities	
Youth Camp Capital	7,744.50
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	<b>7,744.50</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>63,432.62</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>63,432.62</b>



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**CABINET REPORTS**

**1<sup>st</sup> VDG** – Wayne Litt

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

It's amazing how quickly time is passing. I have enjoyed viewing your literacy service projects as well as services to children through your Social Media posts, great job Lions of A15! Since my formal induction as VDG2 I have attended the 2nd VDG Training in Markham as well as the Governor's Council Meeting and GMT/GLT meeting in Markham. I have had the absolute pleasure of inducting another new member into the Fergus Lions Club. The first of two Membership Workshops have taken place at this point & it was a great event for the exchange of ideas and challenges as well as some tools to improve or enhance our Club's functionality. I look forward to visiting with you over the next few months on behalf of District Governor Lion Diane as well as attending the Zone Meetings. Keep up the good work Lions, when we work together, anything is possible.

**IPDG** – Tim DeBlock

**RC 9 / ZC 9S** – Kevin Banfield

It has been a very busy fall. My club had Oktoberfest again this year, and while helping plan this event I was out on the road visiting clubs in 9 South. ZC 9E, Aline and I co-host one of three joint zone meeting. We have opted to have 3 joint meeting rather than the traditional 2 zone meeting and 1 joint meeting.

Copetown's hospitality was graciously received. Our key note speaker for the night was Robert Knuckle. Bob is a best-selling Canadian author, actor and playwright. He is a member of the Playwrights Guild of Canada. Bob was an educator for thirty-five years before he started writing full-time in 1992. He is an ACTRA award-winning author of nine books and two booklets. Most of his books are about true crime and /or tales of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He has also written for the stage, television, radio, and cinema. Seven of his stage plays have been produced at major venues in Canada, USA, and in Europe, including the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Bob talked to us about his one story – Jackie Gleason. My personal take away from the Bob's speech was how do you deal with the People in your life who are hard to get along with, and how it is hard to tear apart your work of love, to make it better. He really gave us something to think about.

We also had PDG Lion OJ Wilura in to talk about club success. It was good to hear after the meeting members acknowledging the effect should our Canadian membership where to fall below a certain benchmark as to what that means for our Canadian ID role, and how that may change. PDG Lion Dan Ayim talked about the new Centennial Celebration Membership/Club program. Lion Rick Bell and Nichole were in and receive a cheque from St. George Lions for a new bed.

**ZC 9E** – Aline Chan

**RC 51** – Debbie Cserhalmi

Rick Banks, Zone Chair for 51W, held a very successful Zone Meeting on Oct 1st. We spoke about how to increase membership and our successful projects. ZC Rick also handed out a survey about Zone Meetings and general satisfaction with being a Lion.

We also spoke about a Region project around literacy. Projects such as book exchanges, teaching children and adults to read and book sales were suggested. After much thought, I have decided to ask each club in the Region to build and supply a "Little Library". This will make your local Lions Club more visible in your community while promoting literacy. There is a good website at [www.littlefreelibrary.org](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org) with ideas for building your box. Try and add books for all ages. These boxes should include our logo somewhere and use your imaginations to make it eye catching. You can place them in high traffic areas, parks, outside of your den or even on private property but please ask permission before proceeding. Have fun with your design and choosing the books. Once completed please send me a picture of your project at [rc51@a15lions.org](mailto:rc51@a15lions.org) Can't wait to see them!



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**ZC 51E** – Eric Peterson

I have started my club visits and so far all of them are doing fine and two of the three have or will be inducting new members, and I have been asked to induct members in to other clubs in Nov. along with installing the executives in one of the clubs they all are receptive to the International President's Theme for this year along with our Governors theme of Literacy.

We had our first Zone Meeting hosted by Hillsburgh & District. We had a presentation from the Diabetes Awareness Chair Rick Bell, then our Region Chair Lion Deb spoke on the region project for Region 51 and that is Little Libraries all the club seemed to get behind it after some discussion about size and such.

**ZC 51W** – Rick Banks

Three club visits are complete with one Zone Meeting held October 1. I have survey information to compile from that Zone Meeting which I hope to get done this week. At the Zone Meeting we were able to share some information on membership recruitment and fund raising activities.

I have visited Elmira, Paradise and Wellesley Clubs. Excellent meetings at all the clubs and I thank them for their warm hospitality and excellent co-operation in completing the Visitation Report. I look forward to two or three more visits before Christmas. Some interesting literacy projects are underway. Paradise levied fines that were payable in "books" instead of dollars. Very enterprising.

**RC37** – Jim Keron

The year seems to be accelerating rapidly with lots of projects and lots of visiting about to start. At this point I'm looking forward to meeting the clubs of 37W. The more Lions you meet the better!! The 37S food booth at the farm show went very well with over 3600 hours of Lions time. The clubs are sitting back and waiting for the results of the finances so we know what the profit was. The weather was perfect, unless maybe you were working on the fryers or grills where it was a little warm. On Oct 7th, I had the honour of attending the 10th anniversary of the West Coast Lions club (Grand Bend) and presenting pins to the sponsors of new members. West Coast has seen a 67% increase in membership which shows you how well the "Ask One" approach works. Of course once these members are put to work that translates to a 67% increase in service to their community. I look forward to seeing what the club does in the next 10 years. One of the sponsors accounted for three new members. Maybe we need to start an "Ask Three" program.

The other upcoming event I would draw everyone's attention to is the 90th (yep, that's ninety years) anniversary of the Stratford Lions. They have limited seating so book your tickets early.

**ZC 37S** – Ian MacFarlane

The Outdoor Farm Show, while all the monies are still to be established, it would appear it was a great success. The amount of food sales on the first day was the equivalent of sales for the three days last year. It goes without saying the co-operation between the Clubs at this event is outstanding.

Five of the clubs have now had the official visit. The first one was Innerkip and as the meeting started the power went off. Kudos to Lion Phil (Buzzy) Buzzel who was still able to serve dinner in the open sided pavilion so we could meet until dark.

Projects receiving interest from the clubs so far visited include Literacy, organ donation, youth exchange and dog guides

**ZC 37W** – Tracey Leary

Well, I'm glad to say there have been a lot of new faces in the clubs that I have visited so far in 37W. There are still the friendly familiar faces, as well!!! West Coast recently had their 10th Anniversary celebration. It was a very good turnout. Some even went home with a little bit of Grand Bend beach. Stratford will be hosting a 90th Anniversary celebration, on November 19th.

I have to say that Zone 37W is busy and buzzing with excitement and new projects!!!





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**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

**Constitution & By-Laws** – PDDG George Patton, **Convention Host 2016** – Lion Linda Litt & PID Art Woods, **Cultural Events** – PZC Fran MacFarlane, **District Historian** – PDG Nancy Ransom, **District International Relations** – PID Bruce Murray, **Effective Speaking** – Lion Ernie Kaethler, **Elections & Credentials** – PDG Doug Smith, **Environment** – Lion Linda Vinette, **Five Oaks Liaison** – Lion Marysa Rumble –Lauriault, **GLT Liaison** – VDG1 Tim DeBlock, **GMT Membership & Club Growth Team Leader** – PRC Vic Bovingdon, **Hearing & Speech Action** – Lion John Pepper, **Honorary Committee**– IPDG Tim DeBlock, **Information Technology** – PCS Ted Rypma, **LEO** – PZC Marry Ann Ward, **Lions Quest** – PDG Todd Wilson, **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

Well, we have put another exceptional summer of camping in the books and now we are in the process of getting geared up for 2016.

Ensure that you send your Honorary Life Directorship Camp Dorset Applications in early in order to receive them for presentation to your members before Lions year-end.

Please visit their Wish list for Lions Camp Dorset's required needs and check out the latest fundraisers held at the camp this winter.

Do you have a Shoppers Drug Mart Optimum card? If so, you can now donate your points to Lions Camp Dorset. Go to the website [www1.shoppersdrugmart.ca](http://www1.shoppersdrugmart.ca) login to your Optimum account and click on donations and choose charity – Lions Camp Dorset Corporation.

The funds will be used to buy supplies for the camp.

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

**Centennial Coordinator** – PDG Dan Ayim

Since August cabinet meeting, I have secured agreement of LFC Board of Directors that District A15 build a centennial monument on their property in Breslau. They request however that a Dogguides logo appear somewhere on it since there is no signage at the entrance indicating whose property it is.

It is proposed that we erect two stone pillars, one on each side of the entrance laneway leading to the property from Chiligo road with a short fence attached on the east side, simulating the original fence line. The pillars will be of stone to match the original stone building on the property.

In 2017, LCI centennial plaque will be attached to one pillar followed in 2020 by a second plaque commemorating Lionism in Canada on the other pillar. Funding estimates are pending.

I participated in the joint 9E/9S zone recently held at Copetown Lions Club and in the GLT/GMT Membership Workshops hosted by Belwood & District Lions on October 25, 2015; and on Oct 31st by Thamesford Lions. On all occasions Centennial Membership Awards Program was discussed.

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

Planning is currently underway for the upcoming District A-15 Convention to be held at Lions Hall, 40 South Street West, Elmira, Ontario, April 29th to May 1st, 2016. Your convention hosts for the 2015-2016 Convention are the Woolwich Community Lions Club and the Lions Club of Elmira. Accommodations have been arranged at the Courtyard Marriott, 50 Benjamin Road East, Waterloo (St. Jacobs), Ontario, with shuttle service available. Information with respect to rooms is included in the registration package. There is also non-serviced RV parking available.



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We are excited to announce that our International Guest is Kembra L. Smith, LLC of Decatur, Georgia. Ms. Smith was elected to serve as one of the thirty-four International Directors of Lions Clubs International on July 8, 2014, and will serve in that capacity until June 30, 2016.

Previous conventions held in Elmira were noted for their innovative facilities and novel entertainment and this convention will be no exception. The entertainment planned will be truly exceptional.

"For Sure" don't miss out on what promises to be an exciting, fun-filled, and memorable weekend.

Our convention budget is attached for consideration

**Diabetes Awareness – PRC Rick Bell**

Up to the date of this report, I attended the Summer Cabinet Meeting and along with Nicole Holder, Mission Funding Coordinator for the Canadian Diabetes Association, we announced our Project Bunk Bed/Dimes for Diabetes fundraiser. We have circulated project information to all clubs. We attended the Joint 9S/9S Zone Meeting in Copetown on October 20. The St George Lions Club presented us a cheque for \$1,101.75. Earlier in the day, I received a cheque for the same amount from the Lions Club of Elmira. We will be presenting at the 51 E zone Meeting on October 28 and in Hillsburg and the 37W Zone Meeting in Zurich on November 2.

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

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

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

**Future Convention Advisory – PDG Doug Smith**

Bids for the hosting of the 2018 District Convention held during the 2017/2018 Lions Year received by Cabinet via the District Governor are to be passed on to the Future Convention Advisory Committee for vetting and reporting at the mid-winter Cabinet meeting. Selection or endorsement of the successful bid is to occur at the 2016 Convention, i.e. two years in advance of the Convention being bid.

As of November 4<sup>th</sup> 2015 a bid to host the 2018 District Convention has been received from the Guelph Lions Club. Proposed venue and dates are the Holiday Inn in Guelph on April 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**GLT District Coordinator – PDG Denis Vinette**

Since my last report, we have had the opportunity to hold one of two "Membership / Leadership Workshops" planned for this year. Over 40 members were in attendance in Belwood on October 25.

In an effort to help clubs recognize the value of seeing excellence in all that they do, we focused our discussion on achieving the 7 criterion outlined in the Club Excellence Award. Lion OJ and I were well assisted by PDGs Larry Wainwright, Dan Ayim and Tim DeBlock. A big thank you for their contribution and help with this worthwhile effort.

Although our plans were ambitious (read lofty!), we managed to discuss most issues and items that were of interest to those in attendance and help club members reflect how the Club Excellence Award would help them define their plans and actions to help solve many of the challenges that were brought out in the conversation.

We will be going ahead with our 2nd session (same program - adjusted) in Thamesford on October 31st as planned. A report will be compiled from all of the noted discussion and will be provided to the clubs in a summary form by the 1st of December.



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

Two Lions Clubs: West Coast Lions in Grand Bend; and Bayfield Lions have officially appointed Gift of Life chairs. Additionally, two clubs: Fergus Lions and Belwood Lions, sent representatives to an Oct. 14 meeting of the Centre Wellington Fire Service where a speaker from the Life Donations Awareness Association of Midwestern Ontario made a presentation on Gift of Life. These clubs and St. Marys Lions have expressed interest and I await their decisions on appointing chairs within their respective clubs.

Unfortunately, my efforts to begin the Gift of Life program in A15 has been interrupted by my becoming a clear example of how the program works. I received a kidney transplant in late September and I am still in the healing phase. I hope to be up to full speed in establishing the program shortly.

On Nov. 21 attended the Zone 37 S meeting in Woodstock where I made a presentation to many of the clubs in the zone. On Oct. 31, Guelph Royal City Lions held its annual pancake breakfast at which I made a presentation as the chair for my own club. This was followed on Nov. 5 with a presentation at Grand River Hospital in Kitchener for the patients of the Home Hemodialysis program Education Day.

The West Coast Chair is Lion Charles MacDonald,  
 362 Shannon Blvd  
 Grand Bend, ON  
 N0M 1T0  
 519-238-8211 h 519-854-6803 c  
 charles6803@gmail.com

The Bayfield Lions Chair is  
 Lion Tom Dawe  
 41 Colina St.,  
 Bayfield, ON  
 N0M 1G0

**GMT District Coordinator** – PDG OJ Wilura

Since my last report, I attended the USA/Canada Forum in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where you always learn something. MD“A” was the overall Multiple District winner considering to a ratio factor of members attending. A15 had a good number Lions present.

Several clubs are continuing their CQI (Club Quality Initiative) and we truly hope it will make a difference as it has with other clubs in the past.

I presented a PowerPoint presentation on Club Success at the combine Zones 9E and 9S meeting in Copetown on October 20th.

GLT Coordinator Denis, IPDG Tim and I held to Membership Workshops at Belwood and Thamesford during the last week of October.

It should be known that LCI will provide you with the following materials at no cost. All from the Publication Department and all contain small hints to strengthen your club.

- Blue Print for a Stronger Club - DA STPBG EN 5/14
- Member Satisfaction – ME301 EN 3/13
- Just Ask – ME300 EN 3/13
- Your Club, Your Way – DA YCYW EN 9/14

Below is some statistical information about this fiscal year. Data noted as of October 24th.

	July 2015	New Members	Dropped Members	October 2015	Difference
A15	1534	45	49	1531	-4

Let us all try our best to move to the positive side to make this district stronger and better able to serve our communities.



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

As my role evolves, I am currently involved in and supporting clubs in CEP & CEP follow up, Member satisfaction, and assisting in club regrowth. I am also continuing with involvement in pursuing the mandates of the GMT/GLT visions for District A15.

**GMT Membership Renewal – PDG Larry Wainwright**

This committee was born out of the concerns of several Lions that under GMT there was not a specific designation or program to investigate the reasons for Lions members leaving Lionism in our District. A proposal for such a program was put together and presented to District Governor Lion Tim DeBlock. After deliberation and some changes the program was approved and in September a chairperson put in place. The program was specifically designed for contact to be made by the chairperson with the Lion who has left his/her club and to confidentially fill out a questionnaire.

The information is strictly between the chairperson and the Lion with no name or confidences being available to anyone else. The interviewee is given every opportunity to express any concerns or specific reasons why they left their Lions Club. An opportunity is presented by the chairperson to work out any difficulties so the Lion can return to his/her club, be transferred to another local or area club or if has an interest in building a new Lions Club if there is an opportunity for a new club in the surrounding area. If the chairperson concludes there is a specific problem or problems with the club a report is to be made with no reference by name of the source of the information and given to the District Governor only for his/her information and followup if deemed necessary. Prior to health issues of the chairperson there were some successes with 2 Lions accepting transfers to another club, 2 Lions returning to their club and 4 Lions willing to assist in the building of a new club.

With this program came some problems mainly the list of names of dropped Lions came all at once with only names and in some cases the club names. The program was changed to repair the deficiency and with the cooperation of club secretaries and if possible the membership chair, the information will be sent with the Lions name, club name, address and phone number.

Every Lion is invited to be a member and when this invitation is accepted the individual joins with a good reason and intentions.

The reasons individuals end up leaving are numerous but mainly because of poor communication, personality conflicts, poor mentoring, closed thinking plus several others. This program gives those individuals the opportunity to express why this did not work for them and to tell some one what they did like and give them an opportunity to continue to serve and fulfill the reasons and good intentions they had when first they accepted the invitation to serve.

Make sure that for what ever reason a member leaves your club the District Membership Renewal Committee is given every opportunity for that exiting member to be heard and continue to serve as a Lion, for Lions if and where there is a better fit.

**LCIF –RC Kevin Banfield**

I want to share with you how we rank as a district in funding LCIF and how we compared to the other districts of MDA.

Our district is in 9th place out of the 10 for donations to LCIF.

Last year A711 lead the way in MDA donation with just over \$24,000.00 followed by A3 with \$23,000.00 to LCIF. We as a district donated just over \$11,000.00 which still had us in 9th place overall in MDA.

I share this information not to guilt you, but to make you aware of how LCIF can help us with projects within our communities, but also to show you that we need to pull our own weight if we are going to take advantage of the grants LCIF offers. I would be remised to point out that we have received approximately 150% back on the grants applied for with in our District over the years.

We are part of an International Organization that helps out beyond our own back yards. We are working on a bigger team than just our own clubs; it's a global effort.

We are very fortunate in the communities that we live, in that we don't have to utilize some of the other grants



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that LCIF offers. Ex. Disaster Relief

One of the easiest ways for your club support LCIF is by reconditioning an individual with a Melvin Jones Fellowship. This fellowship is an honour given to individuals who contribute the equivalent of US\$1000.00. Donations may be in one sum, or in installments of a minimum of US\$100 over a five-year period.

This fellowship is not limited to just Lions Club Members.

Also, just because someone is a MJF you can still honour them with a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship. Did you know that there are 54 recognition levels beyond the initial US\$1,000 MJF contribution with a unique pin for each giving level?

To all club Presidents, one of the qualifiers for your club to receive The Club Excellence Award is that your club needs to contribute a min of US\$10.00 per member or award a MJF or PMJF. What away to cap off your year, honouring a member, supporting our association all while having fun.

**LFC – RC Deb Cserhalmi**

I had the pleasure of attending the Fall Open House and training session for incoming LFC Chairs of MDA. We enjoyed a fun and fact filled day as well as a tour of the facilities. And puppies ... lots of puppies.

The Walk results are in! The clubs in A-15 raised \$61,342.68. The total for this year's Walk was \$1,195,201.70. Well done Lions. We held 10 Walks in the District with several clubs joining forces to host a walk. If your club is interested in hosting a walk you can contact Marilyn Lethbridge at [mlethbridge@dogguides.com](mailto:mlethbridge@dogguides.com) She will send you a kit which is a step by step guide on how to run a Walk. If you are a small club, please consider joining with a club nearby to host a walk.

District A-15 contributed 96,021.10 overall for the fiscal year July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015. Thank YOU for helping disabled Canadians by providing them with these amazing animals.

Please contact me at [lfc@a15lions.org](mailto:lfc@a15lions.org) if you have any questions. I am available to do presentations, attend your events with puppies, and help you with fundraising ideas for LFC. I have also posted in the District Forums.

**Lions Opportunities For Youth – Lion Joanne McQuiggan**

For the Centennial Service Challenge, the goal is to reach 25 million youth and globally we are already 75% there!

In reviewing club activities, it's quite evident that we are Canadian by the number of clubs sponsoring hockey teams. A quick check on our numbers, we have already impacted over 5,500 youth in District A15 since the start of this Lions year. Please remind club secretaries to report activities related to children and youth under the "Engaging Youth" theme.

It is also quite common for clubs to recognize students with scholarships at annual graduation events. Another great resource for clubs to consider is the Young Leaders in Service Awards. These special certificates are available to recognize young people 12-18 years of age who contribute 50 or 100 hours of community service over a 12-month period. The forms and information are all on [lionsclubs.org](http://lionsclubs.org) under the resources section.

**Lions Services For Children – IPDG Tim DeBlock**

Since our last Cabinet meetings I have discussed with several Clubs about coming to visit and share a conversation exploring opportunities reaching out in service to young people. I did visit one Club and had such a conversation. From it came the revelation that sometimes members do not take time to think about what is relevant to them and that they can make a difference. I am hoping more Clubs will open themselves to have these conversations and I would be willing to visit if they wanted help to find resources or share ideas.

**Literacy – ZC Aline Chan**

*Literacy – Reading Access Program*

Whether you are an educator with a passion to help a child learn how to read, an entrepreneur ready to help develop a community-based literacy program, an information technology expert who can help introduce new technology to the visually impaired, or someone who simply enjoys reading to a child, no effort is too small to make a big difference.



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*Project Ideas*

- Serve as a volunteer reader
- Promote Braille literacy
- Provide support to your local library
- Help build a classroom for underserved children
- Organize a book drive
- Contribute to the Scholastic Program. Each book costs \$5. \$300 buys 60 books for two classrooms.

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

Congratulations to the Lions and Lioness for getting out there and getting the schools involved. This has been a challenging year because of the Teachers not wanting to do any extra work.

We have 13 kits out in the communities and just a reminder to all of the Clubs your winning poster must be in the hands of District Governor Diane Smith before November 23rd, 2015.

The winner will get \$250.00 and I would be pleased to attend a school assembly to present the cheque.

I am also pleased to report that we have sent a cheque for \$100.00 to the M.D. "A" program to help offset the cost of that program.

When we were at the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Grand Rapids, Michigan it was so lovely to see the winning posters displayed at the Forum.

Thank you Lions and Lioness for all the work you do for Lions/Lioness Clubs and your communities.

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

Dates for the 2016 Youth Exchange Program (YEP) are as follows;

May ??, 2016 – Camp clean up (Date TBD)

June 25, 2016 - Youth arrive at Toronto Int'l Airport

July 9, 2016 - Camp begins

July 17, 2016 - International Night, St George

July 19, 2016 – Camp closes

July 23, 2016 – Youth depart from Toronto Int'l Airport

We are looking to invite up to 24 youth to participate in the upcoming YEP camp and therefore would need the appropriate number of host families and camp staff to accommodate them. If anyone is interested in becoming a counselor or hosting, please do not hesitate to contact us.

District Clubs should commence their recruitment program now for possible candidates to go abroad as offered by the YEP. Applications should be received by no later than Dec 31, 2015. Lion Marysa Rumble-Lauriault is coordinating the outbound program again this year. She can be contacted at [ycout@a15lions.org](mailto:ycout@a15lions.org). Lion Marysa would be happy to assist any club with the process. All you need to do is ask.

The LCI website offers excellent information on the YEP should you want to get familiar with the program.

Thank you to all the District Clubs who have supported this program in the past and we look forward to your continued support in the future.



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**PROPOSED 2016 YOUTH EXCHANGE BUDGET**

<b>Youth Exchange Program</b>	<b>Proposed 2015</b>	<b>Actual 2015</b>	<b>Proposed 2016</b>
<i>Transportation**</i>	\$ 4,700.00	4804.36	4800.00
<i>Name Tags</i>	\$ 100.00	126.56	125.00
<i>T-Shirts, Polo, jackets etc...</i>	\$ 1,200.00	1534.93	1,200.00
<i>Ice cream for everyone</i>	\$ 140.00	128.05	140.00
<i>Maid of the Mist</i>	\$ 450.00	471.10	500.00
<i>Imax/Skylon Tower</i>	\$ 400.00	145.00	400.00
<i>Niagara Falls Supper</i>	\$ 1,500.00	869.54	1,000.00
<i>Wonderland</i>	\$ 1,200.00	948.09	1,000.00
<i>Dinner at Wonderland</i>	\$ 300.00	260.00	300.00
<i>Dinner- Mandarin</i>	\$ 800.00	750.00	800.00
<i>CN Tower</i>	\$ 600.00	588.03	600.00
<i>Rogers Centre - Blue Jays Game</i>	\$ 450.00	372.00	450.00
<i>Display Boards</i>	\$ 150.00	61.60	100.00
<i>Groceries</i>	\$ 300.00	452.48	400.00
<i>Pizza</i>	\$ 250.00	248.06	250.00
<i>Set-up dinner &amp; breakfast</i>	\$ 225.00	100.52	225.00
<i>Flash Drives (Thumb Drives)</i>	\$ 300.00	221.16	200.00
<i>St Jacobs Horse drawn tour</i>	\$ 300.00	252.00	300.00
<i>Meals -no club</i>	\$ 250.00	0.00	250.00
<i>Airport Hotel - arrival expenses</i>	\$ 375.00	155.48	375.00
<i>John Wedge - National Anthems</i>	\$ 75.00	0.00	75.00
<i>Youth Exchange Pins/ptchs</i>	\$ 300.00	275.00	300.00
<i>Backpacks</i>	\$ 250.00	0.00	250.00
<i>Water bottles</i>	None req'd	-----	None Required
<i>misc supplies</i>	\$ 285.00	888.81	800.00
<i>misc supplies details:</i>	Promo/Conv't'n (\$161.86)		
	Clean Up (\$239.60)		
	Supplies (\$396.97)		
	Program Prep (\$90.38)		
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>	<b>13,652.77</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>

\*\* Each camp participant paid a camp transportation fee of \$250.00 - Total collected - \$4,750.00



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**Woolwich Community Lions  
2016 Convention Budget**

**Income**

Lion/Lioness Registration	7,650
Leo Registration	100
Non Member Registration	450
Banquet	8,400
Rooms	7,000
Luncheon	3,600
Pins	1,000
Advertising	800
Hospitality room	750
Raffle Draw	750
PDG breakfast	300
Total Income	30,800

**Expenses**

Advertising	2,500
Entertainment	2,000
Facilities	6,933
Function and program	1,780
Hotel expenses	6,630
Meals	13,525
Office	1,175
Total expenses	34,543
Total Net Revenue	-3,743