



WHAT A GREAT DAY FOR A PARADE!

A celebration of Lions Clubs International and what we do!

I hope you are enjoying your summer.

I have just returned from a great adventure at convention in Toronto. It was an amazing 10 day journey. It seemed for the past year and a half it was kind of a running joke that the International Convention I would be attending would be an hour and a half from home! And honestly spending 10 days in July in the “Big Smoke” was not on my bucket list but now I can honestly say I feel very fortunate to have been part of Canada hosting the world. What a feeling! Whether we were in our classroom sessions, the general assembly or walking in the parade, people from all over the world came up to us saying thank-you.

Congratulations to the host committee and volunteers on making our International community feel welcome. Seeing the parade assembly and the various nations getting to celebrate their culture really drove home the scope of the diversity of people carrying out our work. The biggest impact for me would have to be the events we attended that highlighted the people we were reaching out to. We constantly hear the numbers and figures but when they put a face or a story to our work it really, “Strengthened the Pride”. Whether it was the image of Lions members as-



sisting in flood relief, the eyes of a young child receiving lifesaving measles vaccine, or a photo of a Club planting trees in their local community, the feeling of “Pride” that International President Joe talks about grew. A

warm, strong, united feeling of working together to better our world. I believe if we all could experience this awareness, our Lions family would also be strengthened. We would be motivated to try new service and would do a better job of attracting new members because we would feel better about what we are doing.

The Convention is here and gone but the things we are doing are still happening. Please take time to reflect and try to put a face on the work that you are part of. People you touch in your own community and people you touch in the world. Remember your service is like the wake from a boat moving across a lake. What you do touches many, slowly moving through our communities and beyond.

Enjoy your summer and don't forget about the Cabinet meeting at Five Oaks on August 24th. There is going to be a BIG ANNOUNCEMENT!

Lion Tim DeBlock

District Governor, A 15

“A Wake In Service”

