

## **Notice of Motions for the November Cabinet meeting**

### **Effective Speaking**

**Preamble** – This year there is no District effective speaking program. There is an MDA effective speaking program which depends on the financial support from donations from the district. As of the August Cabinet financial report our district has \$3900.00 in the effective speaking account.

- 1. Move that District A15 supports the MDA effective speaking program by donation \$1000 to MDA effective speaking.*

### **Convention 2024 Budget**

**Preamble** – Budget is presented and will be open to questions.

- 2. Move that the 2024 convention budget be passed as presented.*

### **Volunteer Screening Policy**

**Preamble** –

The present volunteer screening policy is attached (Appendix “A”). It is outdated for today’s needs and should be changed into a simple and more precise policy.

The only vulnerable people that the district is involved with is the youth exchange program. If the district becomes involved with other vulnerable people in the future, then that program can be added to the policy by cabinet if cabinet determines that a Vulnerable Sector check is required.

Only the person that requires a Vulnerable Sector check can apply for the check. If the check is negative, then it can be present to the district chair. The chair has no need to store the information.

The only information on a negative result Vulnerable Sector check is the person’s name and date of birth.

The police service will never disclose the results of the screening report to the agency that has requested it, the applicant will be responsible for providing the agency or organization with the results.

In discussions with PCC Bill Carson of long-range planning it was determined that our district should follow a similar policy that is used by our multiple district. Therefore, the following motion is to be present at the November cabinet meeting.

*Move that the wording of Section 25 DISTRICT A-15 VOLUNTEER SCREENING AND POLICE CHECK POLICY (2016 06 05) be replaced with the following:*

25.1 Preamble. It is clearly the intent of this policy to cover Vulnerable Sector checks required only for activities under the direct jurisdiction, conduct and supervision of the District and instituted for those Lions directly appointed by the District as Chairpersons, Sub-Chairpersons and/or coordinators.

#### 25.2 District Programs/Projects/Initiatives/Screening

It is the responsibility of the District Youth Exchange Chairperson to ensure that the District coordinators and volunteers working at the District level with direct dealing with youth be appropriately evaluated, which shall include a police volunteer screening process.

Lions Club members who wish to be involved in the district as a host family, or by volunteering their time and services to youth activities, or in any other capacity involving direct access to youth, will be required to have a Vulnerable Sector check as described in this policy.”

25.3 It follows that District Chairpersons, Sub-Chairpersons and/or coordinators must then conform and perform in line with Province of Ontario’s “Police Record Checks Reform Act (<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/15p30>)”. Detailed definitions and requirements included therein will best serve to be our guide.

*The forthcoming November cabinet meeting is anticipated to be of extended duration, which, consequently, will impose constraints on the allocation of time available for discussion pertaining to the motions. In light of this, should you possess any questions concerning the motions prior to the meeting, we kindly request that you reach out to DG Garry for clarification and guidance.*

## Appendix "A"

### 25 DISTRICT A-15 VOLUNTEER SCREENING AND POLICE CHECK POLICY (2016 06 05)

#### 1.1 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 organised activity, unless otherwise explicitly exempted by the District A15 Cabinet, are bound by this Policy.

Event organisers, 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.

#### 1.2 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 approved by the District A-15 Cabinet 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

### 1.3 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-said check from 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, 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 organiser(s) to provide applicants with the details on the current Police Check application 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 organiser(s).
5. It shall be the responsibility of the activity organiser(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.
7. It shall be the responsibility of the activity organiser(s) to meet the requirements of those third-party organizations who may require a Police Check to be obtained more

frequently.

#### **1.4 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.

#### **1.5 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.

#### **1.6 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.

#### **1.7 FUNDING**

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.

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

Organisers 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.

VDG Report to Cabinet

November 15, 2023

Wow! It has been a busy few months, jetting around the District meeting with a dozen clubs and attending 3 zone meetings as well as workshops and other training events to prepare for next year. Although it has been busy it has been fun. It is inspiring to see all the service that is being done all around the District, new members being inducted into the clubs. If we keep this up, we will have no problem with "Mission 1.5". My team made up of RCs Kevin March, Joyce Townson, and ZCs Cheryl Bauman, Evelyn Albers and Rick Bell are committed to assisting the clubs in the District with what ever the club need whether it is with membership growth, Service Projects or developing future leaders. WE ARE HERE TO HELP. As well as working with my team I have been working with the GMT Coordinator assisting Tracey with her membership workshop which will be on November 29/23 in Cambridge. The invite has gone out, if you did not receive it and are interested, please reach out to me or Tracey and we will get you on the list. If we keep this momentum going, there is no limit to what can be accomplished.

Respectfully submitted.

Bill Robinson

VDG A-15

Cabinet Report for November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023

I'm please to say I've had a positive response to my visits from the Lions Clubs of Drumbo, Ayr North Dumfries and Wilmot Lioness. We have a great group of people providing all kinds of service needs to their communities. Keep reporting your service activities to LCI. It's important. So far, we are in a positive membership growth position, and we must keep the momentum going.

We had a successful online District A-15 Lions Leadership seminar in October with the Club Presidents and Secretaries with a great team of the GLT District Coordinator Jim Sanders, RC9 Ray Derouin, ZC 9S Ken Linington and ZC 51W Cheryl Bauman. In connecting with our Committee Chairs, they have been active in reporting and are doing a great job.

As for myself, I'm working on being a Guiding Lion. I will be attending future VDG2 training at MDA on November 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> and have been accepted to attend Advanced Lions Leadership in January 2024 in Vancouver. Life is busy while your having fun.

Respectfully Submitted



## Cabinet Meeting November 15, 2023

### Report from Region Chair Kevin March for Region 51

Since the last Cabinet meeting, in addition to my responsibilities as Region Chair, I have been appointed to fill a vacancy for Zone Chair in 51 East. I have been concentrating on completing some of my Zone Visits. By the time of this Cabinet Meeting, I will have visited 5 Lions Clubs in my Zone. I also am planning to have a Zone Meeting on November 21<sup>st</sup> in Belwood.

I hope to complete my Zone visits by the end of December with the exception of one club to be scheduled in the new year. I will be attending the Membership workshop on November 29<sup>th</sup> in Cambridge.

We are planning a Joint Zone Meeting of 51 East and 51 West on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, with more information to follow. As Region Chair, I am on the GMT Committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
Region Chair Kevin March



## *DISTRICT A-15 LIONS CLUBS*

# **Zone 9C**



Cabinet Report for November 15, 2023

To: District Cabinet, Lions of Zone 9C

Lions all – as I write this report, we are finalizing the details for the Zone Meeting for 9C to be held in Copetown on November 6. There is an active agenda and approximately 40 people to attend. I look forward to some great discussion on Service, Club Marketing and how we can best share ideas across our Zone.

To date, I have been able to visit Rockton and Lynden. I would like to thank them for the warm welcome and hospitality on those evenings. I learned more about the service and fundraising activities carried out by these Clubs. Like all Clubs, they really are part of the fabric in their community.

During October, I was also out to the Rockton World's Fair to help in the food booth of the Lynden Lions for 2 shifts. When the weather cooperated, the booth was very busy. This is a great fundraiser for the Lynden Club. Congratulations to all of the members and helpers that made this event a success.

As always, if you need information or assistance with a Lions program, let me know and I will do my best to get you some help.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Oswald, Zone Chair  
Zone 9C

[Zc9c@a15lions.org](mailto:Zc9c@a15lions.org)

<mailto:peter.oswald@bell.net>

519-537-0683

## Zone Chair 9 South

It has been a real pleasure to connect with the 6 Clubs in the Zone 9S. Zone Chair visits have been arranged.

As part of the Global Leadership Team, I participated in the Online Seminar for Presidents and Secretary on Sunday October 22, 2023. My area of interest included: Roberts Rules of Order; Agenda(s), and Conflict Resolution. Part of the preparation included the online training for Conflict Resolution on My Lion. Seven presidents and 9 secretaries in the District participated of which 3 presidents and 2 secretaries were from Zone 9 S.

A Zone meeting was held on Tuesday October 24 sponsored by the Burford Lions. Three clubs participated (Burford, Paris, Sheffield). The Glen Morris club had a community based meeting that evening, so was not able to attend. St. George and Brantford did not respond. Notice for a Zone meeting should be at least 4 weeks in advance to allow clubs to manage their schedule. Here are some points about the meeting:

- a concurrent discussion group approach was used for the meetings
- the primary focus was on “service projects’ and I followed the outline provided by the Global Service Team District Coordinator Lion Anita Ertel
  - a list of Service projects was created
  - discussion on how to leverage service projects to improve the profile of Lions in the community—greater effort on publicity and connecting with the community is key
- Presidents Discussion found most presidents had been president of other organization. A few had taken the on-line My Lion course. When they needed help they went to senior members in the club.
- Secretary’s was a small group of 3. Two had taken the My Lion training module
- General membership found that some clubs visit other clubs; most did not volunteer but waited to be asked; felt the club members should be surveyed about their interest and Service Projects.
- An Open Agenda discussion was held for topics at the next Zone meeting. Suggestions included: how to recruit younger members; how to retain members; cost of membership for married couples or life partners.
- A meeting evaluation was done. The best features included the meal, having input into the meeting, the location. Least liked items included the session on Secretary’s, meeting directions (dividing into discussion groups) and the outline of Service Projects. Most liked the meeting approach. A few felt there needed to be a better turn out. Not everyone filled out an evaluation form

1VDG Bill Robinson, PDG Tracey Robinson, RC Ray Derouin and CT Brian Spivey attended the meeting. The next ZC meeting will be Tuesday February 6 hosted by the Paris Club.

RC Ray Derouin held the ZC visit at the Paris Club on October 17 and inducted a new member.

## Zone Chair 9S

Lion Ken Linington.

# Zone Chair 51W

## Cabinet Meeting Report

Thank you for the warm welcome club members have shown me and Woolwich Community Lions Club members during my Zone Chair visits this fall. I have enjoyed my visits and meeting Lions from Zone 51W Lions Clubs. One common theme came through with my visits – clubs in Zone 51W work hard and serve their communities! It has been heart warming listening to all the service projects clubs have completed to make their communities better places to live. Great work!

Just a reminder that the Zone Meeting being hosted by the Woolwich Community Lions Club takes place on Monday, January 22, 2024 at the Elmira Lions Hall, 40 South Street West, Elmira, ON. A catered dinner will be available for purchase. More details and a registration form will be sent out to Zone 51W Lions Clubs next month.

I look forward to visiting the following clubs in the New Year:

- St. Jacobs Lions - Thursday, Jan 18, 2024
- Elmira - Wednesday, Feb 7, 2024
- Linwood & District Lions - Wednesday, Feb 21, 2024

## Around Zone 51W

Zone 51W Lions Clubs are gearing up for the holiday season with fundraising events and Santra Claus parades. Lions are keeping community residents entertained with weekly Bingo nights.

Let me know if your club is hosting an event or has any news so that I can share the information with the rest of the District Lions Clubs. I am here to support your Lions Clubs so feel free to reach out to me at <mailto:zc51w@a15lions.org>

*"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others". - Mahatma Gandhi*

*Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Bauman, Zone Chair 51W*



**Lions Clubs International**  
**FOUNDATION**

**Where there is a need there is a Lion. We need your support!**

**Category 5 Hurricane Otis slams into Mexico**



Hurricane Otis made landfall in Acapulco and surrounding areas of Mexico as a Category 5 hurricane, the highest category there is, was the strongest storm on record to hit the area. The full scope of the devastation is still unclear, with communication systems down, but it is estimated that dozens of people have been killed with several still missing. Homes and other buildings in the path of the storm were destroyed.

Lions in the region are already poised to help and Lions Clubs International Foundation is mobilizing funds, including a US\$50,000 Major Catastrophe Grant and a US\$10,000 Emergency Grant, to empower them as they help their communities recover.

Please consider donating today – 100% of the funds raised go directly out to supporting our communities in need.

**Your donation can make a difference.**

Online – <https://lionsofcanadafundforlcif.ca>

or

**Please send donations to**  
**The Lions of Canada Fund for LCIF**  
*c/o Stan Durward*  
**PO Box 38**  
**Sunderland, Ontario, LOC 1H0**

## GLT Report – November 2023

This Report takes the form of a request to Cabinet members. The link below will allow you to watch the recording of the October 22<sup>nd</sup> Club Presidents and Secretaries Workshop. There is an additional link to its evaluation. Approximately 18 Club Presidents and Secretaries join the live presentation. Those who were not available have been sent this same link and evaluation form.

### Links:

Video Link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ql0f32vnOh2dg5jnhEPdDt6g7JMp-7BV/view?usp=sharing>

Evaluation Form: [https://www.allcounted.com/s?did=goom7f7vIm491&lang=en\\_US](https://www.allcounted.com/s?did=goom7f7vIm491&lang=en_US)

Your Global Leadership Team will use the comments and recommendations in developing the content of the 2024 Training Session. We would appreciate hearing from everyone and if possible by November 30<sup>th</sup>.

We will be recommending that the revised Training Workshop be made available prior to the July 1<sup>st</sup> start of the new Lions Year.

Jim Sanders, GLT Chair

### Members:

1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor, Lion Linda Vinette

Region Chair 9, Lion Ray Derouin

Zone Chair 51 W, Lion Cheryl Bauman

Zone Chair 9 s, Lion Ken Linington

## Report to Cabinet

### Members of Cabinet and Lions

We have been off to a good start with getting new members. To date from July to present time in November we have added 33 new members across our district. This is wonderful. We have held 2 New Membership Orientations, online, and have had a few of the new members attend. Thank you for coming, and I hope you got a little more information about Lions. We will be holding the next one in the New Year.

We have sent out the invitations for the upcoming Membership Workshop, being held in Cambridge on Wednesday November 29<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm. Please make sure you register for this fun and informative evening. This is not just for the Membership chairs in your club. This is for all club members, as it takes everyone to want to grow the membership in your club, not just one person. Learn, grow, revitalize and be happy!! Our GMT team is ready to help you.

Please reach out if you have any questions!!

Yours in Lionism,

Lion Tracey Robinson

GMT District A-15

DISTRICT GOVERNORS NEWSLETTER  
Cabinet Report for November 15<sup>th</sup> , 2023

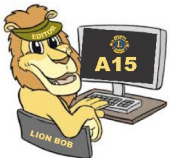
Plan of Action:

Continue with the established quality of the newsletter issues, we do realize there is always room for improvement. The last report stated a publication schedule was being looked at and one has been established and is available in the DG's newsletter that was distributed on August 7<sup>th</sup> and is repeated at the end of this report. . The next issue is under construction, looking for submissions and photos, event advertising is not only allowed but encouraged.

The newsletters are distributed electronically, photo resolution is not quite as important as it is for print versions, however our submissions may find their way into the LION magazine and quality photos are important.

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

Respectfully,  
Lion Bob Pearson  
Copetown Lions  
[bulletin@a15lions.org](mailto:bulletin@a15lions.org)  
289-238-8877



Note: The position as editor for the District Governor's newsletter is not a permanent assignment, if any member might be interested in assuming the job please contact the writer. So far I have received zero replies!

Publishing Schedule:

The plan is to have the Newsletter be distributed the second week of the following months, subject to adjustment where required: October, December, February, April and June

It would be good if we could get your submissions on the first day of the scheduled month, however experience shows this might not be practical in some cases.

**THE GRAVEYARD OF PAST DEADLINES**





November 3 2023

To: A15 Cabinet  
From: A15 Nomination Chair Tim Cronin  
Subject: Report for the Fall Cabinet Meeting

It is already time to start thinking of the 2024 2025 Leadership of Our District. The District A15 Policy allows for Campaigning for DG, VDG1 and VDG2 to commence November 1 of the year previous to the term of Office. Zone Chair Candidates may start Campaigning January 1<sup>st</sup>. If Region Chairs are to utilized by the District Governor they may also Campaign starting January 1<sup>st</sup>. The Decision to have Region Chairs is at the discretion of the District Governor during his/her term of office.

The A15, MDA and LCI Constitutions and Bylaws dictate the requirements for the respective positions.

I will leave it to the prospective Candidates to become familiar with these requirements.

I would ask that prospective Candidates complete the required forms (available on the A15 Website) and submit them to me by snail mail or email to [nomination@a15lions.org](mailto:nomination@a15lions.org). Once received, I will confirm that the requirements have been met and notify the Candidate and the Governor that the requirements have been met and that the Candidate may commence a campaign.

To date I have received and confirmed the Nomination for the Position of First Vice District Governor.

Historically there is seldom enough Candidates for Region Chair and Zone Chair and candidates are Acclaimed to the position. This does not mean that the Candidates do not need to campaign. The campaign is a good way to prepare for the position they wish to hold.

I would ask all district officers to promote and encourage eligible Lions to seek office. If there is no Candidate for Zone, Region Chair the District Governor Shall Appoint a Lion to fill the position.

I would recommend to Cabinet that Long Range Planning look at, and make, recommendations to formalize the procedure and requirements for Appointment to Zone and/or Region Chair.

Respectfully Submitted

Historian Report November 15, 2023

Thank you Lions for all submissions received to date, of past events, club stories, photos and news articles from the past. Items loaned for the purpose of being scanned will be returned to Clubs.

Yours in Lionism, PDG Nancy Ransom

**District A15**  
**Cabinet Report**  
**November 15, 2023**  
**Kitchener Oktoberfest**

Governor Garry, Cabinet Officers & Fellow Lions

This is a copy of an email that I sent out to all clubs via the district email system. I have had no replies expressing interest.

*In regard to the LEO program, I hope that your club would explore the possibility of sponsoring a LEO Club in your community. The cost is \$100.00 US annually and a great investment in our future.*

*The LEO program approach is: Positive Experiences + Positive Relationships + Positive Environments = Positive Youth Development*

*Positive Youth Development is a pro-social approach that engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that is:*

- productive and constructive*
- recognizes, utilizes, and enhances youths' strengths,*
- promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities,*
- fostering positive relationships and furnishing the support needed to build on their leadership strengths.*

*The LEO Club's Objectives are:*

*To make available to Lions clubs an activity allowing them to serve the needs of youth in their respective areas*

- To provide the youth of the world with an opportunity for development and contribution, individually and collectively, as responsible members of the local, national, and international communities*
- To promote service activities among young people and offer them an opportunity to develop the individual qualities of Leadership, Experience and Opportunity*
- To unite Leos in friendship, fellowship and mutual understanding*

*I, as well as the District GAT, are available for further questions or presentations.*

Yours in Service.

Lion OJ Wilura  
A15 LEO Chairperson  
[ojwilura@gmail.com](mailto:ojwilura@gmail.com)

## **District A-15 Technology Report**

**November 2023**

Governor Garry, Cabinet, Lions:

I wish to report that all information on the District A-15 web site should now be up-to-date as reflected in the printed District Directory. As directory updates are received, they are noted on the Directory corrections page, and incorporated in the downloadable electronic directory found there. I wish to thank DG Garry for ensuring all Cabinet and Committee Chair pictures were available for the respective directory pages of the web site.

As new information either comes available, or is sent to me, I attempt to get it up on the site in an appropriate place as soon as possible. If a Cabinet member, Committee Chair, or Club has an event they wish published, please send me an email with relevant information, preferably in a printable poster. For Lions social events, they will be published on the Events page and for committee-related information, it may end up either on the Committee-specific page, or on the Events page, or both.

I must thank Cabinet Secretary Denis for providing ongoing help and information.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Lion Ted Rypma  
District Technology Chair  
<http://a15lions.org/>

#### 2022/2023 Vision Screening Summary – Region of Waterloo (ROW) Pilot Program Year 1 -

The ROW screening program was a collaborative effort between the Lions Clubs, Cowan Foundation, local school boards, Region of Waterloo Public Health (ROWPH), and the University of Waterloo School of Optometry and Vision Science (UWOVS). Funding of this program was through donations from The Cowan Foundation and The Lions Club International Foundation.

Six vision screening teams were developed to accomplish the ROW program. Five teams were comprised of Lions members, community volunteers, and COWAN Foundation staff. One team was comprised of UWOVS students. Vision screening was completed between November 2022 through to April 2023.

Within the Region of Waterloo a total of 4,809 senior kindergarten (SK) were screened resulting in a referral rate of 54 percent (2,606). Largest number of referrals were from the refractor station.

#### 2022/2023 Vision Screening Data – Ontario -

Across Ontario 14 Health Units completed vision screening of 23,200 children (this includes the ROW data). A referral rate of 46 percent (10,574) was noted; the largest number of referrals from the refractor station. In total 35 Health Unit regions exist across Ontario. It is also noted that vision screening is not performed in Toronto.

#### 2023/2024 Vision Screening Program – Region of Waterloo Pilot Program Year 2 -

In October 2023 vision screening within the ROW resumed following the same structure and protocols as the 2022/2023 season. A brief refresher training session was conducted in early October for volunteers, with school screening commencing mid October.

Again there are six vision screening teams conducting weekly screening events. The program should be completed in April 2024 and concludes the Two Year Pilot Program.

Action Items – As District Vision Chair I wish to better understand the Health Units in our District and their intentions regarding vision screening (not all areas have vision screening). Also understand what all Lions Clubs within the District are doing concerning vision screening and the equipment available.

Other –

Lions in District A15 continue to collect used eyeglasses and submit these for refurbishing and reuse to the Calgary collection center, or the Montreal collection center.

The Ontario Blind Golf (OBG) has requested Lions support for their blind golfers and the programs underway in Ontario. Information regarding this request has been forwarded to the A15 Lions clubs and posted on the Sight Conservation and Screening webpage.

## Convention Report to Cabinet November 15, 2023

The team has been busy working out the details for the upcoming District Convention. The Convention will take place April 5, 6, & 7<sup>th</sup> In Stratford at the Quality Inn and Conference Centre located at 1144 Ontario St. Let's "ROAR in 2024" with DG Garry opening the convention Friday night starting at 7pm.

A more detailed agenda will be produced once budget gets approved, but we are looking at a traditional 3-day convention with the parade of banners and demonstrations on the Friday night as well as the Hospitality area. Saturday will host a cabinet meeting, service projects and a banquet with entertainment. Sunday will have the usual early morning voting followed by the memorial service and then the Cabinet wrap and end to the convention. It will be a great time to catch up with new and old friends to enjoy fun, Fellowship and of course celebrate the service we do all year long. Enclosed you will find a proposed budget along with a mocked-up registration form.

Respectfully submitted.

Bill Robinson, Michele Kurtz

Convention Co-Chairs

## 2024 Convention Budget

Income	Budget
Registrations	200 @ \$30.00 6 000.00
Sunday Morning Registration	50 @ \$20.00 1 000.00
Sponsorships (Program Ads)	200.00
Meals	200 – Breakfast, 100-lunch, 120- Banquet 11 200.00
Pin Sales	100 @ \$6.00 600.00
Raffle Draw Net Proceeds	425.00
Rebate from District A15	1331 X 1.40 1 863.40
Hospitality Suites	6 @ \$170.00 1 020.00

Total Income

22 308.40

## Expenses

Printing	1900.00
Liability Insurance	600.00
Pin Costs 100 @ \$5.02	502.00
Lanyards and Registration Costs	377.00
Guest Rooms (DG, Int'l Guest, Protocol Aid)	950.00
Hospitality Room Costs	150.00
Complimentary Function Costs (Fri Dinner & Wine & cheese)	1980.00
Function Room Costs	3277.00
Meal Costs	10681.00
Entertainment for Saturday Night	500.00
Table Flowers	200.00
International Speaker Gift	100.00

Total Expenses

21 217.00

# CHANGING THE WORLD!

2024 DISTRICT A-15 CONVENTION

APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup> - 7<sup>TH</sup>

Quality Inn & Conference Centre

1144 Ontario St. Stratford ON



We Serve



**Complete one registration form per person.**

If paying for multiple registrants with one cheque or electronic transfer, attach forms together with payment.

Make cheques payable to: "District A-15 Lions Clubs"

Mail to: A-15 Lions Clubs C/O Brian Spivey PO Box 631, 80 King St. Burford ON, N0E 1A0

Electronic Transfers to: [ct@a15lions.org](mailto:ct@a15lions.org) Please specify Convention Registration in the message box.

<p>_____ <i>New Lion Since April 17, 2023</i></p> <p>_____ <i>A – 15 Convention First Timer</i></p> <p>District: _____</p> <p>Club: _____</p>	<p><b>Pre-Registration Deadline:</b> <b>March 1, 2024</b></p>
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Lion \_\_\_\_\_ Leo \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Lion \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Office Held: \_\_\_\_\_ Past \_\_\_\_ Present \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Item / Function	Cost	Amount
<b>"Early Bird" Registration (On or Before March 1, 2024)</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>	
<b>Standard Registration (After March 1, 2024)</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>	
<b>Sunday Only Registration (April 7, 2024)</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>	
<b>Leo Registration</b>	<b>Free</b>	
<b>Convention Pin</b>	<b>\$6.00 X _____</b>	
<b>Draw Tickets \$5 each</b> <i>Winner to be announced after Memorial Service on Sunday</i>	<b>Tickets @ \$5</b> _____	
<b>Hospitality Room (HST Included)</b>	<b>\$170.00</b>	
<b>Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – Convention Breakfast</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>	
<b>Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – Convention Luncheon</b>	<b>\$24.00</b>	
<b>Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – Convention Banquet</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>	
<b>Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> – Convention Breakfast</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>	
<b>Special Meal Requests (Please give details)</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	

Guests are to make their own room reservations directly by calling the hotel office at (519) 273-1150 and mention you are with the "Lions District A 15 Convention (April 5-7, 2024)" for the special room rate of \$139.00 plus taxes. Limited number of rooms available until March 1, 2023 at this special rate so book early.

Hospitality rooms are \$170.00 (HST Included) and are to be booked with the Convention registration.

Contact VDG Bill Robinson - 226-228-3022 or email to: [convhost@a15lions.org](mailto:convhost@a15lions.org)

Committee	Date Rec'd:	Cheque : <input type="checkbox"/>	Amount:	Confirmation
Use ONLY	_____	e-		Sent:
		Transfer:		



## Cabinet Report for November 15, 2023

### Childhood Cancer Chair – Janice Fleming

I participated in the MDA Childhood Cancer Chair zoom meeting on September 24<sup>th</sup> where we discussed various fundraising options that other clubs have been involved with to generate ideas to take back to our own districts.

I had the pleasure of speaking at the Zone 37S meeting on October 18<sup>th</sup> about 5 organizations that are working in the area of Childhood Cancer along with some statistics. The five organizations highlighted were POGP (Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario), OPACC (Ontario Parents Advocating for Children with Cancer), Campfire Circle, Ronald McDonald House Charities Canada, and ChildCan.

There was also a sharing of projects that the clubs that attended were involved with for their various fundraising and service activities.

Noteworthy is the donation to Campfire Circle of 1,000 Comfy Cases for their camp participants this year.

For those looking to complete additional service projects this year here are a few recommendations:

-Blood Donor Clinic as a child with cancer needs the help of five blood donors to support their care and a child with leukemia needs the support of eight donors a week

-Pajamas and Pancakes Fundraiser in support of POGO in February – POGO has a satellite clinic at the Grand River Hospital Kitchener-Waterloo Campus

-Toy Drive for the Toys For Joy at Ronald McDonald House in London as they set up Holidayland which is a beautifully decorated room where families have the opportunity to choose gifts for one another at no cost to themselves.

Report to Cabinet November 2023

November is Diabetes Awareness Month and Diabetes Canada is asking that we hold a Diabetes Tag Day in our communities on a date that works for your club. Kits can be ordered by emailing Tony Orangis at [tony.orangis@diabetes.ca](mailto:tony.orangis@diabetes.ca).

Also a reminder that World Diabetes Day is November 14th. It would be great to hold your Tag Day on a Saturday or Sunday near this date. If you don't wish to participate in Tag Day, maybe there is something else you would like to do to make those in your community aware that it's Diabetes Awareness Month. Clubs in the past have held breakfasts, lit a bridge with blue lights or just had an information day for those wishing to know more.

If you do participate in World Diabetes Day or Diabetes Awareness Month, please be sure to send me photos and a write up of what you did to promote your event and of course please be sure to document your event on MyLion.

Thank You,

Lion Trudy Carter

District A-15 Diabetes Awareness Chair.

## Report on Hunger from the Hunger Committee

### **Hunger Facts**

- **815 million** people affected by hunger in 2016: 11% of the global population
- **155 million** children under age five are stunted due to chronic malnutrition
- **1/3** of annual food production is lost or wasted throughout the supply chain
- **33%** of women of reproductive age suffer from anaemia

Lions and Leos serve to improve human flourishing, and we see how the global hunger and nutrition crisis bears upon our local communities. We believe community improvement depends on the thriving of its members.

### *Our Strategic Objective*

Ensure all community members have access to nutritious foods.

If you and your Club have any plans/strategies for helping with the hunger crisis, please let us know.

If you would like us to come to your club to talk about hunger, one of Lions International global causes, please reach out to us!

Submitted by Aline Chan

District A15 Lions

November 15, 2023



LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA  
**DOGGUIDES**



# A15 LFC Chair Cabinet Meeting Report

## Dog Guides Update

The Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides celebrates 40 years this year. This milestone was recognized during the Annual General Meeting held November 4, 2023. Read the 2022-2023 Dog Guides Annual Report: <https://www.dogguides.com/about-us/annual-reports-financials/>.

Dog Guides changed its sponsorship program to a scholarship program. The Dog Guide Scholarship Program helps cover a portion of the \$35,000 that it takes to raise, train, and ultimately match a Dog Guide with its handler. The entire process takes up to two years. Scholarships help cover the cost of Dog Guides' breeding, training, veterinary care, as well as the transportation and accommodation for the new recipient while in residence at the national Oakville, Ontario training school. This support will help the Dog Guide team be partners for as long as 10 years, with a lifetime of follow-up services. Learn more by visiting the [Dog Guides Scholarship webpage](#).

After a long period, waitlists are starting to open up to new applicants. Dog Guides opened Facility Support Program applications for a time in September and Seizure Response opened in October.

## District A15 Support for Dog Guides

It costs \$35,000 to raise, train, and place a Dog Guide, which are provided to qualifying Canadians with medical and physical disabilities at no cost. With no government assistance, the foundation relies on fundraising events and donations from many sources including Lions Clubs.

A huge thank you to the Marsville & District Lions Club for its donation to Dog Guides. This month is Giving Tuesday, a day for Canadians to come together and donate to charities and causes that are important to them. On Tuesday, November 28, 2023, consider making a donation to support the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides.

Green Capes Lions Club offers a fundraising partnership that allows Lions Clubs to sell Dog Guide Puppy calendars for \$20 and keep \$10 from the sale of each calendar for their own community projects. Email me at [lfc@a15lions.org](mailto:lfc@a15lions.org) for information on the Lions Program or to purchase calendars.

The following District A15 Lions Club are also selling Dog Guide Puppy calendars for \$20 each:

- Ariss and Maryhill Lions Club
- Floradale Friends of Dog Guides Lions Branch Club
- Mosborough Busy Busy Lions Club

Planning a Santa Claus parade and want to have Dog Guide foster puppies attend? Email me at [lfc@a15lions.org](mailto:lfc@a15lions.org) and I can help request foster puppies from Dog Guides to walk in your club's parade.

## Summary

From guiding their handlers through their daily lives to getting help when it is needed most, Dog Guides play a crucial role in the lives of Canadians with disabilities. Thanks to the generous support from Lions Clubs such as those in District A15, the foundation can continue supporting its volunteers/fosters, staff, and Dog Guide teams as the demand for trained service dogs grows.

*If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together – African Proverb*

*Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Bauman, District A15 LFC Chair*

# The Difference Campaign

Dog Guides are extremely grateful to the 294 Lions Clubs that have donated 2.7 million to The Difference Campaign. It is truly making a difference as 39 million of the 50 million has now been raised!

Individual Lions can also consider making individual donations as well. Donations from Lions are essential for the new Dog Guides training school to become a reality, and your club's timely response is crucial. We ask that all Lions clubs consider a donation by March 1, 2004. Donations can be paid over five years.

The campaign will be open to the public by April so if your club is considering a naming opportunity, please contact me. I am always available to speak to your club or answer any of your questions.

Thanks,

Lion Deb Cserhalmi

Chairperson Ontario committee

[Redstrokes77@yahoo.com](mailto:Redstrokes77@yahoo.com)

## Peace Poster/Essay Contest

Thank you to all the clubs that participated this year. Over 15 kits in total were handed out over the A15 District. We look forward to seeing the submissions in the next week or so. Our winning poster will be voted on and sent to the MDA next level judging.

Donations are always appreciated for the A15 Peace Poster/Essay contest. The donations help us run the program yearly. You can make your cheques payable to the A15 district and mark on them for the A15 Peace Poster/Essay Contest.

Thank you again to the participating clubs. This contest is a wonderful opportunity for clubs to work with youth in your community to promote peace, tolerance and International understanding.

Submitted by

Lion Debbie Nelligan

Peace Poster/Essay Contest Co-ordinator

To: A15 Cabinet  
From: Tim Cronin, For the Youth Exchange Program  
Subject: Report for the Fall Cabinet Meeting

This past summer's Bruce Murray Youth Camp was enjoyed by 12 youth from around the world. They had the opportunity to experience our Canadian Culture. One of the highlights was to experience a visit to 6 Nations Reserve.

A15 had one Outgoing Youth Sponsored by the Paradise Lions Club travelling to Germany.

For these youth they will take a new understanding of our Canadian values around the world.

It is very important that the Lions continue the work of international co-operation.

To get the ball rolling this year...

Governor Garry has challenged me to facilitate getting started.  
Garry has also asked that we reduce the Budget from previous years.

Allison Henkell (Youth Exchange Chair from Last Year) and Tracey Cronin (Woolwich Community Lions) got together recently to discuss the Youth Exchange Program for 2024. (Notes from the Meeting included below)

We need help from Cabinet and the entire District to pull this off.

Governor Garry has committed to promoting Youth Exchange on all his Official visits. We would ask that all Cabinet members take time to learn about the Lions Youth Exchange Program and "The Bruce Murray A15 Youth Camp" and promote it at all functions and Official Visits.

2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Linda Vinette and Cabinet Secretary Denis have volunteered to help coordinate the meals for the Youth Camp. CS Denis also will work with Allison and Tracey to see that emails get forwarded to the right people.

My role will to visit any Club Zone Meeting or Event that is willing to listen as to why this program is so important.

A15 Policy asks that the Camp Budget be presented at this Cabinet Meeting.

Unfortunately, we will need more time and input before a budget is presented.



The following are notes from Allison and Tracey's meeting:

Nearly our entire meeting was a review the camp. We were not quite successful in getting the budget down to the numbers below. In the end the draft plan included bringing the camp down to 7 days and the very draft budget in the range of \$25,000.00 based on past years' experiences. This was based on hosting approximately 15 students.

In addition to the 1 week camp we came up with an idea of 2 extra 'club sponsored' days. One day in the Waterloo Region area to visit the farmer's market; and another day to visit a farm. The concept is that these days would need a club behind them to gather the kids, supervise and provide some kind of lunch/ transportation. Then the host families would have the option of getting the kids to a specific meeting point. It would be during the week when a lot of families are working.

Hosting:

When we looked at the host families this year they were all from a very specific area. Not one family in Waterloo region. Hopefully that can change by explaining to the families what an amazing experience that it is to host, and even suggesting that families could work together to host (share) one or two students to cut down on the driving etc. Stressing that if at least two members from the same club/ geographic area hosts 2 students then there can be shared events etc.

We did not get to intake in our meeting, but it needs to start earlier this year so that it is not overlapping tax time as in the past. I said I would help coordinate host families.

Outgoing Students:

We did not get to this yet. But I do need to get the contact information for the Lion who did this work prior to the Pandemic so that I can have an idea of how she did it and her timing. I understand from Allison that last year she did the work by default. She helped my daughter, Sophia, get out and also helped a student from the Ottawa area who also did not have anyone looking after it in their area. It would be great to explain to the clubs that I will work on the process and have information out in the new year. But stress that it is an excellent program for their teenagers and grandchildren.

Next Steps:

I need the contact information for the outgoing youth exchange contact (prior to the pandemic).

(Note: DG Garry has forwarded this to Tracey)

