



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



**Winter A-15 Cabinet Meeting Agenda  
Lions Year 2019 - 2020**

7:00 PM Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Atwood Lions Club

1. Call to order

Attendance as Indicated:

**Voting Cabinet**

DG Tracey Robinson	CC Kevin Banfield	1 <sup>st</sup> VDG George Corrin	2 <sup>nd</sup> VDG Harvey Wood
CS Trudy Carter	RC Gerry Runstedler	RC Gabrielle Paff	RC Jim Davis
ZC Mark Koenig	ZC Garry Ransom	ZC Victor Chau	ZC Gary Eves
ZC Jody Cherwonak	ZC Cecilia Fulker	GLT-DC Dennis Lougheed	MDA GMT/GST-DC OJ Wilura
GMT-DC Bill Robinson	LCIF Peter Oswald		

**Committee Chairs**

Lion Lyle Fair	PDG Nancy Ransom	MDA CC Janet Dawson Brock	PDDG George Patton
PDG Karen McNeight	Lion Allan Fulker	MDA FWC/PDG Diane Smith	PRC Paul Anstett
PDG Doug Smith	PDG Thom Herrmann	MDA CC/PDG Denis Vinette	

Also in attendance were 62 other dedicated Lions.

2. Welcome
3. O Canada – CS Trudy Carter
4. Lions Grace – 1<sup>st</sup> VDG George Corrin
5. Protocol – 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Harvey Wood
6. Toast to Lions International and Canada – DG Tracey Robinson
7. Moment of Silence for Canadians who died in the recent plane crash and all Lions who have passed.
8. Dinner
9. Additions to and Approval of the Agenda
  - 9.1. GLT Report – Lions Learning Seminar – date should say April 26<sup>th</sup> not May 26<sup>th</sup>
  - 9.2. Zone Chair 9 South Report – should say Zone 9 South meeting instead of Zone 99 South meeting
  - 9.3. **MOVED** to approve the agenda with the above noted corrections. Seconded & carried.
10. District Governor's Remarks
11. Approval of Minutes of the October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 Cabinet Meeting  
*Available at <http://a15lions.org/pages/uploads/Events/CabinetMinutes2019-10-23.pdf>*
  - 11.1. **MOVED** to approve the minutes of the Summer Cabinet Meeting. Seconded & carried.
12. Secretary's Report – *Page 4*
  - 12.1. **MOVED** to acknowledge receipt of the Secretary's Report. Seconded & carried.
13. Treasurer's Report
  - 13.1. Report and Financial Statements as of December 31, 2019 – *Pages 4 - 8*
  - 13.2. **MOVED** to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's report and Financial Statements as presented. Seconded & Carried.
14. Matters Arising - none
15. Cabinet Reports – *Pages 9 - 14*
  - 15.1. Zone Chair 51E Report – ZC Garry Ransom introduced PDG Denis Vinette to speak on the combined efforts of 9 Lions Clubs – Ariss & Maryhill, Arthur, Belwood, Elora, Fergus, Grand Valley, Marsville,



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Hillsburgh & Rockwood – 7 clubs from 51E and 2 clubs from A-9 – got together almost 3 years ago to fundraise for \$200,000 for the purchase of Equipment in the new Groves Hospital. Funds raised are sitting at \$242,000. Excellent Work!

- 15.2. Zone Chair 9S Report addition added to ZC Gary Eve's report
- 15.3. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Cabinet Reports. Seconded & carried.
16. Committee Reports and Discussions – *Pages 14 - 26*
  - 16.1. GST – Environmental Service Project – PDG OJ Wilura – additions added under GST report
  - 16.2. LCIF – Peter Oswald – additions added under LCIF report
  - 16.3. Constitution & By-Laws – PDDG George Patton – *Pages 17 - 19*
  - 16.4. MOVED that the A-15 Cabinet ask the Constitution and Bylaw Chair to prepare a resolution to be presented to voting delegates at the District Convention that the GLT, GST, GMT and LCIF District Coordinators be retained as voting members of Cabinet. Seconded and Carried.
  - 16.5. MOVED that the proposed bylaw changes be circulated to voting members for a vote at the April A15 Convention through the normal matter. Seconded and Carried.
  - 16.6. Long Range Planning – PDG Thom Hermann – LRP recommended at the Cabinet Meeting in October that District A-15 go from a 3-day 2-night Convention to a 2-day 1-night Convention commencing in 2022. LRP looking for feedback from voting Cabinet if we continue moving in that direction. MOVED to defer a decision to the next Pre-Cabinet meeting for presentation at the Convention Cabinet meeting. Seconded and carried.
  - 16.7. Effective Speaking – Lion Lyle Fair – Effective Speaking finals for A-15 is Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup>. Registration at 8 a.m. with speakers starting at 9 a.m. Thanks to those who donated but still looking for more donations. Everyone is invited to attend.
  - 16.8. Literacy – PDG Karen McNeight – Lions of MDA has partnered with Scholastic to put books into the hands of children. If you want more information, contact PDG Karen. PDG Karen also spoke on the numbers in Canada of those struggling with illiteracy. She also spoke about how you can help your local library continue to help those in your communities.
  - 16.9. MOVED to defer the 2022 Convention bid from Kitchener Octoberfest Lions until a decision regarding the recommendations from LRP is presented at the Convention Cabinet Meeting. Seconded and Carried.
  - 16.10. Convention Host Committee – PDG Karen McNeight/GMT Bill Robinson/PDG Tim DeBlock – spoke about the talent show being held on the Saturday evening of the Convention after the banquet. Meals capped at 140 for both the lunch and dinner banquet. Still able to attend the talent show even if you did not purchase a banquet ticket as the hall will be opened up to everyone afterwards. Those who wish to host a hospitality area are to email the convention host committee for a spot. Liquor will be ordered through the hotel at cost. You will pick up at hotel and pay host committee. Hospitality suites are able to bring in their own food. Doesn't have to be just those running. Any club can host a hospitality area.
  - 16.11. Nominations – PDG Doug Smith – suggested zones of candidate help host hospitality suite. Presently there are 4 positions with nominations – please consider stepping up to fill a position on cabinet.
  - 16.12. MOVED to acknowledge receipt of the Committee Reports. Seconded and Carried.
17. New Business
  - 17.1. Atwood Lions Club – Lion Chief Russ DanBrook welcomed everyone and spoke about what the Atwood Lions Club does for their community.
18. Special Presentations & Awards
  - 18.1. Thank You – CC/IPDG Kevin Banfield and PDG Wayne Litt presented PCS Rick Banks with a “Thank You” plaque for his service as Cabinet Secretary on behalf of them as well as PDG Charlene Dwyer who was unable to attend.



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- 18.2. Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides Certificate Presentation - DG Tracey Robinson & 1<sup>st</sup> VDG George Corrin presented certificates and banner patches to a number of clubs who participated and raised funds for LFC Dog Guides.
- 18.3. Club Excellence Award Presentation – CC/IPDG Kevin Banfield presented the Club Excellence Award to Lion Jim Keron of the Thamesford Lions Club.
- 18.4. New Voices Nominations - PDG Diane Smith presented certificates and pins for the following District nominations: Service – Lion Erhard Kruger of the Kitchener Lions Club, Membership – Lion Cheryl Hewitson of the St. George Lions Club, Leadership – 1<sup>st</sup> VDG George Corrin of the Thamesford Lions Club, Marketing – PDG Charlene Dwyer of the Guelph Royal City Lions Club.
19. Adjournment – DG Tracey Robinson



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**SECRETARY'S REPORT TO CABINET**

How are we half way through our Lions year already? Never when I agreed to take on this role that I would find outside of Lions that it would be the busiest year both personally and professionally. To put it mildly, my husband has seen very little of me this year. I'm hoping that since the holiday season is over, that my schedule opens up a bit to allow for more time to do my job as Cabinet Secretary.

Speaking of the Cabinet Secretary position, I have let VDG1 George Corrin know that I will not be continuing on for the 2020-2021 Lions Year. When accepting the position I had fully intended to continue on through the next 2 Lions Years however I had quickly come to realize it is more than I can handle at this time.

I have enjoyed working with this Cabinet and will continue to do so until the end of my term. With that being said, VDG1 George is looking for a Cabinet Secretary to fill his Cabinet next year. If you think you are the right person for the job, please reach out to him. Thank you.

**TREASURER'S REPORT TO CABINET**

The financial statements are presented today as at January 10, 2020. All bank accounts have been reconciled to their respective statements for December 31, 2019. The financial statements presented here fairly reflect the financial position of the District.

**ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNTS**

- Administration balance sheet includes satisfactory bank balance of over \$15,000. At Dec 31, there were outstanding dues owing from a few clubs (combined MDA and District)
- All clubs have been contacted via email, with the invoice sent again, as well as the invoices have been mailed to the clubs. Once the remaining few clubs remit their dues, I will be issuing a final cheque to MD'A' for \$2765.00

**TRUST ACCOUNTS**

- The balance sheet for the Trust accounts is an accurate reflection of all balances held in Trust as at December 31, 2019 and all accounts have been reconciled to the Bank records as at December 31, 2019.
- Committee Chairs have received a summary of any fund activity for their respective committees to date.

Note: I have been contacted by a few clubs that they had their cheques returned to them, and it turns out that my mailing address is not complete in the directory. I will take this opportunity to include my full mailing address for future reference.

Louise Howe  
419 Rock Chapel Rd  
DUNDAS, ON  
L9H 5E2

**MOTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- I move receipt of the financial reports as submitted.



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



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9:30 PM

01/10/20

Accrual Basis

## District "A"-15 Lions - Admin Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July through December 2019

	Jul - Dec 19	Budget	Over Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Advertising	250.00	250.00	0.00
Canadian LIONS Summit Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
Corporate Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00
District Directory	140.00	150.00	-10.00
<b>District Dues</b>			
Dues - Collected	12,180.50		
District Dues - Other	0.00	12,197.50	-12,197.50
<b>Total District Dues</b>	<b>12,180.50</b>	<b>12,197.50</b>	<b>-17.00</b>
Interest Earned	0.00	705.00	-705.00
Leadership Seminar Income	1,450.00	1,450.00	0.00
MD 'A' Dues	2,765.00	0.00	2,765.00
Membership Assessment	2,149.50	2,152.50	-3.00
Pin Sales	0.00	800.00	-800.00
Returned Cheque Charges	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>18,935.00</b>	<b>17,705.00</b>	<b>1,230.00</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>18,935.00</b>	<b>17,705.00</b>	<b>1,230.00</b>
<b>Expense</b>			
<b>Awards</b>			
Awards - Cabinet	0.00	650.00	-650.00
Awards - Other	0.00	500.00	-500.00
<b>Total Awards</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,150.00</b>	<b>-1,150.00</b>
Badges & Patches	951.63	450.00	501.63
Bank Charges	45.37	250.00	-204.63
Bank Service Charges	0.00	280.00	-280.00
Cabinet Expense	1,065.49	2,000.00	-934.51
Centennial Project	0.00	0.00	0.00
Convention Expense	0.00	750.00	-750.00
<b>District Chair Expense</b>			
Comm Chair Expenses	0.00	300.00	-300.00
District Chair - Other	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
Leo Clubs	0.00	200.00	-200.00
<b>Total District Chair Expense</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>-2,000.00</b>
District Directories	4,060.92	2,000.00	2,060.92
<b>Global Action Team</b>			
Leadership	113.00		
Global Action Team - Other	356.26	2,000.00	-1,643.74
<b>Total Global Action Team</b>	<b>469.26</b>	<b>2,000.00</b>	<b>-1,530.74</b>
Internet	143.96	143.96	0.00
Leadership Institutes	171.04	500.00	-328.96
Leadership Seminar	0.00	3,700.00	-3,700.00
Pins Purchased	729.42	350.00	379.42
Postage & Telephone	107.40	100.00	7.40
Printing & Stationery	129.84	300.00	-170.16
USA / Canada Forum	900.00	1,500.00	-600.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>8,774.33</b>	<b>17,473.96</b>	<b>-8,699.63</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>10,160.67</b>	<b>231.04</b>	<b>9,929.63</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>10,160.67</b>	<b>231.04</b>	<b>9,929.63</b>



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



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10:26 PM

01/10/20

Accrual Basis

## District "A"-15 Lions - Admin Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2019

	<u>Dec 31, 19</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
Cash	
CIBC - Bank Account	18,486.50
CIBC - Investments	32,628.50
International Director Fund	<u>786.48</u>
Total Cash	51,901.48
International Director GIC	<u>6,181.86</u>
Total Chequing/Savings	58,083.34
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	<u>4,641.50</u>
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>4,641.50</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>62,724.84</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>62,724.84</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Convention Fund	2,166.05
DGE Partner Travel	4,040.87
International Director Suspense	<u>358.25</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	6,565.17
Total Current Liabilities	6,565.17
Long Term Liabilities	
International Director - Contra	6,968.34
New Club Assessment - Contra	<u>1,870.56</u>
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>8,838.90</u>
Total Liabilities	15,404.07
Equity	
Balance - July 1/00 - Net	690.54
Emergency Reserve Fund	23,000.00
Retained Earnings	13,469.56
Net Income	<u>10,160.67</u>
Total Equity	<u>47,320.77</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>62,724.84</u></b>



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10:29 PM

01/10/20

Accrual Basis

**District "A"-15 Lions - Admin**  
**Profit & Loss Budget Overview**  
July through December 2019

	Jul - Dec 19
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Advertising	250.00
Canadian LIONS Summit Income	0.00
Corporate Donations	0.00
District Directory	150.00
District Dues	12,197.50
Interest Earned	705.00
Leadership Seminar Income	1,450.00
MD 'A' Dues	0.00
Membership Assessment	2,152.50
Pin Sales	800.00
Returned Cheque Charges	0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	17,705.00
<b>Gross Profit</b>	17,705.00
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>Awards</b>	
Awards - Cabinet	650.00
Awards - Other	500.00
<b>Total Awards</b>	1,150.00
Badges & Patches	450.00
Bank Charges	250.00
Bank Service Charges	280.00
Cabinet Expense	2,000.00
Centennial Project	0.00
Convention Expense	750.00
District Chair Expense	
Comm Chair Expenses	300.00
District Chair - Other	1,500.00
Leo Clubs	200.00
<b>Total District Chair Expense</b>	2,000.00
District Directories	2,000.00
Global Action Team	2,000.00
Internet	143.96
Leadership Institutes	500.00
Leadership Seminar	3,700.00
Pins Purchased	350.00
Postage & Telephone	100.00
Printing & Stationery	300.00
USA / Canada Forum	1,500.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	17,473.96
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	231.04
<b>Net Income</b>	231.04



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



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10:31 PM  
01/10/20  
Accrual Basis

## District "A"-15 Lions Clubs Trust Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2019

	Dec 31, 19
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
CIBC- Lions Quest Imprest	1,700.83
CIBC - Eff.Speaking Impst	1,586.13
CIBC - Trust Account	26,590.47
CIBC - Youth	
Youth Exchange Imprest	7,631.09
Youth Investments	13,473.80
<b>Total CIBC - Youth</b>	<b>21,104.89</b>
Investments	
QUEST - Investment	7,760.12
Trust ST Investment	5,418.61
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>13,178.73</b>
Youth Camp Capital Fund	8,082.95
<b>Total Chequing/Savings</b>	<b>72,244.00</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>72,244.00</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>72,244.00</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Camp Dorset	1,250.00
Camp Huronda	750.00
Camp Kirk	1,250.00
Camp Trillium	750.00
Centennial Project	17,487.33
Cultural Festival	217.11
Effective Speaking Contra Acct	86.13
Hearing Conservation	500.00
Hearing Equipment	803.07
Homes for Deaf A-15	750.00
Lake Joseph	750.00
Lions Foundation of Canada	
Leash Free Park	1,604.86
<b>Total Lions Foundation of Canada</b>	<b>1,604.86</b>
LIONS Quest Contra Account	9,460.95
Peace Poster	2,029.58
Reading Action	6.12
Vision Screening	3,861.01
Youth Camp / Y. Ex. Contra Acct	22,604.89
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>64,161.05</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>64,161.05</b>
Long Term Liabilities	
Youth Camp Capital	8,082.95
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	<b>8,082.95</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>72,244.00</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>72,244.00</b>





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**CABINET REPORTS**

**District Governor** – Tracey Robinson

Happy New Year

I hope that everyone has had a joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year. We have had a great 2019 with lots of visits and lots of activities over the Christmas holidays. Our district is so proud of all the hard work from all the clubs. Please remember to report your activities on MYLION. I look forward to visiting a few more clubs and attending some functions in this New Year.

We have officially started our Canadian Lions Centennial! I hope that everyone is just as excited for our 100 years of Lions in Canada as I am. I'm excited to see and hear about all the tree planting that is going to happen and the community centennial projects that our clubs will be planning. Please remember to fill out your Lions 2020 brochures that have been handed out. If you don't have one, be sure to contact me and I will see that your club receives one. It would be appreciated that when these forms are filled in, they be sent to me. Our district would love to get the donations totaling \$6500, (Approx. \$120/club) in order to get the matching grant from LCI to go towards a Centennial District Project. It is sure to be an exciting year for all Lions.

I am proud to be working with you all in this Great District.

**Additions Added at Cabinet Meeting**

- New 1<sup>st</sup> Vice International President will be PID Doug Alexander from Michigan
- Approximately 350 trees have been planted in our District to date
- If you have the Lions 100 Flag from International's Centennial you can fly the flag to support Lions in Canada's Centennial

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor** – George Corrin

**St. George Lions Club**

Greeted warmly by a greeter from the club, who accompanied my guests and I to get a refreshment. Introductions were then made to several of the club members. They have 64 active members and there are 2 new additional individuals that will be inducted in the next month or two. They will be celebrating their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in April 2020.

Something that they can be proud of is, their financial contributions to the constructing and installation of a new elevator to serve the needs of the residents of Russell Heights  
Their continued support is sustaining the St George Lawn Bowling Association.  
St. George again this year is hosting this year's Effective Speaking Competition.



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### **Copetown Lions Club**

Copetown's Tail Twister, warmly greeted my guests and I, and then we were introduced to several of the club members. They have 21 members.

I believe that Copetown has one of the best ticket sellers in the District. Copetown is hosting a fun filled Super Bowl Party / Chili Cookoff on February 2, 2020.

Also, don't be confused, their President Frank Regan, is not the same person as the Frank Regan in the TV series "Blue Blood"

### **Bridgeport Lions Club**

Bridgeport Lions Club is a small club with dedicated members. They have 10 members, and one them is a chartered member from 1967.

In the fall, the club distributed flyers in the community to encourage donations to the food drive.

### **Brantford North Lions Club**

A very friendly club with lots of food and laughter, who meet in the heart of the Community Centre. They have 11 members.

Sometimes we are not aware of who is in our audience, and such was the case here, when I was reminded that, Lorraine Robinson, one of their members, was our Cabinet Secretary for many years, and was married to one of our Past District Governors. (1995-1996)

### **Brantford Lions Club**

This is a small club, with 7 devoted members. One of the interesting conversational topics that took place, focused on how to properly "dress a deer" in unusual locations.

I was surprised to learn that Barb and I, as well as some of their members, had crossed paths while volunteering and serving food at the Why Not for Youth Centre in Brantford, and the building of the new site in Paris.

This club, with the help of the generous donations was able to donate 402 lbs. of food to their local Food Bank in Brantford.

### **St. Agatha & District Lions Club**

This club is a very established club with 17 members, and Past District Governor/Past Council Chair, David Cole is one of their members.

Their club hosted last year's A15 Lions Orientation Evening and are well known in their area for the Annual Strawberry Festival that they host for their community.



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### **Centralia-Huron Park Lions Club**

This is a small club with 9 members and is well known in the past for their haunted house that several hundred people visited at Halloween each year. This event was a huge undertaking but was absolutely fantastic to attend. Due to a fire in the facility where it was held, they are now in the midst of trying to find a new venue to host this annual event. Due to unforeseen circumstances beyond their control, they lost their meeting place, and are now temporarily meeting at the local United Church, until April, at which time they will commence to meet at a new location. These dedicated Lions are determined to work through these diversities and find solutions.

Over the last months, I have also attended VDG1 District Training and the A15 Cabinet meeting. One of the highlights for me, was to be in attendance at the November Sweaburg Lions Club meeting, where 10 individuals were presented with Melvin Jones Fellowships. Barb and I also thoroughly enjoyed volunteering at the Woolwich Community Lions “Crowns & Capes” event, and the Belwood & District Lions “Breakfast with Santa” event.

I would like to express my thanks to several members of my Thamesford Lions Club who accompanied me to many of these meetings.

There are still opportunities to step forward to grow and strengthen our organization by applying your transferable skills at the District level. Please apply for the leadership opportunities for the Lions year 2020-2021. Nominations forms are available on the A15 website.

I look forward to visiting more clubs in the New Year and continuing my journey towards the Convention in April and hopefully becoming District Governor.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor – Harvey Wood**

It is January and we are half way through our Lions year

My Lions time since last Cabinet has been spent visiting Clubs on behalf of DG Tracey, attending ALLI in Chicago, a training weekend in Markham, ON and a LCIF Campaign 100 training weekend in Winnipeg.

My Club visits have been most rewarding, each Club is unique unto itself and my conclusion is that we have a large number of dedicated Lions providing outstanding service to their respective communities and, as well giving financial support to Lions causes.

As Lions Clubs we continue to join hands and to assemble resources when needed to jointly support Community events and fundraisers making the Lions sector even stronger.

The District continues to offer Club officer training opportunities and as I travel, I urge anyone who is interested in expanding his/her Lions knowledge to take advantage. The only cost is a wee bit of time.

### **Region Chair 9 – Gerry Runstedler**

It's been a great year thus far. I attended the MDA GAT weekend in Markham last November and it was a wonderful learning experience. I have a visit scheduled for January 23<sup>rd</sup> and Region 9 Joint Zone Meeting



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will be held in Paris on Tuesday February 4<sup>th</sup>. Please let us know by January 26<sup>th</sup> how many from your club will be attending.

Yours in Lionism.

Roar Lions Roar!

**Region Chair 37** – Gabrielle Paff

Visit with Cambridge Highlands On October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Thoroughly enjoyed this visit to the Cambridge Highlands Lions Club. This is a small but active club within their community who can boast of some long standing and knowledgeable members.

Unfortunately, due to some personal challenges, was unable to make a scheduled visit to Lynden on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Will be in touch with Lynden within the next few days to arrange a future visit.

Looking forward to the 37S zone meeting in Thamesford on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Zone Chair 37S** – Cecilia Fulker

Looking forward to 2020 and visiting my 5 remaining clubs. The experience of having the opportunity to be a part of Regional Lions Leadership Institute is a privilege that I don't take for granted. This landmark year is a time for us to bring in new members to share our Lions pride. It is so wonderful to be able to award chevrons to deserving Lions. I am looking forward to serving alongside my fellow Lions.

**Zone Chair 51E** – Garry Ransom

This is what I learned about the clubs in Zone 51E

**Rockwood and District Lions Club**

This is a very active club in their community. The village of Rockwood would certainly miss them if they were not there. Here are some of the activities that they do and I am sure I have missed some.

- Supply medical equipment such as wheelchairs to people for only a donation.
- Hold an appreciation supper for the community with an open invitation for the community.
- Food trailer which is kept busy during the summer.
- Annual pancake breakfast for the community.
- Built 4 benches for the waterside park.
- Supplies Santa visits to 400-500 people yearly.
- Sell Christmas cakes at the Rockwood Christmas Bazar.



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### **Fergus Lions Club**

The Fergus Lions club all have a Lion's vest on or some Lion's promo wear.

- Every member that gave a report stood up to give their report.
- Fergus was part of the drive that raised money for the Lions for Groves campaign.
- They have been doing a Christmas Toy drive for 21 years. Last year they took 15 loads of toys to the Fergus food bank and \$4,800 in cash and certificates.
- Fergus Lions Club is one of three service clubs that organizes the Christmas parade. Joe gave an excellent report.
- They do photos with Santa. I was told that I could not meet Santa as he was in the South getting a tan. (South Pole??)
- They do vision screening and have been collecting used eye glasses since 1986.
- On Diabetes day, November 14, they light a walking bridge which remains lit every night till December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- They help at the Erin Fall Fair.
- They have partnered with Fresh Co. and Giant Tiger to collect money for Diabetes.
- Fergus with 3 other Lions clubs Hosted a very successful diabetes expo in Fergus.
- Gary reported that they have a person to help them to further develop their web site.
- Every year the club operates a very successful home show.

### **Belwood and District Lions**

Again this is another very busy club.

- Gord manages the fish derby and this year will be 40 years that Belwood Lions have held a fish derby.
- Sam organizes the hot rod rally.
- There is a craft show.
- There is a art show organized by Norman.
- This year will be the 5<sup>th</sup> year that Gord has done a Toy show.
- Denis and Ellie have taken over the Effective speaking from Wayne.
- They have a toll bridge for Diabetes Canada.
- Ellie organizes highway clean up.
- The club is involved with the Food Bank.
- They are organizing a Christmas Concert to a full house.
- Howard built a patio onto the Lions Hall.
- Julian manages the web site.

This club is busy!!

As many of you know, 7 clubs in Zone 51 East with 2 others from A9 have been busy over the past 2 years raising money for the **Diabetes and Patient Education Centre** at the new **Groves Hospital** in Fergus. I would like to ask PDG Lion Denis to give a report on the fund raising efforts at the January 15<sup>th</sup> cabinet meeting.



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**Zone 9S** – Gary Eves

All but one club has been visited and all seems to be well with them. A number of the clubs have been working fall fairs, planting trees, turkey rolls, soup and salad luncheon to raise funds for their upcoming commitments. All clubs have been advised of the District Governors programs for the year. The next Zone 9 South meeting will be in Burford January 28th at Burford hosted by the Burford Lions Club at 7:00 P.M. Social at 6:30.

Addition – Linden Lions raised \$3000 for the Library for the Kids. Provides books for 60 children. There were 2 sittings held at the Troy Café.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**GLT District Coordinator** – PCS Dennis Lougheed

The mandates of your Global Action Team include the support of the District goal setting, planning and implementation process along with the collection of feedback on new initiatives, challenges and successes, whether initiated by International or locally. Activities include; mandated Zone Meeting presentations by members of the Global Action Team on implementation of service projects, club management, membership growth and leadership development, the development and continued periodic delivery of on-line technology workshops, annual Lions Learning Seminars, the development of a Lions Learning encouragement and recognition program, the availability of club support when called upon by clubs who have identified a need for which they require assistance etc.

In order for your District Cabinet and Global Action Team to be responsive to your needs and reactions to new initiatives it must have access to accurate, open and honest feedback. In the operational organization of the District, it is the Zone Chairs and the Region Chairs who have the most immediate contact with the Clubs. They have one of the most critical organizational positions within the District as it is they who have the best opportunity to convey information on and collect responses to new initiatives as well as help identify clubs who may be struggling with some aspect of Lionism. Our ability to grow and strengthen our organization is closely tied to the dedication of those individuals who step forward and take on these positions which arguably don't have the same immediate rewards as service project involvements.

The District Officer Nomination Form in [Word format](#) or in [PDF format](#) for Zone and Region Chair candidacy is now being received for the 2020/21 Lion Year. All past Club Presidents are eligible and we strongly encourage you to consider taking on this vital role. Contact any member of the Global Action Team, the District and Vice District Governors or current Zone and Region Chairs for further information.

Our next Tech Town on-line workshop dedicated to the MyLion implementation will be held from 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM on Saturday, February 22, 2020 at Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, 108 University Ave East, Waterloo, Room 2B16. Registration is limited to 40 Lions. All attendees MUST pre-register no later than February 15, 2020 following this [Seminars](#) link. There is no fee to attend this session.



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Set aside Sunday April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and attend the Lions Learning Seminars where you can expand your knowledge of Lionism and further enhance your ability to work in the service of others.

Make sure that your Club Secretary is passing on to your Club, information about Zone Meetings, Cabinet Meetings, Learning Institutes, on line learning materials and other opportunities that are sent to the Club Secretary. Take advantage of those where you can. When you do so, we all serve better!

Review the requirements for the Lions Learning Recognition Award and consider working your way towards the Bronze, Silver or Gold Levels. Ask your Zone Chair about this program when he or she makes their Club visit.

**GST District Coordinator** – PDG OJ Wilura

District Governor Tracey, Cabinet Members and Lions:

Below you will note the final statistical information regarding service activity reporting on MyLion for this fiscal year.

	<b>Clubs Reporting</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Lions Hours</b>	<b>People Served</b>
2018- 2019	56 out of 58 * - total clubs - 59	2,261	96,715	312,367
2019 to this report	33 out of 57 ** - total clubs - 59	251	16,015	92,014

\* Not including University of Guelph

\*\* Not including University of Guelph and Waterloo (both are populated with students at this time).

As you can see 24 clubs have not entered any activities. The names of those clubs have been sent to the respective Zone and Region Chairs so they may offer assistance. Please remember, only the pillars, noted below are counted, not fundraising, meetings, other local activities or donations.

Specific activities: Diabetes (6), Environment (12), Childhood Cancer (7), Hunger Relief (13), Vision (15) and other (198)

Tech Town 2 set for February 22<sup>nd</sup> again will focus on MyLion reporting and updates received from LCI. Invitations for registration have been sent out several times. Reporting of service activities has increased immensely since we started these sessions. Again, for those clubs still having trouble reporting, please go to your home page and on the top blue line click on **“Support”** which will provide you with excellent information. The link is noted below:

[https://lionshelp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us?flash\\_digest=b2792c6cf6d0888518b741f08aacfeb49857ff65](https://lionshelp.zendesk.com/hc/en-us?flash_digest=b2792c6cf6d0888518b741f08aacfeb49857ff65)

In the not too distant future, the NAMI program from LCI will come into effect. This is being referred to as “grass roots and up”, that is the goals for districts and MD”A’ will be driven from the bottom up rather than



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directed by LCI. District and MD"A" plans will have less specific goals and be more focused on how we can help the clubs grow in membership. Ideas from clubs will be the base line and paramount.

Information regarding the program will be done at each upcoming Joint Zone Meetings. If there are any issues or concerns with MyLion, please contact any of the GAT members.

### Additions

- 35 out of 57 clubs are now reporting their service activities
- NAMI – North American Membership Initiative – more information to come both at the Joint Zone Meetings and the upcoming Lions Learning Seminar
- 75 trees planted by District A-15 Lions – CS Trudy Carter to report on MyLion.

### LCIF – PCT Peter Oswald

Lions of District A-15, I am providing a few notes on the work of your Foundation, Lions Clubs International Foundation. Hopefully everyone is aware of Campaign 100: LCIF Empowering Service and is working hard to make this Campaign a success.

First, an update on progress:

- Reporting has been somewhat delayed and I will provide a more current status at the Cabinet meeting. As of November 30, 2019 we have:
  - o Donations confirmed of USD 7,728 (a little over CAD 10,000)
  - o This equates to a per member average (pma) of USD \$5.28 (just slightly above avg)
  - o 18 Clubs are participating representing 30% of the District.
- How does this compare to stats across Canada (from LCIF Trustee PID Garnett Davis):
  - o Best pma in MDA is \$10.19; Pma across Canada is \$5.02.
  - o Best participation in MDA is **100% in A9** (every Club has made a donation), avg participation across Canada is 22%
- Several donations have been submitted that I have confirmed will show up in the December report. I expect the totals to improve to USD \$12,435 & 49% of the Clubs participating.

THANK YOU for your ongoing support. We are making progress – but I truly believe we can do BETTER!  
Reminder – all donations go to:

**The Lions of Canada Fund for LCIF**  
**C/O PDG Stan Durward,**  
**Box 38**  
**Sunderland, Ontario, L0C 1H0**

- Online donations can be made at <https://lionsofcanadafundforlcif.ca/>

Your Foundation is active:





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- As at August, 2019 some US \$153,000 has been awarded across 5 grants to Districts in Canada for projects including diabetes awareness, medical equipment (vision & oncology) as well as the expansion of a Food Bank.
- Reminder – District A-15 has been approved for US \$50,000 to support the Groves Hospital in Fergus.
- Since November 2019, some US \$143,000 has been awarded to Lions in Australia to purchase water tanks and provide assistance to those affected by the devastating bush fires. More grants are expected in the coming weeks.

For questions and information, please reach me at [lcif@a15lions.org](mailto:lcif@a15lions.org)

### Additions

- Fine jar raised \$38.80 – Peter will match the fine jar for getting his phone back
- District A-15 needs some work to get back to 1<sup>st</sup> place in Multiple for funds raised. Currently we're in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Averaging about \$9.00/member – top District sitting at about \$11.85/member
- 50% of Clubs have made donations this year – challenge the Clubs of the District to help make A-15 a 100% donation District.
- A-15 best District in individual funds donated at a little over \$4000 from about 50 people.
- Goal is \$120/member/year – 7 clubs in the District are at over \$100/member – 17 clubs have not donated in the current year or previous year. Please look to see if your club can donate.

### Constitution and By-Laws – PDDG George Patton

#### **BYLAW CHANGE #1**

The Standard District Constitution and Bylaws (SDC&BL) was changed by the international board effective July 1, 2019. The major change was the removal of the GMT, GLT, GST and the LCIF district coordinators as voting members of cabinet. Should cabinet wish to retain them as voting members, voting delegates should vote on a resolution at the convention confirming the four positions as voting members of cabinet. (Adding voting members is provided for in the same section of the bylaw.) If Cabinet chooses to abide by the change in the SDC&BL and have these positions continue as non-voting members of Cabinet, then a resolution shall be provided for voting by delegates to this effect.

I will provide a resolution to be put before the voting delegates at the April convention based on the decision of Cabinet.

Other changes which need to be made to bring our bylaw in line with the SDC&BL

#### **BYLAW CHANGE #2**

Added to the responsibilities of the Region Chairs [ Article V Section 9 of our bylaw]



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Section 9. **REGION CHAIRPERSON** (if the position is utilized during the district governor's term). The region chairperson subject to the supervision and direction of the district governor, shall be the chief administrative officer in his/her region. The Region Chairperson is a member of the District Global Action Team. His/her specific responsibilities should be to: ...

**BYLAW CHANGE #3**

Added to the responsibilities of the Zone Chairs [Article V Section 10 of our bylaw]

Section 10. **ZONE CHAIRPERSON**. The zone chairperson, subject to the supervision and direction of the district governor and/or region chairperson, shall be the chief administrative officer in his/her zone. The Zone Chairperson is a member of the District Global Action Team. His/her specific responsibilities shall be to ...

The other change to our bylaw involves the change to triggering of re-zoning based on the actions of Cabinet at the June 2019 meeting.

**BYLAW CHANGE #4**

Proposed Bylaw change: To replace Article III Section 2 with the following:

*Regions and zones shall be subject to change by the district governor, with the approval of the district cabinet and when it is in the best interests of the clubs, district and the association. However, a re-organization of the regions and zones shall automatically be initiated should the number of clubs in a zone exceed eight (8) and/or in a region exceed sixteen (16). Furthermore, the same re-organization shall automatically be initiated should the number of clubs in a zone drop below four (4) and the number of clubs in a region drop below ten (10). Thus, the district should be divided into regions of sixteen (16) to ten (10) Lions clubs. Each region should be divided into zones of between eight (8) and four (4) Lions clubs giving due regard to geographical locations of the clubs. The procedure by which any re-organization is accomplished shall be outlined in the A-15 policy manual.*

I would ask Cabinet for a motion to forward these four bylaw changes to the convention for a vote by delegates.

Background material with regard to make-up of Cabinet:

*Change in Standard District Constitution and Bylaws (SDC&BL) [This is Article I Section I of our bylaw]*

*Highlighted area is current wording in SDC&BL and struck out words show the language deleted from the bylaw*

Section 2. **DISTRICT CABINET**. The district shall have a district cabinet composed of the district governor, the immediate past district governor, the first and second vice district governors, the region chairpersons (if the position is utilized during the district governor's term), the zone chairpersons, a cabinet secretary-treasurer or a cabinet secretary and a cabinet treasurer, and such other club members as may be included in this section as amended in accordance with the amendment procedures contained herein. In addition, the global membership team district coordinator, global leadership team district coordinator, global service team district coordinator and LCIF district coordinator shall be non-voting



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members of the district cabinet. Each such cabinet member shall be a member in good standing of a Lions club in good standing in the district. ~~The district shall have a district cabinet composed of the district governor, the immediate past district governor, the first and second vice district governors, the region chairpersons (if the position is utilized during the district governor's term), the zone chairpersons, Global Membership Team district coordinator, Global Leadership Team district coordinator, Global Service Team district coordinator, LCIF district coordinator, a cabinet secretary treasurer or a cabinet secretary and a cabinet treasurer, and such other club members as may be included in this section as amended in accordance with the amendment procedures contained herein. Each such cabinet member shall be a member in good standing of a Lions club in good standing in the district.~~

Background material with regard to triggering of re-zoning:

Article V Section 4 of the SDC&BL reads:

1.1. Section 4. **REGIONS AND ZONES.**

(a) Organizational. Regions and zones shall be subject to change by the district governor, with the approval of the district cabinet and when it is in the best interests of the clubs, district and the association. The district should be divided into regions of sixteen (16) to ten (10) Lions clubs. Each region should be divided into zones of between eight (8) and four (4) Lions Clubs, giving due regard to the geographical locations of the clubs.

1.2.

1.3. Article III Section 2 of our bylaw currently reads:

1.4.

**Section 2 - REGIONS AND ZONES**

The District Governor shall divide the District into Regions of no more than sixteen (16) and no less than ten (10) Lions Clubs, and each such Region into Zones of no more than eight (8) and no less than four (4) Lions Clubs, subject to change by the District Governor, when in his/her sole discretion, he/she shall deem the same necessary to the best interests of the Association. Sixty (60) days written notice shall be given to each Lions Club affected, with the opportunity for each Lions Club to submit their view in writing to the District Governor. A vote shall be taken at the District Convention by the Delegates of the Lions Clubs affected for approval of changes. Any changes will take effect at the beginning of the next Lions year.

**Nominations – PDG Doug Smith**

DG Tracey and Members of A-15 Cabinet:

The following is the report of the Nominations Committee.

To date I have received 4 Nominations for Cabinet Positions for the 2020/21 Lions year. All Nominations have been received and have confirmed their nomination meets all requirements as per District A15



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Constitution. Please use the proper Nomination Form that is on the District Website. Otherwise it will be returned and requested to be filled properly. I have Nomination Forms with me tonight.

We still need a minimum of 8 vacant positions to be filled. If you are considering a District Officer position, please talk to someone you consider your mentor and discuss the great opportunities ahead.

**Convention Host – GMT Bill Robinson**

Mark April 3-5<sup>th</sup> on your calendar! The District A-15 convention this year is shaping up to be a jammed packed fun filled weekend with a variety of events and activities throughout the weekend. Registration forms are available on the website and will be sent to each club using the district e-mail system. This year on the Saturday night there will be a talent show. Clubs or individuals are encouraged to participate in a friendly competition; we will have some celebrity judges on hand to ensure it is a fair and unbiased competition. The Registration forms will also be distributed to the clubs as well as online. The Strides walk will be one of the activities on Saturday afternoon. We have set a pre-registration deadline of March 13<sup>th</sup> ( this is for having the badges preprinted prior to convention) you will want to have your room booked by then as well if you plan on staying over. Lunch and Banquet tickets will be limited to 140 meals for each. Once the meal is done Saturday evening the venue will be opened to all that want to attend the talent show. For more information don't hesitate to contact the convention host.

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

**District Bulletin Editor – PRC Paul Anstett**

As the Governor's Newsletter Editor, all is well in hand. I look forward to keeping the District informed on the District Governor's behalf. Should any Lion Or Club have something they would like published, by all means please do not hesitate to forward me their submissions.

**Lions Quest – PDG Denis Vinette**

**Just humming along, at Lions Quest!**

Since my last report:

- 1) We held our first FULL SCHOOL training session on October 25<sup>th</sup> at Pioneer Park Public School in Kitchener, Ontario. Over 30 educators and staff were trained by Lions Quest Canada, Executive Director, Lion Joanne McQuiggan. A very big thank you goes to the Kitchener Pioneer Lions Club for building a positive relationship with the school over the years. With the potential for teacher action behind us (we can only hope), we expect to have 2 more update sessions to help get this program firmly established this January.
- 2) We have so far received over \$5000.00 in donations this fiscal year. This is slightly lower than other years but we expect that the majority of donations will come in the second half of the Lions year. IF you have the funds, why wait. Send it in to be included in our recognition program (All donations received since the last convention will be recognized at the convention in April).



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- 3) There will be a 3 day Lions Quest Canada Workshop in Toronto at the end of this month and VDGs George and Harvey will be representing our District.
- 4) I've had the pleasure of presenting Lions Quest at the Milverton Lions Club on January 2, 2020. We went over the current programs available from Lions Quest and how, with their help, we could "make things happen" for the schools and community youth programs in the East Perth area. Their club has developed a Lions Quest team and I look forward to working with her in the future.
- 5) There have been at least 3 schools who have shown an interest in using the Lions Quest program and these relationships have all come from club members approaching educators and schools about the value of this great program. Thank you to all Lions who make Lions Quest a part of their conversation with community leaders.
- 6) I am working on the final report to Lions Quest regarding the use of the Lions Quest (LCIF) grant that we received a few years back. Once this is complete, we'll continue to explore other funding support opportunities from LCIF and from other sources. I ask the clubs to also support LCIF, our foundation, to help fund future Lions Quest and other initiatives.

As you can see, we've been VERY busy. Please, continue to donate to Lions Quest Canada (either directly or through the District), If our efforts are fruitful, as they promise to be, we are going to need more money to fund training sessions in the future.

Thank you for all you do!

**Diabetes Awareness - East** – PRC Brian Martin

2019 slipped into history, and a new decade has begun. It is my hope that 2020 will see more active participation/reporting in promotion of Diabetes Awareness.

In 51E I am pleased to report that the 4 Clubs in Centre Wellington (Ariss-Maryhill, Belwood and District, Elora and Fergus) successfully conducted a joint program with their Diabetes and Lifestyle Expo. The medical and diabetes educators, pharmacists, health team members, Dietitians and other participants were pleased to have had the opportunity to participate and provide their expertise in educating and outlining ways and means to lessen risk or lessen the impacts of diabetes, to the members of the Public that attended. This event may become an annual event – discussions are in progress.

I have not received any notifications from a vast number of Clubs in A15, and encourage you all to report any Diabetes events that you conduct, to me – this would help in identifying programs that work and could be shared with other Clubs. Those that did report – my thanks to you for your participation in making Diabetes Awareness come to light in your communities.



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

District Governor Tracey, members of Cabinet, Lions  
Happy New Year!

Some of our vision screening groups have wrapped up and some are reaching the midpoint of their school visits. We have scheduled meetings with our Health Unit partners in all active regions to evaluate the programs and work on the challenges. In doing this we should acknowledge the successes we have had and the positive feedback received from the schools, our HU partners and parents on how well our Lions are with the children and the impact you are having on the kids. Well done!

We are always looking for others to volunteer and share in the school experience. We are also looking for someone to chair this committee for our District.

**Lions Foundation of Canada** – PRC Deb Cserhalmi

Welcome to new Chief Executive Officer Beverley Crandell. Beverley is taking over from former executive director Sandy Turney. Sandy will still be working with the foundation as the new Capital Campaign Coordinator. Sandy will be in charge of fundraising for the new facility in Oakville. Hopefully I can let you all know more in the very near future about this exciting new venture.

Even though the new facility is an exciting new endeavour, we can't forget that we still need to support the day to day functions at Dog Guides. Clubs and individuals can support in many ways; sponsored a team, award club members through awards, or buying items off the wish list are just some of the ways you can help.

And it's never too early to start working on your Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides. This year's national walk day is May 31. You don't not have to have your walk on that date, pick one that suits your needs. Go to [www.walkfordogguides.com](http://www.walkfordogguides.com) and create your walk online.

If your club would like a speaker or puppies for your event, you can contact either myself at [lfc@a15lions.org](mailto:lfc@a15lions.org) or Katie Gray at [events@dogguides.com](mailto:events@dogguides.com) and we will try our best to get you some pups. Please give us enough time to process your request.

**Family & Women's Membership** – PDG Diane Smith

At the beginning of this Lions year District Governors worldwide were asked to nominate a ***New Voices*** Lion from their respective Districts in each of four key areas – Service; Membership; Leadership and Marketing.

**Service:** A nominee is selected based on regular participation in service projects that reach a diverse group of people

**Membership:** A nominee is chosen who has worked to recruit and retain new members and has embraced diversity in recruitment



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**Leadership:** A nominee is selected who has demonstrated leadership qualities with organizing projects and teams

**Marketing:** This nominee is selected based on use of marketing tools-social media, newsletters etc. all in an effort to promote club excellence

Four Lions will ultimately be selected from District nominees for each of the Constitutional areas. This is expected to take place in April. The Constitutional **New Voices** Lions will then receive global recognition through the social media platforms of Lions Clubs International.

On another note, I will have the privilege of attending the Faculty Development Institute in Houston Texas from January 18-20<sup>th</sup> and will provide a full report on my return.

***Be the Voice of Change***

**Youth Camp & Exchange** – Lions Mark & Allison Henkell

The dates for the 2020 Youth Exchange Program (YEP) are as follows:

Saturday, June 27 – Youth arrive at Toronto International Airport and travel to their host families

Saturday, July 11 – Camp begins (Blue Springs Boy Scout Camp)

Sunday, July 19 – International Night – location TBD

Tuesday, July 21 – Camp closes – youth return to their host families

Saturday, July 25 – Youth fly out of Toronto International Airport

We have had a few applications to date and have been contacted by Lions Youth Exchange coordinators in other countries, although we have not yet received application from them. We will be speaking to each youth before we accept them and we have arranged a couple of calls.

We are not aware that anyone has volunteered to handle outgoing youth. Perhaps you would be interested in volunteering to coordinate applications so youth from our District can travel around the world?

This year, we will be accepting a maximum of 20 youth, so we will all fit in two vans. At this point, the only leaders for the camp are Mark and Allison, Jenna is unable to join us this year, as she will be in school. Jenna's absence leaves a big hole for us, she has done a lot to make the youth comfortable in the camp and to help pull together our International Night. We do have a couple leads on a youth liaison and we will follow up to get this position filled. We are also looking for camp counselors for the upcoming year and would be interested to hear from anyone who may want to take on the role of Camp Directors in the future. We would love to hear from Lions who are available to volunteer to help for just one or two events. For example, we are looking at attending a Blue Jay's game and that could be more enjoyable for the youth if there were more baseball fans who could explain the game to them. We will also likely be canoeing again and require some experienced help, we have been fortunate in past years to have some great volunteers and we are hoping this tradition will continue.

We would really like to encourage clubs to recruit host families. We would encourage the clubs to “think outside the box” when finding hosts. It isn't necessary that hosts be Lions members, it is possible that hosting will be someone's first exposure to Lions and it may encourage them to become involved in other ways! We don't have to do things like they have always been done, we just need to ensure a safe and rewarding experience for the visiting youth, the families who host, and the Lions who get the opportunity



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to interact with the youth. If you are interested in hosting please reach out to Allison as soon as possible so we can get this vital part of our planning done.

We will be putting together the list of all the clubs that were involved in preparing and/or providing meals for the camp in the past and an email will be sent shortly to confirm availability for the upcoming year. *We are hoping that there is someone who is will to volunteer to take on the job of coordinating meals at camp.* If you think this is something you would like to take on, please contact Allison by email at [ycex@a15lions.org](mailto:ycex@a15lions.org) or by telephone/text at 226-228-0874. Any clubs that have not been involved in providing a meal in the past, who would like to be involved this year are also encouraged to contact Allison.

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

**Peace Poster/Essay Contest** – Lion/Lioness Janet Dawson Brock

Lions, Lioness and Leo's

I am pleased to report that we have had a very successful year for our annual contest.

We had 19 Peace Poster Kits out in the District with some clubs having many schools involved. I must say a very big "Thank you" to the Thamesford Lions Club who had 48 entries entered. They had a great time judging the Posters. Their entry was sent to Governor Tracey as well as the other clubs. I am thrilled to announce that the Thamesford Club did win for District A 15. Becca Poster, 11 years old from Thamesford Public School. I have asked our Treasurer Louise to forward Becca a check for \$250.00

The Poster was sent to Council Chair Kevin for judging with all of the other Districts. Unfortunately she did not win for M D A.

The winner for M D A was from A 7 11 Krisha Shinde. She will be receiving a check from M D A for \$1000 and her entry has been sent to Lions International. You will have the pleasure of meeting her at the M D A Convention in the spring.

Please look in the Lions Magazine for her entry "A Journey of Peace" it is so beautiful and certainly tells the story of Peace that we have gone through over the years. I truly feel she should win for Lions International, it is that good.

If your club is thinking of donating to the Peace Poster/Essay Contest please send it to MD A Treasurer Dave Hewitt as we need it more there then at the District level.

Unfortunately we did not have an entry this year for the Essay Contest.

Thank you Lions/Lioness for supporting the Peace Poster/Essay Contest.

Kindness Matters





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**District Historian** – PDG Nancy Ransom

Thank you to Lions who have donated club pins for the District collection, and to VDG George Corrin who has been gathering pins for me during his club visits. The search continues.

Having seen many very interesting and unusual pins in my quest, I am starting a collection of club pin stories. Therefore if there is a story behind your Club charter pin or if your Club has struck a pin to commemorate a special project or community feature, please forward a photo of the pin along with the story to [historian@a15lions.org](mailto:historian@a15lions.org).

Thanks for all you do as we enter a new decade in Lionism, Lion Nancy Ransom, A-15 Historian.

