



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



District A-15 June Cabinet Meeting

June 28, 2023 – 7:00PM – St. George, Ontario

1. Call to order – 7:08PM
2. Welcome – DG Tony Davidson
3. O Canada – CT Linda
4. Moment of Silence
5. Lions Grace – DG Tony
6. Dinner – Served by the St. George Lions Club
7. Presentation – the New Lions Portal – preliminary review, PDG O.J. Wilura

Lion OJ provided a comprehensive presentation on the new portal and advised that the launch, planned for June 2023, has been delayed. In addition, the exact product may differ from that presented. The portal is in its final testing stages. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Your email address of record at LCI will be used to access the portal. Please ensure that your email address is unique and not shared with any other Lions member.

8. Protocol – 1st VDG Garry Ransom -
9. District Governor Remarks – DG Tony

Lion Tony expressed his appreciation to all Lions of District A15 for making this year a success. He had a goal and the clubs and members helped us reach those goals. He acknowledged that this year was a team effort and expressed his appreciation to all members of cabinet and committees. He wishes VDG Garry a great year in 2023-2024.

10. Secretary Report

PDG Denis advised the clubs and members that he is available to help with email and communication issues as they arise. He expressed the importance of keeping their club information up to date at Lions Clubs International. Lion Denis advised the clubs that an email was sent to all clubs in the District asking that they review the information listed for their club. This information will be used for the upcoming 2023-2024 directory and, if incorrect, will be published as such.

Motion to accept the secretaries report: Moved : CS Denis Vinette, 2nd ZC Kevin March, CARRIED.

11. Approval of the Agenda without changes affirmed by Governor Tony.

12. Approval of Minutes of the April 15-16, 2023 Cabinet Meetings (Convention).

Motion to accept the Minutes as published: Moved CS Denis, 2nd CT Linda, CARRIED

13. Treasurer's Report

CT Linda reported that her report was in the package. No questions.

Moved: To accept the Treasurer's Report: ZC Kevin March, 2nd ZC Ken Linington. CARRIED

14. Cabinet Reports

No verbal reports provided.

Motion to accept the Cabinet Reports: 2nd VDG Bill Robinson, 2nd Denis Vinette, CARRIED

15. Committee Reports

- Convention Committee – PDG Doug Smith
The convention was very successful. Presentations on Pediatric Cancer and the Environment were well received. The convention made a substantial net revenue, mostly realized by the raffle and the sponsorships for the event. Many deals were struck with hotel to help keep costs down and resulted in over \$3000 in cost reductions. We had designated chairpersons for the different areas of the convention and that helped make things work. In the end, the convention had a new revenue of \$8714.00 with the proceeding equally shared between the 4 clubs involved. Thank you to all who helped and to the all of the clubs and members who came out to enjoy the event.
- Youth Camp and Exchange
Camp co-chair, Lion Mark Henkell informed cabinet that the youth are arriving the next day. They have families to host the youth until the 15th, at which point they will be at camp until the 25th. It has been a struggle to get host families but some members and non-members have come through at the last minute. The real need, at this time, is people to help out with camp meals. If you can provide money, then Lion Mark and Allison can coordinate meals. We have youth from all around the globe, including Mongolia and Sri Lanka.
Lion Bob Pearson reminded the members that they, in partnership with Lynden and Rockton, will be hosting the International Night on Sunday July 23 and he is asking members to let him know if they are planning to attend.

Motion to accept the Committee Reports and filed and reported. Moved by ZC Kevin March, 2nd VDG Bill Robinson, CARRIED

16. New Business

- Signing authorities – CT Linda Vinette
In keeping with the policy regarding the assignment of signing authorities for District bank account, **Moved** by : CT Linda Vinette, 2nd VDG Bill Robinson, that the signing authorities for District A15, for the Lions Year 2023-2024, be as follows: the District Governor (Garry Ransom), the Cabinet Secretary (Denis Vinette) and the Cabinet Treasurer (Brian Spivey) and that two (2) signatures are required for all financial withdrawal and investment transactions.

CARRIED

- With the addition of 3 clubs into District A15, specifically Zone 9 South, it has become necessary to divide the Zone into 2 to make the zone more manageable.

Moved by: ZC Kevin March , 2ndVDG Bill Robinson, that Zone 9 South be divided into 2 zones called 9 South and 9 Central. Zone 9 South will contain the clubs Glen Morris, St. George, Paris, Sheffield, Burford and Brantford. Zone 9 Central will contain the clubs Freelton, Copetown, Rockton, Lynden, Waterdown, Dundas and Dundas Lioness.

CARRIED.

17. Presentations

- PID Carl Young
Due to the pandemic, many awards from Lions Club International have been delayed. Lion Carl thanked the Governor for the opportunity to deliver two significant awards to outstanding members of District A15 on behalf of PID Douglas Alexander, 2021-2022
PID Carl presented an International President’s Medal to PCT Peter Oswald for his outstanding work in raising funds during 4 years of the Campaign 100 program!
PID Carl presented the International President’s Leadership Medal to PID Art Woods for his leadership in being able to raise over \$2,360,000 for LCIF in Canada (Area “B”)
Congratulations to our well deserving lions of A15.
- DG Tony
Governor Tony took this opportunity to recognize Lion Marlene Creech (Floradale Friends of Dog Guides) for her devotion to the dog guide fostering program. Lion Marlene has fostered 19 Dogs, and

counting.

18. Changeover

Governor Tony commended VDG Garry for his effort this year and wished him the success that he is working towards in the coming year. DG Tony presented the ceremonial gavel to complete the transition. VDG Garry thanked the Governor for putting us in the right direction and that he looks forward to making the coming year as successful. VDG Garry presented DG Tony with a plaque in appreciation of his service as Governor for 2023-2024.

19. DGE Garry Remarks

DGE Garry spoke briefly of "OUR" District goals for the coming year. He is asking that clubs work towards 3 new service projects for each club. In addition, he hopes that clubs will undertake to develop leaders in the clubs. He wants each club to have a Marketing Chair, Service Chair. He asks the clubs to take an active participation in District activities, beginning with attendance at Zone meetings. To encourage club executives to attend District meeting, he will work with Cabinet to make these meetings more attractive to members.

Membership will be a big part of this year's message and he's hoping that clubs will want to hear "how to grow" and will "want to grow". DGE Garry stated that it's everyone's responsibility to help grow and maintain our membership.

DGE Garry provided a short presentation on the 3 key components of the coming year plans. Service, Leadership and Membership.

DGE Garry suggests that we engage in all 3 areas and that we "keep our eye on the ball" to make it happen. In conclusion, he stated that it's not enough to

"See what's happening, but we all need to do something about it".

20. Announcements

Rick Mallon – (Dundas)

PRC Rick announced that this year was the Dundas Lions 92nd anniversary.

He also spoke about a Dundas Lions event, the Ride for Autism on August 27, 2023, and invited all in attendance to participate if they can. This is the 10th year for this event. Donation receipts are available as this event is run by the Dundas Lions Foundation, a registered charity. A few members in attendance plan to attend.

Lion Aline Chan (St. Jacobs) announced that there will be a 70th Anniversary celebration of the St. Jacobs Lions Club on Sept 21. All welcome but remember to register. Limited seating.

Lion Evelyn Albers announced the upcoming Car Show in St. Marys on July 1.

Lion Bob Pearson announced that there will be a celebration of life in Copetown for Lion Bill Shewfelt who recently passed away.

Freelton Lions are offering assistance with Smart Serve training. That could be a group training or a one on one session. Contact the club for more details.

Zone 37 S will be having their food booth at the Farm Show. If anyone is interested, please contact Lion Rick Bell or any other member of the Zone 37 South Farm Show committee.

Our next Cabinet meeting is scheduled for Sunday August 27 in Maryhill. Further details regarding costs and time will be in the announcement in July.

DG Tony declared the meeting adjourned at 9:44PM.

Together We Can was the slogan for the Lions year and, together we Did!

We have seen greater membership in the district than we have seen in many years. We have more Clubs reporting Service, we have a new Branch Club, and we have seen a greater impact of Lions in our Communities. This is all because of the incredible Lions of our District.

I would like to welcome the Waterdown and District Lions Club, the Dundas Lions Club, and the Dundas Lioness Lions to our District. The Clubs transferred to district A15 from A711 in May and they will be a great asset to our District. There will be a Change in Zone 9 South to accommodate these three Clubs with the Zone being split into two.

The district Cabinet has done an amazing job this year keeping the district moving forward. Unfortunately, we lost the two Zone chairs this year but all clubs had a visit from one of the Cabinet members. The GAT team has accomplished much more than what was asked of them. The Committee Chairs did their best keeping the Clubs informed about what was happening in regards to their cause.

We had a Great Convention this year with four Clubs working together each taking on specific rolls. Each Club Chair was dedicated to the cause developing an exciting program for all delegates that attended the event. Parts of the convention were broadcast over zoom to provide access to those who could not attend.

I also thank treasurer Linda and secretary Denis for their diligence when it comes to keeping our District accounts current and timely reporting to Lions Clubs International.

We will also be Celebrating our Canadian president of Lions Clubs International when Dr Patti Hill gets voted into office at the Convention in Boston. Patti is a Lion from Alberta.

It has been a Great Year

Thanks for your service

Governor Tony

FVDG June cabinet report

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the members of the three clubs that have transferred to our District, Waterdown Lions Club, Dundas Lions Club and Dundas Lioness Lions Club.

One of the highlights of the Multiple District A convention was hearing Lions International First Vice President Dr. Patti Hill's inspiring presentations. She also held a one-hour session with the District Governor elects outlining her plans for the Lions year 2023-24. Lion Patti announced an international campaign of 1.5 million lions by the year 2027. As a result of this campaign, we will be receiving support materials with ideas and details to assist us in increasing membership. As part of a larger plan, the job descriptions of the District Governor, Vice District Governors and Region and Zone Chairpersons will be revised. More information to come after July 1st.

The district goals and action plans have been complete. You can view them by clicking on the link below. Changes can be made up to December 31st.

<http://www8.lionsclubs.org/reports/DistrictGoals/2023-2024/CA%202/District%20A%2015.pdf>

I am excited to report that all of the district cabinet and GAT positions have been filled. We had an excellent all day training session for Zone and Region Chairpersons. I would like to thank the Zone and Region Chairs for their active and engaged participation. I would also like to thank GLT coordinator Jim Sanders for organizing it and the following facilitators SVDG Bill Robinson, CT Linda Vinette, CS PDG Denis Vinette, GMT Coordinator Tracey Robinson and GST Coordinator Nancy Ransom.

At the time of this writing, most of the district committee positions have been filled except for the following.

Effective speaking
Youth camp and exchange
Diabetes Awareness

These are important and rewarding opportunities. Please consider taking on one of these roles and also encouraging your Fellow Lions to step forward. You can be guaranteed a rewarding experience and full support from your Cabinet.

Garry Ransom
FVDG District A15

Second Vice District Governor Report

June 28, 2023

As one term comes to an end another one will begin. I am looking forward to serving the district as Vice District Governor and assisting Garry achieve his goals. It will be challenging and exciting at the same time. Our team next year has the energy and resources to help all the clubs in the district next year. Whether it is increasing membership or being more visible in your community doing service projects. Remember that the district team is here to assist all the clubs to succeed in achieving their goals. Keep up the great service, it is appreciated.

Respectfully

Bill Robinson

Second Vice District Governor A-15

TREASURERS REPORT TO CABINET

I appreciate the opportunity to have the role of Cabinet Treasurer for the last 2 years and I feel the new Cabinet Treasurer, Brian Spivey is a great fit for the position.

For June 28th Cabinet Meeting, the financial reports have been balanced and reconciled to the bank online balances (reconciled to statements as at May, 31 2023).

Respectfully Submitted

Linda Vinette
Cabinet Treasurer



District A-15 Lions Clubs

Administration Account - Balance Sheet

As at May 31, 2023

ASSETS

Kindred

Kindred Emergency Fund Cash	24,886.49
Kindred Cash	44,076.50
Total Cash in Kindred	<u>68,962.99</u>
Shares in Kindred	25.00
Total Cash	<u>68,987.99</u>
District Dues Receivable	(20.80)
	-
Total Chequing/Savings	<u>68,967.19</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>68,967.19</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>68,967.19</u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

MDA Dues Payable	-
Listowel Branch Club dues in trust	-
Centennial Project Fund	328.97
Convention Fund	99.58
DGE Partner Travel	3,600.17
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>4,028.72</u>
Total Current Liabilities	4,028.72

Long Term Liabilities

International Director - Contra	8,451.50
New Club Assessment - Contra	5,263.08
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>13,714.58</u>
Total Liabilities	17,743.30

Equity

Emergency Reserve Fund	23,000.00
Retained Earnings	21,245.26
Net Income	6,978.63
Total Equity	<u>51,223.89</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>68,967.19</u>



District A-15 Lions Clubs

Profit & Loss - Budget vs. Actual

Administration Account -July 2022 -May 31 2023

	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under Budget)
Income			
District Directory	198.00	120.00	78.00
District Dues	10,891.34	10,914.00	(22.66)
Interest Earned	132.69	120.00	12.69
Leadership Seminar Income	1,375.00	1,375.00	-
Membership Assessment	1,926.00	1,926.00	-
Pin Sales	410.00	500.00	(90.00)
MDA PR Grants for Canopy and Banners	4,151.00		4,151.00
GAT Grants from LCI and MDA	1,685.56	1,650.00	35.56
			-
Total Income	20,769.59	16,605.00	4,164.59
Expense			
Awards - Cabinet	45.20	1,000.00	(954.80)
Awards - Other Accrual		600.00	(600.00)
Total Awards	45.20	1,600.00	(1,554.80)
Badges & Patches	502.32	800.00	(297.68)
Bank Charges	2.82	100.00	(97.18)
Cabinet Expense	1,095.00	2,000.00	(905.00)
Convention Expense	703.71	1,200.00	(496.29)
District Chair Expense			-
Comm Chair	1,100.00	1,600.00	(500.00)
District Chair - Other		300.00	(300.00)
Total District Chair Expense	1,100.00	1,900.00	(800.00)
District Directories	1,628.65	1,700.00	(71.35)
Global Action Team	222.16	2,000.00	(1,777.84)
Internet	142.00	175.00	(33.00)
Canopy and Banners from PR Grant	4,952.14		4,952.14
Leadership Seminar	450.13	1,375.00	(924.87)
Leadership Institutes		450.00	(450.00)
Pins Purchased , District	2,162.18	1,500.00	662.18
Postage	51.98	100.00	(48.02)
Office Expense	182.53	560.00	(377.47)
Zoom Licence fee	226.00	345.00	(119.00)
USA / Canada Forum	320.00	800.00	(480.00)
Total Expense	13,786.82	16,605.00	(2,818.18)
Net Income	6,982.77	-	6,982.77



District A-15 Lions Clubs Trust Accounts - Balance Sheet

ASSETS	31-May-23
Chequing/Savings	
Trust Sight Imprest	5523.38
Youth Exchange Imprest	33718.41
Total - Youth	<u>33718.41</u>
Kindred-Trust Account	14036.75
Total Cash	53278.54
Trf fm Admin for Interest Income	-13.57
Total Cash and Receivable	<u>53264.97</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>53264.97</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>53264.97</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Camp Dorset	0.00
Camp Lake Joe	0.00
Centennial Project- Gates	1820.20
Effective Speaking Acct	3586.13
Hearing Equipment	803.07
Hearing Conservation	0.00
LFC Dog Guides	0.00
LCIF- Disaster Relief	0.00
LCIF- Campaign 100	0.00
Diabetes Canada	0.00
Lions Foundation of Canada	
Leash Free Park	1604.86
Total Lions Foundation of Canada	<u>1604.86</u>
LIONS Quest Contra Account	4841.78
LIONS Quest Canada	0.00
Peace Poster	649.53
Peace Poster MDA	0.00
Vision Screening	3795.58
Youth Camp / Y. Ex. Contra Acct	27897.78
Total Current Liabilities	<u>44998.93</u>
Long Term Liabilities	
Youth Camp Capital	8266.04
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>8266.04</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>53264.97</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>53264.97</u>

Zone 51 East Report

June 28, 2023

Hello Everyone

As our Lions year draws to a close, I reflect on all of the service and fundraising activities the clubs in my zone have done and are doing over the past year, such as bottle drives, Pike derby, collecting eyeglasses, running food events, wine tastings, bingos, roadside cleanups, home shows and trade shows, feeding and clothing people in need, Christmas tree lightings, visits with Santa, Tack shows, building park benches, and many others.

I am grateful to all the clubs in my Zone for supporting the first 3-day convention since the beginning of the pandemic. I am extremely proud to have been your Zone Chair for 51East. In the words of a past district governor, "We do good stuff!".

I would like to thank everyone for allowing me the opportunity to be your Zone Chair for the past year.

Respectfully submitted.

Kevin March,

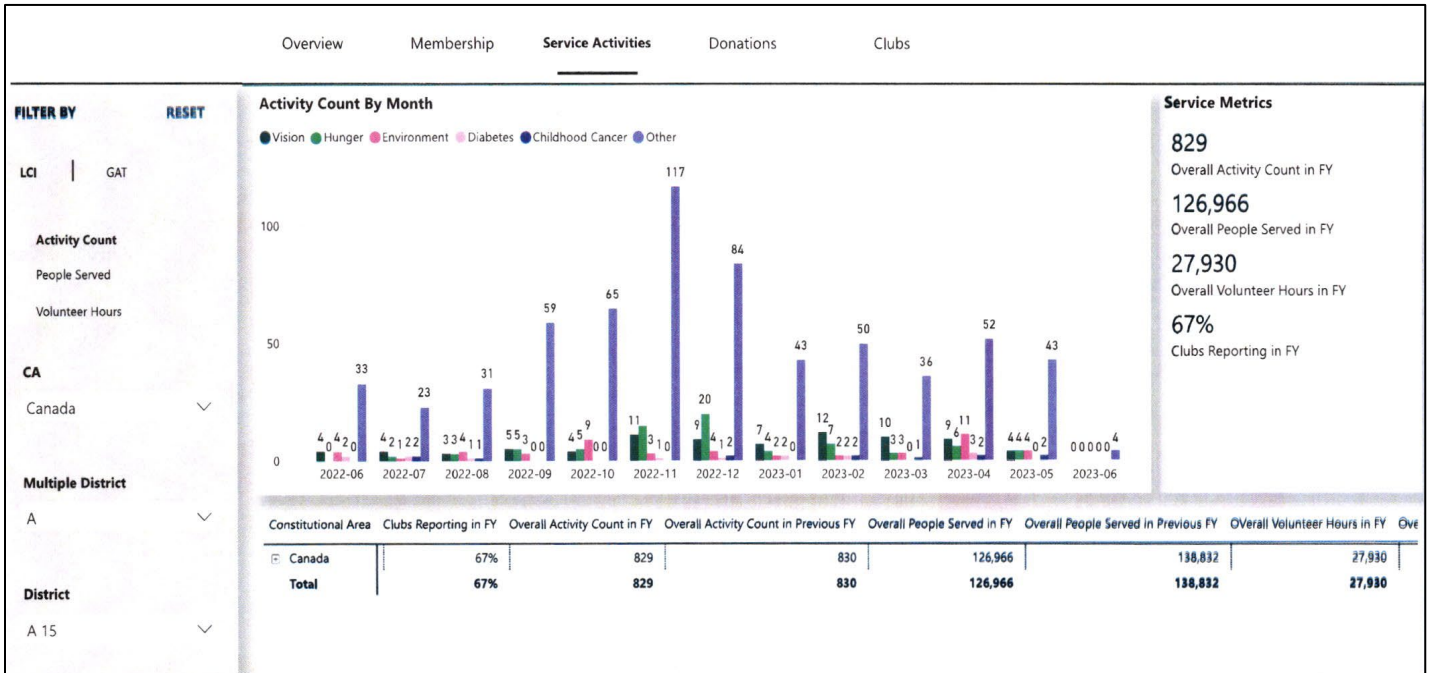
Zone Chair 51 East

GST Report for June 2023 Cabinet Meeting

Here we are at the close of another Lions year. Our District can be so proud of all the Lions of A-15 have done to help others and serve our communities! ROAR LIONS!

Congratulations to those Clubs who have sponsored Walks for Dog Guides. The K-W Team of Bridgeport, K-W Community Spirit, and St. Jacobs Lions raised \$17,000+ at this years Walk, held in Waterloo Park on May 27th.

As of June 19, 67% of clubs are reporting on MyLion.



Thank you to those Clubs who have been faithfully reporting; I encourage all Clubs to report to MyLion, as this data is vital to Lions International for their global projects/partnerships.

Club Service Contest results – for the second year, we have had very few entries to the district service contest. Although disappointing because many Clubs have completed very unique service projects; perhaps there is no need for a competition as the satisfaction of providing service is reward enough in itself. This will be a decision for next year’s GST team.

It has been my pleasure to be part of the GAT team for the past three years. I welcome Lion Anita Ertel, as our new A-15 GST Chairperson, and wish her all the best. Thank you Governor Tony for the opportunity to serve.

Respectfully submitted, Lion Nancy Ransom, A15 GST Chairperson.

Members of Cabinet, Lions all:

It has been great working with the district as your GMT. We need to keep the membership growing in our district. Many of the clubs have had success in getting new members in their clubs. This is wonderful, and everyone, keep up the great work that you are doing. Providing Service activities and getting those in the community involved is a great way to do that. We will be providing New Membership workshops again starting in September. Please let your new members know when these come out. It is a great opportunity for the new members to see what Lions do, what we are, and what we can do for others. It can also benefit current members as well. To refresh our clubs. I will also be working on some retention ideas. To maintain and keep the members we have.

I can do a personal club orientation or information nights, as I have this past year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any further help or maybe just to talk. I am here for your club and for the district. Lets work together to keep our membership strong!

Thank you.

GMT Lion Tracey Robinson

DISTRICT GOVERNORS NEWSLETTER
Cabinet Report for June 28th, 2023

Plan of Action:

Continue with the established quality of the newsletter issues but we do realize there is always room for improvement. The March DG's original version and a correction were distributed.

It has been suggested a bi-monthly report might be preferable, your comments are welcome.

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.

Further information is requested pertaining to the Bulletin Contest. The popularity of the bulletin contest seems to have waned somewhat and there have been no entries in the last couple of years. As a result of feedback from club members it has been suggested that it might well be time to consider changing the format of the bulletin contest to promote more interest within district clubs and the rating system perhaps be based on regular submissions as opposed to a one time entry for the contest. In my last report I mentioned there was more to follow. Unfortunately there is no new information on this front.

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
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!

2023 Convention Budget

Income			Actual	
Registrations	300 @ \$25.00	\$7500.00		\$4850.00
Sunday Morning Registration	20 @ \$15.00	300.00		330.00
Committee Chairs Registrations				125.00
Sponsorships				7250.00
Meals	140 @ \$30.+ 140 @ \$55.	11900.00		6345.00
Pin Sales	200 @ \$6.00	1200.00		468.00
Raffle Draw Net Proceeds		1000.00		3553.00
Rebate from District A15	1284@ \$1.40	1798.00		1798.00
Hospitality Suites	6 @ \$170.00	1020.00	4 @ \$170.00	680.00
		_____		_____
Total Income		26718.00		25399.00
Expenses				
Promotion		\$2000.00		2000.00
Printing		2000.00		1489.00
Bank Fees		300.00		162.00
Liability Insurance		500.00		489.00
Pin Costs	200 @ 5.75	1150.00	100 @ \$5.02	502.00
Lanyards and Registration Costs		800.00		377.00
Guest Rooms (DG, Int'l Guest, Protocol Aid)		1100.00		1078.00
Guest Room Compliments		200.00		123.00
Hospitality Room Costs		1020.00		600.00
International Supper		800.00		813.00

Complimentary Function Costs	700.00	300.00
Function Room Costs	2500.00	1784.00
Meal Costs	11900.00	6340.00
Entertainment for Saturday Night	1000.00	300.00
Table Flowers for Banquet	0.00	138.00
International Speaker Gift	0.00	100.00
EV Car Display Project	0.00	90.00
Music Copyright Fee	75.00	0.00
Total Expenses	\$26045.00	\$16685.00
Profit	\$673.00	\$8714.00

Historian Report for June 2023 Cabinet Meeting

I continue with monthly Club pin stories. I had a display at our district convention, of past MD"A" Convention photos and pins; and also PDG Don Gamble's personal pin collection, which has been returned to his Club.

I am looking forward to getting to know the members of our three new Clubs – Dundas Lions, Dundas Lioness Lions, Waterdown Lions – and learning about their history and activities.

I wish Governor Tony and all A-15 Lions and families a wonderful summer.

Respectfully submitted,

Lion Nancy Ransom, A-15 Historian.

District A-15 Technology Report

June 2023

Governor Tony, Cabinet, Lions:

I wish to thank the District for giving me the opportunity to serve yet again as the Technology Committee Chair and District Webmaster. My goal is to provide assistance in communicating to Lions and Clubs in the District, and to provide a technical resource where possible. I hope I have in some way achieved these goals.

I would like to mention again that the web site is set up so any committee chairs who are up to the challenge can have control over one or more pages on the site for their committee. I may not always respond to your request for access immediately, as a bit of setup is required, but eventually you will have control of your content if you need and want it.

I look forward to continuing to serve.

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

District A15
Cabinet Report
June 28, 2023
St. George

Governor Tony, Cabinet Officers & Fellow Lions

I have nothing to report at this time. There has been no interest expressed by any club to be involved this program. The KW LEO Club is in transition to younger members and the LC of Kitchener look forward to working with them.

Hopefully in the new fiscal year, some clubs will decide to support our youth.

OJ

Lion OJ Wilura
A15 LEO Chairperson
ojwilura@gmail.com

Childhood Cancer Final Report for 2023

Lion Sue Martin

District A-15 Childhood Cancer Chairperson

Lions International has set out a number of focus areas for Lions and Leos to lend their support to. One of these focus areas, is Childhood Cancer. Clubs are encouraged to plan a project that will provide support for the needs of children and families affected by childhood cancer. In addition to the obvious emotional strain that having a child diagnosed with cancer there are many other challenges to be faced. Transportation issues, lost wages, child care for siblings and extra expenses like parking charges and take away meals. Even the availability of pyjamas can be an issue.

Over the past two years I have shared, with all the clubs in District A-15 , information about organizations that support children and their families who are facing the challenges of having a child fighting some form of this terrible disease. Website links to Ronald McDonald House, McMaster Children's Hospital, London Children's Hospital, Campfire Circle, and POGO were sent to each club secretary. As expected, clubs in District A-15 , took on the challenge to learn more about what the needs of these families were and how they could help. As one club put it "You had us at children".

Here are some of the reported service activities in our district for Childhood Cancer:

- **Thamesford Lions** donated \$1000.00 to Ronald McDonald House in London
- **Guelph Royal City Lions** invited Meaghan Moore from Ronald McDonald House of South Western Ontario to speak at a meeting in May. They donated \$200. They included four other clubs at this meeting.
- **Ingersoll Lions** financially support a 74 year old woman who cycles in the Great Cycle Challenge which raises funds for research, and for kids fighting cancer.
- **KW Community Spirit Lions Club** also had Meagan Moore from RMH speak in Feb. and made a \$500 donation
- **Kitchener Pioneer Lions** donated \$8,000 in February to provide meals for families staying at Ronald McDonald House in Hamilton.
- **St. George Lions** donated \$1000 to Brain Tumour Research and \$500 to Ronald McDonald House in Hamilton .

- **Copetown Lions** provided a donation of \$1000 to Wellwood Cancer Support
- **Rockton Lions** have provided support to the family of a 3 year old child with a rare form of cancer; they ran a bottle drive and were able to donate \$2000 for McMaster Children's Hospital and \$2000 for the Cancer Assistance Program in Hamilton. They also send financial support to Campfire Circle.
- **Innerkip and District Lions** ran a two month bottle drive in support of Childhood Cancer
- **Ariss & Maryhill Lions** have an ongoing bottle/can collection at Maryhill Community Centre. The proceeds will be turned into cash and donated to McMaster Children's Hospital for the purchase of gift cards for families to use while staying at the Hospital with a sick child. Their April proceeds will go to Grand River Hospital Fund for Cancer Care for Kids.
- **The Lions Club of Paris** hosted a presentation by Lynn Wilson of POGO.
- **Lions Club of Kitchener** made a donation to the Magic Yarn Project, London. Chemotherapy treatments often leave young scalps too sensitive for scratchy traditional wigs, but yarn wigs are comfy, soft, and warm. Magic Yarn wigs are inspired by beloved Disney characters and invite children back to the world of play and daydreaming.
- **Woolwich Community Lions Club** held a spring auction in support of pediatric cancer. More precisely proceeds were steered toward the development of a childhood cancer care centre, Scotland's Yard, in the KW region. A \$2500 donation was made.
- **St. Jacob's Lions** have donated \$500.00 to POGO.

District A15 Lions

June 28, 2023



LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA
DOGGUIDES



A15 LFC Chair Cabinet Meeting Report

Dog Guides Update

Lions Clubs across Canada have been generously supporting The **Difference Campaign**, which focuses on raising funds for Dog Guides' new state-of-the-art training school. To date, 260 Lions clubs have contributed \$2.5 million and donations are arriving every week. The goal is to raise \$25 million with \$4.5 million donated by the Lions. Donations can be pledged and paid over 5 years or given as a one-time gift. Donations of \$100 or more from individual Lions will receive a special commemorative pin. For more information or to schedule a presentation for your club, email thedifference@dogguides.com or call (905) 842-2891 or 1 (800) 768-3030, ext. 218.

A HUGE thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides. This year's event had over 200 walk locations across the country, and so far, over \$738,259 in donations have been raised in support of the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides from the walks. Remember, any walk donations received by June 30th, 2023 will count toward this year's walk totals, so there's still time to get those donations in at www.walkfordogguides.com.

A litter of 7 new super heroes were born on the National Walk Day, May 28, 2023, at the Breslau puppy nursery. The summer will be busy at the nursery with lots of litters being born. For anyone interested in fostering a future Dog Guide, visit the [Foster Puppy Program web page](#).

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.

The Difference Campaign

Several committed Lions on the Lions Campaign Leadership Committee and Team Ontario have been visiting District A15 clubs to share details about the new training school and The Difference campaign.

District A15 Clubs supporting Dog Guides

District A15 Lions Clubs continue to support Dog Guide's mission to empower Canadians living with disabilities navigate their world with confidence and independence, by providing a Dog Guide at no cost and supporting them in their journey together. The following are known activities that clubs held in support of Dog Guides:

- Floradale Friends of Dog Guides Lions Branch Club hosted a puppy party at the Dog Guides Breslau site on June 11, 2023
- The Mosborough Busy Busy Lions Club provided foster puppies and volunteers for the St. George Classic Golf Tournament
- The Paris Lions Club donated \$5,000 to the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides
- Kevin March with the Rockwood & District Lions Club organized weekly June Royal Bike Nights promoting the June 24, 2023 Ride for Dog Guides
- The Rockton Lions Club held a Fish Fry and Silent Auction on June 3, 2023 with support from the St. George Lions Club and Lynden Lions Club
- Numerous district clubs held promotional events for the Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides in May

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

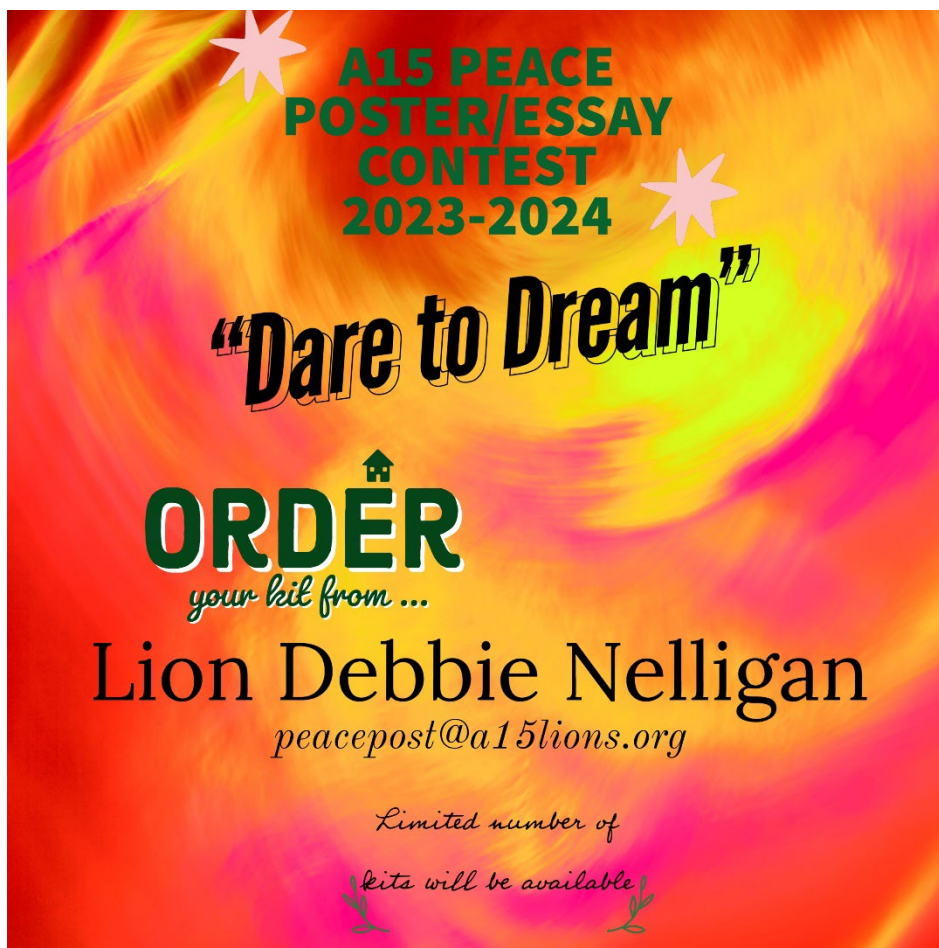
Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Bauman, District A15 LFC Chair

Peace Poster Chair – June 28, 2023

I was excited to deliver the peace poster/essay contest to our District and felt it was well received. Our winner this year was sponsored by the Rockton Lions.

I am already sending out kits for next year's contest. Don't miss out send your request to peacepost@a15.org

"For over three decades, Lions clubs around the globe have been sponsoring a very special art contest in schools and youth groups. Creating peace posters gives children everywhere the chance to express their visions of peace and inspire the world through art and creativity".



**A15 PEACE
POSTER/ESSAY
CONTEST
2023-2024**

"Dare to Dream"

ORDER
your kit from ...

Lion Debbie Nelligan
peacepost@a15lions.org

*Limited number of
kits will be available*

International Youth Exchange

We are back but it is a much smaller camp this year! Unfortunately, we have had two youth who were originally accepted into the exchange but now will not be attending. One was accepted into two camps and used the information of the other camp to apply for her visa. The second was unable to obtain a visa. We still have one youth waiting to hear about his visa and we are only 9 days away from them arriving. Once again, we will be staying at the Blue Springs Boy Scout Camp, located outside of Acton.

The youth will arrive in Canada on Thursday, June 29th and camp will open on Saturday, July 15th. We would welcome any Lions who would like to attend the opening ceremonies at the camp. We just ask that you let us know you are coming as there is a BBQ lunch provided.

International Night will be Sunday, July 23rd, and once again the evening is being held in Copetown and hosted as a coordinated effort between Copetown, Lynden and Rockton Lions clubs. We welcome all of you who are able to attend, please connect with Bob Pearson if you are able to join us so we can ensure there is plenty of food. A donation will be accepted to help offset the cost of the meal. The entertainment is free!

We have 5 counsellors this year, Mark and Allison are still Directors, our daughter Jenna and her friend Taylor will be joining us as counsellors on a “part time” basis and our friend Dave will be joining us as a driver/counsellor.

A big thanks to our host families for stepping up and taking our youth into your families. It is a great experience! The youth and host families are as follows:

Name	Country	Host	Host City
Coline	France	George & Nancy Woodley	Belwood
Esther	Spain	George & Nancy Woodley	Belwood
Mie	Denmark	Denis & Linda Vinette	Belwood
Dulanji	Sri Lanka	Denis & Linda Vinette	Belwood
Maria	Brazil	Barbara Melara	St. George
Svenja	Switzerland	Barbara Melara	St. George
Auguste	Lithuania	Tony & Cheryl Davidson	St. George
Van	Slovenia	Barry & Liz Williams	Elora
Filippo	Slovenia	Barry & Liz Williams	Elora
Youssef	Tunisia	Mark & Allison Henkell	Woodstock
Ludovico	Italy	Mark & Allison Henkell	Woodstock
Odonjin	Mongolia	Mark & Allison Henkell	Woodstock
Sofia	Mexico	Mike & Linda Jeffreys & Jeff Slegers & Susan Micks	Port Bruce
Ana	Brazil	Mike & Linda Jeffreys & Jeff Slegers & Susan Micks	Port Bruce

Thank-you to all the clubs who help make this camp possible by coming and cooking a meal, taking us out for a meal, sending a cheque, and hosting us in various ways. Your assistance is appreciated!

Lions Mark and Allison Henkell