



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



A-15 Winter Cabinet Meeting Minutes

7:00 PM, January 19, 2023 Innerkip and District Lions, Innerkip, ON

1. Call to order – 7:01 PM
2. Trivia Quiz – DG Tony Davidson
3. Welcome from Innerkip President, Lion John McRoberts
4. Recess for Dinner – 7:08 – Resumption – 7:41
5. O Canada – led by Lion Linda Vinette
6. Toast to the King – DG Tony Davidson
7. Moment of Silence – DG Tony Davidson
8. Protocol – 1st Vice District Governor, Garry Ransom
9. VDG Garry introduced 2 new Lions and their sponsors
Innerkip: Lion Mary Canfield – Sponsor John McRoberts
Plattsville: Lion Chris Dowdy – Sponsor Lee Heimbecker
10. Online attendees : PDG Diane Smith, GLT Lion Jim Sandford, Lion Jesse Bailey and Lion Michele Kurtz
11. Governor Tony advised that we add an entry for Diabetes at the Convention under Committee Reports.
12. Approval of the Agenda without changes affirmed by Governor Tony.
13. District Governor's Remarks

Thank you, Innerkip Lions, for hosting tonight's meeting. The dinner was fantastic. I asked the pie to be cut into 4 and Lion Buzzy likes to cut the Pie into 7, Neither Buzzy or I cut the pie, my piece was just right.

I apologize for not being able to accommodate everyone who wanted to attend tonight's meeting in person. Thank you for coming to our Winter Cabinet meeting. You are sitting amongst a lot of amazing leaders. The leaders here tonight have worked hard to accomplish the goals that they have set. Have you accomplished the goals you have set for yourselves. Do you have a bucket List?

The district governors team set goals at the beginning of the year and at Christmas we realized that a few of the goals would not be possible to achieve by the end of the year. It could be Covid that has caused a drop in in our membership as we lost more members than anticipated at the start of the year. Did Covid make us lazy, and we just want to stay home.

Presently we have 1269 members in the district, 97 members have dropped their membership in Lions and we have inducted 80 lions. We have no control of some of the dropped Lions members but why are the others leaving. When a member leaves our organization do we ask, why did you join?

You will hear tonight some of the Success stories of our Leadership team.

You will hear about some of the challenges of your Leadership team

2023 is going to be a great year for Canadian Lions with Patti Hill, an Edmonton Lion, currently our First Vice President of Lions International. Patti will be voted as our association President in Boston at our International convention.

We have Patti Hill pins to sell for \$5.00 to help with the Campaign for Patti. Please see VDG Garry or Bill to purchase your pin.

14. Approval of Minutes of the October 19, 2022 Cabinet Meeting

Moved: To approve the minutes, CT Linda Vinette – 2nd VDG Bill Robinson, CARRIED.

15. Secretary's Report

Lion Denis indicated that his report was in the package. He said he was particularly pleased with the reports that were submitted before the deadline.

Moved: To accept the Secretary's report: CS Denis Vinette, Second – ZC51E Kevin March. CARRIED.

16. Treasurer's Report

CT Linda presented the District Current financial position and that her report was in the package. She advised that, since her report, we received funds from MDA for the GAT Team. We have a pending PR Grant application in the works. There is also a Membership Grant coming in.

Moved: To accept the Treasurer's Report: VDG Garry Ransom, ZC9S Ken Linington. CARRIED

17. Cabinet Reports

GMT Coordinator – PDG Tracey Robinson

Lion Tracey announced that her report was in the package but would like to highlight a few important items. Lion Tracey informed the District that a new club branch has been formed in Listowel. They have 5 members and are hoping to get a few more soon. Maybe even charter before year end! They meet on the 2nd Monday of each month. As a member of our District, they have been invited to come to convention. Their first event was a bottle drive that raised \$400.00 The Branch club was registered on January 17, 2023. She thanked Lion Garry and Nancy Ransom, VDG Bill Robinson, Len Day (New Club Consultant) for helping out and doing most of the legwork. At one of their meetings, the local President of the Kinsmen Club came and stated that much service needs to be done in the community and a New Lions club would go a long way to do that.

CT Linda wondered where the money held in trust would go and that she did not see the members listed in MyLCI. PDG Tracey confirmed their membership is on MyLCI and CT Linda will await information from Tracey on the use of funds.

Motion to accept the Cabinet Reports: ZC9S Ken Linington, Seconded by VDG Bill Robinson, CARRIED

18. Committee Reports

Youth Camp and Exchange – Lion Allison Henkel

Lion Allison informed Cabinet that the budget may need a little tweaking as many costs are up including proposed transportation, insurance and the cost of attending the planned activities. Most importantly, they are looking for someone or "someones" to help coordinate the meals at the camp. They still need to contact the various agencies regarding the activities planned.

Youth camps are slowly coming online through the world. Countries with continued Covid infections are not going to have camps this year. They need to have host families for the youth. The youth exchange will be from June 27 to July 27 with the camp taking place from July 15 to July 23. The camp will be held at Blue Springs Youth Camp between Acton and Rockwood as it has been for the last few camps. They are also in need of a camp counsellor.

As an accountant, this is a very busy time of year for Lion Allison and she will get as much information out as she can before the crunch.

Q: Is it possible that we could save money by busing the kids in one bus. ZC Kevin offered to volunteer his time and would offer to do this as a "U Drive" with Denny's Bus Lines. Lion Allison was concerned about the limits that are in place for the number of hours driven by a single driver. Lion Kevin will inquire and report back to Lion Allison.

In the past, Copetown, Lynden and Rockton Lions partnered to host Int'l Night. Lion Bob Pearson stated that he would see if that was again possible. To be checked on with the club(s).

Convention 2023 – ZC Ken Linington

Lion Ken went over some of the plans for the convention on April 14-16, 2023 at the Best Western in Brantford. Draw tickets are being passed along and he asked the attendees to consider buying them. We have 6 seminar rooms available (spread over 2 floors) in a designated area that will serve as hospitality rooms. Unlike previous conventions, access to these areas will be to the hospitality rooms only and will make control and enjoyment a little less stressful for the hotel and other patrons. He does not want to be the “grumpy” guy trying to keep members in line... We hope to have displays of Hybrid and Full-Electric cars but that’s a real challenge with the parts shortages that are happening throughout the automobile industry. He hoped to have a “HOT” new All-electric Blue Mustang but the dealer said that it won’t likely be around long. We will have in-person voting and a traditional Memorial Service. The raffle will be held at the Cabinet meeting on Sunday morning. Clubs and Members or Businesses are asked to consider becoming a sponsor. There are various sponsorship levels available. He reminded us that the convention is the effort of 4 clubs and that we are all hoping to make this a big success. Registration forms are available online. You can register by mailing in or filling it online. Payment is possible by cheque or e-transfer. Registration is \$25 until March 1 and \$35 after that. Room reservations are to be made directly with the Hotel. Rooms are \$129.00 per room + applicable taxes which include Breakfast and free parking. Election and Credentials will require proof of Membership. The question was raised about the difficulty in printing membership cards. Lion Bill Robinson offered to contact Lion Rick Bell and assist. Lion Ken said: “It’s time to reconnect!”

PDG Lion Thom Herrmann rose and spoke about a scheduled Strides Walk for Diabetes on the Saturday Afternoon. Rain or Shine. He’s asking each Club in the District to raise \$500.00 / club. If that happened, we would raise over \$25,000.00 for Diabetes Awareness. As Thom, said it can be done! PDG Thom briefly spoke of his Insulin needs and that he has been approached by many members who have to take medication for Diabetes.

PDG Lion Denis advised that we are trying to form a small choir for the Memorial Service at convention. Based on how well we sang the anthem at the meeting, he is sure we can put this together. More information will be provided soon.

Motion to accept the Committee Reports: 2nd VDG Bill Robinson, Seconded by ZC Kevin March , CARRIED

Unfinished Business

Rezoning Policies and By-Law.

1st VDG Garry rose to propose that we make changes to the existing re-zoning policy and endorse changes for the re-zoning by-law.

As submitted to cabinet, please read the rationale and motions presented and voted on at the cabinet meeting.

Rezoning motions to be made at the cabinet meeting

1. Background to the re-zoning policy:

The Rezoning policy was created with the thought of a major change being made to the district’s zones. The issue the policy creates is no zone chairs could be added until at least 1 year after the clubs have been added to the zone. For example, if 3 clubs were added to Zone 9S on July 1st 2023 the zone would have 13 clubs. Rezoning could not happen until July 1st 2024 instead of immediately following July 1st 2023. The committee after consulting with Constitution and By-laws chair PCC Bill Carson and recognizing that there would be no major re-zoning in the district, recommended to cabinet that Policy #28 be removed from the District A15 policy manual

Existing Policy

- 28 Re-Zoning Policy
- 28.1 Rezoning and Timelines Process

Where a District Rezoning is to occur, for whatever reason, the process and timelines are;

- i. Not later than the June Cabinet meeting of the year in which it has been determined that a rezoning shall take place, the District Governor, with the support of Cabinet, shall establish a District Rezoning Committee tasked with proposing a rezoning plan for presentation to Cabinet not later than 10 days prior to the August Cabinet meeting immediately following the creation of the committee at which point it shall be received.
- ii. Cabinet shall circulate the proposed rezoning plan to the clubs of the District requesting written club responses no later than 30 days prior to the Fall Cabinet Meeting.
- iii. Subject to revisions by the District Governor, (with the support of Cabinet), and the District Rezoning Committee, the rezoning plan shall be circulated to Cabinet not later than 10 days prior to the Fall Cabinet Meeting for a vote.
- iv. Given the passage of the rezoning plan, and no later than November, a call for Nominations for the Zone Chairs of the new zones shall be made and appropriate elections occur at the next District Convention

Therefore, Moved by 1st Vice Governor Garry Ransom, Seconded by 2nd Vice District Governor Bill Robinson, that the #28 re-zoning policy be removed from District A15 Policy manual.

MOTION: Carried

2. Background to the change to the rezoning by-law.

As it stands, the rezoning bylaw states that each time there are more than 8 clubs in a zone or 16 in a region that it must be re-zoned. It does not allow for circumstances when the extra clubs may be there for a short time, or the geographic area of a zone allows for easy club or combined club visits. The amendment will allow the cabinet to make zone changes at their discretion when it is in the best interest of the clubs, district and the association. The committee after consulting with Constitution and By-laws chair PCC Bill Carson recommended to cabinet that there be a vote at the 2023 district convention to amend by -law article III section 2

Existing Bylaw.

REGIONS AND ZONES 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.

Moved by 1st Vice Governor Garry Ransom, Seconded by 2nd Vice District Governor Bill Robinson that by-law Article III section 2 be amended by a vote of the delegates at the April 14-16 district A-15 convention to read:

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.

MOTION: Carried

PCC Bill Carson (Constitution and By-Laws Chair) reminded Cabinet that said motion must be communicated to the clubs at least 30 Days in Advance of the vote at Convention. CS Denis and PCC Bill will coordinate this.

NEW BUSINESS

Transfer of 3 clubs from A711 to A15.

There are many steps to go through to transfer clubs from one District to another.

DG Tony informed the District that District A711 has approved the transfer of the Lions Clubs of Dundas, Waterdown and Dundas Lioness from District A711. It is now our turn to vote on accepting their transfer to District A15.

Motion from 2nd Vice District Governor Bill Robinson, Seconded by ZC9S Ken Linington to accept the transfer of the Lions Clubs of Dundas, Waterdown and Dundas Lioness into District A15. No Discussion. CARRIED

DG Tony advised that the club transfers would likely take place on June 30, 2023. Lion Bob Pearson indicated that a few members of one of the clubs have plans on attending our convention.

We have been asked to sell Patti Hill pins and we have agreed. We have received an invoice for \$250.00 for the pins.

Motion from CT Linda Vinette, Seconded by 2nd VDG Bill Robinson that we pay the invoice. CARRIED

For the Good of Lionism.

PDG OJ Wilura stated that there are big changes coming from Lions Clubs International. They are consolidating a variety of systems into a package called Salesforce. This will allow various areas like MyLCI, MyLION, Insights and Online learning to be expanded and simplified. In order that members and clubs can get into the new system when it comes available, members will need to have a unique email. Your name, membership number or shared emails won't work. We should make plans to update our personal information to be ready for the new rollout. LCI will reach out to membership about how to continually improve on this new service.

There is a Good Friday Fish Fry in Innerkip on April 7. They have served in excess of 700 meals!!!

Lion Ralph Gordon is once again doing his Snowmobile ride for Diabetes this year. Please contact Ingersoll if you would like to support.

DG Tony declared the meeting adjourned at 8:52

Message from the Governor - January 2022

We are in the second half of the Lions year and I am excited about what we have accomplished and what we will accomplish by the end of the year. I thank you for your dedication of time and talent to keep our District the Best in MDA.

I have changed a few of the District Goals as we have struggled to get Club executives trained and Clubs are slow on reporting Service. The clubs' donations to our foundation are also below our initial expectations.

The district started the year with 1286 members, unfortunately 14 members have passed away and 78 members resigned. We have inducted 66 members into our Clubs this year leaving a balance of 1260 members (the membership Report has one member resigning twice). I am confident that we will be able to attract new members into our Lions Clubs so we will end the year with positive membership.

The Charter of the Oxford Lions Club was cancelled this year but the Membership Committee is working in Listowel to form a Lions Club. It is always a challenge to start a new Lion Club but we have a terrific team working on it.

I was contacted by Ferdy Coronel, the Governor of A711 and their Cabinet has approved the Transfer of the Dundas Lions Club, the Waterdown Lions Club, and the Dundas Lioness Club to District A15. We have work to do on this before the Clubs can move. The Clubs will move into Zone 9 South that presently has 10 Clubs.

As of December 30th, there has been no Candidate submitting paperwork for the position of Second Vice Governor for 2023-2024. I am looking forward to Zone Chair candidates submitting their nomination forms.

I am looking forward to visiting Clubs, inducting new members and having Fun for the rest of the year. "Together we Can" is the theme for this year and "Together we Will".

Thank you for all you do for Lions. We would not have been able to accomplish what we have if it wasn't for your dedication.

Governor

Tony Davidson

Immediate Past District Governor - Harvey Wood

1st Vice District Governor – Garry Ransom

On behalf of District Governor Tony and all members of A-15, I extend a warm welcome to our newest Club, Listowel Lions! With the help and support of these new members, we will identify and support the needs of the residents of Listowel. I want to thank in particular GMT coordinator PDG Tracey Robinson, SVDG Bill Robinson and GST coordinator PDG Nancy Ransom for their time, many trips to Listowel, and wearing out shoe leather visiting many people in Listowel. I also want to recognize and thank the Atwood Lions club for their sponsorship of this new club.

On January 1st clubs can nominate a member for the position Zone and Region Chair. The District Governor team has decided to have Region chairs for the Lions year 2023-24. The overall responsibility of the Region chair is to support the Zone chair with their many and important responsibilities. To qualify for both positions, the member must be in good standing and have been club president for 1 year or the majority thereof.

Based on participants response, the 2 Membership Workshops were well received. These Workshops in the coming year will be enhanced based on the experiences and feedback from this year such as providing more time in the break-out rooms. We will continue to be guided by the GMA (Global Membership Approach). The results speak for themselves. It is a process that has been used by clubs to evaluate their strengths and then using those strengths to attract new members.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and a very successful second half of this Lions year.

Lion Garry

2nd Vice District Governor – Bill Robinson

I am happy to report that I have visited all the clubs on my list and even managed to visit a couple that were not. It has been a busy second quarter and it is very exciting to see members being inducted and lots of clubs spreading the Christmas cheer around the District. As we enter the 3rd quarter now is not the time to relax, I have been busy getting trained in my role as Second Vice and preparing for the transition to VDG at the end of the next quarter. One of the struggles that we are having is members to step forward to take on leadership positions in the District. We are in need of Zone Chairs, Region Chairs as well as a Second Vice District Governor for next year. Please look within your club or in the mirror to identify individuals that could take on the position. All the training will be provided as well as ongoing support for anyone in those roles. I look forward to seeing you all at the convention in April. And remember that the district team is here to assist all the clubs to succeed in achieving their goals.

Respectfully

Bill Robinson

Cabinet Secretary – Denis Vinette

Since my past report, I have had the opportunity to assist clubs who have had difficulty navigating District email and MyLCI accounts. It's rewarding to know that these clubs appreciate the support and now have an increased awareness of the information that is available from these sources. I welcome any requests for assistance.

I am in the process of developing a GOOGLE doc repository for District documents with the intent of making these available to the Cabinet and, where appropriate, to all clubs and members of the District.

Respectfully Yours,

Denis

Cabinet Treasurer – Linda Vinette

TREASURERS REPORT TO CABINET

For January 19th Cabinet Meeting, the financial reports have been balanced and reconciled to the bank online balances (reconciled to statements as at December 31, 2022).

ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNT

- All clubs have paid their District dues. There was a slight shortage on the Oxford club dues of \$22.66 due to US\$ exchange and Paris Lions paid too much by 20.80 which will be held to apply to next year's dues per their request. MDA has received their portion of the dues.
- We have setup a trust account of money received from the members of the New Listowel Lions Branch club per the request of VDG Garry Ransom.
- Some of the new Club Contra Account has being used for the organizing and meeting of the Listowel Lions Club Branch in the amount of \$2002 38.
- We have received \$500US from LCI for GAT Grant and in January 2023 we received a grant of \$1000 from MDA for GAT. This is not on the financial statement because it was deposited in January 2023.
- With respect to the balance of Expenses vs. Budget, there has been very little activity and the report is straight forward.

TRUST ACCOUNTS

- The balance sheet for the Trust accounts is an accurate reflection of all the balances held in Trust and all accounts have been reconciled to the Bank records as of December 31, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted

Linda Vinette



District A-15 Lions Clubs

Administration Account - Balance Sheet

As at Dec 31, 2022

ASSETS

Kindred

Kindred Emergency Fund Cash	24,886.49
Kindred Cash	48,350.07
Total Cash in Kindred	<u>73,236.56</u>
Shares in Kindred	25.00
Total Cash	<u>73,261.56</u>
District Dues Receivable	(20.80)
Total Chequing/Savings	<u>73,261.56</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>73,240.76</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>73,240.76</u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

MDA Dues Payable	-
Listowel Branch Club dues in trust	500.00
Centennial Project Fund	1,000.00
Convention Fund	1,797.60
DGE Partner Travel	3,600.17
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>6,897.77</u>
Total Current Liabilities	6,897.77

Long Term Liabilities

International Director - Contra	8,451.50
New Club Assessment - Contra	3,331.82
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>11,783.32</u>
Total Liabilities	18,681.09

Equity

Emergency Reserve Fund	23,000.00
Retained Earnings	21,245.26
Net Income	10,314.41
Total Equity	<u>54,559.67</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>73,240.76</u>



District A-15 Lions Clubs

Profit & Loss - Budget vs. Actual

Administration Account -July 2022 -Dec 31 2022

	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	128.10	120.00	8.10
Leadership Seminar Income	1,205.33	1,375.00	(169.67)
Membership Assessment	1,926.00	1,926.00	-
Pin Sales	100.00	500.00	(400.00)
GAT Grants from LCI and MDA	685.56	1,650.00	(964.44)
			-
Total Income	15,134.33	16,605.00	(1,470.67)
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	2.79	100.00	(97.21)
Cabinet Expense	645.00	2,000.00	(1,355.00)
Convention Expense		1,200.00	(1,200.00)
District Chair Expense			-
Comm Chair		1,600.00	(1,600.00)
District Chair - Other		300.00	(300.00)
Total District Chair Expense	-	1,900.00	(1,900.00)
District Directories	1,628.65	1,700.00	(71.35)
Global Action Team		2,000.00	(2,000.00)
Internet	142.00	175.00	(33.00)
Leadership Seminar		1,375.00	(1,375.00)
Leadership Institutes		450.00	(450.00)
Pins Purchased , District	1,412.18	1,500.00	(87.82)
Postage	51.98	100.00	(48.02)
Office Expense	69.80	560.00	(490.20)
Zoom Licence fee		345.00	(345.00)
USA / Canada Forum	320.00	800.00	(480.00)
Total Expense	4,819.92	16,605.00	(11,785.08)
Net Income	10,314.41	-	10,314.41



District A-15 Lions Clubs Trust Accounts - Balance Sheet

ASSETS	31-Dec-22
Chequing/Savings	
Trust Sight Investment	5523.38
Youth Exchange Imprest	33718.41
Total - Youth	<u>33718.41</u>
Kindred-Trust Account	11322.38
Total Cash	50564.17
Trf fm Admin for Interest Income	-11.51
Total Cash and Receivable	<u>50552.66</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>50552.66</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>50552.66</u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Centennial Project- Gates	1820.20
Effective Speaking Contra Acct	3736.13
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	3598.23
LIONS Quest Canada	0.00
Peace Poster	726.18
Peace Poster MDA	0.00
Vision Screening	3795.58
Youth Camp / Y. Ex. Contra Acct	26202.37
Total Current Liabilities	<u>42286.62</u>
Long Term Liabilities	
Youth Camp Capital	8266.04
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>8266.04</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>50552.66</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>50552.66</u>

Zone Chair 9 South – Ken Linington

December was an active month with regular ZC visits to Lynden and St George. Both clubs were most welcoming and are busy with good fundraising activities and community service activities. Two of the Clubs in the Zone have asked for a rescheduling of the visit. I met with Jim Cook who is acting President of the Freelton Club. He took the Directories for his club and we talked about many things including membership, fundraising and community service. I also did some Convention promotion and gave him a book of draw tickets for his club. President James Munday has some health concerns. We have agreed on January 24 for the Zone visit. I also traveled to Sheffield to meet with President David Hall. We also had good discussions about the Sheffield Club including membership, fundraising and community service. He also got a convention promotion discussion and a book of draw tickets. The ZC meeting with the club is scheduled for February 21. I delivered the directories for the Rockton Club to the home of the Secretary. She was suffering from the flu/cold that has been rampant in our area, so we settled for a phone call. No Zone meeting has been scheduled for Rockton.

Zone Chair 9 East – Juan Monterroza

No Report.

Zone Chair 51 East – Kevin March

Hello Everyone

As of the date of our cabinet meeting, I will have visited all but one club. It's great to see the clubs in 51 East trying new ways of fundraising, such as wine-tasting dinners, calendar sales, raffles, and more. Their Christmas events were very successful, like Breakfast with Santa in Belwood and Rockwood.

Since the last cabinet meeting, I have held a Zone Advisory meeting with six clubs in attendance. We had two guest speakers, PDG Nancy Ransom and Anita Ertel of South Wellington Community Lions Club Branch. They spoke on the plight of the homeless and other accompanying issues such as addiction and mental illness and what we as Lions members could do. We asked clubs to donate winter clothing, socks, blankets, sleeping bags, etc. Nancy and Anita had a list of items needed by the homeless that could be purchased and donated by Lions clubs, such as space blankets, hand warmers, toiletries, etc. We collected many items from the clubs in attendance. We also had a round table discussion about how the pandemic and other factors have affected Lions meetings. We discussed what the individual clubs do for their meetings and explored various options available to supplement or replace dinner meetings.

I am currently visiting several clubs to promote the District A15 Convention in April, hoping to maximize the number of Lions attending. We're hoping to make our first 3-day convention since the pandemic a huge success. It is gratifying to see the spirit of co-operation between the four sponsoring clubs.

Respectfully submitted

Kevin March

Zone Chair 51 West – Mike McCourt

No Report.

Global Leadership Team – Lion Jim Sanders

Fellow Lions,

We have all heard that leadership begins at the top. However, we do not always agree on where the top begins. Evidence clearly shows that the position at the top of our District leadership organization chart is the Club President. The next two levels are the Zone and Region Chairs. This in no way minimizes the role and responsibilities of all other members of Cabinet each of whom play a critical role in the success of our District.

Club members are the face of Lions. Only Clubs raise money and provide service. On occasion, Clubs will work together to enhance and strengthen specific services delivered at the District or Zone levels such as vision screening. At the same time, Lions Club International [LCI] harnesses the strength and power of Lions by sharing best practice while addressing world needs through coordinated Global action.

You have received the call for nominations for the upcoming District elections. The continued strength of District A-15 depends on Club members stepping forward. Let me draw your attention in particular to the key position of Zone Chair. Their sole responsibility is to support the Clubs in their respective Zones. Given the breadth of these responsibilities, Region Chairs after a one-year absence are returning and will directly support the Zone Chairs in fulfilling this critical mandate. Here's the challenge. It has been my experience that few step forward voluntarily, whether the position is employment or volunteer related. Simply, we often do not know if we are up to the task. So, please contact an experienced Lion or Lions VDG1 Garry or VDG2 Bill to discuss with no obligation.

Jim Sanders

Global Membership Team– PDG Tracey Robinson

DG Tony and Members of Cabinet.

It has been a very busy few months since my last report. Our team has been working very hard. We found out at the last cabinet meeting that we were approved for the Membership Grant from LCI. We also had our two-day workshop, which was a great success. Thank you to the team for the great work put into the presentations. We are pleased to announce that we have started a branch club in Listowel. We are still trying to get more members to form a Charter Club. The members in this club are very energetic, enthusiastic, and eager to get things started in their community. So much so that they have a Bottle Drive set up for January 7th, 2023, to start raising funds. I can't wait for the district to meet them. Thank you goes out to the Atwood Lions Club for being Listowel's sponsor.

There have been many new member inductions happening around the district. Please remember to add them to your club on LCI when they are approved. Keep up the good work on getting your clubs new members. We can never have enough!!

I would like to remind the clubs that I am here to come out and help with Membership. I would be more than happy to assist your club with any help you may need to bring in more members.

Thank you, PDG Tracey Robinson

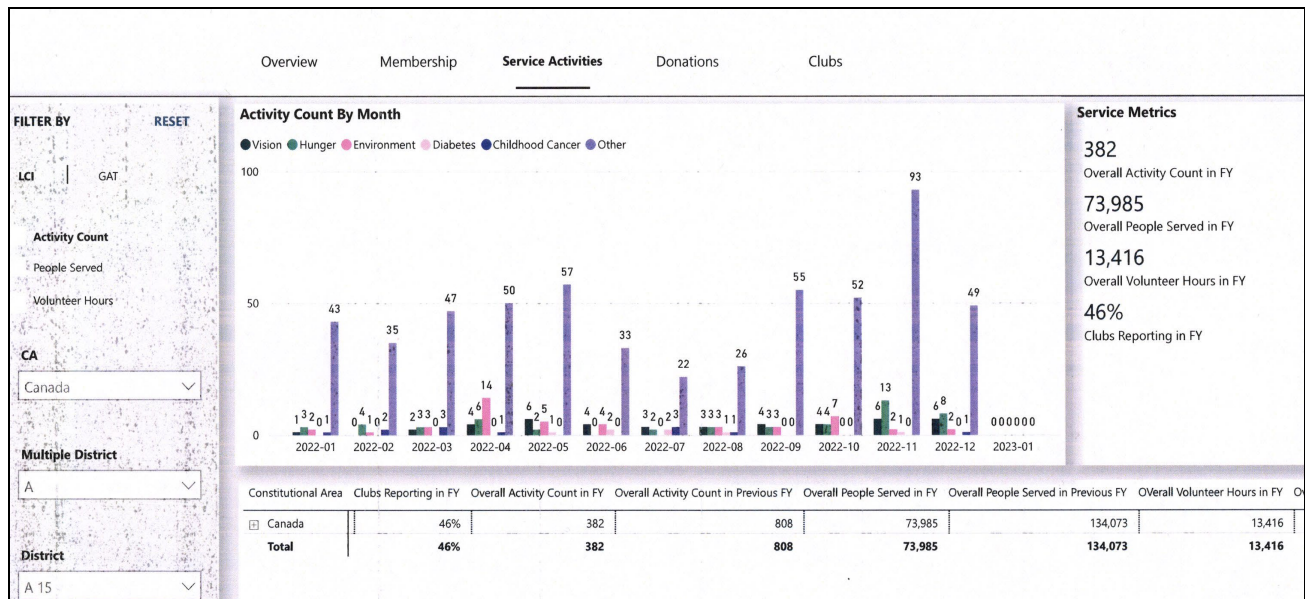
Global Service Team – PDG Nancy Ransom

I assisted the District Membership team for 3 days in October, distributing flyers to promote a new Lions club in Listowel. Congratulations to GMT PDG Tracey Robinson on formation of the new Listowel Lions, Branch Club of Atwood Lions. Their first fundraiser was a successful Bottle Drive held on January 7th.

Ideas for joint club projects and projects involving community were sent to all district Clubs in November. I have sent several A-15 monthly club service stories to Lion Kelsey Ax, GAT Specialist at Lions International.

Congratulations to the Z51 East Lions for a successful Winter Needs Clothing Drive! Thank you to South Wellington Community Lion Anita Ertel for assisting with a service presentation and discussion on community needs in Guelph Wellington region; at the November 51 East zone meeting.

Number of Clubs reporting has increased – now at 46%. **All Lions** members can access **MyLion** to read about service activities, not only in our District but also all of Canada. This is our story to share with the world.



Please remember to continue reporting your Service on MyLion and to enter the District Club Service Competition. The criteria can be found on the A-15 website under Service; or I will forward a copy on request.

To the A-15 Lions, I wish you all the best for 2023.

Yours in Service, Lion Nancy Ransom.

Bulletin Editor - Lion Bob Pearson

Plan of Action:

Continue with the established quality of the newsletter issues but we do realize there is always room for improvement.

The January 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.

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 onetime entry for the contest. More to follow.

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.

I understand Dundas Lions are transferring to A15 from A7/11, we are looking forward to reporting on their many service activities.

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.



Constitution and By-Laws – PCC Bill Carson

We were tasked with business being raised & addressed by A15 Executive, in matter of Region & Zone concerns, & confirm our concurrence.

We have no other business to report at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lion PCC Bill Carson

Convention Advisory – PDDG George Patton

Nothing to Report.

Convention Host Committee – PDG J. Doug Smith / ZC Ken Linington

2023 DISTRICT A15 CONVENTION

Our Annual District A15 Convention is being held April, 14,15 and 16 2023 at the Brantford Best Western Hotel and Conference Centre (former Brant Park Inn) just off the Alexander Graham Bell Parkway.

In 2020 we had no Convention, 2021 we had a Virtual Convention and in 2022 we had a 2 Day Convention. If we are going to have a Convention in 2024, we need to have this year's convention a resounding success.

In 2023, we have lots of Activities planned to Participate in and Enjoy.

Outline of Convention

Friday

Opening Ceremony

Parade of Banners

Candidate Skits

Remarks by our International Guest (yet to be confirmed by LCI)

First timers contest

Passing of the Campbell

Hospitality Suites

Saturday

Cabinet Meeting

Luncheon with A Pediatric Cancer Support Speaker (POGO) . Buffet Meal will be Lasagna, Rolls, Caesar Salad Dessert Coffee Tea

Afternoon Activities - Outside Environmental Display, Roadside Cleanup Of Holiday Drive and Strides for Diabetes Walk.

Evening Activities

Reception, Supper (Plated Meal which will be Bread Rolls, Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Dessert Squares. Coffee. Tea.)

Entertainment by Baker s Dozen

Sunday

Voting

Memorial Service.

Cabinet Meeting & Election Results.

Introduction of 2023/24 Cabinet

Closing Ceremonies.

Early Bird Registration - \$25.00. After March 1 - \$35.00 (Encourage at least 4 per Club).

Raffle Tickets are \$5.00 each. Book of 20 is \$100.00 (Clubs are encouraged to buy at least 1 Book).

Rooms are \$129.00 /Night which includes a Complimentary Breakfast and Free Parking.

Registrations can be done online by accessing through the District Website.

Remember **“BRANTFORD IS THE PLACE TO BE IN 2023!!!”**

(from co-chair Ken Linington)

Convention efforts are in full swing. We met with the Best Western hotel to finalize the contract. The supporting treasurer efforts are complete with both cheque and e-transfer options up and running. Coordination of the local car dealers continues for the Saturday afternoon program. Thompson Printing of Paris has agreed to do the printing needs for the convention with March 1 as a deadline for all printing needs, including the promotional material from the car dealers and other sponsors. A sponsorship planning session to approach local individuals who support Lions or businesses that support Lions will take place on January 10. All Clubs in the District will receive a promotional email on how they can assist in getting sponsors for the convention. The Convention Raffle tickets will also be promoted through email to every club in the District.

Election and Credentials – PDG Thom Herrmann

Nothing to Report.

District Historian – PDG Nancy Ransom

I continue to forward monthly club pin stories and articles to the district. Any historical articles forwarded by Clubs is always appreciated.

All the best in 2023, Lion Nancy Ransom.

Honorary Committee – IPDG Harvey Wood

No Report.

Information Technology – PCS Ted Rypma

Nothing to Report at this time.

Lions Clubs International Foundation – IPDG Harvey Wood

Governor Tony:

This is my first report as District Coordinator.

A sincere thank you to Lions in District A 15 for your contributions to the success of Campaign 100 and a huge thank you to Lion Peter Oswald for his fine leadership throughout the campaign.

Total campaign funds in Canada were \$4,725,729.00, (US\$\$) approximately \$130.00 per member average.

POST CAMPAIGN 100

The need for funding continues although not to the extent as during campaign 100. The goal for Canada for 2022/23 is about \$860,000.00 (CAD) or about \$27.00 per member.

Remember to make all contributions to Lions of Canada Fund for LCIF and send to PDG Stan Durward at Box 38, Sunderland Ont L0C 1C0.

An observation from Campaign 100.....Contributions from Clubs were several and substantial but from Lions members, few and small.

I will encourage each Lion to support your Foundation.

Lion Harv Wood

Leo Advisor – PDG O.J. Wilura

Nothing to Report at this time.

Long Range Planning – PCC Kevin Banfield

No Report.

Nominations – PCC Tim Cronin

I am pleased to report that we have candidates for governor in Garry Ransom and first vice governor in Bill Robinson who have met all the requirements for their candidacy

Nominations for second vice district governor have been open since November 2022 and I have not yet received any applications or requests for information.

First Vice Governor Garry Ransom has indicated that he will be utilizing the position of Region Chair for the Lions year 2023/24.

I have sent an email to all clubs in A15 to advise that that as of January 1 2023 nominations are “Open” for both Region and Zone Chair positions in all regions and zones in A15.

If no qualified nominations are received by the Governor and Nominating Committee prior 10 AM March 16. (30 days prior to the report of the Nominating Committee at the A15 Convention) then a nomination may be received from the floor.

We need our clubs to encourage and support Lions to take a leadership role.

I would be pleased to visit any Lion or Lions Club who would like more information on the roles and responsibilities of a position on cabinet.

Respectively submitted

Lion Tim Cronin PCC

Additional information filed by Nomination Chair Tim after the meeting package was distributed

A question has arisen about the note in the Report

"If no qualified nominations are received by the Governor and Nominating Committee prior 10 AM March 16. (30 days prior to the report of the Nominating Committee at the A15 Convention) then a nomination may be received from the floor."

By-laws - Under Article IV

"Section 4 - SECOND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR ELECTION PROCEDURES

Any member of a Club in the District seeking the office of Second Vice District Governor shall file their intention to so run in writing with the **Nominating Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the election**, and furnish evidence of compliance with the qualifications for said office set out in the International Constitution and By-Laws and the Multiple District "A" Constitution and By-Laws. The Nominating Committee shall place in nomination at the District Convention the names of all candidates so qualified. If none are so received and/or so qualified, then, but then only, nominations for the office may be made from the floor. **A candidate nominated from the floor shall be allowed.**"

Section 5 - ENDORSEMENT

Candidates for all offices shall name the Club/Clubs who have provided their endorsement. The Candidate shall furnish proof of this endorsement, which shall include:

1. (a) The date of the Board of Directors Meeting and the General Meeting at which the endorsement was made;
2. (b) The name of the Nominator and the Seconder;
3. (c) The name of the Candidate and the office sought;
4. (d) Said Candidate shall submit to the Governor, in writing, their acceptance of the nomination,

and

5. (e) All nominations must be received by the District Governor and the Nominating Committee at

least thirty (30) days prior to the day of its report to the convention.

The Clarification.

A nomination from the floor is clearly allowed for the Governor Position, First and Second Vice if No Qualified candidates are nominated.

We have qualified candidates for Governor and First Vice so at this time the only possible nomination from the floor is for Second Vice.

If we receive a qualified nomination before the close of nominations this point will be moot.

As far as I can determine there is no specific clause allowing for “nominations from the floor” for Zone or Region Chair Positions

*Because nominations from the floor are specifically allowed in some areas some would argue that it could be allowed in the other. The Constitution and By-Law Chair has confirmed that nominations **from the floor will not be allowed** for Zone or Region Chair positions.*

The second question is When do nominations Close.

*Section 4 States **“Nominating Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the election,”***

***Section 5 (e) States** (e) All nominations must be received by the District Governor and the Nominating Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the day of its report to the convention.*

Because of this conflict in the by-law I will leave it to Cabinet and the Constitution and By-Laws to make the determination as to when Nominations close.

Thank you for your assistance

Tim Cronin

Nomination Chair

Accessibility – PDG George Corrin

Nothing to Report.

Childhood Cancer – Lion Susan Martin

No Report.

Diabetes Awareness – PDG Thom Herrmann

No Report at this time.

Effective Speaking – Lion Lyle Fair

No Report.

Environment – Lion Juan Monterroza

No Report.

Gift of Life – Lion Jess Bailey

Short update for Gift of Life,

Nothing new in terms of members filling out the survey. A new email with the survey link has been sent out today. I have also emailed the Zone Chairs on thoughts about getting a Lion per club to be a specific contact, instead of just email blasts to the clubs.

I have updated my Powerpoint presentation and can do virtual club visits only.

Lion Jess

Hearing and Speech Action – PDG George Corrin

The fall season in Lions has been quite in terms of clubs doing any special service activities of the Homes for the Deaf. I would; like to remind all the clubs that each year you have the opportunity to purchase a Helen Keller fellowship award for a member of your community or club that has done something that has made someone's life better.

I have attached the application and for fellowship as well as the information of the Helen Keller Fellowship

George Corrin

(see Appendix "A" for application details)

Hunger Relief – Lion Victor Chaux

No Report.

Lions Foundation of Canada – Lion Cheryl Bauman

Nothing to Report at this time.

Lions Quest - Lion Barbara Melara

No Report.

Peace Poster and Essay for Visually Impaired Youth -Lion Debbie Nelligan

No Report.

Sight Screening and Conservation – Lion David Millard

No Report.

Youth Exchange and Camp – Lion Allison Henkell

Youth Camp & Exchange – Lions Mark & Allison Henkell

The dates for the 2023 Youth Exchange Program (YEP) are as follows:

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

Saturday, July 15 – Camp begins (Blue Springs Boy Scout Camp)

Sunday, July 23 – International Night – location TBD

Tuesday, July 25 – Camp closes – youth return to their host families

Thursday, July 27 – Youth fly out of Toronto International Airport

We just posted the camp on the international website as we were just able to confirm the dates. We have been contacted by Lions Youth Exchange coordinators in other countries, expressing interest in the camp, and we expect we will begin receiving applications soon. There are still many camps around the world that are not restarting.

This year, we will be accepting a maximum of 20 youth, and we are currently looking at renting two 12-passenger vans. As in past years, we will be speaking to each youth before we accept them to the exchange. The age for the youth who will be accepted is 16-21.

We (Mark and Allison) will be the camp Directors again and a life-long friend of ours has volunteered to attend the camp as a Counsellor (we are also working on getting him to join a Lions club). Jenna will join us when she is able but will not be at the camp full time this year. 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 young lady (18) who is interested in joining us as Youth Liaison, we will be meeting with her and her parents over the next couple of weeks to work out the details.

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 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 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 need someone 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 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 have had a long break from camp, but we are hoping this won't be like starting completely from scratch.

As we are beginning the process of contacting venues where we have visited in the past and obtaining quotes from vendors we have used in the past, (camp, van rentals etc.) we are being hit with the reality of the increase in cost since we last ran the camp in 2019. A budget was submitted and approved during the Winter cabinet meeting; we need direction from Cabinet on what level of budget overrun needs approval. We will keep Cabinet apprised of our progress as we gather information (we are looking for people to help contact venues and gather information, please reach out if you can assist) and we are looking at areas where we can cut back while maintaining the high quality of the camp experience for our visiting youth.

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!

Communication Chair – PRC Jim Keron

Nothing to Report

Appendix “A” – Supporting materials



LIONS HOMES FOR DEAF PEOPLE

75 First Street, Suite 240, Orangeville, Ontario L9W 5B6
www.edistrict.org/sites/lhdp/

Chairman
Lion Zoltan Dohar
Telephone: 905-776-0163
Email: silverd@xplornet.ca

Secretary
Amanda Mesko,
Telephone 519-619-7233
Email:
a.mesko@deafblindontario.com

ORDER FORM FOR HELEN KELLER FELLOWSHIP AWARD

NOTE: Please complete this form very carefully. Print clearly. The award will be engraved exactly the way you complete the form.

Name of Recipient _____
First Middle Initial Last

MALE FEMALE GROUP or BUSINESS

Date of Presentation _____

Presenting Club _____

SHIPPING INFORMATION

SHIP TO: Name _____
Full Address (include Postal Code)

Email _____
Telephone Work _____
Telephone Home _____
Signature _____

Please allow 4 weeks for delivery before presentation date.

OFFICE USE - ORDER CONFIRMATION

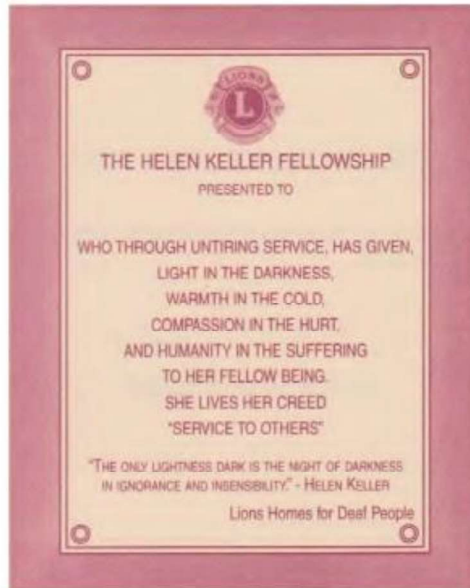
DATE INSCRIBED _____

DATE ORDER PLACED _____

AUTHORIZED BY _____

LIONS HOMES OFFER A PLACE TO GROW

HELEN KELLER FELLOWSHIP



This award has been established by the Board of Directors, Lions Homes for deaf People, to honour outstanding Lions, Lioness and Leos throughout Multiple District "A" and deserving members of the community.

The fellowship is of very significant design and quality to reflect the importance and honour of the occasion for which it is presented. An attractive lapel pin bearing a montage of Helen Keller is provided for each recipient. Recipients display both the award and lapel pin with pride.

To make a fellow Lion, Lioness, Leo or a member of your community a "Helen Keller Fellow", a donation of at least \$500.00 must be sent to Lions Homes for Deaf People. Districts may request one reward for every \$1 500.00 donated from their district in amounts less than \$500.00. For example, a number of clubs in a district might make smaller donations for a total of \$4800.00. The district would then be eligible to request three Helen Keller Fellowship to honour individuals.

This is an excellent way to honour a member of your club or citizen of your community while providing support to the projects of Lions Homes for Deaf People. The solid oak frame, red velvet background and gold lettering make this a very impressive award.

Please consider this Fellowship a suitable way to honour someone in your club or district. To order a Helen Keller Fellowship, please complete the order form on the reverse side of this page and send it along with your cheque to:

**Chairman,
Lion Zoltan Dohar
Lions Homes for Deaf People
75 First Street, Suite 240
Orangeville, ON L9W 5B6
Tel: 905-776-0163
Email: silverd@xplornet.ca**

