



*We Serve*

# Lions Clubs International

## District A-15

### Governors Newsletter

#### FEBRUARY 2023



“Spring” It’s just around the corner according to that pesky Wiarton Willy or, if you prefer, Punxsutawney Phil we are to have an early spring. By the looks of the forecast, they might be partially correct.



I know all the Clubs in the District are involved in service Projects and Fund-raising to help in the betterment of their communities. I was recently at a Lions meeting and one of the members spoke on helping the community with the needs rather than the wants. Where there is a need there is a Lion.

Keep reporting your Service projects, and people served as these reports are used by International to help attract funds from supporting agencies.

I hope that everyone is excited about our Convention at the Best Western Brantford Hotel and Conference Center April 14-16<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to submit your registration before March 1<sup>st</sup> when the early bird savings end. Thank-you for your incredible support for Turkey and Syria after the devastating earthquake.



“Together We Can” is the Slogan for this year and the Clubs of A15 have demonstrated what can be done when we work together. It may be with other service organizations but Lions are usually involved.

Make a Great Day!

*Tony*

CAMPAIGN | 100



LCIF • EMPOWERING SERVICE™

# LCIF NEWS

*Lions Clubs International Foundation*



## LIONS OF CANADA FUND

*for LCIF*



### Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION

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

A powerful earthquake struck Turkey and Syria and strong aftershocks followed, killing more than 5,000 people and injuring thousands more. As one of the strongest quakes to

When a humanitarian crisis of this magnitude strikes hit the region in more than 100 years, it has left entire communities destroyed., we, as Lions, are ready to help. Right beside us is Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), our global foundation LCIF is mobilizing funds, including a US\$200,000 Major Catastrophe grant to empower Lions in Turkey and other impacted areas to help their communities recover.

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

**Your donation can make a difference.**

**Online- [lionsofcanadafundforlcif.ca](http://lionsofcanadafundforlcif.ca)**

**or**

**Please send donations to**

**The Lions of Canada Fund for LCIF**

**c/o**

**Stan Durward**

**PO Box 38**

**Sunderland, Ontario**

**LOC 1HO**

# CABINET 2022-2023



**Tony Davidson**  
**District Governor**



**Harvey Wood**  
**Past District Governor**

**District Governor**  
**Tony Davidson (Cheryl)**  
81 Sunnyside Drive  
St. George, ON N0E 1N0  
h:519-448-3397  
c:519-732-9314  
vdg1@a15lions.org

**Past District Governor**  
**Harvey Wood (Lion Eleanor)**  
2460 Hwy #5, RR#1  
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w:519-448-9998  
ipdg@a15lions.org



**Gary Ransom**  
**1st Vice**  
**District Governor**



**Bill Robinson**  
**2nd Vice**  
**District Governor**

**1st Vice District Governor**  
**Garry Ransom (PDG Nancy)**  
224 Tatlock Ct  
Waterloo, ON N2L 5Y6  
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vdg1@a15lions.org

**2nd Vice District Governor**  
**Bill Robinson (PDG Tracey)**  
297 Greenwood Dr.  
Stratford, ON N57 7N7  
C:226-228-3022  
vdg2@a15lions.org



**Denis Vinette**  
**Cabinet Secretary**



**Linda Vinette**  
**Cabinet Treasurer**

**Cabinet Treasurer**  
**Linda Vinette (Lion Denis)**  
20 Skeen Street  
Belwood, ON, N0B 1J0  
h:226-343-0261  
c:226-971-9805  
ct@a15lions.org

**Cabinet Secretary**  
**Denis Vinette**  
20 Skeen Street  
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cs@a15lions.org





**We Serve**

# **TOGETHER, WE CAN!**

## **2023 DISTRICT A-1 5 CONVENTION**

**April 14th-16th**

**Brantford Inn & Convention Centre**

**Hosted By:**

**Paris, Rockwood & District, St. George & South Wellington Community Lions**



**International Guests, Lions Lyn and PID Mark Lyon,  
endorsed candidate for 3rd International Vice  
President. Members of the Brookfield Ct., Lions Club.  
Further information on next page.**



Downloadable Registration form available by  
using the link shown or by scanning the Q.R. code.

<https://bit.ly/3XD24jg>



**Lion Mark and Lion Lyn have been married for nearly 40 years, and are the proud parents of three adult daughters. A recognized part of their community, not just for their Lions activities, Lion Mark and Lion Lyn are also known for their past and present involvement in local civic, church and school groups. Both are career-minded professionals – Lion Mark in legal and financial services and Lion Lyn in accounting and operations. In their occasional free moments, Lion Lyn enjoys reading, crafting and bird-watching, while Lion Mark enjoys reading, playing guitar, golf and mountain biking.**



**Lion Mark has served our International Association of Lions Clubs in many capacities since 1996. A proud member of the Brookfield Lions Club, Lion Mark has a great appreciation for what our local Lions Clubs do every day to improve the well-being of their communities through active service. Along his Lions journey, Lion Mark has benefitted greatly from the guidance and support of many mentors. Because of them, he more fully understands the importance of life-long learning, the development of leadership skills, and the fostering of lasting relationships based on trust and mutual respect. To this day, Lion Mark continues to accept the challenge of serving in roles of increasing responsibility within Lionism.**

**Lion Mark views the opportunity to serve our Association as International Third Vice President with the same drive, determination and passion that he has in serving his local community. He is qualified to serve in this position, and is wholly committed to leading by example, and to representing all Lions in accordance with our International Purpose and Code of Ethics. As the endorsed candidate of Multiple District 23 (Connecticut) seeking the high office of International Third Vice President, Lion Mark is confident in his abilities to represent our Association, and pledges to do everything in his power to support the mission and vision of Lions International.**

**In August 2022, Lion Mark received the unanimous endorsement of the Executive Officers and Board of Directors of Lions Clubs International for International Third Vice President for Lions Year 2023-2024.**



# TOGETHER, WE CAN!

## 2023 DISTRICT A-15 CONVENTION

APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup> - 16<sup>TH</sup>

Brantford Best Western and Conference Centre.

**Hosted by:**

**Paris, Rockwood & District, St. George and South Wellington Community Lions**

Complete one registration form per person.

If paying for multiple registrants with one cheque or electronic transfer, attach forms together with payment. Make cheques payable to: "A15 Lions Convention".

Mail to: Paris Lions, P.O. Box 123, Paris, ON N3L 3E7

Electronic Transfers to: [convention2023@a15lions.org](mailto:convention2023@a15lions.org)



<p> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>New Lion Since April 9, 2022</i>  <input type="checkbox"/> <i>A - 15 Convention First Timer</i>  <i>District:</i> _____  <i>Club:</i> _____         </p>	<p>Pre-Registration Deadline:</p> <p>March 1, 2023</p>																														
<p>           Lion _____ Leo _____ Non-Lion _____            Highest Office Held: _____ Past _____ Present _____            Name: _____ Badge Name: _____            Address: _____ City: _____            Postal Code: _____ Phone Number: (____) _____            e-mail: _____         </p>																															
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Guests are to make their own room reservations directly by calling the hotel office at (519) 753-8651 and mention you are with the "Lions District A 15 Convention (April 14-16, 2023)" for the special room rate of \$129.00 plus taxes. Limited number of rooms available until March 1, 2023 at this special rate so book early.

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

Contact PDG Doug Smith @ (519) 855-1102 or email to: [convention2023@gmail.com](mailto:convention2023@gmail.com)

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



**Bayfield Lions  
Lion Charlie Kalbfleisch  
February 18th, 2023**

obituary available, click the image.....



17 FEBRUARY 2023



RANDOM ACT OF  
**KINDNESS**

*Day*

KINDNESS IS A LANGUAGE THAT THE DEAF  
CAN HEAR & THE BLIND CAN SEE

MARK TWAIN

[iroquoismatildalions@gmail.com](mailto:iroquoismatildalions@gmail.com)

*and a Great Day it was!*



## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

# “Club GMA”

What the heck is “Club GMA”(Global Membership Approach)? Well, it is kind of like a watch my family gave me for my birthday. It tells me when the sun will rise or set, the outside temperature, what direction I am going in so I do not get lost, it tracks me so Nancy knows where I am if I do get lost, my heart rate, my blood oxygen level, how far I have walked or cycled, and many other activities I have not thought of. Or I can wear it and it tells me the time of day. What else do you need a watch for? Similarly, some Lions want a watch that simply tells the time. In other words, continue with our longstanding service programs. The challenge some Clubs are facing is to continue to meet the service expectations with fewer members.



When clubs set out to grow membership, it can seem daunting, not unlike learning all the features on my watch simultaneously the club Global Membership Approach (GMA) that takes us through the process, ending up with a realistic plan to increase membership. At strategic points along the way, your Club will receive guidance and advice. The action plan is left to the development by the members of the club. This recognizes that each Club has unique needs and resources. When I asked my son-in-law the best way to learn all the features of my watch, he asked me what features are most important to me: the compass, oxygen level, heart beat, the distance travelled and so on. In other words, he helped me determine my highest initial priorities before trying to understand the entire instruction manual. The GMA process is quite similar. It's designed to enable Clubs to follow the process according to their needs and circumstances. Some Clubs have found it beneficial to seek the support of a District-trained facilitator whose responsibility is to ask questions and give some direction but it is up to the members to identify what is important to them, projects they consider priorities and others that are not appropriate.

Given the pace of change, it is necessary to stop and ask: “Do our current clubs meet needs and valued within the community? With this information, your ready to begin to determine where you want the club to be in 3-5 years. With these goals and objectives, you can turn to the development of the action plan. The above may sound complicated but in fact, GMA provides a step by step detailed process to follow.

Need more information. Want to understand more about the GMA process? Want the District to provide a facilitator to help your club through the process? Contact our GMA coordinator PDG, Lion Tracey at [gma@a15lions.org](mailto:gma@a15lions.org) or myself at [vdg1@a15lions.org](mailto:vdg1@a15lions.org).







# ***STRATFORD LIONS CLUB***

## **Camp Dorset Bonspiel**

**Camp Dorset held a Bonspiel at the Stratford Country Club on February 11, 2023. Lion Tom and his family from Dorset with the support of the Stratford Lions made this fundraiser happen again this year. They raised a total of \$7,215 from this event.**

**Lions Camp Dorset provides a unique resort that offers a vacation opportunity for dialysis patients and their families. It is recognized by the government as an independent Health Facility and is supported by the Lion, Lioness and Leo Clubs of Ontario.**



**The Stratford Lions also sponsored a team. Lion Ray and Lion's friends, Barrie, Wayne and Bill represented the Club.**



# Exeter Lions Club



**Leadership of Exeter Lions Club helps to raise more than \$1.285 million at Conservation Dinner over 32 years for community projects.**

**The hard work of the Exeter Lions Club volunteers working with the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation, neighbouring Lions Clubs and the local community have created a successful charitable dinner and auction since the 1990's, the 33rd dinner is to take place in person in 2023 on Thursday, April 20.**

**The Lions have a long standing relationship with the foundation, a full press release is available using the links shown below and the Q.R. code. A historical photo collection over the years is also available, the links are shown below.**

**Shown in the photo from the 2017 dinner are Lions Craig Herbert on the left and Paul Anstett, both long time supporters of the annual event.**



**A full press release from December of last year can be viewed as well, the links are below, click the link or scan the code.**

**photos**

<https://bit.ly/3DJCeIN>



**press release**

<http://bit.ly/3wB75Np>





# **“50 Great Years in Paradise”**



**The Paradise & District Lions Club 50th Anniversary celebration was held, quite fittingly, at the home of the sponsoring Lions Club in St. Jacobs. The Paradise club was chartered on February 14th, 1973. Helping to celebrate were approximately 70 Lions and Guests, including members of the Paradise club, St. Jacobs Lions, PID Lion Art Woods, and local government officials. A number of Charter Members, both current and former were in attendance. Two are still active and were presented with plaques to recognize the occasion.**

**The picture of the Charter Lions at the front of the hall has the original members that were available to attend. They are from left to right are: Murray Miles, Jim Schweitzer, Bill Strauss, Ed Gerstenkorn, John Pfaffinger, Tom Dietrich, Harvey Kuntz, Ray Haid, and Tom Crummer. Ed Gerstenkorn and John Pfaffinger are still current, active members. A full collection of photos are available by clicking the photo below.**

## **Congratulations to Paradise & District Lions!**



[click here.....](#)



# A Match – and a supporter – made in Heaven

Larry Wainwright says,  
***"I'll never live long enough  
to give back to Lions  
Foundation what Lions  
Foundation has given to me."***

We would respectfully disagree. Larry has been a dedicated supporter of Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides for decades. He and his wife, Hilda, have organized and participated in eight walks for the Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides – helping raise an astounding \$70,000!

In 1976 Larry became legally blind. In 1977 he became charter member of the new Fergus Lions Club in Fergus, Ontario.

Larry remembers when the very first Canine Vision Dog

Guide graduated from the foundation in 1985.

Larry met his own Dog Guide, Otis, on the third day of training in Oakville.

***"When Otis came, he laid his head in my lap and let me scratch his head and neck. I knew we were a match made in heaven – as I was the biggest, oldest and greyest client and Otis was the biggest, oldest and greyest dog. That bond has stayed with us ever since."***

***Otis always knows if I am not having a good day or not feeling well. He lays at my feet when I'm sitting, follows as I walk through the house, jumps up and lays beside me on the bed. All I do is move***

***and he is up for whatever I might need."***

Larry is dedicated to raising awareness of the importance of supporting Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides. As Larry says, ***"to give the precious gift of a Dog Guide to clients in need anywhere in Canada."***

In his words, ***"Thank you seems too little to say."*** But we would like to offer the biggest thank you to Larry, Hilda and Otis. For all their dedication to helping others, through their support of Dog Guides.

And to you, our readers and supporters, for continuing that tradition of compassion and generosity.



***Hilda, Larry and Otis***



***Larry and Otis raising awareness***



***Larry and Otis going for a walk***

***Reprint from LFC "Pawsitivity" report...  
Winter 2023 edition.***



CNIB/MDA Lions Committee | c/o CNIB Lake Joe  
4 Joe Finley Way  
MacTier, ON P0C 1H0  
705.375.2630 | 1.877.748.4028  
[cnib.ca/lakejoe](http://cnib.ca/lakejoe)

May, 2022

Dear Lions Family of Multiple District A (Ontario):

On August 17, 1961, CNIB Lake Joe, the only accessible camp of its kind in Canada, opened its doors to campers with sight loss for the very first time. CNIB is grateful to Lions – the Knights of the Blind – for helping CNIB secure this piece of paradise on Lake Joseph, and for tirelessly serving as valued volunteers, generous donors, and dedicated advocates.

As we celebrate warm memories of the past 60 years, we are building a bright future for generations to come! **With the support of our dedicated Lions, we are smashing barriers to ensure that everyone who wants to attend CNIB Lake Joe can do so.**

One of our most urgent capital needs is to replace our aging minibuses. **We are seeking Lions' support to raise \$160,000 for a new minibus to provide reliable, safe, accessible and comfortable transportation for campers.** Everyone impacted by sight loss – adults, children & youth, and families – should be able to access life-changing programs at CNIB Lake Joe. In the words of Lion Peter Best, "If they can't get there, they can't benefit."

**Get involved now! \$1,000 from each Lions Club** can make this dream come true. Once \$80K has been raised, an application will be made to the **Lions Club International Foundation for a matching grant.** Visit [cnib.ca/LakeJoeMinibus](http://cnib.ca/LakeJoeMinibus) for full details and to donate.

One camper explains why CNIB Lake Joe is so important to her: **"CNIB Lake Joe feels like home. It's the only place where I don't have to explain myself or my disability. It's the only place where I have been encouraged to try new things I never thought I would be able to do. Lake Joe is the place that has made me begin to believe that I can dream."**

Sadly, many people with sight loss miss out on transformative experiences at Lake Joe because they simply can't get to camp. But, as Knights of the Blind, Lions can change that!

Please contact Tara Yellowlees, Manager, Philanthropy at [tara.yellowlees@cnib.ca](mailto:tara.yellowlees@cnib.ca) or (416) 319-5493 to share your club's commitment to help raise the funds to ensure people with sight loss can get to camp and enjoy the magic of CNIB Lake Joe!

Thank you,

*Bob Tanner*

Lion Bob Tanner  
Chair, Sight Conservation  
Co-Chair, MDA Lions/CNIB Committee

*Monique Pilkington*

Monique Pilkington  
Executive Director  
CNIB Lake Joe







## **“AS LONG AS I'M ABLE”**

**An article from the New Hamburg Independent by Seyitan Moritiwon, reprinted with permission**

**“I think it is important to give something to your community.” That’s a statement Leah Graves heard from her father that she’s held on to for many years. Her father, Bill Roth isn’t just talk, he puts in the work and hours in volunteering for his community in Wilmot Township. “Looking back, I can't think of a time when my father wasn't contributing in some capacity to various groups in the New Hamburg and area,” Graves said.**

**He served as a volunteer firefighter for the Wilmot Fire Department for about twenty years, is the current president of the Wilmot Lions/Lioness Club, where he leads meetings on how the club can better serve the community and also volunteers with the New Hamburg Mennonite relief sale and Huron-Perth Christopher Leadership to name a few.**

**“I just think it's important for people to recognize that there are a lot of people in the community who are kind of like those silent heroes in a way, the quiet heroes that do a lot without expecting much in return,” she said about her dad. Graves, who described her father as a family man, said he's been both her hockey coach and Sunday school teacher.**

**For Roth, he gets satisfaction from being involved in the community and holds the view that every member of the community has a responsibility to be active where they are. As the president of a service club, he said many people do not realize how much work is put into it because they’re not involved. It was hard for him to highlight his achievements since he started volunteering in the 1980s but he said he’s happy that together with his team, he was able to merge Wilmot Lions and Lioness club in July 2021 and the rest is the beginning of history.**



# COPETOWN LIONS



*The International Association of Lions Clubs*

By action of its Board of Directors approves  
the recommendation of the Lions Club of

Copetown, Ontario, Canada

WE SERVE

and does hereby confer upon

Bill Shewfelt

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

in said club

This membership is awarded in recognition of outstanding service as a Lion

*Brian E. Sheehan*

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL  
President

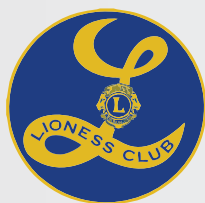
**February 7<sup>th</sup> was an outstanding meeting night for the Copetown Lions, for his tireless years as a charter member of the club and his contribution to the community Lion Bill Shewfelt was awarded a Life Membership from Lions International. Somehow the event was kept a secret and it came as a total surprise. Most of Bill's family was in attendance as were PID Art Woods, A15 DG Tony Davidson and PDG Harvey Wood. The photo shows Lion Bill receiving his Life Member card and other memorabilia from Art.**

# ARISS & MARYHILL LIONS



At a planned Zoom Meeting PCC Lion Debbie Dawson and an in-person visit from Lions Quest CEO, Lion Joanne McQuiggan, a Lions Quest Fellowship was presented to Lion Hilda Wainwright of the Ariss and Maryhill Lions Club. During the presentation Lion Debbie stated that at the MDA virtual Convention for her Council year, she asked for input on whom Lions thought would be deserving of a recognition. . Lion Hilda's name was put forward. Lion Debbie went on to say," When I heard of all the things Lion Hilda does for Lions and in support of Lion Larry, especially when it came to the Lions Quest Fellowship, ordering and compiling all the pieces and sometimes delivering them, I knew this was a great choice." Lion Joanne then presented the Fellowship at the Zoom meeting as seen in the photo below of Lion Joanne, and Lion Hilda with her Fellowship. Lion Hilda thanked everyone for the recognition and acknowledgement of her continuing efforts for Lionism.





## DUNDAS LIONS FOUNDATION



In keeping with their ongoing service project for Autism Ontario, as described on the flyer on the following page, the Dundas Lions foundation recently donated another \$11,000.00 to the society. Shown in the photo are Lions Kevin Martin, Wayne Griffiths and Mike Davies, accepting the cheque is a representative of the local office for Autism, Ontario.





# DUNDAS LIONS ANNUAL RIDE4AUTISM



**Sunday, August 27, 2023**

The Dundas Lions Club, Dundas Lions Foundation and Dundas Lioness Club are hosting their annual Motorcycle- "Ride4Autism Ontario" event where all or a portion of the proceeds go to Autism Ontario to support social and learning opportunities for those on the spectrum in Hamilton-Wentworth.

*One in 66 children in Ontario is diagnosed with autism.*



*Starting at Hamilton Air Force Club*

*128 King St. E. Dundas, ON*

*Finish at Hamilton Air Force Club*



*Riders* can register for \$30, add a *passenger* for \$15 and receive an event tee-shirt with on-line Registration.

Friends and family can sponsor you through the *pledge* form.

Businesses and individuals may decide to *sponsor* part of the event or *donate* to our raffles.



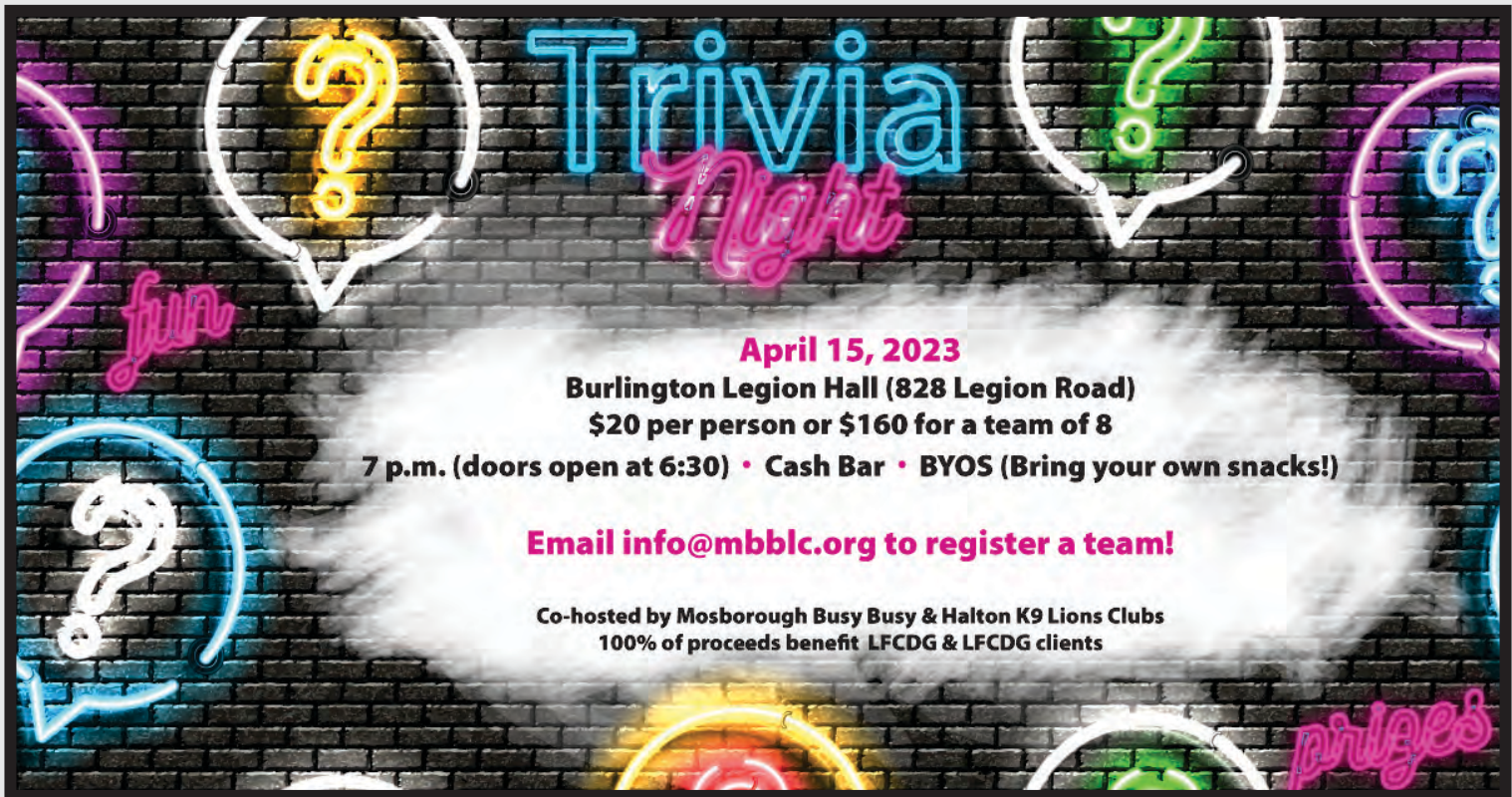
- Registration: 8:30 am
- Kickstands up: 10:00 am
- BBQ lunch and entertainment: 1:00 pm
- Music, raffles and auction: 1:00 – 2:30 pm
- Awards and Prizes: 3:00 pm

Prizes for the best  
Poker hand and the  
most donations collected !

For information, registration, donation:click the link below:

[www.hamiltonride4autism.ca](http://www.hamiltonride4autism.ca)





**Pancakes are popular this time of year.....  
Click the image for an interesting take on  
Lions Pancake Breakfasts!**





SCAN ME



## CALLING ALL VENDORS!

Be a part of Stratford's first Health,  
Wellness & Green Living Expo!

Increase your exposure and network  
with other professionals in the industry  
at this highly anticipated event!

### REGISTER TODAY & SAVE.

Early Bird registration cut-off date:  
Monday June 12, 2023

4 booth sizes available!

Registration & Details available online at:  
[www.stratfordlions.ca](http://www.stratfordlions.ca) or by scanning the QR code.



**Stratford Rotary Complex**  
**353 McCarthy Rd. Stratford**

**October 14th: 9 am - 5 pm**

**October 15th: 10 am - 4 pm**

- 60+ Vendors
- Guest Speakers
- Industry Experts

**Bringing Health, Wellness & Green Living together!**



Presented by The Stratford Lions Club





22  
APR  
2023

ELORA LIONS CLUB PRESENTS

# A WINEMAKERS DINNER

CHARITY EVENT

## MENU

---

Croquette de Poisson Blanc  
Potato Leek Soup  
Loin of Pork  
Dessert

Wine pairings with each  
course

## INFORMATION & TICKET

---

7pm  
the Grandway, Elora ON  
\$150/ ticket

PART OF PROCEEDS DONATED TO  
GROVES HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

