



# District A-15

## *Governors Newsletter*

### *Summer 2025*



**Fellow Lions,**

**As we near the end of this Lions year, it's important to take a moment to reflect — not just on what we've achieved, but also on the lessons learned.**

**We have seen a stall in membership growth and will close the year with numbers below last year, we must not lose sight of the incredible work being done. Across District A-15, service activities thrive, the visibility of the Lins brand in our communities is on the rise. That is to be proud of.**

**This year, we tried some new approaches — including encouraging digital access to our directory and shifting my focus from visiting every club to supporting membership and club development. I recognize that some of these changes were met with mixed reactions. Change is never easy, but needed.**

**We honour past while keeping our eyes on the future. If we continue to do things the same as we always have, we can predict our organization may fade. I am heartened by those of you who supported these changes, became adopters, and understand that in a world constantly evolving, we must evolve. We need to continue embracing technology, actively marketing our brand, and showing our communities — and the world — the powerful impact Lions make. Without organizations like ours, vital programs simply would not exist, and lives would be touched by hardship instead of hope.**

continues.....

Meeting the goals of Mission 1.5 has not been easy. We lost two clubs this year. Our membership will fall short of our targets. Service reporting sits at 63%, and donations are down. These numbers are not failures — they are reminders of the work ahead.

Soon a new administration will take the helm, and with Lion Linda at the controls, I am confident the district is in good hands. But she cannot do it alone, I urge each of you to rally behind Linda and her team. Your support, your energy, and your belief in our mission are the keys to future success.

In closing, I want to sincerely thank each and every one of you for the privilege of serving as your District Governor. Representing A-15 at the Multiple and International levels has been an honour I will always cherish.

Together in service,

Lion Bill Robinson  
District Governor, A-15

*Lion Bill*



# CABINET 2025-2026



**Linda Vinette**  
**District Governor**



**Bill Robinson**  
**Past District Governor**

**District Governor**  
**Linda Vinette(PDG Denis)**  
20 Skeen Street  
Belwood, ON, N0B 1J0  
h:226-343-0261  
c:226-971-9805  
dg@a15lions.org

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



**Rick Mallon**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice**  
**District Governor**



**Paul Anstett**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice**  
**District Governor**

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor**  
**Rick Mallon**  
195 Pleasant Ave  
Dundas, ON, L9H3V5  
905-627-5985  
vdg1@a15lions.org

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor**  
**Paul Anstett(Beth)**  
32 Hillcrest Dr.  
Exeter ON, N0M 1S3  
519- 235-2502  
vdg2@a15lions.org



**Dianna Hewitt**  
**Cabinet Secretary**



**Cabinet Treasurer**  
**Brian Spivey**

**Cabinet Secretary**  
**Dianna Hewitt**  
95-5 Marksam Rd.  
Guelph ON  
N1H 6Y9  
519-710-0857  
cs@a15lions.org

**Cabinet Treasurer**  
**Brian Spivey(Deanne)**  
80 King St, PO Box 631  
Burford ON, N0E 1A0  
h: (519) 449-1485  
c: (519) 757-5240  
ct@a15Lions.org

# PASSINGS

## “THEY SERVED”



**Lion Wm. “Bill” Saint**  
**Dundas Lions**  
**April 1<sup>st</sup> 2025**



**Lion Bob Ammerman**  
**St. George Lions**  
**May 7<sup>th</sup> 2025**

obituaries available, click the individual images.....

# District A-15 Convention

## April 4-6 2025

# Lions International



District Governor 2024-25  
Lion Bill Robinson



# DISTRICT A15 CONVENTION

WE MADE OUR MARK!



## “PASSING OF THE CAMPBELL”

The Official Gavel of District A15 is named the **Campbell** in honour of our first District Governor Dougald Campbell (1976-77) of the Elmira Lions. The ceremony of "Passing the Campbell" is enacted annually. It is passed from the District Governor to the most senior past district governor for keeping until the end of convention, it is then passed to the newly elected District Governor who will keep it for his or hers Lions year."



# A15 Convention

## Hosted by Stratford Lions

**A** strong theme across all responses from the membership was the connecting and socializing: many Lions cherished meeting up with old friends, forging new friendships, and sharing ideas in a relaxed, congenial atmosphere. The hospitality suites and informal gatherings—particularly Friday night—were repeatedly mentioned for the fun, fellowship, and the chance to get to know fellow Lions better.

Workshops and Speakers also stood out. Several respondents praised the opportunity to learn, whether by attending informative sessions, listening to inspirational guest speakers, or hearing awards and presentations. The international guest PID Allan Hunt, along with other key speakers, left a memorable impression, highlighting the global reach and sense of unity that Lions share.

A number of participants were enthusiastic about the banquet, commending both the food and the entertainment. The mention of a western horse-racing theme and skits added to the fun, with many noting that the planned activities and relaxed vibe made the event more engaging. The virtual flag parade was applauded as a modern, interactive touch, and people felt it encouraged creativity among clubs.

A significant event from past A15 conventions is the ceremonial ***“Passing of the Campbell”***, 2025 was no exception.

Shown in one of the images is a large quilt crafted by Lion Diane Carson and presented to International Director Debbie Dawson on behalf of PDG Tracey and DG Bill Robinson.

A further interesting sidelight was a mysterious appearance of a ransom note from an unknown source, demanding a substantial donation to the local food bank. It seems the Copetown Lions gavel went missing, probably at a recent zone meeting. The case has been assigned to a member of an undercover wing of A15 Lions, there will be repercussions, if they have not already occurred.

Another ceremony at all conventions is the memorial service, this year was no exception.

Overall, the convention’s fellowship, hospitality, and inspiring agenda were the principal highlights. Attendees valued opportunities to exchange ideas, celebrate achievements, and honour cherished traditions—especially in a setting that mixed fun activities with heartfelt purpose.

***See you next year in Brantford!***



# A15 CONVENTION 2025 STRATFORD LIONS



**Sherrif, Deputy & Posse  
Ride In to Keep Convention  
Goers Under Control!**



**A15  
CONVENTION  
HEADQUARTERS**

**OK. We got em  
all rounded up.  
Now what do we  
do with em?**



note: link not working on android phone. Iphone, laptop or desktop are OK.

“click willie”



A15

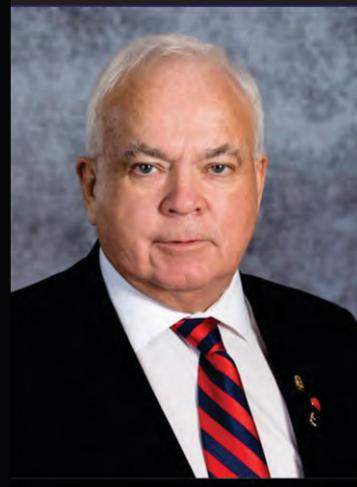
**GLOBAL CAUSES**

- Vision
- Youth
- Hunger
- Disaster Relief
- Ammanbarak

Would you like to volunteer with a service club that...

- Supports Dog Guides
- Has P's Own International Foundation
- Recycles Eye Glasses and Donates Them to 3rd World Countries
- Donates Hidden Schooling
- Helped to Create Community Centers
- Awarded President's Distinguished Service Award

**INTERNATIONAL GUEST**



**P.I.D. AL HUNT**



**International Director  
Debbie Dawson**

**Lion Diane Carson**

DEAR  
COPETOWN  
LIONS CLUB,  
WE HAVE YOUR GAVEL!  
If YOU WISH TO FREE IT,  
DONATE \$1000 TO YOUR  
LOCAL FOOD BANK &  
TEXT PHOTO PROOF TO  
51980330

EXHIBIT  
1A152



LIONS  
UNDERCOVER POLICE



FREELTON?

If you don't tell me who took it, I will remove the bale!

LIONS

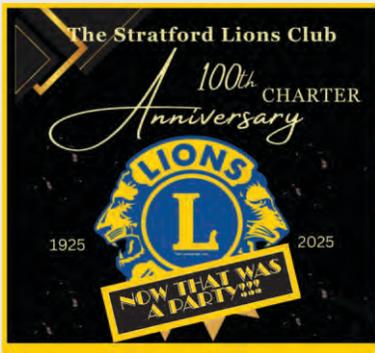
# CONGRATS!!!

The Stratford Lions Club

*100<sup>th</sup>* CHARTER  
*Anniversary*



## Stratford Lions Club Marks 100 Years of Service



May 3, 2025 — The Stratford Lions Club proudly celebrated its 100th Anniversary with an evening filled with gratitude, recognition, and entertainment, honouring a century of dedicated service to the community and beyond.

Held at the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans Hall, the celebration welcomed over 100 guests, including local dignitaries, club members, and community partners. The evening began with a social gathering at 5:00 p.m., setting the tone for a night of reflection and appreciation.

Emcee PDG Tim DeBlock, opened the program promptly at 6:00 p.m. as guests enjoyed a delicious dinner served by the Ladies Auxiliary.

The Lions were honoured by the presence of several special guests who brought greetings and warm congratulations. MPP Mathew Rae, MP John Nater, and City Councillor Mark Hunter each spoke to the enduring impact of the Stratford Lions, expressing appreciation for the club's century of service—not just to the local community, but to humanitarian causes across the globe.

A highlight of the evening was the recognition of several community partners for their ongoing support and collaboration. Honourees included Giant Tiger, Eyes to Buy, Tim Wolfe from the City of Stratford, and Jamie Cottle of CJCS Radio.

continues.....

Adding to the celebration, Past International Director Art Woods presented prestigious awards to deserving Stratford Lions members. Lion Paul Stitt and Lion Trudy Carter received Presidential Certificates in recognition of their exemplary service. Lion Bill Robinson was also presented with the distinguished Golden Tree Award.



Emcee DeBlock shared stories of the club's rich history, including key contributions such as the creation of the Lions Pool, the Bandshell, and the Lions Dufferin Arena—landmarks that reflect the club's lasting legacy in Stratford. The Seaforth Lions Club, which sponsored the Stratford Lions on January 13, 1925, was in attendance to share in the historic moment.

The evening concluded with a lively performance by magician and comedian Ray Anderson, whose blend of close-up magic and humour left guests laughing and amazed well into the night.

As Stratford Lions Club enters its second century of service, the event served as a powerful reminder of the strength of community, the importance of partnership, and the spirit of volunteerism that defines the Lions motto:

**“WE SERVE”**



PDF zoom in.....

# A15 Cabinet Meeting

The Lions of 15 gathered in Woodstock on Saturday, the 21<sup>st</sup> of June at 10 A.M., Coffee, tea and snacks were on the menu . It was an informative meeting, lots of good discussion on several issues, for your information the minutes will be made available.



It was the final cabinet meeting for DG Bill Robinson, who if you didn't know is moving on and is the MDA Council Chair for the next Lions year. DGE Lion Linda Vinette thanked Lion Bill for his dedication and service. Linda presented Bill with a parting gift as shown, which is a professional reproduction of his DG's logo.

There was another significant happening, an announcement that Freelton Lions have won an L.C.I. Marketing Award for Constitutional Area C 2. The project was spearheaded by club president Allanah Kelly, it comes with a trophy and a cheque for \$2,000.00

## CA2

Canada  
**Freelton Lions Club**  
District A 15

Digital ad

This marketing campaign was created to highlight in-person community outreach events to attract new, younger members. The club marketed events like board game nights, craft fair booths, and fundraisers.

**Goals**

- Increase membership, lower average member age
- Increase community outreach

**Results**

- 8 new members; 15 prospective
- Lowered avg. member age from 78 to 54

Webpage

Social media invitation

Community sign

Brochure

Social media invitation

DELICIOUS CHICKEN WINGS!

PLAY BOARD GAMES INSTEAD.

Lions Clubs International

# WILMOT LIONS/LIONESS



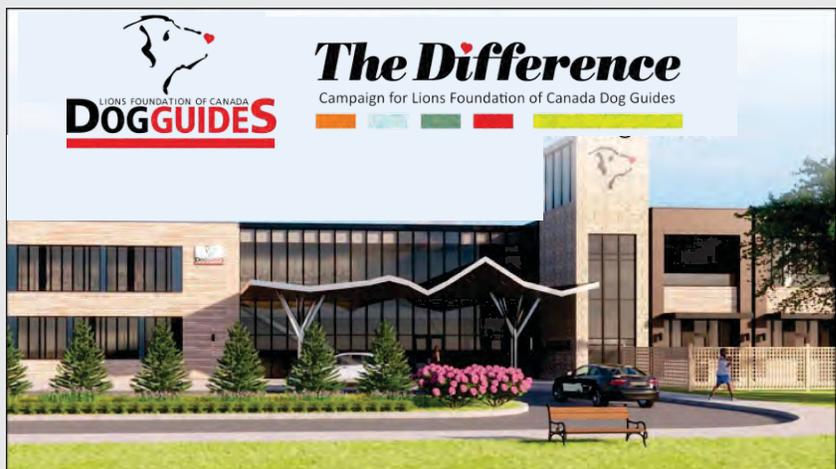
District Governor Bill Robinson installed the following Wilmot Lions/Lioness at a recent meeting. .Shown are Paul Mackie, Advertising & Membership - Tom Mathews, 1st Vice President - Joan Bilinsky, Secretary - Marjorie Heimpel, Treasurer - Michele Brousseau, Past President - Shirley Collins, President and District Governor Bill Robinson. Absent: Cindy Jeanes 2nd Vice President.

---

## LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA

The Difference Campaign is our most significant campaign in the organization's history. With 1 in 4 Canadians living with a disability today, we can do so much more! It is not just a building but an investment in potential.

Together, we can continue to make a difference in the future of Canadians in need of a Dog Guide. Be a part of the next phase of LFCDG's history by participating in The Difference campaign.



# MERRITON



## MERRITON LIONS INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS, JUNE 2025

Following the installation Fellowships and Awards were presented as follows:

Harry Newman award to Lion Denise Chuchman, Lions Quest Fellowship to Lion Dawn Bell, Helen Keller Fellowship to Lion Lauren McInnis, CNIB Lake Joe Colonel Baker award to Lions Glenn Connell and Sharon Crane, Lions Clubs Camp Kirk Foundation awards to Lions Terry Barclay, Heather Davidson, Mario Lucciola, and Sharon VanVolkenburg, and Melvin Jones Fellowships to Lions Brad Davidson, Evelyn Davidson, Bruce Lawrence, Doug Schroeder, Wayne Tucker, and Steve Yendt.

# **SWEABURG LIONS**

## **Peace Park Trail Renewal**

Recently a hard working team of Lions, Park Board members and “Friends of Sweaburg” finished a major part of our Peace Park renewal and did a great job.

The main trail had weed fabric put down and covered with screenings. The hope is that this will keep the trail passable for several seasons to come. The many side trails have been cut back but will be left as more natural paths.

Two special thanks. First to the Sweaburg and District Lions for their financial support. Second to Mark Ford and Paul Brown Excavating for their support. More improvements to follow.



**OXFORD HEIGHTS**

CANADA 125

**PEACE PARK**



OCTOBER 1992



# STRATFORD LIONS



The Stratford Lions Club held a bottle drive at Giant Tiger on May 31, 2025. Proceeds will go to Diabetes Canada D-Camps.



Lions Paul and Frieda arrived with bottles collected from their neighbourhood.



Lions Kevin and Kim are ready for the next donations.

# St George Lions

## We Had A Wheelie Good Time At The Bike Rodeo!

On Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>, we held our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Kids Bike Rodeo at the Gaukel Memorial Community Centre. The weather was perfect and we had a record breaking crowd. A total of 112 kids participated in the Bike Rodeo this year - a 40% increase over last year and along with their families it made for a busy morning. The OPP ran the bike safety station and made sure the kids had pumped up tires, reflectors and even replaced three cracked bike helmets! Volunteers ran the other stations and helped teach important road safety information to the kids.

New this year, we were joined by the St. George Volunteer Firefighters and the St. George Ravens Hockey Club. The club served up complimentary hot dogs, chips, freezies, and drinks. It was a great day for the kids!

Lion Chief Merle drew the winners of the brand new bikes who were all so excited with the good news: Melvin- age 11, Ella- age 9, Grace- age 6 and Jeremy- age 4. A special thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the day such a success!



# PORT COLBORNE LIONS



The Lions of Port Colborne have drastically improved what was already a community highlight. Their club building has been decorated with a beautiful mural, designed and painted by local artist Dan Kozina , with over one hundred hours of work in two weeks.



# COPETOWN LIONS



As this Lion's year comes to a close, outgoing Copetown Lions Club president, Colleen Martin wanted to hand deliver our donation to fulfill their commitment of \$5000.00 to Food4Kids Hamilton, Director, Cathy Haan of Food4Kids explain their mission to ensure no child goes hungry aligns deeply with the Lions Club's commitment to community service, and it is a true pleasure for the Lions to support such meaningful and compassionate work.

Our outgoing club president, Colleen Martin hosted our last general meeting of the year at the Binkley Farm In Copetown this week. Members, along with our valued volunteers, all gathered to celebrate the work we did in our community during the past Lion's year. Giovanni, an award winning pizza chef, artfully created pizzas for all! Lots of laughs and stories on a warm night makes for a perfect way to end the year.





# THAMESFORD



**It is not very often we get to post a picture of everyone from one of our meetings, but here you go for your Lions Collection!**

**Thanks to Lion Doris (and her camera with a timer), here is everyone who attended June's BBQ dinner meeting - including PDG Tracey Robinson and current DG Bill Robinson. If you look closely at the middle back row, you even see Lion Jim Rogers peeking at the camera. (kinda like a Wheres Waldo scenario)**



# DUNDAS LIONS ANNUAL

## RIDE4AUTISM



**Sunday, August 24, 2025**

The Dundas Lions and the Dundas Lions Foundation and Dundas Lioness are hosting their annual motorcycle “Ride4Autism Ontario” event where all or a portion of the proceeds go to Autism Ontario and the Canadian National Autism Foundation 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 and Finishing At  
Hamilton Air Force Club  
128 King St. E. Dundas, On



Riders Register for \$30.00  
Add a Passenger for \$15.00  
Receive an Event T-shirt  
with Online Registration

Registration 8:30 AM  
Kickstands Up 10:00 AM - SHARP!  
BBQ Lunch & Entertainment 1:00 PM  
Music, Raffles, Auction 1:00 - 2:30 PM  
Awards & Prizes 3:00 PM



**Prizes For  
Best Poker Hand  
&  
Most Donations  
Collected!**

For Information, Registration or Donations use the link below or scan the QR Code

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



# Ride4Autism Ontario Sunday, August 24, 2025

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

Hamilton Airforce Club, Dundas Ontario



## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Since 2015, the Ride4Autism Ontario event has raised over \$110,000! Funds raised assist and improve the lives of individuals and their families who face the challenge of Autism. All sponsors receive acknowledgement on all Dundas Lions and Autism Ontario social media

- ❖ **Gold Sponsorship \$1000:** Includes a banner and a large logo on the front of our event t-shirt that riders receive
- ❖ **Silver Sponsor \$500:** Includes a banner and a medium logo on our event t-shirt that riders receive
- ❖ **Bronze Sponsor \$250:** Includes a banner and a small logo on our event t-shirt that riders receive
- ❖ **T-Shirt Sponsor \$60:** Includes a small logo on our event t-shirt that riders receive
- ❖ **Prize Table Supporter:** You may wish to help us achieve our goals by contributing items to our auctions and raffles.
- ❖ **Financial Sponsorship:** Consider making a financial donation to support our event

.....  
Yes! I would like to sponsor the Ride for Autism Ontario event in the

amount of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as a \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor / \_\_\_\_\_ Donor.

I would like to contribute an item to the auction: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Payment:  Cheque  MC  Visa Card#: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp.: \_\_\_\_\_

Make Cheques Payable to:  
The Dundas Lions Club

Please mail the form and cheques to: Dundas Lions Club, PO Box  
65521, Dundas Postal outlet, Dundas, ON L9H 6Y6

.....

# ROCKTON LIONS



WIN \$1000

## 2025 Rockton Lions Summer Sweepstakes – Win \$1,000 Every Week!

Support your community and win BIG this summer!

The Rockton Lions Club is launching its 2025 Summer Sweepstakes – your chance to win \$1,000 cash every Friday from July through August!

BUY TICKETS NOW

### How It Works

- 📅 Weekly Draws for \$1,000 – every Friday from July 5 to August 30, 2025
  - 🎟 Tickets are only \$10 each 🎟 Only 2,000 tickets available – incredible odds to win 🟢 Your ticket stays in the draw every week unless it wins 🎉
- All proceeds go to Rockton Lions Club community projects and charitable initiatives

WHERE THERE'S A NEED  
THERE'S A LION

SINCE 1917





# District A-15 *Governors Newsletter Publishing Schedule*

The plan is to have the Newsletter be distributed the second week of the following months, subject to adjustment where required:

**October, December,  
February, April and June**

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

## THE GRAVEYARD OF PAST DEADLINES

