

LION




M.D. "A" Edition October/November/December 2024

www.lionsclubs.org

We Serve



Greetings
OF THE
Season

A young child with dark hair, wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt and brown overalls, is walking on a paved path. The child is holding a cane with a black handle and a white shaft with an orange tip. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with greenery and a building.

Improving Vision.

Preventing Diabetes.

Protecting the
Environment.

Eliminating Hunger.

Supporting Children
with Cancer.

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tackles many crucial
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Our Cover Photo was submitted by the Knowlton Lions Club from their collection of photos from a previous Santa Claus Parade. See more about this event on page 14.

THE Lion

Welcome to the October/November/December Edition of the **LION**.
 To submit stories, photos, comments or suggestions, please utilize the services of your District Reporter. For photos, try to ensure your camera and/or smartphone is at the highest setting to provide quality images. The camera quality of most smartphones available today is excellent. A minimum of 300 DPI is desired. Images copied from the internet and/or Facebook or other social media are usually unsuitable.



We Serve

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The LION Magazine, official publication of Lions Clubs International, is published by authority of the board of directors in 20 languages - English, Spanish, Japanese, French, Swedish, Italian, German, Finnish, Korean, Portuguese, Dutch, Danish, Chinese, Norwegian, Icelandic, Turkish, Greek, Hindi, Indonesian and Thai.

Management Committee Lion Magazine
 Lion Marjorie Lewis • Lion Eric Dolansky PDG



Agreement Number is:
 41805020*

Stronger Together



Dear Lion,

At the heart of every successful Lions club is the spirit of collaboration, innovation and a deep commitment to serving humanity. Our clubs thrive when we infuse fresh ideas, new energy and a strong sense of purpose into our work. And the impact of our service grows exponentially when we welcome individuals from diverse backgrounds and experiences to join us.

This unity in diversity is the very essence of Lions. When we serve together, we have a profound impact on the people we serve — and on the people who serve with us. The bonds we form through shared purpose and action are powerful, enriching our communities and our personal lives.

MISSION 1.5 exemplifies this collective strength. It's our rallying call to every Lion around the world to help grow

our impact. Through this mission, we will expand our reach, strengthen our clubs and introduce more people to the joy of serving as a Lion.

This is our opportunity to be bold, to be welcoming and to make our mark. Let's continue to build on the foundation of service that has made Lions International a beacon of hope for so many. And let's do it together.

At your service,

Fabrício Oliveira

International President, Lions Clubs International



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Natal, Brasil – October, 2024



AUDIT COMMITTEE

A resolution for Chapter II. Board Committees, PThe finances of Lions International were discussed to some extent, but the last operating year has been audited. That year, a USD 25.1 million deficit was due to the payment of USD 29.6 million tax on the annual dues collected by LCI from Lions members in India. Taxes were levied on the annual fees a few years ago, but there was a debate about whether the LCI should pay taxes retrospectively. The conclusion was that it should have been made, but without the tax payment there would have been USD 4.5 million in profit, which is USD 6.9 million better than the previous operating year.

It was agreed to add to the laws and bylaws of Lions that LCI is authorized to collect annual fees along with local taxes.

CONVENTION

The 107th International Convention, which was to be held in Mexico, was moved to Orlando, Florida, USA, and will take place from July 13. – 17. 2025. The reasons for the change in the venue of the Convention were that costs in Mexico had increased significantly, not enough hotel space had been secured, nor had the route of the parade been decided and confirmed. It was clear that this would not be achieved in time, so it was decided to cancel the Convention in Mexico and move it to Orlando.

All those who were registered for the Convention in Mexico will be refunded or can transfer their registration to the Convention in Orlando. The next Convention will be held in Hong Kong on 3. -7. July 2026.

A proposal was also approved that the European

Lions could be together in the parade, in alphabetical order. It was also decided that the Nordic countries could continue to work together in the parade as a separate unit.

Constitution and By-laws

The committee received an update on Provisional District 135 and was pleased with the continued growth of members and clubs within the provisional district.

The committee is aware of the unfortunate actions of some current and past International officers, who continue to spread misinformation and have appeared on local news misleading the public on the intentions of the association, which remain to support the autonomy of chartered Lions clubs and encourage joint activities among Lions to benefit communities throughout the island of Cyprus.

The committee reviewed the process that was recently utilized to change the 2025 International Convention site from Mexico City, Mexico, to Orlando, Florida, USA. While the committee understands exceptions may arise for prompt executive decisions with limited time and information for review by the board, concerns were raised about the lack of transparency to impacted chairpersons or vice chairpersons.

The committee reviewed information that was received by the association in its effort to capture more foundations and the service they conduct. The committee was pleased to note more than 100 new foundations have reported their service and will be reviewed to ensure compliance with association policy.

DISTRICT AND CLUB SERVICE

Most of the e-books have been revised and updated by removing redundancies and adding more links to relevant material.

Fewer clubs were cancelled through September than in the same period last year (-19.61%). Civil unrest and war continue to impact areas, causing clubs in Central and Eastern Europe to seek protective status. Three clubs in Belarus, eighteen clubs in Russia, three clubs in Armenia and seven clubs in Ukraine remain in protective status as of September 30, 2024.

The committee reiterated that District Governors are not required to visit all clubs in their area and should carefully plan how the budget can be best utilized.

The division translated 2,306,606 words through June 30, 2024, which is less than previous years. Staff continue their efforts on improving machine translation results.

LCIF COMMITTEE

LCIF, the Lions Clubs International Foundation, raised a record US\$70 million last year. This has allowed LCIF to allocate more than before to a variety of projects in the name of Lions and in collaboration with clubs around the world.

LCIF is our fund that enables us to accomplish projects abroad and at home. Since its establishment LCIF has awarded more than 20,000 grants, totaling USD 1.3 billion.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Following discussions at the board meeting in Natal, Brazil, it was decided to approach the course for past district governors in a more realistic way, adding written documentation and providing more freedom as to when and how the course would be held.

The Leadership Development Committee continued to discuss the update of the RLLI curriculum. It is progressing well, and we expect to see some material at the March meeting of the board. The plan is to

implement this updated RLLI material in the next Lions year.

There was also a discussion about CLLI, a course material for beginners, which is provided by a district in India. After some discussion, it was referred to the Leadership Division for further examination and evaluation.

MARKETING

This year, 46 marketing grants were awarded to Lions clubs at a total amount of USD 500,000. A review of LCI's marketing performance revealed that Lions news and stories received a total of 5.1 billion impression, equivalent to USD 27.5 million, an increase of 14% from the previous year.

Many Lions already use AI both formally and informally in their work, and LCI's AI team is exploring how it can be of the best use to us.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

There is a strong emphasis on Mission 1.5 in the work of the Lions, which is about having 1.5 million members by July 1, 2027. At the European Parliament, I sat for over an hour with International presidents, vice-presidents and International board members on the subject. The reason for the meeting was how we, International board members, were going to work towards the goals that were set for the districts. That meeting was informative, and many ideas were put forward.

Unfortunately, Mission 1.5 has not been successful so far and we have reduced our net number by 2,100 from the same time last year. Therefore, a lot of energy is put into Mission 1.5 internationally.

It is being investigated whether Omega-Leo members can be included in the total number of Lions and there are no legal obstacles to this, nor are any fees required. About 200 thousand members would be added. It is not clear what will be done, but it can be expected that a proposal to this extent will see the light of day at the meeting of the International Board of Directors in March and that it will be voted on at the next Convention. This will, however, not change the goals of Mission 1.5.

SERVICE

The way in which the limits for the registration of service projects with Lions were examined. There is a maximum of 3,000 people who can be registered to benefit from service projects, 1,200 volunteer hours and a maximum of USD 200,000 awarded for each service project. It seems that only a few service projects exceed these limits (0.4%). However, the number of beneficiaries decreased by 20% during the year, to 423 million. Only 64% of clubs submitted project reports during the operating year.

TECHNOLOGY

The global security and news and trends were discussed with staff detailing recent cyber-attacks that

have impacted organizations across the globe. This context highlights the importance of ongoing work by staff to protect the organization from cyber-attacks. A new Virtual Private Network (VPN) solution is being tested for full organization implementation. Completion is scheduled for prior to the end of the calendar year.

Lion Portal has been running for some time now, and the system is still being tweaked and new features have been added. There are already 126,000 members registered as users (more than ever), and the number is constantly growing. More than 461 thousand projects and 325 thousand Lions officers have been registered in the system.

Much has been done to improve Lion Portal, and many new features have been added. The strategy is to further improve education about the system by...

– inserting videos – writing short instructions
– adding webinars and – providing further assistance by phone

If you have any problems or do not understand something, please use these resources at LCI or contact the Office in Oak Brook

For more information on any of the above summaries, please refer to the LCI website at www.lionsclubs.org or contact the Legal division.



Highlights of the Council Of Governors' Meeting September 21, 2024



FINANCIAL UPDATE

Council Treasurer Eric Dolansky presented the budget for the 2024-2025 Lions Year which was accepted and adopted by the Council of Governors.

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Congratulations to District Governor Elect BilThe committee and the Lions of MDA would like to say a HUGE thank you to PDG Dave Hewitt for his ten years serving MDA with distinction as the Council Treasurer. It has been a pleasure working alongside you and we appreciate your dedication and tremendous amount of time and help!

MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A" CONVENTION

The 2025 MD "A" Convention themed "Make Your Mark in the Bruce" will be held at the Unifor Family Education Centre in Port Elgin on May 23 – May 25, 2025.

The Host Committee would like to invite you to come to a very special area of our province. Experience the just over 800 kilometres of beach along the Lake Huron shoreline. Following our MDA Convention, you could go camping in a Yurt at MacGregor Point Provincial Park or, you could jump aboard the Chi Cheemaun or Big Canoe and sail across to Manitoulan Island (the world's largest freshwater island).

Registration Forms will be available soon.

HUNGER

MDA Convention Hunger awards progress Year to Date (YTD – Q1: JUL-SEPT 2024):

1. District Governor: highest # hunger activities reported YTD; A-2 DG Wilrik Banda (27)
2. District Hunger Chair: highest % clubs reported hunger activity YTD; A-3 (18%)
3. Lions Club: greatest # of SERVICE activities reported for hunger YTD; A-2 Fonthill LC (18)
4. Lions Club: most people SERVED for hunger YTD; A-2 Fonthill LC (28,363)
5. Lion Members: most volunteer hours reported for hunger YTD; A2 Font Hill LC (9,575)

Congratulations to all! Let's keep reporting.

LION MAGAZINE

Digital editions of the LION Magazine can be found at www.mdalions.org or through the MyLion App. Advertisers are always welcome!

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

At the August meeting, the LCIF Board of Trustees approved a matching grant application from District A15 for US\$150,000 for support with the construction of the National Dog Guide training school, a matching grant application from District A1 for US\$16,320 to purchase equipment for St. Joseph's Hospice, and a District and Club Community Impact Grant from the Brampton

Bramalea Lions Club in District A711 for US\$12,170 as a local match for the construction of the National Dog Guide training school.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

Past Council Chair, Bradd Anderson has taken on the role of Leo Chair for MDA. There are a few Leo Clubs in MDA but we are hoping to increase numbers and strengthen current Clubs.

SIGHT CONSERVATION

The Bus is on order and the deposit has been paid from CNIB campaign funds. Completion of the bus is scheduled for December. The CNIB has elected to take delivery of the bus in the spring. A bus of this type requires Ministry of Transportation Safety Inspection every 6 months. The later delivery will only require 1 inspection for next summers camping season and sets a schedule for all years moving forward.

MDA WEBSITE

Thank you, Lion Rick Lush for our new MDA Website, it looks amazing! Please visit the new website at www.mdalions.org

For information, questions or concerns relating to these highlights please contact MDA Secretary Marjorie Lewis at email: secretary@mdalions.org.



NEW LCIF VISION GRANT

Our new LCIF Vision Grant Program allows our foundation to support Lions-led service initiatives that address blindness, prevent vision loss and offer vital assistance to those who are blind or visually impaired in underserved areas.



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

Lions may apply starting October 2024.

Learn more at lionsclubs.org/GrantsToolkit.

by Shelby Washington

Lions and Leos from around the world gathered in Melbourne, Australia, June 21-25, 2023. Lions across the world have addressed preventable and treatable vision loss through bold and innovative interventions for 100 years, believing they could save sight and improve lives for people of all ages. KidSight emerged from this essential belief, bringing Lions clubs together to ensure children receive eye screenings and the care they need to protect their vision.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), about 17% of school-age children worldwide have vision problems including issues such as refractive errors including farsightedness. Since early detection is crucial to prevent lifelong vision problems, KidSight has tenaciously expanded to save children's sight.



Without many comprehensive vision programs in Mexico to identify and treat vision problems in children early enough to prevent prolonged issues, KidSight's expansion there was a natural next step. The Lions of District B7 wanted to help ensure children have access to proper vision care and were eager to begin a KidSight program locally. Lion Dr. Angel Sosa says, "I was motivated to get involved with this project when I discovered the importance of preventing childhood blindness. It struck me that, in my country, few health institutions offered this type of screening, leaving children with few opportunities to prevent various vision diseases."

They utilized a US\$45,346 Matching Grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and raised US\$7,558 from Cordoba, Poza Rica Dejando Huella, and Alamo Lions Clubs to acquire 10 Spot Vision Screeners and 10 printers. With this equipment, they initiated a KidSight campaign to screen children ages 4 to 14 for vision issues and provide referrals for necessary follow-up care.

are encouraged to participate in the screening. If a problem is detected, the child will be referred to a vision care provider.

"Both family members and doctors expressed that this project has been immensely helpful. Before, it was very difficult to catch visual

problems in children early, and by the time they were diagnosed, it was often too late for effective treatment," says Lion Dr. Sosa. If the family is unable to pay for follow-up care, the hosting Lions club will offer support for glasses or treatment costs.

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The Lions have partnered with Vision Toledo and Lyderam, ophthalmology institutions in Veracruz, Mexico, to provide free, vision-related services to at-risk communities since 2018. These partnerships include technical support, training and involvement from ophthalmologists experienced in KidSight projects in Argentina and Colombia. Dr. Sosa highlighted the project's lasting impact stating, "Lions KidSight Mexico is here to stay and help thousands of children, giving them hope for a better quality of life."

Visit lionsclubs.org/GrantsToolkit to explore different grant types and learn which one will be most effective for your club's next project.



A5- Hearing Chair Makes a Difference



Great news from MDA with regards to hearing and the Helen Keller Award.

For two years, Lion **Margo Oleskiw** of the **Bonfield and District Lions** has been requesting that clubs be able to contribute to a Helen Keller Award over a few years, rather than in a one time donation. The Board of Directors of the Lions Home for Deaf People has approved clubs will be able to donate \$200.00 per year for 3 years to put towards a Helen Keller Fellowship. It must be clearly indicated that they want to have an award after the three years. A vote of thanks to Lion Margo as this is now a reality. It will be a big help for smaller clubs in our district that do not have much in the way of administrative funds but still want to honour a club member. Way to go Lion Margo. We are so proud to have you as a member of District A5.

Lion Margo taking the collection of hearing aids to the Canadian Hard of Hearing Office for recycling

Bath and District Lions

This is our Medical and Mobility Program. It's a very busy project that has grown substantially in the last few years. It has become very successful. Calls for assistance are received and appointments made to view what we might have to fulfil their needs.

Items are loaned out, with a signed waiver, at no cost and returned when no longer needed. As present chair I find this work very fulfilling and have met so many interesting people that are so very grateful for our program.

Lion Helen VandeSande



Famous Lions

Basically, if you are interested in service, you can be a Lion—even if you happen to be famous. Celebrity Lions include Edmund Hillary of the Remuera Lions Club in New Zealand; Amelia Earhart, an honorary member of the New York City Lions Club; Admiral Richard Byrd of the Washington D.C. Lions Club; Jimmy Carter of the Plains Lions Club in Georgia; Gerald Ford of the Grand Rapids Lions Club in Michigan; honorary member Helen Keller; Larry Bird of the French Lick West Baden Lions Club in Indiana; Roberto Clemente of the Carolina Country Club Lions Club in Puerto Rico; Johnny Rutherford of the River Oaks Lions Club in Texas; and Chester Gould of the Woodstock Lions Club in Illinois.



Lions for Groves: Upgrading a Diabetes and Patient Education Centre in Canada

by Shelby Washington

At the Diabetes and Patient Education Centre, in the Ambulatory Care Department at Groves Memorial Community Hospital in Fergus, Ontario, Canada, patients living with diabetes receive more than just medical care. They gain the knowledge and support they need to live healthier lives. This Centre offers critical educational programming to help patients with type 1, type 2 and gestational diabetes understand their condition and take care of their health through proper diet, exercise and medication management.

The centre offers both inpatient and outpatient services, with individual appointments available for patients to meet with certified diabetes educators. These educators, including registered nurses and dietitians, help patients navigate the challenges of living with diabetes and the demand for this centre was beginning to increase.

Past District Governor (PDG) Denis Vinette says, "Groves Memorial Hospital is a small community hospital that serves a rapidly growing population. The diabetes services were limited to an area in the basement of the hospital. There was no exercise or training facility, and it became a focus of the hospital to enhance and increase the diabetes area to further accommodate the growing number of clients as a result of the population growth."

The centre has been able to increase its positive impact thanks to an upgrade made possible by the generous support of Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and local Lions clubs. Lions donated over US\$170,000 to the Groves Hospital as part of the Lions for Groves project, which included a US\$50,000 Diabetes Grant from LCIF. These funds were used to enhance the Centre's resources and abilities, with audiovisual systems for educational rooms and computers for patient consultations among other improvements.



Today, the centre has two nurse offices, two dietician offices, a large consultation room for both individual patients and group activities, and access to a gym. It is supported by nine Lions clubs from the surrounding communities.

"This effort has created a program that is second to none in regard to diabetes education and support. I believe the Lions for Groves project is a shining example of what Lions can do when they put their mind to it," says Vinette.

Thanks to these upgrades, diabetes care at the centre has seen incredible growth, with a 122% increase in patient care over the past two years. Originally serving around 855 patients, the centre now supports as many as 1,925 patients annually. With a growing population in the hospital's

service area, the Diabetes and Patient Education Centre continues to be a great resource. Many families support the centre, knowing that advanced, compassionate diabetes care is readily available, thanks to the continued support from LCIF and the local Lions clubs.

The LCIF Diabetes Grant Program can help develop community environments that inspire and support healthy lifestyles and provide education about diabetes and prediabetes. LCIF Diabetes Grants can increase access to diabetes care and enhance existing diabetes centres to provide greater service to the community.

Visit lclf.org/grants to learn more about LCIF grants and how they can help your community and others around the world.



Wilmot Lions/ Lioness

Wilmot Lions/Lioness Lion **Carol Massell** attended the New Hamburg Fall Fair with their Ambassador delegate Lily Henhoeffer. Such a great program for young people. The club also welcomed two new members.



L-R: Mary Pfaff sponsor to Robin Glazier, Zone Chair Terry McDougall, Grant Jonas and sponsor Tom Mathews

Lions Clubs of: Lefavre, Clarence Creek, Vankleek Hill, Buckingham and Alexandria

The Hawkesbury and District General Hospital Foundation have received a donation of \$60,000.00 from local Lions Clubs, namely the Lions of Lefavre, Clarence Creek, Vankleek Hill, Buckingham and Alexandria and Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). This generous gift was an important step in the acquisition of new 3D mammography technology. The dedication of various Lions Clubs committed to supporting the community, led the organization to support the purchase of this important new equipment for the region known as “tomosynthesis” significantly improves the early detection of breast cancer.



Lions Clubs de : Lefavre, Clarence Creek, Vankleek Hill, Buckingham et Alexandria

La Fondation de l'Hôpital général de Hawkesbury et du district a reçu un don de 60 000 \$ des Lions Clubs locaux, à savoir les Lions de Lefavre, Clarence Creek, Vankleek Hill, Buckingham et Alexandria et la Fondation du Lions Clubs International (LCIF). Ce don généreux a été une étape importante dans l'acquisition de la nouvelle technologie de mammographie 3D. Le dévouement de divers Lions Clubs engagés à soutenir la communauté, a conduit l'organisation à soutenir l'achat de ce nouvel équipement important pour la région connu sous le nom de « tomosynthèse » améliore considérablement la détection précoce du cancer du sein.

Grimsby and District Lions

Recently the Grimsby and District Lions received recognition from the Grimsby Chamber of Commerce with the awarding of a Community Impact award, second only to the well deserving overall winner, the Fort Foundation of Resources for Teens (FORT). Accepting the award on behalf of the Grimsby Lions is District A2 VDG **Louise Agnew**.



Walden Lions

The Walden Lions have a long-standing relationship with the Anderson Farm Museum Heritage Society. In addition to being a \$5,000.00 platinum sponsor, they also participate in three joint events over the year, the fair is one of the events. This is one of the biggest fairs in the Sudbury area and attracts up to 10,000 people. Another event is the Rock the Farm concert series that runs for nine weeks over the summer. The club was able to run a 50/50 draw for four of those weeks and raised \$1,620.81 to donate to the Anderson Farm Society. Thank you Waldenites for participating in the 50/50 draw. You are a big help in keeping the concert series and other events going in the community.



L - E: Lions Bonnie Durrell, Jennifer Anderson, Melanie Macdougall, Ken Yasinowski and Reg White

Mattawa Lions and Fire Department

On a warm Saturday in September, the Mattawa Lions with help of the Mattawa Fire Department put on a "fun-raising" car wash and BBQ. Lion **Josee O'Hare** with the assistance of Lion **Monique O'Hare** manned the BBQ. Lions **Connie Howitt, Jennifer Dool, Pauline Thibert, Zoë Forest-Cooter,** and **Shannon McNamara** were on car wash duty with the fire fighters. Did you notice it was all lady Lions helping the fire fighters? With lots of food, fun and water, the Lions raised \$530.00 for the Club.



Camp Huronda Open House

Your editor had the pleasure of attending the Camp Huronda Open House appreciation day at their facility in Huntsville on October 27th. It was very informative for those of us who are not as aware as we could or should be of the Lions involvement in the Diabetes Campaign. It was a great afternoon, hearing about the camp operation from **Lauren Linklater, Camp Manager** and her support team. Their enthusiasm for the battle against this life-threatening disease is amazing.

Lion **Tony Orangis**, a member of the **Weston Lions** and the MDA Diabetes Chair put together the following excellent information package:



LIONS CLUBS GATHER FOR CAMP HURONDA APPRECIATION DAY: A CALL TO ACTION FOR SUPPORT

Camp Huronda, on the serene shores of Lake Waseosa in Muskoka recently celebrated an inspiring Donor Appreciation Day that welcomed Lions Club members from across the province. This day provided an opportunity for our community leaders to witness firsthand the profound impact that our contributions have on the lives of youth living with type 1 diabetes.

As the only camp facility owned by Diabetes Canada, Huronda offers a unique setting where children and teens experience the joys of summer camp infused with critical diabetes management education. The camp, has reached its 58th year of operation and fifty-third year on Lake Waseosa, boasts an array of activities that cultivate resilience, independence, and lifelong friendships. The appreciation day not only showcased these vibrant camp traditions but also highlighted the vital support needed to sustain this life-changing program.

During the event, we had the chance to engage with camp staff, listen to stories of growth and perseverance, and tour the camp's facilities, including the scenic waterfront and forested trails. These experiences underscored how financial contributions translate into transformative moments for campers, some of whom learn to manage new diabetes technologies like insulin pumps amidst the backdrop of camp fun.

The day shed light on the essential financial aid provided by D-Camps in Ontario, which

subsidizes 100% of campers so that financial barriers do not stand in the way of youth attending. This commitment represents a significant 73% of all D-Camps subsidies nationwide, illustrating the program's dedication to inclusivity.

For Lions Clubs across Ontario and beyond, this donor appreciation served as both a celebration and a call to action. The stories shared by campers, like one who expressed gratitude for their three years at Camp Huronda that empowered them to embrace new challenges. These stories echo the core values of community and support that define the Lions Club mission. Supporting Camp Huronda isn't just a gesture, it's a commitment to building a community where youth living with diabetes can thrive. All Lions Clubs are encouraged to contribute further to ensure these life-enriching experiences remain accessible. By rallying together, more children can embark on their own journeys of discovery, learning, and connection, just as hundreds did this past summer.

For more information on how your local club can support Camp Huronda, contact MDA Diabetes Chair at: tony.orangis@diabetes.ca or go to: D-Camps program page at <https://www.diabetes.ca/d-camps>.



Copetown Lions

At a recent meeting, the Copetown Lions made a donation to Ancaster Community Services. The organization is a non-profit, volunteer supported, registered charity. The agency offers programs and services for seniors, youth, and individuals

in our community who need some extra support. Their focus is on continuing to expand their impact and stay in touch with the ever-changing needs of our diverse and growing community to enhance the quality of life for all.



L-R: Lions Dave Biehler, Jamie Walker, Ken Biehler, Debbie Nelligan, Doreen Wilson, Lion Chief Colleen Martin. Back row: Bob Pearson, Frank Regan, Roger Oakes, Willie Arnold, Paul "Curly" Landon, Bob Turner, Cathy McAughlan, Joe Turner

Vienna Lions

The Vienna Lions did a refresh this year in their hall with the community pitching in. Lions painted the basement white creating a blank canvas for an experienced muralist and art teacher Robert Ponzio. With donated paint, a mural commemorating local history was created. Outside a new street sign donated by a local business was installed.





- Jasper Fires
- Presidential Support Pins
- Our website
- Monthly donations
- Club donations
- MJF / PMJF credit
- There are differences!

Presidential Support Pins

Your LCIF District Coordinators still have PattPins available. We will continue to thank our donors with these pins until the supply is gone. We also have the new International President Fabricio Oliveira pins.

Club Visits, Zone Visits

Your District Coordinator is excited, and willing, to come to a Zone meeting or a Club meeting to discuss all the opportunities that LCIF has to offer. Call us.

Canadian Fire Situation

I have heard that Jasper will soon be receiving a \$100,000.00USD LCIF Major Catastrophe (MCAT) Grant . Grand Forks BC has been downgraded from an evacuation to an evacuation alert status. If you have not donated, please consider a donation through our website, targeted to Disaster Services. Or you can send a check targeted to Canadian Fires. The fire season in Canada is not over.



Our Canadian website:
www.lionsofcanadafundforlcif.ca

Monthly automatic donations Parks Canada photo You can go on our website support LCIF. Donate \$10 or \$20 dollars a month, use your credit card an



Lions Clubs

Talk with your members about making an annual Club donation to our Foundation. Explore the opportunities of a DCIG Grant. Depending on your donation, you may be eligible to receive a 15% return of your donation the following year. Talk to your District Coordinator for details.

MJF/PMJF member and Club credits

How many MJF credits do you have? How close are you to your next recognition level? Does you Club have sufficient credits to provide a Melvin Jones thank you to a deserving club member or a member of the community? Ask your District LCIF coordinator, they can give you an answer.

Let us not get confused!

Remember, there is only one Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), and one Canadian site for donations. We do not donate to, or through, other charitable websites. Our site, or our mailing address, is the only method that ensures you receive your MJF PMJF credits; you receive a CRA receipt; you are assured of your donations target; and, 100% of your donation will go to a Lions project or Global Cause. Guaranteed.

Mailing Address:
 Lions of Canada Fund for LCIF
 c/o Lion Stand Durward
 Box 38 Sunderland, ON L0C1H0

PDG Tony Davidson
 District A15 LCIF Coordinator
 lcf@a15.org
 519-732-9314

1ST VDG Jim Devenny
 District A4 LCIF Coordinator
 343-540-9022
 devennyjim@gmail.com



Lions Quest Canada

The Centre for Positive Youth Development

Across our Multiple District, the Lions Quest Child Identification (ID) Kits program has been a resounding success, helping to ensure the safety of children in our communities. Lions have taken proactive steps to distribute these kits at various events, sharing vital resources with parents and caregivers. The stories below highlight the incredible efforts of clubs across the region, demonstrating the impact this initiative is having on families and the positive feedback received from grateful community members. Here's how some of our clubs have been engaging their communities through the ID Kits program.

The **St. Thomas Lions** have found great opportunities to distribute Child ID kits since purchasing them. They sponsored a free skating event, where they handed out kits to over 100



Lions Quest

skaters, along with information about the club. During March Break, they sponsored a free mini-golf event at the Elgin Mall, where 129 golfers participated, and we provided ID kits to children under 12. Additionally, they took part in the St. Thomas Optimist Family Fun Day and distributed the kits there as well.

The **Lions Club of Sault Ste. Marie** distributed Child ID kits to St. Paul Elementary School for their "Welcome to Kindergarten" event in May. The kits were included in packages given to incoming parents.

Gananoque Lions have distributed the ID kits at various events, including Ribfest, Lions Car Show, Pet Value Walk for Dog Guides and Pump-Gan-Fest. Some members have handed them out to friends and family with small children.

On April 20th, **London East Lions** participated in Earth Fest, focused on environmental awareness in London. As environmental stewardship is



one of the Lions' core values, they set up an information booth. Initially, people were hesitant, thinking they were asking for donations, but once they began approaching parents with children, explaining the purpose of the kits and how to use them, the response was overwhelmingly positive. Parents praised the Lions for this important service, and by the end of the day, they had distributed 90 kits and received heartfelt thanks for our contribution to community safety.

The **Chippawa Lions** distributed Child ID kits to the community during the Firefighter's Car Show on Saturday, June 29th.

KW Community Spirit Lions distributed kits at a Family Skate event and a Bike Rally in May. A member purchased them for her business to distribute at a community event.

These stories reflect the Lions' ongoing dedication to community safety and well-being through the Child ID Kit initiative. If you would like to participate in this project, you can order your personalized Child ID Kits from Lions Quest Canada at a cost of \$2/each.

Thank you to all who continue to make a difference!

For more info go to:

<https://www.lionsquest.ca/>

CHILD IDENTIFICATION KIT



Lions Quest

Canada

The Centre for Positive Youth Development

2024-2025 Team



Knowlton, Quebec's, Annual Christmas Parade

This year on the first Saturday of December - as it has since 1959 - a colourful and creative line-up of Christmas floats, costumed locals and critters will set out along one of Knowlton's main roads. Residents of the hamlet and hundreds of members of neighbouring communities will line the streets.

At 1pm on Saturday December 7th the parade will again launch after months of hard work by our small group of nineteen Lions Club members and generous "Friends of Lions" who have been busy getting permits, arranging safety measures, creating two hundred and fifty candy bags for kids and much more.

Knowlton, Québec, défilé annuel de Noël

Cette année, le premier samedi de décembre - comme c'est le cas depuis 1959 - une programmation colorée et créative de chars de Noël, d'habitants costumés et de créatures se déroulera le long de l'une des routes principales de Knowlton. Les habitants du hameau et des centaines de membres des communautés avoisinantes borderont les rues.

Le samedi 7 décembre à 13 h, le défilé reprendra après des mois de travail acharné de notre petit groupe de dix-neuf membres du Lions Club et de généreux « Amis des Lions » qui se sont occupés d'obtenir des permis, d'organiser des mesures de sécurité et de créer deux cent cinquante sacs de bonbons.

Le camion de pompiers original de Knowlton, datant de 1953,

Knowlton's original 1953 fire truck will lead the parade - a colourful collection of twenty to thirty 20 to 30 handmade floats. For a few hours that afternoon we are one big family. There are no old or young, no newcomers or old timers, just community members cheerfully gathered as one during a much-anticipated event that finishes up at local Knowlton Academy Elementary School with Santa Claus visits and goodies for the kids. "The parade is a very heartwarming event for us," says longtime parade organizer **Ken Battley**. "We Lions are so happy to watch it bring out the best in people around us."

Examples of last year's parade are as shown!.

mènera le défilé, une collection colorée de vingt à trente chars fabriqués à la main. Pendant quelques heures cet après-midi-là, on est une grande famille. Il n'y a pas de vieux ou de jeunes, pas de nouveaux arrivants ou d'anciens, juste des membres de la communauté joyeusement rassemblés lors d'un événement très attendu qui se termine à l'école primaire

Knowlton Academy avec des visites du Père Noël et des cadeaux pour les enfants. « Le défilé est un événement très réconfortant pour nous », déclare **Ken Battley**, organisateur de longue date du défilé. "Nous autres, les Lions,



sommes bien contents de voir que ça fait ressortir le meilleur des gens qui nous entourent."

Des exemples du défilé de l'an dernier sont présentés !



Schumacher Lions

The Schumacher Lions Club host twelve weeks of their Summer Concert Series every Tuesday night in the Lions Park. Each concert is two hours long and offered for free to anyone who wants to attend. Donations are accepted for park upkeep and the residents of Schumacher respond accordingly.

The concerts are presented in conjunction with the Schumacher Arts Culture Heritage Association (SACHA), DJ Taz, and PJ Production. The bands featured are all local and are paid for the participation. It serves as a great showcase for local talent and provides free entertainment for residents and visitors. It is estimated that a minimum of 300 enjoy the free



concerts.

Volunteers, along with the Lions Club, set up for the concerts, sold food, barbecue and refreshments, and helped tear down afterwards every week.

Chair Lion **Mark West** reported the totals

for this year's concert series at the Oct. 9 meeting of the club. After expenses, with donations from local businesses about \$7,200 was collected. The funds will be set aside to help fund next year's summer concert series.



Woolwich Community Lions Club (WCLC) 2024-2025 Update

"Mums for Jasper" Campaign: September 2024

WCLC hosted its second Fall Mum sale to raise funds for the victims of the Jasper Wildfires. A total of \$2300 was raised and will be donated directly to the **Jasper Lions Club**. That club has been supporting the community since residents returned to their homes, providing breakfast and lunch programs for all in need, including first responders. The club is focusing on "recovery" projects supporting the Jasper Food Bank and Pine Grove Senior's Lodge which was completely destroyed by the fires. The rebuild of the man is their primary focus in the months to come. Club President, **Murray Ostrander**, was most appreciative of the financial assistance.

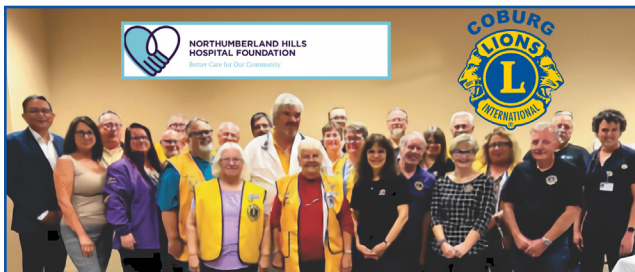
Presentation to the Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario (POGO) Satellite Clinic at Grand River Hospital (GRH) September, 2024. Members of WCLC met with the GRH Foundation and Pediatrician, Dr. Carolyn Hutzal and toured the POGO unit, seeing first-hand the incredible care provided to children battling cancer, as well as the support provided to families. A cheque for \$2000 was presented to assist in purchasing items needed to support children through their cancer journey.

"Trees for Woolwich" Service Project Launched: September 2024 – June 2025

WCLC has partnered with "Trees for Woolwich", a volunteer-based group established in Woolwich Township in 2011. Trees for Woolwich has a goal to increase the township tree canopy cover from 14% to 30%. They have undertaken an ambitious project to plant 22,000 trees in the township. WCLC wanted to help and to do that with a campaign to provide financial support for this project. Each new tree is approximately \$15.00. Small mason jars have been assembled to collect loonies and toonies to support the cause. Jars have been distributed to club members and a community launch is planned for November. Local retailers who wish to participate will be asked to place mason jars close to their cash registers for customers to contribute as they wish. The campaign is scheduled to run the duration of this Lions year. WCLC is proud to support Trees for Woolwich in making Woolwich a greener and vibrant place to live.



Coburg Lions – Doctor of Philanthropy Honour



During their recent meeting held at Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH), members were surprised with a Dr. of Philanthropy Honour award this special recognition, established in 2015. The award honours those who make

significant contributions to community health, beyond just monetary donations. The Lions Club of Cobourg has been a steadfast partner with NHH Foundation, volunteering at hospital events and providing support in countless ways.

"We have enjoyed a partnership with this club since the NHH Foundation was established in 1993. For over 30 years, they have stood with us and supported us in any ask we ever make of



them," stated NHH Foundation CEO, Rhonda Cunningham. Special shoutout to Lion **Ron Wiebe**, who received the honour from Dr. Mukesh Bhargava and Dr. Kate Everdell.

Thank you Lions for your unwavering dedication to the community!

Millbrook and District

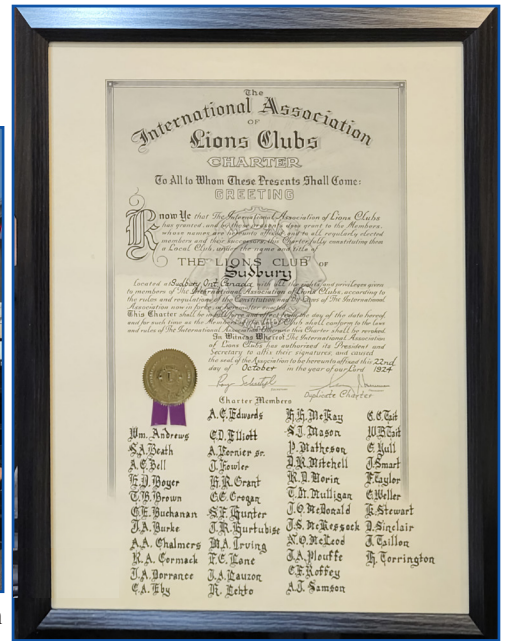
The Millbrook and District Lions were at the Millbrook Fall Fair with their food trailer, all proceeds from the event are destined for the Peterborough Regional Hospital Pediatric Cancer Clinic fund raising project.



A5- Lions Club of Sudbury Celebrates 100 Years as First Club in Northern Ontario

Many clubs have charter anniversary nights for 20, 50 and 75 years. Not many have “yet” made it to 100 years. The foundation started in Canada in 1920, and came to Northern Ontario on September 24th, 1924 with the formation of the Lions Club of Sudbury. This year, they joined 8 other clubs in MDA that are 100 years or older in 2024.

The club have had many beneficial effects on the Sudbury community including in the early years distributing bottles of milk to the needy and to school children in 1928-1943. In 1956-57, they provided money, materials and manual labour to restore Memorial Park in the downtown area.



They were also involved in helping to build the Lions Resource Centre for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, a disc golf course, and many other projects.

They provided pieces of equipment for the local hospital including a RET Cam for the Neo Natal Centre at the HSN Sudbury to test premature babies' eyes. This was a project near and dear to PCC Lion **Gerry**

Albert's heart as he suffered from sight loss.

Another Sudbury member, PDG **Arne Ritari**, started Lions in Finland in 1954. To this day, he is known as "The Godfather of Finnish Lionism" and honoured with the formation of the "Arne Ritari Foundation" which helps to raise funds in Finland and other countries.

Two gentlemen from Finland, PCC **Heikki Hemmila** and PDG Lion **Reino Laine** from the Arne Ritari Foundation attended the 100th in Sudbury. They both were part of the honoured guests contingent at this event.

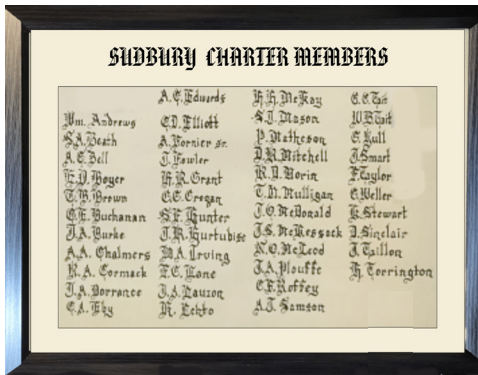
This was a wonderful event and attended by many Lions from Northern and Southern Ontario, including your Lion Magazine editor. Here's to another 100 years.

Submitted by Lion Brenda McLay Lalonde, District Reporter and Historian.

Note: List of 100 year clubs is as accurate we could assemble at press time, if there is a discrepancy please contact the magazine editor.



PDG Sam Khoury-Flag Raising



International Guests - Finland - PCC Heikki Hemmila & PDG Lion Reino Laine

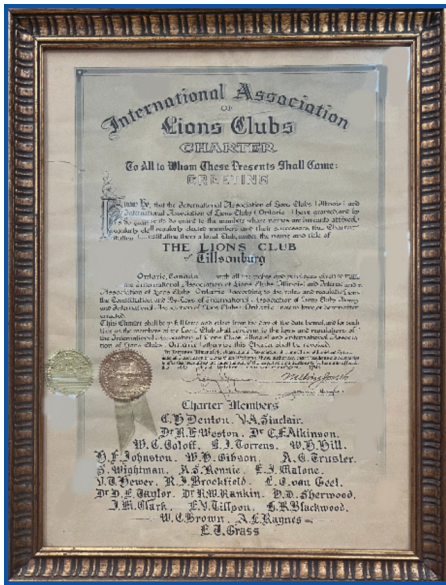


P.I.P. Dr. Patti Hill presenting Certificates of Appreciation to PDG Harold Huhtanen , PCC Gerry Albert, Lion Ron Lundgren, Co- Chair of the 100th Anniversary Committee and Lion Chief Frank Arnold



100 YEAR CLUBS

Tillsonburg 100



What a *Great Night* in Tillsonburg. The organizers put together a fantastic program with interesting guests and presentations. Lions **Kelly** and **Blair Oatman** were the leaders for this event, along with a great support committee, their daughter Alicia Wilson, took several quality photos which are available on the Tillsonburg Lions facebook page. After it was all said and done Alicia made an inspired posting as outlined below:

"Have you ever aspired to be bigger than you are today? Had the desire to change the world in whatever small or large capacity you are capable of? I had the distinct privilege of attending the Tillsonburg Lions Club's 100th Anniversary party this weekend and I honestly walked away with a deep desire to do bigger things with my life. We are meant to serve. We are meant to share and give and SERVE and I was surrounded by a room full of people who do just this.

"WOW" doesn't even begin to describe what the Lions Clubs do, the people's lives they've changed and the things they're doing for the betterment of others! My parents are among these individuals and seeing them in their element made me beyond proud. Thank you for inspiring me and being the kind of people my family aspires to be.

If you are curious about the Lions Club, what they do, what it takes to be a Lion, or how you can help the club with their many existing projects, reach out to myself or my parents Blair and Kelly Oatman.

Parts of the program are shown in the photos, including a presentation of a Helen Kellar sculpture by the **Windsor Lions** who were Tillsonburg Lions sponsoring club in 1924.

The Tillsonburg Lions Club would like to thank everyone who came out to celebrate our "100" Lions Anniversary, to our Town Crier Brenda Bozso for starting off our evening. Greetings from MPP Ernie Hardeman, kind words and congratulations from MP Arpan Khanna and Mayor Deb Gilvesy. Thank you for the overwhelming support from the 20 A2 District Lions clubs, the Lions and Lioness Lions that joined us at our celebration.

Four members from the Windsor Lions Club (our sponsoring club) were in attendance, as well as 2 visiting Lions from West Virginia. Guest speaker Pastor Paul Robinson, thank you for sharing our history and inspiring messages of Kindness, Fellowship, and Serving. District Governor **Wilrik Banda**, thank you for sharing the 1924 world history and bringing greetings from International President **Fabricio Oliveira**.

It was our pleasure to present the Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital with a donation of \$20,000. We are grateful for the service you provide to our community.

To present one of our outstanding members with a Melvin Jones Fellowship Award was such an honour, congratulations Lion **Holly**. Last but not least the Sing Capella Quartet thank you for the wonderful entertainment, it was enjoyed by all.

TILLSONBURG LIONS "SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR 100 YEARS"

On October 10, 1924, a group of 25 civic-minded gentlemen met at the Arlington Hotel — this was the first meeting of the Tillsonburg Lions Club. **Col. Charles M.R. Graham** of London and **Arthur Brook** who were special representatives of International Headquarters, addressed the meeting and outlined the ideals and proposals of such a club.

Part of Mr. Brook-well's address follows as recorded in the Tillsonburg news on October 16, 1924. "Membership in a Lions Club is a pledge of public service. Wherever Lions assemble, plans are made and executed for the betterment of the community.

They expect to accomplish more than any other similar agency has done for advancing the interests of the community."

Fellowship and clean entertainment will be emphasized so that there will be no lack of mutual interest to the members together, pending the time when there is an urgent need of cooperation for the handling of a community problem. Happy are they who are prepared to meet the emergency. The Lions can be the mouth piece and strong arm in the community for constructive service." On this evening, the Tillsonburg Lions received their International Charter.

The first major project of the Tillsonburg Lions was to erect the War Memorial Cenotaph at the Market Square (1924). The Cenotaph still stands today in its original place in front of the Town Centre Mall. The painting which hangs proudly in the Lions Auditorium is one of the clubs most treasured possessions. The painting was done in 1925 by the late **A.E. (Alfie) Raynes**, who was a member of the Tillsonburg Lions from 1925-1932.

On September 16, 1973, the Lions Friendship Arch was erected at the north end of the Lions Auditorium. Originally, these arches were erected at border crossing points as a witness to International good will and friendship. The Arch was eventually moved to its present location at the west entrance to the arena.

In 1967 the Tillsonburg Lions held its first bingo game in the old Community Hall behind the outdoor swimming pool. For the past 57 years, this continues to be our clubs largest fundraiser.

Over the years, the Tillsonburg Lions have been instrumental in helping build the swimming pool at the Community Centre, building the 2nd ice pad, the skate park and the pump track.

We continue to serve with donations to the community for minor soccer, minor baseball, minor hockey, as well as to our local Food Bank, Salvation Army, Tillsonburg Memorial Hospital with their recent donation and bursaries to our graduates at Glendale High School.



Schumacher Lions/ Timmins-Porcupine Rotary

The Schumacher Lions have their meetings at the McIntyre Arena Complex, owned by the City of Timmins. The Lions Den is leased and operated by the Schumacher Lions and is rented monthly by the Rotary Club, The Porcupine Prospectors and Developers Association and a dart league.

There are defibrillators in other parts of the building, but none close to the hall used by the club. Each group, including the Lions, contributed \$1,000.00 to purchase a unit for use in the hall. With the on-site unit the hall is a safer place to meet for all involved.



Zone Chair Danny Ansara holds up a Jackpot City Bingo sign, while Lion President Jim Nault holds the lifesaving device and receives cheque from the Rotary Club

Buckhorn District Lions Club

The Buckhorn District Lions Club are a busy club. A new venture for the group has been the formation of a soccer club at our local public school. There are approximately one hundred and seventy-five students from kindergarten through grade six. To date there has been no organized soccer. A professional soccer player has moved into our area and is the leader for this initiative. The first year has been a great success and we are building on that for next year.



Kirkland Lake

Kirkland Lake Lions kicked off their new Lions year with a new Compassionate Meal Service. Every third Saturday of the month, the KL club hosts a free and nutritious take-out meal for those in need. Compassionate Meal Service coordinator, Lion Shanea Smith states, "As we work closely with our Kirkland Lake Food Bank & Salvation Army, our club recognized a need in our community for food assistance, to help people make it to the next pay or stretch their income until the end of the month. This is a small gesture to assist those in need with a nutritious meal. Our residents have been very supportive in sponsoring meals for our initiative and for that, we are grateful". Members of the community can volunteer to help with the preparation of the meals, donating money to sponsor a meal or just provide some support to those who just need a little extra help.



Lion Jim & Stella Malherbe



Lion Shanea Smith, Lion Cynthia Gadoury, Lion Sandra Gordon

Denbigh Griffith Lions Club

On Saturday October 19th Denbigh Griffith Lions hosted their first Octoberfest Griffith Style. The event was a great success, thanks to the support of our community, and neighboring clubs from **Bancroft**, **Land O' Lakes**, and **Calabogie**.

This event was an afternoon of fellowship and entertainment with a full German dinner. We were overwhelmed with positive comments and reviews. Our plan is to do a return event in 2025.

Thanks again for all your support, it's greatly appreciated.



Elmira Lions Pollinator Garden

The Lions Club of Elmira maintains approximately 30 km of recreational trails, the main one being the Kissing Bridge Trail (10 km). Planted along this trail are 793 Memorial Trees and 100 Centennial Trees. In 2021 it was decided a Pollinator Garden would add further interest to this well-traveled trail.

In 2022 an application was submitted to LCIF for a Community Impact Grant for the amount of US\$3916.00 – based on our donations to LCIF. Our application was successful and the club received the full amount. With these funds many native plants, shrubs and flowers were purchased; all friendly to butterflies and honeybees. In addition, we acquired a large water storage tank, pump, fencing, fertilizer, signs, a gazebo and most importantly an outhouse.

Dozens, if not hundreds of people use the trail daily. Many stop to rest in the gazebo or visit the Pollinator Garden.

Attached find some of the signage in place near the Garden. Many thanks to LCIF for the funds and all the Lions who volunteered, especially Lion Andy Heal.

Submitted by: PID Lion Art Woods, Memorial Forest & Trail Committee Chair



Newmarket Lions

Newmarket Lions recently made a significant donation to Camp Dorset, thanks to the ongoing efforts of their club and the highly successful Catch The Ace event. Shown here are some of the proud club members and Lion **Suzanne Gunby, Ancaster Lions**, President of the Board of Directors. The camp is a unique facility that offers a vacation opportunity for dialysis patients and their families. More to follow in a future issue about the significance of this outstanding Lions initiative.



Newburgh-Camden Lions

In October the Newburgh-Camden Lions made a \$6000.00 donation to the University Hospitals Kingston Foundation to be directed to the Children's Outpatient Clinic at Kingston Health Sciences Centre (KHSC) and streamline the care journey.

The donation will be used to purchase a spirometer for the clinic, it is a diagnostic unit utilized to assess pulmonary function in children above age six. The device will permit testing for younger patients to provide data to inform clinical decisions,



K-W Community Spirit Lions Club

K-W Community Spirit Lions Club Sponsor Diabetes Walk

On October 03, 2024, the K-W Community Spirit Lions sponsored a Refreshment Station for \$1,000 at the "Lace Up to End Diabetes" Walk held in Waterloo Park. One Club member and a friend of our Club participated in the Walk as well, \$175.00 was pledged on the team walk page.

L-R Lion Shirley Ruller, friend Lipi Chapani, Lion Nancy Ransom, Lion Janice Fleming



KWCS Diabetes Awareness Event

On October 07, 2024, two K-W Community Spirit Lions **Evelyn** and **Jack Fisher** held a Diabetes Awareness event at the Clair Hills Retirement Residence in Waterloo. Sixteen people received diabetes awareness brochures and a blue carnation. \$65 was raised for Diabetes Canada.

Evelyn and Jack Fisher

Schumacher Youth

The Schumacher Lions continue to reach out to youth in the community. President **Jim Nault** and Zone Chairman **Danny Ansara** presented a cheque for \$5,000 to The Spot Youth Centre in South Porcupine (the east end of Timmins). Representatives of The Spot had previously made a presentation to the club membership. It is an organization that has been operating for about 20 years with no funding from the government. Their financial assistance comes from local donors and fundraising activities. They have one part-time employee, the program co-ordinator. The rest of the human resources to run the centre comes from twenty-two who all go through a police check. The Spot currently has two once-a-week programs, one for Junior High youth and one for High School youth. The programs give the young people a place to go where there are other young people instead of getting into trouble



on the streets. They have access to video games, board games and many activities. The Spot hopes to expand its programming and become a full-time youth centre, build on its infrastructure and maintain the building. It is up to organizations like the Schumacher Lions to help make this

dream a reality. After the cheque presentation, Lion Secretary **Wayne Snider** was able to address the youth in attendance about volunteer opportunities with the new Leo Club, which the Schumacher Lions Club working on opening.

Norwood Lions



The Norwood Lions have been active this Lions Year. Here they are working at the 2024 Norwood Fair, active since 1868, as a place for area residents to display the fruits of their labours and to provide an opportunity for some friendly competition between friends and neighbours. The fair was also a community gathering where village folk came together to celebrate the harvest, catch up with each other and have a little fun for a couple of days.

The Lions entered the parade heading up the fair. And yes, those are the male

members of the Norwood Lions Club. Every year they have their annual Cash Draw tickets for sale to the public, the tickets are always a huge hit with the crowd, with their two best salesmen manning the table. Lions **Bob Morash** and **Jack Begg**. Also shown is the Norwood Fair Ambassador, Alyssa Morrison, drawing the winning tickets.



Grimsby Community Preschool

Ruth of **Grimsby and District Lions Club**, works with Therapy Dogs, as her Service Project for the club! Ruth, a Grimsby resident of three years, started working with professional dog trainers in 2010 and shortly after that, her one-and-a-half-year-old white Labradoodle was Canadian Kennel Club Certified and became a registered Therapy Dog. This was when Ruth's journey with Therapy Dogs took off. Over the years, Ruth has brought her pack to many elementary schools, seniors' homes, nursery schools, and shops within the area to share her dogs' incredible training and help educate community members – and not to mention, bring smiles to their faces! Today, Ruth's pack consists of Georgia and Rayna. The girls will be soon be eleven years old and eight years old, respectively. Our students were lucky enough to have a visit from Ruth, Georgia, and Rayna and we wanted to give a big shout out and THANK YOU for bringing some extra excitement to Grimsby Community Preschool!



Forest Hill Lions

The Forest Hill Lions have been a long time sponsor of the North York Baseball Association, they have made numerous donations on an ongoing basis which have been recognized in past issues. Recently the club received two plaques of appreciation with photos. They have been edited to fit available space. Keep up the good work in Forest Hill!, "They Serve"



Schumacher Lions at "Welcome to Timmins Night"

Schumacher Lions at "Welcome to Timmins Night", at the McIntyre Arena. Volunteer and community organizations have booths to showcase their groups to people in Timmins looking to get involved with their community. Five volunteers from the Schumacher Lions Club were on hand to provide information on their club and a Leo Club they are starting. There were many enquiries about Lions and Leos. In addition, an unexpected visitor, Deadpool, a Marvel Comics

at the booth to learn more about Lions. Best of luck to the Schumacher Lions and their soon to be Leo's club.



From left are Lions Rachele Kingsbury, Eric Beauchamp and Wayne Snider, behind "Deadpool"

Mississauga Central Lions

In line with the motto "We Serve" the Mississauga Central Lions made a donation to the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) towards the Alberta, Jasper Fire relief. "Where there's a need, there's a Lion."



Mountain Township and District Lions

The Spring and Fall Lions Community clean-up project has involved Mountain Township and District Lions as well as family members over a fifteen year period. Lion **Tim Haas** is chair of this project for the 8km between Highway 43 and South Mountain, Ontario County Rd #1. Lion Tim Haas has involved young folks in the community to help clean-up and hoping they will someday become Lions in the future.



District A5 Dreamers

The women Lions of A5 had our 2nd Dreamers retreat at Camp Caritou in Bonfield. This now annual event, is open to all women in A5 who want to get to know other women in our district and to have a great time. Friday night was "Gypsy Night". This was complete with crystal ball readings, food, drinks and lots of fellowship. Afterwards, we "dug" into a wrapped box with a prize inside with only a knife and fork to help us. If you haven't done this, it is one of the most fun games you will ever play and you cannot help but to laugh through the whole thing.

Saturday started with a big breakfast, then a scavenger hunt that no one got 100% of. Next was making "fascinator hats" for the next day. That evening, we had a medieval night complete with eating with our hands, no utensils. The food was incredible and we were given an apron to use to wipe our hands when they got too messy. We

even had a Knight amongst the maidens.

On Sunday we had "High Tea" complete with hats, fascinators, mini sandwiches, scones, jams, custard and lots of pettifors. We also had a tea leaf reader for the afternoon entertainment.

In case you think our weekends are all about food, they aren't. The biggest thing is getting to know each other better and the friendships we develop.

A special thanks to our co-chairs of this event Lion **Margo Oleskiw** and Lion **Deb Kidd** for starting this and keeping us organized each year.

Looking forward to next year and lots more fun with Christmas at Dreamers Camp.



ORGANIZERS !!!



HIGH TEA



FORTUNE TELLER



FIERCE COMPETITORS



"KNIGHT"



GYPSEY WINNER

Guelph Royal City

Guelph Royal City Lions held their annual eyeglass packing event. 18,000 new and used eyeglasses were processed, including adult and childrens', safety eyeglasses, sunglasses and lenses. These were collected throughout Guelph and District A15. We were joined by our District Governor **Bill Robinson** as well as PDGs **Tracey Robinson, Nancy** and **Garry Ransom**, our Region Chair **Kevin March** and Lion **Diane** from **Rockwood**

Lions, and Club President Lion **Cathy** from **Listowel Lions Branch Club**. Welcomed were friends of Lions, Bob, Nyla, Patricia, Adam, Diane and Gary along with members of our club, **Kyle, Sylvia, Dawn** and President Lion **Carl**. It is amazing how many items are collected during the year. They are packed and shipped to the Canadian Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centre in Calgary.



LIONS INTERNATIONAL GUELPH ROYAL CITY



Bridgeport and Guelph Lions Clubs

The Guelph Lions Club along with the Bridgeport Lions were happy to be part of the

inauguration of the brand new **Guelph Bridgeport Leo Club**. Congratulation to this group of young

individuals giving of their time and talents to serve.



Lions Quest: Empowering Youth Across the Globe

by Shelby Washington

Over the course of four decades, Lions Quest has made a profound impact on youth, experienced exponential growth and formed meaningful partnerships to help young people reach their full potential.

Lions Quest is Lions Clubs International Foundation's (LCIF) comprehensive and universal, evidence-based social and emotional learning program. This year marks the 40th anniversary of LCIF's first grant to what used to be the independent organization, Quest International.

Over the years, the two organizations grew closer, leading LCIF to purchase the program in 2002. To date, LCIF has awarded more than 360 grants for a cumulative total of more than US\$20 million to expand or establish Lions Quest programs across the United States and around the world. Exponential growth has been the natural result of this investment, with 20 million students reached in 40 languages across 110 countries.

Lions Quest's story began in 1975, when a determined teenager named Rick Little set out on a "quest" to help other young people develop the skills and strength of character needed to succeed as adults. Little started his journey by conducting a survey of more than 2,000 high school students to truly understand the issues that concerned them most. This initial success prompted expansion into programming for middle school students and the development of Skills for Adolescence, which pioneered a social and emotional learning program for young people before it was a trend.

With the same spirit of innovation, Lions Quest has undertaken a full-scale revision of the curriculum, training and supplemental content.



"Youth today are not like youth 10 to 15 years ago," said Alvin Atkinson of the Winston-Salem Twin City Host Lions Club. "Fortunately, because Lions Quest is evidence-based, it sees what works and what doesn't and evolves as technology and our lives evolve."

In the new curriculum, materials are being revised to be more dynamic and student-centered, while also being shorter and more streamlined. The goal is to make the lessons easier to use and more effective. Each curated resource works seamlessly to help children and young adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish positive relationships and make responsible decisions.

"I think the social and emotional learning

pieces of the Lions Quest program are critical," said Chip Harris, trainer at Lions Quest. "They were critical when I started my career over 40 years ago, and they're equally, maybe more important today, largely because social and emotional learning brings people together, and allows them to be able to respect and appreciate each other."

Over the past 40 years, Lions Quest has shaped social and emotional learning for millions of young people around the world. As the program evolves, it will continue offering students curriculum and resources to build the skills needed to navigate life and prevent bullying and substance abuse. This proactive evolution will propel Lions Quest's legacy of innovation into the next decade.

Visit lions-quest.org to learn more.

New Hope, New School

Lions give children a place to learn and grow-post earthquake

TURKEY – Like most of the world, the members of the Bursa Koza Lions Club were shocked by the magnitude of the earthquake that hit southern Türkiye and northern Syria on the morning of February 6, 2023. The quake was the deadliest to hit present-day Türkiye, killing over 50,000 people and leaving an estimated 1.5 million homeless.

The club witnessed essential aid like water, food and hygiene supplies coming into the area, and volunteers assisting with distribution. They immediately joined in to help, providing soup, blankets, scarves, beanies and gloves to 1,000 people in the earthquake zone.

But the Bursa Koza Lions also knew that the earthquake would have lasting effects — especially on the children’s education — and began looking into ways they could help. Because of their experience following the 1999 Gölcük earthquake, they were able to quickly organize their service project, “Let’s Give the World to Children.”

At the top of their list was finding a safe space where the children could learn and play. After investigating options, the Lions settled on a MiniKo container — a durable, affordable and portable large-scale container that is often used for temporary shelter or offices. The first one they purchased was for the children, and in little time the children’s new space was filled with books, benches and smiles. It had become a one-room schoolhouse where children could safely gather to laugh, play and learn.

The Antakya Directorate of National Education assigned kindergarten teachers to the disaster village on a rotating basis. The teachers were happy to be able to reach the children in the earthquake zone.

The Bursa Koza Lions received so much interest in the school and appreciation from the community that donations came in from families and Lions, and the club was soon able to purchase four more containers. They knew that more sustainable service projects could also be carried out in their communities, especially in terms of providing shelter, and began working

with multiple district (MD) 118 and the Bursa Nilüfer Municipality to establish Tent City, an area where they could keep the containers for a longer time. Two of the four containers purchased with the donated funds were delivered to Mersin Metropolitan Municipality Lions Disaster Village, and the other two were sent to Lions Container City in Adiyaman.



“In Hatay and Adiyaman Cities, the largest and most affected cities in the earthquake area, people are still living in containers and there are some more container schools,” said Lion Ceren İplikçi more than a year after the earthquake occurred.

The Bursa Koza Lions were recognized with a 2023-2024 Kindness Matters Service Award for their efforts to quickly and effectively serve their community in the aftermath of a natural disaster.

Healthy Foods for Stronger Children

Lions provide nutritious food and counseling

PERU – In Lima, Peru, the Nuevo Milenio Lions stepped in to help when they learned that children in their community were silently suffering from the effects of extreme poverty and malnutrition.

A pre-school teacher in the town of Cielito Azul-Payet, where families have limited access to education and healthcare, informed the Lions about the prevalence of anemia in her young students, and asked if they might help getting nutritious food for them. Lions learned that about 40 children under age three were anemic, a disease of low-iron blood generally caused by hunger and malnutrition.

Soon after, the club began a service project, “Healthy Breakfasts for Children from PRONOEI (the program for children 0-3),” providing nutritious food so the children could maintain a balanced diet. Under the leadership of their club president, they worked with the Educational Management Unit of North Lima (UGEL), nutritionists, and the association of teachers and parents to coordinate and organize the project. With the help of community members and PRONOEI, they were able to distribute food and healthy breakfasts three times a week.

“The parents actively worked on preparing the breakfasts and also received nutritional knowledge that they used at home, which helped the project to be successful,” said Lion Beatriz Untiveros.

Nine months after the program began, the children’s blood tests showed overwhelmingly positive results. Lions learned that 98% of the children improved their health and were no longer anemic.

The club’s project has been ongoing for two years and is expected to continue, with children now receiving a healthy breakfast every day.

“We hope it continues,” said Untiveros. “But we also hope that parents acquire nutritional knowledge and [that] through productive workshops they can become self-sufficient in food.”

The Nuevo Lions received a 2023-2024 Kindness Matters Service Award given annually to select Lions and Leo clubs, and their dedication attracted the attention of community members, local media, schools and teachers. In addition, Untiveros said, families recognized how Lions are caring for their community.

MDA Directory Information

Council of Governors’ Meeting Dates

- Council Meeting – November 22/23, 2024
- Council Meeting – February 21/22, 2025
- Council Meeting – May 23 - 25, 2025 (Convention)

District Conventions

Dist	Location	Date
A1	Sarnia, Ontario	April 4-6, 2025
A2	Holiday Inn, St. Catharines	March 21-23, 2025
A3	Cobourg, Ontario	April 11-13, 2025
A4	Ottawa, Ontario	April 25-27, 2025
A5	Best Western, North Bay	May 2-4, 2025
A711	Ajax Convention Centre, Ajax	April 11-13, 2025
A9	Orangeville, Ontario	April 25-27, 2025
A12	Huntsville, Ontario	April 10-12, 2025
A15	Quality Inn & Conference Centre Festival, Stratford	April 4-6, 2025
A16	Peterborough, Ontario	April 11-13, 2025

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ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

District Reporters

There is a reporter designated for each district, their function is to assist clubs and the magazine staff with submissions that include high resolution photos and a summary of the service activity. Please utilize their services. They can be contacted as shown:

- A-1 Lion Michelle Mundy: michellemundy@live.com
- A-2 Lion Bob Townsend: b.townsend@a2lions.org
- A-3 Lion Frank Hewitt: thelionwhisperer2017@gmail.com
- A-4 Lion Bill Vermilyea: b.vermilyea@outlook.com
- A-5 Lion Brenda Lalonde: bmlsudbury@hotmail.com
- A-7/11 Lion Astrid Simola: a.simola@sympatico.ca
- A-9 Lion Al Leach: adleach@hotmail.com
- A-12 Lion JoAnn Warren: joewarren66@gmail.com
- A-15 Lion Bob Pearson: bobpearson50@gmail.com
- A-16 Lion Tim Cheung: tcheung@lionsa16.com

Editor Lion Bob Pearson
 bobpearson50@gmail.com

IMPORTANT DATES

MDA Convention

2024 Unifor Family Education Centre,
 Port Elgin May 23 - 25, 2024

International Conventions

107th	Orlando, Florida	July 13-17, 2025
108th	Hong Kong	July 3 - 7, 2026
109th	Washington, DC, USA	July 2 - 6, 2027
110th	Singapore	June 23 - 27, 2028
111th	Minneapolis, MN	2029

USA - Canada Forums

Sept 5 - 7, 2024	Louisville, Kentucky
Sept 18 -20, 2025	Atlantic City, New Jersey



MD “A” Lions/Leos Environmental Photo Contest

Attention: All District Environ

The MD ‘A’ Lions and Leos Environmental Photo Contest provides a way for Lions and Leos to portray, through an original photo, their pride and commitment to improving, protecting and preserving the environment. Every District that is in good standing can submit **ONE** photograph in each category. The photograph should depict the local environment of the MDA community that Lions or Leo Club serves.

Entry Guidelines: The competition invites photos depicting these two categories -

1. Our Natural Environment and 2. Lions in Environmental Service.

1. Our Natural Environment - Plants, Animal Life, Landscape (Urban or Natural), Plant Life or Weather Phenomenon. (no people) (winner: the Lion photographer of the picture)

2. Lions in Environment Service - People are allowed in these photos highlighting our service work with the environment. May include one paragraph explaining the service. (winner: the club undertaking the environmental service work)

First and Second Place Winners will be chosen from each category

Prizes consist of 1st place - \$100 and 2nd place - \$50 in each category

The photos must measure 8” x 10” (20.3 x 25.4cm), an original, unaltered black and white or colour printed photo. You can send a digital version of your photo to the email address below and state which category the image should be in and who is the photographer and Club but a hard copy version must be sent in as well to the address below by May 9, 2025 for voting at the 2025 MDA Convention hosted by Ripley and District Lions Club in Port Elgin, ON

The contest begins at club level and winning photographs will advance to the district and then to the Multiple District Competition.

To learn more about the **Environmental Photo Contest** please contact:

PDG Jennifer Batte

MDA Environment Chair
Email: lionjenniferbatte@gmail.com

Mailing Address:

Jennifer Batte (Frank Jacobi)
Box 656
Walkerton, ON N0G 2V0



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R - L: A1 John Johnston and Dianne Piggott, A3 Linda and Jim Prenger, A7-11 Don and Dawn Bissonnette, A9 Hank and Barb Van Moorsel, A12 Barb Ennis and Dave Hewitt, A16 Eleanor Colwell, A1 Bob and Gail Tanner