

# **HISTORY OF LIONISM IN CANADA**



***1920-2020***

**Lion Gilles Melançon  
International Director 1997-1999**

# **History of Lionism in Canada 1920 to 2020**

*Lion Gilles Melançon  
International Director 1997-1999*

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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

These pages of history have been made available to all Lions to show them in a summary fashion, that the Lions of Canada have played an important role in the development of our association and most important to give credit to these Canadians who have preceded us and made it possible for us to join such a wonderful organisation.

This information is the results of my research and that of many other Lions members who have contributed knowingly or not to this history. A special thanks to PIP Brian Stevenson, PID Bill Webber, PID Virgil Moshansky, Len Giffen PID, Ben Ward PID,

PID Yves Léveillé, PID Marvin Chamber, PDG Ron Munro, PDG André L'Espérance, PDG Michel Haddad, Lion Ken Mackenzie and to PDG George S. Aweida from Lebanon-Jordan for the information published in the book The Pillars of Lionism,

I would be remiss not to mention my good friend, the late Tris Coffin International president 1973-1974, who was instrumental in encouraging me to study and to write the history of Lions clubs at the Quebec provincial level and at the Canadian level.

My sincere thanks to all the Lions whose names have not been mentioned here but who have been a very important source of information for the history.

I have had the honor of knowing Past International President Harry Newman and his wife Margaret, PIP Walter C. Fisher and his wife Alice, PIP Tris Coffin and his wife Gilberte and PIP Brian Stevenson and his wife Patricia. They were all a source of inspiration to me and to all the Lions who have known or read about them. Unfortunately, there are only a few pictures of the family of President Harry Newman, President Walter Fisher, President Tris Coffin and President Brian Stevenson.

*Written by International Director 1997-1999 Lion Gilles J Melançon Canadian Lions Self appointed Historian*

# FOREWORD

JUDGE BRIAN STEVENSON

Past International Director Gilles Melancon has long been interested in the history of Lions in Canada. He serves as the Historian in his home Multiple District "U" (Quebec) and has earlier published a history of our Association's growth in that province since the first Club was founded in Montreal.

To honour the Canadian Lions Centennial in 2020, Gilles has now completed the herculean task of assembling our history across Canada, and has done an absolutely superb job of describing how Lions have contributed to the social fabric of our nation since the first Club came into being in what is now Windsor, Ontario in 1920.

He has not only focused on our service in the 1500 communities where a Lions Club is found, but also on the many Canadian Lion leaders who have played a major role in creating the largest and most responsive service club organization in the world.

I hope that every Lion and every member of the public who is interested and who understands the benefits that come their way due to the work of all charitable organizations will read Past International Director Melancon's publication.

I congratulate my good friend Gilles for the thousands of hours that he has obviously spent in compiling the information in this book.

It should occupy a place in every public library in Canada.

*Judge Brian Stevenson, Lions Clubs International President, 1987-1998*

October 2, 2019

PART I  
LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

# THE MEETING TO CREATE LIONS INTERNATIONAL

Minutes of Meeting of Representatives from various businessman's clubs

Held at the La Salle, June 7, 1917

Cities represented

Chicago-Business Circle

Saint-Louis, Vortex Club

Detroit-Vortex

St. Paul Business and Professional Men's Association

Indianapolis, Optimist Club

Evansville Lions clubs

THE MEETING

By invitation of the secretary of the Business Circle, Thursday, June 7, 1917 12.45. East Room, Hotel La Salle. Chicago, representative of the following clubs met with the Business Circle at a luncheon.

Were present representatives as follows:

Dr. W.P. Woods, Evansville, Ind, President International Association Lions clubs:

Dallas TX, Fort-Worth TX, Austin TX, Beaumont TX, Paris TX, Abilene TX, Orange TX, Port Arthur TX, San Angelo TX, Greenville TX, Galveston TX, Texarkana AR, Little Rock AR, Pueblo CO, Denver CO, Oklahoma City OK, Tulsa OK, Ardmore OK, Muskogee OK, Kansas City MO, Shreveport LA, Birmingham AL, Seattle WA, Wichita KS and Memphis TN

Summer Clancy of Indianapolis, Ind, member of the Governing Board of Optimist Clubs: J. Edgar Burton and E. B. Casey of the same clubs:

Indianapolis IN, Detroit MI, Milwaukee WI, Rochester NY, St Louis MO, Kansas MO, Springfield IL, Peoria IL, Cleveland OH, St. Paul MN, Los Angeles CA and Washington DC

Chicago (Organization) Ill.

F.N. Kaercher. Past President and W.J. Power secretary of the Vortex clubs

St. Louis MO and Detroit MI

Guest Missing. Chairman Ways and Means, Business and Professional Men's Professional Association of St. Paul, Minn.

G.W. Milligan Chairman of noon meetings Committee of the Business Circle called the meeting to order and said. In as much as Melvin Jones our Secretary was responsible for this gathering. I will ask him to take charge

of it," Melvin Jones was greeted with an applause and when quiet had been restored, he said: "Thank you, which brought a burst of laughter and more applause. His remarks were about as follows:

For month past the Business circle has been in continued correspondence with clubs operating in many cities under various names, hoping to affect an international organization, and meet for that purpose. Each club must be liberal must give as well as take perhaps give their name take another.

We, the Business Circle are proud to be the first to sacrifice our cherished name for the good of all. The rose would smell just as sweet by another name. The lover thinks not of her name but of her, and the poet writes of her:

Thy name, Thy name:  
I told the rose thy name  
I blushed and stirred: its pedal trembled in ecstasy  
I called thy name aloud,  
And lo!, the bird bust into song within the thick-leaved tree.  
I spoke it when the dawn was grey and cold,  
And straight from out from the east upshot the sun!  
I spoke it to the night;  
The clouds that rolled above dispersed:  
The stars came one by one.  
Should any whisper it when in my grave I lie,  
Calmly sleeping under ground,  
My heart would beat space  
And that my lips would tremble at the sound.  
And if before the gates of Heaven, I stand.  
And can have my own worth no entrance win,  
I think that then if I should breathe thy name,  
The eternal doors would stir and let me in.  
If I should breathe thy name  
«Thy name, thy name»

Recently on the wreck of what had been a large plant. The owner had built a wonderful institution, then came mismanagement, then drink- then suicide and towering high abuse this waste was the story of 50 years in two words – the owner's name.

Gentleman, back of your name you must have an international organization and back of that organization, men.

All representatives were introduced to the Business Circle members and made short talks about their clubs. The chairman in introducing Gust Messing of St. Paul said: "I want to introduce to you Gust Messing of Minneapolis. Mr. Messing arose to his feet and shouted: "stop, damn you, stop. or I'll kill you; I'm from St. Paul," then proceeded to introduce himself. After which Chairman Melvin Jones asked the president Business Circle Business, F.M. Hallenbeck, to take the chair" stating that a resolution would be presented and that this meeting would be a regular called business meeting of the Business Circle. President Hallenbeck took the chair and gave a warm welcome to all guests and complemented Melvin Jones on his years of good work in the international movement.

Edwin J. Raber and W.J. Livingston moved the adoption of the following resolution:

That the Board of Directors of the Business Circle of Chicago enters into negotiations with Dr. W.P. Woods of the International Association of Lions Clubs, and with other clubs with reference to the affiliation and any act they do in the premises shall be the act of this club and binding thereon."

The motion was seconded by A.F. Sheahan and unanimously adopted by the Business Circle.

The President then called a meeting of all represented clubs, together with the Board of Directors of the Business Circle, immediately following, in the same room, and announced that the Club had decided to discontinue noon meetings for the months of June, July and August, having one evening meeting for each of those months only, and entertained a motion complimenting G.W. Milligan, chairman of the noon meetings, on the good meetings they had for the season. This motion was unanimously and boisterously adopted.

Drawings were held for two tickets, good for ten days at Portage Park via Northern Michigan Transportation Co., presented by J, W, Wood, who says they include two members and their families. Mr. Comstock, of Wohl and Comstock Company, distributed their Escenico cigars. The phonograph selections were given through the courtesy of MacCauley & Nevers Talking Machine Company.

Adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

2 p.m., Thursday, June 7, 1917, East Room, Hotel La Salle, Chicago, Ill.

The meeting was called immediately following that of the Business Circle representatives, previously mentioned, met with the Board of Directors of the Business Circle. F. M. Hallenbeck, President, and Melvin Jones, Secretary of the Business Circle, were elected Chairman and Secretary of the meeting; D.S. Sattler was delegated to vote for that club. Mr. W.J. Power for the Vortex Club of Detroit; E.N. Mr. Kaercher, for the Vortex Club of St. Louis; Gust Messing, for the Business and Professional Men's Association of St. Paul; Summer Clancy for the Optimists Clubs; Dr. W.P. Woods, for the Lions Clubs.

Mr. Kaercher talk about the Vortex club and said that it was their intention to renationalize, and with that end in view form a club in Detroit. He dwelt on the name Vortex and thought it was a name for a national organization, giving its various meanings, and that firms were now using it in St, Louis, such as Vortex Motor Oil.

In a general discussion which followed, it was brought out that clubs in every city cherished their name: also, where there is international movement and D.W. Milligan thought it advisable to form a Business League. This was objected to because of the confusion in going from one city to the other, It was therefore not thought practical.

Gust Messing spoke of the Business and Professional Men's Association of St. Paul and went into details of their object as well as their advantages.

Our mode of government is direct representation in convention of the different clubs, one delegate for each

fifty member, each member of every local organization is also a member of the international organization, but we differ from the Optimist Club in that the dues are only \$1.00 per year per member instead of \$2.50. I do not believe the name has much to do with the success of an organization, but it is the men behind it. The Lions is a symbol of strength. it is the King Beast, and we desire to make Lions Clubs the KING of CLUBS.

Mr. Messing called attention to the fact that the purpose of the meeting was to form an International Association of Clubs not already in an international association and stated that the Optimists Clubs were already international and were operating in St. Paul. Mr. Power said that they were also operating in St. Louis and Mr. Clancy was then questioned and it was found that they would conflict with the Lions Clubs in Denver, the Cirgonian club in Los Angeles and that they were starting an organization in Chicago and Milwaukee and in view of the confessions the following motion was made by Mr. Kaercher of St. Louis and was seconded by D.S. Sattler. V.P., of the Business Circle:

That the representatives in session form an organization of the clubs not now in conflict with one another, details to be worked out, and a national name be adopted later, subject to the ratification by the club represented by the voting members.

A general discussion then took place, Mr. Gust Messing, supporting the motion said in part, "While I believe that our club, the Business and Professional Men's Association of St. Paul, will be in favour of taking the name suitable to all concerned and relinquish theirs, I could not consistently adopt a name of a club of similar character already organized in our city, and therefore see no reason to go into session with them.

The same opinion was voiced by Messrs., Hallenbeck, Winchell and Blindenstine. It was agreed that after an organization of non-conflicting clubs had been completed that it would then be time to take up the solution of welding two clubs in the same city. Melvin Jones stated that he was sorry to learn of the confliction and that he had letters of various clubs, including one of the Optimists, which no doubt indicated a desire to have him vote on such matters, yet he thought it advisable not to do so, but would at all cost refuse to go into a session with an organization having a club in cities where there were clubs with which he was corresponding. This was especially true of the Cirgonian of Los Angeles, California.

Mr. Kaercher and Power both spoke in support of the resolution, and Mr. Clancy, thought it could be arranged to merge the two clubs and drop out the undesirable or even drop one club. Mr. Kaercher said. This would mean the pulling down of one and the building up of the other confliction in lines of business, and that would destroy the purpose of the organization, and therefore was not practical. Messrs. Fry, Jasper, Trienens and Dunham voiced the same sentiments. Chairman Hallenbeck repeated that it would be time to take up these points after an organization of non-conflicting clubs had been arranged. The motion was carried,

The representatives of the Optimists did not vote, and they offered to withdraw, but having been invited as guests of the Business Circle they were asked to remain.

Melvin Jones then asked for an adjournment of ten minutes, stating that he wanted to counsel with the Business Circle directors before going on with the meeting: all agreed. The meeting reconvened at the call of the chairman and a motion was presented to accept a charter from the International Association of the Lions Clubs, and various arguments were presented. Mr. Winchell stated in that we could not accept a charter in the Lions Club because no such offer had been made by them.

Messrs. Blinkenstine and Kaercher concurred in his opinion and the motion was withdrawn.

Dr. W.P. Woods President of the International Association of the Lions Clubs then took the floor and gave following invitation:

Where all clubs represented here today, have different names and whereas The Lions Clubs already have an

interactional organization, with approximately thirty clubs in different parts of the United States, and whereas the Lions Clubs are not now represented in any other cities represented by the other clubs; therefore, as president of the International Association of Lions Clubs, I hereby extend an invitation to these clubs to accept charters in the International Association of Lions Clubs and become a part and parcel of our organization. If you accept this invitation there will be no membership charge, and all we ask is to adopt our name and pay dues to the International Association, which are at the rate of \$1.00 per member, per year, payable semi-annually in advance.”

Mr. Satter of the Chicago Club moved that accept Dr. Woods invitation to accept charters from the International Association of Lions Clubs, subject to the ratification of the different clubs within sixty days, and report back to the acting secretary, Melvin Jones. This motion was seconded by Mr. Powers of St. Louis and Detroit Clubs, and unanimously carried,

A general discussion then took place with reference to the action of a club that did not ratify this motion.

Dr. Woods was questioned with reference to the calling of a convention and he stated that the by-laws provided for an annual convention and that it was the intention to call one as soon as we have fifty clubs. Mr. Kaercher asked if it was possible to call a convention with a less number, and Dr. Woods replied that one could be called if the clubs so desired. The Secretary was instructed to have the minutes of this meeting printed and copies sent to clubs represented as well as other clubs if he saw fit. There being no further business. The meeting adjourned with the reading of the businessman’s prayer by W.P. Power of St-Louis.

#### A Businessman’s Prayer

Teach me that 60 minutes make an hour; 16 ounces one pound and one hundred cents one dollar. Help me to live so that I can lie down at night with a clear conscience, without a gun under my pillow, and unhaunted by the faces of those to whom I have brought pain. Grant that I may earn my meal on the square and that in earning I may not stick the gaff where it does not belong. Deafen me to the jingle of tainted money and the rustle of unholy skirts.

Blind me to the faults of the other fellow but reveal to me mine own. Guide me so that each night when I look across the table to my wife who has been a blessing to me. I will have nothing to conceal. Keep me young enough to laugh with my children. And when comes the smell of flowers and the tread of soft steps, and the crunching of wheels out in front, make the ceremony short and the epitaph simple: “Here lies a man.”

Melvin Jones, Secretary

We Serve

*\* Extracted from the book called The Pillars of Lionism by George S. Aweida PDC from District 35, Lebanon-Jordon*

# OUR FOUNDER MELVIN JONES



Melvin Jones was born on January 13, 1879, in Fort Thomas, Arizona, the son of a United States Army captain who commanded a troop of scouts. Later, his father was transferred, and the family moved east. As a young man, Melvin Jones made his home in Chicago, Illinois, became associated with an insurance firm and in 1913 formed his own agency.

He soon joined the Business Circle, a businessmen's luncheon group, and was shortly elected secretary. This group was one of many at that time devoted solely to promoting the financial interests of their membership. Because of their limited appeal, they were destined to disappear. Melvin Jones, then a 38-year-old Chicago business leader, had other plans.

"What if these men," Melvin Jones asked, "who are successful because of their drive, intelligence and ambition, were to put their talents to work improving their communities?" Thus, at his invitation, delegates from men's clubs met in Chicago to lay the groundwork for such an organization and on June 7, 1917, Lions Clubs International was born.

Melvin Jones eventually abandoned his insurance agency to devote himself full time to Lions at the International Headquarters in Chicago. It was under his dynamic leadership that Lions clubs earned the prestige necessary to attract civic-minded members.

The association's founder was also recognized as a leader by those outside the association. One of his greatest honours was in 1945 when he represented Lions Clubs International as a consultant in San Francisco, California, at the organization of the United Nations.

Melvin Jones, the man whose personal code – "You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else" – became a guiding principle for public-spirited people the world over, died June 1, 1961, at 82 years of age.

*\* This text was copied from the book named Lions Club; the Great Idea of Melvin Jones*

# WOMAN IN LIONISM 1917-1918

The call to the first convention of Lions Clubs was done by Dr. William Woods, stating that "The first convention of Lions Club was held at the Adolphus Hotel in the City of Dallas, Texas on October 8,9,10, 1917."

At that convention, Dr. Wood was elected President with Melvin Jones as Secretary-Treasurer.

The delegates voted to open the membership to women as well as men. It retained the Lion's emblem, the head of a Lion holding a club in its mouth marked "international"

The group chose purple and gold as the Lions' colors and Melvin Jones was authorized to open a headquarter in Chicago.

During the rest of 1917 and into the following year, Lions clubs generally concentrated on projects to support the nation's war effort ranging from bond drives, collections of books and magazines, entertaining service men, help for war orphans and widows, and fund-raising for the Red Cross.

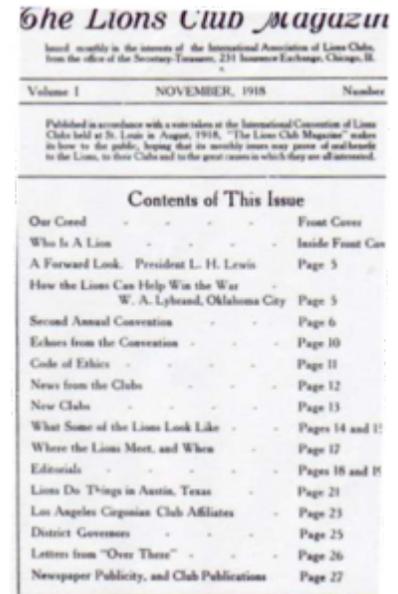
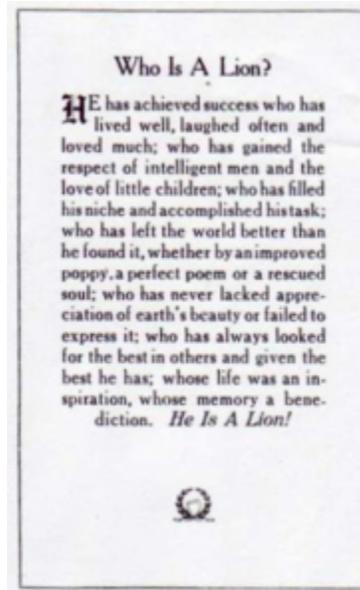
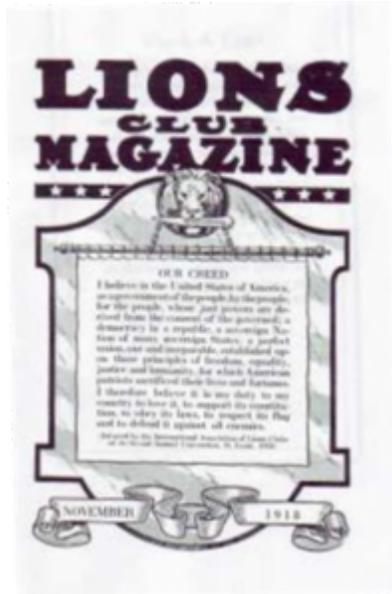
At the 1918 convention in St. Louis, Missouri, the Constitution and By-Laws Committee proposed an amendment to the constitution eliminating women from membership in Lions Clubs.

The Committee on Club Ethics made some minor changes in the Code of Ethics adopted in Dallas the year before. However, almost all of these 1918 changes were restored at then convention in 1919.

In 1987, the Lions international Convention approved an amendment to the constitution to remove the word "male" as a criterion for membership in a Lions Club. The removal of this word, allowed both men and women to be invited to be Lions

# 1st LIONS CLUB MAGAZINE

The first issue of the Lions Club Magazine was published November 1918. Twenty-eight pages plus cover.



PART II

# OUR INTERNATIONAL LEADERS

# PRESIDENTS, VICE-PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS WHO REPRESENTED CANADA ON THE LIONS INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS SINCE 1922

## INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTS AND VICE-PRESIDENT



Harry Newman PIP  
1924-1925  
Toronto ON



Walter C. Fisher PIP  
1949-1950  
St. Catharines ON



Tris Coffin PIP  
1973-1974  
Rosemere QC



Judge Brian Stevenson PIP  
1987-1988  
Calgary AB



Dr. Patti Hill 3rd V.P.  
2019-2020  
Edmonton AB

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORS



Harry Newman  
1922-1924  
Toronto ON



Jack Connell  
1930-1931  
Toronto ON



Jack Connell  
1931-1933  
Toronto ON



Dr. H.I. Wiley  
1933-1935  
Windsor ON



Thomas Wiley  
1935-1937  
St.Catharines ON



R. Reid Murdock  
1937-1939  
Toronto ON



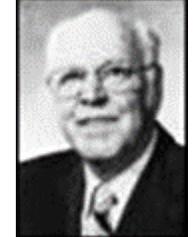
Dr. A. Spankie  
1939-1941  
Calgary AB



L.W. Peterson  
1941-1943  
Windsor On



Dr. C.O. Lennox  
1943-1945  
Toronto ON



Walter Fisher  
1945-1946  
St. Catharines ON



W.I. Waldie  
1951-1953  
Qualicum BC



S.G. Fowler  
1953-1955  
Timmins ON



William Garner  
1955-1957  
Shanty Bay ON



Charles Carter  
1957-1959  
Winnipeg MB



A.G. Kirstine  
1957-1959  
Edmonton AB



F.A. Bartlett  
1959-1961  
Hamilton ON



Tris Coffin  
1961-1963  
Rosemere QC



G.D. Wong  
1962-1964  
Vancouver BC



G. Laughlin  
1963-1965  
St. Catharines ON



J.O. Filkin  
1965-1967  
Toronto ON



Judge V.P. Moshansky  
1966-1968  
Calgary AB



Bill Waite  
1967-1969  
Saskatoon SK



Gordon Wright  
1969-1971  
Saskatoon SK



Bud Ozark  
1971-1973  
St. John NL



B. Tomkins  
1973-1975  
Presque Isle MN



R.E. Zimmerman  
1975-1977  
Ottawa ON



W.H. Maguire  
1977-1979  
Cobourg ON



Judge Brian  
Stevenson  
1977-1979  
Calgary AB



Dr. B. Danylchuck  
1978-1980  
Fort Frances ON



Hugh Reardon  
1979-1981  
Moncton NB



Dr. Jack Dobush  
1980-1982  
Lamont AB



Bruce Murray  
1981-1983  
St. Mary ON



Ralph H. Long  
1983-1985  
Vancouver BC



Ernie H. Moore  
1985-1987  
Cambridge ON



Ken G. Green  
1987-1989  
St. John NL



Gil Constantini  
1989-1991  
Peterborough ON



Bill Webber  
1989-1991  
St. Albert AB



Garnett E. Davis  
1991-1993  
Melfort SK



William Moody  
1993-1995  
Mount Forest ON



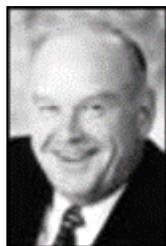
Len Giffen  
1995-1997  
Milford NS



Jack Isaman  
1997-1999  
Calgary AB



Gilles Melançon  
1997-1999  
Repentigny QC



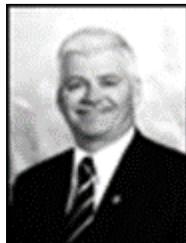
Ben Ward  
1999-2001  
Erickson MN



Arthur Woods  
2001-2003  
Elmira ON



Jim Sherry  
2003-2005  
Halifax NS



Terry Graham  
2005-2007  
Newmarket ON



Dr. Patti Hill  
2007-2009  
St. Albert AB



Carl Young  
2009-2011  
Omeme ON



Marvin Chambers  
2011-2013  
Fillmore SK



Yves Léveillé  
2013-2015  
Howick QC



Roderick Wright  
2015-2017  
Fredericton NB



Thomas Gordon  
2018-2020  
Newmarket ON



Allan Hunt  
2020-2022  
Chilliwack BC

# YEAR-END REPORT BY HARRY A. NEWMAN Q.C. INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT 1924-1925

HARRY A. NEWMAN Q.C. INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT 1924-1925



## Personal data:

- Of Toronto, Canada
- Barrister, businessman and farmer
- He and his wife Margaret had several children and grandchildren.

## Participation in Lions:

- Charter member of the Toronto (Central – Lions Club and one of the original officers.
- Founded many Lions clubs in North America.
- In the 1930, backed Lions Clubs at the bank.
- Received numerous awards and honours.

## General activities:

- Active in his community and his church, as well as politically.
- Assisted in aiding the blind and the handicapped.

Our research did not reveal any detailed biography.



*(From left to right) Lions Harry A. Newman, William (Bill) Purdy, Mrs. Margaret Newman and Jack Rowell on the 50th wedding anniversary reception for the Newmans.*



*President Newman and his wife Margaret*

## **YEAR-END REPORT BY PRESIDENT HARRY A. NEWMAN**

### **at the 1924-1925 convention**

Lion chairman, fellow Lions, ladies and guests. The custom of this great convention has required that your president read his report to you, his first reading in thirty-eight years.

We assemble here today to celebrate the Ninth Anniversary of the coming into being of the youngest, and yet the oldest of the service clubs – organized on the North American continent. When I recall the early history of our Association and the original creed adopted and referred to in our first magazine published in November 1918, I cannot but realize that our Association has not only accomplished many things, but has grown from a National to a truly International organization, uniting again children of a common mother, with a common language common ideals, common traditions and from the same fount of common law.

The countries that go to make up the members of this great service organization but recently fought side by side in cooperation with our Allies in the greatest conflict in history. And what for; in defence of the application of the affairs of the nations of the same fundamental principles of justice as obtained between man and man: and in order that government based upon the free will of free peoples might endure upon the continent and upon this earth and, might I add, forever and forever.

When one thinks how fortunate we of this continent have been; such good fortune the world has never known. We are divided by a frontier of over three thousand miles, guarded for a century and more by the good sense and friendship which were embodied in the Rush-Bagot Treaty and by the profound reverence, the good faith and the respect for each other. Other nations have had to defend their independence at enormous and depressing cost with all the horrors of war, while the Great Lakes that separate and not divide us English-speaking people of this North American continent are guarded by four of the greatest men of was that the world has never known-four vessels of one hundred tons apiece, each manned with a most deadly gun whose shell weighs but eighteen pounds. Military and naval men would scorn these toys of war, but to us of this North American continent who are lovers of civilization and peaceful ways, they are consecrated symbols of good

sense and good neighborhood. They foreshadow the abolition of force, and a life of reason in the government of human affairs.

I can hardly realize that the time ever was when my ancestors and the ancestors of my American brothers and sisters of this gathering today differed as to whether they should or should not drink tea in Boston. Since visiting all the state of the American Union and coming into contact with the Lions of the respective states therein, I can candidly say that I did not realize that I was in any other country than my native Canada.

Of all international contacts nothing could be better than the atmosphere created on the occasion of my visits. I had no political ends to Serve, no differences to compose, no policies to advance, except the highest of all, the policy of service to my fellow man and that of better understanding and good will between the brothers of the American Union and those of the Dominion of Canada.

The fact that we are here assembled almost in sight of the land of my birth and that of my fellow Canadians, who are many in number with us today, is more eloquent than anything that can be said. We come rejoicing in amity which has become, I am glad to say, a fixed habit of two peoples of this North American continent, intent on cooperation in the interests of service to their fellow man. We come to sit in a joint council as to how best we can improve on the existing means of service to the handicapped man, woman and child, and in so doing, tighten the bonds of friendship that exist between us people of this continent. In a word, we may well call ourselves servants of humanity.

At the close of the Omaha Convention, your great Association had organized upwards of eight hundred and twenty-five Lions Clubs in the United Stat of America and I am pleased to announce that Lions International is responsible for nine hundred and forty five clubs on this continent. It had been my desire on taking over the reins of office to have increased the number of clubs to an even greater total than the number accomplished, but upon making a survey of the entire organization, I came to the conclusion, after most mature consideration and contact with many of the clubs, that it was better to retain the existing clubs and to organize additional clubs as, when and where we could gather together men who did not want a club for what it might do for their community, but what they could do for the principles for which it stood.

Men have said, "Will not benevolent pursuits prevent a man from following with sufficient force what they call his legitimate occupation?" For myself, I must confess, after several years of endeavouring to serve our great Association that I cannot see why Providence has not made man's livelihood such an all-absorbing affair that it does not leave him room or time to give of service to his fellows. If man will only give up that portion of his thinking time which he spends upon vainglory, imagining what other people are thinking of him, he will have ample time and energy to give to the purpose of the handicapped adult and child.

It is not enough for us to be able to say that nothing of human interest is alien to us and that we give our acquiescence or indeed our transient assistance to any scheme of service that may come our way in promoting the welfare of others. On the other hand, we must toil; we must devote to it earns thought, constant care and zealous endeavour. The final test as to whether our clubs are functioning in the light of our splendid code of Ethics is not what its members have done for the community, but what the individual members themselves are. Their character should be the supreme interest overshadowing all others without character of the individual members of our club we cannot hope to give unstintingly of our service to our less fortunate brothers or sisters. The worth of our national or international life in the long run is the worth of the individuals composing our State or Empire A nation that dwarfs its men in order that they may be more docile instruments in its hands, even for beneficial purposes, will find that with small men no great thing can be accomplished.

It is the policy, and I know it is the wish, of the delegates assembled that we should all endeavour to bring into our respective vocations in life a higher regard or a higher Code of Business Ethics. What, for example, is honesty

in business? One man, perhaps, will answer: Anything that is within the law," and in the application of that view he helps to contaminate the waters of general business character; while the Lions say "Honour," which means truth, fairness and right in the relations between men.

Let it be said that the Lions of the Continent have created an interest never before shown in the youth of our national and international life by educating the child, be he handicapped or otherwise, to feel the sacredness of constituted authority for his own future happiness and usefulness. Let us teach the youth of this continent that constituted authority in the form of Law is only the expression of the wishes and desires of the common people, that safety and protection for all have its very foundation in the wholesome respect of all our people for the common law; and, further, that we of the English-speaking race can have security only if everyone, and especially every Lion, exemplifies this respect for law and order by actively supporting it.

Unconsciously, the youth must be made to feel his individual responsibility for a democracy which we all enjoy, and let it be said that we all have been instrumental in training in no small degree the youthful mind through our clubs in the respective communities in which they function, in an appreciation of nobility of work and the inexpressible glory of achievement through personal effort and the delight of being an honest, self-made man or woman. No greater inspiration is or should be known to the youth than the living example of a self-made man or woman. I need only refer to a representative of each of our national members of this great Association, to one of the: is many men who have inspired the youth that followed them: Abraham Lincoln and Sir John A. MacDonald.

Our International Association has fostered, and I firmly believe that the welfare of humanity can best be served by, an ever-closer cooperation between the people of the English-speaking world, for the very good reason that wherever in the world the flags of our respective countries wave, we find respect for law and order and stability of political institution, and it can never be said that we have promoted a good neighborhood at the expense of either Canadian or American national life.

In order that we of Canada may further contribute to the closer cooperation between us people of this continent, the Lions of Canada unanimously agreed to hold their district convention in this very same hall yesterday at five o'clock, P. M., and transact the business which purposely the business of the District of Ontario and Quebec, within the limit of this great republic, and within the state that has contributed so much already to our comfort while being their guests.

In further appreciation of the honour and spirit of cooperation shown by the brothers of America to the brothers of Canada at Omaha in 1924, in the election of your humble servant as your International President, I am delighted to inform you that the Canadians have increased the Lions clubs in Canada by no less than fifty per cent during the year ending June 30, 1925.

I shall endeavour to deal with the Major Activities of our great Association, so far as they affect this convention, in the order following.

- 1) The Blind; (2) The Handicapped Child; and (3) The Narcotic Evil.

#### MAJOR ACTIVITIES – THE BLIND

I have endeavoured to ascertain from numerous conferences held in the various districts of our association just what could best be done in the way of service work that would be a special duty for Lions International to foster, in addition to the otherwise handicapped child, the narcotic evil and the many other civic and local matters that will be carried on by our respective clubs as and when local conditions require. I feel, and I have no hesitation in recommending to Lions International and to the delegates here assembled, that this great association should place itself on record as primarily the association that shall foster the blind and partially blind.

The attitude of our members from coast to coast, and from Mexico to the land described in the South as the land of the Eskimo, is most gratifying to your president and board of directors, in that it confirms the policy adopted by your board at the September-October meeting of the full board held at Toronto, Canada.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to the Lions of Ohio, and particularly to the Lions of the Cincinnati club, who were instrumental in no small way in bringing to the attention of Lions International the wonderful opportunity that was awaiting us in the way of an international activity which would accomplish some worthwhile good. I especially want to recall the following members of the Cincinnati club who were the pioneers in the blind work of this Association: Dr. M. F. McCarthy, Dr. Howard Schriver, Father R. Marcellus Wagner, Edward W. Church and Walter Schmitt.

This work has reached such proportions in our association that I felt justified in adopting the slogan during my many conferences in the districts of Lionism as follows: "Let the Lions be known as the eyes through which the blind may find a vocation suitable to their talents in Life."

We must also thank the members of the Cincinnati club for the publication in its present form of the Lions Juvenile Braille Monthly magazine, a publication which is dedicated by the Lions International to the blind of the continent, and which brings cheer to them each and every month, and knowledge that they are not forgotten by their brothers and sisters who have not been deprived of vision.

When one recalls the plight of the blind of the last century' and especially the words of the poet Milton when he said:

'Not to me returns  
Day, or the sweet approach of eve or morn'  
Or flock or herds or human face divine'  
But cloud instead, and ever-during dark  
Surround me,"

we realize that our responsibility to the blind is more a matter of misunderstanding. The tendency of the average individual is to group the blind in a class other than ourselves, while the fact the blind seek not cheap sympathy but only the opportunity with their brothers and sisters who have vision to play their part in life.

The blind person is an individual like ourselves handicapped in rendering service only in comparison with the extent of his or her handicaps. Every individual has its limitations and our blind brother or sister has other limitations besides blindness. Through the instrument of the Lions Clubs we have during this year been a neighbour to the blind, and should remember that they are our brothers and sisters necessarily in more or less and in preparing the outside world to receive them.

I can best express the International Lions Clubs activities in regard to the blind by quoting from a letter very different from us; what will serve them best from one who is internationally known and who is blind herself, and who will be our guest during this convention, to tell you in her own way the message from the blind Miss Helen Keller, in one of her best letters referring to the blind, used these words.

"The Lions are coming to be known throughout America as the friends of the blind. What you are doing will spur other clubs in other cities to similar efforts. Such acts as yours rainbow the tears of the world, and I know they will shine back upon you with gratifying warmth, for happiness radiates happiness."

Under the arrangements for the publication of the Lions International Braille Monthly Magazine, the

distribution and the assembly are supervised by the members of the Lions Club of Cincinnati, and I feel that we of Lions International owe it to ourselves and to the Lions of Cincinnati and to the blind and partially blind of this continent, to take over the responsibility which they have long retained. In order to make my recommendations to the delegates assembled quite clear, I make the following recommendations:

1. That Lions International assumes the responsibility for the publication of the Lions International Monthly Braille Magazine.
2. The distribution of the said magazine.
3. Retain the facilities now so well provided and so efficiently carried into effect by the Trader sisters at Mount Healthy, Ohio, adjoining Cincinnati.
4. That a committee of not less than five members be appointed by the incoming Board of Directors at the earliest possible date after this convention, to be known as the International Lions Committee of the Blind and Partially Blind.
5. That this committee be a standing committee of this association.
6. That the chairman and as many members as possible thereof, during the first year at least, be those who have been actively associated with the early work in connection with the blind and partially blind work of this great service Association.
7. That this committee work out ways and means of fitting into our association the publication in question and the distribution thereof, and report back to the board of directors of this Association on or before October 1925, their finding as to how this association can best assume the work.

The blind work is unlimited in that it covers the field of prevention of blindness, and many other sight-saving devices and branches of blind work. I was most fortunate, when in Seattle on my western trip in December last, to locate and obtain the services as chairman of a Lion who knows the work, who loves the work, and who is accomplished in what is best for the blind, partially blind, and most modern sight-saving devices. I refer to the brilliant blind chairman of our blind committee, Lion Harry C. Hartman of Seattle, Washington, who will give his message to this convention; and I ask you all to weigh well the recommendations of this committee.

#### MAJOR ACTIVITIES – HANDICAPPED CHILD

The handicapped child, other than blind, is the other and the second of our great major activities and covers the child of all the handicapped classes, such as the orphan, the mentally defective, the crippled child, the child of parents who have so much of this world's goods that the welfare of the child is a secondary consideration, and many other children well known to all. I was most fortunate in procuring the services of one who has made it his special life's study, and one who is not only interested in the child but has the respect of the entire city and community in which he lives, one who has been recognized as an authority on such work. I refer to the Honorable Judge Hubert Utterback of Des Moines, Iowa, who will present to you during this convention a most instructive, well-considered and useful report on this, one of our great activities. I ask you all to consider well the many phases of this one report in order that on your return to your respective communities you will be able to put into practice such of the recommendations therein contained as can best be fitted in with your local conditions. I further recommend to the convention and the incoming board of directors that this very thorough report be printed in pamphlet form and mailed to the local chairman of the major activities committee of each of our clubs in the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada who make application there for.

#### MAJOR ACTIVITIES NARCOTIC EVIL

I have not appointed a committee on the narcotic evil for the very good reason that our association has, through its respective clubs, been bringing to the public attention the evil of the narcotic, and I had by the present campaign conducted through the channels of our clubs we can best serve those who are already working to

eliminate this, the greatest of the evils facing us on this continent. I can well repeat the following condition as it now exists on this continent:

The figures of consumption are so appalling that one who is interested in the elimination of narcotics in the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada may well be shocked at the figures. The consumption in the countries where the poppy is grown is much less than it is on this fair continent of ours. The figures as recently produced in the Literary Digest of some numbers back gives the following appalling information:

Italy	1 grain per capita per annum
Germany	2 grains per capita per annum
England	3 grains per capita per annum
France	4 grains per capita per annum
India	27 grains per capita per annum

and the North American Continent, composing the United States and the Dominion of Canada, the appalling consumption of thirty-six grains per person per annum, and apparently still increasing.

Your board was unanimous in its session at Toronto in making the elimination of one of its major activities. I am glad to advise that our association placed its services at the disposal of the League of Nations, offering to cooperate with any agency that may be created by the League to stamp out this world evil.

I may further add that at the conference at Geneva, our Canadian delegates to the conference were at one with those of the United States of America in desiring the most drastic measures, but rather than attempt the impossible, they accepted the limitations agreed to by the conference. As a result of the continued publicity given through our association, the legislation in both the countries composing the members of this association has been made more drastic; but I feel that we have not as yet made the penalties for those who traffic in narcotics sufficiently severe to detract from this worldwide curse.

I recommend to this convention and to the delegates assembled that the week beginning October 12, 1925, be set apart by each and every club of this association as Narcotic Week; and that a speaker, be he a Lion or otherwise, be the guest at luncheon or dinner during that week, and discuss solely the problem of how best to eliminate the narcotic evil; and that after sub-function each of the clubs of this great association wire to their members of congress of the United States and to the members of the parliament of the Dominion of Canada a resolution asking that further action be taken to increase the penalties in respect of those who are guilty of traffic in narcotics.

I have been frequently asked by men interested in the development of our association what I thought would best contribute to its success I hesitated to answer until such time as I had studied all conditions of our districts and discussed with those interested their local viewpoint. I feel now that I am justified, after a very careful survey of conditions, in pointing out what I think we lack and how best it can be remedied.

Our district governors are all very busy, and if they visit each club in their respective districts they have a big undertaking in itself, and are accordingly unable, in large districts especially, to undertake what might well be termed service work of any duration in any of the weaker clubs of their districts. The result of their inability to do such work is that many of the weaker clubs discontinue to function properly unless cared for. In order to meet the situation and at the same time retain the contact with the parent association, Lions International, I desire to recommend to this convention and the delegates here assembled, that we as an association avail ourselves of three of the best trained men in our service who have pioneered this now thriving service organization.

My recommendations will therefore be:

1. That our entire field of activity be divided into three regions: (a) south, (b) east and northeast, and (c) west and northwest.
2. That each region be assigned to one of our able service men.
3. That his title be that of regional director of service.
4. That such regional director be responsible to our board of directors for: (a) the general supervision of his region; (b) extension or organization work in his region; (c) direction of the general policies of the association in his region.
5. That his compensation, other than the fixed allowance by the board, be based on the concrete results in his region.
6. That a committee, with a member of this board, of not less than five, be appointed by the incoming board of directors to confer with all parties deemed necessary to fix the territorial limits of each of such regions.
7. That such regional director reside at a central point within the limits of such region assigned to him, in order that he may more effectively direct the activities pertaining to his region, and save the heavy expense now incurred by traveling from the Chicago office to any danger point in the service field.
8. That each regional director be required to attend all meetings of the international board of directors, including every international convention, in order that they may bring their advice and counsel gained by association with actual conditions existing in their respective regions.

That each regional director attends all district conferences held in his region and cooperate at all times with the governors, and their deputies in all districts within the regime of such director.

In a word, apply to our association, which has now passed its pioneer stage, what a sane and progressive man or corporation would apply to a national and much more to an international organization or business. The gentlemen I refer to as most fitted for these appointments are all well and favorably known to rank and file of this great association, and I take great pleasure in announcing the appointments of the following gentlemen as regional directors of the regions whose territorial limits will be fixed by the committee before named:

John Hill, of Montgomery, Alabama, regional director of the Southland; Frawley of Chicago, Illinois, formerly of Burlington, Iowa, regional director west of Chicago and the Northwest; Arthur Brookwell regional director east of Chicago and the Northeast.

I also recommend that as soon as the finances of this association permit, that further regions be established in order more effectively to cover the vast territory now of necessity to be assigned to the three regional directors appointed.

#### DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

I have observed that our district governors are the directing force of our association in their respective districts, and I feel that nothing should be done to detract from their duties; but, on the other hand, their worth to our International Association should be more fully appreciated and their local position strengthened in every way consistent with our general welfare. Any organization within a district that tends to clash or detract attention from the district governor himself should be organized with his sanction only. I feel that the provision of our constitution, better described as Article VII, sub-section 9, should be amended, and I recommend to this convention and to the delegates assembled and to the committee appointed on constitution and by-laws, the following amendments:

1. That a district or officers' association may be formed, instead of shall be formed, in each district.

2. That the chairman or president of such association so formed shall be the district governor elected in such district.
3. That such organization may pass such by-laws to govern its deliberations as may be consistent with the constitution and bylaws of Lions International.

In making these recommendations, I desire it to be thoroughly understood that I am not criticizing any existing association formed under our present constitution, but rather endeavouring to have the change effected so that the provision for the district organization shall be permissive and not obligatory as it now is. In other words, I want, and I know you all want, a constitution that is adhered to in spirit if not in fact.

With such an organization as suggested and recommended, I feel that there will be a closer contact between the respective clubs and the district governor, and the expense incidental to one member attending conferences will be within the reach of all of our clubs; while if more members from the respective clubs are required to attend, many clubs are unable to finance the expenses, and it is not fair to ask any member to represent his club without providing for his transportation going and coming and the expense incidental to such conference.

Our association has expanded its territorial limits to every state of the Union and practically every province of Canada and I feel it is wise to provide for a more equitable distribution for the members of this board. There was a time in this association when one or more members of the board could well have been chosen from the earlier districts of our organization. But I feel that our association has now reached the stage where no one district should be expected to have the honour of having two of its Lions as members of the board of directors of this association. I recommend to the convention in session and to the delegates assembled, and to the committee on constitution and by-laws, that the constitution be amended to provide that no more than one director of the international board of directors, which includes the officers of this association, shall be selected from any of the districts of the International Association, and that such provision shall become operative at the convention to be held in 1926 and thereafter

#### AMENDMENTS – BOARD OF GOVERNORS

In Article V. (a) our International Constitution provides for a board of governors composed of the district governors elected by the several district conventions and for their respective meetings. This board has in the last year been organized for the first time in the history of our association, and elected a very able member of this board as its first chairman; but owing to the many duties which our director was required to perform in addition to that of chairman of the board of governors, he found it necessary to resign from the office, and no provision in the constitution was made for his successor.

In order to overcome the situation and make the organization more effective, I recommend the following to the delegates in convention and to the committee on by-laws and constitution, to be known as Subsection 5 of Article V. (a): That the board of governors in session at international convention shall elect from their number a chairman and vice-chairman, who shall be elected for a period of one year, or until their successors are elected from the governors at the close of the annual convention. Subsection VI: That on the death or resignation of the chairman, or in his absence from any such meeting, the vice chairman elected shall have all the powers of the chairman of the board of governors.

In order to bring about an even closer relationship between the district governors and the international board of officers and directors, and thereby avoiding any possible misunderstanding that might arise under conditions as now exist, I recommend to this convention and to the delegates assembled the following amendment: Article V, Section 1, which now provides that the board of directors shall be composed of the president,

immediate past president, first, second and third vice president and the directors hereinbefore provided for, that in addition thereto the chairman of the board of governors-elect be part and parcel of our board of directors

I also recommend that section 7 of the same Article v, which provides that the president may appoint, with the approval of the board of directors, an executive committee of five members of the board of directors, including the president, the addition of a clause providing that the executive committee of five members of the board of directors shall include the president of the International Association, the chairman of the board of governors-elect from time to time, and three members of the board of directors appointed by the president with the approval of the board of directors. My reason for this amendment is that the chairman of the board of governors will be available at all executive and general meetings of the board of directors, and can't all times bring into the councils of this association the viewpoint of the local representatives of Lions International in the respective districts of our great organization.

I have, during my administration, always had the privilege of having the chairman of the board of governors at the regular board meetings of this board during the past you and I not only found but the members of the board found that the chairman's presence was most valuable in dealing with matters coming before the board pertaining to the welfare of our association.

I also want to bring to the attention of this convention the district organization of the Lion, club in Illinois, who were the first on the scene in the area laid in ruins by the hurricane which passed through Illinois in March last. The Lions of Illinois took care of the crisis which had arisen in a way that was most commendable and brought forth word so far appreciation not only from the members of our clubs from coast to coast, but from all the organizations on the continent.

These examples of service to its own district regardless of race or creed are in keeping with the principles of our code and are to be greatly commended. I especially want to congratulate Wayne C. Townley district governor of Illinois through whose organization this situation was brought about.

I also desire, in addition to the recommendations before mentioned and hereafter to be referred to, to bring to your attention accomplishment of no mean importance to this great association instigated by the Lions club of Wichita, Kansas. I refer to what is now known as The Moral code for School children of the continent. This code has been prepared by leading educators of the continent, and through the initiative of the Lions clubs of Wichita, Kansas, has been placed in the schools of Kansas. I have no hesitation in recommending that the work already so well undertaken by the Lions of Wichita, Kansas, be adopted as one of the activities of our association, and that the code be placed not only in the schools of Kansas, but in all the schools in which the Lions are taking an active part in the education and well being of the youth of this continent.

I have asked the chairman of the local committee at Wichita, Lion Harold W. Schroeder, to bring before this convention, through the major activities committee, handicapped child branch, of which Judge Hubert Utterback is chairman, the wonderful opportunity presented to the Lions in providing for the distribution of this code in the schools of the continent. In order that the code may be of record in the minutes of this association, I repeat the code in detail, but will not read it to you, and ask that you read it and communicate at the close of this convention with our international office and arrange through our office as to how best you can, on return to your community, provide for the code in your town or city, as the case might be.

#### MORAL CODE FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

"In God we Trust"

If I want to be a happy, useful citizen, I must have.

Courage and Hope:

I must be brave. This means I must be brave enough and strong enough to control what I think, and what I say, and what I do, and I must always be hopeful because hope is power for improvement.

Wisdom:

I must act wisely. In school, at home, playing, working, reading or talking, I must learn how to choose the good, and how to avoid the bad.

Industry and Good Habits:

I must make my character strong. My character is what I am, if not in the eyes of others, then in the eyes of my own conscience. Good thoughts in my mind will keep out bad thoughts. When I am busy doing well, I shall have no time to do evil. I can build my character by training myself in good habits.

Knowledge and Usefulness:

I must make my mind strong. The better I know myself, my fellows and the world about me, the happier and more useful I shall be. I must always welcome useful knowledge in school, at home, everywhere.

Truth and Honest:

I must be truthful and honest. I must know what is true in order to do what is right. I must tell the truth without fear. I must be honest in all my dealings and in all my thoughts. Unless I am honest, I cannot have self-respect.

Healthfulness and Cleanliness:

I must make my body strong. My eyes, my teeth, my heart, my whole body must be healthful so that my mind can work properly. I must keep physically and morally clean.

Helpfulness and Unselfishness:

I must use my strength to help others who need help. If I am strong I can help others, I can be kind, I can forgive those who hurt I can help and protect the weak, the suffering, the young and the old, and dumb animals.

Charity:

I must love. I must love God, who created not only this earth but also all men of all races, nations and creeds, who are my brothers. I must love my parents, my home, my neighbours, my neighbours and be loyal to all these.

Humility and Reverence:

I must know that there are always more things to learn. What I know is small compared to what can be known. I must respect all who have more wisdom than I, and have reverence for all that is good. And I must know how and whom to obey.

Faith and Responsibility:

I must do all these things because I am accountable to God and humanity for how I live and how I can help my fellows, and for the extent to which my fellows may trust and depend upon me.

The only suggestion I have to offer is that the code might become an international code with slight variation in the coat-of-arms printed. in which it is As much as I admire and associate with old Glory, I feel that the flag

of the country where the code is distributed should be prominently displayed, in that patriotism taught to our youth is essential in the building up of a strong citizenship and a national spirit.

I also desire to draw to your attention Article VI of the International constitution. Sub-section 6 now reads: "Each delegate shall be entitled to cast one vote on every question submitted to the convention. I recommend that this section be amended to read as follows. Each delegate must be an active member in good standing in his club and shall be entitled to cast one on every question submitted to the convention."

In making this recommendation to the convention and to the committee on by-laws and constitution, it is my desire that the delegates selected shall be men who have been active in their respective cities and in good standing. as otherwise they cannot come into the convention with the experience that is necessary to work with those who came here for that purpose

Section 8 of the same article provides among other things that at each convention there shall be an annual banquet. The annual banquet has been dispensed with in the last three conventions for the very good reason that no place was available, and the host club found the expense prohibitive. I recommend that this section be amended eliminating the words and shall include a ticket to the annual banquet of such convention.

Article VII, Sub-section5: This section has been interpreted by some districts that they may send one delegate to a convention who shall have the right to vote by a proxy for the other delegates who were not able to come. I recommend that to this section be added a subsection known as V (a) to read as follows:

Each delegate shall be entitled to cast one vote only on every question submitted to the convention"

Article III, Sub-section3, of the constitution provides: that no club shall be chartered in any city or town of less than five thousand population as shown by tire last preceding municipal census with the exception therein noted. I recommend that this sub-section be amended to read «city or town of not less than three thousand population». I have found that there are exceptionally good towns on this continent with a population of three thousand, who are quite capable of maintaining a live, local Lions club and the delay incidental to the present section may endanger the organization of such club.

Sub-section 4 of Article III reads: "each club shall be known by the name of the city or town in which it is located." I recommend that to this be added sub-section 4 (a) to read as follows: "Except when a club may include several communities, when the name may be such as may not conflict with any other club within the district, state or provincial boundaries."

My reason for making this recommendation is that there are often several communities within easy reach of each other desiring to form a Lions club from members gathered from the various communities, and as the constitution now stands the question of name is not provided for. It is to provide for this emergency that I recommend the above change.

In the objects of our association politics and sectarian matters are properly barred. If this provision means anything it means both within and without our association. Politics should be barred. I desire to speak quite frankly on this subject, as many of our most useful members throughout the country have expressed themselves to me on many occasions that too much politics is injected into our international convention, with which objection I entirely agree. The election of our officers and directors should not be a matter of trading between a few men who think more of position and politics with our members but should be a mere incident of the convention.

I have no recommendations as to who is best fitted for the various offices in the gift of this convention, but I do recommend that you select men who have the coof (Definition of coof chiefly Scottish: a stupid fellow : [dolt](#), [lout](#)) the men who best know them, and those should be the men of their home town, and that you exact of

them a pledge that they will give the time necessary to the advancement of the interests of our association by devoted service to the office sought, if elected. Do not elect a man because he is a good fellow, but rather because he is able, ready and willing to accept the honour and, more, the responsibility that goes with the office.

As for my successor, he must be a man who can give unsparingly of his time, in that the clubs of the North American continent want not only to know but meet him in their respective districts. What is life worth, after all, if one has no philosophy of his own to live by? If one surrenders this to win an office, what will he live by after the office is won? Tell me that! I also desire to recommend to the incoming board that regional meetings of the International Board and Executives Committee be arranged during the year beginning July 3, 1925, and ending at the opening of the convention of 1926, for the very good reason that at the meetings of the board held at Toronto and Atlanta, Ga., the clubs in the districts adjoining those centers learned to know more of the individual members of the board and know more about the policies which we are all striving to carry into effect. If such meetings can be arranged, the cost is no more, and the contacts made are invaluable. The meeting at Atlanta, Georgia, was a huge success, thanks to the untiring efforts of our members in and about the state of Georgia.

I think that a provision in the constitution is not necessary in that the president-elect may call the meeting at a place which he thinks is in the best interests of the association. I made a departure this year in calling the meetings at Atlanta and Toronto, hoping that the good resulting would warrant the change. I feel justified in saying, and the members of my board will concur, that it was a move in the right direction, and I would like to see this practice continued.

Another matter which has given me some very serious consideration is the question of the selection of the convention city. Under the constitution,

Article VI, Section 1, which now reads as follows:

“Section 1. A convention of this association shall be held each year, at a place to be determined by the preceding convention, and at a time to be fixed by the board of directors; provided that, in case of emergency, the board of directors may fix the place of meeting.”

I feel that our association has grown so rapidly since the provision referred to was provided for that a change is necessary in the interests of our association. As matters now stand, the convention city may be selected by the convention without knowledge of what facilities can be provided for the comfort of the delegates and their friends, and proper hotel accommodation and proper place for the convention proper and the various committees thereof, and last, but not least, the entertainment of the guests of the convention. We have been most fortunate in the past, but by mere chance, in the cities that have been selected city best able to care for the convention of Lions International in keeping with the requirements and the size of the convention to come.

In addition to this provision, I think it is in the interests of the convention and of the association itself that the entire management of the convention should be controlled by the international office, and that all details of the convention should be worked out by employees of that office, and that we should not expect local men to devote their entire time carrying out detailed plans which should be matters well in hand by our international office long before the convention takes place, and with the experience of prior conventions at their disposal. It is splendid for the club where the convention is selected to volunteer such of their time and means as will best fit in the general program, in which you will agree, but no further.

To this end, I recommend that the constitution be amended to provide that the cities or towns desiring the convention shall submit their names to the board of directors, with all facilities at their disposal, and that the selection of the town or city shall be a matter in the sole discretion of the board; and, further, that the program

of such convention shall be a matter to be worked out under the direction of this board in cooperation with the local agencies in the town or city selected for the convention.

In order that this matter may be more effectively brought before this convention before its close, I ask that the committee on constitution and by-laws deal with the matter at its first sitting and bring a recommendation to this convention so that the effect of their recommendation may be voted on and acted upon at the next convention of this association, which can be done by a unanimous vote of this convention, which I know will be given when matters voted upon are in the best interests of the delegates who are in attendance, and their friends, from time to time.

I have endeavoured to direct your service department as best I could since the first day of my election at the Omaha convention by you, but also want to say that my efforts would have been of no avail had it not been for the active cooperation of your entire board of directors, district governors, district deputies, and the men in the rank and file of our Association. It has not only been a pleasure to serve you, but a privilege which I shall always cherish. I now ask the same cooperation which you have given in the past year for the duration of this convention, and may it be said that united we proceed to even greater achievements.

Thank you (Applause)

Gift to International President Newman

Peter Pilkington PDG New Brunswick

From: Barton, Larry

The Harry Newman Gong was given to me by my wife's Aunt (Eleanor Tredway – Toronto) Eleanor is the wife of Lion Bill Tredway (deceased), Bill and Harry Newman were best friends and when Harry Passed away the Gong was given to our Uncle Bill. When Bill passed away, the gong was given to me as Bill and I were both Lions and had many discussions on Lionism over the years. Lion Bill Tredway was a member of the Toronto Central Lions Club. To me the interesting thing about this gong is (I believe) that the 1925 convention was where Helen Keller challenged the Lions of the world to become the "Knights of the Blind", in the research of Harry Newman I would be much appreciated if this fact of the Helen Keller challenge was made to Harry Newman during his presidency....



*The inscription on the gong read as follows: Presented to Harry A. Newman President of The International Association Of Lions Clubs At the 9th Annual Convention Cedar Point Ohio June 30 - July 2 - 1925 By Lion John M. Klimler Central Lions Club Chicago President of the Russell Hampton Co.*

# WALTER C. FISHER INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT 1949-1950

WALTER C. FISHER INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT 1949-1950



## Personal Data:

- Walter C. Fisher of Queenston, Ontario, Canada.
- Involved in sales and real estate for many years.
- He and his wife, Alice, have three children and nine grandchildren.
- They are members of the United Church of Canada.

## Participation in Lions:

- Member of the St. Catharines Lions Club since 1933.
- Served numerous offices including president district governor, chairman Multiple District A Board of Governors.

## General Activities:

- Queenston School Board.
- Board of Directors of the Niagara peninsula sanatorium.
- Member of the Advisory council of the St. Catharines General Hospital.

Our research did not reveal any detailed biography.

## INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY WALTER C. FISHER

## INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT 1949-1950\*

*\*This text was copied from The Book Pillars of Justice written by George S Aweida.*

My good Fellow Lions and Friends:

You have just elected me to the office of President of our great International Association of Lions Clubs. I deeply appreciate the high honour and am fully cognizant of the attendant responsibilities. All the Lions of the Dominion of Canada share the humble gratitude which fills my heart at this moment because, by your voice and vote, you have given practical demonstration of your steadfast belief that Lions

International is truly International in its scope and influence. We thank you for this expression of your confidence in us and for the opportunity of joining with you, to the highest degree, in serving the cause which is so near and dear to the heart of every Lion.

What is that cause? In general terms, we say that it is unselfish service to our fellow man, a translation of the tenets of the Golden Rule into action. More specifically, we have devoted the major part of our efforts to helping the less fortunate citizens of our communities, to making those communities healthier and happier places, and to developing a keener and more intelligent appreciation of the privileges and responsibilities of democratic citizenship.

During the past few years, we have become more fully aware of the International implications of the old truth that man cannot live unto himself, and that security for the individual is impossible as long as there is national or International insecurity anywhere in the whole world. To that end, we have raised our sights seemingly higher with each succeeding year until we now include in our Lions program the international problems confronting all nations, particularly those intimately related to the maintenance and preservation of world peace.

Before the Charter of the United Nations was drafted, Lions International had observers and consultants at the great conference, which was called for that purpose, and since that time we have had representatives at every major conference of the United Nations and many of its Specialized Agencies.

The first paragraph of our Lions Objects reads in part, "To create and foster a spirit of generous consideration among the peoples of the world." In the light of our past experience, and of the present trend of events, our cause takes a larger, more noble form. Our responsibilities, as Lions, are heavier and more complex than ever, but at the same time there have been opened to our view a new vista of glorious opportunity since we have in the past year extended our work into four additional nations, 385,000 leading citizens of 7,500 communities, in 26 nations of this world, can lead the way. "We can set a pattern for public opinion which will insure "a spirit of generous consideration among the peoples of the world." Lions, we stand at the crossroads of this weird yet wonderful 20th Century.

This is the hour of profound and far-reaching decision. The developments of the past 50 years far outrun the wildest dreams of our grandfathers, but the new knowledge has brought new problems. We have found that pressing a switch, or turning a knob, or swallowing a pill does not raise the curtain on Utopia. On the contrary, it lulls us into a stupor of false security which can sap our strength, so that we may be in danger of losing the initiative and moral fortitude necessary to accomplish the tasks which we have set our hands and hearts to do.

The record of phenomenal growth of Lions International, particularly during these last few years, yes, the very fact of your attendance, at this wonderful convention, is ample evidence that this 20th Century will record the birth, or should I say rebirth? – of a knowledge which is as old as the hills and at the same time as new and fresh as the dawning of each day. The knowledge that men were created to live together in peace and harmony is essential to our well-being and as long as we continue to pit our puny strength against the natural laws

conceived by our Creator, at the beginning of time, just so long will we suffer the natural consequences of our egotism, greed and lust for power.

But our steps are turned, at long last, in the right direction. They may be slow, faltering and uncertain, but with patience, determination and faith we can increase the length and pace of our strides. Lions have proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that problems dispassionately; they have shown it is possible to develop a spirit of generous consideration among the peoples of many nations when mutual problems are considered unselfishly, and when their discussions are motivated by a sincere and earnest desire to reach a mutually satisfactory solution.

Let us not be discouraged if we meet with rebuff and apparent failure in some quarters; let us revalue our own motives and objectives; let us be sure that our actions, and ambitions are free from the tarnish of pettiness and selfishness. Only then will we be able to go forward with steadfast hope and high courage. Everything that is worth having is worth the time and energy and sacrifice necessary to obtain it; we must decide to what degree we want Peace on Earth, and then make up our minds to sacrifice enough of our personal comfort and pleasure to pay the necessary price of attaining such a goal, which we confidently expect will eventually be ours.

A word of caution, however, needs to be interposed here: we must be intelligently realistic in our endeavors. Let us be alive to the fact that there are individuals in this world who do not agree with our beliefs, who do not want to create and foster a spirit of generous consideration among the peoples of the world, who are using every conceivable means to accomplish the exact opposite of our aims, and who are fanatical in their intent to do that very thing. Their creed is confusion, then conquest. Their technique is old, but they have a new and diabolically clever method of application. 'They create decay from within, using the spores of discontent and disillusionment as the inoculums which could, if allowed to go unchecked, break down the supporting fiber of the Christian or democratic way of life and reduce it to a worthless mass of rotten ineptitude.

But that is not going to happen! Lionism is a great purifying force like the rays of God's sun, which can and will destroy those spores before they can germinate. I charge each one of you, as you love your wife, your children, your home, your nation, to employ the forces of Lionism to uproot the undesirable practices in your community which may have a tendency to become fertile breeding ground for the spores of anarchy.

Call it a crusade if you will; perhaps some of you would prefer to be known as modern vigilantes; but, whatever the name, the only safe course to pursue is that of eternal alertness and intelligent action to make the moral and spiritual fiber of our countries so vibrantly strong that we will be immune to the consuming disease of despotism.

Enthusiasm is contagious. Share your joy of accomplishment with others; enlist the help of every good citizen; grant him the privilege of serving with you. A great challenge? Yes, Lions International can be a mighty power for good in world affairs. I charge every Lion to carry his share of the load. I pledge you to carry mine. Working together, and with the help of Almighty God, we can generate a spirit of true Brotherhood and Peace throughout the whole world.

Most of you know me to be a rather practical individual. May I suggest a most practical and effective means of reaching our goal? My idea is not new; it is almost 2,000 years old; but it has never been adopted, on an international, or even national, scale in all that time. I have been reminded of it at least three times during this Convention, because it is summarized in the last two lines of the last verse of a Hymn which has been sung three times by the fine choral groups who have entertained and inspired us here. It is very familiar to all of you – The Battle Hymn of the Republic. I am changing but one word in the last line to bring to all of you the greatest challenge of the ages:

«As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free! »

(Prolonged applause as all stand.)

# END OF THE YEAR REPORT BY WALTER C. FISHER INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT 1949-1950

## END OF THE YEAR REPORT BY WALTER C. FISHER INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT 1949-1950\*

*\*This text was copied from The Book Pillars of Justice written by George S Aweida.*

Chairman Herb, International Officers, Directors, and you Lions who are still here:

I thank you for remaining, Lions. I am going to try to make this as snappy as I can, but after a year's work, I do have something to say to you.

One short year ago, in New York City, I accepted at your hands the office of President of this great Association of ours – The International Association of Lions Clubs – the largest, the fastest-growing, the most active, and the most potentially useful and truly humanitarian service organization in the whole wide world. At that time, I accepted with deep humility and sincere gratitude the high honour which you had bestowed upon me, and pledged you that the responsibilities, which are necessarily the most important factor in holding any office, would be discharged, with the help of Almighty God, to the very limit of my physical and mental capacity.

Twelve months have flown by, and the time has arrived for my valedictory. This moment is heavily charged with emotion. There are so many things which I would like to say to you; a lifetime of education, revaluation, joy and satisfaction, which has been packed into one year, must now be condensed and reviewed in a very few minutes. How could one possibly picture in advance the tremendous outpouring of friendliness, hospitality, kindness and courtesy which Alice and I have experienced at every turn this year?

Naturally, we had heard glowing accounts of many of the wonderful experiences of our great Past International Presidents, and we looked forward with the utmost pleasure to the privilege of meeting and visiting with thousands of you, my fellow Lions and your charming and gracious ladies, but we found ourselves totally unprepared to express adequate thanks for the abundant generosity with which you received us in your districts, your clubs, and your homes, throughout the whole year.

Now we are all met together at this grand Convention, in this mighty City of Chicago, the veritable crossroads of the United States of America, and the birthplace of Lionism, and I am still unable to find words which will fully convey to you the sentiments with which you have filled our hearts as we have travelled among you. Perhaps it can be summed up by saying that we thoroughly enjoyed seeing your cities, your towns, your villages and countryside, your majestic mountains and wooded hills, your canyons, prairies and farms, your seashores, inland lakes and swamps, your cathedrals, churches, universities and hospitals, and every point of interest constructed by the hand of man, or of God, on three continents.

But the mightiest and most lasting impressions were made upon us by you wonderful folks – you who gave so lavishly of your time and energy to entertain us, who thrilled us with your openhearted friendliness, which inspired us with the constancy of your loyalty and devotion to the high and unselfish purposes which we all cherish.

After personally inspecting many hundreds of the projects which our clubs have sponsored in your communities, we began to realize the vastness of the potential for good which does exist within our unified ranks. A great feeling of humble pride filled our hearts as we realized that we all belong to an Association of free men who are cheerfully and enthusiastically giving hundreds of millions of hours of their time to bring some of the blessings, which we enjoy, to others who are less fortunate, and to help, in a practical way, to rectify conditions and situations in which injustices do exist.

This has been another great year of progress for our Association. We added a net total of 27,415 new members to pass the 400,000 milestone by 2,841, we have maintained the wonderful average of the three previous years by chartering 806 new clubs, and this last mighty step has carried us past the 8,000 club mark for a total of 8,055 clubs as of June 30th. During the year two new countries have joined the great company of many of liberty-loving nations in our Lions International family for total of 28. England and Denmark will add the weight of their experience and knowledge to the effort which we are all making to our common problems, and their citizens will be enriched by the joy and satisfaction of this way of life which we have found to be so good.

It was a great thrill for me to be privileged to present, on your behalf, the Charter from Lions International to the first club in Great Britain – the Lions Club of London, England. Our visit to Europe in March and early April was a never-to-be-forgotten experience, it was a tremendous lesson in understanding, a forceful reminder that we should never form opinions of other people based on prejudice, rumor or half truth. Those good folks opened their hearts and their homes to us as cordially as you, our friends, have done on every occasion.

This truth has been stamped more indelibly than ever in my mind, that men and women, in every country, possess an inherent quality which makes them want to be friendly and unselfish and the task is not an easy one, for signposts have been erected at every turn to beckon us into seemingly pleasant paths wherein we are more easily ensnared. The ways and the wiles of those who lust for power are much more subtle than they were 700 years ago, or even 50 years ago but our enslavement is just as certain unless the clearness of our thinking and reasoning, the steadfastness of our purpose, and the enthusiastic confidence of our action are able to penetrate the choking, jungle growth of selfish habit and blaze a new trail for the feet which will follow ours. We must search out the pitfalls and mark them clearly for all to see. The most dangerous ones are to be found in the places where we least suspect danger. At work or at play, in school or in church, in every avenue of our daily life we must be constantly alert to spot the presence of the serpent of dictatorship, whenever you are promised something for nothing – beware, wherever a man imposes his selfish will upon his fellow citizens, either for material gain or because of an insatiable lust for power, that man is a dictator, and must be exposed to the searching sunlight of truth. They are hypocrites indeed if we preach in high-sounding phrases against the dictators in other nations, and at the same time are too apathetic or selfish to do our utmost to eradicate similar conditions, albeit on a smaller scale, right here at home, we must be absolutely honest with ourselves or suffer the inevitable consequences of our own laziness, procrastination, and our compromise with dishonesty.

Incidentally, I didn't compare notes with senator Mundt, either. I wrote this several days ago. It is surprising how along the same lines men' minds run when they have the right objects in view.

The first paragraph of our Lions Club Objects reads in part. To create and foster a spirit of generous consideration among the peoples of the world" we must stop at this point, analyse our thinking and realize what it is we are trying to do. "To create" means to form something out of nothing; to build a useful article out of raw materials; or to develop new workable methods out of old customs. If we are to create, the most logical beginning would be to develop a practical workable method to assure peace, harmony, and generous consideration among the peoples of our own country. We are deserving of the satirical gibes of the whole world when we suggest that we are going to do something for others that we haven't been able to do for ourselves. I am not implying that we are unable to create this spirit of generous consideration for I am convinced that we can. I have seen so many evidences of it this year that I am extremely optimistic.

It does exist in very real measure among Lions everywhere, but that is not enough. The Lions of each country must take unto themselves the urgent responsibility of developing this generous consideration, which they have in their hearts, into a workable national program. When we can point to at least one or two of our Lions nations where the «spirit of generous consideration» has entered every fiber of the warp and woof of their national life, then we will know that the success of our international program is assured.

The basic principles of Lionism constitute a modern Magna Charta for the world. They affirm the rights and privileges of every citizen in every business or profession. All that remains to be done is to institute a plan of vigorous action which will translate them into an international reality.

One year ago, in New York I called upon each of you to “Live to make men free.” Today I reiterate that challenge with all the emphasis at my command. In the light of the world events of the past three weeks I remind you most forcibly that there is not a moment to lose.

Lions, I said to you in thanking Senator Mundt that we needed action. We also need prayer, clear-headed prayer. Let me remind you of what Kipling said fifty-three years ago. Maybe it will sound prophetic to you:

If, drunk with sight of power, we loose  
Wild tongues that have not Thee in awe,  
Such boastings as the Gentiles use,  
Or lesser breeds without the law –  
Lord God of hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget – lest we forget!  
“For heathen heart that puts her trust  
In reeking tube and iron shard,  
All valiant dust that builds on dust,  
And, guarding, call not Thee to guard,  
For frantic boast and foolish word –  
Thy mercy on Thy people, Lord!  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget; lest we forget!”

(Prolonged applause as all stands).



*President Walter Fisher and his wife Alice*

*Note: Unaware of any gift to Walter Fisher either by his club, MD" A" or International Ray Charbonneau MD" A" Historian*

# TRIS COFFIN INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT 1973-1974

TRIS COFFIN INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT 1973-1974



## Personal Data:

- Tris Coffin, of Rosemère, Quebec, Canada.
- He is an optician
- He and his wife Jacqueline had two sons, Tris Jr. and Paul, and four grandchildren, Jackie passed away on October 8, 1969.

## Participation in Lions:

- Lion since 1939.
- Held numerous offices.
- Received many awards.
- He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow.

## General Activities:

- Member of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the Saint Patrick Irish Society.
- Director of the Province of Quebec Society for Crippled Children.

## BIOGRAPHY

Tris Coffin of Rosemère, Quebec, Canada, was elected President of the International Association of Lions Clubs at the Association's 56th International Convention in Miami, Florida, USA in June 1973.

Former President Coffin is retired. Before he retired, he was an optician.

A member of the Lions Club of Montreal Center, former President Coffin has been a Lion since 1939. He has held several positions within the association including District Governor and Chairman of the Board of Governors. From 1961 to 1963, he was International Director of the Association and served as Chairman of the Extension and Membership Committee. He was appointed as an adviser to the International Board named as the first honorary member of the Quebec Lions Clubs Foundation and lent his name to the Tris Coffin Distinction Medal.

In testimony of his service to the association, Former President Coffin has received numerous awards, including the 100% Governor's Award, twenty-three (23) International President's Awards, three awards for the opening of new clubs, he is a senior key member for the advancement of Lionism, he has received the title of ambassador of Goodwill award, r, the greatest distinction granted by the association to its members. He received the recognition of DISTINCTION Tris Coffin and that of EXCELLENCE Gilles Melançon from the Quebec Lions Clubs Foundation.

He is Melvin Jones Fellow, Life Member and Companion of Brian Stevenson.

Apart from his Lion activities, former President Coffin was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Saint-Patrick Society and a former director of the Quebec Children Society for crippled Children. In 1967, for his many services to the nation, he was awarded the centennial medal of the Government of Canada on the anniversary of Canadian Confederation for his valuable service to the nation. He also received Canada's Centennial Medal on the one hundredth anniversary of the confederation of Canada in recognition of his valuable service to that nation.

### **INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT TRIS COFFIN 1973-1974\***

*\* Copied from a Lions Magazine*

President George, it sure got there in a hurry, didn't I. He is a very dear friend. My fellow Officers, Johnny, Harry, and Fernando Sobral, International Directors, Past International Presidents, fellow Lions, and lovely ladies: At this time if you would bear with me for just a very brief moment or two, I would like to address a few words in French to the many Lions in my home District who travelled many miles to be with me on this occasion. (Speech in French by Tris Coffin)

Thank you very much. Lions, we hold in our hands the most amazing and world-shaking opportunity that any Lions in history have ever faced. Today we are more than one million strong. In nearly 150 nations and geographical territories around this world the men of more than 26,000 Lions Clubs are at work. The challenge I present to you today, fellow Lions, is to draw even closer together in a worldwide cooperative program for greater and more definitive service to the needy and underprivileged people of the earth. What has gone before us is history. What faces us now is tomorrow.

The foundation for the future work of our Association has been laid and is firmly embedded in all societies of the free world. Our size, the variety of services that Lionism provides mankind, and the new organizational restructuring of our International Headquarters' services during the past year, provide us with an even greater capacity for worldwide service to mankind. The challenge I issue to you today is to join with me in reasserting ourselves on behalf of International Lionism. We are "one million men serving mankind." (Applause)

I ask that this become our cry and our purpose during 1973-74. I ask that we embark upon a concerted program to better promote international understanding and cooperation throughout the world. Is such a

program possible? I believe that it is. The continuing efforts of a truly professional headquarters staff, working under the direction of our International Board of Directors, assures us that our programs to build and broaden international activities will be timely and meaningful to the world of today. Through the size of our membership we have the manpower, through the structural network of 26,000 active clubs, we have the facilities, and through the experience and wisdom of our new and Past International Officers and Directors, we have the guidance and the leadership.

Yes, we do have a marvellously united capability to look beyond our horizons. By "horizons," I mean that we must, if this program for improved international understanding and cooperation is to succeed, we must look beyond the day-to-day, beyond the month-to-month, beyond the year-to-year activities of our clubs, and our Districts, and yes, even Lions International. For this program to succeed, we must look beyond the boundaries of our nations. It is the contention of Lionism that a Lion is a man who is "involved with mankind."

The implication of that statement is that we are involved with every man, woman and child on the face of this earth. "Mankind" means all of humanity; it means all people everywhere. To fulfill this total commitment to mankind, therefore, each Lions club must perform as a citizen of the world, as well as of a citizen of its community and of its nation. He must be a man who recognizes that his responsibilities extend to all the less fortunate people of the world. There is, and there always has been, in my mind, a visible difference between a man who is a Lions club member, and a man who can truly call himself a Lion.

In my travels throughout the world, I have spoken to many of you in your own clubs, in your own areas, about this subject, and you may, and certainly will recognize some of these thoughts and words, but I feel they are worth repeating. Each of us who have joined a Lions club has been presented with a lapel pin and told that we are members of a community service organization called a Lions Club. But as each of us has continued his work in Lionism, we have learned that it takes more, much more, than a lapel button and a short ceremony to make us a real Lion.

Eventually, we have learned that true Lionism is worn a little further down, and a little deeper inside of us than just our coat lapels; we have learned that true Lionism is "a language of the heart. For that's where it all begins. And, this "language of the heart," of which I speak, is the language that we can use to build this program of international understanding and cooperation.

For when we communicate with this marvelous language, all barriers between people, such as religious differences and cultural differences, immediately disintegrate. It is because all Lions, all one million of us, peak with this language of the heart, that I believe we can exercise our "strength" as a strong and continuing force for international cooperation and better understanding. Now, how can we put this common "language of the heart" to its most effective use on behalf of international understanding? We can accomplish it at its most basic level; "within our minds." this is where it starts, here in our heads. We accomplish it by starting to "think internationally."

Thinking internationally, however, is indeed an art, and it is an art that is mastered by far too few people in the world today. I believe that if more people could apply themselves to it, we would have far less trouble and chaos in the world than we have at the present time. There is a very definite link between thinking internationally and good leadership in our time. Neither activists nor limited leadership is in itself the answer to the turmoil in which we find ourselves today. We do require the making of mature decisions by leaders who are willing to risk them, but we must also be aware, as they must be aware, that unless we are willing to expose ourselves and to train ourselves to "thinking internationally," and then to act accordingly, we can do nothing to reduce the current turmoil of the world.

We Lions gathered here today must become involved in and exposed to, thinking internationally. However, this

is a goal that requires certain qualifications. It requires courage; it requires considerable tolerance, diplomacy, spirited cooperation, and fearless individualism. To “think internationally” about the role of Lionism in the world today, we must recognize a most basic fact. Lions International, fellow Lions is not American. And Lions International is not Canadian, nor is it German, nor Japanese, nor Portuguese, nor Swedish. Lions International is not the property of any single nation or any single race color. It is because it is not only one of these that we succeed. It is the reason why we have become one million strong.

Lionism is the property of all men who believe that there is some good in other men. Indeed, it is why it is possible for us here today, for all Lions everywhere, to be exposed to think internationally. How do we as individual Lions – excuse me, how do we as individual human beings, “think internationally?” I would like to offer seven specific points, which embody my personal ideas on this subject. You are thinking internationally when you show a sincere interest in other people; when you make other people feel superior, or at least equal, but never inferior; when you give recognition to others; when you compliment others freely; when you make a point of trying to understand the other person’s viewpoint; when you are genuinely enthusiastic; and the last point, when you put aside superficial differences, and learn to live with your fellow man on a heart to heart basis. (Applause)

In other words, use this “language of the heart” that all Lions share. It is indeed a pity that while most people gives lip service to the concept of the brotherhood of man, that far too many do not give this idea a part of their daily living. Animositities and stupid prejudices continue to raise barriers between people, and no amount of legislation can ever change human natures. Only a specialized type of education can influence the attitude that one man has for another. And I truly believe that at least an effort to “think internationally” is part of that specialized education. (Applause)

As Lions, members of the world’s largest service club organization, how can we put this concept of thinking internationally to work? How can we make it useful? There are within our present framework of Lions International, nine specific activities that provide the foundation for a concerted effort on behalf of “international understanding and cooperation.” Upon these nine existing activities, we can build stronger international relationships between nations, between Lions International Districts, between Lions clubs and yes, even between individual Lions club members. These nine activities form the substance of my program as your International President during the coming year.

I urge and plead for your cooperation in helping me to build increased participation in these activities. When you return home to your own nations and Districts and clubs, please help me to stimulate deeper involvement with these activities, for they are the groundwork upon which each of us here today can build greater understanding between all people of the world. I shall very briefly describe these nine activities. I ask that you consider each of them in relation to your own club. District, and Multiple District programs, and that during the coming year, you seek to encourage and to build support for them.

Number 1: Youth Exchange. For many years now, Lions clubs around the world, to become part of a family in another country, has sponsored many hundreds of young people. Youth Exchange programs are much more than simply providing a youngster with a vacation, each Youth Exchange visitor to another nation actually lives with a host family, and shares in its daily lives. All who have participated in this activity have praised it as an outstanding vehicle for increasing and broadening international understanding between people. Have you participated?

Number two, the Lions International Foundation. This relatively new program has already proved its value twice during the past year. When floods, hurricanes and earthquakes struck parts of the world, Lions from many nations used the Foundation as a means of providing relief to people suffering from the disasters. This Foundation of ours is truly a new concept in total world service, for it takes advantage of the structure of

our Association to achieve its end; it provides an ideal means for the Lions of one nation to assist the Lions of another. The six major objectives of our Foundation are: vocational assistance abroad; major disaster and emergency relief; eye care and research; cancer; hearing; and humanitarian services; these were adopted only after examining how our Association could help contribute to the solution of these global problems. Have you participated?

The third one: International Contacts. A Lions club can establish and maintain contact and build friendly relations with a club in another country in many different ways. The key to the success of an international contact is a free exchange of communication between the clubs; this exchange can include correspondence, club bulletins, magazines, newspapers, or anything, which builds mutual understanding of each club's nation and culture. This is really one of the easiest international projects to start. Every club secretary receives an annual International Directory. It's a simple matter to select a club in another nation with whom you and your fellow club members would like to communicate. Have you tried to participate?

And the fourth: International Assistance Projects. In all existing Lion – Lions programs, perhaps none so clearly demonstrates the full meaning of international thinking than those projects, which provide aid to needy people in different parts of the world. International Assistance projects come in many shapes and forms. Libraries and schools in remote areas of developing countries; eyeglasses; surgical and medical equipment; the list is endless. Through these programs, we had a major opportunity to not only fulfill our basic commitment to humanitarian service, but also to build the ties that will lead to stronger and more cooperative understanding between nations of different cultures. Have you participated?

The fifth: United Nations. As you know, Lions International currently holds a consultative status on the United Nations Economic and Social Council, the world body created to coordinate a network of commissions, committees and specialized agencies working to improve the condition of man. Our support of these activities offers yet another means of thinking internationally. Because with our support, these projects do, in every way, help create a better world for all mankind. Have you participated?

Sixth: Lions CARE Program. At this moment, as we gather here in this auditorium, somewhere in a developing nation, a school or a library is being constructed by CARE and has been financed by Lions. The accomplishments of CARE in bringing relief and aid to the needy and underprivileged are legendary. Since 1957, Lions International has been a major supporter of CARE programs. If we are to think internationally, this is one of the most important areas where our continued support will help build international cooperation and understanding. Have you participated in this one?

Seven: Scholarships Abroad. Lions clubs in developed nations have, for many years, cooperated with fellow Lions in developing nations, to provide scholarships to deserving students. The unique aspect of this program is that the student receives the training that he desires at home, in his own nation, where he may do the most good. A most important side benefit of this program is that students may well become the leaders of their own nations. Seldom will they ever forget the help and assistance that was made available to them by the Lions of another nation. International understanding, that is the whole essence of the scholarships abroad program.

Eighth: Hands Across Borders. Let us not forget the importance of our international relations with neighboring nations. Joint cooperative programs between neighboring countries have proven a most effective means of cementing international relations and creating an even greater mutual understanding between nations. One participating member of a hand across borders program learns from the other. Together, they can lend even greater assistance to problems that are common to each nation. Have you participated?

The last one is Lions Twinning Program called Jumalage. Today club twinning is one of the most popular international programs in Lionism. Many, many nations around the world have enrolled in this program, and in

so doing have built firm bonds of friendships that often have endured across thousands of miles. This program is one of the most completely developed activities in Lionism, and any guidance needed to assist clubs or Districts wishing to participate in it is immediately and easily available. Again, your support of these programs is yet one more way to build closer international cooperation and understanding between nations.

These, then, are the nine keys to thinking internationally. They will form the basic structure of my program as your International President during the next twelve months. Fellow Lions, each of us became a member of this Association because we found a very deep, a very personal satisfaction, in the work of Lionism. For in that work, we discover our own identities as human beings, as men, and as individuals, living and contending with the rules and regulations of organized society.

The time has come when we must recognize that we live in a world that grows smaller each day. We must, therefore, redefine our purpose as an organization. We are a force of more than one million men, dedicated to a very simple and very beautiful concept; helping people in need. Because of our size, our strength, our global involvement, we stand as a powerful and effective catalyst for increased understanding and cooperation between all people of the world. I ask that you join with me in a renewed effort to make Lions International an even greater moving force in bringing mankind closer together in compassion and love. We can do this. It is a very, very real possibility, because the basic structure of Lions International is one that easily overcomes the obstacles ordinarily met by differences in language and custom. We must recognize that as Lions working for all people around the world, it is our responsibility to fulfill a commitment to every member of the human race.

I ask you to think internationally. I ask you to join with me in recommitting ourselves to this basic, yet so dramatic idea; one million men serving mankind.

Before closing, my dear friends, may I pay tribute to some very, very special people, who are near and dear to me. They have been a tower of strength to me. They have shared the joys; they have shared the heartaches over the past many years. I do love them and thank them.

Your first lady Gil. (Applause)

My two sons and their lovely wives. (Applause)

Thank you, my dear friends, one and all. You have been so very kind. Thank you. (Applause)

# YEAR-END REPORT BY TRIS COFFIN INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT 1973-1974

## YEAR-END REPORT BY TRIS COFFIN INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT 1973-1974\*

*\*Copied from the book: The pillars of Lionism written by George S. Aweida.*

My fellow officers, International Directors, International Administrative officers, fellow Lions and ladies; my dear friends all: (Speaks in French, Spanish, Japanese) How do you say thank you to a million people, and how do you say to those same one million, you are magnificent. That is a chore that I face today as I stand here and attempt to give all of you an accounting, of my stewardship as President of this great Association; that is a momentous task.

There is no possible way that I can summarize the most fantastic year of my life in the few moments that I have allotted to myself this morning. I must risk boring to death those who have heard me express with some frequency, the following personal point of view. The most important person in the entire Association is the Lion member who works in and for his respective club.

All of our officers, directors, Governors and their helpers, an ever-increasing paper flow, or never-ending dialogue, have but a single purpose: to help, aid, assist and encourage, motivate and satisfy our Mr. Lion member. Are we making headway? The answer seems to be a resounding yes. I find myself surrounded by innovated elected officers and directors, by creative committees, and by our imaginative professional staff.

I have found out that they know where they are going, and how to get there. They understand the difference between revolution and evolution, and find that our chronic problems of membership, programming, planning balanced budgets and communications are challenges that can and are being solved, some slowly, but all surely. There is optimism and dynamism in Lionism today.

And service to Mr. Lion member is foremost in our minds and in our actions. Being the world's largest and most active service organization makes ours a movement to be reckoned with, a movement making a very significant and relevant contribution to the betterment of the entire world during our time. Please, dear friends, accept my humble thanks and grateful appreciation for your loyalty and continued moral and physical support during the past year. I believe that we have had a good year, but a good year is measured by team effort. And if 1973-1974 has been as fruitful and successful as I feel it has, there are many people who richly deserve a vote of thanks.

As I look back, this convinced us that truly there is a world of Lionism. It is a world filled with compassion, a world of friendliness, of love, and of open hearts and open hands which have been ready to greet us at all times, and in a truly international manner.

The philosopher Aristotle once described a friend as a single soul dwelling in two bodies. And there is not a shadow of a doubt in my mind that the over one million members of our International Association are but a single soul living in so many bodies.

The theme that I adopted for my year as your International President was, "One million men serving mankind." And after my year of service, I am now convinced that the name could just as easily have been, the theme, pardon me, rather, could just as easily have been, "One million friends serving, mankind." I have often stated that Lionism is a language of the heart, which originally brought the one million of us together.

And now I contend that it continues to hold us together. Again, this one year has convinced Gil and me, during,

our travels to the many parts of the world, that this language of the heart overcomes all barriers. We are one million men who can regard each other as a friend. Because, basically, we are united in heart and because we are all service-minded individuals who never cease searching for new ways and means to improve the conditions and welfare of humanity. Yes, for both Gil and I, the entire four years during which we have served international Lionism have truly been, an affair of the heart.

Each president of Lions International cannot be the same. This is why we meet in convention and elect a new International President every year. And I have come to realize that this is a very basic part of our personality as a worldwide service organization, because each of us will continue to be different to some extent in our leadership. And because each one of us will continue to be different as we yearly assume the presidency of Lions International.

This, I believe, has helped to make our Association great. Each of us believes that the contributions we have to make must be worthy if we are to remain as the world's largest, as the number one service club organization. Next Saturday I shall leave this office, and our Incoming President, a truly great Lion, will bring his ideas, his strength, his vitality to the office of International President. Once again, we shall strike out to the future, and once again, we shall have renewed our direction and our drive toward the future.

Thus, this convention is symbolic of our constant search for new paths of humanitarian service to follow. Thus, we meet each year to reaffirm our dedication to humanitarian service and to proclaim our intention to bring the work of Lionism to all parts of the world. Here today we call upon ourselves, upon our fellow Lions and indeed, upon the world, to recognize the need for all men to join hands in a war against human suffering and loneliness. And that, my dear friends, is why we are here today. It is why I have been called to serve as our International President for the past year, a year in which I have repeatedly placed great stress and emphasis on the concept of thinking and acting internationally.

I have asked Lions everywhere to recognize their responsibilities to the world at large, and I have asked that they not only recognize those responsibilities but I have asked that they actively participate in some manner or other, to some extent or other, in programs which are designed to enable we Lions to fulfill our destiny as citizens of the World. The nine keys of international understanding and cooperation, which are part of our Lions International activities, have formed the structure of my program for thinking internationally.

I am delighted to report that the response to this twelve-month long program has been both enthusiastic and very gratifying. In most parts of the world where Gil and I have travelled, I have found that our members are indeed very much aware of their responsibility to International Lionism. Our various programs, such as Hands Across the Borders, Youth Exchange Programs, International Relations, CARE, the Lions International Foundation and others have, I feel, gained newer and broader recognition throughout our world of Lionism. The amount of Lionistic activity in each of area has increase substantially during the past twelve months, and for this I will forever be grateful.

To carry out our community and humanitarian projects, strong support is needed from our International Headquarters. And the services provided by our staff are vital in assuming that Lions everywhere have the necessary means and guidance to implement their various programs. I would like at this time to very briefly describe some of the services made available to clubs this year. A special club Services Department has been created to monitor new clubs in their first year after chartering, and act as a liaison between new clubs and other offices at International Headquarters, so that all needs will be fulfilled to enable new clubs to begin a successful service program.

Another department, the Leadership Training and Development Department, is being organized to provide a comprehensive program of education and leadership training for club and district officers. Research will

determine what types of instruction would be of greatest value, and the total education effort will then be planned to help instruct officers in the skills necessary for effective leadership at every level of the Association.

To operate effectively, clubs require supplies. Each year, the official Supply catalogue is mailed to all clubs. And now, for the first time, it is available in several of our international language. We have a new pre-registration procedure, over 6,000 pre-registrations were received at International Headquarters, and consequently, valuable time will not be lost waiting in the registration lines, common in past years. (Applause) This pre-registration will also be in effect for next year's convention in Dallas, Texas. I see you are happy. And this is but one of the many new ideas which will be ready for official unveiling at this time next year. It may sound strange, but nevertheless, it is true, we start planning right now for the next international get-together, where we will have many surprises in store for you.

New distribution centers are also being planned for the Far East and other areas. A significant result of not only their efforts but also the hard work of members and the prestige of Lionism is that we passed the 27,000 mark in club strength this year. The latest figures show that we now have close to 27,700 clubs. During 1973-74 we also grew by 20 districts, bringing that total now to 546. Another reflection of our growth is that we now have well over 1,065,000 members. And last, but surely not least, a record of which I am so very proud; we chartered this year over 1,300 new clubs, and the goal was only 1,200. Isn't that beautiful?

The core of Lionism is actually service activities. And to aid clubs and districts in reaching out to more people. we at International Headquarters have instituted a number of new programs and procedures. Steps were taken. for example, to communicate vital information about activities to each club.

Beginning the first of the year, every newly reported club received a new club activities packet containing details of the scope of Lion Activities. Also, a section of the Club President's News and Activities Bulletin is now specifically devoted to communicating information, suggestions, and ideas on projects. More and more clubs and districts are contributing to the Lions International Foundation. But to further facilitate greater involvement in this far reaching program, District Lions International Foundation Chairmen will now help extend the Foundation's humanitarian capabilities.

If Lions are to perform the best services possible, a fundamental study of community needs is required. For this reason, we have prepared a comprehensive text on community analysis. And this 19-page activity plan is available to all clubs wishing to initiate or improve their community service programs. New audiovisual aids have also been made available. Our 28-minute activities film on Lionism In the Service Of Others, narrated by the late Chet Huntley, has also grown in popularity with about 50 showings of the film requested each and every month, which means that approximately 150,000 Lions and others have employed this presentation.

These are but a few of the many services that our Headquarters provides to enable the Lions the world over to carry out the best possible humanitarian programs. Fellow Lions, we are identified as members of Lions International by the lapel pin we wear. This is, of course, our outward sign.

However, the truly and dedicated Lion, as I have said on so many occasions, wears an invisible pin, a little lower and a little deeper. And he's guided by what is in his heart, and by an unselfish desire to make his community better, and to help others less fortunate than himself, He speaks this invisible language of the heart in many parts of the world as the true spirit of Lionism. It is this spirit translated into a desire to work on behalf of others that has made Lionism synonymous with humanitarian service. I feel that this has been a successful year, a year in which I have met countless numbers of Lions, and a year that has witnessed an extension of Lion services to those in need.

Gil and I have indeed been proud to have served as your ambassadors on our travels around the world. The success of this year is your success. The goals have been reached, the goals have been reached and surpassed,

because so many of you have dedicated yourselves to the noble ideals of our Association. I have at all times considered each and every one of you as part of my family and this pride, this pride I have in you, has on all occasions made me feel at least ten feet tall. Thank you for spreading the spirit, the spirit of one million men serving mankind; throughout the world of Lionism. In closing, I would also say thank you my dear friends, my dear friends all, for having giving me as your International president, and Gil as your First Lady, of Lionism. the privilege of serving. And you may rest assured that we have, at all times, done everything humanly possible to justify the trust extended to us by the Lions of the world, our affectionate regards go out to one and all.

Thank you very much. (Applause) Thank you very much dear friends.



*Tris and his wife Jacqueline had two sons, Tris Jr. and Paul, and four grandchildren, Jackie passed away on October 8, 1969.*



*Tris with his second wife Gilberte Desmarais, receiving a car from the Lions of MD A in the fall of 1974*

# JUDGE BRIAN STEVENSON INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT 1987-1988



## Personal Data:

- Judge Brian Stevenson of Calgary, Alberta, Canada.
- Served in private law practice and as a special prosecutor in the Canadian Department of Justice.
- In 1974, he was appointed for life as a Judge to the Provincial Court of Alberta.
- He and his wife, Patricia, have four daughters and eight granddaughters and four grandsons.

## Participation in Lions:

- Lion since 1966.
- Member of the Calgary Northeast Eyeopener Lions Club.
- Received many awards.
- He is also a Melvin Jones Fellow.

## General Activities:

- President of the Calgary Social Planning Council.
- President of the Alberta Provincial Judges Association.
- Member of numerous Professional organisations.
- Has authored several articles on legal matters.

## BIOGRAPHY

Judge Brian Stevenson, of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, was elected to serve as president of The International Association of Lions Clubs following his election at the association's 70th International Convention, held in Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China, July 1-4, 1987. As immediate past president, he served as chairperson of Lions Clubs International Foundation, the grant-making arm of Lions Clubs International.

Past President Stevenson has served in private law practice and as a special prosecutor in the Canadian Department of Justice. In 1974, he was appointed for life as a Judge to the Provincial Court of Alberta. He currently serves as a part-time judge of the Criminal Division of the court of Calgary.

A Lion since 1966 and currently a member of the Calgary Northeast Eyeopener Lions Club, Past President Stevenson has held numerous offices in the association. These include terms as district governor, a member of the association's board of directors from 1977-79 and as a presidential appointee to the international board from 1979-81 and again from 1998-1999 and 2002-2003. He also served a three-year term as the chairman of Campaign SightFirst, one of the largest and most successful fundraising campaigns in the history of the association.

In recognition of his many contributions to the association, Past President Stevenson has received numerous awards including the 100% District Governor Award, the Senior Master Key, 21 International President's Awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honour granted by the association to its members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

Judge Stevenson presently serves as the Canadian Constitutional Area Leader on the association's Global Membership Team, as the Canadian Advisor on the LCIF Development Advisory Committee and represents Canada on the association's Centennial Committee, planning for the 100th anniversary of Lions Clubs International.

In addition to his work as a Lion, Past President Stevenson has served as president of the Calgary Social Planning Council, as a board member of the Calgary United Way and as a member of the City of Calgary Social Services Committee. He has also served as president of the Alberta Provincial Judges Association and as chairman of the International Year of Disabled Persons Committee for the Province of Alberta. In 1996, the City of Calgary recognized his numerous voluntary contributions by awarding him the Grant MacEwan Lifetime Achievement Award of Merit. In 2002, Judge Stevenson was honored by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with her Golden Jubilee Medal and in 2005 received the Alberta Centennial Medal for his service to the community.

Past President Stevenson is a member of numerous professional organizations and has authored a number of articles on legal matters. He and his wife, Patricia, also a Lion and Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have four daughters, eight granddaughters, four grandsons and one great-grandson.

### **INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY LION BRIAN STEVENSON INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT 1987-1988\***

*\*Copied from the book: The pillars of Lionism written by George S. Aweida.*

Immediate Past International President Akestam, members of the International Board, distinguished Past International Presidents, my fellow Lions, Lionesses, ladies and Leos, and, may I have a moment of personal privilege to say, and my beautiful, wonderful, fabulous 16 year old, almost 17-year-old, daughter Melanie. (Applause)

This is a proud moment for me – proud that the Lions of the world have given to me the opportunity to serve during the coming year – to serve with the Lions Family throughout our world on behalf of our objectives – proud and yet at the same time mindful of the obligation and the responsibility of sharing the stewardship of the traditions and the programs of Lions Clubs International. This stewardship is a challenge that I accept, determined to work with you to help Lions, Lionesses and Leos across the earth recognize the task that lies before us all – to respond to human needs and to promote goodwill and understanding in every part of the

world. I want at this time to offer my deepest appreciation to those members of the Lions Family who have supported me during my years as an officer of this great Association, and who over the years have encouraged me to seek further responsibilities in serving the cause of Lionism. I especially want to thank my fellow Lions, Lionesses and Leos of Multiple District 37 – a truly International District – comprised of the Canadian province of Alberta, Canada's Northwest Territories, northeastern British Columbia and the American state of Montana. Coming from both sides of the boundary between my homeland of Canada and the United States of America, they are proof of and demonstrate the international spirit of our Association. Their hands of friendship, confidence and assistance have been and continue to be an inspiration to me in my service. We have worked together for the future of our Association.

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And in Swedish, Japanese and Korean it is, in fact, pronounced Lionism.

It's a word that every day in almost every language on earth, in most nations of the world – has had and continues to have a tremendous impact on the lives of people – people who need our assistance. It is a word whose meaning is becoming increasingly identified as representative of the most eminent – the very best – in positive human values. Lionism represents the practice of a social and humanitarian contract that advances the possibility of people living together in harmony – caring for each other – people caring for people, wherever one may travel, Lionism can be witnessed: on the faces of destitute children receiving shelter, clothing or food from Lions; in modern clinics and research laboratories constructed and equipped through funds donated by Lions; at countless Lions camps and schools for the blind, the deaf and the physically handicapped youngsters; and in Lions-supported relief programs for victims of natural disasters.

The humanitarian work of Lionism has conferred a special prestige upon our Association and commands a respect for all members of our Lions Family. It also presents every Lion, Lioness and Leo in the world with a challenged challenge to ensure the continued enhancement of our image – a personal commitment to ensure that our emblem will be more widely recognized as a symbol of the highest order of humanitarian service and international cooperation.

I want to specify some aspects of that challenge later in my remarks; but permit me to preface my assessment of these challenges with a definition, my personal definition, of the concepts behind our Association and to highlight several of our many accomplishments – our international accomplishments – over the last few years of what we all know is an extremely illustrious history. Service and international – concepts that for Lions, Lionesses and Leos are inseparable, voluntary service is a way of life for us; it is our reason for joining together and for giving of our time and energies in pursuit of our objectives. We are known and respected around the world as the most diverse and international of all service club organizations, one that represents Scores of languages and cultures. Service – on an international scale – this is Lionism. This is how the world community perceives us and,

of equal importance, this is how we must perceive ourselves. Our commitment to alleviate human need, is the *raison d'être*, the reason for existence of our Association.

Our motto, found in our Constitution, says it all: We Serve! So intently do I believe that these two eloquent words state the meaning of Lionism, that I see no need for an additional personal theme during my year as your International President. The words "We Serye" are really the only words we need to define our purpose. They say who we are, what we are, and – most importantly – . why we are! Yes, we serve! (Applause) We Serve, Me Palvelemme, Nous Servons, Wir Diene, Noi Serviamo, Vi Ijana, Nosotros Servimos, Nos Servimos, Wareware Wa Hoshi Suru, Urinen Pong Sah Han Tah, Wo Men Fu Wu.

These words are recognized, understood and appreciated by all Lions. Our members must accept as their responsibility the obligation to live by this motto. They must conduct their duties as true Lions so there can be no mistake among the general public as to who the Lions are, precisely what our accomplishments and our goals are, and why we choose to give of ourselves on behalf of others to care for people – to make your fellow man feel needed – to Answer The Call To Serve. Yes, two words, "We Serve." But let us consider the profound meaning that each has for Lions club members; for our Association; and for the people that we do, in fact, serve. Our historic service in sight and hearing established for Lions a pattern of success in meeting relevant needs in our global society.

Our current objectives demonstrate the vitality of our organization and its ability to identify, to adjust, and to work toward the problems of the times in which we now live. If there be any doubt as to how vital the services of Lions Clubs, Lioness Clubs and Leo Clubs are in meeting human need, just look around when you travel or when you discuss Lionistic activities with fellow members from around the world.

Examples of what we have done and what we are doing are there for everyone to see – clear, visible and tangible evidence that ours is the most active and responsive service club organization in the world. You will notice that in speaking of our service achievements, I have used the plural – the WE in "We Serve."

As Lions, we can say without the slightest hesitation that our collective efforts – our service together – have achieved far more than could have been attained individually; that the fellowship which evolves from working as a team to reach a goal builds loyalty to each other, and encourages us to join together further still in reaching out to achieve increasingly ambitious objectives of humanitarian service. Indeed, we do Serve Better Together. We Serve – it's a motto, a philosophy, an inspiration – a way of life.

Two words recognized today by millions upon millions of people worldwide as signifying who the Lions are, what they do and why they are in the forefront of service to mankind. This year, our International Program will once again emphasize the "We Serve" imperative by stressing involvement in the two primary objectives of Lions Clubs International: Drug awareness and diabetes education and research. Our Lions-Quest "skills for Adolescence" program is fast becoming one of the most effective of all efforts around the world to combat the spread of drug abuse. It is currently being taught to hundreds of thousands of young people in Canada, in the United States and in the United Kingdom. It is being adapted for use very soon in schools throughout the world. For no country, no community, and, sadly, no family is immune, truly safe from the tragedy of drugs. "skills for Adolescence" is a program that is vital to the well-being of our world's youth, and I am proud that Lions are pro leadership roles in assuring its implementation.

The "Skills for Adolescence" curriculum provides an opportunity for young people to build their self-esteem and gain confidence in their own abilities to make positive and responsible decisions that affect their lives – these abilities will benefit them both in the short term and throughout their adult life. The self-respect and sense of personal dignity gained and strengthened through this course instills in students the courage to avoid negative peer pressure and to say "no" – an emphatic "no" – to drugs. I am sure that you'll all agree that drugs won't be

eliminated overnight. The real benefits of this program will be felt in years to come when the youth of today are adults.

Their abstention from drugs will reduce crime, will strengthen family relationships and allow them to become productive members of society, thereby improving the quality of life for all citizens of the world. I urge every Lions Club, every Lioness Club and every Leo Club to become involved in our ongoing commitment to this program. Our other current major program objective is in the field of diabetes. It, too, demands the attention of every Lion, every Lioness and Leo in our Association. Diabetes is a disease – a debilitating and often deadly condition, but something can be done about it. Its effects can be lessened or prevented. Proper education will prompt people to take measures; measures such as adequate exercise and correct diet. These steps will decrease their chances of developing diabetes later in life.

Additionally, Lions-sponsored screenings uncover the “hidden diabetic,” because nearly half of those having the disease aren’t even aware of it. Lions, Lionesses and Leos are taking the lead in education and detection around the world. But our commitment, our international commitment, goes much deeper – we seek nothing less than the eradication of diabetes from the globe. Our commitment to scientific research goes right to the heart of the matter. More than one million U.S. dollars has been granted by our Lions Clubs International Foundation for that purpose: Primarily into diabetic retinopathy – the world’s leading cause of blindness.

We must not slacken our pace. I am confident that there will come the day, soon, when diabetes will be defeated; and the commitment of Lions around the world will be one of the main reasons for this victory. Education, early detection and research – they are the elements necessary to conquering diabetes. It is within our power to eliminate it. In addition to the skills of our scientists, what is required is dedication and perseverance – qualities that Lions, Lionesses and Leos everywhere possess in abundance. As you all know, continuity in International Program direction has been the trademark of the last several administrations. In the coming year we will continue that philosophy. Drug awareness and diabetes education and research will continue to challenge our resources and our creativity.

There are others. This year your International Board will be asked, among other things, to review in detail our administrative operations and the delivery of our administrative services to our Districts and our clubs; the philosophy behind our Extension and Membership programs; the financial strength of our Association; and ways and means to more adequately collect opinions and input from each of our members, we will also examine and assess emerging social issues that cry out for our involvement and our participation.

In addressing these issues, we must not be timid, we must be aggressive in our continuing human response and human solutions to human needs. For example, we must not be afraid to explore the possibility of expansion into nations of the world where we are not represented; we international concerns- concerns such as a threatened global environment.

And many others that will affect the future of mankind. one area that will receive our attention in greater measure than ever before in the coming months relates to the first object of our founding documents: “To create and, foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.” I believe that Lions clubs International has, in the pursuit of that first object, the potential to be a vital force – an important catalyst – toward helping to ensure international peace and goodwill. our language is one of unselfish service, our fellowship recognizes no cultural or political or racial or religious borders. We have, in fact, been practicing International understanding for decades and our history and our proud heritage give graphic evidence that our first object is attainable. As members of the Family of Lionism, our personal efforts to understand and to share with citizens of different nations and cultures fosters that sense of brotherhood fundamentally necessary among people, with initiative, with will and with fortitude, we can transfer our values to those charged with the pursuit of international harmony among the councils of the world.

Lionism can help the world transcend the mistrust and the divisions that prevent people from enjoying their lives free from war, absent of violence, and filled with love and concern for their neighbours and communities.

Truly – throughout the world – people at peace. As Lions, we can indeed influence the hope of all mankind for a world together. A further and continuing challenge is the absolute necessity for each of us to be international. My fellow Lions – our emblem and motto, our objectives and the human needs that surround us have one common ingredient, one element identifiable in all. Each is international in scope!

As members of the world's leading and most international service club organization, we must recognize our responsibilities as international Lions, international citizens, and understand that our community encompasses the globe. There are no people too far away – nor any needs too distant – to challenge our consciences as humanitarians; as Lions committed to the global and profound meaning of those two words, We Serve!

We all have an obligation, of course, to answer needs and to give assistance to people in our own communities who are less fortunate, but as International citizens we must look beyond the borders of our village, of our town, of our city, of our nation. We must all recognize that the community of Lionism is, in fact, the community of the world. Our horizons for service are unlimited – if we are to be faithful to the vision of our founders – to the wisdom and guidance of those who have led us in the past – many of whom are with us on this stage – our vision must include international service possibilities and potential.

We must resolve to give ever more generously of ourselves in reaching these greater vistas of service on behalf of all humanity. We cannot be a loose collection of clubs concerned only with our own communities. Long ago, our founders hesitated not in the slightest to incorporate the word “international” in our name. They entrusted to us their dreams of service – international service – to humanity. To fulfill these dreams, to attain our potential, we must unite in our efforts, unite in our commitment to reach our objectives, unite in our dreams for service. Think of all that can be achieved today by Lions in over 38,000 Clubs around the world who are, indeed, united in thought, in dedication, united in action. We must throw off the shackles of narrow perspectives and join hands in service around the globe to become the greatest force for International for International cooperation, for goodwill and friendship that the world has ever known. Our commitment to serve the world community can be demonstrated in no better way than through support for our Lions Clubs International Foundation. Its millions of dollars in grants in just nineteen years have enabled Lions to make our emblem a more recognized symbol of humanitarian concern around the world.

But we have just begun. For LCIF to expand its capability in the lions to reach out and to meet with even greater success the immensity of human needs, every member of our Association – every Lioness – every Leo must understand and accept the necessity and their responsibility to strengthen its financial structure. Contributions from Districts, from Clubs and individuals have today made our International Foundation a leading vehicle for humanitarian service worldwide.

As you know, we have currently embarked on a very special campaign to make our Foundation still more responsive to a world that cries out for our love, compassion, with spirit in action – for our concern. Our objective is to have 20,000 Melvin Jones Fellows in recognition of the Foundation's 20th anniversary in 1988. What a magnificent accomplishment this would be! Not only would it mean that 20,000 individuals around the world have been designated as true patrons of humanity, but that U.S.\$20,000,000 has been made available for our to touch even more lives with hope – to expand through our members our international humanitarian horizons. I have every confidence we will achieve this goal of 20,000 Melvin Jones Fellows, but it will require the active commitment of each of our Clubs and their recognition that LCIF symbolizes in a very dramatic way our status as international Lions, our mandate of international compassion must know no boundaries.

We must demonstrate the “We Serve” imperative across the face of the, earth as we extend and increase the

work of LCIF. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, let us all be proud of Lionism! Never lose sight of the fact that we belong to the most International, the most responsive, the most active service club organization in the world, acknowledge and recognize that our current International program objectives are designed to help and are helping millions of people lead healthier, more fulfilling lives. We can and should take pride in the accomplishments recorded under the banner of Lionism and be proud to wear the lapel pin that identifies us as members of the Lions Family.

Take pride in your membership and in your participation in our Association! I know – and I can assure you – that if you do, it will fill you with a more ardent resolve to do all in your power to expand the services and ideals of international Lionism.

There is every reason in the world to be proud of Lions clubs International. You are members of an organization whose record of improving the human condition of Bringing Quality To Life – is unparalleled in the field of voluntary service. Your pride in being part of Lionism should be so intense that you won't hesitate to tell people not only what your own club is doing in your own community, but what Lions together are accomplishing throughout the world. If you possess this pride, pride in wearing our lapel pin, pride in the ideals it represents, pride will be evident in your personal demeanor and, in fact, reflected in all areas of your life, when you are proud to be a Lion, you'll have little trouble in convincing other service-minded individuals to accept membership in your club, for they too will wish to share this spirit of humanitarian service – the essence of Lionism: To share the vision of service.

As I stated at the beginning, I am filled with a very special personal pride to be standing before you today as President of Lions clubs International – your president. It will be an honour to represent you – the Lions, the Lionesses and Leos of the world in my travels and to work with your Board of Directors in promoting the cause of international Lionism. However, while I may occupy the position of International president, I look upon my tenure this year in a singular way. I consider myself to be, in essence, a steward for a limited time of the traditions and programs of Lions clubs International.

It will be my privilege to exercise this stewardship during the year realizing fully that every elected leader in our Association' on every level, is responsible for promoting our image and objectives, and in doing so must have as his goal the priority of over a stronger organization, Club, District, or International, to the officer who will succeed him. Ever since our beginnings 70 years ago for a period of twelve months, every Lion, every Lioness, every Leo occupying a leadership position in our Association has been and is a steward of the "We Serve" spirit of Lionism.

Each leader must have a commitment to ensure that this spirit becomes a more integral part of life throughout local, national and international communities. Lion leaders – true leaders – do not and must not accept these positions for any glory that may come their way, nor for personal aggrandizement.

Whether their responsibilities are at the Club, District or International levels, true Lion leaders are absolutely dedicated to strengthening the framework of our Association. They strive to instill the "We Serve" mandate into the hearts of their fellow members. We must be open to new ideas and exercise our responsibilities creatively and in a manner that is relevant to conditions that presently exist in our world.

The work of the steward is not limited to preservation of the past, it respects the past and prepares for the future. This is our obligation. This will be the measure by which succeeding generations will judge us. Personal involvement, pride of membership, and commitment to those two most profound words: "We Serve" – all are necessary if we are to strive resolutely and successfully along the path leading to our ambitious humanitarian objectives.

Through our collective efforts as International Lions, dedicated to the health and well-being of our local and international community, we will reach heights never before dreamed of in the history of voluntary service. This

year will be a challenge. A challenge to the oath we each took when we became Lions. A challenge to give totally of ourselves on behalf of those less fortunate. A challenge to work ever more diligently toward community betterment, and a challenge, my fellow Lions, Lionesses and Leos, to make our entire world a better place in which to live.

We ask all Lions, all Lionesses, all Leos to accept the challenge before us – to promote our Drug Awareness Programs – to strengthen our diabetes education and research activities – to enhance the quality of our membership – to reach our objective of 20,000 Melvin Jones Fellows by this time next year. We seek your acceptance of your proper status as International Lions – with an international perspective – and support our efforts to secure a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.

We seek your input, your advice, your guidance as we review the human condition and we design our programs to meet the 21st century, we urge you to be proud of Lions clubs International – to be proud of our history – to be proud of our traditions – to be proud of our present – and of our dreams for the future. In twelve months, when our stewardship is over, let there be no doubt throughout the world community as to the meaning behind those two inspirational – profound – and all-inclusive words:

Me Palvelemme

Nous Servons

V/ir Dienen

Noi Serviamo

Vi Tjana

Nosotros Servimos

Nos Servimos

Wareware Wa Hoshi Suru

Urinen Pong Sah Han Tah

Wo Men Fu Wu

We serve

(Applause)

# YEAR-END REPORT BY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT BRIAN STEVENSON 1987-1988

## YEAR-END REPORT BY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT BRIAN STEVENSON 1987-1988\*

*\*Copied from the book: The pillars of Lionism written by George S. Aweida*

Executive officers, members of the Board, distinguished past Presidents, Lions, Lionesses, Leos, special guests, when I took the oath of office last year and accepted the stewardship vested in the Presidency of Lions clubs International, I realize fully what a momentous step it was in my life – momentous because I was afforded the privilege, indeed the honour, of becoming the chief Executive officer of the largest, most active service club organization in the world. I was proud to accept this responsibility, and during my tenure this pride grew as I visited with Lions of so many different cultures and witnessed the pride they radiated in speaking of their accomplishments in answering human needs. 'coursing This was, in fact, a common thread I found throughout the world of Lionism – that all Lions were proud of their service activities; proud to belong to an International Association that enjoys, and deservedly so, unequalled prestige across the earth.

And proud of the “We Serve” philosophy that has motivated more than one and a half million men, women and young people – Lions, Lionesses and Leos – to give so very generously our themselves on behalf of human needs. There are, as you realize, no language barriers in our Association. The “We serve” imperative needs no translation. It is the language spoken by Lions everywhere. Its meaning is understood in Lions-sponsored clinics and schools; in the smiles on the faces of blind and physically disabled children at summer camps run by Lions; and in the thankfulness showing in the eyes of people receiving food, clothing, shelter and other necessities of life in the wake of natural disaster. “We Serve,” as I stated a year ago in my Inaugural, says who we are, what we are, and why we are; and Lions in countless ways around the world are demonstrating its meaning with the utmost clarity. I want to take the opportunity at this time to welcome to this convention women who are members of Lions clubs, especially those who are serving as delegates and alternates. (Applause) since the passage last year of the landmark Constitutional amendment, thousands of women have chosen to join Lions clubs when invitations were extended; and we truly welcome them as fellow members in expanding the services and ideals of International Lionism.

The decision of so many women has had a positive effect on increases in our world membership, now standing at in excess of 1,352,000. It is obvious; however, from studying reports that membership growth is a general phenomenon – that the proud heritage, the fellowship and the objectives of Lionism are attracting service-minded individuals, regardless of Growth is, in fact, witnessed in our Leo and Lioness programs as well. I am sure we all agree that it is one of the cardinal attractions of Lionism – that our Association offers such a variety of opportunities for people to give of themselves one-half of others, to exercise their leadership skills and apply their compassion in answering human needs in ways that personally suit them best. During the year, I visited with Lions in countries spanning the globe – 54, to be exact. One fact became increasingly apparent in the course of these visits, that being the recognition on the part of Lions of their stature on the international level, that more and more they were coming to consider themselves as International Lions – understanding their commitments as not only to their own local communities, but of equal importance, to the world community.

This is certainly one of the most positive developments in our Association – one that will strengthen immeasurably our status as the most successful and involved of all service club organizations. With greater

frequency, Lions are reaching out across the miles to join together in developing and implementing programs to better the human condition. And our most potent arm in bringing this about is our Lions Clubs International Foundation, which each year provides further evidence of the global orientation of our Association. This year alone, LCIF allocated more than 3.7 million U.S. dollars in grants to Lions worldwide to help them relieve human suffering, improve their communities and help men, women and young people live healthier, more fulfilling lives. (Applause) Our Foundation personifies the very essence of the “We Serve” philosophy; it provides opportunities for Lion-to-Lion cooperation and assistance, infusing in all members the feeling that we are, beyond a doubt, international in spirit, in outlook and in action! LCIF does, indeed, present a world of opportunities for Lions, Lionesses and Leos to serve the needs of humanity.

The potential for our Foundation is limitless, and I would urge that each and every member recognize this potential and stake their claims to the future of Lionism by contributing as generously as possible to the Foundation. Generosity is, as a matter of fact, rising and it is clearly apparent in the growth of the Melvin Jones Fellow Program. As you know, we seek to have 20,000 Melvin Jones Fellows in celebration of the Foundation’s 20th anniversary in 1988. Most recent figures show we have just under 12,000 Fellows, and I am confident the 20,000 mark will be reached. But please remember – this is only the beginning! – 20,000 is actually just a small percentage of our total membership. Let us all commit ourselves still further to securing the financial structure of LCIF by determining to have at least one Melvin Jones Fellow in every Lions Club in the Association – at least one! I know of many Lions Clubs that even now have named several Fellows. The Melvin Jones Fellowship is a high honour – one every recipient is, and will be, proud to hold. Each Fellow is rightly considered a true International patron of humanity.

This growing commitment on the part of our Association to international values and objectives was demonstrated in dramatic ways during the year, especially through our recognition as world leaders in the cause of peace. In September, for example, Lions Clubs International was cited as a peace messenger by the United Nations. The proclamation, signed by Secretary-General Javier Perez De Cuellar, recognized the Association’s significant contributions to the programs and objectives of the world body’s recent International Year of Peace. Indeed, this award not only honors Lions for the role they are now playing in promoting world peace and understanding but is an expression of hope that Lions everywhere will continue to help create an atmosphere conducive to peace. Our deep commitment to International goodwill, as embodied in our very first Object, was further demonstrated this year when the International Board of Directors adopted the Association’s official Policy Position on Peace at the Board meeting in Calgary.

It was my honour to deliver this statement during Lions Day with the United Nations in March and personally present a bound copy to the Secretary-General. Later, I was also privileged to personally deliver a copy to one of the world’s greatest men of peace – His Holiness Pope John Paul II. This resolution has been translated and sent to Heads of State, Prime Ministers and other leaders around the world as evidence stand ready to work on behalf of understanding and cooperation. In addition, Lions throughout the world are giving copies to local government officials, libraries, schools and other institutions. This document states in eloquent terms our dedication to a world in which every human being can live free of misunderstanding, distrust and historical animosity, secure from the fear of the ravages of war.

Among the Policy Position’s many points, it proclaims: “The pursuit of true peace must include a recognition of the common dignity of all people in our world’s society. Peace is generated by understanding, tolerance, friendship and assistance, based on the belief that, despite differences in racial ethnic or cultural heritage, share a common humanity.” Certainly, this is a testament to the goals of Lions Clubs International and is significant in a most apparent way, because our Association offers a network of more than 39,000 Lions Clubs in 163 countries to help implement this concept of peace for which people of goodwill have strived to attain for centuries.

Also, as you know, we took yet another stride in promoting international goodwill when, at the Board meeting

in Bermuda, we approved our sponsorship of a Peace Poster Contest. School children submitting entries judged to be the best will be awarded prizes, with the worldwide winner to be honored at our 1989 Lions Day with the United Nations. Of greatest importance, though, this contest will enable thousands of young people around the world to express their feelings about peace, expressions which will help form their commitment to peace and world understanding for the rest of their lives.

Striving to bring about a peaceful world is but one of our many objectives having global implications. Diabetes education and research continues to involve more Lions Clubs as we work to not only support scientific research into diabetic retinopathy, but also to disseminate knowledge in regard to how proper diet and exercise will prevent the development of the more prevalent Type II diabetes. Our crusade to rid the world of drug and alcohol abuse is also gaining momentum.

Currently, our Lions-Quest "Skills for Adolescence" program has involved hundreds of thousands of youngsters in schools in eleven countries: the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Iceland, Puerto Rico, the Republic of Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Bermuda and the Cayman Islands, with new curricula being adapted for use elsewhere.

The self confidence and positive values students learn through this course will enable them to make choices in their adolescent years and throughout their lives which will most assuredly not involve experimenting with drugs. In addition to the Skills for Adolescence, other programs involving Lions worldwide are designed to eradicate the menace of drug abuse, and I applaud each and every Lions club which has committed itself to this objective. (Applause) His fellow Lions, our International Program objectives, membership and club growth, dedication to peace and countless other efforts have, of course, one thing in common – they testify to our concern for the future – and what this future holds for our young people, for world peace, for personal health and well-being and well-being for our International Association.

As you can well imagine, the future of Lions Clubs International has occupied a significant share of my time, thoughts and energy during the past twelve months. One point was continually apparent to our Association is to meet with optimum success in achieving its objectives, if we are to reach our potential as the world's leading service club organization, I must emphasize again the need for all members to recognize their obligations on the International scale. Our pledge as Lions is to serve all humanity, so there must be no doubt whatsoever in our minds that we are – in word, in philosophy and in action – International Lions. Currently, there are Lions Clubs active in 163 nations and geographical areas, and it is most certainly an impressive sight to view a map of the world and see just what an expansive area it is in which the spirit of Lionism is flourishing. There are however, some noticeable gaps – areas where Lions Clubs International is not represented and where service-minded individuals do not have an opportunity to enjoy the fellowship of Lionism – and where they are not able to join together in answering community and human needs.

I am speaking specifically of those nations – commonly called the Eastern Bloc – where for reasons of conflicting philosophies, politics and governmental restraints, Lions Clubs were not able to organize. I am also referring to nations in which Lions Clubs were at one time operating quite successfully but found it necessary to disband.

Our world is changing – ideals, knowledge, people are crossing borders more freely and with greater frequency. Governments once closed to any and all outside influence are now more receptive to the values of others, more willing to allow some degree of diversification within their borders.

Our Association is presently studying very closely the possibilities of establishing, or re-establishing as the case may be, Lions Clubs in some of these countries – of affording all men and women who adhere to the principles of peace, goodwill and community service a chance to voluntarily become members of an organization that is above politics; one that has written an unparalleled record in the promotion of humanitarian service and world

understanding. (Applause) I see no reason why Lions Clubs International cannot flourish in these nations; and I look forward to the day, possibly very soon, when our proud emblem will be represented within their borders. At that time, such expansion will give still further credence to our status as the most International of all service club organizations.

In looking to the future of Lions Clubs International, there is still another way we can assure it will be a bright and successful one. I speak now to the outgoing Officers on every level of our Association with whom this year I shared the stewardship of the programs and traditions of Lionism. We have learned a great deal during our tenure, honed our skills and came to understand fully the administrative duties of this stewardship and how best to motivate and lead our fellow Lions into striving to meet our program objectives.

These qualities should not be left idle. Let us each commit ourselves to personally assist and support our successors in any and every way possible, and thus enable the proud "We Serve" image of Lionism to be further enhanced. I have pledged my total support and resources to incoming International President Austin Jennings, and I would ask that all Lions who served in leadership positions during 1987-88 likewise lend all possible assistance to those who succeed them as stewards of our Association.

This past year has, indeed, been one of achievement; and I wish to thank sincerely all Lions, Lionesses and Leos for their support. I would want to add a very special thanks to the members of my own International Multiple District – 37. Their comradeship, understanding and assistance were, as always, offered without hesitation, and made me prouder yet to wear the lapel pin identifying me as a Lion. I experienced this pride wherever I travelled this year. I saw it on the faces and in the eyes of Lions as they described to me how they were answering critical human needs and answering them as members of the world's premier service club organization.

I also saw uncommon joy in the people who were receiving these services – whether they were victims of natural disasters, patients at a hospital or clinic, school children or those attending a camp for the physically disabled or visually or hearing impaired. I recall one instance in particular. I was in India helping a local Lions Club distribute eyeglasses to the indigent. I will never forget the response from one elderly woman who, for lack of proper eyeglasses over a number of years, decades perhaps, suffered severe visual impairment. When I handed her the glasses, she was so happy that tears swelled in her eyes and her hands shook when I gave them to her.

This, my fellow Lions, is all the payment we need for the time and effort we put into our membership. Her response symbolized the fundamental reason we are Lions-why we take such intense pride in our membership. This woman and millions of people in need across the earth – are why we are Lions. And they are all the encouragement we need to become more deeply involved in giving of ourselves on behalf of others. But our work in serving humanity has barely begun. There is still so very much left to be done, paths to be tread, horizons to be reached for meeting our commitment, our pledge to those two enlightened and profound words, "We Serve!"

Yes, this year has, indeed, been one of substantial accomplishment for our International Association in serving human needs. None of this would have been possible, though, without an outstanding group of volunteer leaders – leaders at every level of our vast organizational structure: The Presidents of Lions Clubs, Lioness Clubs and Leo Clubs, District Governors, Council Chairmen, District and Multiple District Lioness and Leo Presidents, and our International Officers and Directors.

At this time, allow me to introduce one leader in several of these categories whom I have selected at random from throughout the world of Lionism, as representative of all of those who hold high office. And I would like these individuals as I introduce them to come forward and stand on the stage:

Lioness Fatema Rahman Sanji, President of Lioness District 315- B.

I ask to call also to the stage Lioness VeRon Moore, President,  
Lioness Multiple District 43, Kentucky, U.S.A. From the Leos,  
I would Nigel Packer, President of Multiple District 105,  
United Kingdom and Ireland. May I call forward Keisha D' Pinto,  
President of the Bedford Stuyvesant Leo Club, Brooklyn, New York, U.S.A.

I would like to call forward Sohachi Nakanishi, President of the Osaka Leo Club, who sponsored twelve Clubs this year.

May I call forward Jonesie Jones, District Governor, 37-F, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

May I ask to join me here outgoing International Director Andre Fatuch, International Director from Brazil. These individuals are completing their terms of leadership for the year. You will recall last year at our International Convention in Taipei; I described our office holders as stewards – guardians of the traditions and programs of our Association in their respective areas of responsibility.

At that time, I challenged each leader to make these twelve months of stewardship – our twelve months of stewardship – the very best twelve months in the history of Lions Clubs International. They have done that, and more. These stewards on the stage represent the more than 50,000 leaders we have in our International Association. They, and their 50,000 colleagues, all possess a common, vitally important characteristic – a love for mankind. And yet, each is as individual, each has led his or her Club or District or Multiple District with a unique and exceptional style.

In three days, we will repeat the process and have 50,000 new leaders embarking on a new year of service. A year that we hope will be an even greater even than the one we are about to complete. That is the magnificence, the great strength, of our International Association: renewal, freshness, newness; and each of our incoming leaders will imprint his or her role with a truly individual style of leadership.

But, for those of us who are about to complete our terms – our stewardship – we're pretty proud. Proud of the results of our leadership and the manner in which we succeeded. To you leaders – you who have represented in 1987-88 the 1,600,000 members of our family scattered across the face of the earth – we thank you for making this stewardship the outstanding success it was. And we hope our style of leadership was an incentive to all our volunteers. An incentive to excellence in service to humanity. yes – we're pretty proud! when I was in my teens, I was attending school in Ottawa, Canada.

In another Ottawa high school at the same time, there was a student by the name of Paul Anka. His hobby was composing music and lyrics for popular songs. As you know, he went on to become a very successful entertainer and composer on an International scale. About ten or fifteen years ago, he wrote a song for Frank Sinatra. It is one of my favorites and I believe that the words describe the team spirit and pride that our 1987-1988 leaders possess for our year of stewardship. So, with apologies to Mr. Anka and Mr. Sinatra – and with some minor changes in the lyrics – on behalf of the pride we feel, I would like to express our feelings in song.

(Singing of "My Way" and applause)

Again, my sincere thanks to all the members of our Association for making 1987-88 such a tremendous year in serving the needs of humanity, and for doing it Our Way!! (Applause)

At the end of this term of office as International President, the Lions from his Multiple District presented Brian with an automobile Cadillac 1988.

# Dr. PATTI HILL 3rd INTERNATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT 2019-2020

Dr. PATTI HILL 3rd INTERNATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT 2019-2020



In July 2019, Lion PID Patti Hill from Edmonton Canada, was elected to serve as 3rd VP Lions International in Milan, Italy

Congratulations Lions of Canada!

This year, 2019-2020, we Lions of Canada are celebrating our 100th year of continuous service to the citizens of this nation and our neighbours around the world. Since the formation of our first Lions Club in Windsor, Ontario in March 2020, we have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to make our communities better places to live, work and play. When our first Canadian President of Lions Clubs International, Harry Newman, escorted Helen Keller to the podium at the International Convention in Cedar Point Ohio, history was made yet again, branding us the 'Knights of the Blind' from that day forward. This marked our shift from being a network of community-based clubs to being an Association bound together by a common cause.

Now, as we move forward, into our second century of service, we face new challenges as diverse as our local community needs and as constant as global human suffering. Diabetes, Childhood Cancer, Vision, and Hunger continue to need our attention, but perhaps underlying all of those is our need to preserve the very Environment in which we live and raise our families. Access to clean water, unpolluted air, and sustainable ecosystems will become a goal for all of us. Our Lions, in every community, will be called upon to be leaders in the movement to preserve our world for the next generations.

In addressing community needs, our Lions have always developed leaders who would embrace those challenges, inspired by the role models provided for us by our Canadian Past International Presidents Harry Newman, Walter Fisher, Tris Coffin, and Judge Brian Stevenson. Their leadership within our Association and our

nation has inspired excellences in countless regional and local leaders. Within Lions Clubs, it is the local leaders, each of you, who bring our dreams into action, our ethics into practice, and our goals into reality.

This year, under the leadership of our International President Jung-Yul Choi, we have all been challenged to strengthen our impact in our communities through DIVERSITY: diversity in our service activities, diversity in our membership, and diversity in our outreach to the community. I encourage you to continue your service, and to invite more of your leading citizens to join your Lions Club. Through sharing opportunities for service, each one of us can leave a lasting legacy of humanitarian contribution to our world.

Congratulations, Lions, on reaching this milestone of 100 years of service across Canada.



*Lion Patti & Lion Greg*

Yours in friendship,

Dr. Patti Hill

International 3rd Vice President

Lions Clubs International

# SNIPPETS FROM A CENTURY OF LIONS SERVICE

## SNIPPETS FROM A CENTURY OF LIONS SERVICE\*

*\*By PID The Hon. Virgil P. Moshansky, C.M., Q.C., FRAeS*

I have been told that I am the oldest living Canadian Past International Director of Lions International. I confess that this is a rather sobering thought. I am now in my 65th year as a Lions member, having joined the Vegreville Lions Club in 1955. Some Lion friends wonder whether or not I am also the longest serving, living Lions Club member. Membership in Lions International and its commitment to service has been a major influence in my life. Many of my family members are or have been Members of Lions, the world's largest and most active service club organization.

When I joined the Vegreville Lions club in 1955 its membership had been depleted to about ten members and it was in danger of closure. I was pressed by the existing members into assuming the club Presidency, and we together committed to rebuilding the club. To the surprise of many, an intensive membership drive, plus an effective public relations program, resulted within a few months in a revived club with some 55 members. A varied and meaningful program of community service was embarked upon and thereafter diligently pursued by the club in the following many years.

A little-known item of historical interest is that the esteemed founder of Lions International, Melvin Jones, had personally presented the Edmonton Lions Club's Charter in Edmonton, in 1929, a mere 12 years after the founding of Lions International. The Edmonton Lions Club celebrated its 90th Charter anniversary this year (2019). My commitment to the Lions International organization was cemented by my personal meeting with its great founder, Melvin Jones, at the gala 30th Anniversary banquet of the Edmonton Lions Club on October 29, 1959, at which he was to be the guest speaker, and which my wife June and I attended. I will never forget that 1959 meeting.

Melvin Jones had suffered a stroke during his flight from Chicago to Edmonton on the previous day, and, despite being severely incapacitated, he courageously attended this 30th Anniversary banquet of the Edmonton Lions Club. He entered the Macdonald Hotel banquet room in a wheelchair, unable to speak, gesturing to the shocked and sombre assembled Lions, who responded with thunderous applause and a standing ovation. To all attendees, this was a very moving and unforgettable moment in time, and a fitting tribute to our venerable founder. My good friend, the late PID A.G. 'Shorty' Kirstine, of Edmonton, who had completed his final year as Lions International Director a few months earlier, was a key figure in arranging Melvin's attendance in Edmonton, as was also club Padre, Monseigneur McLellan. Sadly, Lions founder, Melvin Jones, never fully recovered from the stroke and he passed away on June 1, 1960.

I was privileged in 1962-63 to serve as the Chairman of the Multiple International District 37 Council of Governor's, consisting of the Province of Alberta, part of British Columbia and the State of Montana, and as a member of the Pacific Northwest Lions Commission. Alberta Lions had a great relationship with the Lions of Montana. I am saddened that our Multiple International District 37 has been re-districted as Multiple District C1 & C2 (Alberta and Northern B.C. only). I was honoured to be elected in New York as an International Director of Lions International (1966 – 68), and, subsequently, in 1970, to be nominated as a candidate in Atlantic City for the office of Third International Vice President.

Canadian Lions took great personal pride in the election of my good friend Judge Brian Stevenson, of Calgary, as the President of Lions International in 1987-88. Now, 32 years later, Canadian Lions proudly present Past International Director Dr. Patti Hill of Edmonton, as their candidate for Lions 3rd International Vice President, at the International Convention in Milan, in July 2019.

June 27, 2019

Note from the editor : Dr Patti Hill was elected 3rd International Vice-President at the International Convention in July 2019.

# CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT FEATURE SPEAKERS AT THEIR YEAR-END CONVENTION

Harry Allen Newman 1924-1925 – Helen Keller\*

Walter C. Fisher 1949-1950 – Feature speaker: Senator Karl Mundt a member of the [Republican Party](#), is a former United States Senator from South Dakota. First elected in 1948, Mundt served as a senator for 24 years.\*

Tris Coffin 1973-1974 – Feature speaker : Danny Kay actor, singer and dancer and Art Linkletter, a Canadian-born American [radio](#) and [television personality](#). He was the host of [House Party](#), which ran on [CBS](#) radio and television for 25 years, and [People Are Funny](#), on [NBC](#) radio and TV for 19 years.\*\*

Brian Stevenson—the featured speaker was Elie Wiesel, Founding Chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council. He also won the Nobel Peace Prize and was a survivor of the Holocaust himself. He died on July 2, 2016.\*\*\*

The Humanitarian Award was presented to an organization whose headquarters is in Calgary – Operation Eyesight Universal – but whose sight-saving work is global.\*\*\*

\* *Copied from the book: The pillars of Lionism written by George S. Aweida.*

\*\* *From newspaper articles and memory.*

\*\*\* *From Brian Stevenson*

# AMBASSADOR OF GOOD WILL AWARD

In June of 2017, I have asked Lions international when the Ambassador of Good Will award was first presented, and here is their answer in the next paragraph.

Lions International tells us that prior to 1996 the list of Ambassador of Good Will Awards honorees was not computerized; therefore, the following list is incomplete as it was done from memory, newspaper articles and books on Lionism prior to 1997. With the help of PID Virgil Moshansky another request was made to LCI in July 2019 and here is their answer

It has taken a while, but I have received a note from Lions International, in response to my inquiry on your behalf, indicating that the Lions Ambassador of Goodwill Award was established in 1950, in which year the first recipient received the award. (See below).

It is possible that the award was actually established by the Board earlier but not awarded, however it appears that the International office has no record to indicate that. So, I think it is safe to say in your history work that the year the award was established in fact was 1950.

The Ambassador Award is generally awarded to high level Lions for their many years of service. There are only a maximum of 35 awarded each year and is the highest award from LCI.



*I know it existed in 1963, because I have the following picture of PID Tris Coffin receiving his Ambassador of good will award from Walter C. Fisher PIP on behalf PIP Curt Davis*

## List of honorees

1939-1941 – PID Dr. Arthur T. Spankie Calgary, Alberta \* Did he receive it after his term of ID?

1957-1959 – PID A. Graeme Kirstine Edmonton, Alberta \*

1980-1982 – PID Dr. Jack DoBush Lamont, Alberta \*

1961 – PID Frank A. Bartlett. Note He never served as a District Governor but nevertheless he qualified to run

for the position of Director because he had served as President of the International Association of Lions Clubs (Canada).

1963 – PIP Tris Coffin see picture above

1965 – PID George Laughlin

1966 – PDG Edward McLean, District A 8, Quebec

1967 – PID Jack O. Filkin

1967-1968 – Reverend Monsignor J. McLellan, Alberta University Edmonton<sup>\*\*\*</sup>

1968 – PID Virgil Moshansky

1971 – PID Gordon Wright

1973 – PID Bud Ozark

1974 – PCC Gilles Melançon, District A 8, Quebec

1977 – PID Bob Zimmerman

1979 – PCC Norman Tartre, District A 8, Quebec

1979 – PID Bill Maquire

1979 – PID Brian Stevenson

1980 – PID Bud Danylchuck

1980-1982 – PID Dr. Jack DoBush

1981 – PID Hugh Reardon

1982 – CC Stew O'Brien MD A Ontario

1982 – PID Jack Dobush

1983 – PID Bruce Murray

1985 – PID Ralph Long

1987 – PID Ernie H. Moore

1987-1988 – PDG Marc Bernier

1989 – PID Ken Green

1990 – PDG Ron Brown

1991 – PID Bill Webber

1991 – PID Gil Constantini

1993 – PID Garnett Davis

1995 – PID Bill Moody

1997 – PID Len Giffen  
1999 – PID Jack Isaman  
2001 – PID Ben Ward  
2003 – PID Art Woods  
2005 – PID Jim Sherry  
2005 – PDG Ronald Devos A 1 Ontario  
2007 – PID Terry Graham  
2009 – PID Patti Hill  
2011 – PDG Charles C. Uhlman District N 2 Nova Scotia  
2011 – PID Carl Young  
2013 – PID Marvin Chambers  
2014 – PCC Polly SK Voon, District 19 A British-Colombia  
2015 – PID Yves Léveillé  
2017 – PID Roderick Wright  
2019 – PID Tom Gordon  
?? – Bud Olson (NFL).  
2019 – Corinne Tuck Stephenville Lions Club \*

*\* Source of information PDG Eric Buttle*

*\*\* This list shown here was prepared from memory, newspaper articles, e-mail research and is certainly not complete.*

*\*\*\* From the book LIONS DISTRICT 37 The First Fifty Years by PDG Matt Gordon*

# INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION HELD IN CANADA

- 1931 – Toronto, Ontario
- 1942 – Toronto, Ontario
- 1964 – Toronto, Ontario
- 1979 – Montreal, Quebec
- 1996 – Montreal, Quebec
- 2004 -Detroit, Michigan USA & Windsor, Ontario
- 2014 – Toronto, Ontario
- 2021 – Montreal, Quebec Planned

# BOARD MEETING HELD BY OUR INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Harry Newman fall board meeting was held in Toronto and his winter meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, USA \*

Walter Fisher fall board meeting held in Niagara Falls, Ontario, there is no mention of his winter board meeting. \*\*\*

Tris Coffin fall meeting held in Montreal, Quebec, his winter meeting in Banff, Alberta. \*\*

Brian Stevenson, fall board meeting in Calgary Canada and his winter meeting in Bermuda \*

*\*From the book, "The Pillars of Lionism" by George S. Aweida*

*\*\*From Gilles Melançon who attended both board meetings.*

*\*\*\*From the book "We Serve, A history of the Lions Clubs" by Paul Martin.*

PART III  
LIONS CLUBS IN CANADA

# THE FIRST LIONS CLUB IN CANADA

The year "LIONISM" came to Canada on March 12, 1920 in Windsor, Ontario.

On January 12, 1920, a Lions Club had been organized in Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A.

Its members decided that their good Canadian friends from across the St. Clair River should also have their Lions Club.

The very first Lions Club was founded in Canada at Windsor, Ontario.

Men from the City of Windsor and other area Cities were contacted. A meeting was held, and officers elected and the "Border City Lions Club" was born. This was the first Lions Club on Canadian soil on 12 March 1920.

Note: Soon after the club was identified as the "Windsor (Downtown) Lions club."

***The club was, upon its founding, the first International Lions club***

# THE FIRST DISTRICT GOVERNOR APPOINTED OR ELECTED IN EACH CANADIAN PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES



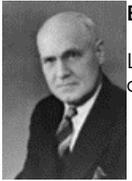
**ONTARIO – 1920**

Lion Fred G Ketcheson from the Toronto Central Lions club was appointed by LCI for District A as district Governor for Canada.



**ONTARIO – 1921**

Lion Louis Livingstone from Windsor, Ontario was the first governor elected in Canada in 1921, he did not complete his term of office and was replaced by Ernest E. Linger from Hamilton.



**BRITISH COLOMBIA – 1926-1927**

Lion George D. Moir, Vancouver Central Lions club



**ALBERTA – 1934-1935**

Name unknown



**MANITOBA – 1934-1935**

Lion Carl Marvin, Winnipeg



**SASKATCHEWAN – 1938-1939**

Lion A.W. Evans District from Regina – No picture available



**NEW BRUNSWICK -Between 1938-1945**

Lion Harry E. Marimen of Edmundston became the first Canadian Governor of the Multiple District 41



**QUEBEC – 1942-1943**

Lion David Emery, Lions Club of Montreal A 4



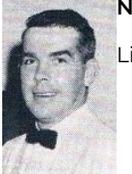
**QUEBEC – 1942-1943**

Lion Cecil Drummond, Noranda-Rouyn Lions Club A 5



**NEWFOUNDLAND – 1957-1958**

Lion Max Simms, Corner Brook Lions Club



**NOVA SCOTIA – 1960-1961**

Lion Eric B. Kinsman from Kentville Nova Scotia



**PRINCE-EDWARD ISLAND – 1960-1961**

Lion Eric Jessome from Kensington PEI



**LABRADOR – 1974-1975**

Lion Eldon Swyer Labrador City Lions Club A 14



**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES – Date unknown**

Lion Henry Alphonse Descheemaeker

No information regarding Yukon Territory and no District Governor came from St-Pierre-et-Miquelon Islands, France

# LIONS CHRONOLOGICAL EVENTS IN CANADA

This compilation of information about the history of Canadian Lions international officers and directors of the International Lions Clubs Association has been prepared thanks to the participation of the employees of the Lions Clubs International and many other Lions who have helped over the years including PID Brian Stevenson, PID Bill Webber and PID Virgil Moshansky.

Some of the information comes from the MD A report written by Lion Larry Carlisle and MD U archives, the Lions and/or Lionage Magazine from MD A, others from books written about Lionism such as «We Serve A history of the Lions Clubs by Paul Martin» and many others loaned to me from time to time by PIP Tris Coffin.

March 12, 1920 – First Lions Club in Canada in Windsor, Ontario known at first as the “Border City Lions Club” but soon after identified as the “Windsor (Downtown) Lions Club”.

May 14, 1920 — Toronto, Ontario

On that date, a group of business and professional men previously contacted by International's representative, Charles M. Anderson, met at the King Edward Hotel in Toronto, Ontario. There was an election of officers and thus started the “Lions Club of Toronto”. Melvin Jones attended that meeting. They sat down to lunch on that Thursday. Ever since May 14, 1920, the club has held weekly meetings on Thursday at noon. The Club has added one word in brackets after its name. Officially the name is “The Lions club of Toronto (Central).”

June 24, 1920 — Hamilton, Ontario

The inaugural meeting of what was to be the Hamilton Lions club was held at the Royal Connaught Hotel, Hamilton, Ontario. On this day officers were elected for this new Club. Melvin Jones who was present at the meeting delivered a very interesting and instructive address on the principles of true Lionism. The name of the Club is now “Hamilton, Central Lions Club”

July 13-14, 1920 — Lion Harry A. Newman

Lion Newman from Toronto, Canada was appointed to the Executive of the Association.

October 11-12, 1920 – Toronto Ontario

International Executive Meeting

International President Dr. C.C. Reid and the members of the International Executive held their meeting at Toronto at the invitation of Lion Harry A. Newman, Charter Secretary of the Lions Club of Toronto. Lion Harry A. Newman had been appointed to the Executive at the previous Convention held at Denver, Colorado, on July 9-11, 1920.

At this meeting, the International Executive granted the three Clubs in Ontario the status of District to be identified by the letter “A”, whereas a number identified the districts in the USA.

For instance, The State of Illinois, which the Association was born, was given the number “1”. The State of Texas where the first Convention was held was given the number “2”. At this Convention the name “LION” was officially adopted and the first officers of the Association elected.

The International Executive also decided to appoint Lion Fred Ketcheson, a charter member of the Toronto Lions Club as Governor of the new District. His term of office would end when there would be a sufficient number of clubs to hold a convention at which convention a man of their choice would elect Governor of District "A".

Lion Harry A. Newman from Toronto served as director or Vice-President of the Association in 1921, 1922 and 1923. To be verified with the minutes of the Board Meeting of those years.

September 14, 1922 – Quebec

The first Lions Club organized in the Province of Quebec was identified as "The Lions club of Montreal." in early 1960 the change the name to Montreal Central Lions clubs

1922 It the year the International Association of Lions Clubs (Canada) started?

June 23-26, 1924 — Omaha, Nebraska, USA

Lion Harry A. Newman, a Canadian Lion from District "A" Toronto was elected International President for 1924-1925, at the international Convention held in Omaha, Nebraska, USA

June 23-24, 1925 — Cedar Point, Ohio, USA

International President Lion Harry A. Newman. A Canadian from Toronto introduced Helen Keller, both deaf and blind, to the delegates assembled at this International Convention. It was at this International Convention that Helen Keller challenged the Lions to become, "Knights of the Blind and the Deaf.

There was a strong delegation of Lions and ladies from District "A" to render homage to outgoing International President Lion Harry A. Newman.

June 1930 — Jack W. Connell

Lion International Counselor Jack W. Connell from Toronto was elected International Director for the term 1930 and 1931-1933 at the international convention held in Denver, Colorado, USA

June 1931 — Toronto, Ontario

The International Convention was held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

July 23-25, 1933 — Dr. Irvine Riley

International Counselor Lion Dr. Irvine Riley from Windsor, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1933-1935 at the international convention held in St. Louis, Missouri, USA.

July 1935 – Lion Thomas H. Wiley from St. Catharines, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1935-1937 at the international convention held in Mexico City, Mexico.

July 20-23, 1937 — Chicago, Illinois, USA

International Counselor Lion R. Reid Murdock from Toronto, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1937-1939 at the international convention held in Chicago Illinois, USA. This was also "The Twentieth Anniversary of the Birth of Lionism."

June 26-28, 1938 — Lake Of Bays, Ontario

At the District "A" Convention "Multiple District "A" was formed with three Districts — A1, A2 and A3. The Board of Governors was composed of the three (3) Governors in office, the Chairman of the Board of Governors, the Past

International President, the past and present International Directors, all International Counselors (Past District Governors), the Deputy District Governors and five Lions from different clubs elected or appointed to the Board.

1939 – Lion Dr. Arthur Spankie from Calgary, Alberta was elected as International Director for the term 1939-1941 at the international convention held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA.

July 22-25, 1941 — New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

International Counselor Lion Leland W. “Pete” Peterson from Windsor, Ontario was elected International Director at the Convention held in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.

June 1942 — Toronto, Ontario

The International Convention was held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The Multiple District “A” Convention was held in conjunction with the International Convention. Many Lion dignitaries visited with the Canadian Lions. Included were:

Lion Ernesto de la Guardia, Panama City, Panama, Governor of the Lions of Central America; the Honorable Dr. Gustavo Cuervo Rubio, Vice President of the Republic of Cuba; Lion International Director Dr. Ramiro Collazo, Republic of Cuba; Third International Vice President Lion D. A. Sheen; Secretary General Melvin Jones

July 20-22, 1943 – Cleveland, Ohio, USA

International Counselor Dr. Charles O. Lennox from Toronto, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1943-1945 at the International Convention in Cleveland, Ohio, USA.

1945 – Lion Dr. F.M. Deans District A 1 was elected the first Chairman of the newly created Multiple District.

International Counselor Lion Walter C. Fisher from St. Catharines was elected International Director.

NO INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION WAS HELD IN 1945.

Lion Walter C. Fisher, International Third Vice President from St. Catharines was elected to the position of International Second Vice President.

1949 – Lion Walter C. Fisher from St. Catharines was Elected President of the Association with his term ending at the International Convention in Chicago, Illinois, USA, July 16-20, 1950.

1951 – Lion William I. Waldie from Qualicum, British-Colombia was elected International Director for the term 1951-1953 at the international convention held in Atlantic, City, New Jersey, USA

1953 – Lion Stanley G. Fowler from Timmins, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1953-1955 at the International Convention held in Chicago, Illinois, USA.

July 10, 1954 – 37th International Convention — New York City, New York USA

## **EXCERPT FROM LIONS 37TH ANNUAL CONVENTION MINUTES**

### **MOTTO CONTEST WINNER ANNOUNCED**

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR GAMMON: “President S. A. and fellow Lions:

This is indeed one of the most happy occasions of my life, that I am privileged to announce the results of two long, hard tedious years of work on the part of your International Board of Directors in choosing and selecting

a motto that we thought was truly indicative and characteristic of our great and wonderful organization and what we stand for and what we do.

After considering over 6,000 mottoes, submitted from the Four Corners of the world and every State in the Union, we have selected what we consider to be an outstanding motto that we can be proud of something that we can use from now on. And I give to you at this time the winning motto which was submitted by eight individual Lions Club Member of the United States, two from Canada, one from Hawaii, which is indicative of the truly international scope that this motto has taken.

According to the contest rules the member submitting the winning motto with the earliest postmark would be declared the winner — and the winner of the contest is LION D. A. STEVENSON OF FONTHILL, ONTARIO, CANADA. (applause)

**The Motto is “WE SERVE.”**

Lion Stevenson is not here today to receive the Award, but we have in his stead a Past President of the Fonthill, Ontario, Lions Club, Lion Gib Gordon and I will present the Award to Lion Gordon.

I wish to present to Lion Gordon, in behalf of Lions International this beautiful and outstanding Award so that he can take it back to his member in Canada and present it to him with the compliments of this great and wonderful International organization. Congratulations to you and to Lion Stevenson. (applause)

LION GIB GORDON: President Dodge, International Director Gammon, Lionesses and fellow Lions. It is certainly a thrilling moment for the Fonthill, Ontario, Lions Club and I am proud to act as proxy for my good friend and fellow Lion. Doug Stevenson unfortunately could not be here, but he has sent a message to you which at this time I would like to read: “Fellow Lions. in thanking you most sincerely for this most unexpected Award I wish to emphasize that the credit goes first to our splendid little Fonthill, Ontario, Lions Club whose inspiring example of devoted, selfless service to its community gave me the motto “We Serve” practically automatically. And, secondly, to those same worldwide service activities of our great body, Lions International.

Lions, I greatly regret that a previous appointment in England precludes my presence and prevents my thanking you personally, but I am very glad that my good friend and Past President of our Club, Lion Gib Gordon, will be with you to accept the Award on my behalf, for which I thank you most sincerely.”

From this you will realize what Lion Stevenson meant when he stated “We Serve” was practically an automatic slogan.

Again, on behalf of Lion Douglas Stevenson of the Fonthill Lions Club, our sincere thanks to Lions International for this find award.

Thank You. (Applause)”

1955 – Lion William Garner from Shanty Bay, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1955-1957 at the International Convention held in Atlantic City. USA.

1957 – Lion Charles G Carter from Winnipeg, Manitoba was elected international director held in San Francisco California, USA

1957 – Lion A. J. Kirstine from Edmonton was elected international Director held in San Francisco California, USA.

1959 – Lion Frank A. Bartlett from Hamilton, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1959-1961 at the International Convention held in New York. New-York, USA.

June 1, 1961 – Death of Lion Melvin Jones

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1961, International President Lion Finis E. Davis, sent a telegram to all Past District Governors to advise that Melvin Jones, Founder of the Association had passed away the previous day June 1, 1961.

July 21-24, 1961 – Lion Tris Coffin from Montreal, Québec was elected International Director for the term 1961-1963 at the International Convention held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, USA.

1962 – Lion George U Wong from Vancouver British-Colombia was elected international director at the international convention held in Nice, France.

July 1963 – Lion George Laughlin from St. Catharines, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1963-1965 at the International Convention held in Miami, USA.

1964 – The International Association of Lions Clubs convention was held in Toronto, Ontario.

July 1965 – Lion John O. “Jack” Filkin from Toronto, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1965-1967 at the International Convention held in Los Angeles, California, USA.

1966 – Lion Virgil Moshansky from Vegreville, Alberta was elected international director at the international convention held in New-York, New-York, USA.

1967 – Lion Bill Waite from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan was elected international director at the international convention held Chicago, Illinois, USA.

1969 – Lion Gordon Wright from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan was elected international director at the international convention held in Tokyo, Japan

June 24-30, 1973 – Lion Tris Coffin after serving as Vice President of the Association was elected International President for the term 1973-1974 at the International Convention held in Miami, Florida, USA

1973 – Lion Burton Tomkins from Presqu’Isle, Maine was elected international director at the international convention held in Miami, Florida, USA.

1973 – The Melvin-Jones Fellow was created to honour individuals who made outstanding to humanitarian endeavours.

October 1973 – Tris Coffin International president held his board meeting in Montreal Quebec, Canada and Lion PCC Gilles Melançon presided at this event.

March 1974 – Tris Coffin International president held his board meeting in Banff, Alberta, Canada.

October 4, 1974 – A gift of a Lincoln automobile on behalf of Multiple District “A” was presented to International President Lion Tris Coffin at a party organized by the Oakville Lions Club, District A 11.

July, 1975 – Lion Bob Zimmerman from Ottawa, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1975--1977 at the International Convention held in Dallas. Texas, USA.

July 1977 – Lion Bill Maguire from Cobourg, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1977-1979 at the International Convention held in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.

July 1977 – Lion Brian Stevenson from Calgary Alberta was elected international director for the term 1977-1979 at the International Convention held in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.

1978 – Lion Bud Danylchuck from Fort Frances, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1978-1980 at the international convention held in Tokyo, Japan.

1979 – The International Association of Lions Clubs convention was held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and PCC Norman Tartre presided at this event.

1979 – Lion Hugh T Reardon from Moncton, New Brunswick was elected international director for the term 1979-1981 at the international convention held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

1980 – Lion Jack Dobush from Lamont, Alberta was elected international director at the international convention held in Chicago, Illinois, USA.

July 1981 – Lion Bruce Murray from St-Mary's was elected International Director for the term 1981-1983 at the International Convention held in Phoenix, Arizona, USA.

1983 – Lion Ralph Long from Vancouver, British-Columbia was elected International Director for the term 1983-1985 at the International Convention held in Honolulu, Hawaii

1983-1984 – The Lions Foundation of Canada is created.

1985 – Lion H.H. Ernie Moore from Perth, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1985-1987 at the International Convention held in Dallas, Texas, USA.

1987 – Lion Brian Stevenson from Calgary Alberta was elected president of the international Associations of Lions clubs in Taipei, Taiwan ROC. His first board meeting was held in Calgary the second in Bermuda.

1987 – Lion Ken Green from Newfoundland was elected international director for the term 1987-1989 at the international convention held in Taipei, Taiwan ROC.

July 1989 – Lion Gil Constantini from Peterborough, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1989-1991 at the International Convention held in Miami, Florida, USA

July 1989 – Lion Bill Webber from Edmonton, Alberta, was elected International Director for the term 1989-1991 at the International Convention held in Miami, Florida, USA.

1991 – Lion Garnet Davis from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan was elected International Director for the term 1981-1993 at the International Convention held in Brisbane, Australia.

July 1993 – Lion Bill Moody from Mount-Forest, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 1993-1995 at the International Convention held in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota, USA.

1995 – Lion Len Giffen from Milford Nova Scotia was elected International Director for the term 1995-1997 at the international convention held in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

1996 – The International Association of Lions Clubs convention was held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and the chairperson was PDG René Arbour

1997 – Lion Gilles Melançon from Repentigny, Quebec was elected International Director for the term 1997-1999 at the international Convention held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

1997 – Lion Jack Isaman was from Calgary, Alberta elected International Director for the term 1997-1997 at the international Convention held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

1998 – The Memorial Forest of the Lions Foundation of Canada is created by then PCC Art Woods

May 30, 1999 – The Quebec Lions clubs Foundation was created by the international director Gilles Melançon

1999 – Lion Ben ward from Brandon, Manitoba was elected International Director for the term 1999-2001 at the international Convention held in San Diego, Philadelphia, USA.

2001 – Lion Art Wood from Elmira, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 2001-2003 at the international Convention held in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.

2003 – Lion Jim Sherry from Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia was elected International Director for the term 2003-2005 at the international Convention held in Denver Colorado, USA.

2004 – The International Association of Lions Clubs convention was held in Detroit, Michigan/ Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

2005 – Lion Terry Graham from Newcastle, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 2005-2007 at the international Convention held in Hong Kong, China.

2007 – Lion Patti Hill from Edmonton, Alberta was elected International Director for the term 2007-2009 at the international Convention held in Chicago, Illinois, USA

2009 – Lion Carl Young from Omemee, Ontario was elected International Director for the term 2009-2011 at the international Convention held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA.

2011 – Lion Marvin Chambers from Fillmore, Saskatchewan, was elected International Director for the term 2011-2013 at the international Convention held in Seattle, Washington, USA.

2013 – Lion Yves Léveillé from Howick, Quebec was elected International Director for the term 2013-2015 at the international Convention held in Hamburg, Germany.

2014 – The International Association of Lions Clubs convention was held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

2015 – Lion Roderick Wright form Fredericton, New Brunswick, was elected International Director for the term 2015-2017 at the international Convention held in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA.

2017 – Lion Thomas Gordon was elected International Director for the term 2017-2019 at the International Convention held in Chicago, USA.

2019 – Lion Allan Hunt was elected as international Director for Canada for the term 2019-2021 at the international convention held in Milan Italy.

July 2019 – PID Patti Hill was elected as 3rd Vice-president of Lions Clubs International at the international convention held in Milan Italy.

# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS (Ontario then Canada)

## REASON FOR THIS RESEARCH

The purpose of this exercise was to find out the reason (s) or why the charter of the Lions Club of Montreal that was founded in 1922 indicated the date of October 30, 1928. My questions to Lions International on this subject have remained unanswered. I believe that the reason for this is that the original charter of the Lions Club of Montreal had to be signed by the two corporations, the International Lions Clubs Association of Illinois and the Lions Clubs International Association of Ontario. PIP Tris Coffin seems to think along the same line.

My souvenir dates back to early 1960 when Lion Leo Ness district Governor A 8 visited my Lions club, the Montreal-Ahunstic Lions clubs to ask the club to vote in favour of the dismantlement of the International Association of Lions Clubs Canada, because we should not have an association in another association.

The first reference to the Canadian Association appears in the Minutes that I have, of the 1959 Convention, held May 31 to June 3, 1959 (39th Convention) at Windsor, ON. It was proposed and passed that MD-A would collect per capita dues of \$2.75 for MD-A, .25 for District A Promotion Fund, and .25 for the International Association of Lions Clubs (Canada). (Source PID Bill Moody)

## **INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS (Ontario then Canada)**

Here is the history found in the minutes of the International Association of Lions Clubs of the Board Meeting 1917-1961 provided to me by PIP Tris Coffin.

Denver, Colorado, July 16, 1920

Extracted from the Board Meeting minutes (page 11).

The following course of procedure for the Ontario Lions club was approved and referred to the Executive Committee; the Ontario Lions club to work only in cooperation with the International Board for the purpose of issuing charters, and that in granting the charter, the International Board will issue it through the Ontario corporate body, but it will come from the Chicago office, and the Chicago office will issue a licence (it can't be called a charter in Ontario) entitling the holder thereof to all the benefits of the International body, subject to its constitution and by-laws, and in the application for membership, there would be an application for the International body; the Ontario corporate body will also issue a membership card charge can be made for service and the surplus passed on to the head office.

Chicago, Illinois January 3-5, 1922

Morrison Hotel – January 3, 11:00 AM

Present: W. Cameron, Dr. John L. Weber, Judge John F. Garner, Harry Newman, Jesse Robinson, Wesland P. Cramer, W. G. Higgins, John S. Noel, Dr. B. W. Beatty, Melvin Jones.

Application for a charter for the Association to operate in Canada had been made, but inasmuch as the word "charter" cannot be used in Canada, it was agreed to make the word "charter" read "Certificate of Membership." Director Newman assured that the application would be granted. It was explained that the change in wording

would make it possible to issue charters regardless of provincial boundaries, but that in Canada British subjects must sign them.

October 16, 1925, Worcester, Massachusetts

The following resolution was adopted:

“RESOLVED: That the previous action of this Board, authorizing the legal incorporation of the Lions Clubs in the Dominion of Canada, be carried forward, and that Immediate Past President Harry A. Newman be requested to complete the necessary formalities to secure the charter without further expense to International excepting expense of trip to Ottawa.”

July 23, 1926, San Francisco, California

“RESOLVED: That the matter of a Dominion Charter be submitted to the Lions Clubs of Canada with the request that at the earliest opportunity they appoint a committee to formulate a plan for the proper compliance with the Canadian regulations covering such Dominion Charter. The aforesaid committee should report to the International Board for approval.

June 15, 1927, Miami, Florida, 2:00 PM

PLACE: R. 901, Columbus Hotel

PRESENT: Wm. A. Westfall, B. F. Jones, Irving L. Camp, Ray L. Riley, Melvin Jones, T. E. Halliburton, Julien C. Hyer, Earle W. Hodges, Arthur C. Call, C. M. Bakewell, M. M. Nielson, Carl E. Croson.

President Westfall made a report of his further findings in relation to the Canadian Charter situation, the substance of which was to the effect that he had quite a lengthy conversation with Harry Newman at the Ontario district convention, May 24. Lion Newman said he would fix the charter so that we could operate from the International office. After some discussion, it was thought best by both that licence be taken out in several individual provinces and that he, Newman, surrender the charter now being used in Canada.

President Westfall wanted to bring this matter before the district Convention, but Lion Newman did not see the advisability of such action. However, the President talked the matter over briefly with some of the attending Lions, and it was also brought to the attention of the newly elected district governor of Ontario, Wm. D. Glintz, so that he might be thoroughly conversant with the entire situation.

At the conclusion of the president's talk with Lion Newman, he (Newman) promised to have something in writing in the hands of either the President or the Secretary-General before this meeting to show that he was going ahead with what he had promised to do. The President followed this up, and in reply received a letter from Lion Newman to the effect that the time was too short for him to get all of the data necessary together; that the government required minutes of every meeting held, and that he had made no report to the government since taking out the charter; neither had the minutes of any of the meetings which might have been held.

In the President's opinion, absolutely nothing can be done in Canada until Harry Newman surrenders the charter there. It was “RESOLVED: That this Board go on record as fully endorsing what President Westfall has done in connection with investigating the Canadian charter situation, and that he continues in this work until the matter is finally disposed of to his and the Board's entire satisfaction.”

The following resolution was passed: “RESOLVED: That further action with respect to the division of the Fifth district be deferred until a later session of this meeting.”

The Board voiced no particular objection to a combination Shrine and Lions buttons.

October 17, 1927, Philadelphia Pennsylvania, 10:00 AM

PLACE: Bellevue Stratford Hotel

PRESENT: Irving L. Camp, W. A. Westfall, Ben ti. Ruffin, Ray L. Rilay, Earle W. Hodges, Melvin Jones, T. H. Halliburton, Arthur C. Call, Julien C. Hyer, Chas. M. Bakewell, G. H. Hastinge, Horace S. Kerr, Chas. S. Hatton, Vincent C. Hascall, Benjamin F. Jones, also President James Mason of the Philadelphia club.

Past President Westfall, chairman of the committee to investigate the committee to investigate the Canadian Charter matter, made an exhaustive report covering every angle of the situation, and outlined a course of procedures he believed to be best to follow. His report was accepted with thanks.

Ben A. Ruffin made a report of the Foreign Relations Committee, which was also accepted with thanks.

The following resolutions were passed.

“RESOLVED: That the request of the Canadian clubs for a separate Canadian Association and charter be and is hereby granted, and that the President and Secretary-General of Lions International be and are hereby designated as the two nominee from this Board for membership on the Canadian Corporation Board; that all matters pertaining to the relations between the two corporations be determined by contract to be worked out by a committee which the president of this organization is hereby authorized to appoint.”

The charter of the International Association of Lions Clubs (Canada) is accepted on June 21, 1928. On the same day, the Canadian Association decided to surrender the charter for the International Association of Lions Clubs (Ontario) and replace it with the International Association of Lions Clubs Canada, here are some of the paper work required.

#### CHARTER TEXT

LETTERS PATENT

Incorporating

(Without Capital)

International Association of Lions Clubs (Canada)

Dated 16th March 1928

RECORDED March 22nd, 1928

Thomas Mulvey

DEP. REGISTRAR GENERAL of CANADA

CANADA

BY THE HONOURABLE FERNAND RINFRET

SECRETARY OF STATE CANADA

To all to whom theses presents shall come, or whom the same way in any wise concern Greeting

Whereas, in and by The Companies Act Chapter 27 of the Revised Statutes of Canada 1927), it is amongst other

things I effect enacted that the Secretary of State Canada may, by letters patent under the seal of office, grant a charter to any numbers of persons, not less than five, who having complied with the requirements of the Act apply therefore, constituting such persons, and others who thereafter become members in the corporation thereby created, a body incorporate and politics for any of the purposes or object to which the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada extends, except the construction and working of railways or of telegraph or telephones lines, or the business of banking and the issue of paper money or the business of a loan company, or of a trust of insurance, or of a trust company upon the applicants therefore establishing to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State of Canada due compliance with the several conditions and terms in by the said Act set forth and thereby made conditions precedent to the granting of such Charter.

AND WHEREAS HARRY ALLEN NEWMAN AND IVAN CLAYTON HARRIES BANISTERS AT-AW; BERTRAM ALBERT KENNY Wholesale Lumber Dealer ; STANLEY MOSS, Broker: and JAMES GEORGE WILSON, Publisher; all of the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, have made an application for a charter under the said aAct, constituting the and such others as the become members in the corporation thereby enacted a copy corporate and politics, under the name INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS (CANADA) for the purposes hereinafter mentioned, and have satisfactorily established the sufficiency of all proceedings required by the said Act to be taken and the truth and sufficiency of all facts required to be established previous to the granting of such letters Patent and have filed in the Department of the Secretary of State a duplicate of the memorandum of agreements executed by the said applicants in conformity of the provisions of said Act.16.

NOW KNOW BE that, I the said Fernand Rinfret, Secretary of the State of Canada, under the authority of the hereinbefore in part resided Act, so, by the Letters Patent, constitute the said Harry Allan Newman Ivan Clayton Harries, Bertram Albert Kenny, Stanley Moss and James George Wilson and all others who may become members in the said corporation, a body corporate and politics, without share capital by the Name of INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION of LIONS CLUBS (CANADA) with all the rights and covers given by the said Act and for the following purposes and objects, namely:

(a) To organise non-political, non-sectarian, non-profit sharing clubs in such municipalities or combinations of municipalities in the Dominion of Canada, and such other countries of the Free Nations of the British Commonwealth as may be authorised by the Directors of this Association from time to time:

(b) To issue certificates of membership authorising any Club or Clubs organised to carry on with the objects herein provided and under the terms of the By-Laws of this Association

From time to time and providing or the withdrawal or cancellation of such certificates so issued, where default has been made in the Clubs organised in the carrying out of the objects of this Association or complying with the By-Laws in force from time to time, such cancellation or recall being in the sole discretion of the directors of this Association.

(c) To take more frequent council with the Free Nations of the British Commonwealth so that its strength, both moral and material, may continue forever to be a united Power for Justice, and Liberty and Peace;

(d) To encourage friendly co-operation with the United States of America and all other English-Speaking Communities of the world;

(e) To encourage active participation in all things that have to do with commercial, civil, and industrial betterment of mankind

(f) To encourage and promote respect and obedience of all laws passed by the responsible Government of any country in which one or more Clubs have been organised,

(g) To assist in every honourable way in furthering the interests of its members and associates towards bringing about a better understanding among the English-Speaking people of the world.

To instruct its members that organization, co-operation and reciprocity serve the interest of the Community better than rivalry strife and destructive competition;

(h) To encourage the application of the higher ethical standards in business and seek, by the exchange of methods and ideas to increase efficiency in all line represented in the Clubs of the Association

(i) To take part in any meritorious movement, which, in the judgment of its members, will be for the general good and may offer its consideration to other organisation engage in valuable endeavours for the public welfare;

(j) To become associated with and co-operate with the existing Association with alike name and with similar objects;

(k) To coordinate, standardise and direct the activities, other than legal activities, of all affiliated Lions Clubs;

(l) To promote the theory and practice of the principles of good government and good citizenship;

(m) To take an active interest in the civic Social and moral welfare of the community;

(n) To unite its members in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding;

(o) To provide a forum for the full and free discussion of all matters of public interest, partisan politics and sectarian religion alone excepted;

(p) To encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in business and professions: provided that no club shall hold out as one of its objectives financial benefits to its members; The operations of the corporation to be carried on throughout the Dominion of Canada and elsewhere. The chief office of said corporation is situate in the City of Toronto, in the province of Ontario. And it is hereby ordained and declared that, if authorized by by-laws, sanctioned by at least two- thirds of the vote cast at a special general meeting of the members, duly called for considering the by-laws, the Directors may from time to time:

1. Borrow money upon the credit of the corporation;
2. Limit or increase the amount to be borrowed;
3. Issue bonds, debentures, debenture stock or other securities of the corporation and pledge or sell the same for such forms and at such prices as may be deemed expedient;
4. Hypothecate, mortgage or pledge, the real or personal property of the corporation, or both, to secure any such bonds, debentures, debentures stock or any other securities and any money borrowed for the purposes of the corporation.

Nothing in this clause contained such limit or restricts the borrowing of money by the corporation on bills of exchange or promissory note made, drawn, accepted or endorsed, by or on behalf of the corporation.

And it is further ordained and declared that the business of the said corporation shall be carried on without the purpose or gain for its members and that any profits or other accretions to the corporation shall be used to promote its objects.

That the said Harry Allen Newman, Ivan Clayton Harries, Bertram Albert Kenny, Stanley Moss and James George Wilson are to be the first or provisional directors of said corporations.

Provided always that nothing in these presents expressed or contained shall be taken to authorise the construction and working of railways, or of telegraph or telephone lines the business of banking, and the issue of paper money, or of a trust of insurance or the business of a loan company or a trust company by said corporation.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at Ottawa this fifteen day of March 1928.

Thomas Mulvey

Under Secretary of State

April 11, 1929

The surrender of the charter is accepted by the Ontario Government. on April 11, 1929.

April 27-28, 1928, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

“RESOLVED: That the President and the Secretary-General are hereby authorized to sign the contract as submitted by Chairman William A. Westfall between The International Association of Lions Clubs (Canada) and The International Association of Lions Clubs (Illinois).”

Director Hyer strongly urged, in his report on “International Problems, that every effort be made immediately to consummate negotiations with the Canadian organization and suggested that no effort be made to promote Lionism in foreign countries until such time as we had adopted a definite and workable foreign policy.

April 19-20, 1929, Chicago Illinois

The matter of paying a bill of \$600.00 incurred in the settlement of the Canadian Charter situation, and presented by Harry A. Newman, was discussed at length. Lion Newman presented an amended bill eliminating the objectionable features, and the following resolutions were passed:

“RESOLVED: That the amended bill for \$600.00 presented by Past President Harry A. Newman in connection with securing the Canadian charter be paid”

“RESOLVED: That the sum of \$100.00 be appropriated to defray the annual corporate expense of the Canadian Corporation, such expenditure to be made by the Secretary-General at the direction of the International President”

May 10-12, 1960, Louisiana, New Orleans

Past President Beddow presented the report of the Constitution & By-Laws and Areas Committee. He stated that the committee did not approve of the principle of national Associations, but that any difference of opinion of a purely Canadian nature among the Canadian Lions is an extraneous matter in which Lions International cannot mediate. The committee recommended:

That the President appoint a committee to investigate the methods by which nominations and selection of the Canadian candidates for the International Board are made.

MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED, that this section of the Committee's report be

That secretary Bird be instructed to ascertain whether or not a separate corporation is necessary for a non-profit

organization, such as Lions International which is incorporated under the laws of the U.S.A., to operate in the Dominion of Canada. It was adopted.

The committee recommended the elimination of the Pioneer and Retired Pioneer classifications, and the creation of a new classification for members with 15 to 35 years of service; also, that a new classification be established to honour and distinguish Lions who have completed 35 or more years of service. It was MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED, that this section and the referral of the title to the Membership Committee be adopted.

The committee recommended that the Constitution be amended to require all candidates for International Officer or Director be endorsed by their district (not a sub-district clone) at an annual convention of the district. After a short discussion, it was

MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED, that the above recommendation be adopted.

Past President Beddow reported that the committee planned to present to the delegates for approval a proposed amendment to the Constitution to provide that, effective with the International Convention of 1960, candidates for International Director shall have served as District Governor, and candidates for Third Vice-President must have completed or be completing their term as International Director. It was

MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED, that this part of the report be approved

Past President Stickley then presented a supplemental report of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee regarding the Canadian Association. He stated that the committee had been informed that it is not a legal necessity for the Association to operate and function in Canada through the medium of the International Association of Lions Clubs (Canada).

Lion Stickley also reported that in view of the fact that the District Governors of Canada have no means of holding a joint national council meeting to discuss the method of procedure for electing a Canadian nominee for Director or Vice-President, the Constitution and By-Laws Committee recommended that The International Association of Lions Clubs defray the expenses for one joint meeting in the city of Chicago of all the Canadian Governors during the present fiscal year only, and at least one month prior to the May, 1961 Board meeting. So that every Canadian Lion might have representation at this national council meeting, the committee recommended the payment of expenses of those United States District Governors involved in a joint Canadian-United States sub-district. After considerable discussion, it was

MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED, that this portion of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee report be adopted.

July, 3-9 1960, Chicago, Illinois

A partial report of the Constitution and By-Laws and Areas Committee was presented by Past President Stickley and the following recommendations were made:

That there be no deviation from the requirement that a Lion must have served as District Governor to qualify as a candidate for International Director;

That the Widdifield, Ontario Lions Club should be permitted to use the Lions name and emblem, after proper precautions had been taken;

That no changes be made at the present time in the Board of International Relations set-up;

That Article VIII, Section 10, be amended in the last sentence of the section, to eliminate the words, "Beginning

with the International Convention of 1959” and add to the section the following words at the end of the section: “for the purpose of attending their school of instruction.” The last sentence of the section would then read, “The Board of Directors is authorized to provide for the payment of expenses to the International Convention of the District Governors-Elect, for the purpose of attending their school of instruction.” It was adopted.

MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED, that the above recommendations be adopted.

At this time Part President Stickley presented the supplementary report of the Constitution and By-Laws and Area Committee. He stated that on\* matter of unfinished business had been carried over from the original report, and that was in relation to an inquiry from Canada concerning the manner of selecting a candidate for the International Board. He reported that after the subject was thoroughly discussed with Director Bartlett and Past Presidents Harry Newman and Walt Fisher, it was unanimously decided to make no change in the report submitted.

Past President Stickley again read the constitutional amendment that was adopted at the New Orleans Board Meeting.

Article IV, alter Section 10, add another section to be designated as Section 11, which reads as follows: ‘When in the opinion of the International Board of Directors of this Association it is desirable to do so, the International President, with the concurrence of the Board, may appoint a representative of the Association to be known as Provisional District Governor, under such rules and regulations as the International Board may prescribe.’”

Article V, that the present Section 2 be amended, so that Section 2(a) read as “Candidates

for the office of International Director shall have completed or be completing their term as District Governor of this Association, and candidates for International Third Vice-President shall have completed or be completing their term as International Director.”

That Section 2(b) of Article V be amended to read: “Candidates for the office of International Third Vice-President or for International Director shall be endorsed by their district (not a sub -district alone) at an annual convention of the district.”

November 13-15, 1960, Los Angeles, California

Past President Stickley then presented a supplemental report of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee regarding the Canadian Association. He stated that the committee had been informal that it is not a legal necessity for the Association to operate and function in Canada through the medium of the International Association of Lions Clubs (Canada).

Lion Stickley also reported that in view of the fact that the District Governors of Canada have no means of holding a joint national council meeting to discuss the method of procedure for electing a Canadian nominee for Director or Vice-President, the Constitution and By-Laws Committee recommended that The International Association of Lions Clubs defray the expenses for one joint meeting in the City of Chicago of all the Canadian Governors during the present fiscal year only, and at least one month prior to the May, 1961 Board meeting. So that every Canadian Lion might have representation at this national council meeting, the committee recommended the payment of expenses of those United States District Governors involved in a joint Canadian-United States sub-district. After considerable discussion, it was

MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED, that this portion of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee report be adopted.

May 2-6, Louisville, Kentucky

Past President Stickley presented the report of the Constitution and By-Laws and Areas Committee. The committee recommended:

1. That the Board of Directors of The International Association of Lions Clubs be limited to a maximum of 26 Directors, plus the President, Immediate Past President, First, Second and Third Vice-Presidents.
2. That a new apportionment be created on a continental basis.

That the new divisions be based on recognized geographic authorities to be studied by the Constitution and By-Laws and Areas Commutes, and submitted to the Board of Directors

April 7-9, 1965, Acapulco, Mexico

Reaffirmed the Board of Directors' previous decision of the Canadian Association that immediate action be taken to enforce the cease and desist letter issued by General Council Bird to the Canadian Association and that the presidents of the Canadian clubs, the Districts Governors, the Canadian Director and the PAST International officers of Canada be informed of this action. I move the adoption of this report.

Completing Highlights of the month of November, a brief was presented by us to the Provincial Secretary of the province of Ontario in Canada stating our position regarding recognition of the former Canadian Association. Prompting our brief was the fact that two clubs had been refused authority to incorporate.

Board of Directors Meeting in Los Angeles, July 1965

With the help of Director Laughlin, we have taken aggressive action in Canada to solve our incorporation problems there. One of the finest law firm in Canada – Fraser, Beatty, Tucker, McIntosh and Stewart has been engaged with directions to establish the legal right of clubs in Canada to incorporate without approval of the now defunct Canadian Association, also to establish our sole right as an association to operate in Canada as we do in other countries of the world. We are pressing our lawyers for a speedy conclusion.

Board of Directors Meeting in New York, July 1966.

I suppose like everyone else here, I've my moments of happiness and sorrow, defeats and victory, and periods of exaltation and depression, but I am going to say that I don't believe that ever in my Lionistic experience have I had a moment of happiness that outranks this present one in making his report.

It is my signal honour, privilege, and pleasure to inform you the misunderstanding with our Canadian brethren has been completely settled.

Under the patient, wise leadership of Past District Governor Ed McLean, President of the International Association of Lions Clubs (Canada), that Board of Directors has unanimously vote to cancel its charter and dissolve the corporation. Letters carrying this recommendation over the names of every Canadian Association Officers and director have already gone to every Canadian club. It is only a matter of time before replies have been received and there is absolutely no reason to believe there will be a negative reaction.

We must publicly recognize the magnanimous spirit of Past District Governor Fred Chapman, Charles Brace and George Saine who voluntary withdrew their opposition to this final settlement and sponsored the action to cancel the charter and dissolve the Canadian Association. I here now acknowledge then debt of the Association to those Lions whose vision and judgment have made this report possible.

At the same time, we must cite the invaluable assistance rendered by the attorney for the Canadian Association, Lion Allen McLean, whose council and suggestions helped effect the reconciliation. Although completely representing the Canadian Association, his dedication to Lionism was manifest throughout the negotiation.

My fellow Lions may we urge you to recognize the full implications of this Canadian decision. May there be no ill-considered talk of victory or defeat, no gloating or boasting, but instead a fervent prayer of gratitude to God Almighty for thus ending these years of misunderstanding. We again pay tribute to Past District Governed McLean probably the only man who could bring this about, a man of wisdom, understanding patience, persistence and unswerving devotion to the Internationalism of the International Association of Lions Clubs. It must be gratifying to him to know God has granted him the privilege of keeping the promise he made to settle this controversy when elected President of the Canadian Association a year ago, without him this happy moment would not be possible.

We also wish to express the highest commendation to Assistant General Council Roy Schaetzel for the prominent part he played in bringing about this settlement. Occupying a most difficult role in these discussions, he conducted himself with intelligence, dignity and diplomacy. We were most fortunate to have his assistance in resolving this matter.

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL: The Chair recognizes Past International President Julien Hyer.

Past International President Hyer: President Walter, many of you do not realize the significance of this report even though you have shown your enthusiasm at its reception. It has been my privilege to be a member of this Board since 1931. One of the greatest problems this Association ever had in going international was in adding another country to the United States. That was Canada—but Canada wanted its place and it wanted its privilege and its representation, we came to have a Canadian Association and a United States Association and that had here for many, many years. When the time came to try to nail the two of them together, it was extremely difficult. Legally, they said it could not be done, diplomatically, you had eastern and western Canada, and you had English and French speaking Cabinets It also want to take some of the credit and give some to Past President Finis Davis. If I could, I would make that a motion as a motion and take the credit for it. Never mind laughing. I want us to have some of the credit along with Past Governor McLean, Jack Stickley, in particular, for bringing this to a successful conclusion in less than six months. Thank you for the privilege of making this claim to credit.

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL: I have heard from two members of the three-member committee: now I am going to ask the third member, Past International President Finis, if he would like to make a comment.

PAST PRESIDENT DAVIS: President Walter, members of the Board, and Past Presidents. I am not entirely in agreement with my colleague, Past President Judge Hyer that Jack be given full credit for this, because after all, two of the executives made the motion, and I seconded it, I think we ought to be given that much consideration. It is difficult for me to follow the splendid report that Jack has presented and the comments that Judge Hyer has made, but I do not want to say this: there is a great deal of satisfaction as a result of the fine climax in such a wonderful wake of this Canadian Situation as we have been faced with it.

Even back in my time, President Walter, when I was president of this Association, this was a serious problem facing us. I had the privilege of serving as Chairman of The Advisory Committee and Past President Aubrey Green as our President, was working with our friends to the South, the Mexican Lions and there we were able to bring this group into an agreement that was acceptable to them and to this board. Since that time that agreement has been approved and is well on its way to a very fine conclusion, But this, Jack to my thinking, is the complete solving of a problem that has been difficult and this should bring much gladness to our Lions, and as I see it, in the future it will bring us tremendous close to our Canadian friends.

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL: I see that our Past International president from Canada wants to talk. I am going to recognize Lion Harry.

PAST PRESIDENT NEWMAN: We were asked to do certain things, and certain people, for instance, wanted to do

their own way. I went through all of this but being a gentleman at that time I said, Ed, my advice is if you are going to work with International, cooperate all the way. I am very glad that everything is finally settled.

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL: Thank you Past President Newman. Now I am going to ask our distinguished International from Canada, Jack Filkin, if he would like to say a word. Lion Jack, you have the floor.

DIRECTOR FILKIN: President Walter, Past Presidents and members of the Board. I think the Canadian Lions would scold me if I return back to Canada without saying thank you to PAST PRESIDENT John Stickley; This has been a thorn in the sides of the Canadian Lions every year. If I were to say anything different, you would have to say I was careless with the truth. To you Jack Stickley, we owe you a great debt of thankfulness for giving your time and your ability. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL: The Chair recognizes Director Marciel.

DIRECTOR MARCEIL: President Campbell, I am sure proper order would be that the report be adopted. I would like to move it, As to this, shouldn't a copy of this report be shown to Past District Governor?

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL: Could I interrupt and request of you that you give this unusual privilege to our International Director from Canada.

DIRECTOR FILKIN: I move the adoption of this report.

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL: You have heard the motion; now would you like to second it? The Chair recognizes Director Marciel.

DIRECTOR MARCIEL; I second it with the understanding that a copy of this report be presented to Past Governor McLean.

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL: Do you accept the amendment? The amendment is accepted. You have heard the motion; it has been duly seconded, Is there discussion? Are you ready for the question? Question has been called. Those in favor let it be known by saying AYE. Those opposed NO. The motion is carried unanimously, and it is so ordered.

Lion Jack I am going to ask you for the closing remarks.

PAST PRESIDENT STICKLEY: I have never been accused of being unduly modest, but I must disclaim at least the lion's share of this credit, because this could not have been done without the assistance, the understanding and the sympathy of our Canadian brethren. I most place the credit where the credit is due, and it is up there. They held the hand: they held the strong cards and the high cards, and this could have dragged out for many years. I pay tribute to their magnanimity, to their understanding. I cannot make a motion. I have two things that I would like to suggest, if I may, and the first is that letters of commendation go out from this board, over the president's signature to the gentleman to whom I have reefered to in this report, so that they might have a tangible evidence of the appreciation of this Board.

The second is that I would like to have the privilege of bringing Past Governor Ed McLean to this Board at some session and personally introduce him to you, not for speech, but just that you might have an opportunity to look him over and see the cut of this jewel.

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL: Lion Jack, thank you and I am sure your suggestion will be carried out. Lion Jack Filkin will you take care of bringing Past Governor Ed to the Board meeting some time tomorrow? The chair recognizes Director Val Marciel.

DIRECTOR MARCIEL: President Campbell, I just wondered if the two suggestions made by Past President

Stickley should not be part of this board meeting. If it is in order, I think that it would be well to direct a note to amend the motion to include these two suggestions.

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL: You have heard the suggested amendment to the motion. Lion Jack, are you amiable? Of course, you are. You have heard the amendment to the original. Is there discussion? Are you ready for the question? The Chair recognizes Director Joe Ganim

DIRECTOR GAMIN: This is a very small technicality, but according to the rules of parliamentary procedures, we cannot amend a motion after it has already been adopted. I don't think that this requires a motion.

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL: You have heard the discussion. Are you ready to vote on the amendment? I classified this as an amendment to the original motion. Question has been called. All those in favor signify by saying AYE. Those opposed NO. We have noes. It is my opinion that this is rather a nebulous thing. It could be carried in a letter and the original motion would stand up with much more grace: this is the chair judgment, if I may be bold enough to offer my opinion. I don't want to influence the vote. Those in favor let it be known by saying AYE, those opposed No. The aye have it and it is so ordered.

Is there a question about what is being voted on? The Chair recognizes Director Joe Gamin.

DIRECTOR GAMIN: President Walter, in the original motion, the proposition was made to amend a motion which had already been passed upon. Parliamentary, I cannot see the justification for it, nor the legality of it. I don't want to belabor the point: it would require an entire new motion, or let it rest where it was – in the hands of the president.

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL: I completely agree with you and I hope the amendment those in favor signify by saying AYE, those opposed

DIRECTOR FILKIN: President Campbell and members of the Board, I made a motion that a letter go out from the President complimenting Past Governor McLean for all his work.

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL: You have heard the motion. Is there a second? The Chair recognizes Director Marciel.

Director Marciel: I second the motion.

PRESIDENT CAMPBELL: THOSE IN FAVOR LET IT BE KNOWN BY SAYING ye. Those opposed No. The motion is carried, and the chair is going to rule the other item out of order. I think that's an easy way to get it off the floor.

With the brilliant report of Jack Stickley and his fine committee, we have had a lovely day. We thank you very much as your chairman, for your report and understanding. We have moved beautifully. I believe that tomorrow, if things move as smoothly as they have today, we shall be through, and again I reiterate to you, that this will give you the full day of Tuesday to be with your Lions and get ready for the convention proper.

Thank you for a nice day and the meeting stands in recess.

(Meeting recessed at 5:02 PM.)

#### Board of Directors Meeting in London, England, October 1966

REPORT ON THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION: PAST PRESIDENT STICKLEY: Two circumstances have delayed the successful completion of our assignment, we are nevertheless happy to report that over one-fourth of the Canadian Clubs have agreed to the recommendation of their Canadian Association to dissolve the corporation and relinquish their charters. The two handicaps, of course, are: first, the transition from one administration to another; second, the fact that more Canadian clubs adjourn for the two months of July and August. Obviously,

the poor timing of the communication was unavoidable since it was predicated on the decision not reached until early this Summer. It is our intention to follow through with another letter to the clubs which have not responded, and we expect prompt action. International President Lindsey has just completed an extensive trip through Canada. He advises enthusiastic approval for the Canadian Association's recommendation to dissolve. International Director Filkin confirms these comments of President Lindsey, stating that the opposition is practically nil. Both of these officers have contributed much to the favourable climate and reception of the decision. At the next Board Meeting we anticipate being in position to request the discharge of this Committee, because our assignment has been satisfactorily completed. Vice-President Byrd: You have heard the report. Do I hear a motion for approval? Director Filkin: I so move. Director Eckeman: I second. Vice-President Byrd: Question called. All those in favour, let their wishes be known by saying «Yes» Opposed «No» Approved.

Starting in 1967-1968, the charter of the Canadian Lions Clubs was signed only by the International Association of Lions Clubs.

# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS (ADMINISTRATION - ONTARIO and CANADA)

President and Secretary of the Canadian Association of Lions (Ontario)

From 1920-1921 to 1924, no information found

1924-1925 – Lion Harry Newman

From 1925-1926 to 1927, no information found

President and Secretary of the Canadian Association of Lions (Canada)

1927-1928 – Lion J. W. Cornwall, Stanley North

From 1928-1929 to 1934, no information found

1934-1935 – Lion Howard

1935-1936 – No information found

1936-1937 – Lion L. W. Peterson

From 1937-1938 to 1940, no information found

1938-1939 and 1939-1940, no information found

1940-1941 – Lion Samuel Burdel

From 1941-1942 to 1949, no information found

1949-1950 – Lion A.G. Kirstine, president

1950-1951 and 1951, no information found

1951-1952 No information found

1952-1953 – Lion Heber K. Merrill, Lethbridge Lions Club and Lion N.M. Fletcher

From 1953-1954 to 1955, no information found

1955-1956 – Lion Douglas Fleming and Lion Frank A Bartlett

From 1957-1958 to 1964, no information found

1964-1965 – Lion Charles N. Grace and Fred Chapman, Ottawa West Lions Club,

1965-1966 – Lion Edward G. McLean, Mtl-Central Lions Club, Fred Chapman Ottawa West Lions Club, Lee Rickey Ottawa West Lions Club.

Officers 1965-1966

IP President Charles N. Grace Arnprior Ontario

President G. Edward McLean Montreal, Quebec

1st Vice-President Ward Bolton St-Mary's, Ontario

2nd Vice-President A.G. Kirstine, Edmonton, Alberta

Secretary-treasurer Fred Chapman, Ottawa, Ontario

Director British-Columbia, Joe G. Chanmter, Vancouver

Director Alberta, Virgil P. Moshansky, Vegreville

Director Saskatchewan, Ron Rogers Moses Jaw

Director Manitoba, North West Ontario, Frank Skelton Boissevain

Director Ontario, Russell N. Vickers, Maple

Director George Assely, Cornwall

Director Quebec, Dr. George Saine, Sherbrooke

Director New Brunswick & PEI, Lou Marshall, Saint John

Director Nova-Scotia, E.R. «Bud» Hutchison, Wolfville

Director Newfoundland, Dr. Larry Henderson, St John's

1966-1967 – President Heber Merrill of Lethbridge, Alberta

# PACIFIC NORTHWEST COUNCIL - 1945-1956

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST COUNCIL – 1945-1956\*

*\*From the book: Lions District 37 The First Fifty Years by PDG Matt Gordon*

In the fall of 1946, Virgil Warren, Secretary of District 19, sent invitations to the Governors of Districts 36 and 37 to attend a preliminary meeting to be held January 4, 1947, in Spokane for the purpose of investigating the feasibility of forming an association of the Pacific Northwest Lions. Governor Philip F. Lewis represented his colleagues at this meeting and reported back to them at their mid-winter meeting. Governors Paul Moreland and Ray Nelson accompanied Lewis to an organizational meeting held in Spokane on April 12-13 where the 'Pacific Northwest Council was organized and Governor Lewis was chosen Second vice-Chairman.

At the Great Falls convention of District 37 on June 19-21, 1947, the members voted to join the Pacific Northwest Council. (As time went by this group was more frequently referred to as the Pacific Northwest commission, or just as the Pacific Northwest Lions'. Governor Lewis's original report, however, definitely mentions the group being named the 'Pacific Northwest Council', other resolutions adopted by the 1947 convention were: that a Multiple District Secretary-Treasurer is appointed by the Governors; that he be paid a salary and that he become an Ex-officio member of the council of Governors; that a permanent District 37 office be established. The fiscal year closed on June 30th with 81 clubs and 4,206 members.

1947-1948 – District Governor Ray Welter reported on the activities of the Pacific Northwest Lions, which Association had been enlarged to include all of the following areas: Washington, Oregon, British Columbia, Alberta, Montana and Idaho. He had some misgiving that the organization might have a tendency to build a political machine with the intention of influencing international elections. He felt that other similar groups had done this. He did believe that most of the Pacific Northwest Lions, objectives were beneficial to Lionism and did not go on record as being opposed to the association.

1957-1958 – PDG Heber Merrill gave the report on the Pacific Northwest. He said that this group was working closely with the Canadian and that the combine membership of the two groups gave them as much influence on the international level as any of the largest state districts in Lionism.

1955-1956 – District Governors Jess L. Angstman, Walter E. Ellet, Dr. Howard Bateman and Donald J. Thornton appointed PDG Leo C. Murphy of Choteau to the position of Multiple District 37 Secretary-Treasurer. This appointment filled the vacancy left when PDG Ray E. Nelson resigned to move to California.

Secretary Leo assumed office immediately following the Mid-winter Conference at Lethbridge.

PDG Stewart Adams told the Convention that the Canadian Association of Lions Clubs was setting up an office in Canada which would be manned by an Executive Secretary from Lions International. This appointment was being made to prevent the possible attempt of any one Canadian District to gain control of the Association. He urged all Canadian clubs in District 37 to pay their dues and become active in the Association. One of the new services this group would perform would be the dispensing of club supplies to Canadian clubs. This service was being started to eliminate the payment of duty when ordering supplies. Clubs had been paying duty on all orders from Chicago. The governors reported that the District had 6123 Lions in 154 clubs.

1959-1960 – The fact that both the Pacific Northwest Commission and the Canadian Association of Lions Clubs

had promised their support to the campaign of PDG Leo C. The office of international Director was encouraging. The Convention reaffirmed its support of Leo – he had been endorsed the two previous years – and he was successful in his campaign at the 1960 International Convention.

1964-1965 – In discussion about the district's participation in the Pacific Northwest Commission it was pointed out that while the Clubs were contributing 20 cents per member for his purpose it actually cost the district 29 cents per member to belong, some members were in favour of withdrawing from the Commission. A committee was appointed to investigate the advantages to remaining with this group.

1965-1966 – Ben Vail, Ed Hay, Jim Dickson, Bert Gibb and Fred Thompson served as District Governors for the year of 1965-1966. The convention was held at Helena with 744 Lions and guests registered. PDG Bill McNeil served as spokesman for the committee that was appointed to investigate the advisability of withdrawing from the Pacific Northwest Commission. The committee consisting of five members reported 4 to 1 in favour of withdrawal. A panel consisting of the five District Governors plus 19 past district governors plus 19 Past District Governors meet to consider the committee's report.

After much discussion a vote of the panel, resulted in 16 votes being cast in favour of maintaining the affiliation; eight members of the Panel had voted to withdraw. The committee report was accepted, and the Governors then disbanded the committee.

1966-1967 – District Governors Jim Carter, Art Stapleton, Martin Erikson, Bob Harris and D- Alex Gibson welcomed International President Edward M. Lindsay who was the honored guest speaker at the convention in Lethbridge. Lindsay was accompanied by international Director Virgil P. Moshansky and international Manager of Extension B.H. Bradshaw. For the first time in its history Multiple District 37 elected six Governors to serve for the coming year; District 37-F had been approved by the International Board of Directors.

A change was made in the way the Convention Advisory Committee was appointed by the passing of the following resolution: "A convention Advisory Committee shall consist of five members; two Past District Governors to be appointed by the Board of Governors annually for two year terms, and two Past District Governors for a one year term initially. The fifth member shall be the chairman of the next ensuing Host club committee.

Two resolutions were introduced requesting withdrawal from the Pacific Northwest Lions and the one of the Coutts-Sweetgrass club was placed on the ballot: "Be it resolved that the Lions of District 37 here assembled in convention at the city of Lethbridge, Alberta in June 1967, do withdraw from the Pacific Northwest Lions and henceforth disassociate ourselves from the said Pacific Northwest Lions." This resolution was defeated.

1967-1968 – After PDG Bert Gibb had given his report on the activities of the Pacific Northwest Lions, District Governor Dunc Larbalestier read a letter the Council had received from Ray Schaetzel, Legal Counsel for Lions International.

This letter advised that action had been taken by the International Board disapproving the grouping of clubs, Districts, states, Nations, or any territorial groups not authorized by the Board because of the dangers of sectionalism, prejudice and political repercussions that might occur to divide Lions in the areas affected.

The Board requested acknowledgement of this letter with an outline of the steps which would be taken by the members to dissolve the Pacific Northwest Lions. International Director Virgil P. Moshansky was endorsed as a candidate for Third International Vice-President.

1968-1969 District Governors for the year of 1968-69 were Lewis Arnold, Alex Tait, Derek Martin, Don Aadsen, Leigh Williams and Jack Dobush, the Pacific Northwest Lions, at its meeting at Spokane, Washington September 15, 1968, did not dissolve its organization as directed by Lions International.

A resolution was placed on the ballot directing that District 37 withdraw at once from this group and makes no further payments of dues to its support. The vote of the convention counted 117 for withdrawal and 35 against. This brought to a close a 22-year association with this colorful, if political organization.

# THE FIRST LIONS CLUB IN EACH PROVINCE OF CANADA, TERRITORIES AND ST PIERRE ET MIQUELON ISLANDS, FRANCE

March 12, 1920 – Ontario Border City Lions Club Ontario now Windsor Downtown Lions club was chartered.

January 12, 1921 – British-Colombia, Vancouver Central Lions club was chartered. The oldest Lions Club in British Columbia is the Vancouver Central Lions Club (1921); however, the Spences Bridge and District Lions Club (cancelled in 1961) was the first club chartered in British Columbia.

December 12, 1921 – Manitoba, Lions club of Winnipeg was chartered.

September 14, 1922- Quebec, the Lions club of Montreal was chartered.

March 14, 1927 – Saskatchewan, Swift Current Lions club, it was cancelled in 1936.

January 30, 1929 – the Calgary Lions club Alberta was chartered.

November 21, 1930 – The McAdam Lions club in New Brunswick was chartered it was closed in 1935.

April 4, 1945 – The Lions club of Halifax Nova Scotia was chartered.

August 29, 1949 – The Montague Lions club Prince-Edward Island was chartered.

May 26, 1948 – Newfoundland, the first Lions club in the Colony of Newfoundland was the Corner Brook Lions club – \* Bell Island first Club was cancelled 1953.

September 7, 1953 – The Lions club of St-Pierre & Miquelon Doyen was chartered.

November 26, 1964 – Northwest Territories, the Yellowknife Lions club.

*\* Information from the book, "We Serve A History of the Lions Clubs" page 308 by Mr. Paul Martin and also, from the book, "Lions Clubs: The Great Idea of Melvin Jones" page 216 by Zander Campos da Silva.*

# MULTIPLE DISTRICTS IN CANADA

- MD-49 B – British-Columbia (1) and Northwest Territories, Canada, Alaska, Yukon Territory (2)
- MD-19 – British-Columbia, Washington and Idaho States, USA
- MD-C – Alberta, British-Columbia (2), Northwest Territories (1), Canada
- MD-5 – Saskatchewan Canada, North Dakota and South Dakota states, USA
- MD-5M – Manitoba and North Western Ontario Canada and Minnesota States, USA
- MD-A – Ontario and Quebec (11), Canada
- MD-U – Quebec Canada and Saint-Pierre & Miquelon (2), France
- MD-N – Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island Canada and Maine (2) USA. 2 clubs from Quebec

*( ) indicated the number of Lions clubs in that province or territory.*

The Lions clubs from the State of Maine except 2 clubs have been transferred as an American Multiple District in July 2007.

In June 2017, Alberta (MD C) still has a Club in Yellowknife, NWT, plus Hudson Hope and Tumbler Ridge in NE British Columbia. founded in Juneau but later cancelled in 1929. Longest existing Club is located in Anchorage which was founded in 1944.

BC (MD 19) has seven Clubs in the Yukon Territory, and that Alberta used to have several Clubs in the North West Territory, any Province has claimed Nunavut Territory From the LCI Website, in June 2017, Alaska MD-49 consists of two sub-districts (34 A and B). Sub-district 34-B also includes seven Clubs located in the Yukon Territory and at least one Club each in British Columbia and NW Territories.

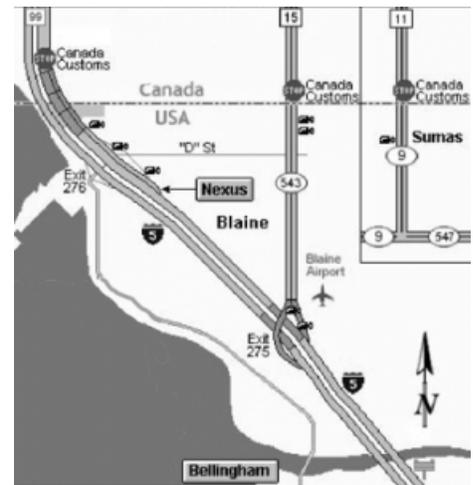
*Above information as of July 2017*

# FIRST FRIENDSHIP ARCHES IN CANADA

## FIRST FRIENDSHIP ARCHES IN CANADA \*

*\* By Virgil P. Moshansky PID. The Honorable Virgil P. Moshansky, C.M., Q.C., FRAeS,*

The Friendship Arch has an interesting history. The Arch was the brainchild of the late Lion Howard Grimm of Olympia, WA, who had spearheaded a group of Lions district officials on both sides of the border, in promoting the idea. I knew Howard from my days with him on the Executive of the Pacific Northwest Lions Commission. He overcame early resistance on the part of the Canadian government to the idea of placing an arch at the International Border. He had obtained approval of the proposal from Washington State officials, Lions International President Edward M. Lindsay of Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, and from the Lions International Board of Directors. Construction and placement of the Arch was then accomplished and detailed plans for a Dedication Ceremony were made.



International President Lindsey, whom I had known for several years prior to 1966, and who had become a personal friend, was originally scheduled to attend this somewhat historic October 22nd, 1966, event on behalf of Lions International. However, something occurred preventing his attendance. He called me on the phone and asked me to represent him and Lions International at the dedication Ceremony, which I was honored to do.

I recall that there was a large crowd, of at least 500 people, present at the Dedication Ceremony, including many Lions from British Columbia and Washington State, as well as a number of government dignitaries, including WA State Senator and Lion PID, Ted Peterson; the Governor of Washington State, Daniel J. Evans; and, representing the BC Government, Cabinet Minister, Hon. W. Kenneth Kiernan, on a somewhat cool but sunny day.

This was a unique event, symbolizing the friendship of two nations sharing a long and undefended international border, and it was coincident with and symbolic of the then existing "Search for Peace" program initiated internationally by Lions International.

It was the first ever such International Border Friendship Arch constructed anywhere in the world, and it led to

the subsequent installation by Canadian and US Lions Clubs of similar symbolic Arches at other USA – Canada international border crossing locations.

# CANADIAN LIONS CLUB CHARTER SIGNED BY OUR INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

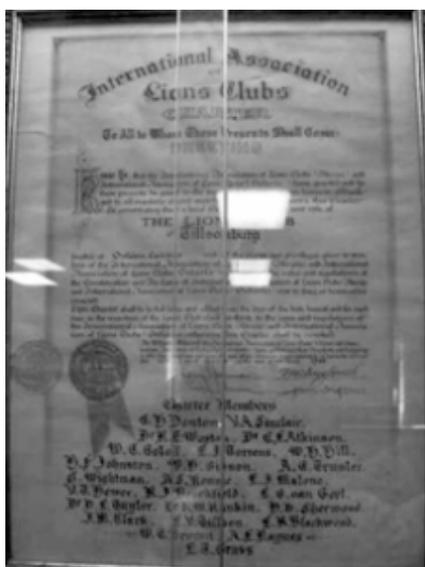
Our Lions International President from Canada were from

1924-1925 – Harry Allen Newman from Toronto, Ontario

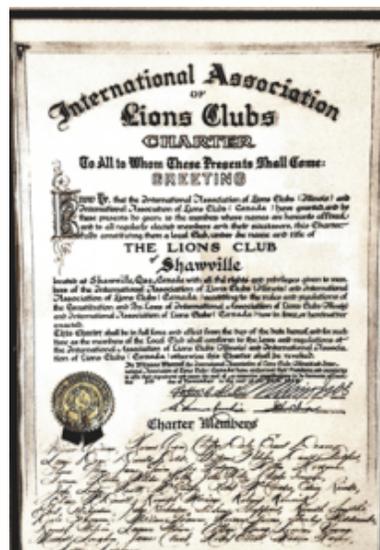
1940-1950 – Walter C. Fisher from St. Catharines, Ontario

1973-1974 – Tristram Coffin from Rosemere, Quebec

1987-1988 – Judge Brian Stevenson from Calgary, Alberta



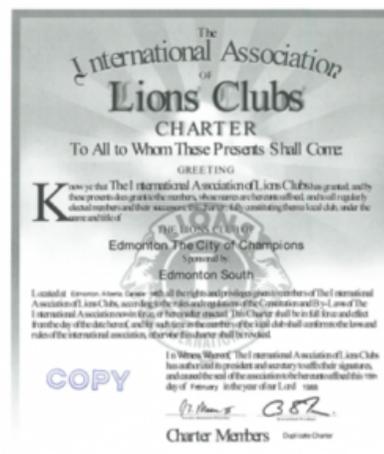
The Tillsonburg Lions Club charter was signed by Harry A. Newman in 1924-1925



The Shawville Lions Club charter was signed by Walter C. Fisher in 1959-1950.



The Gaspé Lions club charter was signed by Tris Coffin In ernational president 1973-1974



Lions Club Edmonton, The City of Champions was signed by Judge Brian Stevenson, International President 1987-1988

# ORIGIN OF THE LIONS VEST



While Lion Frank Bartlett of Hamilton, Canada, was serving as International Director of the International Lions Clubs Association (Canada), he created the violet and yellow sleeveless vest that many Lions of the Multiple District "A" own and wear fairly often specially at club meeting and convention. Two Maritime Provinces have also adopted this vest and at least two western provinces have a waistcoat similar in size to that of Ontario and Quebec, but the colors are light red and dark red or completely different.

# GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE YEARS 1916 -1926 HISTORY OF LIONISM IN CANADA

<b>Year</b>	<b>Countries</b>	<b>Clubs</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Gain</b>
1916-1917	USA	25	800	800
1917-1918	USA	28	1526	726
1918-1919	USA	42	2364	838
1919-1920	USA & Canada	113	6541	4087
1920-1921	USA & Canada	245	13769	7288
1921-1922	USA & Canada	495	25429	11690
1922-1923	USA & Canada	640	32477	7048
1923-1924	USA & Canada	761	36943	4466
1924-1925	USA & Canada	929	43746	6704
1925-1926	USA & Canada	1086	49320	5583

# NUMBER OF LIONS CLUBS CHARTERED IN CANADA SINCE 1920

Our research and LCI on the number of Lions clubs chartered in Canada revealed the following:

- Ontario: LCI tell us that there were 971 Lions clubs chartered in that province.
- Quebec: PID Gilles Melançon and LCI tell us that there were 377 clubs chartered in this province.
- British-Colombia: LCI tell us that there were 423 chartered in this province.
- Alberta: LCI tells us that there were 374 clubs chartered in Alberta.
- Saskatchewan: 281 clubs as per historian Rick Pockett and LCI.
- Manitoba: 163 clubs as per historian Ross A. Johnston and LCI.
- New Brunswick: 104 clubs as per historian PDG Don Spence and LCI.
- Prince Edward Island: 35 clubs as per historian PDG Don Spence and LCI.
- Nova Scotia: 92 Clubs chartered as per historian Ken MacKensies.
- Newfoundland: 172 clubs were chartered in that province as per LCI.

The total number of clubs chartered in Canada since March 12, 1920 is approximately 3,000.

# HISTORY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNSELLOR

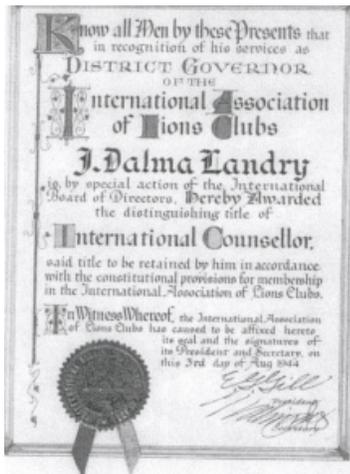
This collection of information on the history of the function of the International Counsellor of Lions International was made possible by the participation of Lion Gilles Tardif of the Sherbrooke Lions Club who found the son of J. Dalma Landry PDG who send us a copy of the International Counsellor certificate shown here as well as his picture which are shown on the MD«U» web site and the information's found in the Minutes of the Board of Director's Meeting of Lions International; held in September 1965 in Washington, USA.

This title existed in 1941: Sherbrooke daily record, Saturday, May 3rd 1941.

“Governor, Massachusetts; William Nichol T, District Governor, Maine; Charles Stevenson. International Counsellor; Helger Peterson, of Burlington, Past District Governor of Vermont; Clifford Cotter, President of the Canadian Lions organization; George lowish, Deputy District Governor, Morrisburg, and Bruce Malcolm, special representative.”

“My understanding about the demise of the title “International Counsellor” is that several unnamed PDGs in Europe were using that title to secure invitations to and attending diplomatic gatherings, bringing some disrespect to our reputation.”\*

*\*Information submitted by PIP Brian Stevenson and PID Virgil Moshansky*



This certificate was presented to all the District Governors at the end of their term of office and they were called International Counsellor. This office was abolished in 1965.

This certificate was presented to J. Dalma Landry of the Lions Club of Sherbrooke, Quebec who was District A-4 Governor in 1943-1944 (Sherbrooke is now in District U-4, Quebec).

Title of International Counsellor

There has been much discussion about what a district Governor shall be called after his term expires. The International President has asked this committee for its recommendation. We recommend an amendment to

Article IV , section 1 of the Constitution by adding the following immediately preceding the last sentence of this Section:

Whenever any member of Lion international shall have served international President, International Vice-presidents, International Director, or District Governor, he shall thereafter be known, officially, by that title with the word Past prefixed thereto.

In other words, if he wants to call himself Thrice-Illustrious International Counsellor, let him go ahead with it. But when we write to him out of Chicago, we are going to call him Past District Governor and officially he will be known as Past District Governors. We think that this matter must be meet, we cannot kiss it off and say that it will take care of itself, because these folks are worked up about it. Men like Vice-President Evans knows that his fifteen Governors are riled up: Past President Stickley and Dr. Rourk know that North Carolina is upset. They and the others feel that this will do the job. We hope it will, and for that end we submitted this too long explanation.

# HISTORY OF THE LIONS INVOCATION

Does the International Association of Lions Clubs Have a Universal or official Lions Invocation? The question was asked to Lions Clubs International who replied that there is no standard invocation which means that clubs are free to use the invocation or not to use it.

In many countries, the invocation or prayer is presented by a Lions member following the inspiration of the moment. It can be a request for blessing for those present, it can be a bit like the blessing of Catholics or simply a request to bless the meal.

Our friend Tris Coffin, who has been a member of the Central Montreal Lions Club since 1939, tells us that if his memory does not fail him, the invocation existed in 1939 when he joined Lionism.

Many English and French language Lions clubs in Canada and the United States use the one we see below, but almost as many clubs use another.

A research done in Europe reveals that Lions clubs in these countries simply do not have Lions invocation and I am told that their relationship to their religion, whatever it is, the relationship to the great Master of the universe, that they call God the father, Jehovah or other, remains very discreet and appears only with difficulty and rarely.

Our sources of information on this subject revealed that the following Lions invocation was originally a prayer (movement of the soul tending to a spiritual communication with God) or a hymn (poem song to the glory of the gods).

The Lions invocation would have been written by an unknown composer with six lines of text and over the years it has been reduced to four lines without us knowing why, by whom and when.

The music was composed in 1751 by a German composer.

Seigneur, sois avec nous Lions,  
Que nos cœurs battent à l'unisson,  
Par toi, répondons à tes fins,  
Aimer, secourir le prochain  
Where Lions meet be present Lord  
Weld all our heart in one accord  
To do thy will Lord make us strong  
To aid the weak and right the wrong

This is my recollection of the Lions invocation history during my 30 years with MDA and 25 years in MD-U.

*PID Gilles Melançon historian Quebec Lions club*

At the Nova Scotia Convention in 1962 Lion Lew Friedhandler of the Yarmouth Lions Club presented the

following Lions Invocation for use by the Lions Clubs and Lions of Nova Scotia. It was adopted for use by the District.

It was not placed in our District By-Laws or our District Policy Manual.

By doing so it meant that the Lions Clubs of Nova Scotia and individual Lions were not obligated to use it.

It is still being used in all Clubs of Nova Scotia as far as I am aware without any objection.

Where Lions meet, be present Lord,  
To weld our hearts in one accord,  
To do thy will Lord, make us strong,  
To help the weak and right the wrong.

*Lion Ken MacKensies Historian Nova Scotia*

In Saskatchewan we use the same invocation, but only occasionally. Most clubs, if they do an invocation, use one they compose individually. Usually it is in the form of a “grace”.

*Lion Rick Pockett Saskatchewan Historian*

In Alberta, I don't recall MD 37, now MD C, having used a set invocation. Over the years it has been stressed that the words be non-sectarian. That has become more relevant in recent years as immigration has made us more diverse. For several years now we have had a lady who is quite poetic and at most conventions she is asked to give the invocation and each one is unique, and very meaningful.

I would suggest that this aspect of Lionism has gone through a significant evolution. I think it is a societal change.

*Written by Lion Vi Gibb*

You have made a very good summary of our lion's history concerning Invocation.

It continues to be used widely in MD N, Newfoundland, during dinner functions and club meetings, sometimes with slight versions. For example, the second line sometimes states, “To weld our hearts with one accord”.

*Eldon Swyer PDC*

PART IV  
OUR FOUNDATIONS

# LIONS QUEST CANADA

## The History of Lions Quest

The ideas behind Lions Quest date back to 1975, when a 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. Rick conducted a survey of over 2,000 high school students to determine the issues that concerned them most and consulted experienced teachers who suggested including a teacher workshop which would serve as a classroom model. The program was so successful at the high school level that soon middle and elementary schools were asking for age appropriate positive youth development programs. Little eventually founded and served as chief executive officer of the [International Youth Foundation\\*](#)

Historically, LIONS QUEST CANADA – The Centre for Positive Youth Development has distributed and promoted the Lions Quest School-Based Program material and has expanded their offerings to include products that support the implementation of the Positive Youth Development approach in schools and communities. In an effort to make quality resources available to Canadians, the organization has gradually expanded the products we make available to include parenting and community capacity building resources.

In 1999 Lions Quest Canada was named the Canadian partner in the International Youth Foundation network. The International Youth Foundation is committed to ‘investing in what works for children and youth’ and as part of that network we have been involved in projects to support that relationship including Children’s Hour and Make a Connection.

Since its creation the Lions Quest conceptual model has been closely aligned with Search Institute’s Developmental Asset Framework (the external and internal factors that support positive youth development). In 2001 Lions Quest Canada became Search Institute’s Canadian partner and actively champions efforts to employ the Developmental Asset Framework through the distribution of Search Institute Resources, delivering Search Institute-designed training workshops, providing Canadian input to resource and product development, and support to Canadians embracing the concept.

The mission of Lions Quest Canada – The Centre for Positive Youth Development is to ‘provide leadership, knowledge and resources to develop healthy, capable young people of strong character.’ In pursuit of this mission the organization works with individuals, agencies, and organizations both in Canada and abroad to give Canadians access to the best possible resources and training experiences. Proudly funded by the Lions Clubs of Canada

[\\*https://www.lions-quest.org/lions-quest-history/](https://www.lions-quest.org/lions-quest-history/)

# THE LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA

## THE LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA \*

*\* By Sandy Turney, former Executive Director of the Foundation*

1983: LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA is formed and plans to purchase and renovate a former school in Oakville begin

1984: First Canine Vision Dog Guide program is launched for those blind or visually impaired

1985: First “walk-a-dog-a-thons are held — now over 290 locations and over 1.4 million raised in past year

1988: Hearing Ear Dogs of Canada launched, providing Dog Guides to Canadians who are deaf or hard of hearing

1991: Special Skills Dogs begin serving people with medical or physical disabilities

1996: Oakville training facilities are expanded and renovated to allow the program to continue to grow

1997: Additional training and breeding centers established following the donations of land in Breslau, Ontario

1998: Memorial Forest opens in Breslau, Ontario

1998: First Executive Director Ron Brown retires, Sandy Turney joins staff as Exec. Director

2003: Seizure Response Dog Guides launched at a separate program for people who has epilepsy and frequent seizures

2009: Autism Assistance Dog Guides added for children on the autism spectrum — now largest program

2013: Diabetic Alert Dog Guides launched for people who has type 1 diabetes with hypoglycemic unawareness, 46 John St. office facility purchased to allow expansion of 152 Wilson training programs

LFC Accredited members of Assistance Dogs International (ADI), International Guide Dog Federation (IGDF), and a founding member of Canadian Association of Guide & Assistance Dog Schools. Accredited and founding member of Imagine Canada’s Standards program

First 15 years: reached 50 graduates per year

First 20 years, close to 100 graduates per year

26 years, 150 graduates per year

2016/17: 183 graduates per year

Lions Foundation of Canada Graduates 203 Dog Guides in 2018, a first for our foundation.

# HISTORY OF LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA MEMORIAL FOREST - Breslau - Ontario

## HISTORY OF LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA MEMORIAL FOREST – Breslau – Ontario\*

*\*By Lion Arthur Woods, P.I.D.*

In 1985 Lions Foundation of Canada received a donation of an 85-acre farm in the Breslau area (near Kitchener, ON) from Andy Nessner. During the 2-year planning process for the Dog Breeding & Training Facility to be built, we encountered many objections, mainly involving noise and visibility of buildings. One of the options was earth berms; another was trees.

In 1997, I asked then Executive Director Ron Brown for permission to start a Memorial Forest. I was aware of other Memorial Forests in our area which although a very good idea had no personal attachment to a specific tree. You simply made a donation and a tree was planted somewhere in the forest. My plan was to have each tree identified with a plaque in memory of an individual which allowed the donor and/or family to develop a personal attachment to a specific tree dedicated to that individual.

We held our first dedication service in June 1999. My goal was to plant 1,000 trees in 10 years. By June 2017, we had planted 3,032 trees dedicated to Lions or Friends of Lions from every Province of Canada and a few from the U.S.A.

For many years the Lions Club of Elmira (my home Club) did most of the maintenance work, planting, staking, installing plaques, watering etc. etc. We eventually made the forest a District "A"-15 Project and Lions from across the District assist the Elmira Lions who continue to provide lots of volunteer hours.

Many Districts and Clubs have started their own Memorial Forest which is truly great. Wouldn't it be fantastic if every District across Canada would have at least one Memorial Forest.



# CANADIAN LIONS EYEGLASS RECYCLING CENTRE (CLERC)

Lions Mission Statement:

Canadian Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centre (CLERC): To create and foster an understanding among all people for humanitarian needs by providing voluntary services through community involvement and International cooperation.

History

1996 -The program was officially launched with the following:

CCC – Alberta Government supplied the facility which included a Correctional officer and the volunteer offenders. CCC receive, sort, sanitize, repair, read for prescription on Lensometer's produce from an attached printer a prescription. Then place into shipping boxes of 350 according to type.

LIONS – The Lions provided funding and oversee the Program, also the collecting and distribution of glasses.

1997 – The first glasses were shipped and continue to be shipped.

2002 – Saw the program reach a milestone in the shipping of its 1 millionth pair. The program received the Premier's Silver award of Excellence for program initiatives.

2006 – September saw the second milestone and celebration of the distribution of it's 2 millionth pair to a recipient in Haiti.

2010 – October saw the third milestone and celebration of the distribution of it's 3 millionth pair to a recipient in Mexico.

2012 – Canadian Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center started a new initiative with respect to processing used eyeglasses, we now have work parties where Lions from District clubs sort, clean, read and package glasses ready to be send to various missions as required.

2015 – Saturday, February 28th, 2015, will go down as a defining moment for CLERC, and for the Volunteers and the Lions Clubs in our District. On Saturday PID Dr. Patti Hill officially cut the ribbon for CLERC Operation Headquarters at Bay #2, 1216 34 Ave. N.E. Calgary, Alberta.

## **Brief CLERC History by Gordon Prusky, Secretary 2003 to 2017**

1. Operation Eyesight Universal (OEU) started recycling glasses at the Calgary Correctional Center (CCC) in 1996 to 2002. In total they processed 1,181,734 glasses.
2. OEU had a counter collection box that was used all across Canada especially in Calgary.
3. United Van Lines (St. George & Williams Moving) hauled glasses to/ from Calgary free from 1996 to 2012.
4. The CCC in 1996 had 4 OEU Shin Nippon lens meters, computers and printers. All three machines are connected to work together. A St CCC the eyeglasses were stored in the greenhouse then the bunker.
5. Bernie Gribben, Southridge Lion secured free baggies, shrink wrap from PAXX Industrial Supply, storage at MATCO Transportation, and free boxes from NORAMPAC. Kevin Griffin up to Dec 2003 given certificate.

6. In 2003 OEU asked the Lions to take it over. CCC agreed. It was spearheaded by Lion Bernie Gribben.
7. Chair Bernie Gribben and Secretary Gordon Prusky with their own funds manned with Texas Lions and other Lions an eyeglass recycling booth at Lions International Convention in Denver 2003.
8. In 2003 James Fowler High School Paced (Challenged) Learning Program used 2 OEU lens meters to clean, read and bag raw glasses. In 2003 we bought 4 new Shin Nippon lens meters (@\$4,200) from funds by: Southbridge Lions, North East Eyeopener Lions and Properties Lions.
9. In 2003 bylaws were approved by Corporate Affairs to allow us to incorporate May 27, 2003, # 5,010,502,846. July 2003 Lions International approved us as the 11th LERC (Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center). District 37 E and MD 37 also approved us as an official program. Our official name in Alberta is "Lions Eyeglass Recycling Society" (LERS). We had to secure several letters from clubs approving us as a project.
10. Certificates of Appreciation were given to inmates at CCC and students at James Fowler. Quarterly reports to LCI.
11. Quebec used to send their glasses to France. They had their own box with French language.
12. Lion Bernie Gribben had expenses to go to run eyeglass booth at LCI Convention in Detroit in 2004.
13. Bernie Gribben was paid for collecting/ distributing eyeglasses at @\$1.50. 2005 \$900 for car repairs.
14. Small utility trailer for hauling boxes was purchased from the Gribben for \$450. Latter sold for \$1.
15. A motion was moved to pay Chair Bernie Gribben an honorarium of \$1000 a month on a trial basis for 3 months. Very controversial. Treasurer resigned. No money was paid out. Very hot topic.
16. District 37 E Cabinet started assigning a rep to CLERC. They were Chris Clarke 2006-7 & 2007-08 followed by Kevin Gibbons. 2008-9, 2009-10. Rep to promote CLERC, solicit funds and club info.
17. Applied for casino in 2005. Refused. Appealed. Given one Jan. 1, 2, 2008 at Deerfoot Inn & Casino. Our bylaws had to change to meet some requirements of Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission.
18. Mileage for CLERC work for all was \$.40 a km. in 07, @\$.85 in 08 @\$1 in 09, @\$.50 in 12 and 0\$ in 15.
19. Bought a U-CAN storage trailer for public to put glasses in using the combination lock. Stored at CNIB.
20. Bought 100 collection bags for \$400. Made a video and brochures for information. Bought 500 LCI Recycle for Sight pins. B. Gribben. G. Prusky and Greg Clarke manned booth at USA/Can. Forum in Saskatoon.
21. Bought 4 new Shin Nippon lens meters. Programmed here by Father Pierre Labine from Montreal.
22. Motion we pay Bernie Gribben from casino funds \$1500 a month starting Sept. 2008. Gaming said only \$750 per month allowed. Never paid. Other money from club funds possibly. Income tax due possibly.
23. Bought 1000 purple collection bags for @\$1.84. Calgary Ft. Calgary gave us \$15,000
24. Bought a 16-foot 2008 Chev cube van for \$31,948 in 2009.
25. Phone (403-640-1056) paid at Gribben's home monthly. Removed program from James Fowler High School. Too many errors.
26. OEU's \$6,790 for the cleaner replaced at CCC for 2 at @\$3,798. Paid \$7132 for 5000 red collect bags.
27. Bernie Gribben and then CCC eyeglasses boss from 2003 to 2012 Rick Forti went on an eyeglass mission to Mexico with Pierre Labine of VOSH Santa Cruz. For storage at CNIB 40' SECAN was bought.
28. Bernie & Esther Gribben expenses to MD convention in Saskatoon in 2010.
29. Bought a 53' trailer for storage. Placed at Bearspaw then at Bob Airths farm just south of Calgary
30. Held a thank-you BBQ for 225 people at Foothills Lions Campground in 2015 at Black Diamond.
31. Plaques given to partners: NORAMPAC, PAXX, MATCO, Williams Moving, St. George Shipping, United Van Lines, Rick Forti and several clubs to celebrate 3 millionth pair on Oct. 20, 2010, at CCC.
32. Our founder Bernie Gribben passes away in 2012. Rick Forti at CCC off for serious illness. Program really suffered. Had to look for help. Raw Glasses were being stacked up. Orders were coming and none being filled. Bearspaw Lions Club said we could use their basement for processing.
33. Lions Club of Calgary had just had a new Lion's Village built. Three lions were the building committee, they were: Bernie Gribben, Chair, Otto Silzer and Bill Baux. We used the basement rooms for processing

from Nov. 17, 2012 (1st. Strathmore and Filipino Lions Clubs) to Oct. 19, 2014. In that time, we paid \$3200 in lieu of rent. We used the village several Saturdays with many local clubs helping in the processing.

34. Made a new collection box with a hole in the top part. Kevin Griffin CCC Eyeglass supervisor in 2012.
35. Up to June 2013 CLERC had always paid for shipping that was not done by pallets by United Van Lines. Now the people requesting would be charged. The Post Office was used as well as couriers.
36. Rented Nov. 1, 2014, a Bay 2, 1216-34 Ave NE, Calgary, , T2E 6L9 1,500 sq. ft. warehouse from Shelburne Group Ltd. Rent was about \$2500 a month. Brandon, MB as a satellite 2014. Quit 2016.
37. This was a major shift. Along with the CCC, we Lions started processing glasses on a large scale. Furnishings, storage bins, BBQ, fridge, shelving, cupboards, dishwasher, soft water machine, storage bins, sorting bins, coat rack. rolling step ladder, office equipment, fire extinguisher plus pallet racks for storage. Plus, new lens meters that are automatic. This major shift was accomplished by the hard work of Lion Darryl Rawleigh, Eastport Lions. He continues to fix the new Visionx machines plus arranges for the food.
38. In 2014 secured a matching \$25,000 grant from LCIF for 6 automatic lens machines (Vision) and a commercial dishwasher. Clubs donated the other \$25,000.
39. VERSACOLD will haul glasses free from Vancouver area to Calgary dock.
40. Sold non-usable glasses to RESPECS. CCC used to send them gold trim glasses. Received some monies.
41. Several groups assist us at workshop. We open each Wednesday except in summer. Esso and BP retirees come in monthly. We have a website. Must sign a compliance form yearly from Lions C. Int.
42. Started volunteer plaque of the year system in 2013-4. Bought a \$3, 00 water softener from Culligan.
43. Four semi-automatic Huvitz lens meters now in CCC. Foothills Lions Cub had Charity Golf starting 05.
44. Day & Ross Transportation once from Maritimes only now hauling our glasses free to & from Calgary.
45. Darryl Rawleigh and Anne Kennedy did a training mission at Newfoundland and PEI. Very successful.
46. Starting in 2016 Wal-Mart now sending us thousands of frames. Mainly given to Canadian Vision Care. Superstore is sending us their surplus stock. Canmore Lions Club did a video that is on our website.
47. In 2017 we now have 10 Visionx automatic lens meters at our rented workshop. We can use casino funds for rent, utilities and for our supplies for our program
48. Manitoulin Transport will haul glasses free from Edmonton & Winnipeg and from Cambridge to Montreal.
49. LCI has 19 LERCs in the world in 2017: Alaska, 2-Arizona, California & Nevada, Indiana, Minnesota, New Jersey, Oregon, Texas, 2 Virginia, NW (Washington), Wisconsin, Australia, Canada, France, Italy, S, Africa and Spain. In the last 10 years from 2005 to 2015 the above CLERCS have distributed 25 million pair to the world.
50. Our distribution through Canadians to 86 different countries form July 1.2003 to June 30.2017 is:

2003-2004 – 236,310 pairs;

2004-2005 – 301,439

2005-2006 – 178,941

2006-2007 – 256.8122

2007-2008 – 480,915 (highest record)

2008-2009 – 251,296

2009-2010 – 172,356

2010-2011 – 191,740

2011-2012 – 197,885

2012-2013 – 58,929

2013-2014 – 163,905

2014-2015 – 186,188

2015-2016 – 395,750

2016-2017 – 464,605

For a grand total of 4,718,805 pairs. This also includes the original sum from OEU at CCC.

Held several work parties off site: Blackie, Redcliff, Medicine Hat and Lethbridge.

July 2017

# LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

## LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

### LCIF Founded in 1968

Lions around the world are united by a great spirit of giving and dedication to helping others. As the official charitable organization of [Lions Clubs International](#), a leading humanitarian organization, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) supports Lions' compassionate works by providing grant funding for their local and global humanitarian efforts.

#### We help Lions serve

LCIF helps Lions improve peoples' lives around the world, from [combating vision problems](#) to responding to [major catastrophes](#) to providing valuable [life skills to youth](#). Because LCIF helps Lions carry out large-scale projects through our grant programs, Lions increase their impact in their local and global communities and serve even more people in need around the world.

#### Our funds come from individuals

Donations from 1.4+ million Lions in 210 countries and geographic areas provide the vast majority of the revenue received by LCIF, making the Foundation a leading humanitarian organization. Lions know their donations matter and that funds entrusted to LCIF will support initiatives that impact communities and change lives.

### LCIF CONTRIBUTIONS SINCE 1968 BY MULTIPLE DISTRICT\*

MULTIPLE DISTRICTS	AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTIONS
MD 19	\$ 2,552,942
MD 49	\$ 68,326
MD C	\$ 4,825,222
MD 5	\$ 1,411,775
MD 5M	\$ 890,597
MD A	\$ 7,185,104
MD U	\$ 2,089,289
MD N	\$ 2,406,522
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 21,429,778</b>

#### We form lasting and successful partnerships

LCIF leverages the donations we receive through effective [partnerships](#) with other foundations, corporations and governments on the local, national and international level. We are proud that LCIF was named the #1 non-governmental organization worldwide with which to partner, according to a 2007 *Financial Times* independent survey.

#### We have key areas of service

To support Lions' mission of serving communities and meeting humanitarian needs, LCIF provides [grants](#) in these focus areas:

- [Saving Sight](#)
- [Serving Youth](#)
- [Providing Disaster Relief](#)
- [Meeting Humanitarian Needs](#)

### We make an impact

LCIF and Lions reach millions of people and accomplish visible results. Some of our accomplishments include:

- Preventing serious vision loss for more than 30 million people
- Providing over 153.3 million treatments for [river blindness](#)
- Engaging more than 13 million students and 600,000 educators in 90 countries in the youth development program [Lions Quest](#)
- Building or expanding 615 eye hospitals/clinics/wards
- Conducting more than 19 million vision screenings for children through [Sight for Kids](#)
- Providing vision screening for more than 350,000 Special Olympics athletes from 85 countries through [Opening Eyes](#)

### Our impact

In fiscal year 2015-2016, we had a great impact in lives around the world through 453 grants totalling more than US\$45.2 million. Some of our accomplishments include:

- 500,000 people helped through US\$9,480,060 in [disaster related grants](#)
- 3,994,860 people helped through US\$13,874,392 in [humanitarian grants](#)
- 19 countries expanded Lions Quest through US\$1,437,287 in [Core 4 grants](#)
- US\$7,965,350 in grants supported the vaccination of millions of children against [measles](#) and rubella
- US\$12,994,255 in [SightFirst grants](#) provided eye care services to more than 22 million people, improved 51 eye care facilities and trained 23,643 eye care professionals

### GRANTS APPROVED FOR CANADA – 1968-2018\*

Canadian Geographical Area	\$US Approved
Yukon, Northern British Columbia – MD 49	\$ 25,000
British Columbia – MD 19	\$ 2,074,670
Alberta – MD C	\$ 1,345,516
Saskatchewan – MD 5	\$ 707,112
Manitoba, NW Ontario	\$ 1,731,850
Ontario – MD A	\$ 4,635,075
Quebec – MD U	\$ 3,169,976
Atlantic Canada – MD N	\$ 2,347,310
Saskatchewan/Alberta	\$ 315,650
Canada	\$ 15,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 16,367,659</b>

*\*Information provided by PID Lion Garnett Davis*

# CAMPAIGN SIGHTFIRST II

## A VICTORY FOR VISION

At the 2008 International Convention, more than 14,000 Lions from around the world gathered to celebrate raising more than \$203 million for LCIF's SightFirst program. Lions and donors had great reason to celebrate the largest fundraising campaign in the history of the association and Foundation. Funds raised through Campaign SightFirst II (CSFII) will continue and expand Lions' SightFirst program to address the changing patterns of blindness.

CSFII was launched at the 2005 Lions Clubs International Convention. CSFII fundraising epitomized Lions' dedication to the SightFirst program. A majority of Lions clubs from around the world participated in fundraising for the three-year, global campaign, as well as many corporate and government agencies.

The funds raised through this effort are an extension of efforts Lions began more than two decades ago. Combined with the first fundraising campaign that launched the SightFirst program in the early 1990s, Lions have now raised more than \$346 million for sustainable sight programs around the world.

Members gave more than just their time and energy to fundraising. They gave personal financial donations to the campaign as well, especially Lions in Japan and Korea. Within a year, Lions raised US\$60 million toward the campaign. In 2008 the campaign fundraising closed with Lions surpassing their stretch goal to reach US\$203 million.

Jimmy Ross, 2007-2008 LCIF Chairperson

NOTE; The Lions of Canada donated 4, 482, 454 US Dollars

# MELVIN JONES FELLOW

## MELVIN JONES FELLOW

This type of donations were instituted in 1973 by the Lions clubs International Foundation.



*This is the plaque received by all the Melvin Jones Fellow*

The Melvin Jones Fellow contribute 75% of the annual income of the Foundation.

There are 414,777 Melvin Jones Fellow in the world which 82,326 are progressive Melvin Jones as of June 2019.

In Canada, by multiple districts, the following is the list of recipients: \*

Multiple District	Melvin Jones Fellowships	Progressive MJF included in MJF's
MD 19	1425	143
MD 49	53	5
MD C	2754	333
MD 5	957	68
MD 5M	619	18
MD A	4690	201
MD U	1531	116
MD N	1892	34
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13921</b>	<b>918</b>

\* Information was provided by PID Garnett Davis

# LIONS CLUBS FOUNDATION IN MULTIPLE DISTRICT OR DISTRICT BY YEAR AND PROVINCE

1964 – Camp Lion Maxwell, originally named Camp Atlantic, was founded in 1964 with an inaugural program of 23 campers from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In 1997, the camp was renamed after Lion Peter Maxwell of Truro; in recognition of the tremendous support the Lions Clubs of Nova Scotia have provided the camp.

1969 – British Columbia, the Northwest Lions Eye Bank the Foundation has dedicated more than 45 years to serving the communities in Washington state and across Northern Idaho in order to restore sight and hearing to those in need. The Foundation continues to partner with Lions Clubs throughout Multiple District 19, and operates the Lions Health Screening Unit which provides health screenings at no cost to school children and community members to assist the early detection of health problems that could potentially result in the loss of vision or hearing if left untreated.

1980 – The Alberta Lions Foundation has the following goals: Lions of Alberta Foundation was created to facilitate a body of individuals to unite the Lions Clubs of Alberta in order to better serve the communities of our province.

June 15, 1981 – the Lions Foundation of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario was Incorporated – the mission is to support, promote and foster programs for the benefit of both children and adults that are in need of assistance who live in the communities throughout Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario.

May 8, 1982 – Lions Foundation of New Brunswick, Object: To build a permanent trust fund to generate an investment income, which will be utilized to assist in the funding of “Humanitarian Service Projects (HSPs).

1983 – The Lions Foundation of Canada. The vision was to provide Dog Guides at no cost to Canadians with visual disabilities, helping them to achieve freedom and independence.

November 23, 1998 – Saskatchewan Lions Foundation Goal: set up a province wide fundraiser dedicated to raising funds for our ongoing commitments and also creating awareness of the SLF and its objectives.

May 30, 1999 – Quebec Lions clubs Foundation created by PID Gilles Melançon to fight blindness and deafness.

PART V  
OUR PROJECTS

# NEW BRUNSWICK DRUG ADDICTION PROJECT

## NEW BRUNSWICK DRUG ADDICTION PROJECT

*(Nova Scotia is also participating in this project)*

2016 Truro, Nova Scotia – June 8, 2016. Portage Atlantic hosted a Community Breakfast on Wednesday, June 8, 2016, at the Truro Lions Hall. Portage Atlantic staff presented information on programs and services offered to youth at risk from the Atlantic Provinces. A testimonial was given by a Portage Atlantic graduate, who described struggles with addiction and personal transformation since seeking help at Portage. “Portage Atlantic was a starting point for the best days of my life. The staff and residents made some of the hardest things to overcome, a little easier with their support. For that I will always be thankful,” said Portage Graduate, Miranda Mullin.

An engaged and diverse group of community members came out for this breakfast to discuss the topic of substance dependency among our youth and to learn more about the Portage program. The breakfast ended with a Q&A period, allowing guests to provide feedback and ask questions.

About Portage Atlantic Portage Atlantic's Cassidy Lake facility is a long-term residential treatment centre for youth between the ages of 14 and 21 with substance abuse problems. The bilingual youth program is based on the therapeutic community model, which, through positive peer pressure and role modelling, helps youth increase their self-esteem by learning positive coping mechanisms and transferable skills. Residents complete the 5-phase program within an average of 4-6 months, during which time they continue to work on their education. Portage Atlantic is a recognized alternative school under the New Brunswick Department of Education as well as being a fully accredited addictions rehabilitation program with Accreditation Canada.

Some 2000 Atlantic Canadian youth and their families have been supported by the Portage program at Cassidy Lake since 1996.

Through a series of Community Breakfasts, Portage Atlantic hopes to build positive working relationships and increase awareness of the program.



# NORTHWEST TERRITORY WELFARE PROJECT

Yellowknife Lions club

Why is it called Yellowknife?

Yellowknife and its surrounding water bodies were named after a local Dene tribe once known as the 'Copper Indians' or 'Yellowknife Indians', referred to locally as the Yellowknives Dene First Nation, who traded tools made from copper deposits near the Arctic Coast.

Yellowknife Lions Club is hosting Spookarama on Halloween night for teens. The annual dance.

The Yellowknife Lions Club project

For more than fifteen years, the Yellowknife Gymnastics Club actively raised money to build a dedicated gymnastics facility of our own. Over the years, the Club has had to relocate from one school gymnasium to another as its programs grew. In 1999, when the Club had to relocate yet again because the school in which it operated was slated for demolition, it kicked its fundraising efforts into full gear and serious planning began to build the new facility. The Club was lucky to be able to use an old construction garage owned by the City of Yellowknife until May, 2002 while it raised enough to get this project off the ground.

In July of 2001, the Club partnered with the City of Yellowknife who agreed to add a dedicated gymnastics facility to the constructions plans for their new, twin pad arena. Construction began on the project early in the spring of 2002 and after a number of delays, was opened on February 10th, 2003.

The facility was officially opened on September 28th, 2003 with a grand party.

How did we do it?

The easy answer is "with a lot of hard work and even more help from our friends". The membership did a lot of work raising money, doing everything from bake sales to the raffle of an AMC Hummer. But the new building would still be a dream if it weren't for the support of the community. Some of those who have pitched in are:

- City of Yellowknife
- PSAV Architects
- Yellowknife Elk's Club
- Lions Club
- NWT Gymnastics Association
- NorthwesTel Inc.
- AD Williams Engineering
- PCL Northern
- Wallbridge & Associates
- BHP Billiton
- Diavik Diamond Mines
- Hovat Construction
- Allard Foundation
- Artisan Press

- Tait Communications
- Autotech
- Radio Shack
- First Air
- Bob Kussy/Goota Ashoona
- Diamond Glass

# YUKON TERRITORY WELFARE PROJECT

## History of the Lions Club

*The Lake Laberge Lions Club* was chartered March 15, 1969, and has been a very active participant in Whitehorse's history. While we are, probably, best known for organizing the *Yukon Trade Show* every year, we have done many projects over the years.

The *Lake Laberge Lions Club* has served our community, the Yukon, in humanitarian, environmental, social and educational projects for over 40 years. With our successful fund-raising-endeavours we are able to support a wide range of community projects, focusing mainly on seniors and youth.

The future of the Lake Laberge Lions Club involves working for the betterment of our community.

Over the years the *Lake Laberge Lions Club's* contribution to the community has been rich and varied. The Club has provided support for various community groups such as the Boy Scouts, CNIB, Big Brothers and Sisters, the Drug Awareness Program, provided vans for various organizations in the Yukon.

For all of us, personal time is a valuable commodity. How you choose to spend your time is an important consideration.

Volunteering as a Lion can make a difference for you too.

We believe that time invested with a Lions club yields an invaluable return – an added dimension to your personal and professional life. While providing the framework for you to serve your community, a Lions club also offers opportunities for individual growth.

# TORONTO DOCTORS CLUB

1988 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, there is another “new” Lions club; the roster is composed exclusively of medical personnel. Dr. William Copeman, a Lion for 35 years and past district governor of District A-5 suggested forming a doctors Lions club. The main objective of the club is to deal with various medical needs in Toronto, assist underprivileged children, and raise funds for research at the University of Toronto.

The club has been a major success. Lions clubs have long been involved in the needs of the medical community. For example, in northern Ontario, 15 medical centers now exist wholly or largely because of the generosity of Lions. Such projects as a dialysis camp for children with kidney disorders, dog guides for the blind, and high-technical treatment equipment for hospitals have all been made possible through funding by Lions.

Dr. Copeman explained, ‘A Doctors Lions Club would increase significantly the number and range of health-oriented services lions perform. In addition to its own activities, the Doctors Lions Club would encourage members of the existing Lions clubs in Toronto to become even more involved in health-related projects.’ The Doctors Lions Club was officially established on December 1988, with Dr. Copeman as its charter president. It is already highly successful.

# ONTARIO - BOWMANVILLE CLUB PROJECT

## ONTARIO – BOWMANVILLE CLUB PROJECT\*

*\*From the book The Dynamic world of LIONS INTERNATIONAL by Glenn D. Kittler*

No year and date mentioned: Similarly, the Lions of Bowmansville, Ontario, realizing their city of ten thousand needed a community center, raised the funds to buy a two-story mansion which they refurbished into meeting rooms and hobby shops for youngsters and other civic and social groups.

Just when the Lions thought their job was done, they learned that the town's Boy Scouts had lost their troop. Similarly, the Lions of Bowmansville, Ontario, realizing their city of ten thousand needed a community center, raised the funds to buy a two-story mansion which they refurbished into meeting rooms and hobby shops for youngsters and other civic and social groups.

The Scouts were invited to use the new center temporarily while, in two years, the Lions raised thirty-three thousand dollars through summer carnivals to build a two-level, thirty-by-seventy-foot addition to the center. The lower floor became the new Scout headquarters. The Lions used the upper room for their meetings and occasional banquets. On other night the Bowmansville teenagers had the room for the athletic gyrations they called dancing.



# QUEBEC - MONTREAL CENTRAL LIONS PROJECT

In 1963, Past International Director Tris Coffin and PDG Ed McLean were instrumental in the building of Camp Papillon in St-Adolphe de Rodriguez, Quebec for handicapped children; the camp was rebuilt by the Joliette Lions Clubs in 2012 with a grant from LCIF. Found in the Quebec Lions clubs history research.



*Build in 1974*



*Rebuild in 2007*

# ONTARIO - 1979 LIONS MANOR (Windsor)

Lions help for the blind has evolved with an ever-widening scope. When it opened in November 1979, Lions Manor in Windsor, Ontario, is believed to be the largest single club project in the world of Lionism. Lions Manor was built and is operated by the Windsor (Downtown) Lions Club which was founded in 1920 was the first Lions club in Canada. The Lions spent more than \$422, 000 for recreational facilities and undertook a 50 year commitment for a \$4.1 Million mortgage for recreational the rest of the building.

Forty of the 50 apartments are reserved for the legally blind. The other 10 apartments are occupied by those over 60, and rents are adjusted according to ability to pay. This eight story building blends in the surrounding high rises. It is an ultra-modern home for the blind and the elderly who are sighted. Members of each group help one another.

One of the happiest tenants is 39-year-old Bill Prentice who has less than 10 percent vision and can barely decipher newspaper headlines with the help of a magnifying glass. 'I lived with my parents and in several homes for the blind before coming to Lions Manor' he said "Now I do my own cooking and have my own place where I can have visitors. My niece, Kim, who is seven and my nephew Korey, who's three' come here a, comes here all the time. I don't know what I would do without them. A relatively new concept when it opened in 1979 the Lions Manor is proving highly successful, Its roots stretch back to 1950.950. In that year the Windsor (Downtown) Lions bought valuable riverfront land from the city for an assessed value of \$5000. With the aid of a \$200,000, they built Alexander Hall, a combined residential, recreational, and administrative building operated by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. In the 1970 a survey of the blind revealed they wanted a new home and the Lions bought back Alexander from the CNIB for \$250,000.

The Lions study, at the start headed by the rate Robert Whetstone, decided on an apartment complex that would offer recreation and housing for the blind and the sighted. Ground for the Manor was broken in April 1978.

Elton Plant, past president of his club and past secretary-treasurer of multiple district A, was named campaign chairman to raise \$325,000 for the project. Plant, a Lion for 52 years appointed a 15-member committee. All 85 members of the Windsor (Downtown) Lions clubs collaborated on a mailing to 86, 400 homes and business.

Lions were interviewed on radio, TV and in newspapers, and the publicity pulled in more receipts. Lions sponsored a walk-a-thon for the blind and generated \$6, 5000 from sponsors of 74 blind walkers, Three Sunday afternoon concerts earned another \$3,000.

The Lions hit their target of \$325,000 by August 1978. They extended the drive and by the end of 1979 they had collected \$422,759. Half the money from the CNIB and by the government sponsored Ontario Lottery, the other half came from the public, including \$10,000 from the Lioness club.

Residents echo the words of Alma Lalande. Born blind, she was raised on a farm with her brother and sister who were also blind. she and her husband, Aurel, lived in Windsor and Alma ran the CNIB Canteen at Metropolitan Hospital for 35 years. Aurel died in 1978. Smiling, Alma said, "We had lived in the same house since 1941 and I stayed there for a year after my husband died. But being blind and alone, that's no life. When I heard about Lions Manor, I knew it was where I wanted to be. I have a real home again and I have new friends. Norman Lloyd added, "In Lions Manor I can run my own life. I do my own shopping. I cook for myself and guests. I like living with people who can talk about something other than what it's like to be blind. An electrical engineer, Norman is 66 and lost his sight to glaucoma in 1962.

The Windsor (Downtown) Lions Club observed its 60th anniversary in April 1980, with International President

Lloyd Morgan as the honored guest. The International District banquet entertained 600 Lions and friends from Districts A-1 (Ontario) and A-11 and A-2 (Michigan). The gathering was an occasion for reviewing the previous six decades and a look at future goals.

While they were not among the evening's speakers Bill Prentice, Alma Lalonde, Norman Lloyd, and the other residents of Lions Manor are eloquent witnesses to the effectiveness of Lions clubs International.\*

\* <http://www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/windsoron/projects.php>

# SASKATCHEWAN WELFARE PROJECT

Lions clubs across Saskatchewan will participate in an innovative diabetes detection program over the next two years that will make it easier for people to determine if they are at risk to develop Type 2 diabetes.

The program, which will be carried out in partnership with the Canadian Diabetes Association, aims to hold 50 or more diabetes screening and education events in communities during the two-year period.

There are 154 Lions clubs and 23 Lioness clubs in the province. These clubs have been partnering with the Canadian Diabetes Association for over 25 years on the Travelling Diabetes Resource Program (TDRP) and other initiatives.

Saskatchewan Lions Provincial Liaison Calvin Bachmeier, who is also the secretary of the Leader Lions Club, said the new program makes a lot of sense “One of the major focuses of the Lions is the blind and one of the leading causes of blindness is diabetes,” he explained. “So, it fits right in with the general philosophy.” Lions clubs that decide to participate in the program will receive training in the use of a diabetes screening tool, the Canadian Diabetes Risk Assessment Questionnaire (CANRISK).

“One of the reasons we embarked on this with the Canadian Diabetes Association is they don’t have the labour to run these screening clinics,” he said. “The other thing is that if it’s a clinic in a local community that is being run by the Lions club, it gives it instant credibility.”

The questionnaire uses information about a person’s age, weight, height, physical activity and family history to determine their risk of developing Type 2 diabetes.

“It is not a hundred per cent diagnosis, but it gives direction to whether or not you have diabetes or not,” he said. “And one of the great problems with diabetes is in many cases it goes undetected. People have it but they don’t realize that they do. As a result, it takes a crisis situation before they realize that they even have it.” Lions members will host events in their communities where the questionnaire can be administered, and the results interpreted by a diabetes expert from the Canadian Diabetes Association. “It will be instantaneous,” he said. “As they proceed through the line, the results will be printed off by the Lions members and then the expert will look at those results and will advise the people as to what they should be doing — whether there is no sign of diabetes or whether they should be talking to their physician. In rare cases — about five per cent of the time — they recommend that people go and seek immediate medical attention.”

The first training for Lions members from the northern part of the province took place Jan. 18 in Saskatoon and training for the southern half of the province is scheduled for Jan. 25 in Regina.

This initial intake will provide training to around 20 Lions clubs and they will host events in their communities this winter. More clubs will be trained in the fall and early in 2015, which should result in close to 60 clinics. “We are cautiously optimistic that this is going to be a very good program,” he said. “I think once we get it out there and some of the clubs see how easy it is to run, I don’t think we’re going to have any trouble at all in reaching our goal of 50 clinics, and hopefully surpass it.”

According to Bachmeier, there has already been interest in the program from clubs in southwest Saskatchewan. “I’ve had indicators from a number of clubs in the southwest, especially the rural clubs and in those medium-sized towns,” he said. Saskatchewan Lions Clubs received a grant of \$118,000 from Lions International for the diabetes detection program, which has not been done before in Canada. “This is totally something made in Saskatchewan,” he said. “We decided that we would take on this project. It took a lot of negotiations with Lions International to write the grant in such a way that it would be acceptable to them.”

Participating Lions clubs will be responsible for 25 per cent of project cost through in-kind contributions such as paying for their own travel costs to attend training, providing a facility to host the clinics and providing some light refreshments. Bachmeier has already received a couple of e-mails from Lions clubs in the United States that are interested in the program.

“It is a different sort of approach and their situation is no different than ours really,” he said. “They have the same needs in their communities that we do and by early detection people can be given the right medical advice and make some lifestyle changes.”\*

<http://www.prairiepost.com/sports/broncos-hockey/item/5464-sask-lions-clubs-to-participate-in-unique-diabetes-detection-program.html>

# NOVA SCOTIA WELFARE PROJECT

Camp Lion Maxwell, originally named Camp Atlantic, was founded in 1964 with an inaugural program of 23 campers from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In 1997, the camp was renamed after Lion Peter Maxwell of Truro; in recognition of the tremendous support the Lions Clubs of Nova Scotia have provided the camp.

Shared with the Camp Lion Maxwell Leadership Development Program (LDP), the Camp Morton LDP is designed for those who have a set of skills they wish to further develop as they strive to become a member of the camp staff family.

The program engages youth in a recreational environment while challenging them to further develop their own leadership skills, learn the operations of camping program, gain experience working with children in a mentorship environment and heighten their own personal growth in camping.

Welcome to camp and thank you for supporting Diabetes Canada through your fundraising efforts! Your support will allow us to continue providing quality programs for all of our campers with type 1 diabetes. Camp is a special place where everyone just “gets it” and we want to allow everyone to experience the magic of D-Camps.

# ALBERTA LIONS VILLAGE (Calgary)

Through SightFirst, Lions are restoring sight and preventing blindness on a global scale. Launched in 1990, Lions have raised more than \$346 million for this initiative. SightFirst targets the major causes of blindness: cataract, trachoma, river blindness, childhood blindness, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma. **2010 Lions Village by the Lions club of Calgary**

About 7 years ago two Lions came to the Club with an idea for a major project.

Back in the 1950's the Lions Club of Calgary built a series of small bungalows that they rented out as low-cost housing for seniors. In all the bungalows could house about 25 people. The land they used was an obscure pie shaped property that over the years became inner city and General information about Lions clubs in Canada the value greatly increased.

The major project that these two lions – Lion Otto Silzer and Lion Bill Baux, our District Governor in 2013/14 – proposed was to use the land as collateral and build a set of residential apartments that would house approximately 115 persons in low-cost units. The Club adopted the project.

Otto and Bill negotiated with the provincial and city governments for funding and eventually the project was approved in 2010. Both were intimately involved with the design and leased with the construction company and the various City of Calgary departments and in the summer of 2011 construction began. In 2013 the project was officially opened with the attendance of the International Vice President.

Today, with much gratitude to Lions Bill and Otto the building is fully functional, and all suites are occupied. In addition, The Lions Club of Calgary was able to secure a meeting room – a permanent home – in the lower level of the building. It is now the “Lions Den”.

<http://lionsvillagecalgary.com/>

# BRITISH COLOMBIA WELFARE PROJECT

The Lions Pavilion built in Maffeo Sutton Park in 1999 was another significant project undertaken by our club. The Vision research and planning of this project was done by Lions Club member, Bob Rowledge. The pavilion costs were in excess of \$250,000 and much of the funding was raised by selling plaques to Corporations, Business and Families.

## **Long Description:**

“The Lions Pavilion built in Maffeo Sutton Park was another significant project undertaken by our club. The Vision research and planning of this project was done by Lions Club member, Bob Rowledge. The pavilion costs were in excess of \$250,000 and much of the funding was raised by selling plaques to Corporations, Business and Families. The Pavilion is used throughout the year for major events such as the Bathtub Races and Empire Days. Band concerts use the facility on a daily basis during the summer months. To book these facility reservations can be made through Nanaimo Parks and Recreation.”



[http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMHRVC\\_Nanaimo\\_Lions\\_Pavilion\\_Maffeo\\_Sutton\\_Park\\_Nanaimo\\_British\\_Columbia\\_Canada](http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WMHRVC_Nanaimo_Lions_Pavilion_Maffeo_Sutton_Park_Nanaimo_British_Columbia_Canada)

# NEWFOUNDLAND WELFARE PROJECT

The Special Olympics-Lions Clubs International Opening Eyes program came to the Special Olympians of Newfoundland and Labrador on July 10th and 11th with the help of Lions from clubs of Mount Pearl, St. John's Health Care, CBS, St. John's, Trepassey, Victoria and Alexander Bay. The clinic was under the direction of Dr. David Richardson, who with eight other ophthalmologists and optometrists and 5 opticians all volunteered their time to provide a comprehensive eye exam on 154 athletes. The Lions were given special training to perform registration and provide vision testing at three stations. Other Lions coordinated the movement of athletes between the 11 stations.

The aim of the program is to improve the quality of life of special Olympians by providing them with free vision testing as well as free corrective and protective eyewear. The frames and lens are provided by Safilo and Essilor free of charge. Some of the people tested didn't need new glasses, while others were given just sunglasses. However, others needed first time or replacement corrective eyewear, prescription sunglasses and/or sports goggles. Family members and caregivers expressed their thanks for the program as it is often difficult to assess the health of special needs people and for some it is a financial burden. The appreciation shown by the athletes was evident by the hugs, smiles and comments made to the volunteers.

This was the first time for the Opening Eyes program in Newfoundland and Labrador. Dr. Richardson said that this program is now global. Over 500,000 athletes in 160 countries have been screened since the program started in 2001. He described the feeling of helping these athletes see better as "overwhelming". The same feeling was felt by all the Lions and other volunteers during the weekend.

From a personal perspective, this was one of the most satisfying Lion's projects I have been involved in. It was truly a weekend that lived up to the Lions Motto of "WE SERVE."

Ron Pond PR Chairman District N4

<http://www.lionsn4.ca/publications/N4-20News%20Letter%20July%20and%20Aug%202009.pdf>

# PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND (PEI) WELFARE PROJECT

About 14 years ago, Mr. Boertien joined the Lions Club and began helping with the Christmas Box Campaign. The then-new member loved delivering the Christmas Boxes, as children with wide eyes greeted him. Now 52, he has been chairman of the program for the last six years. While he no longer makes the deliveries personally, he still takes pride in helping to spread Christmas joy.

Currently seeking monetary donations, gently used or new clothing, books and nonperishables to fill the boxes, the Lions Club partners with Colville Manor, Souris Hospital, Access PEI in Souris, and other community entities and individuals to support local, struggling families in a time of need.

For about 10 years, Girl Guides have been helping to pack the Christmas Boxes. Leader Freda McKie said 2013 was the first year the girls actually collected for the campaign. In November, Mrs. McKie got the idea to collect books for the boxes. The group planned to donate a book for every child and ended up providing the Lions Club with roughly 200 books.

Mrs. McKie said the girls think it's a great idea and are eager to start collecting again this year.

"It teaches them to help the needy, and I think it also reminds them that reading is very important," Mrs. McKie said. "Everyone should have the opportunity to read, and not everyone does."

The Lions Club traditionally packs 120 boxes annually. But one thing that is consistent, Mr. Boertien said, is that every year, someone calls him personally, either anonymously or identified, to say, 'We were down and out a few years ago, appreciated the help, and we'd like to give back this year.'

About five years ago, Mr. Boertien approached a couple he knew could use a Christmas Box. The couple had no children, but one was sick and the other wasn't working. They accepted the box, and the last two years the couple has been donating to the cause.

"It's a big community effort. Without the community's help, it wouldn't happen," Mr. Boertien said.

The children and staff at the Eastern Kings Early Learning Academy also provide donations. Karen Picot, one of the supervisors at the centre in Rollo Bay, said they started participating in the Lions Club Christmas Box Campaign about 11 years ago, when they were the kindergarten in Souris; it continued when they moved to Rollo Bay. Each year the centre sends a note home to the children's parents explaining what the program is, why they do it and some donation suggestions. Mrs. Picot anticipates this year's letter will be distributed this week, leaving students, family and staff four to five weeks to make arrangements for donations.

[http://www.peicanada.com/eastern\\_graphic/article\\_a851c23a-6469-11e4-ab67-9fe69693d5c3.html](http://www.peicanada.com/eastern_graphic/article_a851c23a-6469-11e4-ab67-9fe69693d5c3.html)

# MANITOBA – NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO WINNIPEG LIONS PROJECT

This same spirit has inspired Lions Clubs to some impressive achievements for community members at the other end of the calendar. Particularly remarkable has been the project of the Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, club, whose members undertook to build a high-rise residence for senior citizens despite a price tag of a million and a half. Six years in the making, the finished job was an outstanding tribute not only to the dedication of the Winnipeg Lions but also to their business acumen-know-how has always been a special Lions attribute on all sorts of projects everywhere in the world.

The Winnipeg Lions began this project in 1959, negotiating with the Manitoba government for a piece of land in an excellent location near the heart of the city. Because of the nature of the project, the provincial government granted an easement on property taxes and also allocated funds for the construction. In the next year, the club conducted bingo games in the local newspapers, which brought in a hundred thousand dollars. This provided the necessary equity for the club to obtain a fifty-year mortgage on a million dollars at a low rate of interest. As construction began, the Lions continued their city-wide solicitation, bringing in enough to furnish the lounges, public rooms, administration offices of the Senior Citizen's Home.

Dedicated on June 3, 1965, by Past International President Finis E. Davis, the home was the only one of its kind in Canada and, in many ways' the only one of its kind in the world. Towering eleven floors, the home had apartments for married couples, complete with kitchens. On other floors there were public kitchens for the preparation of snacks. Besides a dining room-on the main floor, there were also a beauty shop, a barber shop, a library, visiting rooms, and lounges' Recreational facilities were installed in the basement. Elevator served every floor. Room service and laundry service were provided; nurses were on hand for those who required personal attention. The finished building could accommodate twenty-one married couples and ninety-eight single men and women. Long before the building was finished, thousands of senior citizens applied for residence, and they were all interviewed by an admissions committee comprised of Lions, their wives, social workers, and volunteers. Eligibility was determined on a point system that rated needs, requirements, and adaptability. The result was a new home, new friends, and new life for a number of senior citizens, who could not spend their harvest years in comfort and contentment.

*From the book "The Dynamic world of LIONS INTERNATIONAL" by Glenn D. Kittler*

# SAINT-PIERRE-ET-MIQUELON ISLANDS WELFARE PROJECT

Saturday, November 19, 2005, A bookstore sale is organized to raise funds for genetic diseases. Books for young and old are offered during this sale that takes place every year before their telethon organized in France.

These books are generously offered by the population throughout the year and therefore sold at this event. The sum collected is Donated to the French Association against Myopathies

Saturday, December 2, 2005, as part of the telethon held in France The Avenir Lions clubs holds on the archipelago, a 30 hours center to accept telephone donations. For more details Visit [www.cheznoo.net/clublionsavenir-spm](http://www.cheznoo.net/clublionsavenir-spm)

Sunday, December 17, 2005, This year again, 20 gifts have been distributed to the disabled of the archipelago in collaboration with the Association for the disabled.

Also, in December we are repeating an operation which consist in offering 60 gifts to the residents of the Eglantine House of Saint-Pierre. Some baskets have also been distributed to the needy people of Sint-Pierre et Miquelon.

# LIONS HISTORIANS IN CANADA

This book was prepared with the help of the following historians and a great number of Canadian Lions and the employees of Lions International, sincere thanks to all of you.

British Columbia – PDG Steve Morley

Alberta – PDG Dan Claypool

Saskatchewan – PDG Rick Pockett, PDG Ron Monro deceased

Manitoba – PDG Ross Johnson

Ontario – PP Ray Charbonneau

Quebec – PID Gilles Melançon

New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island – PDG Jack Moffit, PDG Denzil Bernard and PDG Larry Barton

Nova Scotia – PDG Ken Mackenzie

Newfoundland and Labrador – PDG Eldon Swyer, Sam Wells

Our appreciation to PIP Brian Stevenson and PID Bill Webber who have been at our side ever since the beginning of this project.

Note: If your name was omitted by mistake, please accept our apologies and sincere thanks.

# THE PUBLISHING TEAM

**Author: PID Gilles Melançon**

## ***Home Clubs***

- 1964 -1970 – Montréal-Ahuntsic
- 1970 – 1981 – Club Lions Repentigny
- 1981 – 1983 – Club Lions Repentigny La Seigneurie
- 1983 – 1985 – Club Lions Port of Spain Central, Trinidad et Tobago
- 1985 – 2020 – Club Lions Repentigny La Seigneurie

**Corrector: PDG Michel Haddad**

## ***Home Clubs***

- 1983 – 2007 – Club Lions Daloa-Ouest, Côte d'Ivoire, en Afrique de l'ouest
- 2007 – 2015 – Club Lions Montréal Cèdres du Liban
- 2015 – 2020 – Club Lions Anjou Pour La Vie

**Editor: PDG André L'Espérance**

## ***Home Clubs***

- 1971 – 1976 – Club Lions de Matane
- 1976 – 1980 – Club Lions de Brossard
- 1980 – 1987 – Club Lions de Rimouski
- 1987 – 2001 – Club Lions de La Tuque
- 2001 – 2006 – Club Lions Montréal Ahuntsic
- 2006 – 2020 – Club Lions de Laval

# OUR PURPOSE

**To Organize**, charter and supervise service clubs to be known as Lions clubs

**To Coordinate** the activities and standardize the administration of Lions clubs.

**To Create** and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.

**To Promote** the principles of good government and good citizenship.

**To Take** an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.

**To Unite** the clubs in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.

**To Provide** a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members.

**To Encourage** service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavors.