



March 2021

Governor's Message

District A-16

District Governor's Message

Lions, Lioness, and Leos, welcome to spring!

It's been almost an entire year since our last in-person get together, a Joint Zone Meeting which was held on March 11, 2020, in Fenelon Falls. Since then, we have successfully pivoted to virtual meetings as clubs have embraced the need for social distancing. Interestingly, attendance at virtual District Training, Joint Zone and Cabinet Meetings has remained as high, if not higher than pre-pandemic!

The light at the end of the tunnel, which at times has seemed to be flickering, is now shining much brighter as the availability and roll-out of vaccines, along with vaccination rates that are growing daily. The days are getting longer and brighter, and as Covid restrictions are loosened Clubs will have increasing opportunities for both service and fundraising activities.

While this is all good news, we are likely to see a new normal with masks still common and caution recommended. Throughout the pandemic there has been a huge shift away from cash towards other methods of payment. Clubs may wish to take this into consideration and look at alternate, cashless, payment options such as the Square, which has been successfully employed by a number of Clubs in the District.

We are just about through our final round of Joint Meetings, with a focus for this round on Leadership facilitated by GLT Lion Tom Gordon. Like the first two sessions, Membership facilitated by GMT Lion J.C. Lagrange and Service facilitated by GST Lion Tim Cheung, it is being well received by the Lions in attendance. We are so fortunate to have such knowledgeable and skilled Lion leaders in our District.



District Governor
Lion Glenn Conduit
gconduit@rogers.com

As a Governors Team, we had all hoped to be able to conduct in-person club visits by now, and we all miss the fellowship and comradery of face to face meetings. We have been able to visit a number of Clubs virtually and if we have not already done so, please continue to invite us to your virtual meetings.

It's election time, both at the Club and District. We commend all of those Lions who have stepped forward for a position as Zone Chairs, Region Chairs and 2nd Vice District Governor. It is still not too late to put your name forward and we would love to see elections held for all District positions!

Yes, there will be a District A16 Convention this year, yes, it will be virtual, and yes, it will be amazing! The Convention Planning Team has been busy arranging for dynamic speakers, featured entertainment and fun and games! Please stay tuned for announcements in the days ahead and plan to attend on the evening of Friday, April 30th and throughout the day and into the evening of Saturday, May 1st. You can attend from the comfort of your own home or if you choose and it is declared appropriate by the Health Unit in your area, and you are all registered, you can get together at a common location and watch on a big screen. This is the year we can set a record for attendance!

A great big shout out to all of you for the support you have shown your District Leadership Team. Also, a heartfelt thank you for continuing to find ways to serve and support your communities in ways that are safe for you and for those whom you serve.

To quote our current International 1st Vice President, Lion Douglas Alexander, "service is the rent we pay for the privilege of living in this world".

Stay safe and stay well!

Lion Glenn



Submitted by DG Glenn Conduit

IPDG Deb Dawson

I want to share a heartfelt thank you to each and everyone of the Lions, and Lioness for their tremendous support while I travelled on my journey to be Governor. Due to the pandemic we were unable to celebrate our accomplishments and to share fellowship at our District A-16 convention.

I was not able to thank all of you for the tremendous dedication in making A-16 a leader in MDA.

The awards and trophies are being handed out directly to clubs and individuals taking into consideration COVID-19 restrictions in different areas. Once all presentations are complete, we will issue an eblast with all the award winners.

Although my year drastically changed due to the pandemic, I am grateful for this opportunity to have met and cultivated such wonderful relationships with so many in our Lions family. I will cherish the beautiful ring that I received from our cabinet with warm memories of my time as Governor.

Looking back 37 years ago I could never imagine that I would have been given the opportunity to serve as your Governor. It is each of you with your friendship and advice that has made me the Lion/Lioness I am today.

Thank you again for all you do to make our communities and District stronger.

IPDG Deb Dawson

Submitted by IPDG Deb Dawson

1st VDG Barry MacDonald

WOW, can you believe that we only have 4 months left in this Lions' year?

I'd like to take a few minutes of your time to talk about a few things including what I've been up to as your 1st Vice District Governor.

My journey continues towards hopefully being elected your District Governor at our upcoming "virtual" Convention in April. However, if I do not get elected, you will have the pleasure of working with DG Glenn for another year!!!!!!! I know, I know, better the Devil you know than the one you don't..... LOL.

When you are working your way through 2nd and 1st VDG there are several different training sessions you are expected to take. In the past, some of these have been online courses and some have been in person. Well, with our current COVID situation in North America, all training is being done virtually. That is really unfortunate because, believe it or not, you actually pick up quite a bit of information sitting around having dinner or cocktails and discussing things outside of a formal session. But MDA 1st VDG's have come up with an idea.....more about that later.

Outside the District and MDA, I am in a group of FVDG's from Canada, USA, India, Turkey, Slovenia, Romania and a few other countries I can't pronounce. In my FVDG Group, there are 3 Women FVDG's from MDA whom I know very well and they've started calling me Charlie – they are my 3 Angels! Our training in St. Charles was to be held in February but that is all being done now virtually. I'll be spending every Saturday morning from April 24 – June 5 doing this training! Can you think of any better way of spending your Saturday mornings in Spring?????

The LCI Convention in Montreal in June has also been moved to "virtual" and we'll hear more about that over the coming months. In the meantime, I have regular training courses and do sessions virtually on a weekly basis. Our International FVDG group meet monthly on a Saturday morning and have a brief discussion. Well, it's morning for some of us and evening for others.....

More locally, I have been attending MDA DGE and GAT training sessions. We were fortunate enough to have a face-to-face in September after the Council of Governors meeting. From November on, all training has been "virtual". They are very informative and one of the focus areas was on current District Governor goals. One of the things that was instituted in District A-16 a few years back was building on previous DG goals when creating upcoming goals and objectives. I like this idea as it is sometimes VERY difficult to implement something within one year as we've seen with COVID. Our current Team is fully supportive and onside with this approach so we are making plans for the future and not just the current times.

My MDA FVDG counterparts and I have a monthly call on Sunday evenings. We talk about what's going well in our Districts, what's not going well and, toss around some ideas on working together better and sharing successes. It's been very interesting to see how we do things in our District versus other Districts. We are all learning from one and other which is the intent of the regular communications.

We are currently working on putting our District Cabinet in place for 2021 – 2022. This includes our search for a 2nd Vice District Governor, Region and Zone Chairs as well as Cabinet Committee Chairs and Members.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for your support over the past and I look forward to "seeing" everyone in the near future..... once we put this Pandemic behind us.

As always, if you have any questions or comments, please feel free to reach out to me at your convenience.

Be well, be safe and remember, there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

Submitted by 1st VDG Barry MacDonald

Submission Guidelines



Following these Guidelines will help us make sure your story is processed appropriately

Please Send submissions to
governornews@lionsa16.com

Emails sent to any other address, may be misplaced

Here are some guidelines that should be followed to submit content to the DG Newsletter and The Lions Magazine.

These guidelines will make it easier for us to make sure your submission is properly processed. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in your submission being missed or directed incorrectly.

Do not submit multiple submissions within the same email. Please separate them as this will help us keep track of each submission.

Do include all content in the email. If content is too much for a single email, then please make sure to reference that there are multiple emails related to your submission (Example: You can add "Email 1 of 3" in the subject line)

The Email's subject should include:

"Club Name" **or** "Committee Name" **and** "DG Newsletter" **and/or** "Lions Magazine" submission.

Club submission

Sample Subject: "Ajax Lions Club – DG Newsletter and Lions Magazine Submission"

Committee submission

Sample Subject: "Webmaster/IT – DG Newsletter Submission"

If you have any suggestions or comments, please let us know.

Just send us an email at governornews@lionsa16.com

Dunford Lions Club



The pandemic may have changed the way we go about our lives, but the Dunsford Lions Club is proud to report that “the Lions are still active” according to President Tim Murdoch. With a mission to support neighbourhood needs and community causes, the Dunsford Lions were quick to react when they learned that the Ross Memorial Hospital must replace its CT Scanner.

“Some of our members have had need of the CT Scanner over the years, and as always, we want to support the hospital,” said Tim.

President Tim Murdoch was joined by Lions members Walter Jancsik, Rob O’Malley and Ray Kirkby to present a cheque for \$2,500 to Erin Coons, RMH Foundation CEO.

Fowlers Corners Lions Club

Although we haven't posted much, we are busy as any other Lions Club.

We have celebrated birthdays throughout the summer months, we have helped a little girl get hearing aids, we have loaned out wheelchairs, we are collecting food for food hampers for Christmas. We are keeping busy by zoom meetings every month as well.



Here are some pictures of our Lions Mascot visiting some members for their birthday.

Submitted by Lion President, Gail Neiman

Fowlers Corners Lions Club

On Saturday, December 12, even with the rainy day it was, Fowlers Corners Lions Club gathered 4 trucks full of food for Omeme Food Share. They were more than grateful for the donation of food items along with \$330.00 in cash. Pictures below show how we worked and how Santa joined us with our Lion's Mascot for the gathering.



Submitted by Lion President, Gail Neiman

Fowlers Corners Lions Club

The Fowlers Corners & District Lions Club is pleased to provide \$6,610. to purchase outdoor equipment for Five Counties Children's Centre's Therapy Garden.

2020 has been a very challenging year for everyone, and we commend Five Counties in their efforts to offer new and innovative therapy services, and we are excited to be able to assist the staff and clients.



For over 30 years Fowlers Corners have supported Five Counties Children Centre. "Our hearts are full today. The Fowlers Corners and District Lions Club has made a donation that has put them over the \$100,000.00 mark in support of our kids. Their latest donation will help the Centre provide treatment in our backyard as part of our plan to reach more kids in our community."

We know that the children that come to Five Counties are in great need of facilities, and we are more than happy and honoured to help out with this donation to Five Counties.

As President of our club, I speak on behalf of all the members that we are honoured to support Five Counties Children's Centre, and especially at this time when Covid has had such an impact on everyone.

Submitted by Lion President, Gail Neiman

King City Lions Club

Lions Brian and President Jay, delivering 50 family size meals for the front line staff at The King City Lodge long term care home. This was our 2nd meal delivery.



Submitted by Lion Claude Holmes

Markham Lions Club

Markham Lions serving safely as they clean up the Carman Lewis Park as part of their environmental service project. They also left their mark by planting tulips to beautify the park next Spring and beyond. Several members of the community also joined us in service.



***Submitted by Lion Carolyn Stephenson
2VDG- District A16***

Markham Milliken Mills Lions Club

Markham Milliken Mills Lions Club donated toys and non-perishable food items to South Asian Women's Shelter amounting to \$1150 CAD and over 40 volunteer hours serving over 60 residents during the 2020 holiday season.



Markham Milliken Mills Lions Club donated warm clothes, personal items and non-perishable food items to Youth Without Shelter during the 2020 holiday season spending \$1050CAD and over 40 volunteer hours, serving over 40 residents in the shelter.



Submitted by Kasturi Ghoshal

North Oshawa Lions Club

Lion Bob Moore has been a key member of the North Oshawa Lions Club for over the past 46 years, having held the Executive positions of President, Secretary and Lion Tamer. He has also, for many years processed used eyeglasses collected from the community and arranged to have them shipped, by Lions, to Developing World Countries for free distribution to those in need. As well, for many years, Lion Bob has taken the lead in the Club's fundraising efforts in purchasing and selling Christmas Cakes and Chocolate Easter Bunnies.

He was also involved in the formative years of the Murray McKinnon Foundation, including being on the Board of Directors. And, at the District Level, Lion Bob has served as Chair of the Sleeping Children Around the World Committee as well as having served as a Director of the Lions Club Camp Kirk Foundation.

Lion Bob is also a Melvin Jones Fellow, an honor bestowed upon him by the North Oshawa Lions Club in the past. The Members of the North Oshawa Lions Club show their appreciation for Lion Bob's 46 years of dedicated service by presenting him with a Life Membership.

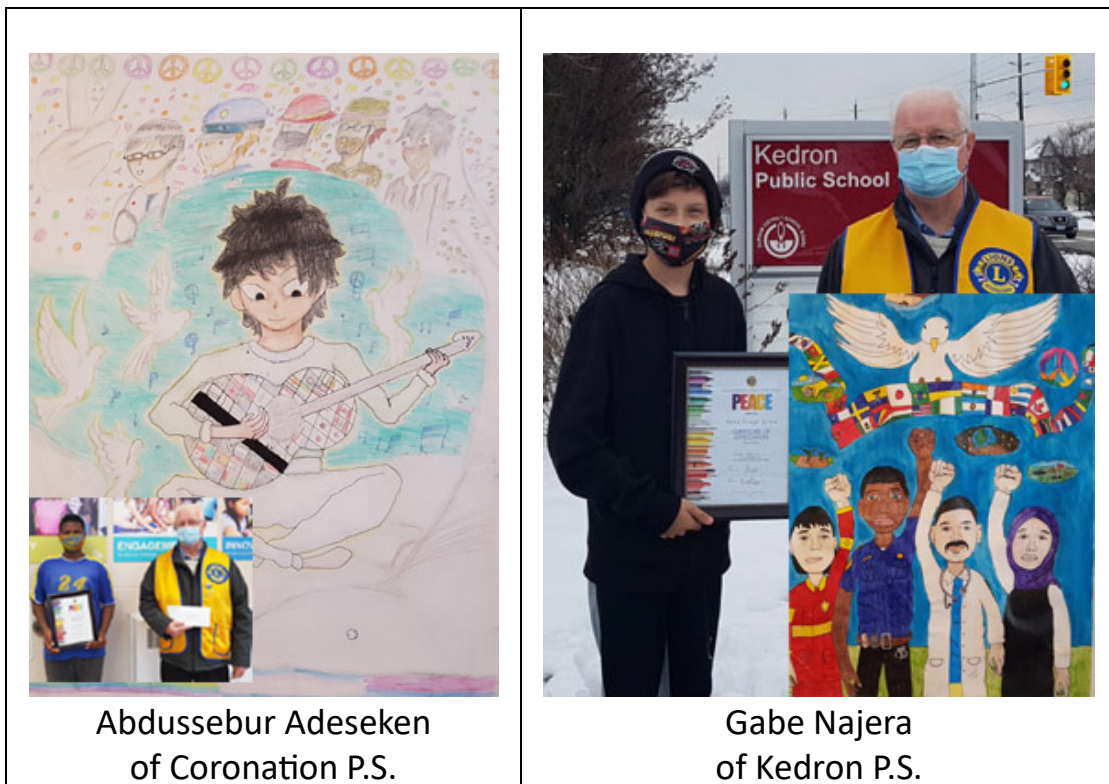
Congratulations Lion Bob.



Submitted by Lion Edwina Johnston

North Oshawa Lions Club

Once again we have the winners of the Peace Poster. This year, Gabe Najera of Kedron P.S. and Abdussebur Adeseken of Coronation P.S. each won \$50.00 and a certificate for their posters showing the theme ‘Peace Through Service’. Eric Buss and Kevin Pumphrey from North Oshawa Lions Club were the presenters. Congratulations to both artists and thank you Eric and Kevin for your efforts.



Abdussebur Adeseken
of Coronation P.S.

Gabe Najera
of Kedron P.S.

The North Oshawa Lions Club has proudly acted in an executive directorship capacity for the Murray McKinnon Foundation for many years. Suzette Lewis, who has been the Executive Director of this Foundation for the past three years has been honoured in the community during Black History Month. As Chair of the Board of Directors for the MMF, I have had the honour of working with Suzette and have found her courage and wisdom inspiring. This award is well deserved.

Submitted by Kevin Pumphrey



Stouffville Lions Club

Blood Donor Clinic provided during COVID-19 Pandemic

The August 1st Blood Donor Clinic was led by Lion Roy O'Boyle of the Lions Club of Stouffville, with changes to accommodate the COVID-19 environment.

The clinic took clients from 9:00am to 2:00pm. All clients were Booked in advance (walk-ins were not accepted). Both Lions and volunteers assisted at the clinic.

The budget was 61 units, 54 were collected.

Here's a few notes on how the clinic was handled.

Four beds were set up, spaced apart as you would expect. The PPE being worn were masks (a couple of face shields were in evidence).

Donors lined up at the door and were interviewed in detail at the door on their COVID-19 status. After that they started progressing through the donation process (wearing masks and distancing at all times).

As all donations were booked in advance, the lineup was never longer than 2 people, and observing distancing was straightforward.

After donation, they were taken to the recovery area where they sat on a chair for the required 5 minute recovery and observation time. Although they were allowed to select cookies, munchies and the like, they were not allowed to eat them inside (to munch, they had to remove their mask). They were requested to not 'root' through the various items, because of the touch factor. We did not supply coffee.

Three volunteers are required at each shift - one at the entry door to direct people, one at the recovery area, and a standby to take over if required.

Victoria Markham Square Lions Club

COVID-19 Service Activities

March 28th 2020 - July 16th 2020

VMSLC has dedicated itself to helping out the community and those in need. During this time when many of us are in need of support and generosity our Lions Club has tried to help ease the burden for many.

OUR GOALS

1. To provide food for the hungry
2. To foster a sense of community
3. To provide assistance to under-privileged children

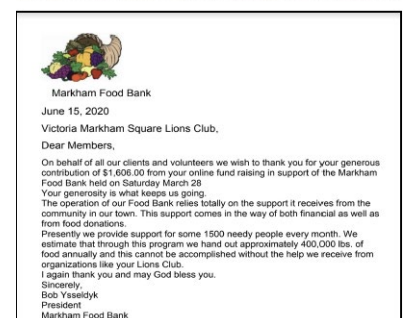
Markham Food Bank

Victoria Markham Square Lions Club members decided to create an online fund towards the Markham Food Bank. One of our goals being to provide food for those that are hungry was especially important during this time of food shortage in the community. The online fund held on March 28th, 2020, raised a total amount of \$1606.00 from the contributions of club members. The program helps out 1500 people a month and provides 400,000 lbs of food annually.



Participation House

On April 23rd, 2020 - May 14, 2020 the VMSLC members decided to show their appreciation for the Frontline staff of the Participation House. The Participation House provides supportive services to those with developmental and physical disabilities. The Club members provided lunch every Thursday from the \$1000 raised, during this period as frontline staff provided critical hard work and service during this period of time. The club served a total 220 people with their combined efforts. On the final day of activity the Club gathered to thank the staff for their service and hard work.



Victoria Markham Square Lions Club

Markhaven Home for Seniors

The VMSLC once again raised money during the months of June and July to provide lunch for the frontline staff at Markhaven Home for Seniors. A total of \$1000 was raised for the cause which contributed towards many barbeques that took place over the 2 months. The home provides 24-hour nursing care and assistance to their residents. The staff greatly appreciated the food and the time they were able to spend with their colleagues.

CMHA

VMSLC has participated in the Canadian Mental Health Association programs over the past few years, this year VMSLC did a fundraising activity and raised donations for one week in June 2020, funds were raised for \$825 from member contributions. The money donated will go to the CMHA food security program created for people with mental needs. The money will go towards grocery cards worth \$25 each spread out in Markham Location. The organization truly made the best of all the money donated. The club hopes to be able to continue to support organizations like these in the future.

Our Future

VMSLC has been dedicated and is full of extremely generous members who strive to continue doing good for those in need. During this unprecedented time the club has shown their strength and vows to make sure their benevolence continues to be made possible.

"Lifes Most Persistent and Urgent Question is, what are You Doing for Others?" - Martin Luther King Jr.

Submitted by Lion Lakshana Sathish



July 29, 2020

Harish Sharma
Victoria Markham Square Lions Club
Markham, ON

Dear Harish,

I would like to take this opportunity to extend our thanks and gratitude to the Victoria Markham Square Lions Club for your very kind support to our staff during this challenging time. The four barbeques that you provided for our Home throughout the months of June and July, 2020, were thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed by all.

The staff looked forward to each and every barbeque and loved the food! Nothing better than summertime hamburgers and hotdogs. It was a special treat to be able to go outside in the middle of the day not only to enjoy the BBQ but to be outside for a few moments to enjoy the day with colleagues. Everyone came out to join in the fun throughout each BBQ and a great time was had by all. Our staff are incredibly hardworking and dedicated and it was a pleasure to see them enjoying your thoughtful gift.

The staff have asked me to extend their thanks and appreciation to the VMSLC for your support. We thank you for the work you do, not only for us, but for others in the community. We are very grateful.

Markhaven is a non-profit Long Term Care facility in Markham. We are celebrating our 60th anniversary this year. We provide 24-hour nursing care and assistance with activities of daily living and individualized care planning to those who need it. We strive to enable residents to find meaning and joy in life while maintaining a high level of dignity and individuality.

Thank you again for your support.

Regards,



LCKKF

This pic was taken Sept 13/20. The Kawartha Charity Riders had a fundraiser in August to benefit the camp. Their group is out of Lindsay, my contact person was Lion Paul Larocque. They came to the camp and presented a cheque for \$1,100.00 to LCKKF. Present on behalf of the Board were Chris and Tony Weerdenburg, Ray Howlett, Byron Taylor, Elaine and Garry Umphrey, behind the camera was Lion Art Thompson.



Submitted by Lioness Elaine



Lions in Canada celebrate 100th Anniversary

Thanks to the City of Kawartha Lakes parks department for the beautiful floral display at Memorial Park in celebration for the Lions, Lioness and LEO Clubs located within the City of Kawartha Lakes.

- Lindsay Lions Club (1953)
- Coboconk Lions Club (1953)
- Omeme & District Lions Club (1957)
- Woodville & District Lions Club (1968)
- Kirkfeild & District Lions Club (1969)
- Fenelon Falls & District Lions Club (1971)
- Omeme Lioness Club (1979)
- Bobcaygeon & District Lions Club (1979)
- Dunsford & District Lions Club (1982)
- Oakwood & District Lions Club (1983)
- Fowlers Corners & District Lions Club (1985)
- Kinmount & District Lions Club (1990)
- Lindsay East & District Lions Club (2017)
- Oakwood LEO Club (2018)

Submitted by Lion Ken Huelin

