

# LION



M.D. "A" Edition January/February/March 2026

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see page 17  
for more information



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# THE Lion



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Welcome to the January/February/March Edition of the **LION**.

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

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

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



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Agreement Number is:  
41805020\*

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**Immediate Past President** Fabricio Oliveira, Brazil;  
**First Vice President** Mark S. Lyon, USA;  
**Second Vice President** Dr. Manoj Shah, Kenya;  
**Third Vice President** Tony Benbow, Australia.  
Contact the officers at Lions Clubs International, 300 W. 22nd St., Oak Brook, Illinois, 60523-8842, USA.

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## Change Starts Here

Dear Lion,

The future of service is here — right now. And it's filled with possibility. Around the world, Lions are stepping forward with passion, purpose and a shared commitment to making an even greater impact in our communities. We are ready to serve and ready to lead the way into the next generation of service.

As we look ahead, our MISSION 1.5 commitment reminds us that when we grow our membership, we grow our impact. That's why it's important for each of us to invite and sponsor a new member. By doing so, we strengthen our clubs and ensure they remain healthy and ready to serve.

There truly is a place for everyone in Lions — especially young members. Young Lions and Leos aren't just key to our growth; they're vital to our success. They bring energy, innovation and fresh perspectives that strengthen our clubs and expand our reach. By mentoring younger members and learning from them in return, we create a cycle of growth — an exchange of wisdom and new ideas that sustains our clubs and strengthens our service for the future.

Our Weeks of Service initiative continues to show what's possible when we unite around a common cause. Our final dedicated week of service this year, focused on the environment, takes place April 18-26. This is a powerful opportunity to protect and celebrate the world we share — and to invite prospective Lions to serve alongside us. Together, we can demonstrate that the future of service isn't coming someday. It's happening now.

Thank you for your leadership, your commitment and your belief in what we can accomplish together. The future is bright. The need is great. And we are ready.

Together we serve,

A.P. Singh

International President, Lions Clubs International



**Past International President Justice Brian Stevenson**, of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, has passed away. He was elected to serve as the international president at the Lions' 70th International Convention, held in Taipei, Taiwan, in July 1987.

PIP Justice Stevenson was a proud Lion since 1966 and a member of the Calgary Northeast Eyeopener Lions Club, and he held numerous roles within the association, including district governor, council chairperson (74-75), member of the association's board of directors (77-79), a presidential appointee to the international board on five occasions (79-80, 80-81, 98-99, 02-03 and 23-24), and he served as a board trustee for Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). For his many contributions, Past International President

## In Memoriam

Stevenson received the 100% District Governor Award, the Senior Master Key, 38 International Presidents' Awards, and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the association's highest honor granted to its members. He was a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, along with his wife, Lion Patricia. They also received the Second Century Ambassadors award.

He wanted to leave this world a better place than how he inherited it through his work with the association, so he served as Canada's constitutional area leader on the Global Membership Team, as the Canadian advisor on the LCIF Development Advisory Committee, and as Canada's representative on the association's Centennial Committee. He also represented Canada on the Vice-Presidential Candidates Evaluation Committee.

Past International President Stevenson served the community as a Lion, and as a dedicated and long-serving judge. PIP Stevenson retired from the Calgary justice system in December of 2024. While no official records are kept, it's believed that Justice Stevenson spent more than 50 years on the bench, making him the longest-serving judge in Canadian history. Before being appointed as a judge in 1974, he was a partner in a Calgary law firm and served as a special prosecutor of narcotic offences for the Canadian Department of Justice.

In 1996, the City of Calgary recognized his substantial contributions by awarding him the

Grant MacEwan Lifetime Achievement Award of Merit. In 2005, the Province of Alberta recognized his service to Alberta with the Alberta Centennial Medal. In 2002, Justice Stevenson was honored by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with the Golden Jubilee Medal, and in 2023, he was again honored by receiving the Platinum Jubilee Medal. Not only did our association and our Lions benefit from Justice Stevenson's passion, he also served as an advisor to Calgary's United Way, as president of the Calgary Social Planning Council, 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 chair of the International Year of Disabled Persons for the Province of Alberta.

But his greatest achievement was his family, his beloved Patricia, who left his side in 2022, his blended family of four daughters, 24 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

PIP Brian Stevenson showed what great leadership looks like, and his courage in serving humanity, his gentle manner, humor and love of life and people will be remembered. His life and service will continue to inspire others.



## COUNCIL CHAIR ELECTION 2026-2027

Congratulations to A4 DG Jim Devenny on his election to the position of Council Chair Elect, 2026-2027. Congratulations, DG Jim!

## VICE COUNCIL CHAIR ELECTION 2026-2027

The Vice Council Chair will be elected at the MDA Convention during the District Governor Briefing.

## CONVENTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The 2026 MDA Convention is being held in St. Catharines, Ontario at the Holiday Inn and Suites Parkway Conference Centre on May 29, 30 and 31, 2026. Meet Past International Director, Phil Nathan from South Woodham Ferrers, England and, have fun with an 80's theme night!

To register, visit [www.mdalions.org](http://www.mdalions.org)

## HUNGERS

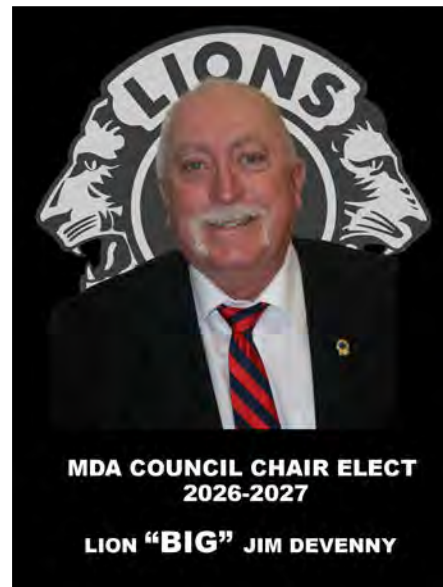
MDA CONVENTION HUNGER AWARDS YEAR TO DATE (YTD – Q3: JAN-MAR 2026):

1. District Governor: YTD highest # hunger activities reported: A12 DG Jim BARTLEY (166)

2. District Hunger Chair: YTD highest % of clubs reported hunger activities: A16 DHC (62%)
3. Lions Club: YTD # of SERVICE activities reported for hunger: A12 BARRIE SOUTH LC (45)
4. Lions Club: YTD most people SERVED reported for hunger: A2 FONTHILL LC (22,070)
5. Lion Members: YTD most volunteer hours reported for hunger: A2 PORT DOVER LC (8,325)

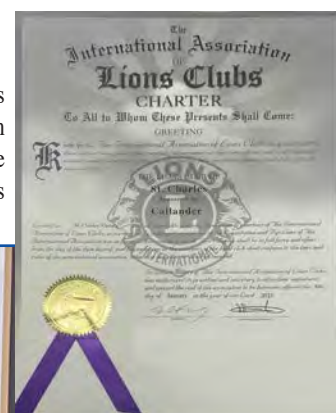
Congratulations to all! Let's keep reporting.

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



## Charter Night in St. Charles

The St. Charles Lions Club had its first charter night recently. Dignitaries included the District Governor Lion **Bob Lachance**, IPDG Lion **Sam Khoury**, ZC Lion **Claudette Strom** shown cutting the cake, as well as Lions from other clubs in the district. Congratulations to the St. Charles Club and to many more anniversaries in the future.



# Lions Lead Relief and Recovery After Catastrophic Flooding in Southern Asia

by Shelby Washington

In late November, two tropical cyclones swept across South and Southeast Asia. Sri Lanka and southern India were struck by Cyclone Ditwah, resulting in severe flooding and destructive landslides. Around the same time, Cyclone Senyar brought heavy rainfall to Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia.

From the earliest hours of the disasters, Lions were on the ground, mobilizing their nationwide networks to reach affected families. Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) moved quickly to award Disaster Relief Grants to support the Lions' immediate relief and longer-term recovery efforts.

## Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka was among the hardest hit by Cyclone Ditwah. More than 1.5 million people were affected, with over 600 lives lost and approximately 232,000 people displaced to safety centers. Damage across the country is estimated to exceed US\$1.6 billion. To support the response, LCIF approved a US\$300,000 Major Catastrophe Grant, helping Lions provide emergency relief, clean water, food, medical supplies and shelter support to families who lost nearly everything.

According to Council Chairperson Lion Shyana Jayalath "Cyclone Ditwah

has tested the resilience of the nation, but it has also revealed the unwavering dedication of our volunteers. Lions remain steadfast in their mission: to restore dignity, stability and hope to every family impacted by this disaster."

As floodwaters receded, Lions in Sri Lanka moved to the second phase of recovery.

"Many homes, schools and community spaces remain covered in mud and debris, and sanitation threats are emerging," said Jayalath. "Lions are providing cleaning support, disinfecting and sanitizing living spaces, and helping families prepare to return home safely. We will continue to assist those in the safety centers ensuring they receive ongoing supplies of food, clothing, medicines and hygiene items."

## Southeast Asia

In Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia, Cyclone Senyar brought torrential rainfall affecting more than 1.2 million households, with over 1,300 deaths reported and more than 200,000 people displaced.

LCIF supported relief efforts in Thailand with a US\$100,000 Major Catastrophe Grant, allowing Lions to distribute emergency relief bags, provide clean drinking water and support temporary shelters for families.

Reflecting on the devastation, Past International Director Somsakdi Lovisuth of Thailand shared, "It was a deeply moving experience. Seeing the destruction firsthand and meeting families who had lost everything was a powerful reminder of how important our service truly is. Their gratitude strengthened my commitment as a Lion to stand with our communities in their time of need."



Photo Credit Ricky Simms, Majority World, Universal Images Group via Getty Images



Photo Credit Krishan Kariyawasam, NurPhoto via Getty Images



Photo Credit Photo credit/ Krishan Kariyawasam, NurPhoto via Getty Images

Cyclone Senyar also struck western Indonesia. The island of Sumatra was hit the hardest with more than 900 lives lost, over 220 people missing and several thousand injured. LCIF approved a US\$100,000 Major Catastrophe Grant to support the Lions' emergency response efforts, including medical assistance, food distribution and support for displaced families.

## LCIF Disaster Relief Grants

With LCIF disaster relief grants, Lions can provide vital relief for communities devastated by hurricanes, floods, fires and other major events. Learn more at [lcf.org/disaster-relief](https://lcf.org/disaster-relief).

# Harvesting Hope

Lions support fresh food delivery program in Rhode Island.

by Shelby Washington



According to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, one in three households in the state experience food insecurity. Low-income families with children and people of color are at highest risk. As food insecurity levels rise higher than those seen during the height of the coronavirus pandemic, the need for consistent access to nutritious food has never been more urgent.

The Hope's Harvest Program at Farm Fresh Rhode Island works to bridge that gap, mobilizing volunteers to harvest surplus fruits and vegetables from farms, executing contracts with local growers and paying for surplus produce. But as the need for food assistance in the state grew, Hope's Harvest was not equipped to meet the demand. Its previous vehicles — a refrigerated 12' box truck and a small delivery van — along with rising fuel costs made it difficult to meet the needs of the community, especially during hot summer months when perishable produce required careful transport.

To tackle this challenge, Lions of District 42 used a US\$47,995

Hunger Grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) to purchase a new refrigerated vehicle. Inspired by her past involvement with the Greater Warwick Lions Club, Lion Nancy Reiter applied for the grant. The Lions of District 42 raised US\$16,250 through the "Lil Rhode Big Yum" online auction.

Equipped with the new LCIF-supported vehicle, Hope's Harvest was able to establish partnerships with three new farms and three new food distribution agencies, greatly expanding their reach to meet rising food demands and community needs. Today, they distribute food to 43 hunger relief agencies, reaching an estimated 35,000 Rhode Islanders each year.

LCIF Hunger Grants make projects like this possible by focusing on strengthening infrastructure and providing essential equipment Lions need to fight hunger. These grants empower Lions to support vital initiatives such as school feeding programs, food banks and feeding centers, ensuring that those in need receive the nourishment they require.

Learn more about LCIF Hunger Grants at [lcf.org/hunger](https://lcf.org/hunger).



# Leos Lead Inclusive Sports Carnival with LCIF Support

by Shelby Washington



In Malaysia, youth with intellectual disabilities often face social exclusion and have limited opportunities to participate in sporting activities. In addition, many families and caregivers have expressed concern about how rarely their children are given opportunities to build genuine connections with peers without disabilities.

Leos across Multiple District 308 saw inclusive sports as a way to break social barriers, promote acceptance and build confidence. They used a US\$5,000 Leo Service Grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) to create a unified sporting event where participants of all abilities could safely learn, play and grow together. The Special Olympics Unified Sports Carnival – Inclusion Through Sports was held in June 2025 at Xiamen University Malaysia Stadium.

After an opening ceremony attended by community leaders, Lions, Leos, caregivers and partners, the day was filled with unified activities such as relay races and other telematch games. There was also a mentorship and buddy system that paired each Special Olympics athlete with a group of Leo or Lion mentors to ensure encouragement, safety and meaningful engagement. Everyone was recognized and celebrated for their hard work and achievements.

The children had a great time. One athlete raved about their experience saying, “I feel very happy today. I like playing sports with my new friends. The Leos and Lions help me and play together with me. I feel confident and proud. Thank you.”

The event was a huge success. More than 500 people benefited from the experience, leaving many families grateful. A parent of a Special Olympics Athlete says, “This event means a lot to our family. My child was accepted, encouraged and treated as an equal. Seeing my child smile, play confidently, and make new friends touched my heart. Thanks for creating such a safe and inclusive environment for our children.”



The over 300 Leo volunteers, who were trained in inclusive sports facilitation to prepare for the event, were also grateful for the experience.

“This project showed us that service is not just about organizing an event, but about creating real human connection. This experience strengthened our leadership, empathy and belief that inclusion must be intentional. We are grateful to LCIF for making this meaningful project possible,” says Leo June Loo, Leo Organizing Chairperson.

With the support of LCIF, Leos can make a bigger impact in their communities, while being exposed to valuable leadership and life skills. Learn more about **Leo Service Grants** at [lionsclubs.org/Leo-Grant](https://lionsclubs.org/Leo-Grant)



The 2025-26 Lions year is bringing milestone anniversaries in A5, and one of them was Iron Bridge Lions' 75th anniversary night. 75 years of doing great things in this small northern community. It is a small town of fewer than 600 people. The club was formed in 1950 with 22 members, sponsored by the **Thessalon Lions**. By 1952, the members took over operating the town



## Iron Bridge Lions

rink. In 1960, the club purchased a hall and had it moved to the present location, which is still the clubhouse to this day. In 1962, the Lionettes were formed and continued as Lioness until 2006 when many members became Lions.

Throughout the years, the club has purchased land in Iron Bridge to develop a playground, baseball diamond, and new rink building. The District A5 Memorial Forest was also opened on this site in 2007. This continues to operate to this day, partly due to a Federal government program to help maintain it and give students their volunteer hours.

The club celebrated with the Mayor Jane Armstrong and her husband Kevin, DG Lion **Bob Lachance** and 1st lady Jeanne Lachance as well as many Lions from several clubs including **Coniston**,



**Sault Ste. Marie, Callander, Minnow Lake, Bruce Mines** and others. In true north style, the club gave everyone a maple leaf shaped bottle of maple syrup as a souvenir of the night.

In 2025, the Iron Bridge Lions was 75 years strong and still providing a great service to their community. Here's to another 75 years of Lionism and service.



## Pt. Colborne-Wainfleet

The Port Colborne and Wainfleet Lions Clubs were excited to host our Annual Effective Speaking Competition. We had a great turnout of students (15) from McKay Public School and Ecole St. Joseph. We would like to congratulate all participants on a job well done. Many topics were covered for a very informative night.

We look forward to our top 2 contestants from both junior and intermediate age categories moving on for the District A2 competition being held March 30th at the Port Colborne Lions Club. A special thanks to the Lions members who worked hard to set up for and run the event. As well, to the parents, family members, and teachers who showed their support and encouragement yesterday!

This event couldn't have been successful without the many helping hands.



## Copetown Lions

At a recent meeting, the club donated \$3,000.00 to Ancaster Community Services.

The group photo shows club members and Kaylee Norwood, executive director, front row centre.



## Lions Club of Sudbury

December was a time for Christmas, decorations, trees, and bells ringing. Some of those bells are the Salvation Army Kettle bells being rung to help raise much-needed funds for Christmas food hampers.

The Lions Club of Sudbury manned the Salvation Army Kettles at the LCBO on the 11th of December.

In addition to the money collected, the club also donated a cheque for \$2,000.00 to help the Salvation Army provide some extra help to those in need.

Lion Eric Beauchamp and Lion President Alan Arklander presenting cheque



## Chesterville, Mountain and Winchester Lions

Friday, December 19th, 2025, was our 40th year of serving North Dundas Christmas baskets distribution day. The Lions Clubs of Chesterville, Mountain, and Winchester distributed 203 food hampers and 156 snowsuits, servicing adults and children. Thanks to the generosity of local businesses and residents for their donations, and to community members who helped. Community serving community.



## Woodstock Lions



in Woodstock. The wreath was brought forward by Lions **Lucy** and **Gerald Tellier**.

The club participated in the Smile Cookie program and decorated cookies for Tim Hortons. Our local Hortons raised \$24,000 (2nd highest total in Canada). The money was shared with the local Big Brothers Big Sisters and the London Children's Hospital. The cookie decorator in the photo is Lion **Lucy Tellier**.

Our Lions helped with the Salvation Army Christmas Kettle, raising money and good cheer for all. Participants were Lions **Travis Toes, Peter Ewing, Carole Wilson, Dave Hay, John Versaavel, Tilda Adams, Mark Schadenburg, Gerald Tellier, Lucy Tellier, Lori Johnson, Roger Johnson, Jennifer Harrington, Tatum, Steve Iorio** and **Al Huras**. Thanks to Al for coordinating the volunteers.

The Lions in Woodstock have been busy over the past few months. Here is a summary of only some of their projects. We don't have photos for all their activities, and we haven't identified which photo belongs to each activity.

They participated in the Remembrance Day ceremony and placed a wreath at the cenotaph



The club also gave \$1,000 each to the following service organizations:

At the Salvation Army food drive, Lions **Lucy** and **Gerald Tellier** presented a \$1,000.00 cheque to the Salvation Army's integrated mission manager, Janis Coon.

Lion **Travis** presented a \$1,000.00 cheque to Operation Sharing Executive Director Tim Dukes.

The Family Church food drive received the same amount, presented to Family Church pastor Destiny.

Lion **Lori Johnson** presented a \$1,000.00 cheque to the Alzheimer's Society representative, Lindsey.



Lion **Jeannie McHardy** presented a \$1,000 cheque to Ingamo House and the same to Domestic Abuse Services.

Volunteers were crucial to making all this happen, and the Woodstock Lions were all in!



## Kincardine and District Lions Club

The Kincardine and District Lions Club recently presented several cheques to local organizations, the Kinetic Knights, Kincardine

Community Services for their Children's Christmas Campaign and Huron Shores Hospice.

Photo #1: Kinetic Knights presentation by Lions Treasurer Lion Phil Thompkins and Lion President Scott Stevens

Photo #2: Kincardine Children's Christmas Campaign Heather Finnie, Treasurer Lion Phil Thompkins, Lions Dennis Flavell, George Ling, Helen Gitter-Flavell and coordinator

Photo #3: Huron Shores Hospice Treasurer Lion Phil Thompkins, Jessica Daneluk & a volunteer of Huron Shores Hospice, Lions Dennis Flavell, George Ling, Helen Gitter-Flavell and Linda Norminton.



## Sault Ste. Marie Lions Storytime

The "Storytime with Santa" event was held in partnership with the Sault Ste. Marie North Branch Library and the Sault Ste. Marie Lions.

Families had the opportunity to hear some Christmas stories, make Christmas crafts, and decorate gingerbread cookies. The highlight for any child, of course, was to get to talk to our very own Santa Claus. There was even a baby reindeer that made an appearance.

A wonderful day was had by all.



## Dublin and District Lions

A while back, the village of Dublin had a visitor. Yes, the jolly fellow made his rounds to all the children and retirees of the village.

This is a tradition the Dublin and District Lions Club has been doing for fifty-one years. Santa tries to get around the village the Friday before Christmas every year, but this year was just a nasty night, and Rudolph just doesn't have as much courage in his golden years to lead the sleigh, so the visit didn't happen till the next day.

The young lad who is standing proudly beside his decorated truck is the newest member of the Dublin Lions Club. This is Lion **Kevin Shewan**. He is following in the footsteps of his father, Lion **Steve Shewan**, who passed away this past July.

Every Christmas, Lion Steve decorated his truck and took Santa and his helpers around the village. Lion Kevin has stepped into his dad's boots.

The other picture is Santa (Lion **Bob VanDerPryt**), Lion Kevin Shewan, and the three elves, perhaps future lions and Lion **Chuck Robinson**.



## Minnow Lake breakfast

Each year, the Minnow Lake Lions partner with Our Children, Our Future to host a Breakfast with Santa for families in the area.

Our expert cooks, Lions **Linda** and **Shirley**, spend the morning flipping pancakes and making eggs and sausage along with Lions **Richard** and **Mark**.

There was even an appearance by Santa (aka Lion **Keith**), who visited with each child in attendance.



Santa- Aka Lion Keith Argent with young child



Lion Linda Lachance and Lion Shirley Ogilvy



Families enjoying the day

## Restoule and District Lions

The Restoule and District Lions Club was hard at work before Christmas spreading holiday cheer where it mattered most — right here in our community. Over a few days, the Lions came together to prepare Christmas food baskets to be delivered to local families in need.

Each basket is filled with care and generosity, including a turkey or ham, a variety of donated food items, and a special gift for a child — all to help make the season a little brighter and warmer for those facing challenges.

In the true spirit of giving, the Restoule Lions Club is also proud to support the Powassan Food Bank with a donation, helping ensure even more families have access to food during the holiday season and beyond.

A huge thank you to everyone who donated food, gifts, and support. Your generosity made this outreach possible and truly shows the strength and kindness of our community.

This is what being a Lion is all about: serving our community, supporting our neighbours, and making a positive difference through kindness and

compassion. We are proud of our members and grateful to everyone who helped make this meaningful outreach possible.

Where there's a need, there's a Lion.



## Port Dover Lions

Recently the Lions gathered to present a cheque to the Norfolk-Haldimand Community Hospice. For \$85,000.00! That's a whole lot of raffles, donations, market draw sales, fish fries, and community spirit rolled into one very large rectangle. Moments like this show what happens when a community pulls together. A lot of smiles today...and a lot of caring behind them.

The gift breaks down like this as others deserve mentioning also, \$50,000.00 of which was entrusted to us by Knox Presbyterian Church, \$5,000.00 from an estate and \$25,000.00 from the Port Dover Lions Club.



## Batawa Lions

The Batawa Lions are proud to announce a donation of \$1,000 to the Frankford Food Pantry.

With food bank usage increasing, local organizations have been working to keep up with the growing need. "Supporting our community is at the heart of everything we do," said **Ron Puccini**, President of the Batawa Lions.

Each winter, members maintain free, volunteer-run outdoor skating rinks, giving families a safe and welcoming place to enjoy the season. The Club also hosts an Easter Egg Hunt, and leads the Adopt-a-Highway project, keeping local roads clean and beautiful. Community spirit is the core of everything they do.

The Batawa Lions extends heartfelt thanks to its members, supporters, and the broader community whose generosity makes initiatives like this possible.



## Grantham Lions

In line with Hunger Week, the club presented 25 meal kits to Jane LaVacca from Westview Centre 4 Women. We also presented her with hat and mitt sets knitted by Lion **Shirley Young** and a few other non-perishable food items for Westview.

A slightly older item of interest was the float in the Santa Claus parade created with the efforts of the Grantham Lions and friends.



L-R: Lion Jim McFarlane, Lion Gerry Whitworth, Jane LaVacca (from Westview Centre 4 Women), Lion Shirley Jeffery, Lion Shirley Young, and Lion Becky Whitworth



## Thorold Lions

The Thorold Lions Club hosted their Family Day Breakfast recently, creating a welcoming atmosphere for the local community. This small club, made up of eleven dedicated members, organized a fantastic and completely free Family Day Breakfast. It was a huge success, with the venue filled to capacity with approximately 140 guests served. During the breakfast, attendees witnessed a meaningful moment: a presentation of a \$6,000.00 donation to LCIF (Lions Clubs International Foundation).

A noteworthy aspect of the event was the involvement of Lion **Kate Hart**, a Scotia McLeod employee. She submitted an application on behalf of the Thorold Lions Club and LCIF via Scotia McLeod's employee "Share the Wealth" program, resulting in a successful outcome for the club.

Shown in the photo are PID **Allen Snider**, Lions **Kate Hart**, **Brenda Dolha** and DG **Louise Agnew**.



## Valley East Lions

The Valley East Lions organized a Hunger Week service project to help those most vulnerable. The project was organized by Lion **Josee Viau**, who contacted both local food banks to obtain the names of clients interested in receiving a warm soup lunch delivered to their homes by our Lions Members. The Lions prepared and delivered more than 110 hot lunches, including all the trimmings. They were hand-delivered by multiple Valley East Lions Members.

The response was tremendous, expressing joy and sincere thankfulness for our Lions team thinking about them. One of the members delivering these meals said, "it was very emotional", a great way to give back during Hunger Week.



Lion Brian Eveleigh is preparing the soup containers that were delivered.



ZC Lion Jeanne Lachance, DG Lion Bob Lachance, Lion Josie Viau

## District A-5 Lions

The Lions in Sudbury area have been involved in the "Keeping Seniors Warm" program since it was started by 5 individuals many years ago. Then as the program grew, many Lions from the **Teachers Lions** and other clubs in the area came to help out. Unfortunately, the need became too great and the United Way came on board to run the program.



This year, the Sudbury program helped approximately 130 seniors with purchasing warm winter clothing such as hats, coats, boots, mitts, sweaters, etc.

The program has expanded to Timmins, North Bay, Temiskaming Shores, Espanola/Manitoulin and other areas.

What a great program to have to help those who just need a little help and warmth at the time of year.



July 3–7, 2026 • 108th Lions International Convention



# Let's shine bright in Hong Kong.

With visa-free entry for more than 170 countries, it's never been easier to join us at the biggest Lion event of the year! So get ready to make memories that will last a lifetime as we celebrate our service in vibrant and bustling Hong Kong, China.

- Take in the stunning skyline, mountains and harbor
- Wander the buzzing night markets and savor the sights, sounds and smells
- Taste the flavors of Hong Kong, from dim sum to Cantonese classics
- Experience the glitz, glamour and unbelievable allure of Macau

It's all happening here in Hong Kong — don't miss the 2026 international convention!



**HONG KONG 2026**  
108th Lions International Convention



**Register now for the best price on registration.**

[lionscon.org](https://lionscon.org)



# MDA DISTRICT LIONS CONVENTION

**FEEL THE POWER OF THE 80's!**

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- + **LIONS PRIDE**
- + **80s THEME NIGHT – BIG HAIR, NEON & RETRO VIBES!**

## WHAT TO EXPECT

- + Inspiring sessions & district updates
- + **Networking** with fellow Lions & Leos
- + **High-energy social events**
- + **EPIC 80's THEME NIGHT** – dress to impress!

**SAVE THE DATE • BRING A FRIEND • RELIVE THE 80's**  
**MDA DISTRICT LIONS CONVENTION 2026**



**WHERE SERVICE MEETS SYNTHS**

➔ **Don't wait** – register early and secure **your spot!** ➔  
Hotel rooms are limited and filling fast!

# SPOT THIS!

## Hong Kong Edition

We're just months away from the 108th Lions International Convention in Hong Kong, China — so let's get in the spirit by exploring some of the region's signature sights and local favorites.

How many can you find?

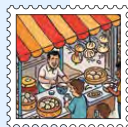


This image is provided solely for entertainment purposes and should not be used as a navigational resource. Reliance on this image for wayfinding may result in becoming lost.



### 1. Tian Tan Buddha

This massive bronze statue on Lantau Island offers a peaceful escape from the skyscraper-lined bustle.



### 2. Dumpling

A must-try in Hong Kong's dim sum scene, these little pockets of joy come steamed, pan-fried or boiled, with a variety of fillings.



### 3. Market Stall

Wander through Hong Kong's open-air markets to find everything from fresh produce to quirky souvenirs while experiencing pure urban buzz.



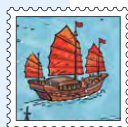
### 4. Double-Decker Bus

Grab a seat upstairs on one of these towering buses for a great view of skyscrapers, neon signs and bustling streets.



### 5. Star Ferry

This iconic boat has been ferrying passengers across Victoria Harbour for over a century and offers unbeatable skyline views.



### 6. Junk Boat

With its distinctive red sails, this vessel evokes old Hong Kong, and today, restored versions carry visitors on harbor cruises.



### 7. Hong Kong Observation Wheel

Offering a slow, scenic lift above the harbor, this Ferris wheel is especially magical at sunset or after dark.



### 8. Victoria Peak Tram

This vintage funicular climbs one of the world's steepest tracks to The Peak for sweeping views of the city, its mountains and the surrounding sea.



### 9. Tea House & Milk Tea

Take a break from exploring and step into a traditional tea house to enjoy some milk tea — a strong and slightly sweet Hong Kong classic.



### 10. Convention Registration

Still need to register? Find the hidden QR code, scan it and complete your registration. (Or scan the code to the left, but that's not as much fun.)



## MDA Directory Information

### Council of Governors' Meeting Dates

- Council Meeting September 5/6, 2025
- Council Meeting October 17/18, 2025
- Council Meeting February 20/21, 2026
- Council Meeting Convention May 30, 2026

### District Conventions

| Dist | Location                                       | Date              |
|------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| A1   | Port Edward, Ontario                           | April 10-12, 2026 |
| A2   | Holiday Inn, St. Catharines, Ontario           | March 27-29, 2026 |
| A3   | Cobourg, Ontario                               | April 10-12, 2026 |
| A4   | DEV Centre - Cornwall, Ontario                 | April 18-19, 2026 |
| A5   | Sudbury, Ontario                               | May 1-3, 2026     |
| A711 | Mississauga, Ontario                           | April 10-12, 2026 |
| A9   | Brussels, Ontario                              | April 24-25, 2026 |
| A12  | Allure Hotel - Barrie, Ontario                 | April 11-12, 2026 |
| A15  | Best Western - Brantford Ontario               | April 17-19, 2026 |
| A16  | Holiday Inn - Peterborough Waterfront, Ontario | April 24-26, 2026 |

## Minnow Lake

The Lions of Minnow Lake have always been great supporters of the District Governor's project over the years.

This year, the club donated \$2,500.00 to NOFCC (Northern Ontario Families of Children with Cancer). NOFCC is a registered charitable organization based in Sudbury, Ontario and is committed to helping families across Northern Ontario who have a child diagnosed with cancer.



President Lion Bruce Kutchaw is presenting the cheque to Lions District A5 2nd VDG Elly Charette

# Hong Kong welcomes the 108<sup>th</sup> Lions International Convention

With no visa requirements for more than 170 countries, it's easier than ever to discover everything Hong Kong has to offer — from vibrant street festivals and markets to historical sites, modern tech marvels and much more.

- See the many sights, including the nightly light show, views of the mountains, skyscrapers and more.
- Explore all Macau has to offer, including the Panda Pavilion, immersive art exhibitions and more.
- Sample the many flavors of Hong Kong, from dim sum to Cantonese favorites.
- Find your next best souvenir at the many outdoor markets.



**HONG KONG 2026**  
108th Lions International Convention

## LIONS ALL

The costs of printing and distributing the magazine are expensive:  
Here are the figures for the last printed version:

Printer \$16,592.92,  
Postage \$10,777.31 (there was an increase in postage after this issue was sent)  
LCI Subsidy \$15,715.40 (this varies slightly based on the exchange rate)

The total cost was **\$11,654.83**

There are no costs associated with the digital magazine other than the initial preparation, at approximately \$850.00, which applies to both the printed version and the digital issues.

To continue, we are trying to reduce the expenses involved.

We are requesting that the Governors ask their clubs to canvas their membership to determine which members do not require a printed version. Subsequently, the information should be emailed to the editor as a standalone message to avoid an expected flood of individual messages.

It is recognized that this approach is complex; if there is a better way to do this, let the editor know. Your assistance is appreciated.



We have identified there are just under 2400 duplicates on the mailing list from a total of 12,000 recipients. The duplicates will be eliminated unless otherwise notified.



If you have indicated you would be satisfied with viewing a digital version as opposed to print to help with expenses it is up to the members to view the magazine by going to the MDA website and under the Lions Links tab and selecting the LION magazine option. This procedure may not be fully implemented until the second print issue this year.





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## ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

### District Reporters

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

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

Editor Lion Bob Pearson  
bobpearson50@gmail.com

## IMPORTANT DATES

### MDA Convention

|      |                |                   |
|------|----------------|-------------------|
| 2026 | St. Catharines | May 29 - 31, 2026 |
|------|----------------|-------------------|

### International Conventions

|       |                     |                        |
|-------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 108th | Hong Kong           | July 3 - 7, 2026       |
| 109th | Washington, DC, USA | July 2 - 6, 2027       |
| 110th | Singapore           | June 23 - 27, 2028     |
| 111th | Minneapolis, MN     | June 29 - July 3, 2029 |
| 112th | San Antonio, TX     | 2030                   |

### USA - Canada Forums

|                    |                           |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Sept 18 - 20, 2025 | Atlantic City, New Jersey |
| Sept 3 - 5, 2026   | Memphis, Tennessee        |
| Sept 2027          | Huntsville, Alabama       |

## Lions Logo Refresh

In nearly 100 years of use, the Lions logo has changed and evolved. But it has always stood for the same idea:  
**We Serve**

1916: This first Lions logo reveals the organization's early ties to the Masons.



1918: Note the visual pun in this early logo: a Lion and a club.

1920: This rendering with monogrammed L and back-to-back lions is the basis for the logo today.



Recent



Current



Centennial



**Where Practical  
Use of this version  
is not encouraged**

## THE LION MAGAZINE MULTIPLE DISTRICT "A" Advertising Rates Revised September 2024

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## Celebrating Teamwork in Pasadena



Lions International rang in the new year at the 137th Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California.

This year's theme, "The Magic in Teamwork," beautifully captured the spirit of the world's largest service-based membership organization.

The Lions float, titled "In Harmony We Serve," featured four young Lions paddling in a canoe, representing what Lions can achieve when

working together. The float included a log cabin flying the Lions flag, symbolizing resilience and the spirit of rebuilding communities after disasters.

Lions Clubs International President A.P. Singh joined fellow Lions and Leos on the float to share this message of hope and invite parade viewers to join their local clubs.

In the days leading up to this globally televised New Year's Day tradition, nearly 1,000 volunteers logged an incredible 8,000 volunteer service hours.

*Here is a first-hand account of I.D. Debbie Dawson's experience at the Rose Bowl.*

The parade was an incredible experience. The

work and dedication of the volunteers were fantastic. I had the good fortune of winning a seat on our Lions Float in the "Ride of Your Life" held by the Lions of California. I bought the ticket at the USA-Canada Forum in September in Atlantic City.

Don and I had the opportunity to tour the float barns while the floats were being built. It is amazing that the floats must be created with natural materials.

It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. It was a little soggy; it rained all day, but that didn't dampen the participants' or the spectators' experience!

We also had the opportunity to travel with our International President, AP Singh, PID Sangeeta Jatia, and an International Director from California, Liz Crooke. We attended a service trade show and assisted with food distribution to those in need.

One of the highlights of the trip was the opportunity to sit down and meet with the International Presidents of Rotary, Kiwanis, and Optimist, along with President Singh, PID Sangeeta, ID Liz, Lion Don, and me. It was an honour to discuss what each organization is doing to make the world a better place.

Agreement Number is:  
41805020\*

