

District A-16 Governor's Newsletter

June 2023

Thanks for the Ride - a message from District Governor Carolyn Stephenson

We are almost at the end of my year as your District Governor, my -how quickly time has passed. Let me say what a great privilege it has been to have been given the opportunity to serve this district.

Looking back over the last twelve months, it has been an exceptionally busy but rewarding year. Today it is not my intention to list all the things we have accomplished as I believe they speak for themselves.

However, it would be remiss of me not to mention and celebrate some of our proud accomplishments. At the start of the year, I had three main goals, one of which was to introduce succession planning. This started with the district team, where we started the conversation. Clubs are now talking about the need for succession planning. Leaders are looking at and encouraging others to step into leadership, so have we been successful...absolutely.

The second goal for the district was membership growth and development. We started the year with 1064 members and the goal was to achieve 1250 (at that time – official status); today we are at 1145 members and we continue to induct new members. Lions Karen Thompson along with JC LaGrange and their team have worked hard at inspiring and motivating clubs to get to this point. I encourage members to constantly keep membership growth in the forefront and to make it a part of all your activities and events. We have added three new clubs and are working diligently at another – our first specialty club. Thank you, Team, for your dedication and focus.

Our third goal was to achieve 100% in service reporting in MyLion. We are currently at 82% and are working diligently to have two or three remaining clubs go in and input their service information, so that we can move the needle closer to where we need it to be – 100%. Thank You for getting us to this point. Thank you also for showcasing the amazing and creative service activities you're involved in and out in the communities. Frustrating as it may be for the Team, I am confident that *Together We Can* achieve the 100%.

All that we have accomplished could not have been achieved without the leadership of our very own PID Tom Gordon who inspires us with his vast knowledge, patience, and skill. We have completed courses on Succession Planning; Guiding Lion re-certification; our annual Retreat



**District Governor
Carolyn Stephenson**

for Region and Zone chairs, Mentor/Mentee and district Officer training, to name a few. Thank you, PID Tom and your Leadership team.

I would like to say a very Big Thank You to Lion Debbie Dawson our LCIF Chair who not only helped us achieve our established target of \$25,000 but also inspired us to contribute to the immediate and urgent need occurring in the Ukraine, Turkey, British Columbia and elsewhere around our country and the world. Thank you to everyone who so caringly donated to these worthy causes. We're certainly meeting the humanitarian needs of our community and beyond. Thank you also for donating to my project *Building Diabetes Awareness* to the tune of \$15,000, as well as direct contributions made to Camp Huronda. Consider how many we have helped in our own small way. That's Awesome.

Thank you to Lion Kelly who will not be returning as our Cabinet Treasurer but to whom we owe a great deal for maintaining the books in a stellar manner and keeping us on budget. Thank you, Cabinet Secretary David, for forcefully steering us in the direction he wants us to go and making us seem so organized and the district well run.

To our Convention Team, thank you for making this an awesome 2023 convention. It was a blast and our International Director, Jeffrey Gans did his part in keeping us amused, informed, and challenged. If you were not able to attend, you missed a great time of fun, entertainment, food, and fellowship. Notwithstanding, we were still able to accomplish the business at hand ending with the affirmative vote supporting our incoming district officers. Unfortunately, we were sad to hear of the passing of our Zone Chair, Region 33S, Lion Gail Bates shortly after we returned home. Her dedication and service to her club and our district will be remembered and missed.

Most importantly, I would like to thank my colleagues, committee chairs, cabinet members and YOU, an awesome group of members who continually make me so proud to have been your governor. I have been particularly proud to have been afforded the distinct pleasure and privilege of visiting your clubs, inducting new members, and have come to truly appreciate what really good clubs and terrific members we have across the district. Our blend of relaxed formality combined with a sense of bonding and purpose serves us well. May we never lose that vibrancy and service mindedness that makes us who we are.

I wait with expectation and excitement to see how much more we can accomplish under the leadership of District Governor Elect Sudha and her new district 2023/2024 team and I wish them the very best.

Thank You.
DG Carolyn Stephenson



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Youth Opportunities – Effective Speaking Contest



The Effective Speaking Contest for District A16 was held in Newmarket on April 1 2023. The Newmarket Lions Club graciously hosted the event. Both Lion Mike Barker and I are members of the Newmarket Lions Club. We thank them for their continued support.

The winners of each of the 6 categories proudly represented District A16 at the MD'A' Contest in Sarnia, Ontario.

Below are their standings at the Multiple District event:

Aiden Destatte – Junior English - First Place

Dev Kochhar -- Intermediate English -Second Place

Grace Tan -- Senior English- Second Place

Isla Cross – Junior French – Second Place

Daria Tabai – Intermediate French – First Place

Katerina Lashchuk – Senior French - - First Place



Congratulations to all our participants.



Colwell Award:

The Colwell award is awarded to a club(s) for completing a new Service project for youth. The best project is awarded the Colwell Award.

The Colwell Award this year is shared by both the Newmarket North and Newmarket Lions Clubs for their joint activity Sweatshirts and Sneakers. This was a special summer event held in late August to provide free sweatshirts and sneakers to young people getting ready for school. This year the event will be held on Saturday August 19th.

***Submitted by: Lion Sylvia Brock
District Youth Opportunities Committee Chair***

Lions Clubs Camp Kirk's Family Fun Weekend

September 8-10, 2023

Welcome everyone to another fun filled weekend at beautiful Camp Kirk! I hope you will all take the opportunity to relax, renew friendships, play some games, and enjoy the meals we have planned for you.



Friday night you will be on your own for dinner, however you won't want to miss the corn roast later that night!

There will be swimming in our beautiful pool, horseshoes, bocce ball for adults and kids, ladder ball and more. Feel free to bring soccer balls and/or basketballs to share.

If you are musically inclined, and play an instrument, please bring it with you and we will try to have a Jam Session on Saturday night, after the Fireworks!

For the ladies, we are hoping to have a Zumba instructor so you all can show your stuff!



There will be a Memorial Service at 11am on Sunday morning. Everyone is welcome to come and pay respect to the members of the Lion's family who have left us in the past year.

Come and join us for the weekend, or just on Saturday for our famous steak and chicken dinner!

Contact: Lioness Lion Pat Aitken 705-879-2306 grammapat10th@bell.net



District Hunger Chair Pat Aitken Got Recognized

Lion Lioness Pat Aitken was recognized at the MDA Convention with a Certificate of Recognition from MDA on her dedicated work in getting the highest number of clubs in A16 reporting their service activities using MyLION across MDA. Hunger Service reporting has gone up from 16% to 72% this year at time of the MDA Convention in May!

DG Caroyln presented the certificate to Lion Lioness Pat at the recent A16 Cabinet Meeting in June.



Submitted by: Lion Tim Cheung, Newsletter editor



A16 supports Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides (LFCDG)

Donations made at the A16 Convention to LFCDG

Our district showed strong support to the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides program. At the recent A16 District convention, we invited Kelly Russell of the Dog Guides program to present the latest of the program to delegates of the Convention. PCC Tim Cheung presented the latest “The Difference’ Campaign for the future new building of the Dog Guides School.



DG Carolyn presented a cheque of \$50,000 from A16 to Kelly Russell of the Dog Guides program. Three clubs also presented their donations to the Dog Guides program at the event. They were Markham Lions Club, Haliburton & District Lions Club, and Kirkfield & District Lions Club.

Thank you for all the support from A16 Lions!



Edited by: Lion Tim Cheung, Newsletter editor



The Lions of Canada are rapidly approaching an historic event.

At the end of a “Lions Year”, June 30th, all Lions from around the world are invited to attend their International Convention where the annual business of the Association is conducted, leaders are elected, Lionism celebrated and friends from around the globe reconnect. Our International Conventions are hosted by cities around the globe and Canada has hosted the LCICON on seven occasions. There has been a Lions Convention since 1917 with only 1945 and 2020 being cancelled because of WWII and COVID-19 respectively.



The International Convention’s most beloved activity is the Parade of Nations where thousands of Lions parade under the flag of their respective Country and cheer their fellow Lions from around the world. Participating in a Parade of Nations can be one of the most positive and uplifting experiences that celebrates the oneness of the human race. We also have events called Plenary Sessions with keynote speakers, entertainment, information on new initiatives and the passing of the torch to our incoming leaders for the next twelve months. It is also at the International Convention where elections are held for the new Lion Leaders of our Association from International Directors to the International President.

This year at LCICON Boston 2023, Lions of Canada are rapidly approaching an historic event.

On July 11th, 2023, in Boston, Massachusetts Lion Dr. Patti Hill will become the President of Lions Clubs International. This will be the culmination of a campaign that had its beginning nearly five years ago. The success of this campaign reflects our outstanding candidate and the strong support of our Canadian and world Lions.

We know the Lions of the world will be inspired by her strong leadership and untiring commitment to serve.

We Serve,

Dr. Patti Hill Volunteer Committee

James Johnston Tim Cheung Claude Chiasson Betty Ann Robson
Pauline Cooper Debbie Dawson Marie Hajny

Aurora Lions Club

*Recognized by the Town of Aurora with a
Community Leadership Award*



Now nearing its 80th anniversary, the Aurora Lions received the Community Leadership Award, dedicated to those who have enhanced the community through demonstrated leadership in charitable giving, civic engagement or community spirit.



“Whenever the Aurora Lions Club gets together, problems get smaller and communities get better. There are so many projects and assistance they have provided such as gifts for senior residents at Chartwell, continuous support for three hospices, support for local athletic teams and environmental support with planting trees in the Aurora Arboretum. Some of their signature projects include the Christmas Basket Program where they partner with the Salvation Army to provide food and gifts for less fortunate families in Town. They go into the Senior Kindergarten level class to provide vision and hearing

screening. This [routine] testing provided and delivered by the Lions Club members helps to determine if a child needs to see a professional.

The Club also does a lot of fundraising to support projects. They created the Dog Walk for Dog Guides where they raise money through a walk to help the Lions Foundation of Canada provide service dogs to those that need them at no cost.

Submitted by: Lion Terry Mulcahy

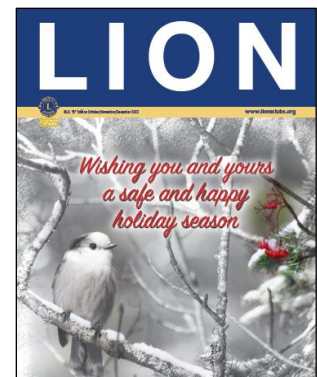
The LION Magazine

The latest issue of The LION Magazine is a digital version available now on the MDA Lions website.

You can click [here](#) to go to the MDA Lions website to view or download a copy of the magazine.

Or you can go directly to:

<http://mdalions.org/pages/Events/TheLionMag>



The Lions Club of Mount Albert & District in 2023



It has been a busy year for the Lions Club of Mount Albert and District. It started July 1st with a BBQ for the East Gwillimbury Canada Day celebrations. Following that we held several BBQ events in the Town. In September we hosted several BBQ's at our local schools for "Meet the Teacher" nights. In September we held our annual Oktoberfest evening.

There was an Oktoberfest dinner followed by a dance with "the Twin City Alpine Echo" band from Kitchener providing the music. On Remembrance Day we presented two wreaths at two different services. In December we hosted our annual Santa Claus Parade, number 50. Strong winds took out the power in the hall so we moved the free hot dogs and hot chocolate outside. Santa and Mrs. Claus greeted the children in the picnic shelter.



We also held a raffle to support the local food bank. Over the last three years we have donated over \$25,000 to the local food bank. We were able to do this by volunteering two hours a week at the Newmarket Bingo World and Gaming Centre. In January we had a Robbie Burns evening. Our resident chef, Lion Vaughan, provided the dinner. At this event we honoured members and some family members who passed away during the Pandemic. In February we held our annual pancake/maple syrup breakfast. The Club hosted the Region 45 Joint Zone meeting in March. In April we cleaned up our event trailer and the hall kitchen in preparation for the upcoming barbecue season. That begins June 1st.

Most important I think during this past year we have added six new members.



Submitted by: Lion Mary Brand

Fowlers Corners & District Lions Club *Canadian Lions Centennial Celebration Project*



The Fowlers Corners & District Lions Club has now completed the installation of the 'BENCH' which completes our participation in the 'Canadian Lions Centennial Celebration Project' which began in Gail Neiman's year as President and finishing in Herb Lang's year as President.



The bench and concrete foundation was installed by Lions members at just under \$1300.00. The 'Bench' has been installed at 'The Craftworks Barn' located east of Fowlers Corners. Attached are 3 photo's of the 'Bench' along with PID Carl Young, Past President Gail Neiman and Lion Bob VanDompsele



Submitted by: Lion Donald Ditchburn

Markham Elite Lions Club

Mother's Day Pink Robbon Gala on May 13th, 2023 and planting trees at the 10,000 Tree Plantation

Markham Elite Lions Club held Mother's Day Pink Ribbon Gala on May 13th, 2023. The Gala was attended by over 500 guests who enjoyed sumptuous and live entertainment. Markham Elite Lions Club donated \$21,000.00 to Odette Cancer Center and \$5,000 to LCIF.

On April 30th, 2023, Markham Elite Lions Club members participated in the 10,000 Trees Plantation in Markham supporting the LCI Environmental cause.



Submitted by: Lion Kasturi Ghoshal



Oak Ridges Lions Club

Making Magic Happen (The Final Edition)

It's hard to believe we've already reached the end of our fiscal year. What an amazing year of growth!

The plans we put in place at the beginning of the year are coming to fruition. The dedicated teams for each of the 5 pillars we serve, have reached, and in some instances, exceeded their goals.

Diabetes

Our "Cases for Camp" event held on Saturday May 13, 2023 at The Beer Store in Oak Ridges to help kids with diabetes go to Camp, was an astounding success. We collected empties and returned them to the beer store and received donations from patrons. The event raised over \$620 for Diabetes Canada to support local children with Type 1 diabetes attend D-Camps!

It was a great day to meet the neighbors and to share information about diabetes.

The image shows a flyer for the "Cases for Camp" event and a photograph of three volunteers at a table. The flyer is blue and white, featuring the event date (Saturday May 13, 2023, 10am - 4pm), location (The Beer Store, Oak Ridges, 13469 Yonge St, Richmond Hill, ON L4E 3L3), and the slogan "Help Kids with Diabetes go to Camp!". It also includes the Oak Ridges Lions Club logo and contact information. The photograph shows three people (two women and one man) standing behind a table covered with a purple cloth, displaying informational materials and a collection of empty cans.

Environmental

Our annual “Oak Ridges Lions Club Community Clean-Up” was held on April 29, 2023. Advertisement for this event was widespread, with email blasts sent by our MP, MPP, Mayor, and local Councillor. The event was posted on our Website, Facebook, Nextdoor, and in our local paper. Even The City of Richmond Hill displayed our poster within the Oak Ridges Community Centre, and for the first time ever, posted the event on the illuminated digital sign for the community Centre on busy Bayview Avenue for all those passing by to see.

A huge part of the success of bringing out the students was that our event poster made it into the Guidance Departments of 34 YRDB High Schools in our community. We had a great showing of students who were excited to complete their community service hours. **Win-Win all around.**

Even though it was a cold, raining, windy, dull day, it did not dampen the spirits of our volunteers who turned out in large numbers. A grand total of 145 residents and students braved the elements and collected 1000 pounds of windblown, soaked garbage (excluding the dishwasher!).



Marketing

On June 9th our club will be attending our MPP Michael Parsa’s first ever “Aurora, Oak Ridges, Richmond Hill BBQ” for the residents of his riding. Our focus will be to increase awareness for our club and all the wonderful things we do for our community. Increasing membership by a bold goal of 35% year over year is a priority for the club. With this in mind, we will be showcasing the criteria required to become a member. “We touch the lives of the people we serve” so if anyone is ready to enhance their service and membership experience, we will be there to help them register.

We have built many varied community partnerships and collaborations, one of which is our sponsor KIND. They have been extremely generous, and the use of their product has helped us to spread "KINDness" at the event. Nothing says "kindness" like a Lion and a KIND bar. We will be spreading "KINDness" at this event too!

Fundraising

Oak Ridges Lions have been invited by the Information Technology staff to host a BBQ for YRDSB at The Bette Stephenson Centre for Learning on June 14th. We will serve 150 staff a BBQ lunch and raise awareness of our 5 pillars and all the work we do in our community, while helping bolster our clubs financial goals.

Childhood Cancer

Another pillar close to our club's heart is Childhood Cancer. This pillar team has goals and is under way in achieving them for the POGO Unit at Southlake Pediatric Ward, with an event scheduled for September 2023. What a wonderful way to start off our new year in Lionism!

We are proud of the work our club has done this year and are honoured to be part of such an amazing group of A-16 clubs. Oak Ridges Lions would like to thank all Lions for their unwavering commitment to those **We Serve**, those who work towards making a positive difference in our communities, and those who like us, spread kindness.

Submitted by: Lion Gwen Colaco



BAM Lions Club

Pitch-in Brooklin

On Saturday April 22nd the Brooklin Ashburn Myrtle (BAM) Lions Club hosted the 20th annual **Pitch-In Brooklin** event to commemorate Earth Day. Pitch-In Brooklin is an event where residents of Brooklin come to their neighborhood park, rain or shine, to pick up trash, getting the park ready for the warm weather. 108 participants registered at the twelve parks in Brooklin and participants who registered had a chance to win one of 24 weekend passes to this year's Brooklin Spring Fair.



Planning for Pitch-In Brooklin involves four areas of focus – coordinating with the Town of Whitby, recruiting volunteers to be Park Captains and drivers, getting sponsorship from local businesses, and promoting the event.

Coordinating with the Town involves completing forms for each park identifying that we are hosting a park cleanup between 9:00am and 11:00am on Earth Day. The Town then supplies the number of garbage bags and disposable gloves that we specify, and makes arrangements with their workforce to pick up the collected garbage after the event.

The garbage bags and disposable gloves are provided by the Town ahead of the event and these are distributed to our volunteer Park Captains. The Park Captains hand these out to residents who come out to clean up the park, and also encourage the residents to register. By registering, they are eligible to win one of twenty-four passes to the Brooklin Spring Fair. The Park Captains also ensure that everyone knows where to put their collected garbage and what to do if



anything hazardous is found. The Park Captains also handout freebies provided by sponsors. This year's freebies included a reusable shopping bag provided by a local realtor, work gloves and yard

waste bags provided by our local Home Hardware, and of course, a list of upcoming community events being hosted by BAM Lions. Coffee, hot chocolate, and Timbits, donated by our local Tim Hortons franchise, were delivered to each park by our volunteer drivers, who also had spare garbage bags and gloves in case any were needed.

After the cleanup, all the volunteers were invited to the Brooklin Legion for a pizza party in their honor, compliments of another sponsor, Brooklin's Papa John's pizza.

The Brooklin Ashburn Myrtle Lions Club looks forward to hosting Pitch-In Brooklin again next year. Some of the lessons learned include start planning earlier to allow us to find more sponsors to donate prizes, and to allow us to do more promotion of this event so that we can get even more participants next year.

Submitted by: Lion Jim Fielder

Cannington Lions Club

Volunteer Night 2023

The Cannington Lions Club hosted their annual Volunteer Night on May 18th. It was a pleasant return as we had not been able to hold it for the last three years due to the pandemic.

We hold this event to thank the many community volunteers we have for their efforts to make Cannington and area a more vibrant community. Attendees were asked to tell a little about their organization and what they do. It allows the groups to get to know each other and find out what they're all about. We had 38 guests attend representing 20 different volunteer organizations. A wonderful roast beef dinner was served and our guest speaker was Amanda Stewart of South Lake Communities Futures.

Submitted by: Lion Bo Enss





Canada-HK New Horizon Lions Club

Looking Forward to New Horizons

The 2023 Annual Gala of the Canada-HK New Horizon Lions Club was successfully hosted on April 15th, 2023 Saturday at Premiere Ballroom and Convention Centre. Our theme this year is “Looking Forward to New Horizons”

Over the years, our Club has played a vital role in our community. It has made significant contributions, including raising over \$650,000 for various charitable and philanthropic purposes. This year, we exceeded our target and raised over \$32,000 for Carefirst Foundation, who will use our contributions to support the construction of their Carefirst Campus of Care that consists of a long term care home, medical center and a community hub for seniors.

The 2023 Horizon Gala was an evening of entertainment, fun, and mission. Our Co-Chairs include Lions Ambrose Cheng, Esther Wong, Billy Duong and Mun Chan; our honorary co-chairs are Lion Margaret Law, Councillor Amanda Collucci, Councillor Michael Shiu and Lion Paul Leung—they all performed as Charity Stars for the event. Throughout the evening, Feature performer Lawrence Chan and the students from the Fame Studio were generously showcasing their talents in music. They sponsored the event with a generous donation. Besides, there were also award-winners of various singing and dance contests, and music enthusiasts who pledged donations for their performances. There were also dance performances by the Canadian champions and world representatives. Over 450 guests joined the gala enjoying music and dance and the raffle draw. It was a fun night!!



We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the sponsors for their generous and continued support, our volunteers for their valuable time and hard work, and members of the organizing committee.

All donors to the Carefirst Foundation are recorded on our donation website: <http://horizongala2023.ca/>

Submitted by: Lion Margaret Law

Newmarket Lions Club

Newmarket Lions support Inn From The Cold



The Newmarket Lions report to the Lions of A16 a donation made to Inn From The Cold Homeless Shelter's Building Fund.

Inn From The Cold is a unique Newmarket homeless shelter operating year round 24 hours a day serving 26 regular guests and 5 transition clients. Clients receive optional skill building, counselling and socializing to help them eliminate addictions, regain dignity and trust, and develop job skills.



Transitional clients move from a large shared living space to small private rooms with shared kitchen and living areas. These guests, while developing skills and confidence to get back into the Newmarket community, take on part time jobs that reinforce their training. When these clients “graduate” from this transitional stage, they move into small individual apartments in the community. They pay rent, go to work and look after themselves as we all do.

Currently, the Inn has raised 1.2 million dollars toward a new building that will house 26 regular guests plus 15 transitional clients at a time. There will be individual counselling rooms, small seminar rooms and one large dining area that will also be for large group instruction. Programs to support the end to homelessness will expand.

Inn From The Cold provides a Community Meal every Friday to anyone in Newmarket in need.

The Newmarket Lions recognize the valuable contribution the Inn makes in restoring dignity and trust in their efforts to end homelessness. Well done!

Submitted by: Lion Kirby Brock

Omemees Lioness Lions Club

Cutting and Sewing supporting Childhood Cancer



The Omemees Lions Lions were busy in cutting and sewing pillowcases for kids with cancer. The Sewing Group made 122 pillowcases and donated them to Hearth Place. PCC Debbie Dawson was at hand receiving the donation representing Hearth Place.



Submitted by: Lioness Lion Pat Aitken



Stouffville Lions Club

Monday Project Prep Night – 1st Monday of the Month

The idea of the “Project Prep Night” came primarily from the lack of dedicated time some Stouffville Lions Committees have to work on projects and brainstorm on potential new ones. The “behind-the-scenes” part of projects can typically take much more time and effort than the actual activity or service day. Project Prep Night, Lead by Lion Kim Stark, has working gatherings on the first Monday of each month, and provides volunteers with opportunities to see what projects the Club is involved with, plus opportunities to meet Club members outside of a formal meeting setting. In addition, it provides volunteers with insights into what opportunities there are for them to share ideas and experiences if they were to become a Lion or Leo, while becoming a part of a world-wide Lions service program.

We believe that increasing Lions membership comes from drawing on volunteers and allowing them to learn how they can create an impact within their community. Having them participate at times with their kids is an even better outcome ... they discuss the possibility / desire of starting a Leos Club.

One evening we had a senior who volunteers washing pill bottles with a few grade 12 boys and they enjoyed the conversations and their time together on multiple levels.

We have a few projects that have taken advantage of the Monday nights volunteers:

- ***A Review and Selection of Historic Stouffville Lions Club photos*** – Some of our senior members along with volunteers review projected versions of these photos, and select which ones could be used on our Club’s Website or Facebook page.
- ***Annual project called Trees of Hope***. This year, our 4th annual, the club purchased 1,200 seedlings (3 varieties) of native shrubs that we offer to Stouffville residents free of charge. Residents submit their orders of species and quantities and then during the Project Prep Monday night; 7 Lions and 6 Volunteers fulfilled approximately ½ of the orders. This lessened the load for the balance of the orders taking place at a Lions home (backyard) over the weekend.



- We have an ongoing project of *Prescription Pill Bottles* that are collected within the community and local drug store. We strip any remaining labels – wipe with Goo Gone any that have any sticky residue, wash them thoroughly in hot soapy water, dry thoroughly and prep for shipment to Blue Ash, Ohio for distribution around the world for “Doctors without Borders”
- *Mats for Homeless and Shelters* - We have partnered with 2 existing local outreach groups “Hummingbird Hub” and “City Street Outreach” that have been weaving mats using milk bags from residents. These mats are donated to homeless and shelters that find them very valuable when dealing with bed bug outbreaks. They can remove the existing mattresses entirely and replace with the mats that do not house the bed bugs and can be easily washed and replaced. This initiative also keeps the bags out of the landfill.



There are many more ideas we have that could be using these dedicated evenings, and we are always looking for new ways to be of service.

Submitted by: Lion Joe Boll

Did you know...

Did you know that we have a booking calendar for the use of the A-16 Zoom Account?

It is posted on the A-16 website.

Click [here](https://lionsa16family.org/a-16-goto-and-zoom-booking-calendar.html) to go to the calendar on the a16 website, or go to the site using the following link:
<https://lionsa16family.org/a-16-goto-and-zoom-booking-calendar.html>

North Oshawa Lions Club

Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides - Priceless



Our club's 3rd in person Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides was held on Sunday May 28th. We had a beautiful day for our walk with more people coming out to support the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides.

Although we did not surpass our last year's walk totals, which in these hard economical uncertainties is understandable. We are still pleased for so many reasons. Those who have undertaken such an event will understand what goes into it, and the months leading up to walk day. We have had the pleasure to work with the amazing staff at LFCDG, who are the most committed and supportive group, working alongside us, through countless hours. We have the same passion for this program, to see it succeed and grow and to educate our community about it. **Priceless!**



Lion Lyle Hargrove and I had many great opportunities to do this, along with promoting our Lions Club to gain new membership. We were asked to do a community TV show with Rogers. We talked about the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides and our walk, Lyle also spoke, as membership chair, about the importance of being a Lions Club member. **Priceless!**

We were asked to do a presentation at a local school, which were learning about community helpers. We said yes right away, because educating at any level is worth more than surpassing our last year walk totals. **Priceless!**



We have worked with the fosters of the Future Dog Guides in our area, who tirelessly have devoted their time to be with us promoting our walk, with no hesitation, only joy and dedication. They are true heroes doing what they do for LFCDG. **Priceless!**

Interest in our talking about Dog Guides, led to having a Mother and Daughter team come out and volunteer their time. They joined us at an information booth at a local Pet Valu, and helped on walk day, also interested in any future Lions events. **Priceless!**

Having the recipients and their families of a Dog Guide come out, hear their personal stories of how life has changed for them. **Priceless!**

The walk is being held all across Canada, many organized by Lions Club, others, by Pet Valu stores or a community member. All locations need, and should be supported by the surrounding Lions Clubs in some way. Our Club had the pleasure of having Zone Chair Gail Bates speak at our club just prior to her sudden passing. It stuck with me, her words talking about an event the three Clubs did together; we have to work together more as one, even though we are separate clubs, we are all Lions and did great work. **Priceless!**



Submitted by: Lion Sarah Moir

Fenelon Falls and District Lions Club *Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides*



On May 27th the Fenelon Falls and District Lions Club held our annual Walk for Guide Dogs. We had an amazing turnout, lots of great prizes and raised almost \$4,000 in donations. Thank you to our community and Lions Volunteers!



Submitted by: Lion Debra Wilson

Aurora Lions Club

Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides



On May 28th, Sunday we held our first Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides since the pandemic. Overall, the event went very well and all those who participated seemed to really enjoy themselves. The vibe was great ... the people were great ... the dogs were great ... the weather was great! The walk commenced at the Queens Jubilee Park on John West Way and continued through the scenic Aurora Arboretum then back to the park.



Lion Susan was able to contact people in this area who have guide dogs that have been donated to them and two dogs were wonderful enough to come out and join the event. We already have a commitment from one of them to be back again next year!

We had 11 walkers register on-line and 2 more register on Sunday at the tent. All told, we had about 30 actual walkers that day.

As of today, we've raised \$1,425.00 on the site and through a number of different events, we raised another \$837.80 that Lion June took to the bank and deposited into the Walking account.

That's \$2,262.80 raised so far by our club. The National total stands at \$520,774.

Some of the fundraising activities by the Club were:

Lions Trudy, Susan and I set up a stand in front of The Pet Valu on Henderson (our partner in the walk) and raised money and awareness for the walk.

Lion June and her friend Lousie raised even more money than us by setting up a Lemonade stand in front of the Moody Cow and next to the Karate School.

We also had a "guess the number of biscuits" jar where each guess costs you a buck!



Tim Hortons chipped in with coffee and Dominoes Pizza with some pies! We had a couple of very nice gift baskets from Global Pet Foods and if I understand correctly, Lions Michelle and Jim B donated the water!

The walk commenced with opening remarks from Lion David and John Gallo, our Ward 5 council person in Aurora.

The sponsor that we really need to recognize though, is Pet Valu on Henderson. Inziglo and her team were enthusiastic, helpful and totally into the event. For those of you who have pets, please pay them a visit next time you're in need of something for your furry friends and make sure they know that we appreciated all the help! They will definitely be part of the walk again next year.



This walk is important - and more so, we really hope that it will become one of our club's signature events for years to come. With that in mind, we'll be looking for support from as many members as possible next year. There is a lot of work to put on an event like this and there would certainly be a job for any or all to pitch in. You don't necessarily need to be part of the committee but we really could have used a few more Lions the day of the event. As it were, we were lucky enough to have some really good volunteers who pitched in. Next year's walk will be on Sunday May 26th, 2024... mark it off on your calendars!

Lastly, a big shout out to everyone who was involved on the committee: Lions Michelle, Pat, Terry, Trudy, June, Rob, Susan and Lion Jonathan who did lot of running around for the event - we hope your operation went well!

Thanks All!

The Aurora Lion's Dog Walk Committee 2023

Submitted by: Lion Terry Mulcahy

Thank You for reading the June 2023 issue of the A-16 District Governor Newsletter!



*I want to thank Lion Joe Boll, one of our Newsletter committee members, who took the initiative in contacting clubs and encouraged them to share their wonderful service stories. It is so nice to read the **Making Magic Happen (The Final Edition)** story of Oak Ridges Lions Club, **The Pitch-in Brooklin** from BAM, and the many support service stories to the **Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides** program in this issue.*

I always enjoy reading the creative and dedicated service projects you all put together serving your local communities. I believe you can always find a few new ideas from the stories of the other clubs in the District and bring them back to your clubs.

I would like to say thank you to my two Newsletter committee members: Lions Eleanor Colwell and Joe Boll. Thank you for your support all the way!

As always, we welcome your comments and feedback on how we can make the DG Newsletters more interesting to you to read.

Please do drop me a line on what you think about the Newsletter, and how we can make it even better for all. Send your feedback via email to me at tcheung@lionsa16.com

Happy Reading!

DG Newsletter Committee

Lions Eleanor Colwell, Joe Boll, Tim Cheung

