

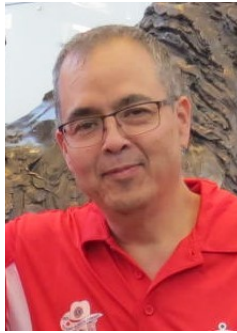
June
2024



News from District C-2 Special Edition

Lions District C-2 Alberta, Canada Around the District

District Governor Kevin Gibbons Thanks



Fellow Lions,
As the time comes to an end for our cabinet, I wanted to take this final opportunity with our wonderful newspaper editor to thank you all again for your efforts and service in making our organization greater

than we started the year. It's been an honour serving by your side as the District Governor. Because of your efforts we have made this year one of the most successful in the history of C-2.

Some of the early highlights were the creation of the Calgary Connect Lions Club which was granted their official charter January 12, 2024 and had its Charter Night celebration March 23, 2024. Certified Guiding Lion Bill Stecewicz has continued to do an excellent job in guiding the new club. Mental Health Initiative is off to a good start with our Chairperson arranging to visit clubs and is coordinating with the MDC counterpart. Youth Exchange Chairperson Brad Walls has done an excellent job taking the reins from Tony P. Despite some early challenges Brad has taken this program to new levels and is in the process of automating registration and other aspects of the program. We also have two (2) Youth Camps to offer to our incoming students and we have offered Brad's services to C1 to assist with any of their students wanting to join Youth Exchange.

I'm happy to report that in an effort to reach the goals of Mission 1.5 that C-2 is sitting at plus 96 members at the time of the writing of this report. This is all because of the efforts of the clubs to continue to grow. We

increased our membership by 5.19%. Great job LIONS !!!!

Hall of Fame induction at Lionel Bird Youth camp has helped to give exposure to both the youth camp and our inductees. This year saw the induction of Jack Green and Pepe Siapno as the first inductees under the new system. We also had a group picture that included Dan McKinnon, and Gord Prusky. We hope that every year the old and new inductees will meet at the Youth Camp for their formal induction. Special thanks to Glenn Robertson and his crew at the Youth Camp for putting on an awesome celebration.



We also welcomed the Cowboy Trail Lions Club into our Lions family. It would appear that Initiative 1 plus 1 has made an impact as we show a great many clubs with positive growth.

The District Convention is scheduled for October 18th & 19th to be held in Calgary. Please remember to submit your nominations for the Hall of Fame and the office of 2nd Vice District Governor to District Governor Elect Glenn Garalde as the deadline to receive the nominations is fast approaching.

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News from District C-2 Special Edition

(cont. from page 1)

The first annual LIONS/STARS Stampede Breakfast will take place July 9th at the STARS base. STARS provided the food and the Bowness Lions will be the cooks. The purpose of this event is to remind everyone of the importance of LIONS to STARS and to remind the LIONS why we support STARS.



Every year the District Governor has the privilege of choosing their charity of choice and then asking the Lions clubs in the district to make donations. This year I choose the Alberta Children's Hospital

Foundation, specifically the hospice better known as the Flames Rotary House and the Pediatric Care Transport Team. Lion Leslie and I toured the hospice and were emotionally moved by the work that they do for the children at the end of their lives but also for the support they provide the families as they take their child down their final journey. The Pediatric Care Transport Team operates like a "mini S.T.A.R.S" transporting kids to the hospital that need more advanced medical care than can be provided in a Paramedic Unit. Our goal was to raise \$25,000 so that we could have the Lions of District C-2 permanently etched on the Wall of Fame. Thanks to the Lions Clubs and individuals in District C-2, we made the financial goal and now everyone will know how much our Lions have contributed to make the world a better place. Take pride when you see our name on the Wall of Fame. I'm very proud of the Lions for this

amazing contribution. If you want to still make a donation you can send your cheque to me or directly to the Children's Hospital.

All the best to District Governor Elect Glenn and his cabinet for the upcoming year. I hope you will support him the same way that you offered your support and friendship to Lion Leslie and me over the past year.

In closing, thanks to everyone for their service on this cabinet and service to our district, multiple district, and world as a whole. To our great "everyday Lions" please continue to do what you do best and that is to "Serve". Please feel free to call on Lion Leslie and me, if we can help your club in any way. Just because my term as District Governor is coming to a close doesn't mean that I'm finished working and assisting the clubs in C-2.



I'm proud to be a LION and I very proud of the Lions of C 2 !!!!

In Lionism,
Kevin Gibbons,
2023-2024 District Governor



"We had a great District Convention with a record amount of attendees coming out of the "Covid Fog". Over 200 people attended our convention in Medicine Hat Alberta. International Director Bob Lee and his wife Lion Pam were our esteemed guests. Bob gave an awesome speech at the District Governor Banquet. Special thanks to Convention Chairman Dennis Stevenson and the rest of the Convention Committee for the wonderful job. I think the committee has set the bar very high for conventions to come. Great Job !!!!"

DG Kevin Gibbons



Since producing the first District Newsletter "Around the District" in July, 2017 I have had the privilege of working with Lions and leaders in our district. The support the Newsletter has received has been overwhelming as well as inspiring. It has made my job immensely enjoyable and rewarding. My heartfelt thanks to all the

Lions and clubs who submitted information for the newsletter either on a regular basis or now and then. The success of the Newsletter was the result of the participation and efforts of our district Lions and the clubs they represented.

However, the time has come for new eyes to take over the task of communicating the awesome service provided in our district by its clubs. I sincerely hope that communication with clubs and among clubs continues in a form that will be of value to the district.

Lion Carol Hassell, Newsletter Editor



District C-2 2024 Convention



Lion Kevin Gibbons
C-2 District Governor
2023-2024

February 9th and 10th, 2024 was a busy time in Medicine Hat, Alberta where the District's 10th annual convention was held. The convention committee had been planning for almost a year; the International Director Lion Bob Lee from Hawaii was scheduling his trips to ensure he would land in Calgary with time to travel down to Medicine Hat; and Lions were booking their hotel reservations and waiting anxiously for details on the new seminar format to be used.

Luckily for all travelers to this southern-most area of the province, paralyzing storms, bristling cold with ice and snow did not materialize so roads were relatively safe, dry and clear.



PCC Dennis Stevenson
Convention Chair

As ID Lee and Lion Pam arrived in Calgary on February 8th, the Host Couple Lions Derek Warrack and Nicole Guo, members of the Cheadle Host Club, were ready to join DG Kevin to provide tours of a few of the Lion activities around Calgary. Included in the day's activities were visits to Lions Village, CLERC, STARS, and a presentation to Lion Glenn de Boer of an International President's Certificate of Appreciation (picture left).



Picture above (from the left)
ID Bob Lee, Lion Pam Lee, Lions Host couple
Lion Glenn de Boer, DG Kevin Gibbons,
Lion Leslie Gaqui.

DG Kevin planned a very busy day for International Director Lee emphasizing the effect Lions clubs have on their communities in C-2. At the end of this busy day, the international couple were driven down to Medicine Hat in time to prepare for the C-2 Convention.



Picture right-visit to STARS: (from the left) Lions Raquel Galalde, Otto Silzer, Leslie Gaqui, DG Kevin Gibbons, Lion Pam Lee, International Director Bob Lee, Host Couple Lions Derek Warrack and Nicole Guo, and 1VDG Glenn.





District C-2 2024 Convention



Preparations & Connections Begin.



It didn't take long for the initial dribble of registrants to turn into a steady stream. International Director Marvin Chambers wasted no time in connecting with Lion Danielle Richir, 2VDG candidate (picture left) and PDGs Tim and Gail Haight from the Prince Albert Lions Club SK (picture bottom right).



The Leos from the Lil Legendary Leos Club (bottom left) were nothing but miraculous in offering Lions assistance with unpacking their vehicles to transporting luggage to rooms to whatever was needed in setting up the hall. They were always available with enthusiasm and vigor. What amazing Lions they are going to make!



Meanwhile . . .



MEDALTA
in the Historic Clay District



. . . on Friday morning, when activities were heating up back at the Convention Centre, ID Lee and Lion Pam were treated to a tour of Medalta Pottery in the Clay District of Medicine Hat. DG Kevin and Lion Leslie along with the Host Couple also learned about the history of the pottery industry.

"Medalta is an innovative, industrial non-profit museum, contemporary ceramic arts facility, art gallery and community hub . . . where cutting edge technologies meet historic restoration and archaeology come together."

from Medalta website at www.medalta.org



District C-2 2024 Convention

Opening Ceremonies leading to . . .

As usual, opening ceremonies starting at 7:00 pm Friday evening. The flag ceremony is always looked forward to with, this year, Zone Chairs and Leos carrying the six flags (picture right). Land acknowledgement, introductions, government greetings and convention rules were followed by Justice Brian Stevenson taking the podium to officiate the presentations of nominees for the various positions to be voted on. It was to be a busy and highly anticipated voting process with many decisions to be made by the clubs and their voting delegates.



Lion Holly Bandelow organized the Opening Ceremonies flag bearers consisting of Leos and Zone Chairs.

1st VDG Glenn Garalde spoke about plans for the District C-2 2024-2025 Convention to be held in October in Calgary.

2nd VDG Leslie Cunningham moved that Carstairs & Area be awarded the 2025-2026 Convention. The motion was supported by PDG Henry Czarnota and seconded by Lion Danielle Richir. Motion passed.

District Governors for 2024-2025
(vote for 1 in each position)

District Governor
Glenn Garalde

1st Vice District Governor
Leslie Cunningham

2nd Vice District Governor
Lions Tim Beer, Estrella Delos Reyes, Rex Elumir,
Danielle Richir

Hall of Fame (vote for 2)
Lions Jack Green, Larry Hausauer, Pepe Siapno

MDC Vice Council Chair
PDG Christine Lank

fun, fellowship and a lot of noise!



A bit of dancing, a bit of gambling, a bit of listening and a lot of communicating! After the business of the Opening was concluded, Lions had the opportunity to relax and be entertained or chat with fellow Lions and Leos. Westwind Club provided an energetic demonstration of Hawaiian dancing set to the music of the Vintage Express Band. And, of course, Lion Sonny Warrack was always willing to make your pockets a bit lighter at his gaming table.





District C-2 2024 Convention

C-2's 2024 Convention initiated two features that have not been used in district conventions previously: a **Sponsorship Program** and a **Seminar Program**.

Sponsorships

This program was created to give district clubs a direct way of taking part in their convention. Through a number of sponsorship areas and levels, clubs could decide how they would take part. In return for their financial support, every club that sponsored received advertising at the convention as well as before and after in written materials distributed throughout the district.

Of course, it assisted the financial well-being if the convention itself by enabling activities to take place that would otherwise not be able to do so. It is hoped that this is the beginning in the development of a rigorous sponsorship program that will be used at future conventions.

Thank You to our Sponsoring Clubs

- Bearspaw
- Blairmore
- Bow Island
- Calgary North Hill
- Fort Macleod
- Lethbridge West
- Medicine Hat
- Medicine Hat Community View
- Redcliff



Representatives from the sponsoring clubs receiving District Governor's Certificates of Achievement.

Seminars

In an effort to create a more personal experience, the attendees could decide on which presentations they would attend in first two talks of the morning.

Four presentations occurred simultaneously for the first two sessions. The four lecture rooms were beside one another which made movement between the sessions seamless.

Thank You to our Seminar Speakers

- AB Children's Hospital: Sean & Trish Rooney
- Cancer: Lion Estrella Delos Reyes
- Leos: Lion Alicia Kiri Beer
- Mental Wellness: Lion Regina Holdenried
- Quest: Lion Bill Stecewicz
- Vision: Lion James Lee
- Youth Camp: Lion Glenn Robertson
- Youth Exchange: Lion Brad Walls

and to Morning Speakers

- LCIF: PID Marvin Chambers
- Diabetes: Lion Alan Balson

Voting

As International Director Lion Bob Lee commented - he couldn't remember when there were four candidates running for 2VDG and, as well, that it took



three votes to determine the winner. Huge thanks to PDG Gordon Prusky and CC Brent Johnson for organizing the voting so professionally that it took only one hour and

40 minutes for 90 Lions to mark their ballots three consecutive times.



District C-2 2024 Convention



Here are some facts . . .

54 clubs were represented.
 83% were from District C-2 (45)
 11% were from District C-1 (6)
 6% were from outside the province (3)

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226 Lions/Leos registered.
 171 were early registrations.
Highest Attendance Award
 Calgary Wildrose Club with
 4 Leos & 12 Lions.
Mileage Award
 Olds Lions Club
Highest Zone Turnout
 Zone 8
 Zone Chair Doug Porter

Clubs Represented

- Airdrie
- Athabasca (C-1)
- Bears paw
- Beiseker
- Blackie
- Blairmore
- Blindman Valley (C-1)
- Boseman Gallatin Empire (USA)
- Bowness
- Calgary
- Calgary Chinatown
- Calgary Connect
- Calgary Filipino
- Calgary Heritage
- Calgary Korean
- Calgary North Hill
- Calgary Northeast Eyeopener
- Calgary Properties
- Calgary South Asian
- Calgary Westwind
- Calgary Wildrose
- Calgary Wildrose Leo
- Camrose Swans & Roses (C-1)
- Carstairs & District
- Cheadle
- Cochrane
- Community View (Medicine Hat)
- Cowley
- Devon (C-1)
- Didsbury
- Foothills
- Fort Macleod
- Grand Prairie
- Hyderabad Indus (India)
- Irvine & District
- Lethbridge West
- Lil Legendary Leo
- Madden
- Magrath
- Medicine Hat
- Morrin
- Nanton & District
- Nanton Next Generation Leo
- Olds
- Picture Butte
- Pincher Creek
- Prince Albert (SK)
- Redcliff
- Richmond (C-1)
- Smokey Lake (C-1)
- Spruce View & District
- Strathmore
- Vegreville
- Vulcan
- Woodcreek

awards . . .



Lion Bill Stecewicz presented with the Guiding Lion pin.



PDG Betty Ann Robson receiving DG's Certificate of Appreciation for the furthest to travel.



The first Gordon Prusky Award give to Lion Gordon by CLERC Chair James Lee.

and the results of the voting.



Anxiously waiting, Lions finally received results from the morning's voting marathon.

2024-2025 DG Team
District Governor
 Glenn Garalde
1st VDG
 Leslie Cunningham
2nd VDG
 Danielle Richir (picture left).

Hall of Fame
Lion Jack Green
 Calgary North Hill Club
Lion Pepe Siapno
 Calgary Wildrose Club





District C-2 2024 Convention

District Governor's Banquet



As is traditional, the Convention concluded with a banquet honouring the international guest, International Director Bob Lee and Lion Pam Lee. Piper Rab Cowan (below left with VDG Leslie) headed the Grand March. After the toasts and dinner concluded, the International Director inspired Lions to continue serving, told stories of personal experiences, and praised District C-2 with their projects of service. ID Lee also had the pleasure of presenting President Patti Hill's Certificates of Appreciation.



“Regardless of the vegetable soup in front of our names, we are all the same—Lions working to make this world a better place for all.”

ID Lee was clear in the focus of his message - that in order to fulfil our motto “We Serve”, recruitment of new members as well as retention of active Lions will be a major initiative for the next few years. Providing training, opportunities and mentoring of potential leaders is part of that membership emphasis as is providing financial support to attend forums and conventions. Membership and Leadership—not a new LCI focus, but one to be always kept in mind by clubs and districts.

ID Lee was somewhat suprized by the statistic that only 43% of clubs in C-2 do regular reporting to LCI.

Even with that, the district served over 79,000 people and volunteered 17,000 hours.

“Imagine what the numbers would be if all the district clubs reported!”

Lastly, ID Lee spoke of the importance of Lions contributing to LCIF. Last year, Lions worldwide helped over 495 million people through LCIF grants made possible by donations from Lions.



Congratulations to International President's Certificate of Appreciation Winners

Ward Anderson (Bears paw)
Sonny Warrack (Cheadle)
Gordon Prusky (Bears paw)
Glenn de Boer (Cheadle)

Daryl Reinke (Bowness)
Pepe Siapno (Wildrose)
Otto Silzer (Calgary)

Bill Stecewicz (Calgary Heritage)
Wayne Herdman (Strathmore)
Dennis Stevenson (North Hill)



District C-2 2024 Convention



ID Bob Lee's Venture Into the Mountains

Before ID Lee and Lion Pam left Alberta, District Governor Kevin and Lion Leslie whisked them off to the mountains to the west—to the village of Banff. Not only did the ID couple enjoy the amazing landscape that surrounded them but also sampled our amazing Beaver Tails. The weather was perfect—no blizzards, no ice on roads, no biting cold. A perfect ending to ID Lee's trip to Alberta.



International Director Bob Lee is a 34 year member of the Honolulu Chinatown Lions Club. The club was formed in 1972.

He has held many offices within the Lion association, including club secretary and president, zone and region chairperson, district membership, extension, and retention chairperson, and district governor.

In 2024-2025 he and his partner Lion Pam together will hold the position of club treasurer.

