

C2 LIONS NEWS

Busy summer gives way to busy Lions autumn

Danielle Hamelin
C2 District Governor

September is here! The trees shine with red and gold, and the cool mornings signal a shift into a new season of Lions service, growth, and community connection.

Over the summer, the DG team was hard at work updating our labour of love... the District Directory. This year's edition features a refreshed format with new content and clearer information that I hope will be especially useful for our clubs. The books are now printed, and will be distributed in the coming weeks.

On Aug. 17, we held a Multiple District Finance and Budget Committee meeting via Zoom, followed by the Multiple District Council meeting in Calgary on Aug. 29. We are **still actively seeking an MDC Secretary for 2026–2027**, and we welcome any Lion who is willing to step forward and support the Council in this important role.

On Labour Day Monday, a small group of C2 Lions braved the cooler temperatures—



and the eventual rain—to cheer on the teams at the **Labour Day Classic football game**. Despite the weather, spirits stayed high and a good time was had by all. Watch this newsletter and your emails for more social outings brought to you by the District! Ultimately, these outings reinforce unity, boost engagement, and remind Lions that

Continued



service is even stronger when relationships are strong.

Convention planning is underway, with the committee now meeting every two weeks to finalize details and ensure this year's gathering is both meaningful and enjoyable. While we still have a few carry-over business items from last year, attendees can look forward to a full program of fun, inspiring speakers, voting, and interactive discussions.

Our theme, "**Summit of Service – The Spirit of Lions,**" will guide the energy and focus of the entire weekend. Please register today and encourage others in your clubs join you.

The "**Shaping Our Future Together**" **Training Series** has launched. It is a collection of interactive Zoom-based training sessions open to all Lions, regardless of role, experience level of years of service.

This series is designed to help us strengthen our skills, build confidence, and grow together as a united district. This initiative reflects our commitment to building a stronger, more connected District C-2.

When we learn together, we lead together—and we shape our future together. Thank you to GLT Michelle Harris for spearheading this training.

September also highlights the **2026 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Memphis, Tennessee.**

I am pleased to say that our very own Suzanne Leschychyn was a presenter at the Forum. Congratulations Suzanne! The USA/Canada Forum is another great opportunity for Lions to learn, share ideas, and bring new ideas back to their clubs and communities. If you have never attended a Forum... what are you waiting for?

As our clubs begin planning for the months ahead, service must remain at the heart of all we do. International President Mark Lyon reminds us that meaningful service is what helps clubs thrive, stay visible in their communities, and ultimately grow.

This is also the foundation of **MISSION 1.5**. One act of service can create a ripple that reaches far beyond what we may ever witness. In the same way, one invitation to a prospective member can spark another ripple—expanding our reach and increasing the number of people we are able to serve.

Start Planning Your Week of Service! It is time to begin planning for the first Vision Week of Service, Oct. 8-18. Visit the Weeks of Service webpage to access the new Vision resource and start planning your club's project today. [Weeks of Service | Lions Clubs International](#)

Club Reporting Every service activity tells the story of Lions in action. Reporting projects, volunteer hours, funds donated, and people served ensures our collective impact is recognized and accurately measured. These reports strengthen community awareness, inspire other clubs, support future planning, and demonstrate the power of service worldwide.

If an activity is not reported, an important part of our story remains untold. Report your service and let your impact be seen! Let's move forward with enthusiasm, collaboration, and service at our core. Together, we can accomplish great things—and enjoy every step of the way!

Service Through Unity is not just a motto, it is a movement.

**Next newsletter deadline:
October 23, 2026**

The convention approaches.... and items are needed for the silent auction.

Fellow Lions, we will be conducting a Silent Auction at this years District C2 convention in Cochrane, Alta., on Oct. 23 and 24.

If you have any items that you would like to donate for the silent auction, please let Lion Bill S. know by email at lionbills1@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support.



LIONS INTERNATIONAL

DISTRICT C2
DISTRICT WIDE SERVICE PROJECT

SOCK IT FORWARD!

ONE PAIR CAN CHANGE A LIFE!

**NEW SOCKS.
WARM FEET.
STRONGER COMMUNITIES.**

That's the Power of Service!

Thank you for helping us make a difference!

GET READY FOR SOCKTOBER!

October is our special month to ramp up our collections, get creative, challenge other clubs and share our impact!

TOGETHER, WE SERVE ONE PAIR AT A TIME!

We Serve

HERE'S HOW TO PARTICIPATE!

- SELECT A CHARITY**
Choose a local charity, shelter, outreach program, school, seniors organization, or other community organization that could benefit from new socks.
- COLLECT SOCKS**
Encourage donations of **NEW** socks for men, women, children, and babies.
- DONATE LOCALLY**
Present the socks you collect to your chosen organization and make an impact right in your own community.
- REPORT YOUR SERVICE**
Be sure to enter your Sock It Forward service project into MyLion.
- TAKE A PHOTO**
Take photos of your Lions, your sock collection, and your donation!
- SEND US YOUR PHOTO**
Email your photos to lionhollyb@gmail.com.

YOUR PHOTOS WILL BE DISPLAYED AT OUR DISTRICT C2 CONVENTION AS WE CELEBRATE THE INCREDIBLE SERVICE HAPPENING THROUGHOUT OUR DISTRICT!

#SockItForward #WeServe #DistrictC2Lions #UnitedInService #OnePairAtATime

Two clubs, two charter celebrations in Lethbridge

Two is twice as nice as one, as they say, so Lethbridge Host Lions and Lethbridge West Lions combined their charter anniversary celebrations on Sept. 12. Lethbridge Host celebrated 95 years since the club's charter, and was responsible for the charter of the Lethbridge West Lions 40 years ago.

Members of the two clubs, plus many guests, celebrated with an afternoon barbecue and not one but two "birthday" cakes. Jennifer Patrick of Lethbridge Host recounted the many contributions made by her club that have enhanced and enriched the Lethbridge community.

C2 District Governor Danielle Hamelin presented several awards to charter members and other deserving recipients.



Lethbridge Host Lions Club President Virginia McCormack and Lethbridge West Lions Club President Bonnie Paulovich prepare to cut and serve cake.



Above left, Lion Jennifer Patrick tells the gathering about the many good works undertaken by the Lethbridge Host Lions. Above, Past International Director Marvin Chambers and DG Danielle Hamelin present Lion Ardith Leggat of Lethbridge Host with the International President's Certificate of Appreciation. At left, Lethbridge West Lions charter members Stewart Erickson and Joe Rougeau were recognized for their long-term contributions to the club.



CHECK YOUR PANTRY! SHARE YOUR SERVICE! CONVENTION AWAITS!

Michelle Harris
Convention Chair

Hello Lions and all those who plan to attend the District C2 Convention in Cochrane Oct. 23-24: Please bring some canned goods.

We are collecting canned goods to pass on to the food bank in Cochrane. The Leos will then have the fun task of doing a CANstruction and we are looking forward to seeing what they build with cans. If possible, bring at least six to 10 canned items. Let's see how big we can go.

Also we are looking for pictures of service projects. Please send photos to Bradley Pay at bradleyfpay@gmail.com, and perhaps also make a collage of pictures and bring them to the convention. Then we will hang them around the convention centre. The theme this year is Summit of Service, so let's show our service.

We are also asking clubs to share a unique service project, and talk about it for no more than five minutes. We are trying to share great ideas for service.

Please contact me at michharris55@gmail.com if you would like to share.

Fear of failure: Yes, it's a thing

One of the greatest barriers to innovation in our clubs isn't a lack of ideas. It's the fear of trying something new. We often tell ourselves that a project might not work, that participation might be low, or that the outcome might fall short of expectations.

But here's the truth: **our problem is NOT our problem. Our problem is our attitude about our problem.**

When we approach new service opportunities with hesitation, we limit our potential impact. When we approach them with curiosity, courage, and a willingness to learn, we open the door to growth.

Remember, **we may fail, but we are not FAILURES.** Every attempt strengthens our skills, deepens our teamwork, and expands the ways we serve our communities.

Even legends understood this. Babe Ruth struck out **1,330 times**—but he also hit **714 home runs**. His success wasn't built on avoiding failure; it was built on stepping up to the plate again and again.

As Lions, our communities rely on us to be bold, compassionate problem-solvers. Let's embrace new service projects with confidence, knowing that every effort moves us forward.

Join us at the C2 Fall Convention in Cochrane on October 23-24, 2026 for discussions on service and exchanging service project ideas. Register today!



LIONS INTERNATIONAL WEEKS OF SERVICE

THREE WEEKS.
THREE POWERFUL CAUSES.



ROOTED IN SERVICE

LIONS SERVE. COMMUNITIES THRIVE. ❤️ TOGETHER, WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD!

VISION

OCTOBER 8-18, 2026



Opening eyes.
Changing lives.

Promote eye health and support sight-saving initiatives in your community and around the world.

YOUTH

FEBRUARY 13-21, 2027



Empower today.
Lead tomorrow.

Invest in our youth through service, mentorship, and programs that build brighter futures.

ENVIRONMENT

MAY 29-JUNE 6, 2027



Protect today.
Preserve tomorrow.

Take action to care for our planet through sustainability, conservation, and clean community initiatives.

Mark Lyons
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
2026-2027

LET'S MAKE AN IMPACT THAT GROWS STRONGER TOGETHER.

#RootedInService

Win a Tim Hortons Gift Card during Weeks of Service!

Share your service moments on social media for a chance to win. Post photos or updates from your club's activities and use the hashtag for that Week of Service:
Vision (Oct 8-18, 2026): #districtc2visioninservice



Each tagged post is an entry into the draw.

Let's fill our feeds with Lions spirit and show Alberta the impact of Service Through Unity.



District C2 Lions support for vision

The District C-2 Vision Committee is in place for the 2026-27 Lions year. As one of its first activities, it has prepared a Lions Clubs International Foundation Vision Grant Application for an Ellex Tango Reflex Laser for the Rockyview General Hospital (RGH) Eye Clinic.

This remarkable machine will greatly improve treatment options for cataracts and glaucoma, leading causes of blindness, and is expected to have a lot of use. An article in the District's August newsletter discusses the machine and the grant application in detail.

The RGH Eye Clinic serves Southern Alberta with services that are typically beyond the scope of ophthalmology clinics and regional hospitals. This is a matching grant by which LCIF would provide 50% of the \$150,000 cost of the equipment. The remaining 50% (\$75,000) must be raised within the district and must come from Lions Clubs or other partners.

District C-2 Cabinet approved this grant application and the Vision Committee encourages Lions Clubs in District C-2 to support this endeavour. The \$500 Bill Webber Fellowship will also be put towards the fundraising efforts. Your financial commitment letter or contribution should be received prior



to Sept. 29 to submit the grant application to LCIF by Oct. 1.

The funds would be held by the Lions of Alberta Foundation. We expect that, going forward, the District C-2 Vision Committee will help organize future district wide requirements for vision, effectively the first of The Lions Global Causes.

Financial commitment letters can be sent to Lion Ron Sinkinson @ rdsinkinson@hotmail.com

Bill Webber Fellowship applications are available on the Lions of Alberta Foundation website - <https://www.e-district.org/sites/albertafoundation/page-8.php>

Financial contributions can be issued to the Lions of Alberta Foundation; "District C2 Vision" in the memo line; and mailed to Lions of Alberta Foundation, PO Box 65069, RPO North Hill, Calgary T2N 4T6

Thank you for your support.

District C-2 Vision Committee

Celebration of Life

A gentle reminder as we prepare for our Fall Convention: if your club has members who have passed this year, please consider submitting a photo so they may be honoured during our Memorial Service. These tributes help us celebrate their legacy of service and ensure their impact is remembered across District C-2. Please send the name, dates of birth and passing, club name, number of years in service and photo of each departed member to DG Danielle lldanielle1@outlook.com

Please send photos as soon as possible so we can include them in this meaningful tribute.





Didsbury Lions ATV/Cash Raffle



Draw date Nov 7, 2026

Ticket Prices
6 for \$100
1 for \$20
5399 tickets available
Licence # AGLC-749821
www.rafflebox.ca/raffle/dls



Open to residents of Alberta 18 years of age or older



Lions Of Alberta Foundation

PO Box 65069 RPO North Hill Calgary AB T2N4T6

**NEW
August
2026**

Lions Legacy Scholarship Program Information

The Lions of Alberta Foundation operates the Lions Legacy Scholarship Program and invites Alberta Lions Clubs to seek students who meet the Lions Legacy Scholarship criteria.

The Lions of Alberta Foundation matches a grant of up to \$500.00 for two (2) scholarships per Lions club per year, July 1 to June 30. This is only available to Alberta Lions Clubs, and applicants must apply through an Alberta Lions Club to be considered.

Clubs can grant any amount to the student; however, the Lions of Alberta Foundation will only match up to \$500.00 for two student scholarships per Alberta Lions Club per year.

NEW: Alberta Lions Club funds to be matched for the student scholarship are required to be enclosed with the club application, student application and documentation. The Lions Club cheque must be issued to and mailed to the Lions of Alberta Foundation. This is a Lions of Alberta Foundation requirement to comply with AGLC.

The Lions of Alberta Foundation can complete an AGLC recipient agreement for Lions Clubs who do not have 'youth scholarship' as one of their approved use of proceeds.

NEW: Lions Clubs must include as the student confirmation of registration the student's official tuition receipt or proof of enrolment. This includes the time period of enrolment and must accompany the student application. This is a Lions of Alberta Foundation requirement to comply with AGLC.

NEW: The Lions of Alberta Foundation has expanded the 'post-secondary institution' category to include trade schools, colleges, polytechnical, universities, other.

Alberta Lions Clubs are encouraged to promote the Lions Legacy Scholarship in their local communities and High Schools. It is awarded to students who:

- Live in Alberta
- Have or will have graduated from Grade 12 at the time of presentation and have acceptance at a post-secondary institution of one or more years of study leading to a certificate or degree.
- Those who have received the Lions Legacy Scholarship in the past will not qualify for future grants from the Lions of Alberta Foundation Legacy Scholarship.
- Demonstrate a commitment to humanitarian causes and exhibit the Lions' service-oriented philosophy by actively volunteering in their communities.
- Able to supply all required documentation as indicated on the student application.

NOTE: Matching Grant application, Club Grant Funds and Student application forms and documentation must all be submitted together and mailed to the Lions of Alberta Foundation.

NOTE: Following approval of the application(s) a cheque for the Lions of Alberta Foundation Matching Grant plus the Club Grant will be issued in the student's name and mailed to the Lions Club for presentation.

Questions about the Lions of Alberta Foundation Legacy Scholarship Program, application forms or required documentation can be directed to the **Lions Legacy Scholarship Co-Coordinators**.

➤ PID Bill Webber
Email: wandjwebber@gmail.com

➤ Lion Jeque Aldon
Email: jhaldon@hotmail.com

Revised 21Aug2026



Lions International

PEACE

POSTER CONTEST

*For young artists.
For a better world.*

For PEACE.



GRAND PRIZE

US\$5,000

AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL!

2026–2027 THEME

Harmony in Humanity

Imagine a world where people of every culture and background live together peacefully—celebrating differences, finding common ground and creating true harmony in humanity.



QUESTIONS?

Contact Ellen Tieman
ellen1tieman@gmail.com



**ORDER YOUR KITS ONLINE
UNTIL OCT. 1/26**



**LIONS DISTRICT C2
TOGETHER, WE SERVE.**



*Inspire Young Artists.
Build a Culture of Peace.*



OPEN TO
YOUTH AGES
11–13

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES: WHY NOT CHECK IT OUT?



LCIF Training: Sept. 16 and Oct. 7, at 7 p.m.

Secretary training: Sept. 21 at 7 p.m.

Treasurer training: Sept. 30 at 7 p.m.

President Training: Sept. 15 and Oct. 6 at 7 p.m.

All training is via zoom and people can contact me by sending an email to michharris55@gmail.com



Looking for a

District Environment Chairperson

Our district is looking for a dedicated Lion or Leo to serve as Environment Chairperson. This role helps support environmental awareness, local service opportunities, and meaningful action in our communities.

If you are passionate about protecting the environment and inspiring others to serve, we encourage you to consider this opportunity.

Interested?
Contact DG Danielle
liondanielle1@outlook.com
to learn more.

**We Serve.
We Care.
We Make a Difference.**

When you **give**, Lions **give** back.



Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION



MDC SECRETARY

position available immediately

Interested individuals are requested to submit:

- A formal letter of intent; and
- A current curriculum vitae or résumé

Applications shall be submitted by email to:
lionsofmdc@gmail.com