

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

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Lions Clubs International

History

As secretary of The Business Circle, Melvin Jones organized a meeting of practical-minded visionaries at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago, on June 7, 1917, that set the stage for the organization, later that year in Dallas, Texas of today's international organization. The minutes of that meeting show that he had invited the International Association of Lions Clubs of Evansville, Indiana, the Vortex Club of St. Louis, Missouri, the Business and Professional Men's Association of St. Paul Minnesota, the Wheels and the Concordia Club of Omaha, Nebraska. He also invited the Optimist and Exchange Clubs, but the Exchange Clubs did not attend.

The records show the Melvin Jones had a vision for this organization, where members would help those less fortunate than themselves without any expectation of reward. "You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else," he said.

Years after the Objects and Ethics had been adopted, Melvin Jones observed: "If a Lions Club follow out its Objects, it will have the full program. It will be interested in world affairs, in national problems, in the needs of its own local community and in the welfare of individual members."

The minutes of that meeting also reflect that because the Lions Clubs in attendance had an International, previously incorporated as a non-profit corporation, all clubs represented there that day, under several different names, were invited to accept charters in The International Association of Lions Clubs and become part and parcel of that organization. Within the next few months several clubs took advantage of this invitation and the first Convention was called for October 8-10, 1917.

At that first Convention the delegates; adopted a Constitution and Bylaws, voted to open membership to women as well as men, retained the name of Lions by a vote of 24 to 6, elected the first President Dr. Woods, a First Vice President, a Second Vice President, a Secretary-Treasurer and Chief Managing Officer Melvin Jones (a position he was to hold for 33 years, at which time , 1950 at the age of 71, he was named Secretary for Life), four Directors and drafted the Lions Objects and the Lions Code of Ethics.

Now, for the first time, Lionism had the structure to prepare for its international destiny. It had gained the form to make it a worldwide force for goodwill and brotherhood.

At the third International Convention, in Chicago in 1919, a young attorney name Halsted Ritter from Denver, Colorado decided L-I-O-N-S should mean Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nations Safety. His suggestion was adopted by the delegates.

In 1920 Lions became international when we established the first club in Canada.

June 30, 1925 Helen Keller, accompanied by her remarkable teacher Anne Sullivan-Macy, was introduced to the 5,000 delegates of the International Convention in Cedar Point, Ohio who greeted them with a standing ovation. Anne first related Helen's story, then Helen spoke in her own words and

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Anne repeated them. She ended her remarkable address with the following words, “Will you not help me hasten the day when there will be no preventable blindness; no little deaf, blind children untaught.

no blind man or woman unaided? I appeal to you Lions, you who have your sight, your hearing, you who are strong and brave and kind. Will you not constitute yourselves Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness? I thank you”

Resolutions were then offered, seconded and unanimously approved, making Miss Keller the first, and Miss Sullivan-Macy the second Honorary members of our association, at the same time making Helen Keller the first Lady Lion. Her response was, “I am happy and proud to be a Lion.”

In 1927 Mexico became the second country to join Lions Clubs International

Note of interest: Miss Amelia Earhart was also made an Honorary member of the New York City Lions Club in 1935.

The ideal of an international organization is exemplified by our enduring relationship with the United Nations. In 1945 we were one of the first nongovernmental organization invited to assist in the drafting of the United Nations Charter and have supported the work of the UN ever since.

In the 1950s and 1960s international growth accelerated, with new clubs in Europe, Asia and Africa.

In 1957 Lions Clubs International created the Leo Program to provide the youth of the world with the opportunity for personal development through volunteering. There are approximately 144,000 Leos and 5,700 Leo Clubs in more than 140 countries worldwide.

In 1968 the Lions Clubs International Foundation was established to assist Lions with global and large-scale local humanitarian projects. Through our Foundation, Lions meet the needs of their local and global communities.

In 1987 Lions Clubs International became the first service club organization to admit women as members.

Through Sight First, Lions are restoring sight and preventing blindness on a global scale. Launched in 1990 Lions have raised more than \$ 346 million for this initiative. Sight First targets the major causes of blindness: cataract, trachoma, river blindness, childhood blindness, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma.

Today, Lions Clubs International extend our mission of service every day-in local communities, in all corners of the globe. The needs are great and our services broad, including sight, health, youth, elderly, the environment and disaster relief. Our international network has grown to include over 200 countries and geographic areas. Lions Clubs International has over 1.35 members in over 46,000 Clubs.

Melvin Jones Biography

Melvin Jones was born on January 13, 1879 in Fort Thomas, Arizona, the son of a United States Army captain who commanded a troop of scouts. Later, his father was transferred, and the family moved east. As a young man, Melvin Jones made his home in Chicago, Illinois, married Amanda in 1909 and became associated with an insurance firm and in 1913 formed his own agency. He soon joined the Business

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Circle, a businessmen's luncheon group, and was shortly elected secretary. This group was one of many at that time devoted solely to promoting the financial interest of their membership. Because of their limited appeal, they were destined to disappear. Melvin Jones, then a 38-year-old Chicago business leader, had other plans.

"What if these men," Melvin Jones asked, "who are successful because of their drive, intelligence and ambition, were to put their talents to work improving their communities?" Thus, his invitation, delegates from men's clubs met in Chicago to lay the groundwork for such an organization and on June 7, 1917, Lions Clubs International was born.

Melvin Jones eventually abandoned his insurance agency to devote himself full time to Lions at International Headquarters in Chicago. It was under his dynamic leadership that Lions Clubs earned the prestige necessary to attract civic-minded members.

The association founder was also recognized by those outside association. One of his greatest honors was in 1945 when he represented Lions Clubs International as a consultant in San Francisco, California at the organization of the United Nation.

Melvin Jones, the man whose personal code "You can't get very far until you start doing something for somebody else" – became a guiding principle for public-spirited people the world over. Melvin Jones died June 1, 1961 at the age of 82, having suffered a stroke while on a trip to Edmonton in 1959 to celebrate their 30th Charter Anniversary. He has never missed an International Convention.

Lions Clubs International Purpose

To Organize, charter and supervise service clubs to be known as Lions Clubs.

To Coordinate the activities and standardize the administration of Lions Clubs.

To Create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.

To Promote the principles of good government and good citizenship.

To Take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of community.

To Unite the clubs in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.

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To Provide a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest: provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club members.

To Encourage service-minded people to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavors.

Lions Clubs Code of Ethics

To Show my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end that I may merit a reputation for quality of service.

To Seek success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.

To Remember that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's; to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.

Whenever a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards other, to resolve such doubt against myself.

To Hold friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

Always to bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my nation, my state, and my community, and to give them my unswerving loyalty in word, act, and deed. To give them freely my time, labor and means.

To Aid others by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my aid to the weak, and my substance to the needy.

To Be Careful with my criticism and liberal with my praise; to build up and not destroy,

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Mission Statement:

To empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understandings through Lions Clubs.

Vision Statement:

To be the global leader in community and humanitarian service.

Our Moto:

We Service

Logo:

The Lions emblem (or logo) is recognized and respected symbol around the world. Although it has been modified and modernized, the basic design dates back to 1919. It consists of a gold “L” on a blue field surrounded by a gold circle. On either side on the circle is the profile of a Lion’s head, one looking back upon a proud past and the other looking optimistically toward the future.

Various forms of the emblem may be downloaded for member and club use from the LCI Web site. You should know, however, that the emblem is a registered trademark in most countries and should only be used in accordance with Lions Clubs International Trademark Policies, which may be found on the LCI Web site.

Prepared from the Multiple District Achieves and from Lions Clubs International Web site.

PDG Eric Buttle

Multiple District C Historian

Multiple District 37 & Multiple District C History

In 1917, at what later became as the first annual Convention of the Association of Lions Clubs, it was decided to create a leadership structure for the existing “Founder” Clubs throughout the United States.

The purpose of the structure was two-fold:

- (1) To properly supervise the existing Clubs, and
- (2) To promote an orderly and vigorous extension of Lionism

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The Convention divided those portions of the USA where “Founder” Clubs presently existed into nine Districts, each under the direction of a District “Governor”. The nine District were:

District # 1: California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington

District # 2: North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and western Wisconsin

District # 3: Colorado, Wyoming and Montana

District # 4: western Texas, New Mexico and Arizona

District # 5: eastern Texas, Louisiana. Part of Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida

District # 6: Oklahoma and Kansas

District # 7: Arkansas and Missouri

District # 8: Kentucky, Tennessee, and part of Mississippi

District # 9: Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and eastern Wisconsin

The remainder of the USA was left “undistricted” as Clubs had not yet been chartered there. Although Montana had no Lions Clubs in 1917, and thus was not represented at the first Annual Convention in Texas, it was placed, along Wyoming and Colorado, in District # 3.

In 1921 the first re-Districting and re-numbering of Lions “areas” took place at the Convention held in Oakland, California.

Lionism had exploded across the USA between 1917 and 1921. New Clubs had been formed in areas that were not attached to any existing Lions District. In some of the original nine Districts, the number of Clubs became too great for the District Governor to properly supervise.

The Lions movement was re-Districted into 17 District, as follows:

District # 1: Illinois (one of the “Founding” States, and the location of the headquarters office in Chicago)

District # 2: Texas (with the most Lions Clubs)

District # 3: Oklahoma (with the second most Lions Clubs)

District # 4: California, Oregon, Washington and Nevada

District # 5: Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota

District # 6: Colorado

District # 7: Arkansas

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District # 8: Louisiana

District # 9: Iowa and Nebraska

District # 10: Upper Michigan

District # 11: Lower Michigan

District # 12: Kentucky and Tennessee

District # 13: Ohio

District # 14; Pennsylvania

District # 15: Wyoming and Montana

District # 16: New Jersey, New York, Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia

District # 17: Kansas

This Convention also decided that as future Districts were formed, whether from territory previously undistricted, or from areas separated from growing Districts, they were to be given the lowest numbers remaining unassigned.

In 1921, although Montana still had no clubs at the time first redistricting, it was placed with Wyoming in District 15. The first District Governor for District 15 came from Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Shortly after the formation of this new District 15, the first Lions Club in Montana was organized in Billings on October 21, 1921.

At the 1922 District 15 Convention held in Torrington, Wyoming, Montana Lions were first represented. There were delegates from ten Clubs in Wyoming and one in Montana.

A second Lions Club in Montana was formed on December 22, 1922 in Great Falls.

Between 1921 and 1926 Lionism grew rapidly in Montana, and at the first Lions Convention held in Billings, Montana in 1926 there were now seven Lions Clubs in the State – Billings, Great Falls, Forsyth, Chinook, Big Timber, and Roundup – with a total combined membership of 242.

At the 1926 International Convention held in San Francisco, California (where incidentally, it was decided to remove the word “white” from the Constitution & Bylaws as a criteria for membership in a Club) the District Governor of District 15 recommended that Montana be separated from Wyoming, and that Montana be designated as the thirty-seven District of Lions Clubs International. The recommendation was accepted, and Julius J. Wurthener of Great Falls was appointed by the International Board of Directors to serve as District Governor.

The first annual Convention of Lions District 37 was held in Great Falls on May 14-14, 1927, was nine Clubs (additional Clubs has been organized in Belt and Choteau) represented by 96 delegates and guests.

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The first elected District Governor – Whit Carolan of Forsyth – was chosen, and it was reported that at the end of June 1927, there were 311 members in Montana.

In 1929 Lionism flowed across the border into Alberta. And the first Lions Clubs in Alberta - the Lions Club of Calgary – was formed on January 29, of that year. That Historic event was soon followed by the organization of the Lions Club of Edmonton on June 14th, 1929.

In 1930 Julius Wurthener of Great Falls was elected to the International Board of Directors, the first ever from District 37. During his first year on the Board, he recommended that Alberta become a permanent part of Lions District 37. His recommendation was accepted, and District 37 became a truly “International” District on July 1, 1931, at the fifth annual District 37 Convention held in Missoula, Montana.

The first annual Convention ever held in Alberta convened in Calgary in 1932. At that time District 37 had 29 Clubs with 999 members.

In 1934, at the eighth annual Convention held in Havre, Montana, the first Canadian District Governor of District 37 was elected – Hal C. Ostlund of Lethbridge.

In 1939, at the International Convention held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, PDG Dr. Arthur Spankie of Calgary was elected to serve on the International Board of Directors, thereby becoming the first Canadian from District 37 to hold that office.

In 1942, as the growth of Lionism continued unabated, it became increasingly difficult for one District Governor to perform his duties, and as a result it was decided at the annual Convention held that year in Edmonton to elect two District Governors for District 37.

In 1946, to accommodate the growing number of members and Clubs in District 37, three District Governors were elected, and the “sub” Districts were named in alphabetical order A, B, C, thereby eliminating some earlier confusion whereby they were named in accordance with the first letter of the last name of the District Governors.

Three sub-Districts where geographic boundaries were established, and Lions District 37, which now had three Districts within its Montana/Alberta boundaries, now became “Multiple District” 37.

In 1948 a further sub-division of Multiple District 37 was approved, and it was divided into four sub – Districts – A, B, C, and D – with defined geographic boundaries.

In 1948, the statistics reported the following:

Sub-District 37-A – 25 Club – 1,100 members

Sub-District 37-B – 18 Clubs - 704 members

Sub-District 37-C – 25 Clubs – 1,406 members

Sub-District 37-D – 28 Clubs – 1,212 members

At the conclusion of the Lions year 1955-1956, Multiple District 37 had 154 Clubs and 6,123 members. Multiple District 37 continue to have four sub-Districts until 1959, when a further re-Districting of

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Multiple District 37 was approved, and a new sub-District 37-E was added. About this time the “sub” Districts came to be known and described simply as Districts.

At the annual Convention held in 1965 in Edmonton, Alberta, due to the rapid expansion of Lions into our new territory that included North West Territories and northern British Columbia, delegates decided that there should be a sixth District established. After considerable debate and discussion at the International Board level, the addition of a sixth District was approved, and the boundaries re-aligned effective July 1, 1967.

In 1975 the International Board approved the addition of two more Districts within Multiple District 37, bringing the total of eight, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H effective July 1, 1976.

Since then, due to an aging membership, changing population demographics, and the reduction of average club membership size from about 37 to 23, three of the eight Districts have been dissolved, and in 2004 we again have five Districts within Multiple District 37.

From 2007-2008, the statistics reported the following:

District 37-L- 68 Clubs – 1,234 members

District 37-I- 71 Clubs – 1,351 members

District 37-O- 53 Clubs – 1,455 members

District 37-N- 52 Clubs – 1,250 members

District 37-S- 56 Clubs – 1,452 members

In 2015 Montana Lions decided not to have an International Multiple District. Redistricting took place in 2015 with all Lions Clubs in Montana becoming District 37. Lions Clubs International formed all Canadian Lions Club from Multiple District 37 into Multiple District C with two Districts C-1 and C-2. The first District Governors elected are Lion Hank Hoekstra for District C-1 and Lion Hazel Hiebert for District C-2.

The above information came from the Lions Information Committee in November 2007 and from the Past District Governors Achieves.

P.D.G. Eric Buttle Historian

July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

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1926-1975 MD 37 District Governors

DG Julius J. Wuerthner
Great Falls, Montana
1926-1927

DG T.W. Carolan
Forsyth, Montana
1927-1928

DG James Griffin
Chinook, Montana
1928-1929

DG James J. Lachlen
Big Timber, Montana
1929-1930

DG Leo C. Graybill
Great Falls, Montana
1930-1931

DG Don E. Anson
Wisdom, Montana
1931-1932

DG George C Hoyt
Shelby, Montana
1932-1933

DG Walter M. McLaughlin
Billings, Montana
1933-1934

DG Hal C. Ostlund
Lethbridge, Alberta
1934-1935

DG Thomas M. Robinson
Helena, Montana
1935-1936

DG Frank E. Van Demark
Cut Bank, Montana
1936-1937

DG Arthur T. Spankie
Calgary, Alberta
1937-1938

DG Knute W. Bergan
Helena, Montana
1938-1939

DG Herbert J. Klindt
Billings, Montana
1939-1940

DG Thomas A. Harkness
Missoula, Montana
1940-1941

DG William J. Jameson
Billings, Montana
1941-1942

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MD 37 Divided into 2 Sub Districts: A and B in 1942-1943

DG James D Wallace
Edmonton, Alberta
1942-1943

DG Stuart DesRosier
Browning, Montana
1942-1943

DG Percy G. Neville
Missoula, Montana
1943-1944

DG H. James West
Lacombe, Alberta
1943-1944

DG Paul Baker
Lethbridge, Alberta
1944-1945

DG W.N. Deatherage
Harlem, Montana
1944-1945

DG Marshall Murray
Kalispell, Montana
1945-1946

DG Gordon L. Sorenson
Red Deer, Alberta
1945-1946

MD 37 Divided into 3 Sub Districts: A, B and C in 1946-1947

DG Philip F. Lewis
Missoula, Montana
1946-1947

DG Paul K. Moreland
Raymond, Alberta
1946-1947

DG Ray E. Nelson
Choteau, Montana
1946-1947

DG H. Ray Welter
Great Falls, Montana
1947-1948

DG Wilfred J. Edgar
Innisfail, Alberta
1947-1948

DG Dr. E. V. Spackman
Lethbridge, Alberta
1947-1948

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MD 37 Divided into 4 Sub Districts: A, B, C, and D in 1948-1949

DG Charles D. Dean	DG A. Graeme Kirstine
Billings Montana	Edmonton, Alberta
1948-1949	1948-1949

DG Louis L. Schmaltz	DG Charles Matkin
Beiseker, Alberta	Magrath, Alberta
1948-1949	1948-1949

DG Dale H. Davis	DG Robert L. McIlveen
Billings, Montana	Taber, Alberta
1949-1950	1949-1950

DG James A. Cheetham	DG Walter Staves
Dutton, Montana	Polson, Montana
1949-1950	1949-1950

DG Worth A. Lawson	DG Harry Scragg
Chinook, Montana	Red Deer, Alberta
1950-1951	1950-1951

DG Heber Merrill	DG Kenneth C. Long
Lethbridge, Alberta	Cardston, Alberta
1950-1951	1950-1951

DG W.M. C. Rowley	W.W. (Bill) Buxton
Ekalaka, Montana	Thornbury, Ontario
1951-1952	1951-1952

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DG Leo H. Murphy
Choteau, Montana
1951-1952

DG Jack. E. Coulter
Hamilton, Montana
1951-1952

DG William J. Hagen
Billings, Montana
1952-1953

DG Dr. Lynn G. Hall
Edmonton, Alberta
1952-1953

DG Stanley J. Scales
Vulcan, Alberta
1952-1953

DG Morris E. Sanford
Helena, Montana
1952-1953

DG Albert W. Schammell
Scobey, Montana
1953-1954

DG Howard D. Halliday
Didsbury, Alberta
1953-1954

DG Kenneth J. Bailey
Kalispell, Montana
1953-1954

DG F.A. (Jimmy) Graehl
Missoula, Montana
1953-1954

DG M.E. (Jim) Evanson
Billings, Montana
1954-1955

DG Aarne Niemi
Calgary, Alberta
1954-1955

DG Stewart A. Adams
Calgary, Alberta
1954-1955

DG Franklyn Dunlop
Pincher Creek, Alberta
1954-1955

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DG Jess L. Angstman
Havre, Montana
1955-1956

DG Walter Ellet
Morinville, Alberta
1955-1956

DG Dr. H.W. Bateman
Choteau, Montana
1955-1956

DG Don Thorton
Blairmore, Alberta
1955-1956

DG Hugo J. Golfi
Red Lodge, Montana
1956-1957

DG William W. Ritson
Edmonton, Alberta
1956-1957

DG Chas H. Linn
Lethbridge, Alberta
1956-1957

DG Bon Paulos
Couer d'Alene, Idaho
1956-1957

DG Ted Westin
Chinook, Montana
1957-1958

DG R. Kenneth Dezall
Caroline, Alberta
1957-1958

DG Harry Lauback
Great Falls, Montana
1957-1958

DG W. Arthur Lundrigan
Cardston, Alberta
1957-1958

DG David Overturf
Bozeman, Montana
1958-1959

DG Don Carruthers
Bon Accord, Alberta
1958-1959

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DG John J. Thompson
Lethbridge, Alberta
1958-1959

DG Tom Carter
Plains, Montana
1958-1959

MD 37 Divided into 5 Sub Districts: A, B, C, D and E in 1959-1960

DG Arthur W. Kamhoot
Forsyth, Montana
1959-1960

DG Paul Guenette
Edmonton, Alberta
1959-1960

DG Arnold C. Hanusa
Choteau, Montana
1959-1960

DG Stanton Morris
Calgary, Alberta
1959-1960

DG Fred T. (Scotty) Edwards
Calgary, Alberta
1959-1960

DG Harold (Andy) Anderson
Bridger, Montana
1960-1961

DG Rudolph R. Rippel
Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta
1960-1961

DG A.L. Horner
Westbank, BC
1960-1961

DG Harry M. Chapman
Libby, Montana
1960-1961

DG Charles County
Calgary, Alberta
1960-1961

DG James M. Stout
Helena, Montana
1961-1962

DG J. Hector Areneau
Waterloo, Quebec
1961-1962

DG Donald B Wilcox
Shelby, Montana
1961-1962

DG John (Jack) Kerr
Frank, Alberta
1961-1962

DG Eli Scraba
Lacombe, Alberta
1961-1962

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DG Ernie M. Tompkins
Billings, Montana
1962-1963

DG Justice Virgil P. Moshansky
Vegreville, Alberta
1962-1963

DG Karl M. Nutter
Shelby, Montana
1962-1963

DG J. Ray Myers
Kalispell, Montana
1962-1963

DG Raymond B. Lawson
Calgary, Alberta
1962-1963

DG W.R. Scott
Billings, Montana
1963-1964

DG Ernest F. Holmgren
Edmonton, Alberta
1963-1964

DG William P. McNeil
Cochrane, Alberta
1963-1964

DG Bastian (Ross) Zoetman
Pincher Creek, Alberta
1963-1964

DG William J. Rothwell
Sylvan Lake, Alberta
1963-1964

DG Chester W. Jones
Billings, Montana
1964-1965

DG G. Mort Pettit
Fort St. John, BC
1964-1965

DG Hebert D. Berland
Conrad, Montana
1964-1965

DG E. George Markin
Helena, Montana
1964-1965

DG Jim R. Hopkins
Innisfail, Alberta
1964-1965

DG W. Ben Vail
Bozeman, Montana
1965-1986

DG Edward G. Hay
Edmonton, Alberta
1965-1966

DG James L. Dickson
Cascade, Montana
1965-1966

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DG Bert R. Gibb
Cardston, Alberta
1965-1966

DG Fred M. Thompson

1965-1966

DG James L. Carter
Glendive, Montana
1966-1967

DG Art Stapleton
Morinville, Alberta
1966-1967

DG Martin Eriksen
Portland, Oregon
1966-1967

DG R. W. (Bob) Harris
Boulder, Montana
1966-1967

DG D. A. (Alex) Gibson
Calgary, Alberta
1966-1967

MD 37 Divided into 6 Sub Districts: A, B, C, D, E and F in 1967-1968

DG Fred Gedney 37-A
Miles City, Montana
1967-1968

DG P.D. (Dunc) Larbalestier 37-B
Edmonton, Alberta
1967-1968

DG Chester K. Boid 37-C
Whitefish, Montana
1967-1968

DG A.A. Neddow 37-D
Fort Macleod, Alberta
1967-1968

DG Ernest T. Latham 37-E
Calgary, Alberta
1967-1968

DG A.P. Tony Renneberg 37-F
Kelowna, BC
1967-1968

DG Lewis M. Arnold 37-A
East Helena, Montana
1968-1969

DG Alexander J. Tait 37-B
Edmonton, Alberta
1968-1969

DG Derek H. B. Martin 37-C
Medicine Hat, Alberta
1968-1969

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DG Don Aadsen 37-D Ronan, Montana 1968-1969	DG Leigh M. Williams 37-E Arrowwood, Alberta 1968-1969	DG Dr. Jack Dobush 37-F Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta 1968-1969
DG Theodore W. Witzel 37-A Lake Havasu City, Arizona 1969-1970	DG Andy Fraser 37-B Sherwood Park, Alberta 1969-1970	DG Harold Shields 37-C Lethbridge, Alberta 1969-1970
DG Ray Stoddard 37-D Medicine Hat, Alberta 1969-1970	DG Walter Wearmouth 37-E Cochrane, Alberta 1969-1970	DG Rodney Nichols 37-F Red Deer, Alberta 1969-1970
DG Joe J. Koyancik 37-A Wilbaux, Montana 1970-1971	DG Frank D. Wilson 37-B Sherwood Park, Alberta 1970-1971	DG Robert A. Roush 37-C Havre, Montana 1970-1971
DG Robert E. Kelly 37-D Polson, Montana 1970-1971	DG Ray Bragg 37-E Bowness, Alberta 1970-1971	DG Lloyd E. Gillespie 37-F Wetaskiwin, Alberta 1970-1971
DG Tom Lehman 37-A Missoula, Montana 1971-1972	DG Angus Murray 37-B 1971-1972	DG Michael Bolokoski 37-C Lethbridge, Alberta 1971-1972
DG Frank Kops 37-D Big Fork, Montana 1971-1972	DG Gerry Cammaert 37-E Rockyford, Alberta 1971-1972	DG Arnold Fredlund 37-F Forestburg, Alberta 1971-1972

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DG Charles K. Campbell 37-A Billings, Montana 1972-1973	DG Rock N. Holman White Rock, BC 1972-1973	DG Kenneth L. Gilbert 37-C Great Falls, Montana 1972-1973
DG Matthew H. Gordon 37-D Missoula, Montana 1972-1973	DG Burge Larsen 37-E Strathmore, Alberta 1972-1973	DG William H Ferem 37-F Rocky Mountain House, Alberta 1972-1973
DG Charles K. Campbell 37-A Billings, Montana 1973-1974	DG Alex W. Boychuck 37-B Stoney Plain, Alberta 1973-1974	DG John Oreto 37-C Medicine, Alberta 1973-1974
DG Lawrence Bonertz 37-D Pincher Creek, Alberta 1973-1974	DG W. R. (Bill) Bishop 37-E Calgary, Alberta 1973-1974	DG William (Bill) McGeachy 37-F Rimbey, Alberta 1973-1974
DG Robert W. Patterson 37-A Denton, Alberta 1974-1975	DG Russ Forsyth 37-B Edmonton, Alberta 1974-1975	DG Lee E. Eichinger 37-C Essex, Montana 1974-1975
DG H.H. (Hugh) DuBois 37-D Tucson, Arizona 1974-1975	DG Judge Brian Stevenson 37-E Calgary, Alberta 1974-1975	DG Chester Williams 37-F 1974-1975
DG Charles K. (Ken) McShane 37-A Billings, Montana 1975-1976	DG Dr. Lynn G. Hall 37-B Edmonton, Alberta 1975-1976	DG Mike Tuchscher 37-C Bow Island, Alberta 1975-1976

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG Wayne Rassmussen 37-D	DG Dr. Jim English 37-E	DG Lars N Sandahl 37-F
Cardston, Alberta	Calgary, Alberta	
1975-1976	1975-1976	1975-1976

MD 37 Divided into 8 Sub Districts: A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H starting in 1976-1977

District 37-A District Governors

DG George Lockie	DG Rev. Sigurd E. Burch	DG Carl Rupp
1976-1977	1977-1978	1978-1979
Billings, Montana	Roundup, Montana	Billings, Montana
DG Tom Lehman	DG William A. (Doc) Asbury	DG Dan Krum
1979-1980	1980-1981	1981-1982
Missoula, Montana	Bridger, Montana	Worden, Montana
DG Gary Tschache	DG George A. Bernard	DG Bob Piper
1982-1983-	1983-1984	1984-1985
Bozeman, Montana	Worden, Montana	Bozeman, Montana
DG John Johnson	DG Gene Theimer	DG Hershel Carpenter
1985-1986	1986-1987	1987-1988
Glendive, Montana	Billings, Montana	Bozeman, Montana
DG Rev. Sigurd E. Burch	DG Rev. Floyd Smithson	DG Larry Mahler
1988-1989	1989-1990	1990-1991
Roundup, Montana	Westby, Montana	Scobey, Montana

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG Dave Armstrong	DG Ivan Brandt	DG Paul Hayes
1991-1992	1992-1993	1993-1994
Billings, Montana	Glasgow, Montana	Bozeman, Montana

DG William F. (Bill) Brinkel	DG Leonard, Mapston	DG Bryon Guenther
1994-1995	1995-1996	1996-1997
Billings, Montana	Billings, Montana	Laurel, Montana

DG Gene Dillman	DG Craig Price	DG Dave Armstrong
1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000
Culbertson, Montana	Sidney, Montana	Billings, Montana

DG Dick Corne	DG Dave Hajny	DG Shirley Dillman
2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
Bozeman, Montana	Ennis, Montana	Culbertson, Montana

DG Andy Black
2003-2004
Billings, Montana

District 37-B District Governors

DG E.H. Canning	DG Henry Romanchuk	DG Michael A. Letersky
1976-1977	1977-1978	1978-1979
Sherwood Park, Alberta	Westlock, Alberta	Edmonton, Alberta

DG P. W. (Bill) Jones	DG R. O. (Bob) Baetz	DG E. R. (Bud) Baxter
1979-1980	1980-1981	1981-1982
St. Albert, Alberta	Yellowknife, N.W.T.	Edmonton, Alberta

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG W. W. (Bill) Webber 1982-1983 St. Albert, Alberta	DG Lorenz Wiens 1983-1984 Edmonton, Alberta	DG Henry Descheemaeker 1984-1985 Hay River, N.W.T.
DG J. E. Jack Logan 1985-1986 St. Albert, Alberta	DG W. Grant McLaren 1986-1987 Edmonton, Alberta	DG Jack Fehr 1987-1988 Sherwood Park, Alberta
DG Dr. Michael Skuba 1988-1989 Edmonton, Alberta	DG Ted Dupilka 1989-1990 Athabasca, Alberta	DG William A. (Bill) Bissonnette 1990-1991 Edmonton, Alberta
DG Bob Griffith 1991-1992 Edmonton, Alberta	DG Jack Isaman 1992-1993 Edmonton, Alberta	DG Ted Dupilka 1993-1994 Athabasca, Alberta
DG Harvey Atkinson 1994-1995 Morinville, Alberta	DG Stan Kozoriz 1995-1996 Edmonton, Alberta	DG Fern Bilodeau 1996-1997 Vimy, Alberta
DG Rene Jones 1997-1998 Edmonton, Alberta	DG Dr. George Bevan 1998-1999 Edmonton, Alberta	DG Bill Mercer 1999-2000 Edmonton, Alberta
DG Larrie Taylor 2000-2001 Edmonton, Alberta	DG Dr. Patti Hill 2001-2002 Edmonton, Alberta	DG Ken Pickett 2002-2003 Athabasca, Alberta

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG Leo Bruseker

2003-2004

St. Albert, Alberta

District 37-C District Governors

DG Kedric Flint

1976-1977

Cut Bank, Montana

DG Thos A. (Tony) Botter

1977-1978

Medicine Hat, Alberta

DG Wallace S. (Wally) Blue

1978-1979

Saco, Montana

DG E. Roy Hadington

1979-1980

Bow Island, Alberta

DG Ron Randall

1980-1981

Shelby, Montana

DG Byron R. Rutt

1981-1982

Coaldale, Alberta

DG Einer Lund

1982-1983

Havre, Montana

DG David R. Robinson

1983-1984

Bow Island, Alberta

DG Bill Larson

1984-1985

Lethbridge, Alberta

DG Robert R. Hunter

1985-1986

Great Falls, Montana

DG Leroy Howg

1986-1987

Picture Butte, Alberta

DG Richard (Shorty) Graves

1987-1988

Great Falls, Montana

DG Kenneth Riley

1988-1989

Lethbridge, Alberta

DG Charles (Rex) Manuel

1989-1990

Fairfield, Montana

DG T. J. (Ted) Slusar

1990-1991

Lethbridge, Alberta

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG Jiro Miyagawa 1991-1992 Lethbridge, Alberta	DG Richard (Shorty) Graves 1992-1993 Great Falls, Montana	DG Oreland Goehring 1993-1994 Claresholm, Alberta
DG Walter E. Hantsman 1994-1995 Great Falls, Montana	DG Jim Spate 1995-1996 Taber, Alberta	DG Ruben Gebhardt 1996-1997 Sims, Montana
DG Ray Van Schaick 1997-1998 Medicine Hat, Alberta	DG John Witherspoon 1998-1999 Lethbridge, Alberta	DG Gerald Becker 1999-2000 Havre, Montana
DG Wayne Gilbertson 2000-2001 Bow Island, Alberta	DG John Mathis 2001-2002 Great Falls, Montana	DG Gail Witherspoon 2002-2003 Lethbridge, Alberta
DG John Mathis 2003-2004 Great Falls, Montana		

District 37-D District Governors

DG Dale Lauman 1976-1977 Sommers, Montana	DG Andrew C. Robinson 1977-1978 Butte, Montana	DG Robert (Bob) Hubka 1978-1979 Claresholm, Alberta
DG H. Winston Sproule 1979-1980 Pincher Creek, Alberta	DG George T, Hanson 1980-1981 Columbia Falls, Montana	DG O. K. Werner 1981-1982 Kalispell, Montana

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG Dan Sturdevant 1982-1983 Helena, Montana	DG R. W. Scotty Duff 1983-1984 Blairmore, Alberta	DG Cecil R. Owen 1984-1985 Missoula, Montana
DG Dale Pelton 1985-1986 Kalispell, Montana	DG Joe Powers 1986-1987 Butte, Montana	DG Jim Hobson 1987-1988 Blairmore, Alberta
DG Jim Thielman 1988-1989 Whitefish, Montana	DG Dr. (Doc) Whitesitt 1989-1990 Helena, Montana	DG Wayne Wages 1990-1991 Missoula, Montana
DG C. D. (Bud) Beagle 1991-1992 Missoula, Montana	DG C. D. (Bud) Beagle 1992-1993 Missoula, Montana	DG Marvin Kaschke 1993-1994 Polson, Montana
DG Robert J. (Bob) Simkins 1994-1995 Helena, Montana	DG Ed Malesich 1995-1996 Butte, Montana	DG Ardith Tjornelund 1996-1997 Cardston, Alberta
DG R. W. Scotty Duff 1997-1998 Blairmore, Alberta	DG Wayne Hintz 1998-1999 Helena, Montana	DG Earl Johnson 1999-2000 Cowley, Alberta
DG Dick Heida 2000-2001 Lolo, Montana	DG W. J. (Bill) Brown 2001-2002 Lethbridge, Alberta	DG Steve Hadnagy 2002-2003 Butte, Montana

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG Paul Buck

2003-2004

Missoula, Montana

District 37-E District Governors

DG Richard Luft

1976-1977

Keoma, Alberta

DG Marc Bernier

1977-1978

Calgary, Alberta

DG Howard MacDonald

1978-1979

Carbon, Alberta

DG Dave Deitz

1979-1980

Milo, Alberta

DG Ken Seitz

1980-1981

Strathmore, Alberta

DG George Chorney

1981-1982

Calgary, Alberta

DG Allan Onagi

1982-1983

High River, Alberta

DG Albert Herr

1983-1984

Okotoks, Alberta

DG Ross Yolland

1984-1985

Calgary, Alberta

DG John Panton

1985-1986

Calgary, Alberta

DG Joe Bernakevitch

1986-1987

Calgary, Alberta

DG G. A. "Jonesie" Jones

1987-1988

Calgary, Alberta

DG Bill Mills

1988-1989

Bowden, Alberta

DG Eric Buttle

1989-1990

Calgary, Alberta

DG Hance Milner

1990-1991

Calgary, Alberta

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG Ed Vermunt	DG Wes Anderson	DG Brian Pound
1991-1992	1992-1993	1993-1994
Didsbury, Alberta	Cereal, Alberta	Carstairs, Alberta

DG Chandra Gajjar	DG Jack Rooksby	DG Ben Pond
1994-1995	1995-1996	1996-1997
Calgary, Alberta	Calgary, Alberta	Calgary, Alberta

DG Pat Webber	DG Art Eeles	DG Bernie Gribben
1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000
Calgary, Alberta	Strathmore, Alberta	Calgary, Alberta

DG Gordon Prusky	DG Russ Croft	DG Dennis Stevenson
2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
Calgary, Alberta	Olds, Alberta	Calgary, Alberta

DG Roger Geonzon
2003-2004
Calgary, Alberta

District 37-F District Governors

DG William Kroft	DG Gus Jautz	DG Sam Nelson
1976-1977	1977-1978	1978-1979
Irma, Alberta	Lacombe, Alberta	Caroline, Alberta

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG Bob Brandt	DG Lloyd Gillespie	DG Bob Gibb
1979-1980	1980-1981	1981-1982
Rocky Mtn House, Alberta	Daysland, Alberta	Camrose, Alberta
DG Joe Taylor	DG Vic Rowley	DG Trevor Chapman
1982-1983	1983-1984	1984-1985
Coronation, Alberta	Clive, Alberta	Innisfail, Alberta
DG Dick Jagt	DG Ron Sawatsky	DG Martin Kaufman
1985-1986	1986-1987	1987-1988
Rocky Mtn House, Alberta	Wetaskiwin, Alberta	Lacombe, Alberta
DG Gordon Topps	DG Paul Parks	DG Orval Collyer
1988-1989	1989-1990	1990-1991
Millet, Alberta	Lacombe, Alberta	Lloydminster, Alberta
DG Donald C Good	DG Malcolm Flexhaug	DG Henry Peters
1991-1992	1992-1993	1993-1994
Vermillion, Alberta	Alix, Alberta	Wetaskiwin, Alberta
DG Henry Peters	DG Gordon Topps	DG James R. (Jim) Taylor
1994-1995	1995-1996	1996-1997
Wetaskiwin, Alberta	Camrose, Alberta	Camrose, Alberta
DG Margaret Young	DG Don Parkin	DG Don Young
1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000
Cold Lake, Alberta	St. Paul, Alberta	Cold Lake, Alberta

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG Bill Garrett	DG Ken Straughan	DG Al Reed
2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta	Bruderheim, Alberta	Bonnyville, Alberta

DG Denis Giasson
2003-2004
Tolfield, Alberta

District 37-G District Governors

DG Dan Claypool	DG Ian Sinclair	DG Fred Charlesworth
1976-1977	1977-1978	1978-1979
Devon, Alberta	Devon, Alberta	Wabamun, Alberta

DG Barry C. Goldberg	DG Lyle Scott	DG William (Bill) Currie
1979-1980	1980-1981	1981-1982
Bonnyville, Alberta	Warburg, Alberta	Thorsby, Alberta

DG Gerald (Jerry) Repecka	DG Barry Lazoruk	DG R. E. Bob Scales
1982-1983	1983-1984	1984-1985
Hinton, Alberta	Rycroft, Alberta	Dawson Creek, BC

DG Ron Bardak	DG O. W. Otto Benvik	DG A. W. Walt Shrepnyk
1985-1986	1986-1887	1987-1988
Stoney Plain, Alberta	Wetaskiwin, Alberta	Grande Cache, Alberta

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG Lynne Coulter	DG Bob Kears Sr.	DG Forrest Hutchinson
1988-1989	1989-1990	1990-1991
Grand Prairie, Alberta	Grande Cache, Alberta	Fort St John, BC

DG Noel Edey	DG George Mair	DG Florian Petruch
1991-1992	1992-1993	1993-1994
Grande Cache, Alberta	Wabasca, Alberta	Thorsby, Alberta

DG Robert (Bob) Lamoureux	DG Donna Coulter	DG Ted Webster
1994-1995	1995-1996	1996-1997
Stoney Plain, Alberta	Grande Prairie, Alberta	Innisfail, Alberta

DG R. W. Bob Cadue	DG Denise Lamoureux	DG Jim Reid
1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000
Rocky Mtn House, Alberta	Stoney Plain, Alberta	Entwistle, Alberta

DG Glen Gow	DG Merlin Leibel	DG Betty Ann Robson
200-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
Dawson Creek, BC	Leduc, Alberta	Beaver Lodge, Alberta

DG R. L. (Lynne) Coulter
2003-2004
Grand Prairie, Alberta

District 37-H District Governors

DG Walter Frey	DG Lawton Westrom	DG Murray Corbin
1976-1977	1977-1978	1978-1979
Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta	Vegreville, Alberta	Lamont, Alberta

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG Paul M. H. Lefebvre
1979-1980
Wainwright, Alberta

DG John Neville
1980-1981
Medley, Alberta

DG Greg Clark
1981-1982
Thorhild, Alberta

DG Fritz Vanderkley
1982-1983
Tofield, Alberta

DG Steve W. Romanchuk
1983-1984
Smokey Lake, Alberta

DG John Antoniuk
1984-1985
Chipman, Alberta

DG Jeremy Bentley
1985-1986
Sherwood Park, Alberta

DG Ken Pickett
1986-1987
Athabasca, Alberta

District 37-L District Governors

DG Claude Carignan
2004-2005
Edmonton, Alberta

DG Robert Sandy
2005-2006
Leduc, Alberta

DG Darlene Grace
2006-2007
Edmonton, Alberta

DG Bill Engram
2007-2008
Edmonton, Alberta

DG Roger Kozma
2008-2009
Edmonton, Alberta

DG Tom Hodgson
2009-2010
Edmonton, Alberta

DG Betty Ann Robson
2010-2011
Beaver Lodge, Alberta

DG Donna Wozney
2011-2012
Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta

DG Wanda Gates
2012-2013
Edmonton, Alberta

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG Joan Lubbers
2013-2014
Stoney Plain, Alberta

DG Robert Hunter
2014-2015
Morinville, Alberta

District 37-I District Governors

DG Gayle Collins
2004-2005
Innisfree, Alberta

DG Andre Nimchuk
2005-2006
Ryley, Alberta

DG Winston Collins
2006-2007
Innisfree, Alberta

DG Gayle Collins
2007-2008
Innisfree, Alberta

DG Terry Dunn
2008-2009
Bruderheim, Alberta

DG Dave Dalby
2009-2010
Smoky Lake, Alberta

DG Leslie Storch
2010-2011
Hanna, Alberta

DG Margaret Bouchard
2011-2012
Cherry Grove, Alberta

DG Rob Gingera
2012-2013
Ponoka, Alberta

DG Darby Dunn
2013-2014
Bruderheim, Alberta

DG Dave Darby
2014-2015
Smoky Lake, Albert

District 37-O District Governors

DG Malcolm Macleod
2004-2005
Calgary, Alberta

DG Brian Grier
2005-2006
Calgary, Alberta

DG Tim Haight
2006-2007
Calgary, Alberta

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG John Watson
2007-2008
Calgary, Alberta

DG Christina Pond
2008-2009
Calgary, Alberta

DG Fred Walters
2009-2010
Beiseker, Alberta

DG John Goodrich
2010-2011
Calgary, Alberta

DG Rose Geonzon
2011-2012
Calgary, Alberta

DG Bruce Bishop
2012-2013
Strathmore, Alberta

DG Bill Baux
2013-2014
Calgary, Alberta

DG Don Edy
2014-2015
Calgary, Alberta

District 37-N District Governors

DG Pauline Cooper
2004-2005
Cardston, Alberta

DG John Witherspoon
2005-2006
Lethbridge, Alberta

DG Wayne Baker
2006-2007
Taber, Alberta

DG Terri Hill
2007-2008
Pincher Creek, Alberta

DG Wayne Hintz
2008-2009
Helena, Montana

DG Pam Beyer
2009-2010
Bigfork, Montana

DG Christine Lank
2010-2011
Pincher Creek, Alberta

DG Sharon West
2011-2012
Lethbridge, Alberta

DG Laura Dickerson
2012-2013
Kalispell, Montana

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG Monty Weisser	DG Pauline Cooper
2013-2014	2014-2015
Kalispell, Montana	Lethbridge, Alberta

District 37-S District Governors

DG Ken Warrenburg	DG Bill Mercer	DG Ben Apeland
2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007
Glendive, Montana	Ennis, Montana	Bozeman, Montana

DG Jim Johnke	DG Kay Flanagan	DG Jerry Smith
2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
Winnett, Montana	Bozeman, Montana	Havre, Montana

DG Bill Pfeifer	DG George Chenoweth	DG Larry Garrison
2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
Bozeman, Montana	Belgrade, Montana	Billings, Montana

DG Jack Beckman	DG Jim Johnke
2013-2014	2014-2015
Great Falls, Montana	Winnett, Montana

District C-1 District Governors

DG Hank Hoekstra	DH Ron Wakenhut	DG Kris Kozoritz
2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
Edmonton, Alberta	Stoney Plain, Alberta	Edmonton, Alberta

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

DG Francis Sawiak 2018-2019 Vegreville, Alberta	DG Terry Kozma 2019-2020 Edmonton, Alberta	DG Chanpreet (Prince) Bewaja 2020-2021 Edmonton, Alberta
DG Melodie Franco 2021-2022 Stoney Plain, Alberta	DG Suzanne Leshchyshyn 2022-2023 Sylvan, Lake, Alberta	2023-2024
2024-2025	2025-2026	

District C-2 District Governors

DG Hazel Hiebert 2015-2016 Calgary, Alberta	DG Gail Haight 2016-2017 Calgary, Alberta	DG Cathy Anderson 2017-2018 Lethbridge, Alberta
DG Tyler Bray 2018-2019 Black Diamond, Alberta	DG Brent Johnson 2019-2020 Lethbridge, Alberta	DG Dustin Southgate 2020-2021 Nanton, Alberta
DG Michelle Harris 2021-2022 Fort Macleod, Alberta	DG Darryl Rawleigh 2022-2023 Calgary, Alberta	DG 2023-2024
DG 2024-2025	DG 2025-2026	

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

Multiple District Past International Officers

Past International Officers

1930-Present

(X) Deceased

1930-1932 International Director Julius Wuerthner (X) Great Falls, Montana

Julius Wuerthner of Great Falls Montana, USA, served a two-year term as director of the International Association of Lions Clubs after his election at the association 15th annual convention held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada in 1930.

Director Wuerthner Born on May 18, 1900, in Manchester, Michigan, graduated from the University of Michigan, earning a juris doctorate and passing his bar examination at the age of 22, the year before he moved to Great Falls, Montana to set up practice. He retired in 1959.

Julius married Clista E. Pierce on July 28, 1920; and had four sons.

Julius J. Wuerthner was often referred at the “First Lion” of District 37. While others in this region belong to Lions before Julius, he certainly was the first in his many Lionistic accomplishments. He organized the Great Falls Lions Club in 1922 and served as Charter President. He later became the first Master Key Member, the first elected District Governor in District 37 in 1926-1927, the first to serve as a member of the Executive Council of the International Board of Governors from 1927-1928, the first International Director and the first Life Member of Lions District 37.

Director Wuerthner was a member of the following:

Charter Member of St. John’s Lutheran Church, House of Delegates of the American Bar Association for 23 years, American Judicature Society, American Counsel Society, University of Michigan Lawyers Club, Masonic Lodge, Algeria Shrine Temple, Eagles, Elks, Meadow Lark Country Club, Great Falls Chamber of Commerce, Charter Member American Legion Loy J. Molumby Post, Board of Directors Great Falls Community Concert Association.

Director Wuerthner also served the following:

Organist and Choir Director for several Great Falls Churches, Past Master Cascade Lodge No. 3 AF & AM, Past Potentate Algeria Shrine Temple, Chief Deputy Cascade County Attorney 1921-1922, Montana House of Representatives and Senate 1925-1931, Mayor of Great Falls two terms 1937, 1941, President Montana Municipal League 1939-1940, President Cascade County & Montana Bar Associations, Chairman Cascade County Republican Centre Committee, active in the development of the Great Falls Civic Centre and in getting the Malmstrom Air Force Base for Great Falls.

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

Director Wuerthner was an Army bandmaster who composed “The Machine Gun March”, still played by the US Army, and composed when he served in the Army in World War 1. He was also active in music in Michigan, having composed the score for “Awakened Rameses” for the Michigan Union Opera of 1911.

1939-1941 International Director Dr. Arthur T. Spankie (X) Calgary, Alberta

Dr. Arthur T. Spankie of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, served a two-year term as Director of the International Association of Lions Clubs after his election at the association 24th annual convention held in Havana, Cuba in 1939.

Director Dr. Spankie became the First Canadian International Director in District 37. He served as District Governor from 1937-1938. Director Dr. Spankie was instrumental in organizing the Calgary Lions Club and the Edmonton Lions Club in 1929. Director Dr. Spankie was also a Charter Member and President of the Calgary Lions Club.

Following his early education in public and high schools of Ontario, Dr. Spankie received his M.D.C.M. from Queens University and spent his internship at the Manhattan Eye, Ear, Nose and throat Hospital in New York.

1950-1952 International Director H. Ray Welter (X) Great Falls, Montana

H. Ray Welter of Great Falls, Montana, USA, served two-year term as director of the International Association of Lions Club after his election at the association 34th annual convention held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, USA in 1950.

Director Welter was born in Indiana in 1889. He majored in psychology under a member of Harvard University Faculty.

Director Welter served as District Governor for 37-A in 1947-1948. He is a member of the Great Falls Lions Club and served as the District Convention Chairman in 1946-1947.

Director Welter also served as Chairman of War Bond Sales Drive, Chairman of Community Chest, Chairman of Red Cross Drive, and President, Great Falls Chamber of Commerce.

In the private sector, Director Welter held the following: Secretary to the Governor of Colorado, Zone Manager of a Division of General Motors Corporation at Denver Colorado, District Representative for the Chevrolet Motor Company at Salt Lake City, Manager of an Insurance Department of Fritz Norby & Company, Great Falls, Montana.

At their April 1952 meeting, the Council of Governors voted to recommend the endorsement of International Director H. Ray Welter for the office of Third Vice President of Lions Clubs International. He probably would have been endorsed by the 1952 District Convention at Helena, but after the motion had been made and seconded, he declined because of poor health.

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

International Director A. Graeme Kirstine (X) Edmonton, Alberta

A Graeme Kirstine of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, served a two-year as director of the International Association of Lions Club after his election at the association 41st annual convention held in Chicago, Illinois, USA in 1957.

Director Kirstine served as Charter President at St. Marys Lions Club in Ontario from 1940-1941, also served as President of the Edmonton Lions Club from 1946-1947. He is a Master Key Member.

At the District level, Director Kirstine served as Deputy District Governor of District A, Zoe 3 from 1941-1942, Zone Chairman of District 37-B from 1947-1948, District Governor of District 37-B from 1948-1949, and President of the Canadian Association of Lions Clubs from 1949-1950.

Director Kirstine served on the Board of International Relations from 1952-1953.

Director Kirstine served as a member of the following: United Church of Canada, Masonic Lodge, Chamber of Commerce of Edmonton, Alberta, and the School Board of St. Marys, Ontario.

Graeme (Shorty) Kirstine was born in Bruce County, Ontario near Walkerton in 1904. He attended public and high schools at Walkerton. He graduated in 1925 from the Ontario Agricultural College with a degree in Animal Husbandry. While at college he was a member of the OAC Livestock Judging team. In 1924 he Judge the National Dairy Stock Show at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, also at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto, Canada and at the International Livestock Exposition at Chicago, Illinois.

Following graduation, Kirstine was the second Agricultural graduate to be hired by Canada Packers.

Director Kirstine married his wife Kay at Owen Sound, Ontario in 1926. They became parents of two children, a son and a daughter. Kay, who died in 1974, was active in the United Church and the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire.

Kirstine farmed in Bruce County, Ontario. From 1930-1935, he was active with the Ontario Agricultural Representative Services. From 1935 until his retirement on January 1, 1968, Kirstine was engaged in the Livestock Feed Industry.

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

1960-1962 International Director Leo C, Graybill (X) Great Falls, Montana

Leo C. Gray Graybill of Great Falls, Montana, USA, served a two-year term as director of the International Association of Lions Clubs after his election at the association 44th annual convention held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, USA in 1960.

Director Graybill was born in Shelbyville, Illinois, received his B.A. degree from Millikan University (Illinois), and his J.D. degree from the University of Chicago. Along with his law practise in Great Falls, Graybill was president of the Belt Valley Bank at Belt, Montana, and spent much of his life in the livestock business.

Director Graybill was interested in local, state and national politics. He was known throughout Montana as “Mr. Democrat”.

Graybill and his wife Atta were parents of two children, a boy and a girl.

Director Graybill joined the Belt, Montana, Lions Club in 1926. He soon transferred to the Great Falls Lions Club. He was an active Lion throughout his life attending the first 46 Multiple District Convention where he served as the Parliamentarian

Director Graybill served as District Governor from 1930-1932. He also served on the Executive Council of the International Board of Governors from 1931-1932. He also served as Chairman of the 1938 District Convention.

Director Graybill was a member of the following: First Presbyterian Church, Masonic Lodge, Shrine, TKE Fraternity, Meadow Lark County Club, Cascade County Bar Association, and the Montana Bar Association.

Director Graybill served on the following: City Attorney for Belt and Great Falls, Montana, Chief Deputy Cascade County Bar Association, Montana State Legislature for 7 terms, twice elected Speaker of the Montana House of Representative, President Cascade County Bar Association, President Great Falls Community Chest, President Great Falls Parent Teacher City Council, Commander American Legion, Chairman First Presbyterian Church Board of Trustee, Chairman Cascade County US Savination forg Bond Committee, Scoutmaster Boy scout of America, Board Member of the Camp Fire Girls, Board Member of the U.S.O., and the Democratic National Committeeman.

Director Graybill received the University of Chicago Citation for Public Services.

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

1966-1968 International Director Justice Virgil P. Moshansky Vegreville, Alberta

Virgil P. Moshansky of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, served a two-year term as director of The International Association of Lions Clubs after his election at the association 49th annual convention held in New York City, New York, USA in July 1966.

Past Director Moshansky was appointed a Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta in 1976. A Lion since 1955 and a life member, Past Director Moshansky served as club president, zone chairman, district governor and Council Chair.

In recognition of his service to the association, he received the Master Key Award, the 100 % District Governor Award, four Extension Awards, the International President Leadership Award, five International President's Awards, and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor bestowed upon association members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

Prior to his judicial appointment, Past Director Moshansky were active in numerous professional and community organizations. He was appointed as a Queen's Counsel and served as a Bencher of the Law Society of Alberta and on the National Council of the Canadian Bar Association. He is a member of the

Canadian Judges Conference and the International Commission of Jurists and was awarded the Canadian Centennial Medal in 1967. He has also served as mayor of Vegreville, Alberta, and as a director of the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association.

A licensed pilot and aircraft owner, Past Director Moshansky was appointed by the Government of Canada to head the Commission Inquiry (1989-1992) into the March 10, 1989, Air Ontario F-28 jet crash at Dryden, Ontario. His 2000-page report and recommendations received international attention and acceptance in the aviation community. He was the recipient of the Aerospace Laurel Award for 1993 from Aviation Week and Aerospace Technology Magazine (New York, N.Y.), such award being presented annually to honor individuals who have made significant contributions in the field of aerospace. In 1995, he was the recipient of both the prestigious Trans Canada (McKee) Trophy, presented by the Canadian Aeronautics and Space Institute in recognition of outstanding achievement in promoting aviation in Canada and the Transport Canada Aviation Safety Award for exceptional contribution to aviation safety.

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

1977-1979	International Director	Judge Brian Stevenson	Calgary, Alberta
1987-1988	International President	Judge Brian Stevenson	Calgary, Alberta

Judge Brian Stevenson of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, was elected to serve as president of The International Association of Lions Club following his election at the association 70th International Convention, held in Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China, July 1-4, 1987. As immediate past president, he served as chairperson of Lions Clubs International Foundation the grant-making arm of Lions International.

Past President Stevenson has served in private law practice and as a special prosecutor in the Canadian Department of Justice. In 1974, he was appointed for life as a Judge to the Provincial Court of Alberta. He currently serves as a part-time judge of the Criminal Division of the court of Calgary.

A Lion since 1966 and currently a member of the Calgary Northeast Eyeopener Lions Club, Past President Stevenson has held numerous offices in the association. These include terms as district governor, a member of the association's board of directors from 1977-1979 and as a presidential appointee to the international board from 1979-1981 and again from 1998-1999 and 2002-2003. He served a three -year term as the chairman of Campaign Sight First, one of the largest and most successful fundraising campaigns in the history of the association.

In recognition of his many contribution to the association, Past President Stevenson has received numerous awards including 100 % District Governor Award, the Senior Master Key, Melvin Jones

Fellowship, 21 International President's Awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor granted by the association to its members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

Judge Stevenson presently serves as the Canadian Constitution Area Leader on the association's Global Membership Team, as the Canadian Advisor on the LCIF Development Advisory Committee and represents Canada on the association's Centennial Committee, planning for the 100th anniversary of Lions Clubs International.

In addition to his work as a Lion, Past President Stevenson has served as president on the Calgary Social Planning Council, as a board member of the Calgary United Way 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 Chairman of the International Year of Disabled Person Committee for the Province of Alberta. In 1996, the City of Calgary recognized his numerous voluntary contributions by awarding him the Grant MacEwan Lifetime Achievement Awards of Merit. In 2002, Judge Stevenson was honored by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with the Golden Jubilee Medal and in 2005 received the Alberta Centennial Medal for his community service.

Past President Stevenson is a member of numerous professional organizations and has authored several articles on legal matters. He and his wife, Patricia, also a Lion and Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have four daughters, eight granddaughters, four grandsons and one great grandson.

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

1980-1982 International Director Dr. Jack DoBush (X) Lamont, Alberta

Dr. Jack Dobush of Lamont, Alberta, Canada, served as a two-year director of The International Association of Lions Clubs after his election at the association 63rd International Convention held in Chicago, Illinois, USA 1980.

A Lion and a member of the Andrew Lions Club in 1952 with transfers to the Smokey Lake Lions Clubs, the Vegreville Lions Clubs and the Lamont Lions Club where he had been a member for over 30 years. Past Director Dobush served as club president, zone chairman, district governor and chairman of the Council of Governors, he was Western Canada representative for Lions Quest in 1986, 1987 and as a presidential appointee to the international board in 1987-1988 and again in 1993-1994.

In recognition of his service to the association, he has received the 100 % District Governor Award, 4 International President's Awards, the Melvin Jones Fellowship, and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the Highest honor bestowed upon association members.

On March 18, 2002 Past International Director Dr. Jack Dobush passed away.

1989-1991 International Director Bill Webber St. Albert, Alberta

Bill W. Webber of St. Albert, Alberta, Canada, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the association 72nd annual convention, held in Miami, Florida, USA June 21-24, 1989.

Past Director Webber is a retired district manager of a utility company.

A Lion and a member of the St. Albert Lions Club since 1964, Past Director Webber held the positions of club president, district governor, and council chair. He served as a director and vice chair of Lions Quest Canada, as coordinator of Lions Project Pride, and director and past chair of his multiple district eye bank. He also served a national coordinator for Campaign Sight First.

For his contribution, Past Director Webber has received the 100 % District Governor Award, six International Certificates of Appreciation, eight International President's Award and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor granted by the association. He is also a progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

Active in the community, Past Director Webber has served on the Edmonton Emergency Planning Committee, the Canadian Gas Association Customer Service Committee and the St. Albert Board of Education.

Past Director Webber and his wife, Joan also a progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. have two daughters, two sons and six grandchildren.

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1992-1994 International Director Tom Lehman (x) Seely Lake, Montana

Tom Lehman of Seely Lake, Montana, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the association 75th International Convention, held in Hong Kong, June 23-26, 1992.

Past Director Lehman is an auctioneer.

A Lion since 1962 and currently a member of the Seely Lake Lions Club, Past Director Lehman has held many positions within the association. He has served as club president and was twice 100 % district governor. On the international level, he was a member of the Nominations and Elections Committee and chairperson of the Parade Contest Committee. In 1987-1988, Past Director Lehman was an appointee to the International Board of Directors, and during 1985-1987 ND 1996-1997, he was a member of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum Planning Committee.

Past Director Lehman is a life member and has received numerous awards in recognition of his service to the association, including the Senior Key Master key, four Extension Awards, the Guiding Lion Award, seven International President's Awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the association grants its members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

Past Director Lehman and his wife Judy, also a Lion and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have six children and eight grandchildren.

1997-1999 International Director Jack Isaman Calgary, Alberta

Jack Isaman of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the association 80th International Convention, held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA, June 30-July 7, 1997.

Past Director Isaman is a professional accountant and business manager.

A member of the Calgary Northeast Eyeopener Lions Club, Past Director Isaman has been a Lion since 1980. He has held many offices within the association including club president, district governor, and council chair. In addition, he is the director of both the Lions of Alberta Foundation and Multiple District 37 Lions Eye Bank. Past Director Isaman also served as director of the Lions Christmas Telethon and author of his multiple district's policy manual.

In recognition of his service to the association, Past Director Isaman has received the 100 % District Governor Award, an Extension Award, a Leadership Award, three International President's Certificates, three International President's Awards and an Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor, granted by the association to its members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

Past Director Isaman wife, Denise is also a Lion and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

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2011-2013 International Director Dave Hajny Ennis, Montana

Dave Hajny from Ennis, Montana, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of the International Association of Lions Club at the association's 94 International Convention, held in Seattle, Washington, USA July 4-8, 2011.

Past Director Hajny is retired.

A member of the Bozeman Lions Club, and a Lion since 1994, he has held many offices within the association, including club president, zone chairperson, council chair and district governor. He also served as Vice President Montana Lions & Sight Foundation, president of the PDG Association and faculty member at the Regional Lions Leadership Institute.

In recognition of his service to the association, he has received numerous awards including two Club Lion of the Year Awards, Dr. Jack Dobush Fellowship, Gary Tschache Fellowship, a Montana Lions Sight & hearing Fellowship, a President's Leadership Award, five International President's Certificate of Appreciation, an International President's Award and an Ambassador of Good Will Award the highest honor granted by the association to its members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to his Lions activities, Past director Hajny is active in numerous professional and community organizations, including the Madison Valley Hospital Foundation, the American Legion and the United States Selective Service Board for Montana. He also served as chairperson of the Madison Valley Rural Fire Board.

Past Director Hajny and his wife, Marie, also a Lion and a Melvin Jones Fellow, have three sons, one daughter and seven grandchildren.

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

LCI Canadian International Presidents

Lions Harry A. Newman

International President

1924-1925

Harry A. Newman of Toronto, Ontario, Canada was elected to serve as president of the International Association of Lions Club following his election at the association 8th annual International Convention, held in Omaha, Nebraska, USA in 1924.

President Newman is a Barrister, Businessman and a Farmer. He and his wife Margaret had several children and grandchildren.

President Newman was a Charter member of the Toronto Central Lions Club and is one of the original Officers. He founded many Lions Clubs in North America and in 1930 he backed Lions Clubs at the bank.

President Newman has received numerous awards and honours.

He was active in his community and his church, as well as politically. He assisted in aiding the blind and the handicapped.

Lion Walter C Fischer

International President

1949-1950

Walter C. Fischer of St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada, was elected to serve as president of the International Association of Lions Clubs following his election at the association 32nd annual International Convention, held in New York City, New York, USA in 1949.

President Fischer was involved in sales and real estate for many years. He and his wife Alice had three children and nine grandchildren. They are members of the United Church of Canada.

President Fischer was a member of the St. Catharines Lions Club since 1933. He served numerous offices including President, District Governor and Chairman of Multiple District A Board of Governors.

President Fischer was active in the Queenston School Board, served on the Board of Directors of the Niagara Peninsula Sanatorium. He was also a member of the Advisory Council of the St. Catharines Central Hospital.

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Lions Tris Coffin

International President

1973-1974

Tris Coffin of Rosemere, Quebec, Canada, was elected to serve as president of the International Association of Lions Club following his election at the association 57th annual International Convention, held in Miami, Florida, USA, in June 1973.

Former President Coffin is retired. Before he retired, he was an optician.

A member of the Lions Club of Montreal Central, former President Coffin has been a Lion since 1939. He held several positions within the association including District Governor and Chairman of the Board of Governors. From 1961-1963, he was International Director of the Association and served as Chairman of the Extension and Membership Committee. He was appointed as an advisor to the International Board. He was named as the first Honorary Member of the Quebec Lions Clubs Foundation and lent his name to the Tris Coffin Distinction Medal.

In testimony of his service to the association, Former President Coffin has received numerous awards, including 100 % District Governor's Award, twenty-three (23) International President's Award, three awards for opening of new clubs and he is also a Senior Key for advancement of Lionism. He has received the title of Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest distinction granted by the association to its members. He also received the Tris Coffin Distinction and the Gilles Melancon Excellence Medals from the Quebec Lions Clubs Foundation.

He is a Melvin Jones Fellow, Life Member and Companion of Brian Stevenson.

Apart from his Lion activities, former President Coffin was a member of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, a member of Saint-Patrick Society, and a former director of the Quebec Children Society for Cripple Children in 1967. He was awarded the Centennial Medal from the Government of Canada on the Hundredth Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada in recognition of his valuable service to the nation.

MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER ONE

Lion Judge Brian Stevenson

International President

1987-1988

Judge Brian Stevenson of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, was elected to serve as president of the International Association of Lions Clubs following his election at the association 70th International Convention, held in Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China, July 4-11, 1987. As immediate past president, he served as chairperson of Lions Clubs International Foundation, the grant-making arm of Lions Clubs International.

Past President Stevenson has served in private law practice and as a special prosecutor in the Canadian Department of Justice. In 1974, he was appointed for life as a Judge to the Provincial Court of Alberta. He currently serves as a part-time judge of the Criminal Division of the court of Calgary.

A Lion since 1966 and currently a member of the Calgary Northeast Eyeopener Lions Club, Past President Stevenson has held numerous offices in the association. These include terms as a district governor, a member of the association board of directors from 1977-1979 and as a presidential appointee to the international board from 1979-1981 and again from 1998-1999 and 2002-2003. He also served a three-year term as chairman of Campaign Sight First, one of the largest and most successful fundraising campaigns in the history of the association.

In recognition of his many contributions to the associations, Past President Stevenson has received numerous awards including 100 % District Governor Award, the Senior Master Key, 21 International Presidents Awards and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor granted by the association to its members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

Judge Stevenson presently serves as the Canadian Constitutional Area Leader on the association's Global Membership Team, as the Canadian Advisor, on the LCIF Development Advisory Committee and represents Canada on the association's Centennial Committee, planning for 100th anniversary of Lions Clubs International.

In addition to his work as a Lion, Past President Stevenson served as president of the Calgary Social Planning Council, as a board member of the Calgary United Way and as a member of the City of Calgary Social Services Committee. He also served as president of the Alberta Provincial Judges Association and as chairperson of the International Year of Disabled Persons Committee for the Province of Alberta. In 1996, the City of Calgary recognized his numerous voluntary contributions by awarding him with the Grant MacEwan Lifetime Achievement Award of Merit. In 2002, Judge Brian Stevenson was honored by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with her Golden Jubilee Medal and received in 2005 the Alberta Centennial Medal for his service to the community.

Past President Stevenson is a member of numerous professional organizations and has authored several articles on legal matter. He and his wife, Patricia, also a Lion and Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow, have four daughters, eight granddaughters, four grandsons and one great-grandson.

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Lion Dr. Patti Hill

3rd International Vice President

2019-2020

Dr. Patricia Hill from Edmonton, Alberta, Canada was elected to serve as third vice president of Lions Clubs International at the association's 102nd International Convention, held in Milan, Italy July 5 through July 9, 2019.

Vice President Hill is president of H.I. Consulting. With 30 Years of experience as a psychologist she has mentored graduate students and psychologist in training. She has also championed the rights of children and youth who are deaf and blind.

A member of the Edmonton Host Lions Club since 1990, Vice President Hill has held many offices within the association, including district chairperson for Membership, Environment, Convention and International Cooperation and Understanding. Additionally, she has served as a committee member for the USA/CANADA Leadership Forum, multinational coordinator for Campaign Sight II, secretary for the Lions Eye Bank Alberta Society, Vice President of the Lions Eye Research Institute of Northern Alberta and presenter at multiple forums and conventions.

In recognition of her service to the association, Vice President Hill has received numerous awards, including several International President's Award. She has been honoured with the Ambassador of Good Will, the highest honor the association bestowed upon its members. She is also a Bill Webber Fellow, Judge Brian Stevenson Fellow, Jack & Denise Isaman Fellow, and a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to her lions Activities, Vice President Hill is active in numerous professional and community organizations. She is a member of the Psychologists Association of Alberta, the Canadian Psychological Association and the Community League. In the past, she served as president of the Alberta Association of Psychologists and the Association of Canadian Educators of the Hearing Impaired.

Vice President Hill and her husband, Gregory Holmes, also a Lion, have two children.