



[Eyeglass Collection in District A4](#)

Two Programs

1. A4 Lions Recycle for Sight Program

District A4 process for packing the glasses:

- Accept prescription and reading glasses, sunglasses and plastic and metal frames. Children's glasses are especially needed.
- Do not pack cases or contact lenses. Contact Value Village and see if they will take the cases. The money collected will go to a charity.
- Keep your own Club's count and time spent collecting, sorting and packing the glasses and report it to your Secretary for his/her Activity Report.
- Pack eyeglasses in layers separated by a sheet of newspaper in a sturdy corrugated cardboard box.
- Do not write on the boxes
- **Glasses must be properly packed before delivery to Lion Ross. The large quantity of glasses received precludes Lion Ross from packing or re-packing the boxes.**

Lion Ross Baldwin will put the required shipping labels on the boxes and will fill out the bill of lading.

Please drop your box(s) off at the residence of Lion Ross and Sandra Baldwin, 1030 Connery Avenue, Ottawa just off St. Laurent and Pleasant Park in Ottawa South. It is suggested that you telephone them at 613737-7422 prior to delivery to ensure someone is there to receive the box(es).

2. Kemptville Lions Club Eye-Care Project

The Kemptville Lions Club collects eyeglasses (including sun glasses) for patients who require corrective lenses. The primary destination for these glasses is Guyana, South America but they have had clinics in other countries.

Glasses are donated from other clubs in District A-4. As well, some glasses are sent from opticians and doctors.

Glass cases are removed; damaged glasses and those with scratches are thrown out. Glasses are sorted into different categories – plus single vision and progressive lens; plus bifocals; negative single vision and progressive;

and negative bifocal. The glasses are washed – sometimes they receive washed' glasses.

The glasses are “neutralized” – the prescription is taken' and the glasses and the prescription are placed in small clear bags and sorted by prescription in trays.

Many Lions have joined the team over the 20 years plus travelling to South America and various places in the Caribbean. For the last few projects there have been 3 or 3 Lions on the team. Teams have had as many as 5 Lions on a team of 9 – 12 members.

When in Guyana, the team conducts a vision exam as well as ocular health exams equal to what they would have done in Canada. The team is made up of volunteers, volunteers and optometrists from all over Canada. After patients have completed the vision and ocular health exam, they are received in the dispensary and receive glasses that match their requirement. At some clinics, local doctors, nurses, etc., will join and volunteer their time in support.

Clinics are typically 5 days long, seeing an average of 200 patients per day. Approximately 1000 patients per clinic.

Volunteer Lions are trained on completing basic distance and near vision testing as well as operating an auto refractor machine.

All members of the team pay their own way-flights and accommodations included.

For each project the Kemptville Lions dispensary stocks 3000 to 4000 pairs of glasses in order to ensure they can fit as many patients as possible for corrective lenses needed. There are some patients that they do not have glasses that will meet their need. For those we return to Canada and make new glasses and ship to the host Lions club to deliver to the patient. No cost to the patients. While the team does vision and ocular health exams, the doctors do see issues not able to be addressed. Such patients are referred by the team's doctors to the local Ministry of Health for further care.
