Greetings Fellow Lions,

The District A4 Memorial Forest Committee is pleased to announce that as of today we are still planning on having our Annual Service this year. However, as you may be aware that can change due to COVID-19 pandemic.

However, here are a few items that we would like to bring to your attention:

- 1. The date of the ceremony is being changed to August 15, 2020. This is due to the fact that the flowers and trees usually lose their color by the beginning of September and we would like you to see the Forest when it is in full bloom. The second reason is that the ceremony in September usually falls on the same weekend that our District Governor and Vice District Governors are required to be in Markham for the Multiple District A Council Meetings so they are unable to attend the ceremony.
- 2. I have attached the Application Form for Clubs or individuals to purchase a tree. These are required to be received by July 1, 2020. We will purchase and plant 25 trees this spring. Our average number of trees dedicated each year is 25 however as of today only 10 applications have been received. This is normal and we expect more to come in by July 1, 2020.
- 3. Please remember the July 1, 2020 deadline for applications to be received.
- 3. Due to COVID-19 we cannot guarantee that the name plaques will be ready for the Ceremony. We will do everything we can to make that happen but I'm sure you understand the reasoning. Each tree will be properly identified for the ceremony and we will assist you in finding the tree that you purchased.
- 4. This will be the fifth year of the Memorial Forest and we will be looking at ways to raise additional funds for the Forest. There are many expenses that occur preparing for the dedication of the Forest each year and we have to raise some extra funds to cover the costs.

Another update will be available between now and June 1, 2020 to update you on what is happening and remind you of the deadlines.

Cheers, Lion Andy

Lion Andy Etherington, PDG Cumberland Lions Club, President District A4 Memorial Forest Chair 613-220-3304 a4.dg2010@rogers.com