



The River

March 2025

**Barks Burgers and Brews
Spring Conference
Club Visits and Activities**

Feature: Hunger

Coquitlam River Lions Club Monthly Newsletter
Coquitlam, British Columbia, Canada
District /Zone O-3, Multiple District 19

Club President: Rosalie Kunic

Zone Chair: Gerry Becker

Home Club: Coquitlam River Lions

District Governor: Beth James

Home Club: Renton Lions

Newsletter Editor: September Stokes



Global Causes Monthly Spotlight: Hunger

About hunger

Hunger, a crisis with no borders

Hunger affects one in 10 globally* and has devastating impacts. In response to the strain this global hunger and nutrition crisis has on our local communities, Lions around the world serve to improve health and well-being and empower their communities to thrive.

*United Nations

**World Health Organization

†UN Women

2 billion

People without regular access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food*

45%

Of deaths among children under 5 years of age are linked to undernutrition**

2 in 3

Countries report women experience food insecurity more than men†

30%

Of food is lost or wasted globally each year*

LCIF grants

Several types of foundation grants are available to support hunger relief service throughout the world.

HUNGER GRANT

LCIF Hunger Grants help Lions support school-based feeding programs, food banks, feeding centers and similar facilities that provide food to people when they need it most.

MATCHING GRANT

LCIF Matching Grants fund equipment and construction for large-scale projects that address unmet humanitarian needs.

DISTRICT & CLUB COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANT

Through the DCG program, 15 percent of unrestricted contributions to LCIF are transformed into grants that fund local projects on a club and/or district level.

LEO SERVICE GRANT

LCIF Leo Service Grants provide financial assistance to Leo service projects implemented by Leo clubs in a Lions multiple district or district.



Hunger is one of the Global Causes with Lions Clubs International, and it affects people all over the world. Over 8 million Canadians live in households with some level of food insecurity, and over half of them are working households.

While British Columbia ranks among the lowest numbers, we still have almost 15% of our households facing this problem.

There are many things our Lions Club can do to help those who need it. [Click here](#) for the link to a huge list of service project ideas, direct from our Lions International website.

We can do more to make a difference right here at home.

Barks Burgers and Brews a doggone good time!



Patti is ready with the raffle tickets for our sold out event.



Nicole was kept busy counting the money we raised!

On Saturday, March 29th, more than 100 Lions and friends from as far away as Chilliwack, and even Renton, Washington came out to the Poco Legion for our first-

ever **Barks, Burgers and Brews**, a fantastic event to launch our club's 4th Annual Dog Guide Walk coming up in May. We enjoyed a delicious meal, happy fellowship, amazing door prizes, silent auction and paper bag raffles, heart-warming speeches and a video about the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides, and raised funds towards our \$10,000 goal for the Dog Walk on May 25th. **Sarah** did a phenomenal job with so much attention to detail; even the centerpieces were woof-tastic. The staff at the Legion notably congratulated our club on such a well-organized event. Our final total raised was **\$4,500!!** Well done. Paws up to **Sarah** and all the members of the Coquitlam River Lions Club, everyone had a wonderful time.



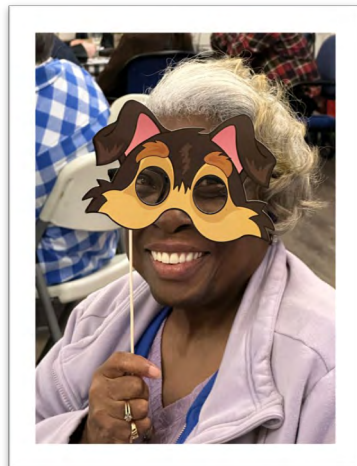
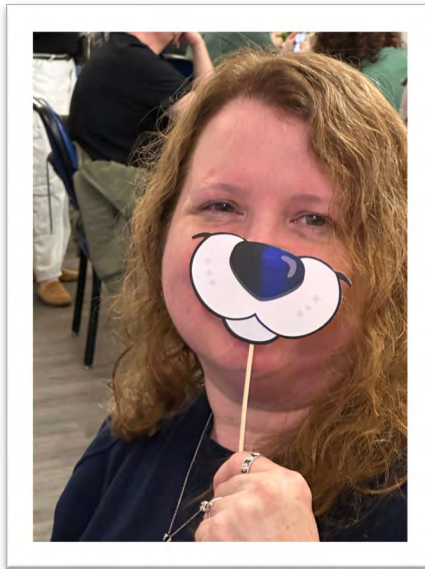
Richard, Sarah and Rosalie accepted the very generous donation of \$500.00 from the Maple Ridge Lions Club. Thank you so much!



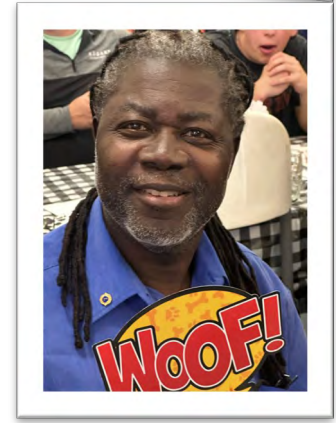
Rosalie was our MC, and 1st VDG September lead a fun game of Heads and Tails. Robin from Surrey Central was the winner of a \$100 Gift Card from Hopcott Farms



District Governor Beth presented Sarah with a gift for organizing such a dog-tastic event!



When you're at a fundraiser for Dog Guides, you gotta have Photo Props. At our Barks Burgers and Brews on March 29th, everyone had fun with the doggie-themed props, and we sure got some un-fur-gettable pics!



Crazy prizes, three new Lions and of course, spaghetti

We like to have fun at our club meetings, and finding new ideas keeps us on our toes. Our 1st VDG **September** is also our Taitwister. At our meeting on March 5th, she had wrapped up 20 “mystery prizes” and we played a game of “pass the gifts.” There were 20 questions, and if you answered yes, you had to pass a gift to the left or the right. Everyone had fun answering the questions, and **Dave** ended up with the Lions share at the end :) The gifts comprised of various items from a few silent auction gift baskets, and some goodies from her District Governor training in Illinois. Dave ended up with a few pocket books, some jewellery and a really nice, huge travel mug from Lions International.



Dave couldn't believe he won so much fun stuff at our Pass the Gift game !



September, Simran, Charlotte, Val, Meridee and Joe

On March 18th, the **North Surrey Lions Club** had a special meeting night, and special it was, as they were inducting **THREE** new members: **Simran, Charlotte and Meridee**. It was also the official visit for **1st VDG September**, and she was happy to have **Richard, Gerry and Patti** join her for this meeting. September did a heartfelt presentation first, and then welcomed the new members with a candlelight ceremony highlighting how Lions bring light into the world. **Val and Joe** were the sponsors, and we were all proud to welcome these new members into the Lions family.

Congrats to the **North Surrey Lions Club** as this brings their total now to **FIVE** new members in this Lions year (and it ain't over yet!)

When your club meeting is on the same night as **Surrey Central Lions'** monthly Spaghetti Feed, you just know we're gonna make a road trip. On March 19th, **September, Richard, Rosalie, Sarah, Dawn, Gerry and Ryan** enjoyed salad, spaghetti (great sauce!) garlic bread and dessert, all for just \$10.00! The Tynehead Hall was full, including all the Leos who did a great job serving everyone. We had a great time, so a big thank you to the Surrey Central Lions.



We sure look full! September, Richard, Rosalie, Sarah, Dawn, Gerry and Ryan at the Spaghetti Feed.

Spring conference a roaring success!



PID Connie and District Governor Beth presented the Best Club Bulletin Award to COQUITLAM RIVER LIONS!



Swinomish Casino and Lodge in Anacortes, Washington: perfect venue for our conference

Spring Conference 2025 was a much more casual affair, and it created a wonderful ambience and mood among the 251 Lions in attendance. Even our International Guest, **PID Connie LeClerc-Meyer** from Wisconsin, kept it real with a polo shirt for the event. We're all Lions, after all, so why not? Many delegates had special convention t-shirts, and they wore them with pride. The only "white dinner jacket" was worn by EmCee **Roger Chevrier**, and he had Lions autograph it with fabric pens, so much fun. Oh, and did I mention....the **Coquitlam River Lions Club won the Club Bulletin Contest! Wahoo!**

Kudos to **District Governor Beth** and her team for putting on a fantastic spring conference. Your team did a wonderful job. We had three of our club members there; **Ryan, September and Gerry**, and we enjoyed our time in Anacortes.



We enjoyed the attention to detail all around the conference, including the table centerpieces



What a unique event at a conference! A fun workshop to create our own Fairy Garden.



Ryan, September and Gerry at Fun Night where there were games, snacks and lots of fellowship.

April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Club Meeting 7:00pm	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Board Meeting 7:00pm @ Library	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Club Meeting 7:00pm	17	18 <i>Good Friday</i> 	19
20  HAPPY EASTER	21	22	23	24 LCIF Melvin Jones Gala	25	26 North Surrey Burger and Brew
27	28	29	30			



On The Cover:

Even the centrepieces have gone to the dogs! At the Barks Burgers and Brews event, each table centerpiece was unique, and featured dog biscuits in some form or fashion. This one was particularly adorable. The attention to details like this helped make this event such a success!

"
SMALL ACTS, WHEN
MULTIPLIED BY MILLIONS OF
PEOPLE, CAN TRANSFORM
THE WORLD.
"

— HOWARD ZINN



Melvin Jones Fellows Appreciation Gala 2025

Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Patti Hill
IPIP/LCIF Chairperson

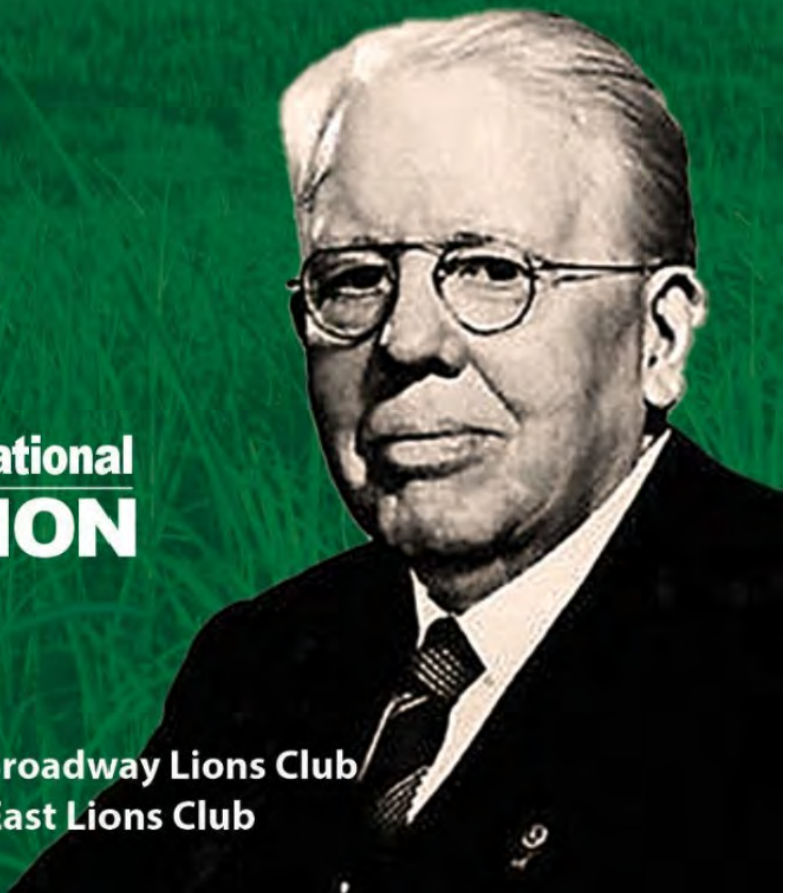
April 24th, 2025 (Thursday)
Continental Seafood Restaurant
Ticket: \$88

Co-Event Chairperson:
PZC Michael Cheng
PDG / LCIF District Chairperson Shella Keung



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

Organized By: Vancouver Broadway Lions Club
Vancouver East Lions Club



Membership Roster 2024-25

Board of Directors:

Rosalie Kunic	rosaliekunic@shaw.ca	(President)
Sarah Swanson	ssarahcs@telus.net	(Vice Pres)
Patti Byth	pattibyth@gmail.com	(Secretary)
Ryan Stokes	ryansstokes@gmail.com	(Treasurer)
September Stokes	lionseptember92@gmail.com	(Director)
Richard Simonson	lionrichards@gmail.com	(Director)
David Macey	davids.macey@gmail.com	(Director)
Rosemary Small	rosemary.small24@aol.com	(Director)
Gerry Becker	gbecker@telus.net	(Past Pres)

Members:

Dawn Becker	dawn.becker@iwafibp.ca
Nicole Byth	nicoleebyth@gmail.com
Sharon Hughes	moodydomesticgoddess@shaw.ca
Terry Hughes	askterryhughes@gmail.com
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Kim Schoffer	lionkimschoffer@gmail.com
Jim Small	jsmall1943@aol.com
Courtney Stokes	courtneystokes506@yahoo.ca



Bring your change to our club meetings for our new:

Let's Make A Deal 50/50 draw.

Each meeting, purchase your draw tickets, 1 for \$2.00 or 3 for \$5.00. If your ticket is drawn you can keep the cash prize, OR.....you can trade it for what's in the surprise package? You never know, it could be something fabulously unique and interesting, could be a TUG (totally useless gift) in the spirit of Let's Make a Deal. It's fun, entertaining, and the money raised goes to help our club.



Coquitlam River Lions Club

Chartered March 2022

Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 7:00pm
 River Springs Recreation Centre
 1950 Lodge Drive, Coquitlam, BC
www.coquitlamriverlions.club
 Email: coquitlamriverlions@gmail.com



We cannot do all the good in the world. But the world needs all the good that Lions can do!



#kindnessmatters