



District 5M11 Newsletter

November 2015



MID WINTER CONVENTION EDITION



COME TO WINNIPEG FOR CONVENTION

We are hosting the 2016 Convention in Winnipeg from February 19 to 21, 2016 and would love to see you there. We are planning a special time for our members at Convention. In fact – come early and check out some of the extras on offer in Winnipeg. If there is enough interest, the organizers can set up transportation for the outside events listed below.

Here are the top ten reasons why: (In no particular order)

1. It's so easy to get to the Convention – It's located at the CanadInns Casino Regent. Just head north on Hwy 59 until it becomes Lagimodiere Boulevard – and turn right at Regent Avenue. See – how easy is that?
2. At the Convention, we have amazing and inspiring guest speakers including Rolande Kirouac who will enlighten us and engage us in laughter therapy, as well as topics on planning for our Centennial and sharing ideas on new opportunities to serve.
3. It's a great place to meet up with old friends and make new friendships and all in the name of Lionism. Canadian hospitality awaits you, and we promise you a great time.
4. Our goal is to inspire our members to re-energize our efforts to support our many Lions projects and to explore new opportunities to unite in new ways to serve our communities.

The Convention is a great place to share plans and ideas for projects and fundraising and community awareness.

5. It's Festival du Voyageur Time - there is music dancing and entertainment at many venues in St. Boniface every evening. Plus daytime events at Fort Gibraltar – taste the traditional foods of Francophone Manitoba, visit the ice sculptures. For more information check out www.festivalvoyageur.mb.ca

6. The Friday Night Get together is Voyageur themed with a chance to try Poutine and Tourtiere, and listen to traditional fiddle music. If you haven't tasted poutine or tourtiere before, you are in for a treat!



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DG
Gerald Fontaine



7. Journey to Churchill – It's the world's best exhibit of polar bears – it's a chance to see them without travelling to the north to Churchill. Plus my personal favourite the red pandas enclosure. (They have to be the cutest animal on the planet) For more information check out www.assiniboinepark.ca

8. Visit the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. It is a brand new world class museum dedicated to the exploration of human rights issues around the world. For more information check out www.humanrights.ca This museum is spectacular!

9. Visit the Olympus Exhibition at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. This is a once in a lifetime chance to see Greek and Roman art from the Museums of Berlin. Unless a trip to Germany is in your plans, this is a must see. For more information see www.wag.ca

10. Winnipeg has great live theatre – for example at the Warehouse Theatre ***Things We Do for Love* (Feb. 4 - 20, 2016)**: A 1997 comedy by prolific British comedic playwright Alan Ayckbourn. For more information check out www.royalmtc.ca

At the Prairie Theatre Exchange ***Seeds*** - Part court-room drama and part social-satire, this acclaimed docu-drama puts a spotlight in the court case that pitted a Saskatchewan farmer against corporate giant Monanto. Starring Eric Peterson of Corner Gas. For more information check out www.ptc.mb.ca

Or see the Royal Winnipeg Ballet – an internationally acclaimed ballet company doing ***Cinderella*** at the Concert Hall February 17 to 21, 2016 For more information check out www.rwb.ca



Festival du Voyageur



5M-11 MID-WINTER CONVENTION 2016

Friday, Saturday, Sunday – February 19th, 20th & 21st, 2016

**Location – CLUB REGENT CASINO HOTEL
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, CANADA**

Hosted by Riverside Lions

REGISTRATION FORM (Please fill out 1 form for each attendee)

Please fill out this registration form and return with you cheque/cash/money order payable to
2016 5M-11 MID-WINTER CONVENTION

LION ☐ LIONESS ☐ LEO ☐ GUEST ☐ 1ST Timer ☐

Name _____ Title _____
Address _____ Club _____
City _____ State/Prov. _____
Telephone _____
Email _____

NOTE: Please indicate any special dietary needs: _____

HOSPITALITY BOOK

Includes Friday Social, Saturday Breakfast, Lunch, Banquet and Sunday Brunch

**\$110US for Early
Bird Registration**

Hospitality Book (Postmarked by January 1, 2016)	\$130.00 CDN	
Hospitality Book (Postmarked January 2, 2016 or later)	\$140.00 CDN	
Friday Night Social – Festival Du Voyageur Theme	\$20.00	

Get ready for a FUN NIGHT!



Saturday Breakfast	\$20.00	
Saturday Luncheon	\$30.00	
Saturday Night Banquet	\$60.00	
Sunday Brunch	\$25.00	

Please make cheque/money order payable

to: 5M-11 MID-WINTER CONVENTION

TOTAL

\$

Please mail Registration to:
RIVERSIDE LIONS
188 Worthington Avenue
Winnipeg, MB Canada R2M 5K1

For Convention Information, contact:

Lion Barb Shields
Phone: 204-957-4615 or 204-253-4240
Email: bms@aikins.com

Lion Jan Nazarko
Phone: 204-233-2736
Email: jnazarko@mymts.net



For Hotel Reservation Information, contact:

Room Rate \$119/night plus applicable taxes

Club Regent Casino Hotel
1415 Regent Avenue West
Winnipeg, MB Canada R2C 3B2
Phone: 1-204-667-5560
Toll Free: 1-888-332-2623
Fax: 1-204-667-5913

2016 Parade of Green

Lions 5M-11 Mid-Winter Convention

Club _____

Donations being presented at Mid-Winter:

(Please make checks payable as listed below)

Amount

Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation (Formerly MN Lions Eye Bank)

\$ _____

· Children's Eye Clinic (Note on memo line)

\$ _____

· MAC Center (Note on memo line)

\$ _____

Lions MD5M Hearing and Research Foundation

\$ _____

· Children's Hearing Center (Note on memo line)

\$ _____

Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation, Inc.

\$ _____

· Schulze Diabetes Institute (Note on memo line)

\$ _____

~ Based on pledge of \$3/member for 3 years

Can Do Canines (Formerly Hearing & Service Dogs)

\$ _____

Leader Dogs for the Blind

\$ _____

LCIF (Lions Clubs International Foundation)

\$ _____

Project New Hope Lions Foundation of MN (Support for veterans & families)

\$ _____

Leo Clubs

\$ _____

5M-11 Youth Activities Fund

\$ _____

(Replaces Youth Outreach and Youth Exchange)

Diabetes Canada

\$ _____

Lions Eye Bank of Manitoba/NW Ontario

\$ _____

Lions Foundation of Manitoba/NW Ontario

\$ _____

(Medical Assistance Program)

Lions Hearing Foundation of Canada

\$ _____

Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides

\$ _____

Lions 5M11 CancerCare Initiative

\$ _____

TOTAL

\$ _____

Project New Hope just got their 501C3! So starting now any gambling fund checks should be made out as follows:
"Project New Hope Lions Foundation of Minnesota"

First Timers at Convention

The term “First Timer” shall apply to any Lion, Lioness, or Leo member attending his or her first 5M-11 Mid Winter Convention. The purpose is to help newer members learn about Lions Club International and also encourage them to meet other Lions, Lioness, and Leos.

The First Timers Program will consist of a booklet with two parts. The first part of the program booklet involves written answers to questions about our Lions organization. The second part requires obtaining signatures of various past and present International, Multiple, and District Officers as outlined in the booklet. In addition, participants will be asked to get signatures from current Lions, Lioness, and Leo Club Presidents and Secretaries of all 5M-11 Clubs in attendance at the Mid-Winter Convention.

The booklet will be distributed at the registration table to those who have identified themselves at “First Times”. An orientation meeting for all “First timers” will be held on Friday, January 30th. Participants will have until 5p.m. Saturday to complete their booklets and turn them in for judging. The First Timers Program and judging will be under the direction of the 1st Vice District Governor.

Prizes for the first and second place winners will be awarded at the Sunday Brunch. The first place winner will receive a Hospitality Book and two nights lodging for the 2016 Mid-Winter Convention. The second place winner will receive a Hospitality book for the 2016 Mid-Winter Convention. The prizes are non-transferrable.

Cabinet Member Responsibilities

Sitting on the District 5M11 Cabinet includes the following responsibilities:

- ◆ **Attending the 4 cabinet meetings per year (ITS ONLY FOUR PEOPLE!) (Everyone)**
 - ◇ Submit written reports to meetings you attend and the Newsletter
- ◆ **Submitting a report for each of the cabinet meetings (Everyone)**
 - ◇ Offer to come to club or zone meetings to talk about your program
- ◆ **Finding out what your position entails and asking questions (Everyone)**
 - ◇ Keep the district aware of what is happening with your program
- ◆ **Zone Chairs**
 - ◇ Setting up and running 2 to 3 meetings a year
 - ◇ Staying in contact with all of your clubs
 - ◇ Submitting reports or updates to the all necessary people and the Newsletter
 - ◇ Keeping the district informed what your zone is up to
 - ◇ Helping clubs in your zone if they need it
- ◆ **Program Chairs**
 - ◇ Attend meeting for your program be it district or multiple district
- ◆ **All Cabinet members**
 - ◇ Submitting reports to the Newsletter
 - ◇ Staying in contact with each other and possibly Multiple District
 - ◇ Helping distribute the Newsletter to zone and club members
- ◆ **Attending Officer Training**
- ◆ **All training that can be offered still needs to have personal involvement.**
- ◆ **If you can't do it, ask for help.**

Come join a great leadership team

If you are running for District Governor, 1st Vice District Governor or 2nd Vice District Governor, you need to submit a Letter of Intent and Letter of Endorsement to the Newsletter by Dec. 30th.



Looking for a 2nd Vice District Governors



5M11 is looking for someone to become a Vice District Governors.

The district is need of a 1st Vice District Governor for next year (2016-2017) and a 2nd Vice District Governor for next year as well.

Check out the Qualification listed in this newsletter. You will receive extensive training from the MD5M Multiple so you will be well prepared. If you have held the office of Club President and Zone Chair/Cabinet Member or attended the MD5M Leadership Institute.

THIS JOB IS FOR YOU! Interested?

Contact DG Gerald at gerryfontaine@gmail.com or call R. 204.433.7955

Pin Trading Reminder

From PDG Lion Jim Aasness

Lions Pins will be available for purchase at the 5M11 Mid Winter Convention in Winnipeg, February 19-21, 2016

Bring your unwanted Lions and Lioness Pins to the 5M11 Mid Winter Convention. We will sell them for you. Donate your Lions Pins Collections or the Lion's Vest with the pins on it. We will have a silent auction for them.

Money collected will be used to pay for the annual purchase of the MD5M Snowman Pins, 5M11 purchases or other expenses. In the past, we have use the money to help purchase laptops and other miscellaneous items.



Qualifications for Office

Section 2: DISTRICT GOVERNOR ELECTION PROCEDURES. Any qualified member of a club in the district seeking the office of district governor shall file his/her intention to so run in writing with the Nominating Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of the convention, and furnish evidence of his/her compliance with the qualifications for said office set out in the International Constitution and By-Laws. The Nominating Committee shall place in nomination at the district convention the name(s) of all candidate(s) so qualified. If none are so received and/or so qualified, then, but then only, nominations for the office may be made from the floor. A candidate shall be allowed one nominating speech of no more than five (5) minutes duration, and one seconding speech of no more than three (3) minutes duration.

Section 3: FIRST AND SECOND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR ELECTION PROCEDURES. Any member of a club in the district seeking the office of first or second vice district governor shall file his/her intention to so run in writing with the Nominating Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of the convention, and furnish evidence of his/her compliance with the qualifications for said office set out in the International Constitution and By-Laws. The Nominating Committee shall place in nomination at the district convention the names of all candidates so qualified. If none are so received and/or so qualified, then, but then only, nominations for the office may be made from the floor. Each candidate shall be allowed one nominating speech of no more than five (5) minutes duration, and one seconding speech of no more than three (3) minutes duration.

*From the Constitution and By-laws of Lions Club International

A candidate for the office of district governor shall:

1. Be an active member in good standing of a chartered Lions club in good standing in his/her single or sub-district.
2. Secure the endorsement of his/her club or a majority of the clubs in his/her single or sub-district.
3. Currently be serving as the first vice district governor within the district from which he/she is to be elected.

A candidate for the office of first vice district governor shall:

1. Be an active member in good standing of a chartered Lions club in good standing in his/her single or sub-district.
2. Secure the endorsement of his/her club or a majority of the clubs in his/her single or subdistrict.
3. Currently be serving as the second vice district governor within the district from which he/she is to be elected.

A candidate for the office of second vice district governor shall:

1. Be an active member in good standing of a chartered Lions club in good standing in his/her single or sub-district.
2. Secure the endorsement of his/her club or a majority of the clubs in his/her single or subdistrict.
3. Have served or will have served at the time he/she takes office as second vice district governor:
 - a. As president of a Lions club for a full term or major portion thereof, and a member of the board of directors of a Lions club for no less than two (2) additional years; and
 - b. As zone chairperson or region chairperson or cabinet secretary and/or treasurer for a full term or major portion thereof.
 - c. With none of the above being accomplished concurrently.



Say Cheese at Convention

Newsletter Editor Stacy Kleinwachter will once again be taking photos of the Mid Winter Convention at Mahanomen. She will be selling the DVD's for \$10 (cash), payable during the convention. Also, please find Lion Stacy if you would like your photo or your club's photo taken to be included.

To contact Lion Stacy, email at skleinwachter@yahoo.com or specialk.stacy@gmail.com. She will be having a sign-up sheet that will consist of name, address, club and email or phone.

5M11 Memorial Service Notice

The 5M-11 Mid Winter Convention committee is putting plans together for the memorial service on Sunday morning. We need to know of any members of you Lions family who have passed away this year since the last Mid-Winter convention in Mahanomen. **Please send the information, name and Club, to Lion Stacy Kleinwachter (skleinwachter@yahoo.com or specialk.stacy@gmail.com) along with a jpeg photo of the deceased member.** Lion Stacy will advise in the next newsletter which names he has and clubs can correct or add to it.

Passports and Bus to Mid Winter Convention 2016

Start thinking about the Mid Winter Convention in Winnipeg in February 19-21, 2016.



We are planning to organize a bus to go to the Mid-Winter Lions Convention in Winnipeg.

You **MUST** have a valid passport, an enhanced driver license, or Canadian pass card to enter Canada, and you **CANNOT** have a blemish on your record, not even an old DUI.

If you are interested, please let us know to find out if there would be enough riders to make it affordable to hire a bus. Don't want to drive yourself, consider riding a charter bus up there. Trying to get a bus to travel up to Winnipeg. The bus would hold up to 57 attendees.

Interested in riding the bus to convention, contact Jen Spielman at 5m11jenifer@gmail.com

Check out the links for border/crossing information:

Canada Border Services: <http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/menu-eng.html>

United States Border Services: <http://www.cbp.gov/>

Don't forget to sign up! Plan to have a great time!



MD5M Hall of Fame Award

Purpose

(October 2003)

To honor those Lion and Lioness members of character and substance who have demonstrated the highest level of commitment and dedication to the efforts of their club, district or multiple district and the motto of our association, "We Serve."

Award

There will be a maximum of one (1) recipient of the MD5M Hall of Fame Award per district, inducted into the MD5M Hall of Fame each year. The award may be presented posthumously

Exception: During the 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 Lion years, each district will be allowed two (2) Hall of Fame recipients, at least one (1) of which must be honored posthumously. Following the 2005-06 Lion year, beginning in the 2006-07 Lion year, the number of Hall of Fame recipients per district will return to one (1) per district.

The MD5M Hall of Fame award recipients are to be inducted into the Hall of Fame at the annual MD5M Multiple District Convention during the Saturday noon luncheon. The first honorees will be inducted May 21-23, 2004 at the MD5M Multiple Convention.

MD5M Hall of Fame recipients will receive a MD5M Hall of Fame award plaque and a Hall of Fame lapel pin in recognition of their induction in the MD5M Hall of Fame. In addition, a complete listing of all MD5M Hall of Fame recipients will appear in the annual MD5M directory and a perpetual plaque, with the names of all inductees and the year of their induction inscribed thereon, will be kept in a prominent place in the MD5M office, when available.

The presentation of the MD5M Hall of Fame inductees will be the responsibility of the current International Director from MD5M, if there is one and he/she is in attendance at the MD5M Multiple District Convention. If not, then the most recent Past International Director having served from MD5M in attendance at the MD5M Multiple District Convention.

Criteria

A candidate may be a Lion or Lioness, must have been a member in good standing for at least 15 years, be at least two (2) years removed from the Council of Governors if a PDG, should have qualifications above and beyond the call of duty including social and human endeavors, and he/she should be of good moral character and have a good reputation in his/her community. A nominee must be a member in good standing of a Lions or Lioness Club in MD5M, or must have been a member in good standing of a Lions or Lioness Club in MD5M at the time of their death.

Process

A candidate may be sponsored by any Lion, Lioness, Lions Club, Lioness Club, Zone, or District.

There will be a nomination fee of \$150.00 per each candidate nominated. The nomination fee will be returned to those sponsors whose candidates are not elected for induction into the MD5M Hall of Fame. The nomination fee for those selected for induction will be sent to MD5M and will be used to offset the cost of the award process, plaques and pin.

Nominations, including the nomination fee, must be received by the District Governor at least 30 days prior to the District's Mid-Winter Convention.

Each individual District will annually hold an election at their Mid-Winter Convention to determine the candidate(s), if any, to be inducted into the Hall of Fame for that Lion Year. Each sponsor will have an opportunity to give a brief presentation on the merits and biographical information of their nominee prior to the election. Those elected to be inducted into the MD5M

Hall of Fame will not be announced until their induction at the MD5M Multiple District Convention.

All nominations will use the standard form, no others will be accepted. The nomination fee must be received at the time the application is received, otherwise the nomination will not be considered.

All successful candidates will be inducted into the MD5M Hall of Fame at the next MD5M Multiple District Convention. The sponsor(s) and the respective District Governor will ensure that the honoree or a suitable representative be in attendance at the MD5M Multiple District Convention when the honorees are inducted.

(October 2003)

Date _____

Name _____
Address _____
Club _____

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
Club _____

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slightly textured appearance and is set against a dark background.

Only this official form will be accepted and the nomination will only be accepted if accompanied by the nomination fee.



A note from your PID...

TIMES, THEY ARE A CHANGIN'

Bob Dylan may not have said it first, but nonetheless it's true today, or at least after this year's International Convention. Five International Constitution and By-law Amendments were enacted:

- The position of International Third Vice President was re-instated effective with the 2016-17 Lions year which means both a 2nd and 3rd Vice President of LCI will be elected at the Fukuoka Convention.

Lion Mike

- The number of International Directors from the United States and its affiliates (which by Board action now includes the islands of the Caribbean Sea), Constitutional Area I, will be reduced from 14 to 11 over the next 3 years. Rather than electing 7 directors for 2 year terms each year, Constitutional Area I will now elect 6 in 2016-17; 6 in 2017-18 and 5 in 2018-19.

- The name of the "Leadership" Committee was changed to "Leadership Development" Committee to more accurately reflect its purpose.
- Effective July 1, 2016 requiring dues to be paid no later than the 15 days prior to a District or Multiple District convention for a delegate or the club of a candidate to be in "Good Standing" for the purpose of voting or running for office.
- No longer will a single affected district be able to block a Multiple district re-districting proposal; rather a re-districting proposal only requires passage by a majority of the delegates to a MD Convention,

BUT THERE'S MORE (But these election changes all become mandatory next year; so consider using them this year).

Because of persistent election problems occurring elsewhere, these provisions are a part of the Standard District Constitution and By-laws effective next year.

- Inclusion of a dispute Resolution procedure.
- An automatic update of District Constitution and By-laws is required when mandatory District CBL provisions are passed at an International Convention.
- District Governors are to appoint in writing a minimum of 60 days prior to a convention, a Nominating committee consisting of a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 members from different clubs, none of whom are on the Cabinet or hold an International Office, either by appointment or election. That committee shall review the qualifications of proposed candidates no later than 30 days before the convention.
- Use of DG and VDG Qualification Checklists is mandatory for the Nominating committee.
- Inclusion of the mandatory procedures for filling vacancies in the office of DG, 1st or 2nd VDG.
- A Convention call may be made by printed or electronic means and shall be given to all clubs no less than 60, rather than 30, days before the convention.
- The Cabinet may change the convention site no less than 30 days prior to the convention.
- The Convention Report must be sent to LCI within 15, rather than 60, days of the close of the convention.
- The Credentials Committee shall be chaired by the DG, with members including the cabinet secretary/treasurer and 2 other non-officers, both of whom are members of different clubs in good standing.
- The ballot forms proscribed by LCI must be used for both contested and uncontested elections are mandatory. When there are more than 2 candidates, a ballot and procedure for preferential voting are available.

I am happy to send a copy of the mandatory provisions of District Constitution and By-laws to anyone who wants one. Just drop me an email at: mmolenda@dmslb.com.

Thank you for your confidence and support during my 2 years as an International Director. Please give your same confidence and support to our endorsed International Director candidate, Bruce Beck at both your District Conventions and at the International Convention in Fukuoka.

Yours in Service, Lion Mike Molenda

97th Annual MD5M Lions Convention

***Come Join us at
the Bend in the River
II***

***April 22,23,24, 2016
Verizon Center,
Mankato, MN***

***Sponsored by District 5m2
Lions Clubs***

Come Canoe with 5M2





Join Us at the
"Bend in the River II"
 97th MD5M Convention
 April 22, 23, 24, 2016
 Verizon Wireless Center, Mankato, MN
 Hosted by District 5M-2



Registration Form

Please print

☐ Lion ☐ Lioness ☐ Leo ☐ Guest

☐ Lion ☐ Lioness ☐ Leo ☐ Guest

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

City _____ Prov/StateZip _____

City _____ Prov/StateZip _____

Email Address _____

Email Address _____

Title: _____ District: _____

Title: _____ District: _____

Club: _____

Club: _____

☐ Check if this is your 1st Multiple Convention

☐ Check if this is your 1st Multiple Convention

Please specify any dietary needs: _____

Please specify any dietary needs: _____

Will you need Braille convention material? yes or no

Will you need Braille convention material? yes or no

Meal	During 2015 MD5M Convention Only	Before March 1, 2016	On or after March 1, 2016	# Attending	Amount
Yes, I am coming to the convention but not staying for the meals. _____					XXXXXX
Hospitality Book	USD \$90.00	USD \$100.00	USD \$110.00		
Friday night mixer	XXXXXX	USD \$15.00	USD \$15.00		
Saturday Brkfst	XXXXXX	USD \$ 20.00	USD \$25.00		
Saturday Lunch	XXXXXX	USD \$25.00	USD \$30.00		
Saturday Banquet	XXXXXX	USD \$40.00	USD \$45.00		
Sunday Brunch	XXXXXX	USD \$20.00	USD \$25.00		

Make checks payable to: MD5M 2016 Convention

Total Submitted: \$ _____

Mail registrations to: Lion Charlette Abbas
 312 Foothills Road
 PO Box 133
 Courtland, MN 56021
 paandmaabbas@hotmail.com

Convention information:
 Maynard Rucks @ king70@frontiernet.net. or
 Nancy Mathwig @ nmathwig@hotmail.com

Cancellations accepted and refunded prior to April 1, 2016. \$20.00 fee for cancellations.

See separate information form for available hotel rooms and rates.



Join Us at the Bend in the River II

97th MD5M Convention

April 22nd-24th, 2016

Verizon Wireless Center

Hosted by District 5M-2

Hotel Information

Hotel Reservations can be made by calling or booking online to your hotel of choice. Rates will be guaranteed until March 21st, 2016 or until blocks fill up.

Hilton Garden Inn

Attached to Verizon Wireless Center

20 Civic Center Plaza

Mankato, MN 56001

Phone: 507.344.1111

Rate: \$90 +tax

Mankato City Center Hotel

Attached to Verizon Wireless Center

101 E. Main Street

Mankato, MN 56001

Phone: 507.345.1234

Rate: \$94.99 +tax

Holiday Inn Express

3.5 miles away

2051 Adams Street

Mankato, MN 56001

Phone: 507.388.1880

Rate: \$99.99 +tax

Best Western Hotel

1.5 miles away

1111 Range Street

North Mankato, MN 56003

Phone: 507.625.9333

Rate: \$94.99 + tax



Konnichiwa Lions! Register for LCICon Today

The 99th Lions Clubs International Convention is in the city of Fukuoka, Japan, June 24–28, 2016. Fukuoka is in the southwest part of Japan and is home to the oldest Zen temple in Japan. Fukuoka is well known for its gourmet food, with an abundance of fresh seafood and the most yatai (street food stalls) in all of Japan.

The convention will include festivities that showcase our own culturally diverse membership, such as the International Parade of Nations in the heart of Fukuoka City. For up-to-date