

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS



DISTRICT A-2

CONSTITUTION

APRIL 1ST. 2012
Amended March 19, 2016

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DISTRICT A-2 CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

Name

This organization shall be known as District A-2, Ontario Corporation # 1814953, a Sub-District of Multiple District "A", a Multiple District of the International Association Lions Clubs, hereinafter referred to as Lions Clubs International. Whenever the male gender or pronoun presently appears in this constitution it shall be interpreted to mean both male and female.

ARTICLE II

Object

To provide an administrative structure with which to advance the Purposes and Objects of Lions Clubs International in District A-2.

ARTICLE III

Membership

The members of this organization shall be all Lions Clubs in District A-2 duly chartered by Lions Clubs International. Any change in District A-2 boundary lines must be approved by a vote at a Multiple District "A" Convention and approved by the Board of Directors of Lions Clubs International. Membership shall be by invitation only.

The boundary lines of District A-2 shall be those approximately indicated on the Ontario Provincial road map held by the District A-2 Secretary.

ARTICLE IV

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Section 1. **CABINET AND OFFICERS** District A-2 shall have a District Cabinet composed of the District Governor, who shall be the presiding officer, the Immediate Past District Governor, the First and Second Vice District Governors, the Region Chairpersons (if the position is utilized during the District Governor's term), the Zone Chairpersons and a Cabinet Secretary – Treasurer (or a Cabinet Secretary and a Cabinet Treasurer), AND ALL APPOINTED Committee Chairpersons. The members of the District Cabinet shall be the Officers of District A-2. Each such elected / appointed Officer shall be a member in good standing of a Lions Club in good standing in District A-2.

Section 2. **ELECTION OF DISTRICT GOVERNOR, FIRST AND SECOND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNORS.** The District Governor and First and Second Vice District Governors shall be elected by the voting delegates, by secret ballot, at the Annual Convention of District A-2. District A-2 shall elect or the District Governor shall appoint, by the time he takes office, a Cabinet Secretary and a Cabinet Treasurer, one Region Chairperson for each Region (if the position is utilized during the District Governor's term), and one Zone Chairperson for each Zone, in the District, providing that no Lions stand for election.

ARTICLE V District Convention

Section 1. **TIME AND PLACE.** An Annual Convention of District A-2 shall be held in each year to conclude no less than thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the Multiple District "A" Convention, place, date and time to be fixed by the District A-2 Cabinet. In the alternative, a meeting of the Registered Delegates of District A-2 in attendance at the Annual Convention of Multiple District "A" of which District A-2 is a part, may constitute the Annual Convention of District A-2.

Section 2. **CLUB DELEGATE FORMULA.** Each Chartered Club in good standing at Lions Clubs International, MDA and District A-2 shall be entitled at each Annual Convention of District A-2 to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each ten (10) members, or major fraction thereof who have been enrolled for at least one year and a day in the club, as shown by the records of the International Office on the first day of the month last preceding that month during which the convention is held. The major fraction referred to in this section shall be five (5) or more members. Each Certified Delegate present in person shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote only for each office to be filled by, and one (1) vote only on each question submitted to, the respective convention. Unless otherwise specified herein, the affirmative vote of a majority of the delegates voting on any questions shall be the act of the convention. Delinquent dues must be paid and good standing acquired at least 15 days prior to the close of the credential certification, as such closing time shall be established by the rules of the respective convention. All eligible delegates must be members in good standing of a Club in the District.

Section 3. **VOTING AT CONVENTIONS – AT LARGE.** Each Present and Past Officer of Lions Clubs International, as laid down in the International Constitution, who is a member in good standing of a Lions Club in good standing in District A-2 shall be a voting delegate to the convention and may exercise one (1) vote for Zone Chairperson in the Zone his Lions Club is in; one (1) vote for Region Chairperson in the Region his Lions Club is in; one (1) vote for Second Vice District Governor of District A-2, one (1) vote for First Vice District Governor, one (1) vote for Governor of District A-2; and one (1) vote on each non-election issue to be voted on by the members of said convention. This vote shall not be considered a vote to which his / her Club would otherwise be entitled and the Officer shall be entitled to one (1) vote only.

Section 4. **QUORUM.** The attendance in person of a majority of the delegates registered at a convention shall constitute a quorum at any session of the convention.

ARTICLE VI

Amendments

Section 1. **AMENDING PROCEDURE.** This Constitution may be amended only at a District A-2 Convention by resolution of the Constitution and By-Laws Committee and adopted by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast, by delegates at the Convention. Provided further that, where mandatory amendments or repeals are required due to changes in the laws of the Province of Ontario and/or the Constitution of Multiple District A (as amended from time to time) and/or the Constitution of Lions Clubs International (as amended from time to time), such amendments or repeals may be approved by a vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members of Cabinet present at a regularly constituted meeting of the Cabinet provided that each voting member shall have received at least five (5) days written notice, before the meeting, of such amendments or repeals. Such amendments or repeals shall become effective immediately and remain in effect only until the next A-2 Convention unless confirmed thereat by not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast.

Section 2. **NOTICE.** Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be in writing and in the hands of the Cabinet Secretary not less than sixty (60) days prior to the date of the convention. No amendments shall be so reported or voted upon unless the same shall have been furnished in writing by letter or electronic means to each Club no less than thirty (30) days prior to the convening date of the Annual Convention with notice that the same will be voted upon at said convention.

The Constitution and By-Laws Committee will entertain no amendments to the Constitution unless they have been approved by a majority vote at a Lions Club, or Zone, or Region, or Cabinet Meeting. Such amendments to be voted upon by the delegates at the next District A-2 Friendship Convention.

Section 3. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** Each amendment shall take effect at the close of the District A-2 Friendship Convention at which it is adopted, unless otherwise specified in the amendment.

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL **MISSION STATEMENT**

To create and foster a spirit of understanding among all people for humanitarian needs by providing voluntary services through community involvement and international cooperation.

LIONS INTERNATIONAL PURPOSES (OBJECTS)

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 the community.

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

To Provide a forum for 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 endeavours.

LIONS 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 service performed by one 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, as to give them my unswerving loyalty in word, act, and deed. To give them freely of my time, labour 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.