



District C-2 Convention



District C-2 Convention 2016

October 21-22

Grey Eagle Resort and
Convention Centre
Calgary, Alberta

The Many Faces
of Lionism

www.lionsc2.org



The Many Faces of Lionism.

On a prairie autumn day in Calgary Alberta, Lions from the many clubs, regions, and zones in Alberta and beyond came together at the Grey Eagle Resort and Convention Centre. The reasons for gathering were varied and numerous. The many faces of Lionism were evident not only through the attendees but also for the reasons that brought them together.

Attending were the newly initiated Lions as well as those with vast experience and knowledge. Together they shared a similar purpose and goal – to connect with fellow Lions and use this Convention to learn and find inspiration in their quest “to serve” their communities.



Taking on the responsibility of organizing and providing a Convention full of opportunities and inspiration was C-2's District Governor, Lion Gail Haight, the DG's team – 1st Vice District Governor Lion Cathy Anderson and 2nd Vice District Governor Lion Tyler Bray – as well as Convention-Chairman Lion Peter Braithwaite.



Also providing support for many of the jobs needed to be done for the Convention were the two Host clubs—Calgary Mountainview and Foothills Lions Clubs.



I really enjoyed the presentation by the International Director on the specialty clubs—being GMT and all. Also [Lion Gayle Quinn's] presentation on “beep-ball” was entertaining as well. The best one was MLA Heather Forsyth. Her history with the Lions dog was touching and funny in places. It is nice to hear firsthand the good the Lions dogs do”.

Lion Bill Stecewicz, GMT Co-ordinator



The Convention is a time to reconnect . . .



District Governor Gail Haight opened the Convention on Friday night with the traditional Flag Ceremony. The flag bearers and piper were from the 1955 41 Service Battalion Cadet Corps, Canadian Armed Forces.

Council Chair, Lion Tim Haight, brought in the Lions Centennial Torch. This torch is available to any District across Canada to be used to promote and celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Lions Clubs International.

Lion Peter Braithwaite, Convention Chairman, explained procedures and also welcomed the delegates.



- 183 Lions attended the Convention.
- 15 Lions came from outside the C-2 District.
- Calgary Filipino Club had the most representation with 17 members attending.

**and the Friday night social evening**

The Friday evening program was nothing short of fellowship and camaraderie. Keeping the atmosphere light was MC Lion Barry Crane exposing the audience to his version of east coast humour. Whenever there was a pause in the program, Lion Barry jumped in with one of his “suspect” stories or somewhat close-to-the-edge jokes. All were told with enthusiasm and energy. Great fun!

Shannon Beck, a local musician, provided a set of enjoyable songs which even prompted some dancing between the tables. Shannon has performed in many places—from Kelowna, BC to Dalian, China. Shannon now resides in southern Alberta and is a high school teacher on the Eden Valley First Nations Reserve.

Lots of snacks were provided along with a variety of refreshments. A visit from “The Lion” resulted in a plethora of hugs—wanted or not!

**did just that!**

The Convention brought together four Lions from both districts C-2 and C-1 who consider themselves “sisters” – Lions Pauline (Lethbridge West), Chris (Pincher Creek), Betty Ann (Grande Prairie), and Sandra (Bowness). Between them they have contributed extensively as District Governors, Council Chair and Council Treasurer.



Two members of the Calgary Mountainview Lions Club took on the task of selling 50/50 tickets—Lions Irene (left) and Sandra. \$829 was collected with Lion Gary Garnett of Caresland Lions Club winning the draw. The CNIB White Cane program is the recipient of the Convention’s share of the raffle.

**45 Lions clubs were represented at this Convention**

Airdrie Anchorage Captain Cook Bearspaw Bowness Bozeman Gelatin Empire
 Calgary Calgary Eastport Calgary Filipino Calgary Heritage
 Calgary Korean Calgary Mountainview Calgary North Hill Calgary Northeast Eyeopener
 Calgary Nova Calgary Properties Calgary Westwinds Calgary Wildrose
 Calgary Woodcreek Cardston Caresland Carstairs and District Cheadle
 Chestermere Claresholm Cochrane Cochrane Lioness Cowley Crossfield
 Didsbury Edmonton Host Edmonton Southgate Foothills Grande Prairie
 Highwood Hussar Lethbridge Host Lethbridge West
 Medicine Hat Okotoks Olds Picture Butte & District Pincher Creek
 Stony Plain Strathmore Vegreville.



It is a time to learn . . .

The presentations on Saturday proved varied and novel. In addition to those below and on the next page, there were presentations from 2nd VDG Tyler Bray on ALERT; PDG Pauline Cooper on “Eye Glasses to Mexico”; Lion James Lee on CLERC; as well as information about the Lions Sight Centre at the University of Calgary and the CNIB White Cane project.



Convention Chair, Lion Peter Braithwaite (right), presented Col Cseke, Artistic Director from the Inside Out Theatre, with a Certificate of Appreciation for explaining the value of the Theatre to our community. The Theatre “offers high-quality drama education and theatre production opportunities for people with mixed abilities and special needs where they can experience fellowship, development of their creative capabilities and a platform to share their ideas and experiences.”



Holly Duvall, Executive Director of the Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation (AIWC), explained the constant and urgent need of funds for the rehabilitation of rescued birds and animals in southern Alberta. The Institute is an accredited vet clinic specifically dedicated to admitting injured and orphaned wildlife. There is no human imprinting and release is always back to where they were found after it is determined that they have all the skills to survive in the wild.



Heather Forsyth and service dog Quill were sponsored by the Lions Foundation in Edmonton. Ms. Forsyth is a 6-term MLA and has been in Alberta politics for over 20 years. Quill is the first small hearing ear service dog and the first dog in Canada admitted to any legislature. Ms. Forsyth quips that “Quill is the most well behaved member in the Legislature . . . although his snoring can be a problem”. Quill is in the process of learning sign language and carries ID from both the Alberta Government and the Lions Foundation.



and it is a time to be inspired.



PID Dr. Patti Hill
Edmonton Host Lions Club

Lion Gayle Quinn
Anchorage Captain Cook Lions Club

It is not surprising to any Lion that the recalling of her path into Lionism by PID Dr. Patti Hill inspired as well as reminded that “service” is always the focus. Her recollection of places she has been and the communities and people she has met, lead us to constantly search and evaluate our expectations and actions. Every time Lions are privileged to hear Dr. Hill new ideas surface that can be taken back to clubs and developed for the benefit of communities.

Describing the focus and drive of a relatively new Lion in finding her path on her journey into Lionism is challenging. One only has to hear Lion Gayle Quinn, a Lion for only four years, to understand that she has found her passion—and how the telling of it incites others to dig deeper and allow their humanity to provide the direction of their efforts in Lionism.

Creating epic events, explains Lion Gayle, is the way to bring awareness to Lions in a community as well to bring Lions together in a focused task. In creating and developing her club’s Beep Ball project, Lion Gayle brought diverse groups together successfully under a common goal and benefit.

**It is a time to remember . . .**

District Lions who had passed on in the year October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016 were remembered. PDG Margaret Young organized and presided over a ceremony that acknowledged each Lion individually and gently reminded us of their contributions to the Lions clubs they belonged.

Families were invited to take part and received a sun catcher in remembrance.

Lion Howard Verbeurgt Lion Felix Mathieu
Lion Robert Norris

Lion William Craciun Lion Anne Granberg
Lion Harvey Uffelman

Lion Erwin (Curly) Ritz Lion Christina Clarke
Lion Marjorie Goller

Lion Ollie Borgedahl Lion Howard MacDonald
Lion Carole Clarke

Lion Enzo Piccini Lion Abraham Leechuy
Lion Brian O'Neil

Lion Larry L. Henderson Lion W.S. (Sandy) George
Lion Helen B. Lomenda

Lion H.H. (Pat) Watson Lion Bill M. Taylor
Lion Raymond Fair

Lion F. Joseph Kidd Lion Eugene Fabro
Lion Kenneth Morrison





and it is a time to honour

International President's Certificates of Appreciation



International Director Lewis Quinn and District Governor Gail Haight honoured Lions Sharon West (left), Tony Pettigiani (middle) and Catherine Heberle (right) with the International President's Certificate of Appreciation for their dedication and commitment.

as well as recognize.

District Governor Team Excellence Awards

The LCI's Excellence Award is an achievement not only for the district, but also for the clubs that the district supports. To qualify, the district must further the objectives of the association, adhere to the association's constitution/by-laws and policies, and meet a multitude of requirements.

Past District Governor Hazel Hiebert presented these awards for 2015–2016 to her District Governor's team as well as the GMT Coordinator, GLT Coordinator, two Region Chairs and Zone Chairs.





And most of all, it is a time to look forward.



International Director, Lion Lewis Quinn, was in constant action throughout the Convention—whether it be handing out awards, talking with Lions, or sharing a humorous moment. But ID Quinn also had a strong, pointed message. In his evening address, this message was clear—

"Divergent thinking requires us to put aside our traditional views and recognize alternative opinions and ideas. If we are going to make Lions relevant for future generations, we are challenged to embrace change. Some of us are challenged by change, others understand the need for it. I propose that most are up to the challenge once we understand its potential impact."

Earlier in the day, ID Quinn spoke of the need for Lions not to be the best kept secret on the planet; encouraged specialty clubs; promoted the establishment of digital marketing; encouraged creation of a strategic plan to move forward; and emphasized the value of random acts of kindness, to name only a few of the ideas presented. ID Quinn always emphasized the need for effective communication including using social media platforms among the clubs up to the International level.



"I particularly enjoyed Lion Gayle Quinn and her talk about beep-ball. Fun in Lions. And on a personal note I was totally blindsided by the Certificate of Appreciation I received."

Catherine Heberle, Zone Chair



It is a time to gather information.

Throughout the Convention, Lions were able to speak with representatives from a number of organizations who had set up displays in the outer hallway. In addition, pin trading was available through Lion Tim Beer of the Foothills club.



Conventions and Forums Coming Up!

Multiple District C Convention—May 5/6, 2017, Canmore, Alberta

LCI 100th Anniversary Convention—June 30—July 4, 2017, Chicago, Illinois.

USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum—September 21, 2017, Portland, Oregon

District C-2 Convention—October 20/21, 2017, Medicine Hat, Alberta

Information on these events can be found on the District website.

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It is a time to award outstanding service.



1st Vice District Governor Cathy Anderson had the rewarding task of presenting clubs with service awards for outstanding efforts. Assisting in the presentations were District Governor Gail Haight and Host Club Presidents, Lions Betty Ann Adams and Barry Crane.

Centennial Service Challenge

Clubs could choose from four Centennial Service Challenge Campaigns—Engaging our Youth, Sharing the Vision, Relieving Hunger, and Protecting our Environment. Forty-one clubs took part in this Challenge.

Five clubs were awarded the patch for completing projects in one campaign; seven clubs for completing two campaigns; ten clubs for completing three campaigns and nineteen clubs for completing projects in all four campaigns—

Lethbridge Host, Lomond, Okotoks, Olds, Taber, Foothills, Pincher Creek, Calgary, Medicine Hat, Calgary Eastport, Cochrane, Calgary Filipino, Calgary Woodcreek, Lethbridge West, Calgary Mountainview, Carstairs and District, Calgary Korean, Medicine Hat Community View, and Calgary NOVA.

Centennial Community Legacy Projects

Legacy Projects were established for the Centennial Celebration to commemorate the Centennial and create a lasting legacy of service in communities. There are three levels of participation a club could choose from depending on the needs in each community. Level 1 (Bronze) is Raise Your Community Visibility; Level 2 (Silver) is Provide a Community Gift; and Level 3 (Gold) is Make a Community Impact.

8 clubs received the Bronze award—Bowness, Calgary, Cheadle, Bow Island, Cowley, Okotoks, Cochrane, and Calgary Woodcreek. 1 club received the Silver award—Cowley. and one club received the Gold award— Pincher Creek.



Above—Pincher Creek Club President, PDG Chris Lank (left), accepting the Gold award for her club.





And it is a time to choose leaders.

Voting took place for a number of positions for both the District Cabinet and Multiple District Council for 2017–2018.

The results for the District were not surprising—DG Elect Cathy Anderson (Lethbridge West), 1st VDG Elect Tyler Bray (Foothills) shown below left, and new to the Cabinet 2nd VDG Elect Brent Johnson (Lethbridge West).



Two candidates ran for Multiple District Council's Vice Council Chair— PDG John Goodrich (Bowness) and PDG Don Edy (Chestermere). PDG Edy was successful and his name will be put on the ballot with District C-1's choice to be voted on at the MD Convention in May 2017. PDG Edy is shown (above left) with his partner, Lion Lin.

Three candidates vied for appointment to the District's Hall of Fame—Lion James Lee (Foothills), Lion Ted Westerson (Cochrane) and the winner, Otto Strand (above right), shown with PDG Bill Baux both of the Lions Club of Calgary.



It is always a time to make memories.



Created, written, and photographed by Lion Carol Hassell, Calgary Mountainview Lions Club
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