

## **DISTRICT N 1 ANNUAL CONVENTION BUSINESS MEETING**

APRIL 12-14, 2024

FREDERICTON INN

The convention was officially opened by District Governor Susan Stennick on Saturday, April 13, 2024, at 8:30 am. District Governor Susan welcomed and thanked everyone for being here and thanked her Convention Committee for all their efforts for putting on a great social with good times had by all.

Past Council Chair Denzil Bernard arranged for a cheque presentation to the Fredericton chapter of the Shriners. He reported that over \$ 800.00 was raised so far from the collection of pop tabs, with more expected after this weekend. **It was moved by Past Council Chair Denzil that the district top up the donation from the pop tab collection to \$ 1000.00. Lion Jennifer Gardner seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Convention Chair, Past Council Chair Kevin Guiggey went over some housekeeping items and hoped everyone will learn something new and have a great time. District Governor called for a recess at 9:10am for the Incoming Officer's School.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:10 am on Sunday, April 14, with a moment of silence for deceased members of the Lions family and world peace. Lion Lee Evans led everyone in the Lions Invocation.

**Past Council Chair Stewart MacDonald moved that the agenda be approved as presented. Past Council Chair Lloyd Soucie seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Roll Call was taken with 122 members representing 34 clubs in attendance. District Governor Susan introduced the head table consisting of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor Donnie Walton, Cabinet Treasurer Theresa Vincente, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor Ed Evans, Acting Secretary Past District Governor Luke Stennick, and District Governor Susan Stennick.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor Ed Evans thanked everyone for being here this weekend and encouraged us to continue to work together and have fun doing it.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor Donnie Walton took the fun to another level by having everyone sing "She'll be coming around the Mountain." Good time had by all.

Past District Luke Stennick reported that the minutes from the 2022-23 Annual District Convention are no where to be found. Lion Carlos Vicente highlighted what would be considered major business items that were discussed and approved. **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District**

**Donnie Walton move that the minutes from the 2023 Spring Convention be approved. Lion Jennifer Gardner seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Cabinet Treasurer Theresa Vincente presented the financial report as of April 7, 2024. **Lion Theresa move that the financial report be accepted as presented. Lion Jennifer Gardner seconded the Motion. Motion carried.**

**Global Leadership Report:** Lion Carlos Vicente gave a report on the schools. All training sessions were very well attended and received great feedback to help improve training. He reminded everyone about the Emerging Lions Leadership Institute that is happening in Sackville on May 24-26. Zone Chair training will take place in late June or early July.

**Global Membership Report:** Lion Kathy Belliveau reported that membership is up this year and thanked everyone for making this possible. She recognized the clubs that are bringing in the most members. Lion Kathy reminded everyone that the way to get new members is, **“Just Ask.”**

**Global Service Report:** Past Council Chair Bev Semple submitted her report online.

**Lions Clubs International Foundation:** Past District Governor Boyd Sangster reported that a table was set up with information available and held a draw for a couple prizes. His report has been sent by email. It was also reported that there are clubs that are very close to having enough funds to present a Melvin Jones Fellowship to a deserving member.

**Lion Ron Evans Bursary Fund:** Lion Frank Carroll of the McAdams Lions Club reported that the bursary fund is doing very well. Through investments the interest made will take care of the next bursary.

Past Council Chair Brennan Beaumont explained the election process and the meeting was in recess for voting.

**Speakout:** Past Council Chair Denzil reported that this was a unique contest because the runner-up will be representing our district at the Multiple District contest. He encouraged more clubs to consider this project because it is very rewarding.

**Peace Poster Contest:** Lion Lori Perley reported that the kits for next year are available now. One club is going to do the contest in May.

**Lions Quest:** Lion Lori Perley gave an update on awards that are available through Lions Quest Canada depending upon the size of the contribution.

**Multiple District Convention:** Lion Michelle Clark reminded everyone that the deadline for registrations is getting close. She also spoke about the service project that will be taking place for the Pregnancy Wellness & Resource Center of Moncton. Lion Michelle spoke about the 75<sup>th</sup> Charter Night in Moncton on May 25. Guest speaker will be 3<sup>rd</sup> International Vice President Mark Lyons.

**Lions Foundation of Canada:** Past Council Chair Paul Cousins gave an update on the new facility. Project cost is now over 70 million dollars due to rising costs.

**Drug Awareness:** Lion Lorraine Pollack thanked the district for holding their February Cabinet meeting at Portage. The new memorial garden is being built and the Leo Club will look after the upkeep.

**Elections:** Past Council Chair Brennan gave his report and informed us that all positions and the one resolution were approved. His report is attached. For the position of 3<sup>rd</sup> International Vice President, the district has endorsed Past International Director Alexis Comes for the position. **It was moved by Past Council Chair Sonny to destroy the ballots. Past Council Chair Denzil seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

New Business: **Lions Clubs International Foundation Hunger Grant Proposal**

**Whereas:** Food insecurity has become a real and present concern for growing number of families in New Brunswick, and

**Whereas:** Greener Village Community Food Bank, located in the greater Fredericton area, is now attempting to satisfy as much as fifteen percent (15%) of the total demand for food assistance in the entire province of New Brunswick, and

**Whereas:** Greener Village Food Bank has created a major fund-raising campaign, called Thrive Campaign, to create and bring to reality the first Perishable Food Rescue Centre to Atlantic Canada, to “rescue” perishable food items nearing their “best before” or expiry dates, turning them into valuable food resources, and

**Whereas:** The benefits of the proposed project will alleviate shortages, not only for Greener Village, but capable of being shared with other food distribution outlets in the province, through partnerships with Food Banks Canada and Food Depot Alimentaire in New Brunswick, and

**Whereas:** Lions Clubs in the greater Fredericton area benefit strongly from assistance to citizens within their respective service areas, and support Greener Village with contributions from time to time,

Now, therefore, a group of Lions Clubs in the Greater Fredericton Area, including New Maryland Lions Club, Fredericton Lions Club, and Geary Lions Club, beg leave from District N 1 Cabinet to apply for a LCIF Hunger Pilot Grant to contribute to the Thrive Campaign, said grant application be in the amount of US\$ 100,000.00.

The clubs within the applicant group have received commitments from participating clubs and private donors to satisfy the matching requirements of the grant, should we be successful.

|                          |              |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| New Maryland Lions Club: | \$ 5000.00   |
| Fredericton Lions Club:  | \$ 5000.00   |
| Geary Lions Club:        | \$ 1500.00   |
| Private Donors:          | \$ 25,000.00 |

**The above was moved by Lion Bill O Donnell and seconded by Lion Jennifer Gardner. Motion carried.**

Past Council Chair Paul Cousins introduced Stephan Richard from Diabetes Camps New Brunswick to speak about the camps that take place in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. This organization is not part of Diabetes Canada and that may be where the confusion lies.

Lion Theresa Cousins held a draw for two prizes from a raffle held in support of Lions Foundation of Canada. Lion Therea Bartlett-Chase and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor Elect Heather MacDonald were the chosen winners.

District Governor Elect Ed Evans thanked everyone for their support and trust in him to be our incoming District Governor. His team is ready, and plans are made for a successful 2024-25. His first order of business is the District Directory. The cost for ads is as follows: full page - \$ 150.00, ½ page - \$ 75.00 and a quarter-page ad is \$ 50.00. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor Elect Heather MacDonald is looking after this.

District Governor Elect Ed and Cabinet Treasurer Theresa presented the proposed budget for 2024-25. One item that was added was the position of Global Extension Chair with a budget line in the amount of \$ 1200.00. **Cabinet Treasurer Theresa moved that the budget for 2024-25 be accepted. Past Council Chair Lloyd Soucie seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**District Governor Elect Ed made a motion that the signing officers for the district will be as follows: District Governor Elect Ed Evans, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice District Governor Elect**

**Donnie Walton, and Cabinet Treasurer Theresa Vicente. Past Council Chair Denzil seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

The Convention Committee held a draw this weekend with proceeds going to lions Foundation of Canada. Tail Twisting proceeds were designated there as well. Between the two, a little over \$ 800.00 was raised. **Lion Jennifer Gardner moved that the district top up this donation to \$ 1000.00 in memory of Lion Brian Vautour from the Simond Lions Club. Lion Rachael Clark seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Dates to Remember:

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| May 3-5   | Multiple District N Convention              |
| May 24-26 | Emerging Lions Leadership Institute         |
| May 25    | Moncton Lions Club 75 <sup>th</sup> Charter |
| June 1    | Zone 3 Lions Fun Day                        |

Our guest speaker for this convention, Past International Director Scott Storms thanked everyone for their friendship and dedication to Lions. He and his wife Lion Dale will be taking back cherished memories back to Connecticut from their time with District N 1.

Nashwaaksis Lions Club won the banner draw for \$100.00 donation to a charity of their choice and have decided to support the Lion Ron Evans Bursary Fund.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm