

# Li ns Link

Lions Clubs International District C-1 Newsletter

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## District Governor's Message - March

March is the tail end of winter.

Our New Year's resolutions are largely in the rear-view mirror, and across our communities there is a quiet sense of preparation and renewal.

Farmers and gardeners are planning their spring planting and watching for those first green shoots. Migrant birds are returning, preparing new nests and new families. Bears and gophers are stirring from hibernation as the days grow longer and the sun climbs higher in the sky.

For Lions, this is also a season of renewal.

It is time for clubs to begin thinking about next year's executive and to prepare to pass the reins to new leaders, new ideas, and new energy. Strong leadership succession ensures that clubs remain vibrant, relevant, and ready to serve.

It is also the perfect time to plan meaningful service projects for the coming year – projects that meet real needs in your community – while also planning some fun and fellowship opportunities for your members and for prospective Lions. Service and fellowship together are what makes our organization strong.

I encourage every club to plan to attend the **Multiple District Convention-April 10/11,2026 in Grande Prairie Ab.** It is an excellent opportunity to learn, to share ideas, and to enjoy fellowship with Lions from across the province.

And please mark your calendars for the **Multiple District Gala in support of Lions Clubs International Foundation** on June 20,2026. Make it a full weekend – camp with fellow Lions, enjoy a round of golf, and take in the many local attractions that Spruce View and the surrounding area have to offer. Most importantly, you will be supporting **LCIF** and learning more about the incredible impact our Foundation has around the world and here at home.

As nature prepares for spring, let us also prepare for a new season of service, leadership, and growth.

Together, we will continue to plant the seeds of kindness and watch Lionism flourish in our communities.

Yours in Service Lion Ted Mikkelsen

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Next Newsletter  
Submission Deadline:  
25<sup>th</sup> of current month

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# District C1 Dan & Dorothy Claypool Volunteer Award

## Award Criteria

The Dan & Dorothy Claypool Volunteer Award recognizes individuals who demonstrate exceptional commitment to volunteerism, community service, and the spirit of giving. Nominees should exemplify the values of dedication, compassion, and leadership in strengthening their community.

## Eligibility

- Open to individuals of all ages who volunteer their time and talents for the betterment of their community.
- Nominee must reside in, and have made a significant impact on, the community served by the award.
- Current members of the award selection committee are not eligible.

## Criteria for Selection

Nominees will be evaluated on the following:

1. **Commitment to Volunteerism**
  - Demonstrated long-term dedication and consistency in volunteer service.
  - Willingness to contribute time, skills, and energy without expectation of personal gain.
2. **Impact on Community**
  - Significant, measurable difference made in the lives of individuals, groups, or the broader community.
  - Initiatives or contributions that improve quality of life, promote inclusion, or strengthen community connections.
3. **Leadership and Inspiration**
  - Ability to motivate, mentor, and inspire others to engage in volunteerism.
  - Shows initiative in identifying needs and developing solutions.
4. **Embodiment of Values**
  - Reflects the spirit of compassion, service, and generosity exemplified by Dan & Dorothy Claypool.
  - Demonstrates integrity, kindness, and a collaborative spirit.
5. **Legacy of Service**
  - Contributions with lasting impact, sustainability, or long-term benefit for the community.
  - Volunteerism that serves as a model for future generations.

## Nomination Process

- Nominations may be submitted by individuals, organizations, or community groups.
- A completed nomination form must include:
  - Nominee's name and contact information
  - A description of the nominee's volunteer activities
  - Specific examples of contributions and their impact
  - Letters of support (optional but encouraged)

# **District C1 Dan & Dorothy Claypool Volunteer Award Nomination Form**

Presented by District C1

## **Nominee Information**

- Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- Address: \_\_\_\_\_
- Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Nominator Information**

- Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- Organization (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_
- Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Volunteer Service Information**

1. Please describe the nominee's volunteer activities (organizations, roles, years of service):

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2. How has the nominee made a significant impact on the community? (please provide examples):

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3. Describe how the nominee demonstrates leadership, inspires others, or goes above and beyond in service:

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4. How does the nominee embody the values of compassion, integrity, and generosity?

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## **Supporting Materials**

- Optional: Please attach letters of support, testimonials, or news clippings highlighting the nominee's volunteer service.

## **Declaration**

I hereby nominate the above individual for the Dan & Dorothy Claypool Volunteer Award.

Signature of Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## DISTRICT C1

# Dan & Dorothy Claypool Volunteer Award

*Presented to*

## Recipient's Name

In recognition of outstanding volunteer service,  
unwavering commitment, and lasting impact  
on the community.

Your dedication exemplifies the values of  
compassion, generosity, and leadership  
honoured through the legacy of  
Dan & Dorothy Claypool.

Presented this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

[Name of Club / Foundation / District]

## District C-1 Awards

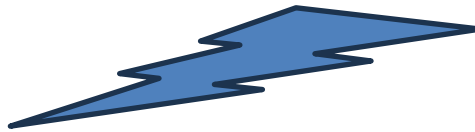
Does an outstanding member of your club deserve recognition for their service?  
Or a member of your community?

Check out the following District and MD award options.

The following awards are available on a yearly basis for nomination to a fellow lion or community member.

- [MDC Hall of Fame – District C-1 nominees](#)
- [District C-1 Citizen Of Distinction](#)
- [Dr. Lynn G. Hall Leadership Award for Outstanding Leadership in Lionism](#)
- [District C-1 Youth Activities Award](#)

Nomination Deadline will be in advance of the District C-1 Convention. Submission date and contact person to be announced at a future date.



An early start on the application preparation leads to a better application  
and avoids the stress of the “meet the deadline” rush.

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### JUDGE BRIAN STEVENSON FELLOWSHIP DINNER:

March 21, 2026, the Bowness Lions are hosting a Judge Brian Stevenson Fellowship Fundraiser for The Difference Campaign. Clubs are invited to apply to Dogguides.com for JBS Fellowships to honour club members and/or community members and then bring the recipients and awards to the event for presentation.

Dog Guides requests you order the fellowship awards by the end of January to make sure they have time to get the printing done. Please let me know numbers of fellowships ordered so we can plan our program.

Also, please let me know if you have access to silent/live auction items and/or if your club plans to make a financial donation to Dog Guides at the event.

More information about the fundraiser will be announced shortly.

*[Lion Daryl Reinke, AB/NT Director LFCDG](#)*



# Vote Lyle Gustafson

## MDC Vice Council Chair

My name is Lyle Gustafson. I am blessed With my lovely wife, Jill, our 2 children, Chad and Jason, and our 7 grandchildren.

I would like to acquire the position of MDC Vice Council Chair; I believe I would make a great candidate for the many diverse reasons I have listed to the right.

If you have additional questions, and would like to contact me to discuss my candidacy, my information is below:

### Lyle Gustafson Contact Information:

Phone: (780) 987-4407  
Cell: (780) 719-5336  
E-mail: [scouting@telus.net](mailto:scouting@telus.net)

*I would be Honored to Serve as District Governor, C1*

### Skills & Abilities

- . Currently Immediate Past District Governor for District C1
- . Director of the Northern Lights Scout Foundation for the past 10 years
- . Member of the Devon Lions Club for the past 14 years
- . Lions Zone Chair for District C1 in 2021
- . Lions Club LCIF Coordinator in 2020
- . Devon Lions Club President 2019
- . Devon Lions Club First Vice President 2018
- . Member of Scouts Canada in various rolls, from Cub Leader to District Commissioner, and Honors and Awards President from 1983 to 2011
- . Ran my own company for 17 years, Swed-ee Water Hauling, delivering potable water.
- . Served on the Alberta Youth Justice Committee for 3 years

### Awards Received

- . Scouts Canada, Bar to the Silver Acorn, for Outstanding service
- . Melvin Jones Fellowship – Lions
- . Citizen of the Year in Devon
- . Queen's Jubilation Award
- . Diamond Centennial – Lions
- . 10 Year Monarch Chevron - Lions

### Additional Education & Training

- . EMT (SAIT Trained) for Devon Ambulance
- . Trainer 3 for Scouts Canada
- . Conflict Resolution for Scouts Canada
- . ALLI (Advanced Lions Leadership Institute)
- . Lions District Governor's training

# LIONS IN ACTION

## RADWAY LIONS CLUB

Thank you to everyone who joined us this afternoon to celebrate Family Day at the Radway Fish Pond. There is nothing better than seeing our community come together at one of our hidden gems. We are so grateful for the time, laughter, and connection we were able to share. A special thank you to long time Lions Club of Radway supporters Lorry & Christine for pre-drilling the ice fishing holes and treating us to delicious homemade baked beans.



## RED DEER LIONS CLUB



The Red Deer Lions Club donated the proceeds from their 2025 Grey Cup Pool to St Teresa of Avila School to help them raise the funds to build a new all inclusive playground. A cheque for \$ 6,108.20 was presented to Principal Dana Pikkert by Lion President Ron Demchuk and Lion Ted Fitzgerald, Committee Chairperson, at the general meeting on February 9, 2026. The club is very proud to support this community initiative and helping the school achieve their goal.



The District Governor's Advisory Committee- District C-1 Zone 7 meeting was hosted by the Lions Club of Legal at Club 60 Roses on February 11.

Guest in attendance was PDG Glenn Barry who presented on membership with a theme of Recruit, Retain, and Recoup, exit surveys, inviting guest speakers at meetings and canvassing for members.

Discussion arose on membership and a few membership categories.

Acronyms for GAT (Global Action Team), GMT, GET, GLT, and GST were mentioned. This was followed up with a recommendation to go on the Lions Learning Centre by using your Lions Portal login.

The new Lions Pledge was followed by a brief history of the District.

The Zone 7 Chair is an opportunity for anyone wishing to further their activities with the Lions.

Elections, policy and procedures and election committees were covered.

Community highlights included the Legal Club's 50th anniversary this year and St. Albert's 75th anniversary. celebration in [February 2027](#) and the District Convention in Grande Prairie in April and the weeks of service.



Photo by Lucie Roy

THIS SPACE IS RESERVED FOR

**YOUR CLUB**

*Activities &  
projects*





*Share your club's activities,  
fundraising projects  
and opportunities*

**TOGETHER WE ARE  
STRONGER**

*your friendly editor*



## SAVE THE DATE

|   |  |                       |                                      |                                     |                         |
|---|--|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
|    | <b>JBS FELLOWSHIP DINNER</b>                             | March 21<br>2026      | The Difference Campaign              | <a href="#">RESERVATION</a>         | See page 5              |
|    | <b>MDC CONVENTION</b>                                    | April 10-11<br>2026   | Grande Prairie, Alberta              | Registration form                   | See page 11-12          |
|    | <b>ENVIRONMENT WEEK</b>                                  | April 18-26<br>2026   | <b>AMPLIFY</b><br>World Wide Service |                                     |                         |
|   | <b>LEDUC LIONS 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b>           | June 13<br>2026       | Leduc Alberta                        | <a href="#">RESERVATION</a>         | See Page 13             |
|    | <b>MDC LCIF GALA</b>                                     | June 20<br>2026       | Spruce View Alberta                  | <a href="#">REQUEST INFORMATION</a> | See Page 15             |
|    | <b>LCI CON 2026</b>                                      | July 3-7<br>2026      | Hong Kong, China                     | <a href="#">REGISTRATION</a>        | <a href="#">WEBSITE</a> |
|   | <b>USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum</b>                 | Sept 03-05<br>2026    | Memphis USA                          | <a href="#">REGISTRATION</a>        | <a href="#">WEBSITE</a> |
|  | <b>C1 CONVENTION 2026/27</b>                             | TBD                   | TBD                                  | TBD                                 | TBD                     |
|  | <b>C2 CONVNTION</b>                                      | October 23-24<br>2026 | Cochrane Alberta                     | Details to follow                   | See Page 14             |
| <b>RESERVED FOR YOUR CLUB SPECIAL EVENT OR ANNIVERSARY</b>                          |  |                       |                                      |                                     |                         |
| <b>RESERVED FOR YOUR CLUB SPECIAL EVENT OR ANNIVERSARY</b>                          |  |                       |                                      |                                     |                         |
|   | <b>St. Albert Host Lions 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b> | February 12,<br>2027  | St. Albert Alberta                   | TBD                                 |                         |

*Don't let the grass grow under your feet.*

## IN MEMORIAM



We are saddened to inform you that Judge Brian Stevenson, 86, of Calgary, Alberta, passed away peacefully on February 16, 2026 after a brief illness.

Born in Wakefield, Quebec in 1939, he was the beloved son of the late Harold and Jean Stevenson. He was predeceased by his parents, his brothers, Graham and David; and his devoted wife of over 30 years, Patricia, whose love and partnership were central to his life. Brian was a beloved father, grandfather, and great-grandfather and is survived by his daughter, Melanie (Trevor); his stepdaughters, Tina (Corry), Kim (Derek), and Brandi (Chris); as well as his treasured grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who will carry forward his legacy of love, kindness, and community.

Brian was a man of extraordinary service who devoted his life to making the world a better place. His commitment to humanitarian work through Lions Clubs International spanned decades, and included his service as International President in 1987. His leadership touched communities around the globe and reflected his deep belief in compassion, fellowship, and service above self.

In his local community, Brian served with distinction as a Provincial Court Judge for over 50 years. From the bench, he was known for his fairness, integrity, and unwavering dedication to justice. He understood the profound responsibility of the role and carried it with humility and respect for all who came before him.

Brian's life was defined not only by the positions he held, but by the countless lives he uplifted. His passing leaves a deep void, but his example endures in the institutions he strengthened, the community he served, and the family he loved so dearly.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the doctors and nurses at the Drumheller Health Centre whose compassionate care and unwavering dedication supported Brian through his final days. Their kindness, empathy, and respect for his dignity brought comfort to our family during an immensely difficult time.

Brian will be deeply missed and forever remembered. A Celebration of Life is planned for April 13th, 2026 at 4pm at the Red and White Club, 1833 Crowchild Trail NW, Calgary, AB T2M 4R6.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Lions Clubs International or a charity of your choice in Brian's memory.

*Arbor Memorial*



# ★ SAVE THE DATE ★

## MD C Convention

**APRIL 10–11, 2026**  
**Holiday Inn & Suites**  
**Conference Center**

**9816 107 Street,**  
**Grande Prairie, A**

**1st VP**  
**Mark S. Lyon**





*You are Cordially Invited To:*

*The 80<sup>th</sup> Charter Anniversary of the*

*Lions Club of Leduc*

*Date: June 13, 2026*

*Location: Leduc Telford House*

*4907 – 46 Street, Leduc, AB*

*Tickets: \$50 per person for dinner and activities. E-transfers can be made to Glenn*

*Runzer at the email below.*

*Guest Speaker: Past President of Lions International.*

*Dr. Patti Hill*

*Cocktails at 5:30 PM. Dinner at 6:30 PM.*

*Join us for an evening of dinner, fellowship, door prizes and a silent auction*

RSVP to G. Runzer by May 13, 2026, at [grunzerleduclionscharternight@gmail.com](mailto:grunzerleduclionscharternight@gmail.com)



# Save the Date!

**C2 CONVENTION**  
**October 23, 24 2026**



**Cochrane Lions Club**  
**EVENTS CENTRE**



Lions Clubs International  
**FOUNDATION**

# *Multiple District C* *LCIF Gala*

**JUNE 20, 2026**

**SPRUCE VIEW COMMUNITY HALL**

**SPRUCEVIEW, AB**

**TICKETS: \$50.00**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CONTACT: LYLE GUSTAFSON PDG  
SCOUTING@TELUS.NET**

