

# MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER FOUR

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### Lions Clubs International Foundation

#### History

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) was founded in 1968 to take the mission of Lions Clubs International to new heights by tackling global problems, as well as assisting Lions with large-scale local humanitarian projects. LCIF's history is filled with high-impact projects, meaningful partnerships and the kindness and efforts of Lions. With continued support, you can count on LCIF to continue and expand programs to improve lives around the world far into the future.

Key Lions Clubs International Foundation Accomplishments:

1968: LCIF is incorporated as a Foundation.

1972: LCIF awards first grant of \$ 5,000.00 US for flooding in South Dakota, USA.

1973: The Melvin Jones Fellowship program is created as a way for donors of \$ 1,000.00 US to be recognized.

1984: LCIF begins partnering with Quest International to implement the youth development program, Lions Quest.

1985: LCIF awards first Major Catastrophe Grant of \$ 50,000.00 US for earthquake relief in Mexico.

1986: The Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship program established to give Lions a way to extend their commitment to LCIF.

1990: Sight First program begins and goes on to prevent serious vision loss of more than 30 million people.

1991: Campaign Sight First is launched to raise funds to initiate the Sight First program.

1997: LCIF partners with the China State Council Coordination Committee on Disability for Sight First China Action.

1999: LCIF embarks on a partnership with the Carter Center to combat river blindness and trachoma in Latin America and Africa.

LCIF establishes the Core 4 grant program.

2001: The September 11 Disaster Relief Fund raises \$ 3 millions US to help victims.

LCIF begins partnership with Special Olympics to provide vision screenings to athletes through Opening Eyes program.

LCIF and the World Health Organization launch the world's first ever initiative to combat childhood blindness.

2002: LCIF acquire rights to Lions Quest program.

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LCIF joins with Johnson & Johnson Vision Care to develop and manage Sight for Kids program to provide vision screenings and eye health education for children in Asia.

2004: Lions mobilize more than \$ 15 million US for South Asian tsunami relief, making this the single largest disaster reconstruction project in LCIF history at this point.

2005: Campaign Sight First II, LCIF's most ambitious fundraising campaign ever, kicks off at the Lions Clubs International Convention in Hong Kong.

Lions raise \$ 5 million US for Hurricane Katrina relief.

2007: LCIF named the # 1 non-government organization in the world with which to partner by an independent Financial Times study.

2008: The largest single personal donation of \$ 3 million US is pledge to LCIF.

LCIF and Habitat for Humanity partnership builds its, 1,000<sup>th</sup> home.

LCIF donates \$ 3 million US for China earthquake relief.

Lions surpass the Campaign Sight First II fundraising goal, raising more than \$ 200 million US.

2009: Lions Quest celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Lions raise more than \$ 6 million US for Haiti earthquake relief.

2010: Lions provides vision screening to the 211,000<sup>th</sup> Special Olympics athlete.

In partnership with Bausch & Lomb, LCIF launches the Pediatric Cataract Initiative.

2011: the 218070<sup>th</sup> Lion becomes a Melvin Jones Fellow and the 58,126<sup>th</sup> Lion becomes a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

Lions help administer the 148 millionth dose of Mectizan to treat river blindness.

LCIF mobilized more than \$ 21 million US for the Japan relief efforts following the earthquake and tsunami.

Sight First China Action III is launched.

LCIF awards its 10,000<sup>th</sup> grant, bringing the total amount to \$ 708 million US.

2012: LCIF celebrates 10 years of partnership with Johnson & Jonson Vision Care through the Sight First for Kids program. The partnership has screened almost 17 million children for vision problems at this point.

\$ 10 million US is raised for vaccination through One Shot, One Life: Lions Measles initiative as part of a challenge from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

2013: LCIF partners with GAVI Alliance and DFID to continue fight measles, committing to raise \$ 30 million US by 2017.

LCIF expands their partnership with Special Olympics to include more than just vision screenings.

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Lions & LCIF help the Carter Center and OPEA celebrate the elimination of river blindness in Columbia.

2014: LCIF expands Sight for Kids partnership with Johnson & Johnson Vision Care to Kenya and Turkey.

Lions and LCIF help the Carter Center and OPEA celebrate the elimination of river blindness in Ecuador.

LCIF receives 4-Star rating from Charity Navigator for its effective fiscal management and its commitment to accountability and transparency.

2015: LCIF and partners celebrate the donation of the 500 millionth dose of azithromycin, an antibiotic to fight trachoma.

LCIF receives its fourth consecutive 4-Stars rating from Charity Navigator.

Lions Quest launches updated and streamlined curriculum,

2017: LCIF reaches a \$ 1 billion US milestone. Since its founding in 1968, more than 13,000 grants have been award, totaling more than \$ 1 billion US.

Having awarded more than \$ 1 billion US in grant funding. LCIF has realize many accomplishments towards our mission of supporting Lions' community and global service. We're proud of these big numbers, but we're prouder of how we're reached people in need and created real change. With help from Lions donors and partners, we hope to continue to add much more to our record or humanitarian community achievements.

According to international experts, 80 % of all visual impairment can be avoided. Sight First is the foundation's program which aims to sustainably and systematically combat preventable blindness and visual impaired around the world. Through Sight First, LCIF funds projects that build comprehensive eye care system to fight the major causes of blindness/visual impairment and care for blind and visually impaired persons. The program supports high quality, sustainable projects that deliver eye care services train personnel, develop infrastructure and/or provide rehabilitation and education in underserved communities. In summary, Sight First 336,230,000.00 US in 1,266 projects in 116 countries, resulting in:

### Sight Achievements

- A. Restored sight to 9.1 million people through cataract surgeries
- B. Built or expand 1.520 eye hospitals/clinics/wards and related facilities
- C. Trained more than 1.57 million ophthalmologist, optometrists, ophthalmic nurses, community health workers and other related personnel
- D. Launched the world's first-ever initiative to combat childhood blindness in partnership with the World Health Organization, establishing or strengthening 54 pediatric eye care centers around the world, 153 million children were served
- E. Provided management training for 276 facilities

Sight First investments have also been critical in helping the governments of Columbia, Ecuador, Guatemala and Mexico eliminate onchocerciasis transmission as well as significantly reduce the impact of the disease in Cameron, Ethiopia, Mali and Uganda.

### Disaster Achievements

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- A. Awarded a total of more than \$ 100 million in disaster relief
- B. Mobilized \$ 15 million following the South Asia tsunami, \$ 5 million for Hurricane Katrina projects in four states, \$ 3 million for the China earthquake, \$ 6 million for the Haiti earthquake and 21 million for the Japan earthquake and tsunami

### Youth Achievements

- A. Engaged more than 13 million students in the youth development program Lions Quest
- B. Trained more than 550,000 educators to implement Lions Quest in school and community settings
- C. Implementing Lions Quest in 85 countries
- D. Curriculum translated and adapted into 36 languages

### Humanitarian Achievements

- A. Provide vision screening for more than 350,000 Special Olympics athletics from 85 countries through Opening Eyes
- B. Provided vaccinations to 41 million people in Africa for the Lions-Measles Initiative pilot
- C. Constricted more than 1,000 Habitat for Humanity homes for people with disabilities

### Empowering Global Service

As challenges facing our world expand, so must our capacity to combat them. To build a future promising even greater service impact. Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) -your foundation- proudly introduces Campaign 100: LCIF Empowering Service.

The most ambitious fundraising effort in LCIF's history, Campaign 100 will span three years and seek to raise \$ 300 million US by June 30, 2021. Campaign 100 will empower million people a year Lions to serve 200+ million people a year by:

- A. Increasing service impact
- B. Fighting diabetes
- C. Expanding global causes

LCIF launches Hunger Grant Pilot Program to help Lions support schools, based feeding programs, food banks, feeding centres, and similar facilities that provide food to people when they need it most.

LCIF launches Childhood Cancer Grant Pilot program to improve the quality of life for children receiving treatment and their families.

These are not things that any Lion, Club, district can do alone. But together, we can. Together, our work and personal financial gifts to our foundation will ensure a brighter future for the next 100 years and beyond.

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2020's

Sight First-one of LCIF most notable program-celebrates 30 years of funding efforts to fight the major causes of preventable and reversible blindness and provide services to persons who are blind or have visual impairment.

LCIF Board of Trustees approve a 2-year strategic partnership between LCIF and Global Hope. This partnership will cooperate in building long-term capacity in Africa to treat and dramatically improve the prognosis for children with cancer and blood disorders in Sub-Sahara Africa.

As our world united to address the Covid-19 pandemic, LCIF is responding to the immense challenges facing mankind.

LCIF goes virtual with Foundation Fridays! Lions and Leos around the world are finding new ways to connect with LCIF and in the communities.

LCIF-Special Olympics partnership is celebrating 20 years of free vision screening for athletes through the Olympic Eye Program. Since partnering, more than 445,000 athletes have been screened and prescription eyewear provided to more than 189,000 athletics globally.

At the LCI Montreal Convention in June 24-28, 2022, it was announced that Campaign 100 raised a total of \$ 324,000,000.00 for three years campaign. It was over \$ 24,000,000.00 over the original Campaign total of \$ 300,000,000.00. In the future, Lions from all over the world will continue to support the Lions Clubs International Foundation with donations.

LCIF set a fund-raising goal of \$ 50,000,000.00 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. Due to the success of Campaign 100, many Board Members did not believe that LCIF can not reach this goal. At the 105<sup>th</sup> Lions Clubs International Convention held in Boston, LCIF announced that they surpass their goal and raised \$ 67,000,000.00. That was \$ 17,000,000.00 over their goal.

Please contact Lions Clubs International Foundational for more information on the Lions Clubs International website.

P.D.G. Eric Buttle, Historian

Multiple District C

Lions Foundation of Canada

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### History

In the early 1980's Lions across Canada sought to develop a national project to reflect their service to Canadians with visual impairments. The result was Lions Foundation of Canada and its founding program, Canine Vision Canada, which was established in 1985. Since then, the Foundation has grown to include additional Dog Guide programs: Hearing Ear, Service, Seizure Response, Autism Assistance, and newly introduced, Diabetic Alert Dog Guides.

Lions Foundation of Canada's mission is to assist Canadians with medical or physical disability by providing them with Dog Guides at no cost. To do this, the Foundation operates Dogs Guide of Canada, a preeminent national training school and charity that assist individuals with disabilities through specialized Dog Guide programs. These Dog Guides are provided at no cost to eligible Canadians from coast to coast despite costing \$ 25,000.00 to train and place. The Foundation relies on donations from individuals, service clubs, foundations and corporations and does not receive any government funding.

Lions Foundation of Canada trains Dog Guides to assist Canadians with a wide range of disabilities. With seven programs in place, Canadians with disabilities are offered the opportunity to find greater independence, mobility and safety through the help of a Dog Guide.

Depending on the program, Dog Guides are trained to preform a set of basic skills that are useful to all handlers. However, some of their training is also tailored to meet the specific needs of their future handler. In the final stage of training, the client and Dog Guide train and live together at the Oakville facility for two to four weeks. This helps to ensure that the new working team develops a bond and prepares them for their next step – returning home.

The seven programs that are offered are:

Canine Vision Dogs are for people who are blind or visually impaired

Hearing Dogs are for people who are deaf or hard of hearing

Autism Assistance Dogs are for children who have autism spectrum disorder

Service Dogs are for people who have a physical disability

Seizure Response Dogs are for people who have epilepsy

Diabetic Alert Dogs are for people who have type 1 diabetes with hypoglycemic unawareness

Support Dogs are for use by professional agencies with individuals in traumatic situations

Now the largest school of its kind in Canada, Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides' head office is in Oakville, Ontario and has a breeding and training facility in Breslau.

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Lions Foundation of Canada has many programs to honors Lions.

Any Lions Club who donates \$ 100.00 to the Lions Foundation of Canada must complete the Life Membership Application in order to receive this recognition. The recipient receives a Life Membership label pin and a certificate. You must have a Life Membership before you can apply for a Progressive Life Membership.

Any Lions Club who donates another \$ 100.00 to the Lions Foundation of Canada must complete the Progressive Life Membership Application in order to receive this recognition. The recipient receives a Progressive Life Membership label pin and a certificate.

Any Lions Clubs who donate \$ 250.00 to the Lions Foundation of Canada must complete the Lions Foundation of Canada Fellowship Application in order to receive this recognition. The recipient receives a Fellowship label pin and a plaque.

All donations above are payable to the Lions Foundation of Canada.

For more information about all the programs that are offered by the Lions Foundation of Canada, please contact their website.

The above Information are from the Lion of Canada Foundation website.

P.D.G. Eric Buttle, Historian

Multiple District C

### S.T.A.R.S. & Dr. Greg Powell/STARS Fellowship

#### History

S.T.A.R.S. started in the mid eighties when Lion John Panton, Lion Art Hironaka and Dr. Greg Powell who works in the Emergency Department at the Foothills Hospital in Calgary decided to start an air rescue society. The Shock Trauma Air Rescue Society know as S.T.A.R.S. was formed and with a donation of \$ 50,000.00 from the Lions and a loan of another \$ 50,000.00 from the Lions of Alberta Foundation to purchase the first helicopter. Shell Canada donated the hanger to park the helicopter. Dr. Greg Powell



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became the Executive Director of S.T.A.R.S. The loan was paid back and S.T.A.R.S. became very successful and well known in southern Alberta for their air rescues of accident victims. Donations came in from Lions Clubs, Oil Companies, businesses, towns, villages and the public each year to help cover the operation expenses. S.T.A.R.S. honored the Lions Clubs by placing the Lions Logo on its helicopter.

In the nineties S.T.A.R.S. partnered with the Lions to purchase a Human Simulator to train medical personnel in towns, villages and cities around Alberta. The instructor will program the life form simulator with injuries and the medical staff will proceed with first aid treatments to stabilize the victim. All life form simulators are interchangeable to male and female. The Lions raised about \$ 125,000 to cover half the cost. The Lions Logo was placed on the vehicle to honor the Lions Clubs. S.T.A.R.S. also purchased an upgraded helicopter to travel more distances and to replace the old one.

In 2000's S.T.A.R.S. opened a new office in Edmonton and purchased a new helicopter to operate from centre Alberta to northern Alberta. Dr. Greg Powell was honored with a fellowship name after him for his outstanding service. Any Lions Club, District and Multiple District who donates \$ 500.00 must complete the Dr. Greg Powell/STARS Fellowship Application in order to receive this Fellowship. All donation for this Fellowship is payable to the Lions of Alberta Foundation. The Lions of Alberta Foundation will forward a cheque to S.T.A.R.S. from all donations. Please go to Lions of Alberta foundation for the Dr. Greg Powell/Stars Fellowship application.

S.T.A.R.S. is very strong and have done hundreds of rescue missions each year. Donations from the Lions Clubs and the public are still coming in. S.T.A.R.S. also started an annual lottery and created other fund-raising activities to raise funds to cover the operating expenses each year. From the beginning to the year 2017, Lions will have donated over \$ 3,000,000.00 and these funds are growing each year to keep S.T.A.R.S. flying. S.T.A.R.S. covers the whole Province of Alberta with offices in Calgary, Edmonton and Grande Prairie. S.T.A.R.S. success made it possible to set up offices in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

In 2017-2018 S.T.A.R.S. raised \$ 10 million dollars through donations from the public, Lions and their annual lottery. STARS completed 2,999 yearly missions broken down in Alberta 1439, Saskatchewan 840 and Manitoba at 720. STARS also trained medical personnel as follows, Alberta 867. Saskatchewan 774 and Manitoba at 757. From the beginning in 1985 to the year 2017-2018 S.T.A.R.S. have completed 40,000 medical missions and that is an average of 8 medical missions daily. All Lions should be proud of S.T.A.R.S. as this is one of the Flagship projects that Lions started and has made thousands of dollars in donations every year.

Each new replacement helicopter cost \$ 13 million dollars. To replace the fleet of 9 helicopter at STARS would cost \$ 112 million dollars. In February 2019, the Government of Canada gave a grant of \$ 65 million dollars also the Alberta and Saskatchewan Government gave an additional \$ 13 million dollars each. The total donation represents the replacement of 7 helicopters only. STARS are in the process of raising \$ 26 million dollars to cover the last two helicopters in the fleet.

On April 18, 2019, Multiple District C donated \$ 20,000.00 to the training of medical personal from donations from the Dr. Greg Powell/STARS Fellowship.

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As of March 2022, S.T.A.R.S has raised \$ 2,351,967,96 from 1985 to the present from Lions. This total will increase with Lions Clubs donations each year.

From the beginning in 1985 to June 2023, S.T.A.R.S. has made 55,000 missions with an average of 9 per day. Each year they handled 36,390 emergency requests, with an average of 99 per day. In a year S.T.A.R.S has made 3,365 mission, broken down as follows 1,650 in Alberta, 1018 in Saskatchewan, and 697 in Manitoba. Each provincial Base cost is \$ 10,000,000 to operate each year. They have 34,853 annual donors.

Please contact S.T.A.R.S. if you need more information on past and future programs.

P.D.G. Eric Buttle, Historian

Multiple District C

### Lions Youth Camp

#### History

District Governor Dave Deitz 1979-1980 had an idea to create a camp to be used by Scouts, Families and Lions Clubs for Functions. His idea camp to reality in the early eighties when Lion Lionel Bird from the Cremona Lions Club donated the land from his farm near Cremona, Alberta to create this camp. From a previous Lions Telethon \$ 50,000.00 was put in Trust at Lions of Alberta Foundation for the Lions Youth Camp. Only the interest can be spent each year. The capital can not be withdrawn. It took three years to install new roads, pathways, water and sewage, recreation areas and buildings. With the help of many Lions who worked many hours and donations from the Lions Clubs of District 37-E the Lions Youth Camp opened in the spring of 1985.

The Lions Youth Camp opened with 8 cabins with 8 bunk beds, an Atco Wash Room and Shower Unit, an Atco Industrial Kitchen trailer, an indoor recreation Sprung Structure about 30 x 20, a Quonset for supplies and a baseball diamond.

In 1989 The Lions Youth Camp decided to build a new kitchen and indoor recreation area. They sold the Sprung Structure and donated the trailer without the Kitchen to a local family whose house was burnt. In 1990 the New Kitchen and indoor recreation opened.

In the late 1990's the Atco Washroom and Shower Unit out grew it needs and the Lions Youth Camp build a new Washroom Room and Shower building; also, a new cabin was donated.

In 2000's Lions Youth Camp paved the roads and pathways for handicap campers and built a new paved pad for recreation. In 2008 the Lions Youth Camp built a Bunk House with 24 beds. The Lions Youth

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Camp Committee decided to honor Lion Lionel Bird with an Award named after him for his outstanding service. Any Lions Clubs who donate \$ 500.00 must complete the Lionel Bird Youth Camp Award Application in order to receive this Fellowship. Please contact the Lions Youth Camp for the Lionel Bird Youth Camp Award application.

All donations are welcome to do maintenance and improvements as the Lions Youth money only comes from the Lionel Bird Award, interest from the trust account, rentals and Casinos. The Lions Youth Camp clean-up is done in the spring and fall. If you can help, please contact the Lions Youth Camp Chairman.

P.D.G. Eric Buttle, Historian

Multiple District C

### Lions of Alberta Foundation

#### History

Lions of Alberta Foundation was created to facilitate a body of individuals to unite the Lions Clubs of Alberta in order to better serve the communities of our province. The Board of Directors that governs this Foundation are representative of all the Lions Clubs of Alberta. Where one individual club might not have the resources to fund a project on its own, with the assistance of Lions of Alberta Foundation that project might become a possibility with the assistance of others clubs in the province.

Lions of Alberta Foundation (L.O.A.F.) was created in 1980 as a supervisory and directive body, approved January 5, 1981 by the Province of Alberta, to form a society to serve the Lions Clubs of Alberta.

Lions of Alberta Foundation applied to the Government of Canada to issue tax deductible receipts and received approval. With the ability to issue Tax Deductible Receipts, the Foundation assists Lions Clubs within our Multiple District to help raise funds for Canadian community projects. Please contact the Lions of Alberta Foundation to get the rules on how to use of the Tax-Deductible Receipts.

The Lions of Alberta Foundation has set up a \$ 1,000.00 Bursary Program for students who have sight impairments and the Legacy Scholarship Program, in which the Lions Clubs can receive a matching grant up to \$ 500.00. Please go to the Lions of Alberta Foundation Web-site to get more information about the programs and the applications.

When the Alberta Health Care took over the Lions Eye Bank operation; the Lions Eye Bank closes and transferred all Bank Accounts and the Bill Webber Fellowship to the Lions of Alberta Foundation to be administrated by the Board of Directors.

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The President of Lions Alberta Foundation and the Board of Directors, have agreed to accept donations dedicated to the needs arising from the Fort McMurray and Area Wildfires as we did for the flood victims in Southern Alberta and fire victims of the Slave Lake Fire. LOAF will also provide the stewardship for the allocation of those donations as the needs are identified.

BC Forest Fires and Quebec Floods - funds raised are forwarded to the MD Governor's involved.

If you need more information about Lions of Alberta Foundation, please contact your District Chairperson or go to the LOAF Website.

Information above is from the Lions of Alberta Foundation Website.

PDG Eric Buttle, Historian

Multiple District C

### History of Lions Cavalcade for Diabetes – Multiple District C

The Lions Cavalcade came to existence in 1987 when it was felt that as Lions, we needed to establish a highly visible province wide fund-raising program to raise funds to help support Diabetes Canada with one of their programs to raise funds for Diabetes Awareness throughout Alberta and NWT.

In 1991 the Wetaskiwin Lions and Lioness clubs donated a van for Canadian Diabetes Association to use for this project.

In 1996 this particular project had to be changed due to changes in the Alberta Health Care System.

Thus the T.D.R.P. (Traveling Diabetes Resource Program) which was being operated by the Diabetes Canada (Alberta/NWT) at that time was adopted by the Lions Cavalcade for Diabetes committee.

Each year a Lions Club in Alberta hosts a Lions Cavalcade Parade and campout in their community on the first weekend of June at which time any club in attendance can present their donations to Lions Cavalcade Awareness committee who in turns pass these donations on to Diabetes Canada to support the T.D.R.P.

The parade takes place through the streets of the Host Club's community and is made up of decorated vehicles from all the Clubs present. After the parade a BBQ is held with a session of fellowship and entertainment.

The Lions Cavalcade for Diabetes Awareness committee has raised in excess of \$ 600,000.00 from Lions Clubs and Private donations to support the Traveling Diabetes Resource Program and Vans operated by Diabetes Canada (Alberta/NWT), which are used to promote this program throughout the Province and NWT since its inception. Each year the total donations will grow with donations from Lions Clubs.

Information above is from the Lions Cavalcade website.

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PDG Eric Buttle, Historian

Multiple District C

### MD37 LIONS EYE BANK HISTORY

Corneal transplants have been performed in Canada since the 1950's, and thousands of Canadians can now see because of this sight restoring operation.

One of the leading corneal surgeons in Canada, until his untimely death in 1990, was Dr. Donald Hassard. Our Lions Eye Bank was fortunate to have the benefit of his counsel during our formation, and throughout our first five years of operation.

Dr. Hassard was associated with the University of Alberta Hospital in Edmonton. As a teaching hospital the Residents at the hospital provided the enucleation service as required.

For nearly twenty years beginning in the 1960's, the C.N.I.B. working with the

University of Alberta Hospital, coordinated these enucleations. Some of the equipment used in these procedures was purchased through donations made by Lions clubs in the area.

Madelaine (Duhamel) McPherson served as the C.N.I.B. nurse during the latter years of this program, and she gave generously of her time and knowledge during the formative years of the Lions Eye Bank.

In 1979, the provincial government established the H.O.P.E. (Human Organ Procurement and Exchange) program. This program has been a great asset to organ procurement. However, I don't believe it to be unfair to suggest that much of the H.O.P.E. effort has been directed toward kidney, and other organ donors, rather than to the promotion of corneal tissue procurement. It should be noted that some potential donors are comfortable in pledging their eyes, but have an aversion to the pledge of organs, which must be taken from a heart-beating donor. Because of this it can be argued that a separate campaign may be beneficial in obtaining more eye donors.

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With the advent of H.O.P.E. and the use of University of Alberta Hospital residents for enucleations, Dr. Hassard continued into the early 1980's as the primary transplant surgeon in Alberta, although there were now several surgeons in Calgary who were able to provide the skills needed to meet the growing demand for transplant surgery.

1983, the Alberta Ophthalmologic Society formed a steering committee to investigate the establishment of an eye bank in Alberta. One of the members of this committee, Dr. Thad Demong, had trained in Florida where he had utilized the services of the Florida Lions Eye Bank. With this background he suggested to the steering committee that they first approach the Lions.

A committee of Lions met with the Ophthalmologists and directed then District Governor Al Onagi to seek approval in principle for the proposal. The Council of Governors directed the Lions of Alberta Foundation to conduct a thorough review of the proposal. P.D.G. Bill Webber was asked to represent the Council of Governors on this committee.

L.O.A.F. Chair Dave Dalgetty, Secretary-Treasurer Art Hironaka, and Webber met with Drs. Demong, Parker and Hassard. The doctors outlined the role of an eye bank, stressing four major responsibilities:

- Awareness
- Laboratory service
- Transportation
- Distribution

After evaluating their request and the obligation it entailed, the L.O.A.F. committee recommended to the Multiple District Council of Governors that we proceed with negotiations to establish a Lions Eye Bank.

Further investigation determined that Dr. Hassard was satisfied with the existing arrangements in the Edmonton area. It became apparent that the immediate need was in the Calgary area. This prompted the committee to seek out a hospital that might enter into an agreement that would allow the Lions Eye Bank to be housed in their facility. Glen Penwarden, Hospital Administrator at the Rockyview General Hospital, soon became a very strong ally in our negotiations with the medical fraternity, and in early 1984 a tentative agreement was signed that would provide the following:

- The Lions would hire and pay a technician.
- The Rockyview would administer salary and benefits.
- Rockyview would provide lab space.
- The technician would operate and administer the lab.
  
- Rockyview Pathologist would be responsible for lab protocol.

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In addition, an office would be opened in Edmonton to produce and distribute awareness material and:

- Lions would contract suitable personnel.
- C.N.I.B. would provide office space.

All parties agreed, however, such a facility as proposed for the Rockyview Hospital required the approval of the Minister of Hospitals for the Province of Alberta. In June 1984, this request was made to the Honorable David Russell.

After much correspondence and discussion, qualified approval was granted January 21, 1985; the qualification being that the Lions Eye Bank would not result in any cost to the Province of Alberta -- the Lions accepted.

NOTE: This qualification was significant in that most, if not all, eye banks are able to charge a processing fee for transplantable tissue. In 1985 that fee ranged from \$200 to \$ 1000 and was paid through a government health care program (Canada), or health insurance (US).

Having accepted the agreement, we began a recruitment program for the two positions described above.

In Calgary we were fortunate to hire Susan Sim, an ophthalmic nurse who was well qualified, enthusiastic and dedicated to the program.

In Edmonton the same good fortune followed as we obtained the services of Mae Cox, who for many years had given leadership to Organ Donors Canada. It was her knowledge, dedication and untiring efforts that made our awareness program an early success.

This organizational structure served us well for five years. However, in 1990 Mae Cox chose to retire and the Eye Bank Board consolidated operations in Calgary. Susan Sim assumed responsibility for both technical and awareness activities. A number of volunteers, and the Rockyview Hospital ably assisted her

Expansion into Edmonton was attempted in early 1991. This resulted in Kent Stewart being hired as a technician working in the University of Alberta Hospital laboratory. This proved to be unsatisfactory and was terminated in 1992.

In a continuing effort to maintain a presence in Northern Alberta, office space was leased, and Susan Sim Logan became Acting Executive Administrator operating out of Edmonton. This resulted in Michelle Stanson being hired as technical coordinator in the Rockyview Hospital. The next historic date was March 1993, when the Lions Eye Bank (Alberta) Society was formed. The Society officially assumed responsibility from the Lions of Alberta Foundation, July 1, 1993.

Demand for corneal tissue continued to grow as did costs, and in an effort to control expenditures the Board of Directors closed the Edmonton operation in August 1994. The new organization emphasized volunteerism. It began with PDG Brian Pound providing free office space in Carstairs. Brian also assumed the voluntary position of Administrative Director

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responsible for the day-to-day administration of non-technical activities. Michelle Stanson handled technical activities with guidance from Dr. Thad DeMong (Medical Director).

July 1995, Michelle Stanson resigned to be with her husband who was transferred to Korea. We were again very fortunate to find a most able replacement in Donna Befus.

In 1995 the long-term financial needs of the Eye Bank were recognized by the Lions of Alberta Foundation when they provided \$ 10,000 to establish the Lions Eye Bank Endowment Fund. This fund has been named the Vern Millard Endowment in memory of our dedicated and long-term secretary. Vern was a non-Lion cornea recipient who made a lasting contribution to the society.

Because the Eye Bank operation was almost totally dependent on Lions clubs to meet its financial needs the Board of Directors began looking for ways to recognize clubs and individuals for their financial commitment. In July 1997 the Board introduced the Bill Webber Fellowship. For a contribution of \$500 an individual could be named a Fellow and receive an attractive recognition plaque. This has proved to be a positive addition to the Societies fund-raising effort.

A further step to maintain the financial viability of the Eye Bank operation was made in 1998 when the Society and the Calgary Regional Health Authority signed a letter of agreement which would see the CRHA provide \$300 per transplantable tissue to a maximum \$49,500 per fiscal year. This was seen as adding stability to the operation and an opportunity to build the endowment fund to a meaningful level.

Another change in senior personnel was experienced in 2003 when Donna Befus resigned due to ill health. Once again, we were fortunate to find a well-qualified replacement in Rudy Gorembalem.

The skills of our staff were recognized in 2004 when the Alberta Department of Health and Wellness invited the Lions Eye Bank to develop and deliver a program to train satellite personnel. This has resulted in enucleating teams being established in Red Deer, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat.

As you can see, we have had a very challenging history. It is a challenge that all Lions can be proud of. As we enter our twentieth year of operation in 2005, we have touched the lives of over 3,500 of our fellow Albertans. Individuals, who without the corneal tissue collected, processed, and distributed to skilled ophthalmologists by the Lions Eye Bank, would not have the precious gift of sight that we so often take for granted.

The Lions Eye Bank continues to meet an essential and an ongoing need in communities throughout Alberta. And in meeting that need the Lions of MD37 can proudly say that they have fulfilled the "WE SERVE" imperative of membership in each of our Lions clubs.

January 2005



## MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER FOUR

There above information was giving by P.I.D. Bill Webber.

NOTE:

About 2010 the Lions Eye Bank closed its doors as the Alberta Health Care took over the daily operations. All funds collected prior and after the closing of the Lions Eye Bank, will be transferred to Lions of Alberta Foundation to be administrated by the Board. These funds will support Sight Related Programs. Before the funds are transferred a Financial Audit on the books of the Lions Eye Bank is being done, when completed the Financial Audit Report will be submitted to the Lions of Albert Foundation Board of Directors as the Administrator of these funds.

PDG Eric Buttle, Historian

Multiple District C

The Lions Sight Centre Fund

SUPPORTING

THE LIONS SIGHT CENTRE  
AT

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE,  
FOOTHILLS HOSPITAL

### History of The Lions Sight Centre and the Lions Sight Centre Fund

In 1977 the University of Calgary Faculty of Medicine recognized a need to address the causes of visual impairments in children. These impairments inevitably lead to enormous costs in rehabilitation and lost productivity when afflicted children reach adulthood.

The Faculty of Medicine responded to this need by initiating a proposal for a sight center dedicated to the prevention of blindness in children. Broad based interdisciplinary research of the causes of visual impairment in children with an end to developing means of prevention and care was envisioned.

## **MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER FOUR**

The Lion clubs of District 37 E took up the cause of developing a sight center containing sight research labs equipped for investigative work. mvo telethons, conducted in January 1978 and 1979, provided funds that were directed into setting up a laboratory suite and purchasing state of the art laboratory equipment. The telethons and grants raised \$700,000.

To assist The Sight Centre the Calgary Southwest Lions established The Lion

Hall McFarlane Endowment Fund. Major funding support came from the Calgary Fort Calgary Lions, the University of Calgary Endowment Program and several small, mainly private, donations. The Lions Sight Centre Fund was created from Lion Hall McFarlane Endowment Fund in 1996 with expanded terms of reference. It now stands at \$115,000 and continues to grow.

The Calgary Southwest Lions Club (Lion Bill Burgess) acts as liaison between the University of Calgary, the Lions Sight Centre and the Lions of District 37 E.

### **Lion Hall McFarland Endowment Lions Sight Centre**

This endowment was established by a donation from the South West Lions in memory of Lion Hall McFarland (July 1988). The endowment will remain open for future contributions.

Income from this endowment will be used to support the research activities of the Lions Sight Centre. The donors have placed no other restrictions on the use of the funds.

Expenditures from this fund are at the discretion of the Director of the Lion Sight Centre. The Director, however, will notify the Dean's Office, Faculty of Medicine of annual expenditures (see "Reports").

#### **Endowment Principal:**

The principal of the fund will be invested, managed and controlled in accordance with the investment and endowment policies of the University. In the event future conditions render the continuation of the fund impractical or undesirable, the Governors of The University of Calgary may use the principal and/or income for such other purposes as to honor the original intent of the fund and to further the educational effectiveness of the University.

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### Endowment Income

An annual income allocation will be made from the earnings on the endowment principal. The income allocation will be administered by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine acting with the delegated authority of the Vice-President (Finance & Services).

### Reports

The Dean will report annually to the Vice-President (Finance and Service). The report will consist of a listing of researchers supported, projects supported, equipment purchased, and another fund uses.

### Source of Funds

The initial funding for the Lions Sight Centre Fund came from the Lion

Hall McFarlane Fund established by a donation from the Calgary Southwest Lions and augmented by donations from the Calgary Fort Calgary Lions and other donations. The existing fund was valued, as of December 1, 1995, at approximately \$100,000. The fund continues to grow.

Annual donations from individual Lions Clubs and donations from others who wish to donate to sight related projects at the Lions Sight Centre make up the proposed ongoing funding.

### Purpose

The purpose of the Lions Sight Centre Fund is to promote eye research. It is also intention of the Faculty of Medicine and the Lions in partnership to have the Lions Sight Centre Fund endow

## MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER FOUR

a Lions Sight Centre Chair, Professorship or other positions in eye research.

The annual income from the Lions Sight Centre Fund is to be used for a variety of medical research activities related to eye disease and its treatment.

The income from the Lions Sight Centre Fund may be used to:

1. Improve laboratories;
2. Purchase equipment;
3. Provide salary support for faculty (i.e., Chair, Professorship); Postdoctoral students; and other trainees;
4. Provide funding (travel, accommodation, honoraria) to bring scientists and other researchers to Calgary; or to send Calgary scientists and research trainees to other laboratories or international research forums;
5. Fund miscellaneous research related costs including scholarly books and journals;
6. Fund specific projects.

### Fund Principal

The principal of the Lions Sight Centre Fund will be invested, managed and controlled in accordance with the investment and endowment policies of the University of Calgary. In the event future considerations render the continuation of the Lions Sight Centre Fund impractical or undesirable, The University of Calgary and the Faculty of Medicine will consult with the Lions as to the future allocation of the Lions Sight Centre Fund. The University of Calgary recognizes an ongoing commitment to allocate the Lions Sight Centre Fund in accordance with the principles and objectives for which it was established

### Fund Income

The annual income allocation will be in accordance with the endowment policies of The University of Calgary. The income allocation will be administered with the

## **MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER FOUR**

delegated authority of the Vice President (Finance and Services) by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine who will establish an Advisory Committee to advise on the use of the income.

### **Fund Administration**

100% of the investment earned on the principal shall be used to fund the types of projects indicated above in the Purpose of the Fund. The continued growth of the Lions Sight Centre Fund will be provided from contributions.

### **Advisory Committee**

The Advisory Committee to the Lions Sight Centre Fund shall consist of the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine (Chair) or his /her designate, the Director of the Lions Sight Centre, the Chair of the Division of Ophthalmology, the Assistant to the Dean (Community Relations) (ex officio), and three Lions, one of whom will be a member of the Calgary Southwest Lions. The names of the members from the Lions Clubs will be provided to the Dean by the designated sight representative of the Calgary Southwest Lions. The advisory Committee responsibilities will include but not to be limited to calling for and receiving applications for funds, reviewing and selecting successful applications. And receiving progress or final reports on funded projects. The Advisory Committee shall meet at least once annually.

### **Lions Sight Centre Fund Terms of Reference**

## **Applications**

Applicants must be affiliated with the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Calgary. Applications for the use of the income from the Lions Sight Centre Fund should be made through the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine or his / her designate.

## **Reports**

The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine or his / her designate will provide the following information to the members of the Advisory Committee and the Southwest Lions Club: researchers and projects supported, equipment purchased, other Lions Sight Centre Fund uses; financial statements of the Lions Sight Centre Fund including capital balance, commitments and available funds.

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Reports will be provided annually to all Advisory Committee members and to the Calgary Southwest Lions, sufficiently in advance to allow time for review prior to Committee meetings.

### Lions Sight Center Fund Terms of Reference

#### COSTS TO FUND POSITIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

##### IN PERPETUITY.

<u>Position</u>	<u>CAPITAL FUNDS</u>	<u>OPERATING FUNDS</u>
Sight Centre Chair	\$ 2,500,000.00	\$ 125,000.00
Sight Centre Professor	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
Post-Doctoral Fellow	\$ 800,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
Lectureship	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 3,000.00

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### EXAMPLE OF EQUIPMENT EXPENSES AT THE LIONS SIGHT CENTRE

Three Gilson pipettors used to apply small samples of liquids with great accuracy.	\$ 1,000
One hybridization oven used in the molecular identification of genetic material.	\$ 1,700
One computer used for data analysis and storage as well as word processing.	\$ 2,500
A sequencing system used to measure the nucleotide sequence.	\$ 3,500
One UV wavelength microspectrophotometer used to measure DNA and RNA concentrations.	\$ 4,000
One thermocycler or PCR machine used to amplify minute amounts of genetic material.	\$ 5,000
One cell culture laminar flow hood used to create a sterile environment for working with cells.	\$ 7,500
One ultra-low (-86C) freezer for storage of cells and genetic material.	\$ 8,000
One refrigerated centrifuge used to sediment cells and other biological samples.	\$ 10,000
A gel documentation system used to analyze the composition of proteins and genetic material in cells.	\$ 15,000
One robotic workstation used in large scale molecular genetics and developmental biology research projects.	\$ 80,000
One automatic DNA sequencing apparatus used in molecular genetic studies and DNA diagnostics.	\$ 100,00

**\*N.B. The cost of all equipment continues to rise. \***

## MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER FOUR

October 22, 2017 the Lion McFarlane Funds stand at \$ 1,960,000. and Funds available for research is at \$ 114,000.00. The committee are currently reviewing 3 grants proposals for research funding.

As of February 3,2019, the Lions McFarlane Funds stands at \$ 2,186,888.00 with funds available for research this fall is estimated to be \$ 157,555.00.

Please contact the Lions Sight Centre Chairman for tours and information.

Information above is from the Lions Sight Centre.

PDG Eric Buttle, Historian

Multiple District C

### Brief CLERC History by Gordon Prusky, Secretary 2003 to 2017

1.Operation Eyesight Universal (OEU)started recycling glasses at the Calgary Correctional Center (CCC) in 1996 to 2002. In total they processed 1,181,734 glasses.

2. OEU had a counter collection box that was used across Canada especially in Calgary.

3. United Van Lines (St. George & Williams Moving) hauled glasses to/ from Calgary free from 96 to 2012.

4. The CCC in 1996 had 4 OEU Shin Nippon lens meters, computers and printers. All three machines are connected to work together CCC the eyeglasses were stored in the greenhouse then the bunker.



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5. Bernie Gribben, Southridge Lion secured free baggies, shrink wrap from PAXX Industrial Supply, storage at MATCO Transportation, and free boxes from NORAMPAC. Kevin Griffin up to Dec 2003 given certificate.
6. In 2003 OEU asked the Lions to take it over. CCC agreed. It was spearheaded by Lion Bernie Gribben.
7. Chair Bernie Gribben and Secretary Gordon Prusky with their own funds manned with Texas Lions and other Lions an eyeglass recycling booth at Lions International Convention in Denver 2003.
8. In 2003 James Fowler High School Paced (Challenged) Learning Program used 2 OEU lens meters to clean, read and bag raw glasses. In 2003 we bought 4 new Shin Nippon lens meters (@\$4,200) from funds by: Southridge Lions, North East Eyeopener Lions and Properties Lions.
9. In 2003 bylaws were approved by Corporate Affairs to allow us to incorporate May 27, 2003 # **5010502846**. July 2003 Lions International approved us as the 11<sup>th</sup> LERC (Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center). District 37 E and MD 37 also approved us as an official program. Our official name in Alberta is “Lions Eyeglass Recycling Society” (LERS). We had to secure several letters from clubs approving us as a project.
10. Certificates of Appreciation were given to inmates at CCC and students at James Fowler. Quarterly reports to LCI.
11. Quebec used to send their glasses to France. They had their own box with French language.
12. Lion Bernie Gribben had expenses to go to run eyeglass booth at LCI Convention in Detroit in 2004.
13. Bernie Gribben was paid for collecting/ distributing eyeglasses at @\$1.50. 2005 \$900 for car repairs.
14. Small utility trailer for hauling boxes was purchased from the Gribbens for \$450. Latter sold for \$1.
15. A motion was moved to pay Chair Bernie Gribben an honorarium of \$1000 a month on a trial basis for 3 months. Very controversial. Treasurer resigned. No money was paid out. Very hot topic.

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16. District 37 E Cabinet started assigning a rep to CLERC. They were Chris Clarke 2006-7 & 2007-08 followed by Kevin Gibbons. 2008-9,2009-10. Rep to promote CLERC, solicit funds and club info.
17. Applied for casino in 2005. Refused. Appealed. Given one Jan.1,2,2008 at Deerfoot Inn & Casino. Our bylaws had to change to meet some requirements of Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission.
18. Mileage for CLERC work for all was \$.40 a km. in 07, @\$.85 in 08, @\$1 in 09, @\$.50 in 12 and 0\$ in 15.
19. Bought a U-CAN storage trailer for public to put glasses in using the combination lock. Stored at CNIB.
20. Bought 100 collection bags for \$ 400. Made a video and brochures for information. Bought 500 LCI Recycle for Sight pins. B. Gribben, G. Prusky and Greg Clarke manned booth at USA/Can. Forum in Saskatoon.
21. Bought 4 new Shin Nippon lens meters. Programed here by Father Pierre Labine from Montreal.
22. Motion we pay Bernie Gribben from casino funds \$1500 a month starting Sept.2008. Gaming said only \$750 per month allowed. Never paid. Other money from club funds possibly. Income tax due possibly.
23. Bought 1000 purple collection bags for @\$1.84. Calgary Ft. Calgary gave us \$15,000
24. Bought a 16-foot 2008 Chev cube van for \$31,948 in 2009.
25. Phone (403-640-1056) paid at Gribben's home monthly. Removed program from James Fowler High School. Too many errors.
26. OEU's \$6,790 for the cleaner replaced at CCC for 2 at @\$3,798. Paid \$7132 for 5000 red collects. bags.
27. Bernie Gribben and then CCC eyeglasses boss from 2003 to 2012 Rick Forti went on an eyeglass mission to Mexico with Pierre Labine of VOSH Santa Cruz. For storage at CNIB 40' SECAN was bought.

## MD 37 / MDC HISTORY – CHAPTER FOUR

28. Bernie & Esther Gribben expenses to MD convention in Saskatoon in 2010.

29. Bought a 53' trailer for storage. Placed at Bearspaw then at Bob Airth's farm just south of Calgary

30. Held a thank-you BBQ for 225 people at Foothills Lions Campground in 2015 at Black Diamond.

31. Plaques given to partners: NORAMPAC, PAXX, MATCO, Williams Moving, St. George Shipping, United Van Lines, Rick Forti and several clubs to celebrate 3 millionth pair on Oct. 20, 2010 at CCC.

32. Our founder Bernie Gribben passes away in 2012. Rick Forti at CCC off for serious illness. Program really suffered. Had to look for help. Raw Glasses were being stacked up. Orders were coming and none being filled. Bearspaw Lions Club said we could use their basement for processing.

33. Lions Club of Calgary had just had a new Lion's Village built. Three lions were the building committee, they were: Bernie Gribben, Chair, Otto Silzer and Bill Baux. We used the basement rooms for processing from Nov. 17, 2012 (1<sup>st</sup>. Strathmore and Filipino Lions Clubs) to Oct. 19, 2014. In that time, we paid \$3200 in lieu of rent. We used the village several Saturdays with many local clubs helping in the processing.

34. Made a new collection box with a hole in the top part. Kevin Griffin CCC Eyeglass supervisor in 2012.

35. Up to June 2013 CLERC had always paid for shipping that was not done by pallets by United Van Lines. Now the people requesting would be charged. The Post Office was used as well as couriers.

36. Rented Nov. 1, 2014 a Bay 2, 1216-34 Ave NE, Calgary, AB, T2E 6L9 1,500 sq. Ft. warehouse from Shelburne Group Ltd. Rent was about \$2500 a month. Brandon, MB as a satellite 2014. Quit 2016.

37. This was a major shift. Along with the CCC we, Lions started processing glasses on a large scale. Furnishings, storage bins, BBQ, fridge, shelving, cupboards, dishwasher, soft water machine, storage bins, sorting bins, coat rack, rolling step ladder, office equipment, fire extinguisher plus pallet racks for storage. Plus, new lens meters that are automatic. This major shift was accomplished by the hard work of Lion Darryl Rawleigh, Eastport Lions. He continues to fix the new Visionx machines plus arranges for the food.

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38. In 2014 secured a matching \$25,000 grant from LCIF for 6 automatic lens machines (Visions) and a commercial dishwasher. Clubs donated the other \$25,000.

39. VERSACOLD will haul glasses free from Vancouver area to Calgary dock.

40. Sold non-usable glasses to RESPECS. CCC used to send them gold trim glasses. Received some monies.

41 Several groups assist us at workshop. We open each Wednesday except in summer. Esso and BP retirees come in of monthly. We have a website. Must sign a compliance form yearly from Lions C. Int.

42 Started volunteer plaque of the year system in 2013-4. Bought a \$3,00 water softener from Culligan.

43. Four semi-automatic Huvitz lens meters now in CCC. Foothills Lions Cub had Charity Golf starting 05.

44, Day & Ross Transportation once from Maritimes only now hauling our glasses free to & from Calgary.

45. Darryl Rawleigh and Anne Kennedy did a training mission at Newfoundland and PEI. Very successful.

46. Starting in 2016 Walmart now sending us thousands of frames. Mainly given to Canadian Vision Care. Superstore is sending us their surplus stock. Canmore Lions Club did a video that is on our website.

47. In 2017 we now have 10 Visionx automatic lens meters at our rented workshop. We can use casino funds for rent, utilities and for our supplies for our program

48. Manitoulin Transport will haul glasses free from Edmonton & Winnipeg and from Cambridge to Montreal.

49. LCI has 19 LERCs in the world in 2017: Alaska, 2-Arizona, California & Nevada, Indiana, Minnesota, New Jersey, Oregon, Texas, 2 Virginia, NW (Washington), Wisconsin, Australia, Canada, France, Italy, S,

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Africa and Spain. In the last 10 years from 2005 to 2015 the above LERCS have distributed 25 million pair to the world.

50. Our distribution through Canadians to 86 different countries form July 1,2003 to June 30,2017 is: 2003-4-236,310 pairs; 2004-5- 301,439; 2005-6 -178,941; 2006-7- 256,8122; 2007-8-480,915 (highest record); 2008-9- 251,296; 2009-10 -172,356; 2010-11- 191,740; 2011-12- 197,885; 2012-13-58,929; 2013-14- 163,905; 2014-15 186,188, 2015-16-395,750 and 2016-17 464,605. For a grand total of **4,718,805 pairs**. This also includes the original sum from OEU at CCC.

51. Check out our website: [info@clerc.ca](mailto:info@clerc.ca)

52.Held several work parties off site: Blackie, Redcliff, Medicine Hat. and Lethbridge.

The daily operation consists of the following:

Step 1: When recycling glasses comes in from across Canada they are sorted into the following:

Single Vision, Readers, Sun Glasses, Children, Frames, and Bifocals. Each pair of glasses are examined for damages if found they are placed in the RESPECS Bin for shipment to the US. RESPECS sends a cheque to CLERC for the damaged glasses.

Step 2: All sorted glasses are washed, sanitized and dried. They are examined for damages, if found they are placed in the RESPECS Bin.

Step 3: All glasses after they are washed are read by the Visonex Automatic Lens Meter. The Visonex provide the prescription of each glass read in print form. Glasses after being read are placed in a plastic slip lock bag along with the printer prescription. Before the glasses are read, they go through another examination for damages. Glasses with prescription that we can not used are placed in the RESPECS Bin.

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Step 4: All glasses after reading are sorted into Single Vision, Children, Readers and Bifocals. Single Vision glasses are sorted by plus or minus from the prescription.

Step 5: All glasses that are sorted are placed in the prescription bins by the right lens. For example, the plus Single Vision glasses, the bins start at +.25, +.50, +.75, +1.00, +1.25 and so on to +10.00 and over. The minus Single Vision glasses, the bins start at -.25, -.50, -.75, -1.00, -1.25 and so on to -10.00 and over. This continues until all categories are done.

Step 6: Glasses in each prescription bin are counted into 50 and placed in shipping boxes. All shipping boxes are placed in racks by prescription and categories.

Step 7: When orders come in, they go to the racks by prescription and categories and fill the order.

Please note that CLERC does not pay for any shipping cost for orders. They have to come to CLERC and pick up their order or pay the shipping cost themselves.

The success of CLERC is due to the volunteers collecting used eyeglasses from across Canada. The inmates and staff at the Calgary Correction Centre. The volunteers at the satellite offices across Canada. The volunteers who come in at the Calgary warehouse to work, the members of the Board of Directors past and present, without all the above volunteers, CLERC would never exist. On March of 2018 CLERC shipped out their 5 millionth pairs of eyeglasses to the various missions around the world. Please note that CLERC had to process over 10,000,000 pairs of used eyeglasses to get the 5 millionth pairs of shipped eyeglasses. In February 2020, CLERC closed down until September of 2020 due to the Coronavirus. In June of 2023, CLERC has shipped out its 6 millionth pairs of eyeglasses. The next goal for CLERC will be shipping out its 7 millionth pairs of used eyeglasses.

PDG Eric Buttle, Historian

Multiple District C