District N2 Fall Cabinet

Minutes

October 19, 2024

Amherst Lions Club

The District N2 Fall Cabinet was hosted by the Amherst Lions Club on October 19, 2024. The meeting was called to order by District Governor Jane at 9 am. DG Jane gave the Land Acknowledgement followed by O Canada, the Lions Pledge led by 1st VDG Kim and the Lions Invocation by Lion Pat. All members participated in a Moment of Silence for departed members and world peace.

DG Jane welcomed all Lions to the cabinet meeting and thanked the Lions Club for hosting us. She noted the very successful Meet and Greet which happen on Friday night.

Host Club Welcome-Lion Cheryl Mackenzie from the Amherst Lions Club welcomed all the members to Amherst and thanked the members of her planning team and the Amherst Club for their assistance.

Voting Procedures-DG Jane outlined information that had come to light in the days immediately preceding the Cabinet Meeting. LCI Legal informed her that only members of the Cabinet were permitted to vote at Cabinet Meetings. The cabinet is comprised of the District Governor, Immediate Past District Governor, Cabinet Treasurer, Cabinet Secretary, and Zone Chairs. Lions International Legal will be contacted for clarity and more information which will be shared with Lions in the future.

Approval of the agenda-moved by Lion Bill and seconded by Lion Frank H. Carried

Approval of the Minutes from the DGO-moved by Lion Bill and seconded by Lion Wendy. Carried

Comments from District Team Members

1st VDG Kim-noted that we are in a time of change and she will be expanding committees next year to involve more Lions.

2nd VP Pat-New ideas, new members and new service are his focus. He has been visiting clubs and promoting Lions across the province. His written report is attached.

Global Leadership-Lion Bill-we have increased the number of clubs who have been attending club officer training. There are several more trainings to be held in the upcoming weeks. MDN will be conducting an Emerging Lions Leadership Institute in April in Newfoundland. Information and registration forms will be distribued to all Lions before Christmas. Lions are reminded to check out the Learn section of the Portal if they are interested in learning more about various positions at the club or district level. Trainings and orientation sessions are available upn request.

Global membership-Lion Linda stated that her team (Lions Dan Yaromowich and Lion Scott Melanson) have or will be contacting all clubs with fewer than 15 members to offer assistance in increasing their membership. She introduced N2 in CA2 which stands for 2 new members in each Canadian Club. If each club had a net growth of two members at the end of the Lions year, Lions would meet the goal for membership growth. World Wide Induction Day will be celebrated at the Convention on April 26. Clubs are requested to email bios and pictures of the new members inducted to clubs and their sponsors to Lion Linda for use during the WW Induction Day ceremony. She gave a brief outline of the Mission Summit in Toronto which was focussed on membership growth and urged all clubs to conduct the Membership Satisfaction Survey to gain a sense of their club’s feelings about their clubs. See attached report.

Global Service-Lion Cheryl noted an increase in the number of clubs reporting service in the Lions Portal. She is always available to provide assistance if required.

Global Extenion-2nd VDG Pat is working with a team (Lions Tony Thornhill and Scott Melanson) to identify areas across the district where there is a potential for new club development. Lion Pat noted the formation of the Chezzetcook and District Social Cupcakes as a Club Branch.

District Activity Report-DG Jane informed the members that the District Activity Report has been discontinued. Application forms will be created for some of the trophies that are awarded to clubs and individual Lions. Changes to policies and bylaws will be needed.

Winter Cabinet-the Winter Cabinet will be hosted by the Windsor Lions Club. It will be held n Saturday, Feb. 8 and the cost of the registration package including the luncheon will be $25.00.

Lions Clubs Foundation of Canada-Lion Frank Sellers reported on the ongoing work of the Foundation. Donations to the Foundation may be made during the Cabinet meeting and a donation envelop has been provided.

Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides-Lion Bill reported on the progress of the new training centre. The basement flooring and walls are being poured and construction is on time. The building is expected to be ready for occupancy in 2026. We will be able to train approximately 300 dogs per year and meet the needs of many more Canadians. Donations are always greatly appreciated from Lions Clubs and individual Lions. Lion Reta Damery of the Amherst Lions Club was thank for her donation of $65.00 which was her 50/50 share from the Meet and Greet.

Lions Quest-for the first time in many years Lions Quest has been introduced to school in N2. With the assistance of the Minister of Education we hope to identify a number of schools across the district who will be willing to adopt the program. A question was raised about the funds granted by LCIF and held by the District. These funds are being used to purchase materials to be used to introduce schools to Lions Quest.

Lions Foundation of Nova Scotia-Lion Rhonda reminded clubs that a Foundation fellowship is available to purchase for $250.00. Clubs who wish to make memorial donations in honour of deceased members are requested to inform the Foundation of the name of the deceased Lion being acknowledge and the name and mailing address of the person who will receive the notification of the memorial being received bu the Foundation.

Constitution and ByLaws-Lion Joyce informed the meeting no motions are coming forward at this time.

Interim Budget-Lion Clyde Paul presented the Interim Budget.

Audit-Lion Clyde Paul noted the audit had been completed and sent out to all clubs. Everything was found to be in good order. Lion Clyde moved the acceptance of the Auditor’s Report and Lion Linda seconded the motion. Carried

A motion was made to approve the Operating Budget by Lion Bill, seconded by Lion Dale. Carried

Financial report-CT Lion Frank

Balance in operating funds $58,485.67

Credit Union account $25,587.75

Credit Union High return $35,325.44

International Directors Fund. $15000.00

Booster fund S1000.00

IWK Project-N2 Lions raised a total of $41,685.07. LCIF matched our donation in US Funds for a total of $53,465.84 Canadian for a grand total of $95,150.91 which was presented to the IWK in September. A picture of the presentation was printed in the NS Lion and thank you notes were sent to all clubs from the IWK.

Correspondence-none

New Business-no notice of motions

Lunch was followed by the distribution of Awards and Trophies.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Fall Cabinet Report-2nd VDG Pat Nixon

Since the beginning of September, I have visited Ten (10) Clubs on behalf of the DG and attended one (1) Zone Meeting, that being Zone 13. I will be attending the Zone 5 meeting next week and hopefully a Zone 8 meeting in early November. I have ten (10) club visits remaining.

I have also held two (2) Zoom meetings with the Zone Chairs since the DGO as it is my intent to have a conversation with them at least once every 6- 8 weeks, to pass on information and to discuss any challenges or concerns they may have.

At the DGO in July, I challenged the clubs to identify the challenges you, your clubs and Zones face, what training you need, what help and support you need, what you need from the district to enable you to provide the best service to your community. Be honest, forthright and blunt if need be.

This you have been, and I thank you for that. Some observations that have been brought forth to me during my visits are, amongst others:

* Ongoing challenges of attracting new members,
* Difficulties in understanding what today’s volunteers are looking for, which leads to challenges recruiting and in retention once new members join,
* District Meetings are not always interesting to attend and the cost of travel and accommodation to attend district meetings is an issue that exacerbates attendance,
* Have more interesting presentations and training opportunities at the district meetings (DGO, Cabinet and Convention).
* The district could do a better job of promoting NS Lions provincially through PR and publicity,

So, as I, the DG and 1st VDG continue with the rest of our visits until the end of November, please continue to be honest, forthright and blunt when we are there. This feedback is a must so that the district can evaluate it and we, the district and clubs, can come up with workable solutions or strategies.

It is hard to believe that we are a third of the way through our Lions year. If you or if you are aware of any members in your club who have expressed an interest in district leadership or committee opportunities, please encourage them to reach out to us or let us know and we can reach out to them to gauge their interest.

I would like to thank our GST, Lion Cheryl, who is very responsive to reaching out and touching base with the clubs when they requested support from her during my visits.

As I visit the clubs, I am always impressed by what you do, your dedication to supporting your community, your commitment to service and your enthusiasm. Although attracting new members is an issue that needs to be addressed, the adage that “it is not always the size of the dog in the fight, but the size of the fight in the dog” can be seen in many of our clubs as you strive to meet the needs of your communities.

Please reach out at any time if you need assistance, have any questions or wish to express concern on something. Remember we, the district team, are here to support you.

Never above you, Never beneath you, Always with you.

A signature on a white background

Description automatically generatedLion Pat Nixon 2nd VDG District N2

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Global Extension Team (GET) Coordinator’s Report

Fall Cabinet – 19 October 2024

In July I had sent out a request to the district asking for three or four Lions to become part of

this team. I would like to than Lions Tony Thornhill from the Dartmouth Lions and Scott

Melanson from Beaver Bank/Kinsac Lions for volunteering to be part of the GET/GMT team.

Congratulations to the Chezetcook &amp; District Lions Club for starting up a new Club Branch in the

District. The Chezzetcook and District Sociable Cupcakes Lions Club Branch (say that fast three

times!) has six new Lions members and some members who have transferred to the club

branch.

We look forward to additional service they will provide to their community! This report, when I

send it out to the district, will include a link to a video called “Dispelling the Myths” that will

inform you of what a Club Branck is and isn’t and I encourage everyone to view it and reach out

to any member of the District Leadership and GAT if you have any questions.

Enthusiasm, a passion for growing Lionism, starting new clubs, a willingness to learn and a

mixture of Lions experience are what is needed for this challenging and rewarding positions.

Once again, I would like to ask for two or three additional Lions to join us in this new

endeavour. We will crawl…..walk …..run as we build our knowledge and confidence moving

forward.

Historically, the district has not, in the recent past, had great success with sustainability of new

clubs for a variety of reasons. The demise of Tatamagouche, our Dalhousie Campus club and

the Acadia Club Branch are unfortunate examples of this however they offer opportunities for

lessons learned which can be applied moving forward.

There is always a desire to move quickly, however time must be taken to build a robust

foundation for any new club. Not many of us would build a house without a solid foundation

and the services to support it. Once again, we will crawl…..walk …..run as we build our

knowledge and confidence. First you get good, then you get fast.

From September 28 th – 29 th myself, along with the DG and Global Membership Team

coordinator attended the LCI Mission 1.5 Summit in Toronto with other DGs, GETs and GMTs

where the focus was on nurturing a culture of growth in our districts and clubs. It was a great

experience, sharing ideas with and learning from others who hold the same positions and face

similar challenges with new club growth, attracting and retaining new members.

This led to the review and adjusting of the goals related to membership while we were at the

Summit. Our goal, as it relates to new club growth, is to try and form one new club this Lions

year. Some initial research on possible locations has been done and by the start of November,

we should have identified one or two areas to conduct a New Club Development Community

Assessment which will narrow it down to one location to target by December 20 th .

The standing up of the GET comes with challenges and opportunities, both for the members of

the team and district. If you are interested in this rewarding and challenging opportunity,

please contact me or corner me anytime today.

Lion Pat Nixon

Global Extension Team Coordinator

District N2

(902) 840-1842

    FALL CABINET MEETING, AMHERST, N.S.

                                          OCTOBER 19TH, 2024

DG Jane, 1VDG KIM, 2VDG PAT, & Fellow Lions:

The GMT team has been working on communicating with all those Lion Clubs in District N2 that fall below the threshold of 15 members. We want to work with these clubs to help bring up their membership numbers.

We encourage all clubs in District N2, to bring in 2 new members this year.

Net2 in CA2 ( 2 new members per club in Canada)

We will be chartering a new club in District N2 as part of our membership goal this year. With the GET  and GMT working closely together, we will accomplish our goal of 1 new charter club in District N2.

We will be holding our WWID (World Wide Induction Day) on April 26th, 2025, at the Spring Convention in Yarmouth. An email has been sent out through Sarah for the clubs in District N2 to read and forward information on all new members & their sponsors.

The DG, GET coordinator Lion Pat and myself attended the Mission 1.5 Summit in Toronto and came away with a lot of information to help us achieve our goals this year.

We will be handing out Membership surveys to each club that is present at the Fall Cabinet meeting, then they will be sent out through Sarah for those clubs not in attendance.

With clubs just getting up and running the month of September, it has been quiet, but we are expecting it to start to get much busier.

If you need anything from your GMT, please reach out to me at 902 349-9349 or email: nannygrampycoleman@eastlink.ca.

Lets have a great year and increase those service projects that your clubs do, as that is a drawing force for new members.

Respectively submitted,

Lion Linda GMT

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| **Award/Trophy** | **2023 - 2024** |  | **Keeper Plaques** | **2023 -2024** |
| Visitation | Aylesford |  | Best President (DG Appreciation) | Stephanie Jones – Port Williams |
| Best Club | Eastern Passage Cow Bay |  | Best Secretary | Starr Bogue - Spryfield |
| Public Relations | unknown |  | Outstanding Lion of the Year | Marjorie Hartland – Beaver Bank |
| Best Club Bulletin | Eastern Passage |  | Rookie of the Year | Scott Melanson – Beaver Bank |
| Best Zone | Zone 8 – Russell Maillet |  | Individual Lion Visitation | No applicants |
| Best Road Sign | Cabot Trail |  |
| Peace Poster (VDG’s) | Kingston |  |
| Walk for Dog Guides | Bridgewater |  |
| Lions Quest | Bridgewater |  |
| Best Club Website (PDG Art MacKenzie) | Hantsport |  |
| Diabetes | Beaver Bank/Kinsac |  |
| Most Improved Club | Baddeck |  |
| LFNS | Shubenacadie |  |
| LFC | Bridgewater |  |
| Membership Growth | Pubnico Area |  |
| Lions Postage Stamp Collection | Kingston |  |
| Recycle for Sight | A/F/R |  |

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| Yarmouth? |  |