

MINUTES OF THE MD19 WINTER COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS' MEETING

February 17, 2024

Zoom Meeting

The Council Meeting was called to order by Council Chairperson Steve Noble at 9:00 am, followed by Introductions of the Council.

The following Lions, Lioness, and Guests were in attendance and signed the Attendance Sheets.

I. Council of Governors

Steve Noble, Council Chairperson
Patty Allen-White, Vice Council Chairperson
Lyndon Harriman, Past Council Chairperson
Peter Anderson, Executive Director
PID Allan Hunt
Elaine Luk, District Governor, 19-L
Michael Livingstone, District Governor, 19-I
Joel Haggen, District Governor, 19-O
Lisa Ikeda, District Governor, 19-N
Ken Cook, District Governor, 19-S
Harry Lippincott, PDG 19-E
Steven Wong, PDG 19-H
Lia Marie Versaevel, PDG 19-I

II. MD19 Committee Chairpersons & Appointees

PDG Steve Staudinger, Budget & Finance
PDG Steve Brooks, MD19 2024 Annual Convention
PZC George Sim, 2024 International Convention
PCC Polly Voon, USA / Canada Leadership Forum
PDG Harry Lippincott, Diabetes
PDG Grace Hwo - Elections
Nancy Messmer - Environment
PDG Frank Bega, Global Leadership
PCC Hal Palmer, Global Membership
PDG Peggy Harriman, Global Service
PDG Chuck Waid, Governance
PID Allan Hunt, International Participation / Relations
Colette Arvidson & Bill Scholl: Knights of the Blind
PDG Simon Yau, LCIF - BC
PDG Jan Weatherly, LCIF - US
PCC J.D. Nellor, Parliamentarian / Webmaster
PCC John Kirry, Strategic Planning

Foundations & Societies

PCC JD Nellor, MD19 Lions Foundation

III. Lions, LEOs and Guests

1 st VDG Tammy Allen	Gloria Hardan	PID Don Shove
Michele Barrie	1 st VDG Beth James	PDG Sharon Sikes
PDG Lorne Bunyan	PID Roger Richert	PDG Tom Smarsh
1 st VDG Leslie Chasse	PDG Rosemary Richert	PZC Rock White
PZC Linda Deroche		

MOTION: A motion was made by VCC Patty Allen-White and seconded by PCC Lyndon Harriman to accept as posted the Minutes of the MD19 Annual Convention Council of Governors' Meeting, held in Surrey, B.C on October 13, 2023. Motion approved.

MOTION: A motion was made by PCC Lyndon Harriman and seconded by VCC Patty Allen-White to accept the Consent Agenda Items, after the removal of the Environment report. Motion approved.

CONSENT AGENDA REPORTS

CARE REPORT by PDG Bob Yeoman, Chairperson:

"Figures for the first seven months have been received and I want to congratulate District O for leading MD 19 in Donations to CARE. Thank you, District Governor Joel Haggen, for supporting CARE throughout your district. Through the end of January, District O has donated \$7650.00. The other four districts are all around \$3200.00 to \$3500.00.

CARE is an MD19 project that our Council of Governors votes on and approves. YOU, as a current member of the COG should be promoting CARE as your past DG and IPDG approved our current project. The current project is to convert pig manure to energy through a process using biodigesters in the country of Honduras.

In MD19 we have many clubs and districts that support LCIF strongly. Currently MD19 clubs have donated \$271,000 to LCIF and only \$21,000 to CARE. As stated above CARE is a MD 19 project and all clubs and districts should support, LCIF is not a MD19 project. I'm NOT advocating stopping or lessening our donations to LCIF, we need to find more money for CARE.

I am asking that each District Governor ensure that CARE is promoted in all DG Newsletters. To ensure that Zone chairpersons are promoting CARE in their Zone Newsletters. Zone Chairpersons, send out monthly updates, suggestions, challenges to club presidents. We have five months remaining to hit our \$40,000 goal for the year. We can do it."

DIABETES AWARENESS REPORT by PDG Harry Lippincott, Chairperson:

"To date, as the MD19 Diabetes Awareness Chairperson, I have written eight newsletters regarding the subject. These newsletters were sent to the five Districts Diabetes Chairpersons for their use or suggested they write their own articles for their district newsletters.

The articles have highlighted the importance of understanding diabetes. Included are statistics on its prevalence and impact. Also addressed were other practical tips for prevention, such as maintaining a healthy diet and exercising regularly. I introduced readers to common symptoms and risk factors, urging them to get screened regularly. When known I noted upcoming events or initiatives related to diabetes awareness. I encouraged Clubs/Districts to have a call to action by hosting diabetes events, having brochures and other information at events, etc., and encouraged readers to share the newsletter and take proactive steps towards better health."

ELECTIONS REPORT by PDG Grace Hwo, Chairperson:

"Dear Council Chairperson Steve, Vice Council Chairperson Patty, and fellow Lions Leaders,

The Voting of MD19 Constitution & Bylaws and the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides Selection Procedure for Canadian Lions Clubs were accomplished at the MD19 Annual Convention on October 14, 2024, and both resolutions were passed. Below are the voting rates for the MD19 Constitution and Bylaws voting –

District L 13% (25/183 eligible votes)

District I 11% (14/122 eligible votes)

District O 27% (46/168 eligible votes)

District N 15% (31/206 eligible votes)

District S 6% (10/154 eligible votes)

47% of the Canadian Lions Clubs voted on October 14th.

In my opinion, physical voting cannot represent the consensus of the Lions clubs of the five districts. Compared with the February voting by Election Buddy, the lowest rate was 24% and the highest rate was 50% which was more realistic and time saving.

During the one and a half days voting session at the Convention, I wish to bring to your attention the following:

- 1) Hard to look for volunteers to work at the voting table.
- 2) The voting period was too long and truly wasted the volunteers' time sitting at the voting tables missing out on the opportunities to attend any of the programs.
- 3) There were lions that came to cast a vote on behalf of their clubs, but they had no idea about what they were voting for ahead of time. They might not be the official delegates from the club.
- 4) Volunteers had no experience and therefore I had to stay for the entire voting period missing out on the Council Meeting and Memorial Service.

I must reiterate that evidence shows Election Buddy is a future trend if we want to take the voting/election seriously to reflect the voices of the lions across the MD. If Election Buddy is applied, each club's delegates should be identified in advance and the access code and password should be emailed to individual directly to avoid proxy voting.

This is my 3rd year as MD19 Election Chairperson, and I learned a lot from working in this position. Thanks to Vice Council Chairperson Patty who invited me to be the 4th year Election Chairperson and I accepted. A Co-Chairperson would be helpful because he/she can be the future Election Chairperson to replace me for the 5th year."

LCIF – BC REPORT by PDG Simon Yau, Chairperson:

"Multiple District 19 BC, Canada total donation for the end of second quarter \$59,099.67 which represent 66% of this year's LCIF Chairperson IPIP Brian Sheehan's goal.

There are a few Campaign100 Model Clubs in District 19L that have not fulfilled their commitment yet. District and club coordinators should investigate this and ask these clubs to complete their goal as soon as they can.

District 19L will host their annual Melvin Jones Fellows Appreciation Gala on Wednesday March 13, 2024. LCIF Chairperson IPIP Brian Sheehan will attend the event as the keynote speaker and MJF Awards presenter.”

LCIF – US REPORT by PDG Jan Weatherly, Chairperson:

“Fundraising at District Conventions

Each District LCIF Coordinator in MD19 has a plan to raise money for LCIF at their District convention. In fact, continent wide, the expectation is that LCIF Coordinators will use that event to educate members about LCIF and raise money for LCIF.

But Stop!

Are you aware that our own Council of Governor's Policy Manual forbids districts to raise money for anything other than their convention at the convention?

That means we cannot raise money for any Lions related cause at our own conventions. That includes LCIF, CARE, Leader Dogs, Camp Horizon, MD19 Foundation, NW Lions Foundation or Youth Exchange just to name a few of our favorite Lions causes.

We need the Council of Governors to change this section of the Policy Manual at this meeting.

This suggested wording to replace Chapter 6 section E has been submitted to the Governance Committee for presentation at the February 17 meeting.

The Convention Committee, with the approval of the District Governor, may conduct Lions sanctioned fundraising activities at the District Convention with the funds to be distributed to such Lions sanctioned organizations.

This change would allow districts to raise money at their conventions **only with** the approval of their District Governor and Convention Committee.

Please support this change so you have control of the fundraising done at your own district convention.

Progress on our US LCIF Goal

Goal 1 Reach or exceed the US LCIF fundraising goal for MD19 by June 30, 2024
MD19 US has achieved 140% of their goal with \$217,239 raised through January 2024!
This was made possible by 2 very generous donations made in District O.
The other 4 districts are not close to reaching their district goals.

Goal 2 Raise the visibility of LCIF at the individual, club, zone, district and MD level by asking clubs to select an LCIF coordinator and involving LCIF in your conventions and zones meeting.

Where Club Coordinators have been appointed across the MD, the club LCIF donations have come in earlier this year. Also there has been more communication between the District Coordinator and the club.

LCIF can still use the support of our District Governors by

- Being a model for your district by supporting **our foundation** when visiting clubs. Ask for that club donation if they have not yet donated.
- Asking clubs to select an LCIF club coordinator now and for next year.
- You demonstrate individual giving with electronic monthly donations. Press that DONATE button on the LCI website. Even \$10 per month makes a huge difference.
- Involving your LCIF District Coordinators in your district convention festivities.

Below are your US District Coordinators. They are on your team to help you reach your own LCIF goal submitted to President Patty Hill.

- L PCC Gary Reidel
- I PDG Joyce Stevens

O PID Anne Smarsh and PID Don Shove
N PDG Debbie Mansell and ZC Jan Heaton
S PDG Melba Fujiura and PZC Elaine Cook”

MEMORIAL GARDEN REPORT by Wes Reynolds, Chairperson:

“These pictures show we have some fixing and cleaning up to do after severe winter weather.



USA / CANADA LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUM REPORT by PCC Polly Voon, Chairperson:

“The 2024 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum will be in Louisville, Kentucky. The Forum is set against the backdrop of Louisville, a city known for its rich history, vibrant arts scene, and iconic events like the Kentucky Derby. The headquarter hotel is the iconic and historic hotel, The Galt House Hotel, which is the largest hotel in Kentucky with a rich history that dates to the 1800s.



In keeping with the famous Kentucky Derby, the theme for the 2024 Forum is **‘SETTING THE PACE’**. From MD19, we are proud to have three Lions - PID Anne Smarsh as Vice Chairperson, PCC Polly Voon as Forum Secretary, and PDG Mark Mansell as Education Team Chairperson serve on the Louisville Planning Committee.

Work is well underway on the program for the Forum September 5-7, 2024, in Louisville. Attendees have the chance to take in seminars and sessions facilitated by a lineup of quality facilitators and moderators, in an environment of shared learning, positive power and energy where we can embrace new ideas to uplift our Lions service individually and collectively as well as giving them tools and insights that can be applied both within the Lions Club network and in their personal and professional lives.

Plan to be in Louisville early Thursday for a unique and fun Strides Event and a ‘Kentucky Derby Horse Race’. A Hat Decorating Contest is planned for the Strides Event in support of the local Lions Diabetes project – all materials will be provided. The Host Lions of Kentucky are collecting hats, gloves, scarves and non-perishable food items for the area Food Banks and shelters. Attendees are encouraged to bring whatever they can and participate in the service project.

We have four excellent speakers for Louisville – Sam Glenn, Randy Pierce, 2024-25 LCI President Fabricio Oliveira, and Trish Wilson.

Be a **Friend of the Forum!** You can help the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum fulfill its’ mission to develop leaders, motivate and educate attendees, provide an open exchange of ideas, and support programs and goals of Lions Clubs International. There are two different levels available to become a Friend of the Forum. Individual Lions, for the sum of \$150.00, and Lions Couples, Lions Clubs, Lions Districts or Lions Multiple Districts can support this fantastic event for \$250.00. Whether you are planning on attending or cannot attend but believe in the event enough to still be a part of it.



Plan on attending Louisville. Do it soon before the registration rates go up. The Forum website, www.lionsforum.org, continues to be updated with information on the 2024 Forum. Check it out!

MD19 FOUNDATION REPORTS

LIONS FOUNDATION OF CANADA REPORT by PZC Richard Simonson, Provincial Director:

"Lions,

I have issued the approved information for Lions interested in becoming the next Director, to all the Clubs in BC for which I have email addresses curtesy of the MD19 Office.



I have received two emails from Lions in BC with their intention of being interviewed for the Director's position.

That being said, the Council Chairperson and I need to meet online or phone to make arrangements for an interview committee. The committee's decision must be communicated to the Chairperson of the LFCDG Governance Committee by the end of April. This will allow the approved candidate to be invited to the June training meeting in Oakville, Ontario.

This position is open to all Lions in British Columbia meeting the approved requirements.

The Capital Campaign to raise 50 M+ for the construction of our new 80000+ sq. ft. facility is well underway. There is always need for support for Canada's largest Guide Dog training Foundation."

KNIGHTS of THE BLIND REPORT by PZC Bill Scholl, President:

"Well, the MD19 Lions Knights Of The Blind (KOTB) committee did it, we put on the very first ever KOTB Christmas Party and just in case you would like to see it for yourself here is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W6-P7p7U7SM>

Of course, the 'First' anything is always the learning time. We learned a lot and decided to go for the 2nd Annual KOTB Christmas Party. The 2024 party will be on December 14, 2024. Some changes are in order.

The great outcome of the first party was ALL the collaboration between the MD19 KOTB and the Hawaiian KOTB, along with the many others gathered. As you will see if you check out the video, many of the performers were either blind or low vision from many parts of the world. Enough about the party.

KOTB is venturing into other areas to spread the word of who we are and what our mission is, once again collaborating with other organizations, such as the Washington Council of the Blind families (WCB) on a convention of Teachers of the Visually impaired (TVI) next month at their convention.

Plus, we plan on being a presence at as many MD19 district conventions as well.

Finally, as always, we are looking for funding support to help with the cost of sharing the books for *Grandpa's White Cane* presentations and printing brochures for the conventions. Again, this year the Olympia Host Foundation in 19N has supported our committee, with not only funding but enabling funds to be donated to us through their foundation."

LIONS OF B.C. HEARING CONSERVATION SOCIETY REPORT by PCC Surinder Gahir, President:

"Council Chairperson and Council Member's, greetings.

Some of the Society members are working hard to promote the hearing aid program.

Only a few Lions Clubs have a hearing aid recycling program. The newer or digital hearing aids are sent to the Island Deaf & Hard of Hearing Centre in Victoria for testing, reprogramming and reuse. This week I sent over a hundred hearing aids to Victoria.

Lions of BC Hearing Conservation Society have a great awards program for deserving Lions; the Meade Sutherland Fellowship Award for \$500 and the Society Fellowship Award for \$50.00, Lions clubs can order these for deserving Lions.

My friends we remain deeply grateful for all your help and donations. For more information, please contact me at: governor.gahir@gmail.com or Bob Jones at: lions.bc.hearing@gmail.com"

MD19 LIONS FOUNDATION REPORT by PCC J.D. Nellor, President:

It is January, which means it is the start of a new year for the MD19 Lions Foundation (which operates on a regular, old, calendar year).

With the new year comes new officers and a few new faces on the Foundation's Board of Directors. To help you update your Foundation dance-card:

I was elected to and assumed the office of president on January 1, 2024. You can reach me at (360) 513-7035, or by email at: jdnellor@comcast.net. My tenure as Foundation President will end on December 31, 2024, at which time...

PDG Brien Patton will take command. PDG Brien, who hails from the Central Park Lions Club in Zone 3 of District 19N was elected Vice President of the Foundation and assumed office on January 1, 2024. He can be reached at (360) 581-5220 or by email at: brienpatton@aol.com.

VCC Patty Allen White stays on the board in a new role, as Immediate Past President. All known accolades to describe and express our appreciation for VCC Patty's year at the Foundation's helm just seem inadequate. Many thanks VCC Patty! IPP/VCC Patty can be reached at (253) 905-6025 or by email at: pattylouallen@gmail.com.

PDG Marilyn Danby stays on as the Foundation's secretary. PDG Marilyn calls the Tacoma Downtown Lions Club in District 19N her Lions home. She can be reached at (253) 208-4556 or by email at: mardanby@gmail.com.

PCC Jon Whitman, from the Pullman Lions Club, in District 19S, takes on another year as the Foundation Treasurer. PCC Jon is the person to send grant requests to for consideration by the board. It would be wise to be nice to PCC Jon since he has the checkbook. PCC Jon can be reached at (509) 595-3503 or by email at: jmwhitman@pullman.com.

The Foundation is truly blessed, perhaps even a bit charmed, to be treated to a full slate of district representatives on the board this year! District representatives are there to help your district. They are your first point of contact for promoting the MD19 Foundation in your districts, and for helping you, your clubs, and your Lions submit and receive MD19 Lions Foundation grants. They are:

District 19L Representatives:

PDG Syrus Lee from the Vancouver Chinatown Lions Club. PDG Syrus can be reached at (604) 290-2808 or by email at: leesyryus@gmail.com

PDG Lorne Bunyon from the Salt Spring Island Lions Club. You can reach PDG Lorne at (250) 920-9059 or by email at: pdglorne.bunyan@gmail.com.

District 19I Representatives:

Craig Boothe from the Lake Chelan Lions Club. You can reach Lion Craig at (425) 241-1401 or by email at: craigb47@hotmail.com.

PZC Jennifer Edgar from the Nelson Lions Club. You can reach PZC Jennifer at (250) 551-3737 or by email at: jenedgar@shaw.ca.

District O Representatives:

PZC September Stokes from the Coquitlam River Lions Club. You can reach PZC September at (604) 308-1899 or by email at: septemberjstokes@gmail.com.

Lyro Downie-Cyphers from the Renton Lions Club. You can reach Lion Lyro at (206) 458-1639 or by email at: lyrodownie5@gmail.com.

District N Representatives:

PDG Donna Murr from the Lacey Sunrise Lions Club. You can reach PDG Donna at (360) 870-0952 or by email at: donnamurr@gmail.com.

PDG Mark Mansell from the Peninsula Lions Club. You can reach PDG Mark at (360) 991-2768 or by email at: lionmarkmansell@gmail.com.

District S Representatives:

PDG Harry Lippincott from the Liberty Lake Lions Club. You can reach PDG Harry at (509) 280-5090 or by email at: hlippin1@comcast.net.

PZC Nadine Stecklein from the College Place Lions Club. PZC Nadine can be reached at (562) 303-7801 or by email at: mpbarragan@gmail.com.

District representatives serve two-year rotating terms. The terms of directors Syrus Lee, Jennifer Edgar, Lyro-Downie-Cyphers, Donna Murr and Harry Lippincott will expire on December 31, 2024. The terms of Directors Lorne Bunyan, Craig Boothe, September Stokes, Mark Mansell, and Nadine Stecklein expire on December 31, 2025.

Also on the board are:

MD19 Service Chairperson (GST), PDG Peggy Harriman from the Post Falls Lions Club. PZC and GST Peggy can be reached at (208) 755-6137 or by email at: pah4610@gmail.com.

MD19 Leadership Chairperson (GLT), PDG Frank Bega from the Rathdrum Lions Club. PDG Frank can be reached at (208) 659-1446 or by email at: frankbega17@gmail.com.

Foundation Marketing Chairperson, PCC John Kirry from the Gig Harbor Lions Club. PCC John can be reached at (253) 225-1824 or by email at: lionjk@comcast.net.

Northwest Lions Leadership Institute Superintendent, PDG Wanda Eddy from the North Kamloops Lions Club. PDG Wanda can be reached at (250) 851-5292 or by email: lionwandac@gmail.com.

Non-voting members and advisers to the Foundation include MD19 Executive Director Peter Anderson and Governance Committee Chairperson PDG Charles Waid. The board's investments adviser is Scott Hurst.

Under IPP Patty's watchful eye the board adopted streamlined procedures over the past year for the consideration of grant applications and has cleaned up procedures in the policy manual that were causing confusion.

Two final notes:

1. All grant applications must now be submitted using the Foundation's grant application form. All grant requests are now referred to a Grant Review Committee, which has been established to streamline the consideration of grant requests.
2. The consensus of the board seems to be that the Foundation has been under-utilized, and that few Lions within MD19 know about it or what the Foundation can do to help them. There will be a strong push from this year to increase the Foundation's presence, and to get the word out: The MD19 Lions Foundation has funding available to Lions and Lions clubs to help with worthy projects that support or promote leadership or service.

Please help get the word out and let your fellow Lions know about the MD19 Lions Foundation."

YOUTH EXCHANGE FOUNDATION REPORT by Lauren Nowack, President:

"We are making progress with the MD19 Youth Exchange Camp for the Summer of 2024! Our summer camp will be held June 26 - July 5, 2024, at the Seattle University Ballard Lions Youth Camp on Camano Island, and in Leavenworth thanks to the support of the Leavenworth Lions! Our Summer Youth Exchange camp has increased the opportunities for the students by the continued support of Lions and Leo clubs in our district.

Our Winter camp was successful as we hosted three students from Australia and Italy to enjoy winter in the PNW. Their experiences and feedback will help us make each camp experience better than the last.

Currently, we have seven students traveling to Australia this summer as representatives for our MD. What an incredible opportunity for them to become global citizens! To help support these students, and our foundation, we are hosting a dinner auction May 4, 2024 during the [Wenatchee Apple Blossom Festival](#). Following the parade, we will be having a dinner auction at the Wenatchee Valley Museum. After the parade come and enjoy great food and entertainment, all while supporting our youth."

REPORTS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA TO BE GIVEN ORALLY

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT by Dr. Nancy Messmer and others of the Four Corners Team:

"MD19 Environment Team Lions Year 2023-2024. Representing all five districts, District Environment Chairpersons & Zone Environment Chairpersons and Club Environment Chairpersons work closely with four Lions serving as MD19 Environment Co-Chairpersons. We are an Environment Team that meets monthly on Zoom, hosted by Council Chairperson Steve Noble. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month at noon and invite interested Lions to join us. Our team increases in size and scope as we are joined by Lions from throughout our MD and from across the continent.

Environment Team Facebook Page. Past Environment Chairperson, 1st VDG Leslie Chasse, hosts a Facebook page to connect Lions as an active environment team. Active helpful Facebook pages require lots of participation. **Join us at** <https://www.facebook.com/Lions-MD19-Environmental-Committee-103269998770756>.

As the Environment Chairpersons circulate through our districts, speaking to Lions, scanning MyLion, Facebook pages and websites, these are some of the projects we see.



Ladysmith Lions Club, District 19L Recycling Project Fundraising partner Encorp Pacific, Canada. Club is funding Stream Project-Elementary School.



Spanaway Lions Recycle Sheet Plastic with Trex Bags-to-Benches. Presented bench To local church.



Hood Canal Lions Annual Polar Bear Plunge. Food, prizes, a band playing Entice community members to take the The plunge for year 14.

Team of Lions has applied to be on the Presentation Stage in Melbourne. Topic-Great Environment Service. MD19 Clubs include Nelson, Camas, Lynn Valley, Clallam Bay Sekiu, along with Wisconsin & Georgia Lions.



MD 19 Environment Chairpersons: Bob, Nancy, Jennifer & Kim. Call or email. We can assist you with ideas & resources.



Nancy Messmer 360.963.2442 able@olyphen.com
Kim DiRienz 509.446.4708 kdirienz@hotmail.com
Bob Johnson 253.353.3043 bobjohnson.centennial@gmail.com
Jennifer Edgar 250.551.3737 jenedgar@shaw.ca

MD19 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT by PDG Chuck Waid, Chairperson:

**"A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE MD19 POLICY MANUAL
Amend the Policy Manual, Chapter 6, District Conventions,**

Delete the current wording in red font that is lined out: E:

- ~~The Convention Committee, with the approval of the District Governor may conduct one (1) single raffle / fundraiser / tail twisting activity and if so authorized:~~
- ~~1. It shall be held in conjunction with the Convention.~~
 - ~~2. It shall be conducted only by the Host Organization or other clubs noted in the official convention program.~~
 - ~~3. All proceeds shall be deposited in the Convention fund and will be used to defray the cost of the conference.~~

Replace with the following wording in green font:

E. The Convention Committee, with the approval of the District Governor, may conduct Lions sanctioned fundraising activities at the District Convention with the funds to be distributed to such Lions sanctioned organizations.

Rational: This leaves the district in a position to raise money for the support of any Lions sanctioned organization including its own convention account, or organizations such as LCIF, CARE, Leader Dogs, MD19 Foundation, NW Lions Foundation, etc.

This recommendation is submitted by PDG Jan Weatherly, MD19 LCIF Coordinator.

THE MAJORITY OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ARE OVERWHELMINGLY OPPOSED TO THIS RECOMMENDATION AND ASK THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS TO VOTE NO!

MOTION: A motion was made by DG Lisa Ikeda, 19-N and seconded by PCC Lyndon Harriman to approve the new wording in green as shown above, to allow Lions sanctioned charities to conduct fundraising at district conventions. A roll call vote was conducted with the result being the motion was not approved.

Discussion held on electronic voting at the Annual Convention.

MOTION: A motion was made by VCC Patty Allen-White and seconded by PDG Steven Wong, 19-H for the Governance committee to investigate voting practices at the MD19 annual convention, whether electronically, or in-person, or a combination of both. Motion approved.

INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION & RELATIONS REPORT by PID Allan Hunt, Chairperson:

"Nominations for Presidential and Leadership Medals have been submitted. All current FVDGs, soon to be DGEs need to keep their eyes open for those Lions whom you may wish to nominate this coming Lions year. You should be seeing the criteria in early August. Don't be surprised, be prepared.

The planning for the 2024 International Board Meeting in Vancouver is well underway. We have the arrival schedule for all the guests attending. The host night is being held on March 17th at the Chief Joe Mathias Longhouse in North Vancouver; this will be a unique event, somewhat like what we did during the 2011 Convention in Seattle. We continue to be open to clubs donating to financially assist us with this project.

Internationally we have a multi-year project called Mission 1.5. I know that you have all heard of the goal to be at 1.5 Million members by July 1, 2027. Sometimes a number like that is difficult to relate to; we are not looking for 1.5 Million members in MD19 - it might be nice but let's be realistic. In MD19 for this year our target (CA1 & CA2) is a net of 80 members and a net of six new clubs. Currently the USA side of MD19 is -43 and the Canadian side is +17. Obviously, there is room to grow. The FVDGs already have their target numbers for 2024-2025."

MD19 2024 ANNUAL CONVENTION REPORT by PDG Leslie Smith, Co-Chairperson:

"We are excited for our upcoming MD19 Lions Annual Convention May 23-25, 2024. Our venue is the Silver Reef Hotel and Casino in Ferndale, WA. The theme: *Off to the Races Kentucky Derby Style*. Ladies, get out the big hats, and gentlemen time to show off those ties. Registration forms were sent out in early January with the expectation of a great attendance. We were able to keep meal prices reasonable as well as the hotel costs. There is also RV parking on site (dry camping only).

We are going with a different format this year and that is on Friday and Saturday afternoon we will be offering on/off site service projects of all types so everyone can participate. Great opportunity to work hands on with your fellow lions and share stories. The mornings will be business as usual.

The guest speaker for the weekend is 1st Year Director Steven Middlemiss and Partner in Service LeeAnn, from Hudson, New Hampshire, USA.

On behalf of myself and our committee we look forward to seeing everyone in Ferndale as we celebrate our 103rd annual convention.

Additional information from PDG Steve Brooks: Registration can be done through Chedder Up or as a paper copy. Rooms are \$139 per night, with a block of rooms reserved at this price until May 8th. Early registration fee of \$30 lasts until April 15th, after that date it will be \$40."

BUDGET AND FINANCE REPORT by PDG Steve Staudinger, Chairperson:

"The status of the MD19 Financial Statements and Budget is as follows:

The 2021 non-profit income tax return for the year ending June 30, 2022, has been filed. Late filing penalties were assessed by the IRS when the return was filed. The penalty was \$3,720. An abatement letter for these penalties was filed. Payment was also made at the time to limit any added interest charges. No response from the IRS so far.

The non-profit income tax return for the year ended June 30, 2023, is being worked on by the accountants. All data has been entered and the accounts reconciled. The due date was extended to May 15, 2024. It is expected that the return will be timely filed.

The accounting firm has indicated they will not perform any audited or reviewed or compilation financial statements for their clients. They will continue to prepare tax returns. In the past MD19 has had only compilations done not reviews or audits. The figures for a compilation and a tax return are identical for a non-profit. Therefore, my recommendation is to not have any financial statements prepared by an accounting firm but to rely on financial statements based on the tax return.

I have reviewed a printed copy of the financial statements for the six months ended December 31, 2023. All data has been entered and the accounts have been reconciled.

As I have indicated in past reports to the COG's, the MD19 office was lacking in the capacity to do an adequate job of keeping the accounting records current. I am pleased to report this is currently no longer the case. Executive Director Peter, as his health has improved, and Administrative Assistant Michele and a volunteer have made an effort to keep the records current. Although the COGs have authorized Executive Director Peter to hire a bookkeeping service or a part-time employee to perform these accounting duties, he has suspended that currently and is monitoring the situation. That option is still available to use.

The status update on the budget for the current year is as follows: Highlights:

Total dues for the first six months are lower than projected. Actual \$116,442 vs. Projected \$118,660.
 Total Income for the six months is higher than projected. Actual \$148,937 vs. Projected \$136,660.

Total Convention Expenses are much higher than projected. Actual \$53,213 vs. Projected \$18,620.
 Total payroll expenses are higher than projected. Actual \$65,757 vs. \$62,500.
 Total expenses are higher than projected. Actual \$196,000 vs. Projected \$136,500

The current loss for the six months ended December 31, 2023, is \$35,898. The main source of the loss is convention expenses. The convention expenses of \$53,213 consists of expenses incurred for the October convention and prepaid expenses for the upcoming May convention. However, as of December 31, 2023, the Surrey Host club has not yet transferred funds to MD19, approximately \$36,000 CDN received from the October convention. These amounts should help offset stated losses.

In summary, given the above stated incoming deposit, as of December 31, 2023, the MD19 finances are on track to near breakeven for the year.

MOTION: A motion was made by PDG Lia Versaevel, 19-I and seconded by District Governor Elaine Luk, 19-L to pay for a compilation of the MD19 fiscal year-end accounting. Motion failed.

MOTION: A motion was made by PDG Harry Lippincott, 19-E and seconded by VCC Patty Allen-White to accept the MD19 year-end tax return reports as the financial report. Motion approved.

M.D. 19 International
 Statement of Activity
 July-December 2023
 Revenue

	TOTAL
CARE	
Canadian Income	7,420.00
US Income	<u>1,730.00</u>
Total CARE	9,150.00
MD19 CONVENTION INCOME	1,050.00
151 Annual Convention	<u>-57.00</u>
Total MD19 ANNUAL CONVENTION	993.00
MD19 DUES INCOME	
100 MD19 Operations	116,442.23
103 19-B US	31.23
108 19-E US	7.04
111 19-H RB	36.23
113 19-I RB	98.78
601 19-L OPS	118.41
602 19-L OPS RB	1,811.60
603 19-I OPS	306.83
604 19-I OPS RB	1,056.78
605 19-O OPS	966.65
60619-O OPS RB	521.79
607 19-N OPS	1,788.01

609 19-S OPS	<u>1,435.12</u>
Total 100 MD19 Operations	124,617.70
115 MD19 Convention Account	6,018.16
116 MD19 Reserve Account	1,240.22
918 MD19 Building Reserve	<u>1,238.14</u>
Total MD19 DUES INCOME	133,114.22
MD19 OTHER INCOME	
130 Postage Income	97.70
136 Roster / C&A Book Advertising	250.00
142 Miscellaneous Income	665.00
Building	
122 Fundraising	
Jim Kemp Memorial Fund	1,000.00
Memorial Garden	270.18
Memorial Garde H-7 Cherry Tree	<u>250.00</u>
Total 122 Fundraising	1,520.18
Interest	<u>11.55</u>
Total Building	1,531.73
Council Meetings	
127 Spring (Annual)	<u>251.00</u>
Total Council Meetings	251.00
Grant Border Crossing Editor	2,200.00
Interest Income	243.90
Sales / Rentals	
134 Uniforms Sales /Rentals	325.00
135 Rosters	<u>115.00</u>
Total Sales / Rentals	440.00
Total MD19 OTHER INCOME	5,679.33
Total Revenue	<u>148,936.55</u>
GROSS PROFIT	148,936.55
Expenditures	
340 TELEPHONE	1,139.61
Phone	<u>136.56</u>
Total 340 TELEPHONE	1,276.17
Ask My Accountant DUP	16,209.59
CAPITAL OUTLAY	
Copier Lease (Minolta)	<u>2,491.02</u>
Total CAPITOL OUTLAY	2,491.02
CARE Expense	17,205.00
In/Out Expense	-1,225.00
INT'L CONV – FORUM – ID CAN	
406 USA/Canada Forum	
409 Vice Dist. Govs	300.00
Total 406 USA/Canada Forum	<u>300.00</u>
Total INT'L CONV-FORUM-ID CAN	300.00

MD19 CONVENTION	181.40
Annual Convention Expense	<u>53,032.08</u>
Total MD19 CONVENTION	53,213.48
 MD19 GENERAL OPERATIONS	
301 Bank Charges	20.00
306 Building & Grounds	394.47
Memorial Garden Expense	1,446.68
NonEmployee Compensation	<u>297.50</u>
Total 306 Building & Grounds	2,138.65
 316 Purchases for Sales	
318 Uniforms	811.85
Miscellaneous Items	<u>483.40</u>
Total 316 Purchases for Sales	1,295.25
 319 Utilities	4,342.77
321 Computer Programs	43.50
Accounting	1,000.00
300 Accounting Compilation	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total Accounting	3,000.00
 Bank Card Fees	69.51
Corporation Fees	20.00
Credit Card Fees	30.98
Interest Expense	48.55
Maintenance Expense	
305 Auto	1,332.21
307 Computer	<u>200.00</u>
Total Maintenance Expense	1,532.21
 New Clubs	-2.89
311 Paraphernalia	<u>80.00</u>
Total New Clubs	77.11
 Postage Expense	348.93
313 Postage Excluding Bulletin	828.85
314 Postage Meter – Postage Labels	43.32
Post Office Box	<u>191.10</u>
Total Postage Expense	1,412.20
 Printing -Outside	
315 Stationary	50.37
323 Roster & Contests & Awards	<u>1,632.12</u>
Total Printing – Outside	1,682.49
 Supplies	40.64
312 Office Supplies	<u>580.53</u>
Total Supplies	621.17
Total MD19 GENERAL OPERATIONS	16,334.39
 MD19 INSURANCE	
330 Auto	5,526.95
331 Building	<u>3,290.00</u>
Total MD19 INSURANCE	8,816.95
 PERSONNEL	
Payroll Expenses	1,177.30

Medical	10,608.24
Payroll – Bulletin Editor	1,548.14
Payroll Admin. Assistant	20,587.13
Payroll Exec. Director	<u>26,927.85</u>
Total Payroll Expense	60,848.66
Payroll Taxes	285.60
Company FICA	3,041.90
Company FUTA	9.28
Company Medicare	711.41
Company SDI	403.72
Company SUI	<u>456.28</u>
Total Payroll Taxes	<u>4,908.19</u>
Total PERSONNEL	65,756.85
PROPERTY TAXES	
350 Property	<u>4,591.73</u>
Total PROPERTY TAXES	4,591.73
SUPPORT-CLUB, ZONE, DISTRICT	
360 Bulletin – MD19	87.00
Bulletin Postage	<u>58.00</u>
Total 360 Bulletin – MD19	145.00
366 Council Chairperson Expense	988.37
367 DGE, VDGE & ZCE Training	255.35
DGE & VDGE Fares	9.25
DGE & VDGE Hotel	120.00
DGE & VDGE Mileage	<u>1,089.64</u>
Total 367 DGE, VDGE & ZCE Training	1,474.14
368 Exec. Director Expenses	1,224.63
369 Awards & Trophies	853.01
Council Meetings Expense	
361 Vice District Governors	589.66
362 Fall (Annual)	<u>1,923.36</u>
Total Council Meeting	2,513.02
VDG Expenses – Dist. Cabinet Meetings	<u>262.50</u>
Total SUPPORT – CLUB, ZONE, DISTRICT	7,460.67
Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expense	1,297.09
ZONE CHAIR	
380 ZC Expenses	200.00
ZC Badges	661.50
ZC Fares	40.00
ZC Hotels	60.00
ZC Mileage	<u>765.99</u>
Total 380 ZC Expenses	1,727.49
381 ZC Annual Convention	321.15
ZC Fares	30.80
ZC Hotel	<u>151.88</u>
Total 381 ZC Annual Convention	508.83
382 Awards	<u>21.11</u>
Total ZONE CHAIR	2,257.43

Total Expenditures	195,985.37
NET OPERATING REVENUE	-47,048.82
Other Revenue	
Ask My Accountant	<u>11,150.50</u>
Total Other Revenue	11,150.50
NET OTHER REVENUE	11,150.50
NET REVENUE	\$-35,898.32

**MD19 Lions International
 Statement of Financial Position**

ASSETS	TOTAL
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
5061829130 PplsBnk – Bldg Reserve (MM)	14,762.57
604444632660 PplsBnk – Checking	33,069.85
6047311870 PplsBnk – MD19 Resv	47,865.47
6047542607 PplsBnk - CD Bldg Reserve CD	25,000.00
Columbia Bank – Lions Reserve	-0.87
Columbia Bank Checking – CARE US	17,321.97
GIC #009 Non-Redeemable 18 mo	42,142.17
Petty Cash	-100.00
Royal Bank (CARE)	10,117.34
Royal Bank (Checking Account)	151,993.22
Royal Bank Checking (US Dollars)	23,315.03
Royal Bank GIC #0011 NonRedmbl 4.65per ann 1yr5days	20,000.00
Royal Bank GIC #005 One Year Cashable 3.0%	8,631.30
Royal Bank-Inv Prime Link GIC#5	<u>0.00</u>
Total Bank Accounts	393,118.05
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	0.00
CARE Receivable	4,581.00
Other Receivable	<u>0.00</u>
Total Accounts Receivable	4,581.00
Other Current Assets	
12100 Inventory Asset	-4.10
Building Fund Receivable	0.00
Inventory	555.00
Prepaid Expenses	0.00
Prepaid Taxes	<u>0.00</u>
Total Other Current Assets	555.00
Total Current Assets	398,249.95
Fixed Assets	
Building Fund	
Accumulated Depreciation – Bldg	-117,192.33
Building	87,214.00
Improvements	46,858.67
Land	55,000.00
Maintenance Equip	0.00
Parking Lot	<u>5,959.33</u>
Total Building Fund	77,839.67

Operations Fund	-20.00
Accumulated Depreciation	-41,221.96
Auto	27,730.66
Computer Equipment	2,609.12
Furniture & Fixtures	6,785.19
Office Equipment	<u>8,621.21</u>
Total Operations Fund	<u>4,504.22</u>
Total Fixed Assets	<u>82,343.89</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	480,593.84

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	<u>0.00</u>
Total Accounts Payable	0.00

Credit Cards	
VISA	<u>0.00</u>
Total Credit Cards	0.00

Other Current Liabilities	
Accrued Payroll	0.00
In/Out	-5,914.39
Other Payable	1,353.13
Payable to 19-H	0.00
Payable to CARE	-1,832.72
Payroll Taxes Payable	
FUTA Payable	0.00
Medicare Payable	0.00
Payroll Liabilities	0.00
SDI Payable	0.00
Sui Payable	0.00
X941	<u>0.00</u>
Total Payroll Taxes Payable	0.00

Pension Payable	<u>5,325.05</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	-1,068.93

Total Current Liabilities	-1,068.93
----------------------------------	------------------

Long-Term Liabilities	
Auto Purchase / Payment	<u>0.00</u>
Total Long-Term Liabilities	0.00

Total Liabilities	-1,068.93
--------------------------	------------------

Equity	
3000 Opening Bal Equity	0.00
Building Fund Equity	72,911.33
CARE Equity	0.00
Escrow Accounts	3,524.14
19O Escrow RBC	-401.23
19S Escrow	-165.24
X19-A Escrow Accounts	
19-A Escrow US	-7,927.97
X19-A Escrow Leo RB	0.00
X19-A Escrow RB	15,984.07
X 19-A Receivable US	<u>0.00</u>

Total 19-A Escrow Accounts	8,056.10
X19-B Escrow US	5,403.35
X19-C Escrow US	8,710.12
19-C Receivable US	<u>0.00</u>
Total X19-C Escrow US	8,710.12
X19-D Escrow Accounts	
19-D Escrow RB	12,446.81
19-D Escrow US	<u>-6,895.10</u>
Total X19-D Escrow Accounts	5,551.71
X19-E Escrow Accounts	
19-E Escrow RB	6,851.83
19-E Escrow US	<u>-4,629.09</u>
Total X19-E Escrow Accounts	2,222.74
X19-F Escrow US	17,135.27
X19-G Escrow US	8,159.94
19-G Receivable US	<u>-395.39</u>
Total X19-G Escrow US	7,764.55
X19-H Escrow Accounts	0.00
19-H Escrow RB	24,555.94
19-H Escrow US	<u>-3,751.24</u>
Total X19-H Escrow Accounts	20,804.70
X19-I Escrow Accounts	-246.51
19-I Escrow RB	11,352.96
19-I Escrow US	<u>-7,634.38</u>
Total X19-I Escrow Accounts	3,472.07
Total Escrow Accounts	82,078.28
Retained Earnings	362,571.48
Net Revenue	-35,898.32
Total Equity	481,662.77

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY 480,593.84”

2024 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION REPORT by PZC George Sim, Chairperson:

“LCICon will take place in Melbourne Australia, June 21 to 25.

Registration is open via the LCI website. The one major change this year is there is no MD19 designated hotel. The registration website will give you options to choose from so that you can pick a hotel that best suits you!

Once you have registered please advise the MD19 office and/or George Sim so that we know who will be attending. LCI will not share this information with us due to their privacy policy.

We will be posting information on our Facebook page.... **MD 19 Down Under** ...so if you are on Facebook, please like our page so you can keep up to date with our information.

We have also created a **WhatsApp** group to share information prior to and while in Melbourne so please include your cell phone number when you advise us of your registration. And if you are not already using this app you will need to download the **WhatsApp** app on your phone.

When preparing for Melbourne, keep in mind it will be winter in Australia. The average temperature in Melbourne in June is 49 to 58 degrees F (9-14 degrees C).

A parade uniform will be shared with you once confirmed with the COG. Contact me at:
georgesim@shaw.ca Cell: 778 838 8727

DISTRICT SUPPORT TEAM REPORTS

LEADERSHIP REPORT by PDG Frank Bega, GLT:

"This year we have been focusing on strengthening the role of the multiple district Global Action Teams. A strong GAT at the multiple district level adds value to the districts. The GAT should be leading the way in providing the tools and resources District GATs need to be successful.

For example, the multiple district Global Leadership Team Coordinator should be working with District GLTs to help them provide the training they need in their area. The Multiple GLT doesn't do the training necessarily but helps coordinate the training resources in terms of FDI and LCIP graduates available in the multiple to do the training. In the event these resources are not available, the Multiple GLT needs to work with LCI leadership development to advance these resources in the multiple.

The idea is to leverage our resources and talents to serve a greater group of people. The multiple Global Membership Chairperson works with the District GMTs to help them with member satisfaction and retention efforts. While the multiple Global Service Chairperson helps provide opportunities for service."

MEMBERSHIP REPORT by PCC Hal Palmer, Chairperson (GMT): (Oral Report)

Oral report can be heard on Zoom recording of Council of Governors' Meeting of February 17, 2024, on the MD19 Lions website: lionsmd19.org.

SERVICE REPORT by PDG Peggy Harriman, (GST):

Oral report can be heard on Zoom recording of Council of Governors' Meeting of February 17, 2024, on the MD19 Lions website: lionsmd19.org.

OLD BUSINESS

BOY SCOUT LAWSUIT by PCC JD Nellor (Oral Report)

Full oral report can be heard on Zoom recording of Council of Governors' Meeting of February 17, 2024, on the MD19 Lions website: lionsmd19.org. Gist is the lawsuit is currently on hold.

MD19 TAX RETURN, by PDG Steve Staudinger, Chairperson: (Oral Report)

Full oral report can be heard on Zoom recording of Council of Governors' Meeting of February 17, 2024, on the MD19 Lions website: lionsmd19.org. A letter was written to appeal the late filing fine for the tax return of June 2022 by PID Anne Smarch. Earlier in the month of February the IRS acknowledged the penalty appeal and will have an answer within 60 days.

NEW BUSINESS

EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS by PDG Harry Lippincott:

"February 3, 2024
Peter Anderson
MD19 Executive Director

Peter,
Last year when I filed for reimbursement for attending the MD19 Annual Convention in Surrey, BC it came to my attention that the anticipated reimbursement was less than what I thought was authorized.

I am requesting the COG review the motion I made at MD19 Annual Convention in Penticton (Oct 2022) regarding an increase in reimbursement for those authorized. My motion in Penticton was:

MOTION: A motion was made by District Governor Harry Lippincott, 19-E and seconded by PDG Ken Ball, 19-H to increase to \$0.50 cents a mile for travel (currently \$0.35) and \$75 per night for hotel (currently \$60.00) for Zone Chairperson expense to be factored into the 2023-2024 MD19 Budget. Motion passed.

At Penticton, the intent of my motion was to have the reimbursement amount to be the same for those eligible to claim, not for just the Zone Chairpersons.

Since the motion was recorded as being just for Zone Chairperson it results in an inequity for others eligible for reimbursement.

Please add to COG schedule for re-visiting the motion.

Respectfully submitted,
IPDG Harry Lippincott
District 19S (formerly District 19E.)”

MOTION: A motion was made by PDG Harry Lippincott, 19-E and seconded by District Governor Joel Hagen, 19-O to increase reimbursement to .50 cents per mile for travel and \$75.00 per night for all Lions authorized per the Rules of Audit effective immediately. Motion passed.

COLLECTION OF DUES VIA E-TRANSFERS by PDG Steve Staudinger and ED Peter Anderson:

Many clubs are requesting to do e-transfers to pay club dues. Since many requests are from Canadian clubs, many of whom do not use cheques, the MD19 Office would like to try, on a trial basis with Canadian Lions Clubs only, e-transfers for dues collection. We do send e-transfers to some Canadian Zone Chairpersons at \$1.50 per transaction fee, but this amount is cheaper than to cut a check and mail from the U.S.

The Council decided that this is an MD19 Office administrative decision, so no further action was taken.

INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEETING: by PID Allan Hunt:

Oral report can be heard on Zoom recording of Council of Governors' Meeting of February 17, 2024, on the MD19 Lions website: lionsmd19.org.

MD19 PARADE UNIFORM FOR MELBOURNE by PZC George Sim:

Looking at several options due to what we might expect weather wise in Australia, during the time of year we will be there for the 2024 International Convention. Our thinking was to use our current MD19 shirt (lime green) and have a jacket to cover it for cooler weather. Looking at two choices of jackets – light or dark blue. The light blue jackets are already purchased and are going to be used during the International Board meeting in March. The darker jackets have a hood and is heavier for about the same cost as the light blue.

MOTION: A motion was made by VCC Patty Allen-White and seconded by PDG Lia Versaevel, 19-I to go with the heavier dark blue jacket for the 2024 International Convention parade uniform. Motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

MD19 Distinguished Service Award nominees needed by April 30, 2024

MD19 Spring Council of Governors May 23-24 Silver Reef Casino, Ferndale, WA

MD19 Annual Convention May 24-25 Silver Reef Casino, Ferndale, WA