



## 2021 Winter Council of Governors Environment Committee Report

“Sustainably protect and restore our environment to improve the well-being of all communities.”  
 One of five service goals-Lions Clubs International.

2020 has been a challenging time for all of us. We are roaring into 2021 with optimism and energy as the Environmental Chairs are working to meet the challenges of the pandemic and climate crises. This Lions Year, 2020-2021, six Lions serve as the Multiple District 19 Environment Co-Chairs and work closely with the Environment Chairs for each District. This makes an Environment Team of 14, that meets monthly on GoToMeeting, hosted by Council Chair Al Hedstrom and Lion Nancy Messmer.

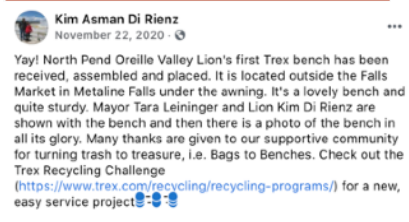
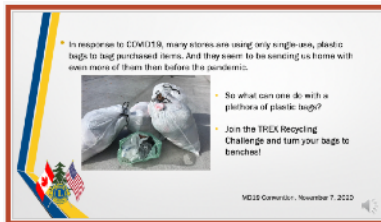
**Connections.** Connecting is a theme of our work and is the key to increased service and effectiveness. Making connections in our communities and across our whole Multiple District 19 (British Columbia, Washington, N. Idaho) requires new thinking and skills. The Environment Chairs are reaching out to Lions within our own Clubs and Districts, linking people and projects, problem-solving our way through the actions needed to serve our communities. We use telephone calls, email, websites, Facebook, YouTube, Lion channels, and all of the ways we can brainstorm to stay connected.

**Survey Coming Your Way.** Our purpose: assist Lions increase effective environmental service and link Lions to great ideas. Feature Lions doing interesting projects. We are asking for your help in completing a survey online, asking you to consider your Club activities and mark projects you do on a survey. Projects happening within our District are listed. We will gain information about activity throughout the Multiple District, and we hope you will learn about a variety of projects you might want to launch with your Club. All Lions in MD 19 are invited to complete the survey. Watch for it. It will come within the Saturday newsletters.



Eric Muira [ericlynnvalleylions@gmail.com](mailto:ericlynnvalleylions@gmail.com). Lynda Davidson [lmag@shaw.ca](mailto:lmag@shaw.ca). Enoch Rowland [kleenwell@juno.com](mailto:kleenwell@juno.com).  
 Nancy Messmer [able@olypen.com](mailto:able@olypen.com). Bob Johnson [bobjohnson39@live.com](mailto:bobjohnson39@live.com). Kim Di Rienz. [kdirienz@hotmail.com](mailto:kdirienz@hotmail.com)

**Service Feature: Bags to Benches.** PDG Kim Di Rienz worked with two members of her club, North Pend Oreille Valley Lions Club, to accomplish the Trex Challenge of collecting at least 500 pounds of soft film plastic (like grocery bags) and delivering it to a participating recycling partner within a six-month period. As a reward for meeting the challenge, they received a Trex bench for the community made of recycled plastic. Her team is continuing to work on two additional challenges for each of the participating towns. Several Clubs in MD 19 are now taking up the Trex Challenge.



**Convo 2020.** We Lions are learning to conference in the virtual world. We are a group that is learning as we go, treating each other kindly as we learn new ways and solve technical difficulties together. The Environment Team offered a live workshop, “World is on Fire-How Do Lions Make a Difference” by Dr. Nancy Messmer, Dr. Barak Gale, and Bob Johnson. As well, PDG Kim Di Rienz and Nancy Messmer offered on-demand videos: “Bags to Benches” (<https://youtu.b/9HMYacDLzH8>) and “Lions Beach Cleanups: Effective & Safe” (<https://youtu.be/MKiP85D-IS4>). In a couple of sessions, Eric Muira and CC Al Hedstrom explained the Covid Campaign, our new communication tool to connect Lions and ideas. In the virtual space of the convention, the Environment Stewards team offered a number of articles of interest, and hope to move these to a website when possible.

**District Newsletters.** We are hoping that District Governors will include an Environment Service Update in each newsletter. Environment Chairs will be submitting a monthly article with information specific to the district and including information from around MD 19. The team works from a Dropbox of shared information so that we can share ideas around the Multiple District. Alvina Seid and Karen Poon write Environmental Tips monthly. Angus Benedict writes monthly about re-using, recycling and re-purposing items. Bob Johnson summarizes District environmental activity in his columns. We hope to connect efforts in one district with efforts in others.

*Please complete the Environment Service Project Survey when you receive it. Your Environment Team*



**Covid Campaign: Saturday newsletters by email to all 10,000+ Lions in MD 19. Lions share good ideas for do-able service projects with each other. Wonderful way to connect us.**



Eric Muira [ericlynnvalleylions@gmail.com](mailto:ericlynnvalleylions@gmail.com).  
Nancy Messmer [able@olypen.com](mailto:able@olypen.com).

Lynda Davidson [lmag@shaw.ca](mailto:lmag@shaw.ca).  
Bob Johnson [bobjohnson39@live.com](mailto:bobjohnson39@live.com).

Enoch Rowland [kleenwell@juno.com](mailto:kleenwell@juno.com).  
Kim Di Rienz. [kdrienz@hotmail.com](mailto:kdrienz@hotmail.com)