

MD19 Leo Report

“2018, a Fantastic Leos Year”

Congratulations to District “A”, welcome to a new Leo Club the “Vancouver Pioneer Leo Club” an Alpha Leo Club. This new Leo Club brings our Leo club count to 30 clubs in Multiple District 19. The leadership and hard work required to Charter a new Leo club makes this an outstanding fete. Congratulations to District “A”, DG Grace Hwo and Leo Advisor PZC Elaine Luk and all our new Leos.

This year we had 7 nominations for “Leo of the Year” a 40% increase over last year, it was inspiring to have some competition in two of the Districts. Seven outstanding Leos were nominated “all are winners”. We had five “District Leos of the Year Awards” from Districts “A” Leo Jeffery Peng, “C” Leo Nate Blanchard, “D” Leo Simon Dufresne, “E” Leo Dylan Smith and Leo Andreas Camp (co-winners), “H” Leo Alejandra Jahns. One of these exceptional Leos has been in addition been nominated for and won “MD19 Leo of the Year Award”, awarded by Lions International and our Council Chairman John Whitman to be presented in October at the Fall Convention. I would like to thank DG Grace Hwo for producing the beautiful District, Leo of the Year certificates for each District winner.

I just want to point out what I personally feel is an unfair inequity in the “Leo of the Year Award” nominating procedures. An individual District not in a Multiple District can nominate and receive a “Leo of the Year Award” even if they only have one Leo club in the District. In a smaller geographical area with a Multiple District to the south of us or anywhere, with say only nine Leo Clubs can again nominate and receive a “Leo of the Year Award”. Our Multiple District 19 H of B.C., Washington and Northern Idaho has a geographical area larger than Alaska, Texas and another small state combined and we have “30 Leo clubs” and we are allowed only one “Leo of the Year Award”. Personally I would like to see the nominating process weighted the same as our International and MD voting 1 to 10 clubs, one “Leo of the Year”, 10 to 20 Leo Clubs, 2 “Leo of the Year” nominations, and in our case 30 Leo Clubs we should receive 3 Leo of the Year nominations and so on. This method of nominating would be more fair and equitable. I hope to bring this forward to the Leo advisory panel at LCI and to the International Board of Lions International.

This year International President Naresh Aggarwal instituted a new “ Leo Leadership Presidential Award for Service, Membership and Leadership in their communities, and we had Two Leos nominated and am proud to announce we had two International “Presidential Medal Award Winners”. Leo Alejandra Jahns, from Walnut Grove Leo Club, District “H” and Leo Nate Blanchford of the NHK Vikings Leo Club, District “C”, Only one hundred of these awards were given and for our MD to have two winners is fantastic. Two winners out only 100 awards and 175,000 Leos World Wide is a very special accomplishment, we are blessed with very strong dedicated Leo Advisors leading our outstanding Leos. Congratulations to both these outstanding Leos and their Leo Advisors, without whom none of this would be possible.

*****Amended Late entry: Leo Courtney Stokes of Terry Fox Leo Club has also won the President Aggarwal's, Leo Leadership Presidential Award, giving MD 19, 3 of these prestigious Awards out of 100, to have three winners is better than FANTASTIC,,,congrats again Leos and Leo Advisors,,,,,in the future please notify the Leo Chair what was won.....LCI won't....*****

Still to come this year is the “Leo Club Excellence Award” and from what I have seen this year we have many top quality Leo Clubs that qualify and all that needs to be done is some more paperwork. Entries have to be in to Lions International by August 15, 2108, if we nominate them they will make us proud and `WILL WIN` the Excellence Awards. My ask of you is to make sure we don't let our Leos down by not doing the paperwork, get the nominations into LCI. Thank you.

The administration and service to run all our 30 Leos takes a great deal of Lions energy every one of our "30 Leo Advisors" deserves our heartfelt thanks and respect for their service to our youth and Lions. Leos and Leo Clubs are one of the special things Lions do to serve our communities. Keep up the good work get your Leos more involved in Lions and Leo Service projects, make them indispensable to your Lions Club and your community. They only want to serve.

This year has presented our MD with some special moments, our special Leo/Lion Kyle Boutillier and for what I believe is the first time, the MD had a Leo ,Kyle, attend "Leo Day at the United Nations" in New York, He spoke for 40 minutes in the rotunda at the UN on Leo/Lions service especially our Diabetes program.. Kyle is also a member of the LCI "Leo Advisory Panel" that advises the International Board regarding Leo issues and has a great future as a leader in our Lions family.

Which brings me to the next order of business, which is to remind all Lions, Lions Clubs, Leo Advisors that we need to be sure to tell all Leos, they are welcome to join Lions when they graduate from their Leo Clubs. The energy and fun and youthful strength will revitalize each club that answers this challenge to ask Leos to "Join us in Service". " Leos to Lions Transition" will make a remarkable change for the VERY POSITIVE in each and every Lions Club that has the courage to take the step.

All this and I haven't even talked about all the many Community Service projects and Fund Raising projects and Donations Leos have made/done this year. Many Leo Clubs actually perform more service projects than some of our Lions Clubs and while doing their own service projects they find the time over the year to help their Sponsor Lions Clubs. I really recommend inviting your Leos to help with Lions projects they will tackle any task with enthusiasm and youthful strength something , us older Lions need help with and I include myself in that statement.

Leo Advisors don't forget to send in your next year's executives to LCI sooner than later.

I wish you all a fantastic summer and a grateful Thank You for your Service to our Leo Youth.

Yours in Lions

Submitted Respectfully

Barry Shiles

MD 19 Leo Chair.