

MAY NEWSLETTER

The Season of Renewal and Community Care

Dear Friends and Community Members,

Spring is in full bloom, and so is our excitement to reconnect with you! We know it's been a little while, but we're back—and better than ever—with fresh updates, new energy, and a whole lot of inspiration to share. So grab a cup of coffee (or tea!), settle in, and let's catch up on all the wonderful things happening at the Lions Foundation of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario.



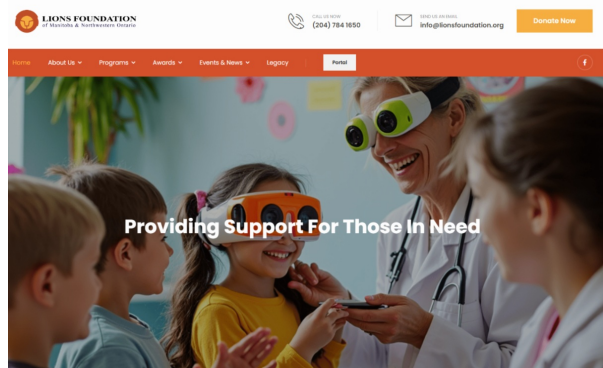
LIONS FOUNDATION
of Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario



**Needs met,
lives improved**

Our Website Just Got a Fresh New Look!

We're thrilled to start this season with some exciting news: our updated website is now live! Explore our refreshed look, discover more about our programs, meet the team, and stay up-to-date on the incredible work happening across Manitoba and Northwestern



Ontario.

It's now easier than ever to learn about how we serve, who we support, and how you can get involved. So go ahead—click around, get inspired, and see how your support is making a difference every day.

[Explore Now](#)

Rooted in Service. Growing in Hope.

For over 40 years, the Lions Foundation has been helping people across Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario lead healthier, fuller lives. What began as the Lions Disability Fund for Children has grown into a trusted charitable organization, powered by an incredible network of Lions Clubs, generous donors, dedicated volunteers, and community partners. Together, we're building a region where everyone feels seen, supported, and empowered.

Our Four Pillars of Support

Serenity Suites

Affordable, fully furnished accommodations for individuals and families travelling to Winnipeg for medical care.

Simply Sound

Creating accessible hearing initiatives for people experiencing hearing loss.

Giving Glances

A quick, easy way to detect early vision issues in children, with help from local Lions Clubs.

Helping Hands

Financial support for medical travel, rehabilitation, mobility equipment, and more—bridging the gaps in healthcare coverage.

[Learn More](#)

□ We also collect and recycle eyeglasses and hearing aids for people in developing countries. As of 2024, over 63,000 pairs of eyeglasses and 500 hearing aids have been sent worldwide.

Giving Glances Spotlight:

KidSight – Changing Lives One Look at a Time

Imagine a child starting school, full of curiosity and potential—yet struggling to learn, not because they lack ability, but because they simply can't see clearly. Vision problems can quietly limit a child's development, and by the time they're noticed, it may



already be too late.
That's why the Lions KidSight program matters so much.



For nearly a decade, our dedicated volunteers from the regional Lions Clubs have been delivering free, hands-free vision screenings to children across Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario. From infants as young as six months old to teenagers, this quick and gentle screening only takes seconds, but it can change the course of a child's life.

Our teams bring this life-changing service directly into daycares, schools, and public events, using advanced screening cameras that detect signs of serious conditions like amblyopia, strabismus, cataracts, and even eye cancer—often before any symptoms are visible.

Just one screening can make the difference between a future of missed opportunities and a lifetime of clear, confident learning.

One of our recent screenings, the Tiny Tots event, was specifically designed for children aged 2–5. Thanks to the care and compassion of our volunteers, dozens of little ones now have a clearer path ahead—and their families have peace of mind.

To every Lion and volunteer who lends their time to this incredible program: thank you. Your kindness helps kids see a brighter world—and that's a gift beyond measure.

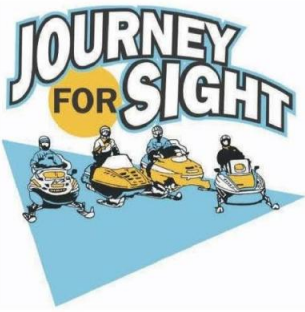
It's important to remember that Lions KidSight is a non-profit initiative, and the specialized equipment used for screenings is funded entirely through donations. If you'd like to help us continue offering this essential service and give more children the gift of sight, please consider making a donation today.



**Support KidSight
Today**

Journey for Sight – 40 Years of Going the Extra Mile





Since 1983, snowmobile riders in Manitoba have hit the trails each winter to raise funds and awareness for the Foundation. This year, just 11 riders raised an incredible \$53,000+ during their weeklong journey from Dauphin to Brandon.

Over four decades, *Journey for Sight* has raised nearly \$2.5 million—a testament to the unstoppable spirit of our volunteers and the generosity of Manitobans.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone involved—you truly warm the hearts of those in the coldest months.

Parade of Green – Strength in Unity

At District Conventions across our region, Lions Clubs came together not just in celebration, but in support. We're thrilled to share that the Foundation received over \$30,000 through this year's Parade of Green efforts!

A Huge Thank-You To The Districts:



Your contributions make life-changing work possible every day.

☐ *Don't forget—individual and club donations are tracked, and awards like the Hope Medal or Decibel Award can be presented to recognize outstanding contributions. To learn more, please visit our website or contact us at info@lionsfoundation.org. And please let us know when you present an award—we love keeping our records (and hearts!) up to date. 😊*

Winter is Coming to Ukraine – Warmth Across Borders

In 2024, we were proud to support an initiative close to our hearts—providing heating and cooking stoves to families in Ukraine. Thanks to your compassion, we raised \$23,600, enough to purchase 104 stoves for those in need.

Your kindness travelled halfway around the world — and made a world of difference.



Meet Our Team

At the heart of the Lions Foundation is a small, passionate team dedicated to making a big difference. Whether coordinating support, connecting with partners, or keeping things running behind the scenes, we're united by a shared commitment to compassion, care, and community service.

We may be few in number, but we believe in the power of purpose and the strength of the Lions' spirit. Together with our incredible volunteers, donors, and Lions Clubs across the region, we work daily to help make lives brighter.



Yulia Zmerzla
Executive Director



Karen Beaudoin
Administrative Assistant



Maryna Radyk
Fundraising and Marketing
Coordinator

Why Your Support Matters

Thanks to your support, thousands of children and adults have received vital services—a place to stay during treatment, a hearing aid that restores sound, a pair of glasses that opens up the world, or financial support for their treatment.

The Lions Foundation of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario envisions a future where everyone can access the care they need, regardless of age, background, or circumstance.

When we come together—Lions Clubs, donors, volunteers, and community partners—we create stronger, healthier, more inclusive communities.

Help Keep Lives Bright

Your generosity fuels everything we do. Donating any amount helps bring care, comfort, and hope to someone in need. Contribute today and be

part of a community changing lives—one act of kindness at a time.

[Donate Now](#)

We'd Love to Hear from You!

Lions Clubs and members, we see the incredible work you do — and we want everyone else to see it too!

We would be honoured to highlight your stories of success, community care, and impact. If you have photos, memorable moments, or inspiring stories from your club's activities, please don't hesitate to share them with us.

By shining a light on your work, we help others understand the incredible impact Lions make every day—and remind the world that real heroes are among us.

Feel free to connect with us at info@lionsfoundation.org if you'd like to contribute or have any questions. We can't wait to hear from you!

***With heartfelt thanks,
The Lions Foundation Team***



Contact Us

info@lionsfoundation.org
(204) 784-1650



Lions Foundation of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario | 320 Sherbrook St | Winnipeg, MB
R3B2W6 CA

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email & social marketing for free!