

Dear Chair Helmer, and Civic Works Committee Members,

Please accept this letter as our request to receive delegation status for an upcoming meeting of the Civic Works Committee. The London Central Lions Club members participate in many fundraising initiatives as we strive to raise funds to help the less fortunate in our community. I myself have been a lifelong member of Lions Clubs International, the largest Service Club in the world. *The London Central Lions Club, the third oldest Lions Club in Canada, was chartered in May 1921.* As a member of the London Central Lions Club, I and my colleagues were very interested in your recent approval of the Kindness Meter Initiative (KMI).

We would like to applaud the Civic Works Committee and City Council for their support of projects such as the KMI. By supporting individuals and groups in their fundraising initiatives we see the ability to directly improve services and quality of life for many individuals. Through the KMI – monies raised will be going towards community groups who provide services to individuals experiencing poverty and homelessness.

As a charitable organization, the London Central Lions Club has supported many different projects such as collecting, over 20,000 pairs of reading glasses for donation, donating to the London Public Library READ program, purchasing service animals for Londoners in need, building and sponsoring a building at the London Safety Village, and even donating the miniature train at Springbank Park to the City of London (at the time in 1990 – the PUC), not to mention the Mission Services London, London Food Bank, George Bray Society, The Ivey Eye Institute and St. Josephs Hospital.

We have been active in our community for 95 years, and hope to continue doing good work for London for the next 95. At this time, we would like to request the donation of two surplus meters to incorporate them into our ongoing fundraising efforts. Through the discussions we saw with the KMI, we understand that there are many surplus meters at this time, and that there is little revenue generated if these are disposed of via typical decommissioning channels. Should it be necessary, the London Central Lions Club would be willing to purchase the meters.

Similar to the KMI, we would like to utilize these meters to assist with fundraising. However, we would like to use these in a portable method (mounted on a portable stand) to accompany the Lions Club at many of our existing fundraising ventures. If approved, the meters will be painted appropriately in Lions colors of purple and gold and used as a promotional asset, perhaps beside a large Lion caricature “Lionel” that we plan to make to use in a “portable mode” at one of our more successful fundraising efforts, that being BBQ sales in the London

area. We would hope to have “Lionel” available so that when the children, with their parents approach the BBQ’s it would catch their attention , make a donation and even have their picture taken with him. We are hoping that it may also serve as an innovative recruiting tool to entice more men and women to join our great organization, which by the way is celebrating 100 years service this year. We also see other opportunities to incorporate these meters...and Lionel, when attending functions at the local hospitals we support and many other venues to fundraise additional revenues.

As the London Central Lions Club representative involved in this effort, I am available anytime to attend the CWC to personally explain our concept and hopefully receive consideration as if approved, it will take some time to get “Lionel” and the meters painted and prepared for the spring season start.

Thank you for your consideration of my request,

Mr. Walter Grieve
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London On