## Governor Steve's Winter Message

With the Christmas season just passing and the New Year upon us, it is time to look back at the last six months of the Lions year, and see just what we have done as Lions. We have worked hard in our communities to make them better places to live. We have worked raising money at Fall Fairs, Bingos, and Raffles etc. All of this so that we could donate the monies to those less fortunate. Lions have lent a hand to improve community park trails, and have helped out other service organizations such as Good-Fellows, Community Chest and others with cash and helping hands, all of this in the name of service. So yes I think that we the Lions can be proud of what we have done so far but as we all know service to the community whether local district or national and yes globally is a never ending task. With over 1.35 million Lions helping out those less fortunate around the globe, our service makes a difference and knowing that Lions make a difference should make us all proud.

With six months to go in the Lions year we must still keep moving forward to make our communities better. Yes, that means more fund raisers, and more labour but we should not lose sight of the fact that we can have fun as we work. We have supported various foundations and organizations so far but we all realize that we can't stop now. Our District Foundation "Eyes Right" will be having a parade of cheques at the next Cabinet Meeting and it would be nice to have every Club in the District participate at this time with a donation, after all this is our Foundation and it helps all of the communities within A-1 and beyond by providing essential equipment that you or your neighbours may need one day. Along with this challenge it is once more time to think about our youth exchange program. PZC Lion Curtis & PDP Lioness Carol will be looking for donations (financial and manpower) to help with the camp so please keep this in mind. They will also be looking for host families for the incoming youth so please consider helping them out. These youth are coming to our country and District to experience what life is like in Canada. From them you will learn about their country and some of their traditions. This is great way to learn how small this planet really is.

As you know this Lions year we were challenged to plant 1,000,000 trees. We have surpassed this number globally by over 5x, but our District and many others have not really yet started to participate. Now is the time to plan for your clubs participation in this world wide project, so please let's get ready to do our part and leave a legacy of trees for future generations

The year is half over but there are many challenges ahead of us and I Believe that we can meet them and exceed them. As Lions we can be proud of our service to others; we the Lions provide help to those in need, no matter where help were its needed.

Lion Steven Mahovlich District Governor