

# Canadian CLERC (Canadian Eyeglass Recycling Center)

Cabinet Report  
October 12, 2017

Last year CLERC shipped 494,000 pairs of eyeglasses to areas all over the world. Eyeglass collection goes right back to our roots as Lions to our call from “Helen Keller” to be “Knights of the Blind”, AND it’s our easiest service project, with the most worldwide impact for good. Imagine being able to again read a book to learn, to see at school for a young child, for a grandmother to see her children again after being blind or vision impaired. We Lions provide these opportunities.

Shipping from Vancouver Island and B.C. is going along smoothly, we now no longer ship from Kamloops north with Manatoulin trucking(no longer free shipping), so Banstra trucking continues to be our community partner in northern BC to Edmonton from there our community partner is Day & Ross, then to CLERC Calgary. On Vancouver Island our community partner is ColdStar and on the lower mainland Versa Cold. Both these Lions Community Partners are very committed to our vision of community service and service to mankind especially those sight impaired in need. Versa Cold and ColdStar work closely together on a daily basis so shipping is seamless.

There are other glasses being collected by Lions and shipped on missions and eye care camps in third world countries that are only now coming to light, these missions fulfill the service criteria and should be credited to our overall program of sight, sight conservation and sight restoration. I personally only know of about 10,000 to 15,000 pairs that go to these missions and eye camps.

I ask all Lions clubs that collect glasses to continue their efforts and where possible enlarge their network of community partners. I ask all clubs that do not collect used eyeglasses to consider starting this worthwhile EASY Lions Project.

Now the hard part: CLERC Canada, Calgary, runs a deficit every year, only last year covered by an access to a Casino which netted them \$25,000 to cover the short fall. All Lions clubs in District “H” and District “I” benefit from the hard work by CLERC please add CLERC to your clubs budgets and send them a donation to offset their expenses and address their yearly deficit.

Now the great part of being CLERC Chair. CLERC was contacted by Kevin, he wanted to get involved in eyeglass collection. Little did we know that Kevin is the Chief Administrative Officer for “Image Optometry” and they have become our newest community partner. Image has 17 stores in the lower mainland of BC and two stores on Vancouver Island. They have offered to place collection boxes in every store and ship to a central store location for ease of pickup by Lions. I look forward to working with “Image Optometry” in the future and this means we will have increased access to used glasses.

I am attaching CLERC’s fiscal year-end report, with all their stats and expenses.  
“Next Year” we will go over 500,000 pairs collected and shipped to those in need.

Submitted Respectfully  
Yours in Lions  
Barry Shiles  
MD19 CLERC Chairperson