

WHAT SQUAMISH LIONS HAVE DONE OVER THE PAST 60 YEARS

The Squamish Lions club was the first service club to be established in our town. One of the first projects the Squamish Lions took on was the acquisition and supply of ambulance services, dating back to 1957. Among the many creative projects undertaken were giant community Bingo games, light bulb sales, followed by scrap metal drives, and breakfast and lunch cookouts.

With regard to past organizing of the Squamish Days Parade, two VIP's of note that attended were Chief Dan George and musician Dal Richards.

Wives of Lions members turned out to help at many events such as Loggers Sports Timber Queen contest, chaired for many years by Hilda Rizun (husband Steve was a Lion). There was a period of time that the Lions members' wives held their own meetings to plan and present their projects.

Squamish Lions hosted (for several years) young girls from war-torn Northern Ireland to give them an opportunity to experience life playing outside (front yard, street) without guns and bombs exploding around them. The lead on this initiative was Doreen Ramus, but it was her husband who was the Lion. Lions was a way of life during the early days of the Squamish Lions Charter.

As Squamish Lions grew Pemberton people took note and decided to form their own club, with the Squamish Lions as the sponsoring club. To accommodate the large number of people travelling to Pemberton, a special train was provided to travel from Squamish and return. Needless to say, many people rode in style to attend the Pemberton inauguration.

Lions was a way of life during the early days of the Squamish Lions Charter.

Serving the community in other ways the Squamish Lions built ramps in homes to facilitate inclusive access, completed minor house renos for needy

families dealing with a newly disabled person, vehicle repairs for low income single mom family with a child of multiple disabilities, transportation assistance, gifts of food vouchers, and donations of money and toys to Community Christmas Care.

Many events had their beginnings with the Squamish Lions. Other notable events were the RCMP Musical Ride, Lions Journey for Sight, Camp Squamish Cleanup Days, 1957 Thunderbird Classic car raffle, Loggers' Sports Breakfasts, Callaghan Valley Chili fundraiser, Howe Sound Secondary School annual bursaries, support for 'burnt out' families, purchase of equipment for Search and /rescue, equipment purchase for Squamish Fire and Rescue, sold cash calendars as a fundraiser, financial help for individuals, provided basketball hoops at RCMP Station, sponsored RED CROSS blood donor clinics for many years, Dining in the Dark, Squamish Food Bank, and Helping Hands to name some of our support activities.

As Squamish Lions grew Pemberton people took note and decided to form their own club, with the Squamish Lions as the sponsoring club. To accommodate the large number of people travelling to Pemberton, a special train was provided to travel from Squamish and return. Needless to say, many people rode in style to attend the Pemberton inauguration.

The Squamish Lions Club has been very active in our community in addition to supporting the International Lions Organization's goals – remember the devastating tsunami in Southeast Asia several years ago, floods, forest fires, and refugees – and we hope to remain active for many more years.

The Squamish Lions Club truly lives up to its motto: WE SERVE! Where there is a need, there is a Lion.



Squamish Lions Present a Cheque to Camp Squamish from the proceeds of the 60th Anniversary Celebration



Lion Pres Mike Chats with Easter Seal Camp CEO Charlene Krepiakevich



Lion Mike Jenson Receives A Melvin Jones Award

Prepared by Nelson Winterburn May 29, 2017