



We Serve

We Inspire



Welcome to the

NEW LION YEAR

1ST JULY TO 30TH JUNE

A NEW YEAR.
A NEW BEGINNING.
A GREATER COMMITMENT.

*Stronger Together.
Greater Impact!*



SERVE
with Heart



LEAD
with Vision



INSPIRE
with Action



TOGETHER
We Make a Difference

*Here's to a year
of Service,
Friendship
and Success!*



MARKHAM MANTRA LIONS



President 2026 - 2028



As I step into my new role as President I am aware that I have big shoes to fill. It is my great honour and privilege to be the president of this small but dedicated and energetic group of individuals, all with unique talents and one common goal, to lead and serve.

one initiative which touches on each area of Lions International's focus and drives lionism.

With all of that being said one cannot be naive as there will be many challenges and some will be beyond our control. However, this is more of a reason for me to encourage the membership and other Lions to find a way to adapt and work around them. Together, we will bring new ideas to the table and make this one of the greatest Markham Mantra years yet.

In closing, I must say I am truly humbled and honoured to serve as your president this year. I look forward to working closely with the board and each member as we all move forward with the Lions International Motto "WE SERVE

I look forward to a challenging and productive year using all of our collective skills and creativity to accomplish new and innovative ways to serve Markham and the world.

Thank you for your continuous support and encouragement. I would have never been here without the influence of each of you over the last few years. You have all played an active role in my growth as a Lion and I will and hope to continue to inspire each of you in a little way every day as a changemaker.

Sincerely,

Lion Harry Dhingra

President (2026-28)

I have been an active Lion member for 14 years and a Markham Mantra Lions Club active member since inception of this Club and I have seen the Club's growth and many accomplishments.

Our mission, as part of the world's largest service organization, hasn't changed. Our motto "We Serve" is the same. Our Lions Club, one of 48,000 around the world, will continue to serve our communities and the world.

This year, I plan to set further higher standards for our club. I acknowledge my goals are also my members' goals and together we will accomplish as many as we can. We are a determined bunch of individuals with diverse vocations and it is quite honestly an amazing feeling to witness and work alongside my membership. We've had our fair share of ups and downs, but which family doesn't? And that's what we are...a family.

We will actively work to increase our membership numbers because Each One, Bring One is an initiative that I stand strongly behind. We will build our online presence so we can continue to share all the good work we do within the community both locally and internationally. Finally, our customary areas of service; vision, hunger, and the environment will still need our best efforts. But diabetes and childhood cancer, will challenge us as never before. On the horizon we see our role in the community becoming more of an advocate for those parts of the population having difficult times, We will participate in

Mantra Lions Meeting

Members of Mantra Lions meet every first
Wednesday of the month

Venue:

Milliken Mills Community Center
7600 Kennedy Rd, Markham, ON L3R 9S5

Immediate Past President



Fellow Lions & Friends,

Being a Lion, is a different feeling, different experience, different thrill in life, which I have been enjoying since 2009. Lions motto 'WE SERVE' gives me great sense of enjoyment and inner satisfaction of doing something good for the Community.

Though I have served at various different positions in Lions Club but being President of the club from 2024-2026, gave me the honor not only to lead the club but taking the club to new heights. During this time, with the dedication, support and help of my Mantra Lions team members our club achieved DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD-2024-2025, We had the highest enrollment of new members NOT only in the club but in the District for the year-2025-2026 also.

During this period, we organized a very successful fundraising Gala with over 450 guests in Sept 2024 and remarkable MANTRA CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT in July 2025 with our 144 players, collected and Donated over \$30,000 to Kidney foundation of Canada 15,000/- to Camp Dorset. and Over \$7500/- to LCIF.

We did many service projects where we managed to collect and donated over 165 bags (3200 lbs) of used winter clothing, and donated over 10,000 lbs of Non-perishable food to Markham food Bank for our Hunger project. MMLC members also feels proud that it organised an educational seminar on Mental Health and Well-Being and entertaining fun filled evening for a Seniors club. MMLC members also planted Trees in Markham-- participating in Environmental cause of Lionism. Over all it has been a great experience-great satisfaction and sense of achievement - doing something good for the community and will continue to do so, till I am alive and capable of doing so.

"Service is not measured by the number of projects we complete, but by the number of lives we touch, hearts we inspire, and communities we strengthen." Its an honor and privilege to serve as the President of a Lions Club.

Lion Gulshan Sethi

IPP-Markham Mantra Lions Club
2024-2026

Editorial

Welcome to the second issue of the Markham Mantra Lions Club Newsletter - published proudly on July 1st, as we celebrate Canada Day and the dawn of a brand new Lions year.

Canada Day reminds us why we serve. It is a celebration of diversity, compassion, and the collective spirit



that defines us as Canadians. As Lions, these are not just national values — they are our values. Every food bank donation, every clothing drive, every tree planted, every senior entertained is our way of honouring the country we are proud to call home.

This issue carries special significance. We bid a heartfelt farewell to outgoing President Lion Gulshan Sethi, whose two-year tenure was nothing short of extraordinary. Under his leadership, Mantra Lions earned the prestigious District Governor's Club Excellence Award, achieved the highest new member enrollment in the entire District, and raised over \$52,000 - supporting the Kidney Foundation of Canada, Camp Dorset, and LCIF. Over 10,000 lbs of food donated to Markham Food Bank, 3,200 lbs of winter clothing collected, trees planted, seniors entertained, and mental health awareness raised. The numbers speak - but the lives touched speak louder.

As Lion Gulshan reminded us - **"Service is not measured by the number of projects we complete, but by the number of lives we touch."**

Now we turn the page. Incoming President Lion Harry Dhingra - a proud 14-year Lion and Mantra member since inception - steps forward with vision, humility, and determination. Lion Harry plans to touch every pillar of Lions International's focus: vision, hunger, environment, diabetes, and childhood cancer, while championing membership growth through the Each One, Bring One initiative and building our digital presence to share our story with the world.

He acknowledges challenges lie ahead - but sees them as fuel, not friction. His belief is simple: together, this family finds a way.

Happy Canada Day. We are energized. We are united. The best is yet to come.

Lion Darshanjit Badrain

Editor, Markham Now
Marketing Chairperson

Mantra Now

Serving with Compassion * Community * Service * Leadership

Email: markhamlions@gmail.com

Lions International President - 2026-2027



MARK S. LYON
PRESIDENT

Mark S. Lyon, from Brookfield, Connecticut, USA, was elected to serve as first vice president of Lions Clubs International at the association's 107th international convention held in Orlando, Florida from July 13 through July 17, 2025. Prior to his retirement in March 2024, Vice President Lyon has worked in corporate legal administration and financial services with several major corporations and banks for over 40 years. As a long-time resident of Brookfield and an active volunteer in his community, church and local government, his connection with Lions was already well established before he became a member of the Brookfield Lions Club in 1996. Since then, he has held a number of offices within the association, including international director, multiple district council chairperson and multiple district GLT coordinator. He was also appointed as a member of the LCI Forward project team, a Global Action Team area leader, a District Governor-Elect Seminar group leader and board liaison to the 2019 USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum Executive Committee. Vice President Lyon has also served as presenter, faculty and participant at countless training events and leadership forums throughout the years. In recognition of his service, he has received multiple International President's Awards and International President's Certificates of Appreciation, as well as an International President's Leadership Award. Vice President Lyon is also a recipient of the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the association bestows upon its members. Additionally, he has been recognized as a Connecticut Knight of the Blind and a Connecticut Ambassador of Sight, and is the recipient of a number of project and service-related certificates. In addition to his Lion activities, Vice President Lyon has been active in numerous professional and community organizations. He has served on the board of directors for the Silver Lake Conference Center and Wide Horizons for Children. He was an associate member of the American Bar Association and a past member of the Association of Legal Administrators, the Society of Corporate Secretaries and Governance Professionals and the Shareholder Services Association. Vice President Lyon is a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. His wife, Lyn Lyon, is also a longtime Lion and Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. They are the proud parents of three incredible daughters. R – 2/25



Lions Press Center



Khalsa Aid International to Receive 2026 Lions International Humanitarian Award

May 4, 2026 – Lions International has named Khalsa Aid International as the recipient of the prestigious 2026 Lions International Humanitarian Award, recognizing the organization’s extraordinary leadership in global humanitarian relief and disaster response.



Brazilian Student Adriene Mirelly da Silva Wins 2025-2026 Lions International Peace Essay Contest Grand Prize Efforts

April 23, 2026 – Adriene Mirelly da Silva, a 13-year-old student from Palmares, Brazil, has been named the grand prize winner of the 2025–2026 Lions International Peace Essay Contest, sponsored by the Palmares Lions Club.



From Neighborhoods to Nations: Lions Clubs International Unites People to Protect the Environment

April 20, 2026 – Around the world, Lions Clubs International members are planting trees in neighborhood parks, cleaning up local waterways and leading recycling efforts in their cities.



13-Year-Old Student from China Named Grand Prize Winner of Lions International Peace Poster Contest

April 16, 2026 – Lions International is proud to announce that 13-year-old Yifan He of Dalian, China has been named the Grand Prize Winner of the Lions International Peace Poster Contest.



Mantra Lions in Action



Tree Planting for a Greener Tomorrow

Our members joined forces with community volunteers to plant hundreds of trees, helping to create a healthier and greener environment for future generations.



Partnership with York University Markham Campus



Mantra Lions Planting Trees



Food Donation Drive at Markham Food Bank



OUR IMPACT

3200 lbs +
Clothing Donated

10,000 lbs +
Food Donated

\$35,000 +
Kidney Foundation + LCIF

Mantra Now

Serving with Compassion * Community * Service * Leadership

Email: markhamlions@gmail.com



Honoring Dedicated Service

We Celebrate Lion Gulshan Sethi for his outstanding leadership and years of selfless service to our community and club.

“Together, every act of service helps build a stronger and more compassionate community.”



Happy Birthday!



Wishing all our Lions a wonderful year filled with joy, good health, success, and continued happiness.

Thank you for all you do!

★ Birthday Greetings to Our Lions ★



Lion Vinny Maker

07/13



Lion Sudha Verma

08/29



Lion Sonya Bhandari

08/05



Lion Shams Bangash

09/03



Lion Jasmeet Singh

08/05



Lion Gurminder Lamba

09/06



Lion Darshan Badrain

08/09



Lion Jason Dhingra

09/25



Lion Sima Shah

08/06



Lion Gulshan Sethi

09/30

**Your dedication, kindness,
and leadership make our club
stronger and our community better.**

Happy Birthday & Best Wishes!

Together, we serve. Together, we inspire.

Mantra Now

Serving with Compassion * Community * Service * Leadership

Email: markhamlions@gmail.com

Markham Mantra Board 2026 - 2028



President:
Lion Harry Dhingra

Member Since: 2012
Profession: Commercial
Realtor
Email:
harrydhingra@hotmail.com
Phone: 416-239-8822



1st Vice President:
Lion Bobby Maker

Member Since: 2023
Profession: Business
Email:
bobby.maker@cpvmgroup.com
Phone: 416-303-5300



2nd Vice President:
Lion Rajeev Chopra

Member Since: 2025
Profession: Business
Email:
Phone: 416-858-8052



Secretary:
Lion Shushmita
Sharma Tiwari

Member Since: 2024
Profession: Community
Advocate & Speaker
Email:
Shushmita@sharmatiwari.ca
Phone: 647-795-2123



Treasurer:
Lion Dinesh Virmani

Member Since: 2025
Profession: CGA
Email:
dvirmani.cga@gmail.com
Phone: 416-799-8288



Club Admin:
Lion Ruby Dhingra

Member Since: 2012
Profession: Entrepreneur
Email: sethig@gmail.com
Phone: 519-841-8634



**LCIF coordinator/
PDG / GST:**
Lion Sudha Verma

Member Since: Nov 2008
Profession: Real Estate
Broker
Email:
sverma@lionsa16.com
Phone: 416-318-5544



Membership Director:
Lion Vinny Maker

Member Since: 2023
Profession: Business
Email:
vinny.maker@cpvmgroup.com
Phone: 416-435-4492



Marketing Chairperson:
Lion Darshanjit Badrain

Member Since: 2025
Profession: Pharmacist
Email: dbadrain@gmail.com
Phone: 647-975-4994



**Tail Twister &
Club Director:**
Lion Bhupinder Gosain

Member Since: 2010
Profession: Chartered
Accountant
Email: gosain2011@gmail.com
Phone: 416-219-0744



**Immediate Past
President:**
Lion Gulshan Sethi

Member Since: 2009
Profession: Retired Private
Banker
Email: sethig@gmail.com
Phone: 416-729-6019



EARLY BIRD

Exclusive Table prices

GALA FUNDRAISER

September 19 2026

PRESENTED BY



SUPPORTING



**MARKHAM
CAMPUS**

SUPPORTING



**Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION**

EARLY BIRD TABLE OF 10

~~\$2,500~~

\$1,500

~~\$2,500~~

\$2,000

June 1st - July 31st, 2026

August 1st - August 31st, 2026

\$2,500

September 1st - September 15th, 2026

Single Ticket price at any given time \$250
Exclusive prices from MMLC members for you.



We Inspire

Future Leaders and
Stronger Communities



We Empower

Through Education
and Opportunity



We Serve

Our Community with
Passion and Purpose

Save the Date

September 19 2026



**MARKHAM MANTRA
LIONS CLUB**

GALA FUNDRAISER

2026

An Evening to Inspire and Serve



SUPPORTING

YORK
UNIVERSITÉ
UNIVERSITY



**MARKHAM
CAMPUS**



We Inspire

Future Leaders and
Stronger Communities



We Empower

Through Education
and Opportunity



We Serve

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SAVE THE DATE

Sep 19 2026 - 6PM, Borgata
Banquet Hall, Vaughan



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lionsclubmantra.com

