

# GIVING BACK

## Lions celebrating 60 years of serving

The Alberni Valley Lions Club is celebrating 60 years of service in the Alberni Valley. Created on September 24, 1955 by a group of men who wanted to volunteer their services to the betterment of the citizens of Port Alberni and its surrounding region, the club has grown over the years to include both men and women.

What is the Lions Club and what do we do? We are a service club with a motto "We Serve." We volunteer our time and energy to assist our fellow citizens. We raise funds for our community and we donate these funds to individuals and groups with need, for our second motto is "those with greater need." In our six decades we have contributed financial resources to the hospital for specialized equipment; joined in the development of the Multiplex; provided charitable assistance to individuals with emergency needs; built or provided equipment for the development of Lions Roger Creek Park including the bridge; donated grants to Christmas Charities; sponsored bursaries for students at ADSS, VAST, North Island College and the Justice Institute Paramedic Program; hosted the Pancake Breakfast to kick-start Seniors Weeks; organized the Terry Fox Run; sponsored the annual youth Heritage Fair; financed and barbecued at the annual Seniors residential care picnic; partnered with other groups to bring families the summer's open-air Starlight Movie Night; and, given aid to groups to support those who are disadvantaged, such as: Kid Sport, Special Olympics, Food for

Learning, Coats for Kids, 'Stock the Lockers', School Bands & Sports programs, Raise a Reader, Folkfest. Our involvement with Salmon Festival is well known, as we provide traffic control for the fireworks and host the ever popular Bullhead Derby for children & their families.

Our newest project involves bringing a Vision Screener to the Valley. This instrument, the size of a camera, will allow us to assist families assess the vision needs of their children without cost. If vision therapy is needed, families will be able to take the results to their optometrist. In time, other groups of citizens will benefit from SPOT screening.

We, the Alberni Valley Lions, serve proudly the community in which we live.

Interested in becoming an active member and volunteer on our team? Contact any Lion member or email



membership chair Rob at [roblion@telus.net](mailto:roblion@telus.net) to discuss your wishes. While we meet every second and fourth Tuesday for dinner at The Hospitality Inn from 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm, atten-

dance is by invitation. Anyone interested needs to know that there is an annual cost associated with membership. But, if you are still interested, give us a call.