

Lions Eyeglass Recycling Project

Together with our partners in service in District N-3, the Canadian Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centre, the Multiple District, and the Department of Justice, we are now operating a satellite eyeglass recycling facility at the Bishop's Falls Correctional Centre ("BFCC").

Training took place with Lions Anne and Darryl from Calgary on September 1st and we were delighted to host them at the Lion Max Simms Memorial Camp. We have two donated CLERC lens meters in operation by the inmates there.

Correctional officers and inmates have eagerly embraced the program and production of glasses has started. We are hoping that some of the finished product will go to Haiti, and the rest will be trucked to Nova Scotia. The multiple is working on a transportation system from Bishop's Falls to Nova Scotia. Starting in October, Clubs in both N-3 and N-4 are following a single system for eyeglass collection by individual Lions Clubs. Please note all collected eyeglasses (shipments of any size) can now be dropped off in bulk at one of the following locations:

Her Majesty's Penitentiary (St. John's)

NL Correctional Centre for Women (Clareville)

Bishop's Falls Correctional Centre

Corner Brook Lockup (RNC Corner Brook)

West Coast Correctional Centre (Stephenville)

We have also created an exciting partnership with the RCMP with the help of Lion Boyd Merrill. Clubs now have the option of dropping off collected eyeglasses to any of the 44 RCMP detachments in the province, and the RCMP will work to ensure that the glasses get to Bishop's Falls. PLEASE DO NOT drop off large bulk shipments that would overburden the RCMP officers or take up too much space in their detachments. Please respect the enormous favour the RCMP are doing for Lions. Please advise your Clubs: if you are taking glasses to the RCMP, it is better to bring small shipments of a few boxes or bags scattered throughout the year. Bulk drop offs from Clubs in N-4 should be made to the correctional centres in Clareville or St. John's, or even Bishop's Falls if you are heading west. Please mark all boxes clearly as "Eyeglasses for Transport to Bishop's Falls Correctional Centre." No changes to packing the boxes are necessary (ie) pack the glasses as you did before. This system was designed to prevent stockpiles building up in individual Clubs and in people's sheds and homes for long periods of time. It will also eliminate the mound of glasses that people are sometimes forced to lug back

from conventions, and to ensure there is a steady stream of glasses to Bishop's throughout the year