



NANAIMO LIONS CLUB

Vision Screening
Program

We Serve

Purpose of Meeting

- To update New Board Members and Your new Superintendent about the Lions Vision Screening Program
- Screening Provided to SD#68 since 2015
- Cancelled last year citing lack of Space and Staff availability
- We wish to seek your approval to reinstate this

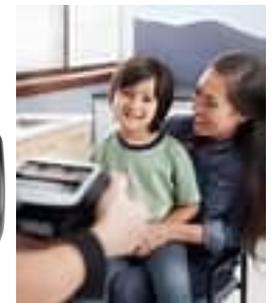
Lions Club International

- Lions are men and women dedicated to serve those in need whether in their own community or around the world
- Nearly 1.4 Million Members
- In over 200 countries
- More than 46,000 clubs
- We undertake many money raising activities
- All of it goes to initiatives to help people in need



Nanaimo Lions Club

- Our Nanaimo Club has undertaken several major projects over the years :
 - Mafeo Sutton Park Band Stand
 - Lions Great Bridge in Mafeo Sutton Park
 - Support to Children's Musical Bands
 - **Vision Screening**
 - Free Skate Program – Served over 70K Skaters in 13 Years
 - Free Swim Program
 - Bursaries and Scholarships to SD68 Graduates (8K/Yr)
 - SD#68 Food Safe Course and Summer Job Classes 2.5K)
 - Donations to Island Health initiatives



Vision Screening

- Vision is Identified by our International Club as a Service Priority
- Our club has been doing this in SD#68 since 2015
- We identify this as a major activity for the club
- We have equipped the club for this and have several of our members trained and certified
- SD#68 was very first in Canada to implement this after device was approved for Use by Canadian Government
- Our purpose here today is to request the School Board to establish a policy to undertake screening programs in its Schools

Vision Screening Equipment

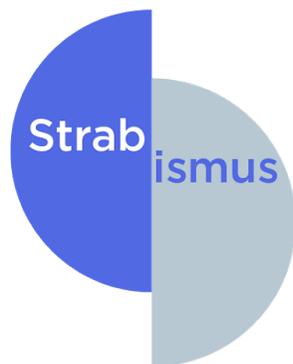
- Walsh Allyn Camera



Myopia
Myopia

Hyperopia
Hyperopia

Astigmatism



Screening Measurements

- Myopia* - Near sighted
- Hyperopia* - Far sighted
- Astigmatism*
- Anisometropia* - difference in Refractive power
- Amblyopia - lazy eye
- Strabismus* – eye misalignment
- Anisocoria* – significant difference in Pupil size
- Ptosis - Lid Droop – Indicates possible neurological problem
- Cataract
 - * measured by Camera

Optometrist Support

- Optometrists support Vision Screening and use the same equipment in their missions abroad
- Optometrists highly support general screening of young children
- Island Health has a mandate to test Kindergarten Kids to catch deficiencies while still treatable
- Since Covid period, this has not been done and it is therefore even more important to do this in the schools

Qualification of Lions Screeners

- All Our Screeners have received a **Training Program** by an Optometrist and a Nurse Screener
- All have taken **tests**
- All have been **certified**
- All Screeners have had a criminal records check

Efficacy of Instrument

- Instrument is demonstrated to be 95% Correct when set to 80% Sensitivity
- Our role is not to diagnose but simply to Identify where a child should be referred to an optometrist



Access to Children

- While we access children in different settings, schools are by far the most efficient
- Kidsight Canada recommends testing children at a young age and we would prefer Grade 1.
- We have tested children in Grade 4 and Grade 7 before, where Island Health was testing Kindergarten children

Results From Past Years Experience by Lions

- Year 2023-2024 in SD#68
 - 18 Schools tested In 2023-2024
 - 749 Tested, 53 Referrals -- 7.1%
- Year 2022-2023 in SD#68
 - 29 schools tested
 - 1678 in Grades 4 and 7 tested
 - 128 Referred – 7.6%

Benefits to Children

- Help Children See Better !
- Remove Vision Impairments from Learning Challenges
- Behavioral Challenges



Dissemination of Results

- We can be flexible with this to be in accordance with the wishes of the School Board
- Normally, we provide a printout for referrals only (Note: child would not be told of results directly by us)
- To ensure privacy we would make these reports available to the school (Principal) to pass on confidentially to parent
- In the interests of Privacy, we would erase our measurement results at the completion of the tests

Facilities and Support from Schools and Staff

- Minimal Requirements
- Prefer the School advises parents of tests and offers parents opportunity to opt out. We could provide letter.
- Need some coordination with teacher but class disruption should not be significant (whole class less than an hour)
- Lions can set up and manage logistics of getting child for test
- Tester needs only a small private space such as a room, hallway, with some control of lighting

Request to School Board

- Help Lions with our Screening Program and our Commitment to Help Children
- Establish a policy which can provide certainty and process that is consistent with the needs of the schools, principals and teachers
- Policy need only be that SB endorses and authorizes Vision Screening, and establishes coordination between Lions Club, SB Administration, and elementary school Principals.
- Conduct measurement program in the new school year 2025-26