

# Convention Report *the* Proceedings *of*

The 48th Dominion Convention  
The Royal Canadian Legion  
Virtual  
13 - 15 August 2021

OUR MISSION IS TO SERVE  
VETERANS, WHICH INCLUDES  
SERVING MILITARY AND  
RCMP MEMBERS AND THEIR  
FAMILIES, TO PROMOTE  
REMEMBRANCE AND TO  
SERVE OUR COMMUNITIES  
AND OUR COUNTRY.





---

IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE RECORDED  
THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE 48TH DOMINION  
CONVENTION OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
ASSEMBLED VIRTUALLY. CONTAINING THE  
CONVENTION REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS  
APPROVED BY THE DELEGATES, IT IS OF  
CONSIDERABLE PRACTICAL AS WELL  
AS HISTORICAL VALUE AND SHOULD BE  
PRESERVED FOR FUTURE READY REFERENCE.

---

# DOMINION COMMAND OFFICERS

---

## PATRON

Vacant

## HONORARY OFFICERS

### Grand President

L. Murray, CM, CMM, CD

## DOMINION HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

Vacant

## DOMINION HONORARY CHAPLAIN

Brigadier-General Guy Bélisle, MB, MSM, CD

## DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

### Dominion President

T. Irvine, CD

### Dominion First Vice-President

B. Julian

### Dominion Vice-Presidents

A. Stanfield

O. Parkhouse

B. Weaver

### Dominion Treasurer

M. Barham

### Dominion Chairman

B. Chafe

### Immediate Past Dominion President

D. Flannigan

## PROVINCIAL COMMAND/ SPECIAL SECTION PRESIDENTS

### British Columbia/Yukon

V. MacGregor

### Alberta-NWT

J. Mahon

### Saskatchewan

K. Andrews

### Manitoba & NWO

J. Lava

### Ontario

G. Pond

### Quebec

K. Ouellet

### New Brunswick

T. Campbell

### Nova Scotia/Nunavut

M. Fryday-Cook

### Prince Edward Island

D. MacEwen

### Newfoundland and Labrador

N. Lehr

### President of the Tuberculous Veterans' Section

K. Merola

### OSI Special Section

J. Carleton


## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

S. Clark

# DOMINION COMMAND PAST PRESIDENTS


---


 Lieutenant—General  
Sir Percy Lake  
British Columbia, 1925—1928

 Lieutenant—General  
Sir Arthur Currie  
Quebec, 1928—1929

 Lieutenant—Colonel  
Leo R. LaFleche  
Ontario, 1929—1931


 Major John S. Roper  
Nova Scotia, 1931—1934


 Brigadier—General Alex Ross  
Saskatchewan, 1934—1938

 Lieutenant—Colonel  
W.W. Foster  
British Columbia, 1938—1940


 Alex Walker  
Alberta, 1940—1946

 Major—General C.B. Price  
Quebec, 1946—1948

 Lieutenant—Colonel  
L.D.M. Baxter  
Manitoba, 1948—1950


 Group Captain Alfred Watts  
British Columbia, 1950—1952

 Dr. C.B. Lumsden  
Nova Scotia, 1952—1954

 Very Reverend  
John O. Anderson  
Manitoba, 1954—1956

 David L. Burgess  
Ontario, 1956—1960


 The Honourable  
Justice Mervyn Woods  
Saskatchewan, 1960—1962


 His Honour Judge  
C. C. Sparling  
Manitoba, 1962—1964

 Fred T. O'Brecht  
Ontario, 1964—1966

 Ronald E. MacBeath  
New Brunswick, 1966—1968

 Robert Kohaly  
Saskatchewan, 1968—1970

 The Honourable  
Justice Redmond Roche  
Quebec, 1970—1972

 Robert G. Smellie  
Manitoba, 1972—1974

 Robert D. McChesney  
Ontario, 1974—1976

 Douglas McDonald  
Ontario, 1976—1978

 Edward C. Coley  
Alberta, 1978—1980

 Al Harvey  
Newfoundland, 1980—1982


 Dave Capperault  
Ontario, 1982—1984

 Steve Dunsdon  
British Columbia, 1984—1986

 Anthony Stacey  
Ontario, 1986—1988


 Gaston Garceau  
Quebec, 1988—1990

 Fred Williams  
Newfoundland, 1990—1991

 Jack Jolleys  
British Columbia, 1991—1994  
  
Hugh M. Greene  
Alberta, 1994—1996

 Joseph Kobolak  
Ontario, 1996—1998

 Chuck Murphy  
British Columbia, 1998—2000

 William (Bill) Barclay  
Saskatchewan, 2000—2002

Allan Parks  
Prince Edward Island,  
2002—2004

Mary Ann Misfeldt  
British Columbia, 2004—2006

Jack Frost  
Ontario, 2006—2008

Wilfred Edmond  
Nova Scotia, 2008—2010

Patricia (Pat) Varga  
Saskatchewan, 2010—2012

Gordon Moore  
Ontario, 2012—2014

Tom Eagles  
New Brunswick, 2014—2016

Dave Flannigan  
Newfoundland 2016 – 2018

---

 *Designates deceased*



THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

## TESTAMENT—ARTICLES *of* FAITH

### • The First Part •

**W**HEREAS THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION was founded upon principles, which endure today, and will serve well all who belong or may belong in the future including, among others:

- 🍁 A solemn remembrance of Canadians who gave their lives so that our nation might be free.
- 🍁 Loyalty to the sovereign and to Canada.
- 🍁 Safeguarding the rights and interests of the disabled, the widows or widowers and dependants and all who served.
- 🍁 Maintaining our right to encourage our people and nation to every reasonable support to peace at home and throughout the world.
- 🍁 Maintaining in and for Canada the rule of law, encouraging the national and united spirit, ordered government, and striving for peace, goodwill and friendship between Canadians and among all nations.
- 🍁 Advocating the maintenance in and by Canada of adequate defences.
- 🍁 Retaining the spirit of comradeship forged in wartime and nurtured in peacetime to the benefit of the history and unity of the nation.

**AND WHEREAS** throughout the history of the Legion certain values have endured to the benefit of the veteran segment, the Ladies Auxiliary and their chosen successors, all to the credit and benefit of the Canadian community.

**AND WHEREAS** it is the recognized duty of each segment, the one to the other, to perpetuate The Royal Canadian Legion and its principles, facilities and programs for the general welfare of our nation now and in the future.

**WE, THE UNDERSIGNED** for ourselves and representative of our segment of The Royal Canadian Legion, covenant and renew our obligations to each other and to the nation and do solemnly declare:

## REMEMBRANCE

**THAT THOSE WHO DIED** in the service of the nation will always be remembered together with their widows and widowers. We will remember them.

**THAT REMEMBRANCE DAY** shall remain and be reverently observed on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of each year by us and our successors. Lest We Forget.

**THAT THE SACRIFICE** made by so many shall not be in vain and we shall strive to maintain unity in our nation, together with our constant endeavour to promote and maintain peace, goodwill, and friendship within our country and throughout the world, so that all citizens may be worthy of the sacrifice they made.

## JUST RIGHTS

**THAT THOSE WHO SURVIVE** and need our aid may be assured of reasonable and adequate assistance.

## LOYALTY

### THAT WE MAINTAIN OUR LOYALTY

to the reigning sovereign and to Canada and its people to stand for ordered government in Canada and decline membership or to discontinue any membership to anyone who is a member of or affiliated with any group, party or sect whose interests conflict with the avowed purposes of The Royal Canadian Legion or support any organization advocating the overthrow by force of organized government in Canada or which encourages or participates in subversive activity or propaganda.

## COMRADESHIP—SERVICE

### THAT OUR ORIGINAL BASIS OF

common service and sacrifice expressed in comradeship shall survive among us and our community so that the ideals for which so many laid down their lives will be fulfilled.

## MEMBERSHIP

### THAT THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

remain strong and united. That those who served or are serving or have served in the armed forces of our country together with their widows or widowers and dependants and such others as from time to time are admitted and subscribe and continue to subscribe to our purposes and objects, shall be encouraged to belong provided always that we shall remain democratic and non sectarian and not affiliated to or connected directly or indirectly with any political party or organization.

**THAT SO LONG AS** veterans remain, or their widows or widowers, that they shall be fully and adequately represented in all the councils of The Royal Canadian Legion. Future ex-service persons shall enjoy the same privileges in perpetuity.

## SYMBOLS

**THE POPPY** is our emblem of supreme sacrifice and must forever hold an honoured place in our hearts and image immortalizing as it does our remembrance and honouring of those who laid down their lives for ideals which they, we and all Canadians rightfully

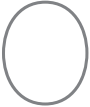
cherish. It shall challenge us to serve in peace, as in war, to help those who need our help, and to protect those who need and deserve our protection. The cross of sacrifice, on appropriate occasions, is symbolic of the same worthy principles of remembrance.

**THE TORCH** shall remain symbolic of justice, honour and freedom throughout our land. These were the principles for which our comrades fought and died. We of today and tomorrow covenant to hold it high lest we break faith with those who died. Justice, honour and freedom are our charge for now and forever. We serve best by fostering these principles in ourselves, our children and their children so long as The Royal Canadian Legion shall survive.


**OUR BADGE** is symbolic of our loyalty to our sovereign, our support to our nation in our worthy citizenship and our remembrance for our fallen comrades and fellow Canadians of like principles.

**OUR FLAG** being the Canadian Flag, is representative of our nation both at home and abroad. We will uphold it ourselves and forever teach respect for it by our successors, within and without the Legion. At the same time, we will remember our historical association with the union flag and the red ensign.

### • The Second Part •

 **OUR SUCCESSORS** shall themselves learn and pass to their successors these principles including, when necessary, our best services in times of great need, our unique strengths to our family and community, and the worthiness of remembering their contributions in their continuing time.

### • The Third Part •

 **WE, INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY**, guarantee we will be true to these principles and, subject only to the limits prescribed by democratic law, teach and hand down them to our continuous successors without reduction but with enhanced values.

# INDEX

48TH DOMINION CONVENTION REPORT	8	MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE	27
CANVET PUBLICATIONS LTD.	123	NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	76
CENTENARY COMMITTEE	68	OSI SECTION	71
CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE	143	POPPY <i>and</i> REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE	22
CONSTITUTION <i>and</i> LAWS COMMITTEE	57	PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE	31
CREDENTIALS REPORT	145	RCEL COMMITTEE	51
DEFENCE <i>and</i> SECURITY COMMITTEE	47	RESOLUTIONS	148
DOMINION CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE	146	RITUAL <i>and</i> AWARDS COMMITTEE	54
DOMINION COMMAND OFFICERS	3	SPORTS COMMITTEE	36
DOMINION PAST PRESIDENTS	4	TESTAMENT – ARTICLES <i>of</i> FAITH	5
DOMINION PRESIDENT’S REPORT	12	TUBERCULOUS VETERANS SECTION	69
DOMINION TREASURER’S REPORT	79	VETERANS CONSULTATION COMMITTEE	63
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – DOMINION COMMAND	100	VETERANS, SERVICE <i>and</i> SENIORS COMMITTEE	15
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CANVET PUBLICATIONS LTD	125	ONLINE RESOURCES TO REPORTS AND ADDRESSES	157
GOING FORWARD COMMITTEE	65		
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE	67		
INDEX <i>to</i> RESOLUTIONS	147		
LEGION NATIONAL FOUNDATION	141		



## REPORT OF THE 48TH DOMINION CONVENTION

Virtual  
Friday, August 13 -  
Sunday, August 15, 2021

The 48th Dominion Convention of The Royal Canadian Legion took place virtually, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and inability to meet in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, as originally planned. The theme of this year's Convention was *"Unity is our Strength...Together, Serving Canada's Veterans and Communities."*

The Convention year aligned with the 100th anniversary of the Poppy as the country's symbol of Remembrance. On July 6, 1921, Mme. Anna Guérin of France had presented the concept to raise funds and promote Remembrance. Her story was one of a variety of video stories and historic pieces that punctuated the workshops and other live presentations throughout the three days.

The Legion's National Headquarters' Director of Corporate Services Danny Martin worked with an audio-visual company from Toronto, to oversee the design and implementation of the milestone virtual event. Because of the online format, some ceremonial components were eliminated or modified. Guest speakers provided pre-recorded remarks as did many Committee representatives.

Many colleagues across the country gathered at Command headquarters or other sites to view presentations and discuss Convention elements as a group.

### HIGHLIGHTS

Discussions and voting, guest presentations, committee reports and the installation of a new Executive team marked the days. Several operational highlights stood out, as follows:

- The Legion's first ever virtual Convention accomplished its most critical goals: naming new Senior Elected Officials, voting on resolutions to help guide the organization, sharing accomplishments and updates, and providing educational tools.
- Educational workshops attracted an especially high number of delegates – over 600 people

were recorded as having "tuned in" during the first day's workshops.

- At the time of printing a total of \$290,574 was raised during the Convention to support Veterans in the Caribbean through the Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League.
- While a significant technical issue disabled the expected voting process during the Saturday session, the problem was fixed and voting procedures moved to Sunday.

### BY THE NUMBERS

- 883 registered delegates
- 1384 proxy votes
- 184 observers
- 15 guest speakers
- 22 reports presented
- 17 resolutions passed
- 5 workshops
- 3 days

### WORKSHOPS

Information workshops were held by National Headquarters staff and other invited guests during the first day of the Convention. A moderated question and answer period followed each workshop.

- Communications: Public Relations, Social Media, and Marketing (Nujma Bond, Jessica Kovar, Leah O'Neill)
- Homeless Veterans (Dave Gordon)
- Membership: What's new! (Randy Hayley)
- Member Rewards (Dion Edmonds)

All recorded workshop sessions are available via the Legion membership portal.

Because of the high number of questions after each workshop, National Headquarters decided to create a summary document with answers to the questions hosted on the portal.

## GUEST SPEAKERS

Invited guests shared their greetings and updates in video format at appropriate junctures during the Convention.

All the keynote speaker presentations are accessible via the Legion membership portal. Speakers included:

**Brigadier-General Guy Bélisle**, Chaplain-General of the Canadian Armed Forces

**Mrs. Debbie Sullivan**, Royal Canadian Legion National Silver Cross Mother

**Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon**, Governor-General of Canada

**The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau**, Prime Minister of Canada

**The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay**, Minister of Veterans Affairs Canada

**Lieutenant-General Wayne Donald Eyre**, Acting Chief of the Defence Staff

**James W. “Bill” Oxford**, National Commander, The American Legion

**Una Cleminson**, National Chairman, The Royal British Legion

**General the Lord Richards of Herstmonceux**, The Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League

**BJ Clark, National President, and Marty Donoghue**, Chief Executive, The Royal New Zealand Returned and Services Association

**Major General Greg Melick**, The Returned Services League of Australia

**Brenda Pinto**, National President, Navy League of Canada

**Cathy Bach**, National President, Army Cadet League of Canada

**Hille Viita**, CD, National President, The Air Cadet League of Canada

## CONVENTION BUSINESS FRIDAY AUGUST 13

The three-day event opened with Day 1 host, Legion Communications Manager Nujma Bond welcoming online guests and introducing an

introductory video which highlighted Legion and military mission history over the years.

The day was filled with four workshop-style presentations, each one followed by a question and answer period. In addition, an update and Q and A on a class action lawsuit related to Branch insurance was provided by a legal team at Aviva.

Election candidate nominations were reviewed on this day. In addition, the audiovisual company summarized how to navigate and use the online site for general information and for voting during the remainder of the Convention.

## CONVENTION BUSINESS SATURDAY AUGUST 14

The morning opened with O Canada, the Invocation, a pre-recorded wreath-laying, and the Opening Ritual. Day 2 host, Dominion Chairman Bill Chafe introduced the plans for the day. A moment was also taken to remember those members who have passed since the last Convention.

Sincere thanks were provided to the Local Arrangements Committee that had planned for the cancelled in-person event in Saskatoon. The Queen’s Response to the Loyalty Resolution was shared, along with an opening message from Her Excellency, the Right Honourable Mary Simon, Governor-General of Canada.

Significant keynote presentations by guest speakers played during the day.

Election Presiding Officer Dave Flannigan confirmed nominations for all elected positions. When business turned to the actual voting for elected positions, resolutions, and amendments to the Constitution, an unexpected technical issue arose and prevented any virtual voting from taking place. The problem was eventually fixed, and all voting processes moved to the following day.

Also included was a status report by National Executive Director Steven Clark.

## CONVENTION BUSINESS AND ELECTIONS SUNDAY AUGUST 15

The day began with an Invocation by the Chaplain-General of the CAF followed by Day 3 host, Dominion Chairman Bill Chafe outlining the day ahead. In particular, he reiterated the process given the challenges related to voting the previous day.

After the final votes and acclamations, the Executive team included some new faces. (**Note:** the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in an extended three-year term for previous Senior Elected Officers, due to the cancellation of the 2020 Convention. This will also result in three-year terms for the new team).

**President** – Bruce Julian (acclaimed)

**First Vice President** – Owen Parkhouse

**Vice Presidents** – Barclay Lawrence, Sharon McKeown, Brian Weaver

**Treasurer** – Mark Barham (acclaimed)

**Chairman** – Bill Chafe (acclaimed)

Grand President Larry Murray presided over the installation of the newly elected Dominion officers, done for the first time in a virtual format.

Dominion President Bruce Julian highlighted his excitement at working more closely with the Legion's dedicated membership and helping to grow the Legion's appeal to new members. Immediate Past President Thomas D. Irvine spoke of accomplishments and recollections over the past three years.

The next Local Arrangements Chair Terry Campbell shared some remarks about the 2024 Dominion Convention.

The Convention was officially closed by Chairman Bill Chafe and included the Closing Ritual and Benediction.

## RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS

In total, 17 resolutions were carried, and they are listed in their entirety elsewhere in this publication. Those of note, also highlighted in a media release after the Convention, are summarized below:

- Providing a recommendation to the Federal Government to fulfil its promise to eliminate the "marriage after 60" clause.
- Making a request to Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) and the Ministry of Health to immediately produce a list of all Veterans awaiting placement in Long Term Care (LTC) facilities; and that legislation be enacted to re-designate all vacant Preferred Admission

Beds for immediate placement of waiting Veterans close to their usual residence.

- Strong advocacy on behalf of Veterans, to extend the eligibility of "VAC Contract Beds" to include all Canadian Forces Veterans.
- Legion support for Canada's Indigenous community, with their collaboration and throughout the organization, as appropriate and possible; in the wake of past injustices and loss, and in recognition of those who served and continue to serve our country.
- A call to Government by the Legion's President in the wake of concerning allegations of sexual misconduct within the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), to establish an independent Office of the Inspector General of the CAF and the Department of National Defence, reporting to Parliament.

Over the weekend portion of the Convention, pre-recorded committee and executive reports were shared by committee Chairs and Executive team as follows. Procedures reports and Chairman's remarks were provided by Bill Chafe.

- Grand President's Report (Larry Murray)
- Dominion President's Report (Thomas D. Irvine)
- Credentials Report (Bill Chafe)
- Resolutions Committee Report (Thomas D. Irvine)
- Dominion Treasurer Report (Mark Barham)
- Centennial Committee Report (Mark Barham)
- Membership Committee Report (Bruce Julian)
- Veterans, Service and Seniors Committee Report (Thomas D. Irvine)
- Poppy and Remembrance Committee Report (Angus Stanfield)
- Sports Committee Report (Brian Weaver)
- Public Relations Committee Report (Owen Parkhouse)
- Constitution and Laws Committee Report (Jim Rycroft)
- Defence and Security Committee Report (Andrea Siew)

- Ritual and Awards Committee Report  
(Ken Sorrenti)
- Legion National Foundation Report  
(David Flannigan, Sam Laprade)
- Veterans Consultation Group Report  
(Larry Murray)
- Going Forward Committee Report  
(Bruce Julian)
- CANVET Publications Report (Bruce Julian)
- Tuberculous Veterans Section Report  
(Kandys Merola)
- OSI Special Section Report (Jill Carleton)
- Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League  
Report and Confirmation of Donations  
(Thomas D. Irvine)
- Governance Committee Report (Brad White)
- Centenary Committee Report (Owen  
Parkhouse)

#### PRE- AND POST-CONVENTION MEETINGS

Plans are now in the works for the 2024 Dominion Convention in Saint John, New Brunswick.

Please note The Dominion Executive Council met before and after convention. Notes from these meetings can be found on the member portal at [Legion.ca](http://Legion.ca).

**Good morning Comrades, bonjour!**

I'm pleased we're able to meet virtually, for our 48th Dominion Convention.

To all our delegates watching...Thank you for making the effort to join us. The decisions we make at our conventions are instrumental in guiding our work.

I feel privileged to have served as your Dominion President for the past three years.... One more year than expected! This experience has meant a great deal to me, and I am forever changed by it. I have become even more impressed by the great group of volunteers the Legion is fortunate to call its members.

Since the pandemic broke out in early 2020, I've witnessed your resilience and efforts to continue serving, and fulfilling our mission. So - I want to begin by offering a sincere thank you.

Together we've accomplished some great things and I'd like to share highlights that stand out to me.

**(POLICIES & PRACTICES)**

We all know how important it is for the Legion to modernize, to move forward and to change. Both with the times, and with new circumstances. So, we created or strengthened policies in a few areas. I'll mention three.

*The first one pertains to hate and discrimination – when we learned that groups with discriminatory ideals were either booking our Branch facilities or working with our members – we put an end to it. It is now against the rules to allow such groups or people to infiltrate our organization. When in doubt, please continue to reach out to your Provincial Command or National Headquarters.*

*The next example is about Stolen Valour – I'd had enough of people pretending to be Veterans or displaying awards they did not earn. We took clear steps to remind members how the Legion handles cases of Stolen Valour - and the*

*repercussions they face if found guilty...up to and including expulsion.*

*Thirdly, while less serious in tone, we also updated the Legion's informal dress policy. Allowing informal dress when possible, makes it more comfortable for all – we now have a fresh look with a new blue shirt, and new rules to go along with it. Informal dress is now accepted under more circumstances, including during committee meetings.*

**(PROJECTS)**

I'd like to turn to some of the many projects I'm proud to have witnessed over the past three years.

*One of them is our Homeless Veterans Plan. Our goal is to help prevent and eradicate Veteran homelessness as best possible. We've taken some first steps by coming up with a blueprint based on programs like Leave the Streets Behind. It was pioneered by our Ontario Command and has led to great results so far.*

*We became a major supporter of Project Trauma Support in Perth, Ontario. Over three years, our 300,000-dollar donation helped Veterans and First Responders better cope with operational stress injuries. The program leadership came under fire earlier this year for having hired a person with a record of assault, and we had to pull out of any future support. Despite this - we are glad to know we helped improve lives and contributed to important research around "moral injury."*

*We launched Operation Harmony, a committee designed to ensure the Legion does everything it can to be an inclusive, diverse, and socially respectful organization. Still in its infancy, this committee is our organizational watchdog on this front.*

*Operation Vet Build was the brainchild of a Legion member in Ajax, Ontario, named Craig Hood. His vision of giving Veterans a safe space*



to build model planes, or cars, or tanks – became our national vision too. There are now well over two dozen groups set up across our country.

*Buddy Check Coffee*, a project of the Legion's OSI Special Section under the leadership of Jill Carleton, is another example of a peer support initiative that took off and has already helped many of our Veterans.

*We supported - and our Legion members helped deliver - Mental Health First Aid.* This program teaches people to help others who are experiencing a mental health issue or crisis. The more we learn about mental health, the better we can help others.

### (OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS)

Who could have predicted the operational stress we would face in early 2020 as the COVID-19 pandemic engulfed us like a tsunami.

*For the first time in our 95-year history*, we reached out to the federal government to help our Branches struggling with the effects of closures and lost revenues. A fantastic team effort resulted in the Veterans Organization Emergency Support Fund. We were grateful for the 14-million dollars provided to the Legion by Veterans Affairs Canada for distribution to our Branches. It helped many of them stay afloat.

*One of my goals was to see the reinstatement of the Committees of the Whole.* We now have representatives from across the country on all our committees, putting us in a better position to discuss progress, challenges and to come up with solutions in the areas of importance to us.

*Over the past few years, I've seen the Legion become a more progressive organization*, one that is moving forward with a momentum we must maintain. Change takes time after nearly 100 years of doing things the same way, but we must continue embracing it.

### (TIME AS PRESIDENT)

As President, I saw progress that I'm proud of.

*I'm proud of the direction the Legion has taken* to modernize and update our membership process using new technology to make it easier for people to join and renew. More and more Branches are using the new membership portal to welcome members. The initial hesitancy is being replaced by relief thanks to a more efficient process.

*I'm proud of our Branches for stepping up to the plate* not only when the COVID-10 pandemic emerged, but throughout lockdowns and closures across the country. Whenever they could, our Branches reached out to Veterans, raised funds, and came up with creative ways to continue to their work.

*I felt proud to meet so many exceptional Legionnaires* when I had a chance to visit every province and territory in our country – except for Nunavut – I was unable to make it coast to coast to coast. But I met countless great people!

*When I embarked upon a sponsored visit overseas*, I also met comrades in other countries, and it turned into a life-changing voyage. The Royal Canadian Legion oversees Veteran well-being in over 16 Caribbean countries. I visited our Comrades as the Canadian representative of the Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League. It was an emotional journey ... I heard touching stories, and some of them literally brought tears to my eyes. There were a few laughs too! (*Story of the man who hoped for a \$100,000 roof*).

Spending time with these Veterans made me proud to know they're our comrades, and proud to see that the donations you make are well-spent and much appreciated.

*Attending our National Remembrance Day Ceremony in Ottawa* for three years in a row, is something I will remember for life. I was privileged to spend time with three National Silver Cross Mothers, and I can tell you I was inspired by each one.

*I'm happy I experienced at least one Legion National Youth Track and Field Championship*, in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. These are amazing games, made possible by all of you. They give our youth a chance to take part in healthy competition, make new friends, and go on to compete professionally. I'm so proud of this event.

*There are many other things I could mention* - like our great advocacy work on long term care or Veteran transition. Or the new and innovative way to donate during the National Poppy Campaign through tap and pay. The list is long, and we should all be proud.

### (THE ROAD AHEAD)

So - what does the future look like?

In keeping with our Strategic Plan, we still need to increase our membership base to 300,000 before our 100th Anniversary in 2026. We currently sit at 250,000 which is still tremendous - almost a century after our inception, and with many other organizations and causes inviting volunteers and members.

We must continue to grow our membership and innovate our practices so that we can continue to serve and fulfill our mission.

### (THANK YOU)

Finally, it's hard to believe my term has come to a close - it has been a wonderful experience! I would like to thank our National Executive Director Steven Clark and our talented staff members at Legion House in Ottawa for their support over the past few years, and for their commitment to our cause.

Thank you also to our Elected Officers for your dedication.

I thank every delegate, member and guest watching or participating - and I salute those of you who could not join us. The selfless work you do throughout the year for our Veterans, families, and communities is appreciated more than you know. You are the engine that makes it all happen. We could not do it without you.

### (PRESIDENT'S AWARD)

Before I close, I'd like to share the names of eight individuals receiving the Dominion President's Award for Outstanding Service to the Legion in 2021. They are:

**Mike Cook** of British Columbia / **Jerry Vowles** of British Columbia / **Steven Sinclair** of British Columbia / **Kyle Scott** of Alberta / **General Walt Natynczyk** - Retired Deputy Minister of Veterans Affairs / **Marilyn Lawson-Dickson** of Ontario / **Dave Gordon** of Ontario / and, **Craig Hood** of Ontario.

These amazing people have gone above and beyond in their efforts to help the Legion and I thank them wholeheartedly.

### (IN CLOSING)

In closing, I wish you a fantastic Convention as you listen to new ideas, vote on new resolutions, and become part of our evolving future.

Our First Vice-President Comrade Bruce Julian will lead us into the next era of change, and I'd like to personally welcome him.

As for me, I will continue to support the Legion in other ways and will always be proud to be part of this great organization.

Thank you sincerely for your support during my term, merci beaucoup!

# REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND VETERANS, SERVICE *and* SENIORS COMMITTEE

---

T. Irvine, *Chair*  
B. Julian, *Vice-Chair*  
R. Anderson, *Member*  
J. Mahon, *Member*  
D. Gordon, *Homeless Veterans*  
G. O'Dair, *Seniors Advisor*  
L. Murray, *Ex-Officio*  
J. Carleton, *BSO Legion OSI Special Section*  
R. McInnis, *Coordinator*  
D. McCarthy, *A/Coordinator*

## INTRODUCTION

Since Dominion Convention in Winnipeg, MB in 2018, advocacy efforts have focussed on ensuring that all Veterans including members of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), RCMP, and their families are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect such that they are afforded the same benefits and services irrespective of when and where they served.

## RESOLUTIONS

Due to ministerial changes in Veterans Affairs Canada and the federal election in 2015, the response to the resolutions from the 45th Dominion Convention 2014, the 46th Dominion Convention 2016, the 47th Dominion Convention 2018 resolutions will be incorporated with the 48th Dominion Convention 2021 resolutions and will be published in May 2022. They will be distributed to Legion Branches for the guidance of all Legion members.

## MANDATE OF VSS COMMITTEE

The Veterans, Service and Seniors Committee continues to maintain an active advocacy stance while maintaining its focus on proving, day in and day out, to all Canada's Veterans, including serving CAF and RCMP members and their families that The Legion cares.

## ADVOCACY

The Dominion President stressed the importance of continuing our advocacy efforts regarding the availability of mental health services to all Veterans and their families. We will continue to monitor this issue with the Canadian Armed Forces and Veterans Affairs Canada. It is also important that

Legion Branches continue to welcome all Veterans; that Branch Service Officers receive their annual training such that they are knowledgeable on the ever-changing programs and services available for our Veterans and their families. In addition, outreach to Reservists must continue to be a priority and ensuring that all Veterans who require assistance with their disability applications to VAC be informed and encouraged to contact a Legion Command Service Officer to assist them with their application. It is equally important that we continue to outreach to all Veterans who may have received unfavorable decisions in the past as policies change, Veterans should contact a Command Service Officer to review previous decisions. A reminder that Command Service Officers provide free representation and you do not have to be a Legion member to access services.

The following is a snapshot of the details of Legion advocacy efforts on behalf of all Veterans, their families, and seniors since 2018:

- a. **18 February 2018** – VAC released the partial entitlement policy change and a new hearing loss directive; however, did not advertise this important change in policy. The Legion published an article in Legion magazine and Command Service Officers were inundated with applications;
- b. **18 April 2018** – Dominion President sent a letter to MVA on the departmental standards for psychiatric service dogs. The MVA responded on 3 April 2019 discussing only the pilot study but not standards;



- c. **07 May 2018** – VAC announced they were partnering with the Royal Ottawa Health Care Group to establish the Centre of Excellence on PTSD and related Mental Health conditions;
- d. **04 September 2018** – The Participants Report is released on the Effectiveness of Psychiatric Service Dogs for Veterans with PTSD by the Universite Laval and CIRRUSS;
- e. **18 September 2018** – The Dominion President sent a letter to the MVA with concern about the excess unspent dollars that could have been used to help our Veterans;
- f. **01 October 2018** – Comrade George O’Dair attended the Seniors Roundtable in Ottawa, it was hosted by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Senior and entitled “Discussion on Canada’s Aging Population”;
- g. **29 October 2018** – Veterans Services commenced a review of the Memorandum of Understanding with VAC for access to the Client Service Delivery Network;
- h. **29-30 October 2018** – VAC National Stakeholder Summit held in Ottawa, ON. Through the Summits, VAC engages with stakeholder organizations to discuss issues facing Canada’s Veterans and their families. The primary focus of this Stakeholder Summit was for VAC to brief on Pension for Life, new services and benefits;
- i. **24 November 2018** – Comrade Ray McInnis and Comrade Dave Gordon appeared before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs to brief on Homeless Veterans;
- j. **02 November 2018, 28 January 2020, 26 October 2020** – The President hosted the annual bilateral meeting with the DM VAC and the VAC Executive; agenda items included Pension for Life, updated mandate letter and budget, Homeless Veterans Strategy, Long-Term Care, Commemoration, Service Dogs/ Pilot/Standard/Criteria, and Research;
- k. **14 November 2018** – MVA Seamus O’Regan announced the appointment of Craig Dalton as the next Veterans Ombudsman;
- l. **05 December 2018** – Comrade Ray McInnis appeared before the Senate Sub-Committee on Veterans Affairs on their study on Cannabis Use for Medical Purposes by Canadian Veterans;
- m. **03 January 2019** – new Monthly Homeless Veterans Report developed and forwarded to Commands for completion in 2019;
- n. **09 January 2019** – The Chair, VSS hosted the first VSS Committee of the Whole teleconference with provincial VSS representatives and the VSS Committee members;
- o. **14 January 2019** – Jody Wilson-Raybould announced as the new Minister of Veterans Affairs;
- p. **12 February 2019** – Ms. Raybould resigns and the Acting Minister of Veterans Affairs is Harjit Sajjan;
- q. **27 February 2019** – Comrades Tom Irvine and Steven Clark appear before the Senate Sub-Committee to speak on the revolving Minister of Veterans Affairs appointments;
- r. **01 March 2019** – Lawrence MacAulay announced as the new Minister of Veterans Affairs;
- s. **07 March 2019** – The Legion Position Paper – Election Issues was promulgated;
- t. **19 March 2019** – The Dominion President responded to the 2019 Federal Budget. Regarding transition to post-service life, we were pleased to see a continued commitment, and resources dedicated to veterans’ transition services, but the details remain unclear. We were also supportive of the increased funding in research to CIMVHR, the creation of the Veterans Survivors Fund, the expansion of the Education and Training Benefit, the Commitment to seniors and the establishment of a second Centre of Excellence in Chronic Pain which is due to open in 2020. Priority areas in which the Legion is advocating, and for which immediate investment is needed include homelessness, long-term care, and lifelong financial security for ill and injured veterans;
- u. **01 April 2019** – The Minister of Veterans Affairs introduced the Pension for Life (PFL) that contains adjustments to the benefits available to Veterans. PFL includes three new benefits that will recognize and

compensate Veterans for disability resulting from service-related injury and/or illness.

No details on the Pain and Suffering Compensation, the Additional Pain and Suffering Compensation and the Income Replacement Benefits were released;

- v.* **14 April 2019** – DEC approved \$25K to support Heroes Mending on the Fly Canada; and \$25K to the Quinism Foundation to undertake a formal study of Somalia-era Veterans who believe they were affected by mefloquine poisoning;
- w.* **14 April 2019** – DEC approved \$300K to support Project Trauma Support in Perth, ON, \$100K each year for three years;
- x.* **14 April 2019** – DEC approved the Homeless Veterans Program Guidelines for distribution to Commands. The Guidelines are not mandatory, they were developed as a guide to either adopt or use to improve already existing Leave the Streets Behind Programs;
- y.* **22 May 2019** – The Dominion President sent a letter to Comrade Wolf Solkin, the Vice-President of Ste-Anne's Hospital Veterans Committee recognizing the filing in the Superior Court of Quebec to improve the level of care to Veterans residing at the hospital. The issue of Long-Term Care is of great importance to all Veterans, their families and Canadians;
- z.* **11 June 2019** – Comrades Ray McInnis and Dave Gordon attended/presented at the media release on Parliament Hill in support of Bill M-225 on veteran homelessness;
- aa.* **20 June 2019** – The Dominion President sent a letter to the Prime Minister of Canada requesting that the position of Veterans Ombudsman become a permanent and independent one, enshrined in law and reporting directly to Parliament as opposed to Veterans Affairs;
- bb.* **17 July 2019** – The Dominion President visited Project Trauma Support in Perth, ON for a facility tour, meeting with Dr. Manuela Joannou and to present the first of three payments of \$100K to PTS;
- cc.* **12 August 2019** – The CAF implemented the production and distribution of the Veteran's Service Card;

- dd.* **15 November 2019** – The Dominion President met with the Commander, Military Personnel Command Vice-Admiral Edmundson and the Command CWO Dominique Geoffroy, discussion points included the CAF Transition Group, Mental Health Services, delivery of health care to serving members and veterans;
- ee.* **23 November 2019** – The Homeless Veterans Monthly Report changed to a quarterly report for 2020 and a generic tri-fold Homeless Veterans pamphlet to be produced and forwarded to all Legion Commands for community distribution;
- ff.* **24 November 2019** – DEC approved Legion participation in the MissionVAV program at McGill University. Their team of health professionals and researchers have developed a health promotion program for veterans;
- gg.* **17 December 2019** – The Dominion President released a response to the new VAC mandate letter stating that we were pleased to see the refreshed government mandate letter which focuses on work we agree is necessary to effectively serve our Veterans and their families;
- hh.* **12 March 2020 and 18 November 2020** – Comrades Ray McInnis and Steven Clark appeared as witnesses before the Parliamentary Committee Veterans Affairs on the Backlog of Disability Benefit Claims at the Department of Veterans Affairs and Clearing the Jam: Addressing the Backlog of Disability Benefit Claims at Veterans Affairs Canada;
- ii.* **20 March 2020** – The Dominion President sent a message to all Comrades in regard to the COVID-19 Pandemic advising that we are taking a balanced and calm approach, and will remain ready to make changes as this fluid situation develops;
- jj.* **23 March 2020** – The Legion's Action Plan to Prevent and Eradicate Veterans' Homelessness 2020-2025 was recommended by the Committee to send for DEC approval in June 2020, it was approved and distributed to Commands on 20 October 2020;
- kk.* **03 April 2020** – The Minister of Veterans Affairs announced the official launch of the Chronic Pain Centre of Excellence for Canadian Veterans;

- ll.* **17 April 2020** – A letter of support was sent to the Minister requesting financial support to Veterans House. Mandate letter to MVA states to build new, purpose-built accessible and affordable housing units, with a full range of health, social and employment supports for Veterans who need extra help;
- mm.* **27 May 2020** – A letter of support was sent to the Minister requesting support to TryCycle Data Systems, for a pilot project with the OSI Clinic in Ottawa that would shorten wait-times for Veterans awaiting non-emergency mental health treatments and support; the Legion believes that this technological solution could be a game changer for managing Veteran Mental Health in Canada;
- nn.* **27 May 2020** – The Dominion President sent a letter to the PM and copied the Minister of Veterans Affairs and the Provincial Premiers expressing our extreme shock over the ongoing poor conditions and lowered standards of health care received by many of our Veterans and Seniors in Long Term Residential Care in Canada;
- oo.* **15 June 2020** – Comrades Ray McInnis and Jill Carleton visited Project Trauma Support in Perth, Ontario and presented the second instalment cheque of \$100,000.00 to PTS;
- pp.* **20 October 2020** – The Legion's Action Plan to Prevent and Eradicate Veterans' Homelessness was distributed to Provincial Commands;
- qq.* **22 October 2020** – The Dominion President sent a letter to the PM and copied the Minister of Veterans Affairs, the Minister for Seniors and the Provincial Premiers urging all levels of government to work together to immediately review long-term care in the country and implement legislative and regulatory changes that provide quality, publicly resourced and enduring solutions to help our Canadian veterans and seniors. It was also recommended that the government institute a Seniors Independence Program to ensure that our most vulnerable citizens are given the opportunity to remain independent and be safe in their own homes for as long as possible; and

- rr.* **8 January 2021** – Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the final instalment of \$100,000.00 was received by Project Trauma Support via mail.

### SENIORS INITIATIVE

The Legion continues to advocate to the federal Government that senior's home care should be part of a national strategy to include standardization, consistent service delivery and certification. The Government announced the new Aging in Place Challenge Program led by the National Research Council. It will partner with like-minded private, public, academic, and other research organizations in Canada and abroad to develop breakthroughs to help older adults and their caregivers to live safe, healthy and socially connected lives while remaining in their homes and communities of choice. We are hopeful that over time, aging Veterans will receive the support they need to remain at home.

### HOMELESS VETERANS NATIONAL PROGRAM

The RCL Veterans Homelessness Advisory Committee, chaired by the Dominion President, is made up of a group of individuals who are stakeholders in the policy, programs and/or services in place for Veterans homelessness. Members understand the impact of Veterans homelessness on the community. The committee provides guidance and strategic recommendations to VAC and other government stakeholders for conducting purposeful policy and program development for homeless Veterans. This is accomplished through committee members sharing their expertise, knowledge, and experience.

The Committee is established to determine appropriate policy and program development around Veterans homelessness. To coordinate and align efforts of the various organizations who are working towards addressing homelessness among Veterans.

The Committee will schedule a meeting at Legion House in 2022.

In the summer of 2017, the government advised that they planned to release in the fall a long-awaited

strategy to tackle veterans' homelessness. In one of its most recent versions, has placed a heavy focus on providing veterans in crisis with help in paying the rent or mortgage, including the idea of a housing fund that could provide rent vouchers for veterans to stop them from becoming homeless. As of 2 April 2021, the strategy has not been promulgated. We will continue to develop a coordinated advocacy approach to combat Veterans homelessness.

One homeless veteran in this country is one too many.

### LEGION SCHOLARSHIP

The Dominion President presented the 2018 RCL Masters Scholarship in Military and Veteran Health Research to Mr. Massimo Cau from the University of British Columbia and his research is entitled: "Wearable Hemostatic Combat Protection to Prevent Mortality and Morbidity from Hemorrhage Treatment of Ballistic Injuries".

The Dominion President presented the 2019 RCL Legion Masters Scholarship in Military and Veteran Health Research to Ms. Kaitlin Sullivan from the Faculty of Medicine, University of British Columbia, and her research is entitled "Identifying neuronal subpopulation participation across the stages of fear memory.

The Dominion President presented the 2020 RCL Legion Masters Scholarship in Military and Veteran Health Research virtually to Dr. Abdelhakim Khellaf of the University of Toronto and his research will focus on traumatic brain injury.

The Dominion Executive Council have approved the funding for this scholarship until 2022-2023. The 2021 RCL Legion Masters Scholarship will also be presented virtually in October 2021.

The 2022 RCL Legion Masters Scholarship will be presented at the CIMVHR Forum in Halifax, NS, 17-19 October 2022.

### SERVICE DOGS

On 17 April 2018, we were informed that the CGSB withdrew its intent to produce a National Standard of Canada for Service Dogs; this was extremely disappointing and frustrating news at this time. It is anticipated that the information collected during the past two plus years will be used to develop a Government of Canada standard for service dogs.

There are no GoC or VAC departmental standards for psychiatric service dogs.

The Standards Council of Canada (SCC) is seeking feedback on ISO's proposal for the development of a new standards committee on Assistance Dogs. The purpose of their inquiry is to consult with Canadian stakeholders to develop a national position on the proposal, the Legion has responded that we support the ISO's proposal to develop standards.

### OUTREACH AND VISITATION INITIATIVE

Public Service and Procurement Canada (PSPC) approved an extension to 31 March 2022. There is sufficient funding remaining on the current contract to complete taskings in 2021-2022 if LTCs allow visitors late 2021 or early 2022.

The OVI volunteers have been kept updated on the status of the program.

When the restrictions are lifted, this initiative facilitates face-to-face visits with Veterans, providing them with an opportunity to have a conversation and social visit with a volunteer and to raise concerns or identify needs that might be addressed by VAC or the Legion. Presently, we have 124-trained Outreach and Visitation Initiative volunteers who have provided outstanding service to this initiative. Veterans Services will be conducting a training course in fall 2022.

The new OVI Coordinator at Dominion Command is Ms. Christine Racine.

### **SERVICE BUREAU PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT / REGIONAL COMMAND SERVICE OFFICER TRAINING**

The Dominion Command Director Veterans Services sponsored by the respective Provincial Commands Alberta-NWT Command and Quebec Command, participated in the Western Region Professional Development session in Calgary from 12-13 March 2019 and the Eastern Region Professional Development session in Lachine, QC from 10-11 September 2019.

Command Service Officers will be attending a training / professional development session in Charlottetown from 27-29 September 2022. They will benefit from consultation with VAC officials responsible for service delivery with whom they deal on a regular basis while receiving updates on latest policies, business processes and new communications software.

Command Service Officers were busy in 2018, completing 3,119 first applications and 552 Departmental Reviews to VAC. This is a huge increase from 2017 when they completed 2,815 first applications and 151 Departmental Reviews.

They were extremely busy in 2019, completing 3,478 first applications, 601 Departmental Reviews and counselling out/withdrawing 1,095 applications. They also represented Veterans in 161 Entitlement Review hearings, 76 Entitlement Appeals and 67 Request for Reconsiderations before the Veterans Review and Appeal Board Canada.

Due to the pandemic, the statistics are down from 2019 but the Command Service Officers were just as busy adjusting to the restrictions, working remotely, and receiving new secure laptops, printers/scanners from VAC. The Command Service Officers completed 2,819 first applications, 310 Departmental Reviews, counselling out 830 applications. They also represented Veterans in 219 Entitlement Reviews and 99 Entitlement Appeals/Request for Reconsiderations before the Veterans Review and Appeal Board Canada.

### **BUDGET REPORT**

For your information, a copy of the VSS Committee budget for the period 2020-2022 is attached to this report. Delegates may raise any questions that they have concerning Committee expenses at this time, but any motion for changes to the budget document as it relates to this Committee will have to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

The VSS Committee reviewed five Resolutions; two have been concurred and three have been non-concurred. The Committee initiated one resolution for 2021.

### **CONCLUSION**

During 2021-2024, the VSS Committee will continue their advocacy efforts focused on ensuring that all Veterans and their families are afforded the same benefits and services irrespective of when and where they served. We will pay particular focus on the Backlog of Disability Applications and all mandated priorities that have not come to fruition as of the date of this report.

We will continue to advocate strongly for homeless veterans, collaborating with federal/provincial/municipal police forces to establish a partnership to facilitate outreach to homeless veterans.

We will continue to advocate for changes to long-term care eligibility criteria and advocate to keep seniors in their own homes.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of the Committee and the coordinators support for their dedication throughout the past three years. This report was moved, seconded and approved by the delegates.

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION – DOMINION COMMAND**  
**VETERANS, SERVICE AND SENIORS COMMITTEE**

	<b>2019 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2020 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2021 BUDGET</b>	<b>2022 BUDGET</b>	<b>2023 BUDGET</b>
TRAVEL	3,105	1,776	6,000	6,120	6,242
PER DIEM	1,393	-	5,000	5,100	5,202
CIMVHR FORUM	8,923	-	10,000	10,200	10,404
PRINTING, STATIONERY	-	-	500	510	520
TELEPHONE & FAX	287	284	600	612	624
POSTAGE	355	107	400	408	416
BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION INITIATIVES	758	-	1,500	1,530	1,561
HOMELESS VETERANS SUMMIT	4,344	1,460	5,000	5,000	5,000
MISCELLANEOUS	144	628	1,000	1,000	1,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,309</b>	<b>4,255</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,480</b>	<b>30,970</b>



# REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND

## POPPY *and* REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE

---

A. Stanfield, *Chair*  
B. Lawrence, *Vice Chair*  
G. Hodge, *Member*  
J. Ladouceur, *Member*  
K. Merola, *Member*  
L. Varga, *Member*  
F. Chute, *Committee Coordinator*  
K. Therien, *A/Committee Coordinator*

### INTRODUCTION

The Committee has the responsibility for the policy and procedures of the Poppy & Remembrance program of the Legion. As such, it has significant impact on the commemorative culture of the Legion in such areas as the National Remembrance Ceremonies, the Legion Pilgrimage of Remembrance and Youth Education programs. As well, the Committee has the responsibility to consider applications for unusual expenditures of Poppy Trust Funds to ensure adherence to policy and has the responsibility to review applications for the use of the Poppy trademark to ensure compliance with our trademark protection and if not, to consider the appropriate legal action.

### COMMITTEE

During this period (2019, 2020, 2021), the Poppy and Remembrance Committee met face to face on five occasions, in February 2019, November 2019, March 2020, October 2020 and March 2021 via teleconference 2020 and 2021 and at Legion House in 2019.

### POPPY CAMPAIGN

The annual Poppy Campaign continues to be the most important project of the Legion each year. The committee reviewed Poppy promotional items on a regular basis to ensure their appropriateness for the Poppy campaign. The Corporate Partnerships for the Poppy campaign continues to expand with corporations pledged or renewed their support, including Tim Hortons, Bulk Barn, Carlson Wagonlit Travel, Shoppers Drug Mart, Walmart, Costco, Starbucks, BMO, TD Bank, Princess Auto, Hearing Life, Via Rail, North West Company, Pharmaprix, Rogers, London Drugs, Best Buy, Hudsons Bay, Telus, Air Canada,

Home Equity Bank, American Express, Cavanagh, CNR, Dollorama, General Dynamics, Giant Tiger, Holiday Inn, Home Depot, HSBC, Canada Lands Company, Ontario Teachers Plan, Hudsons Bay, Lenovo, Loblaws, London Drugs, Maurices, Michaels, Mr. Lube, Nutrien, OnRoute, Peoples, Shoppers, RBC, RGA, Rivera, Rogers, Scotiabank, United Rentals, Zale and Forestry Association Canada. For both 2019 and 2020, Dominion Command was instrumental with the arrangements for the First Poppy Presentation to the Governor General which symbolizes the ceremonial launch of the campaign. Similar launches with the respective Lieutenant Governors in each of the Provincial Commands also took place.

### NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

Dominion Command was instrumental in the organization and conduct of the national ceremony on behalf of the People of Canada. In both 2019 an estimated 35,000 to 40,000 spectators attended the Ceremony and for 2020 a virtual ceremony was conducted.

### THE NATIONAL SILVER CROSS MOTHER

The Silver Cross Mother for 2019 is Mrs. Reine Samson Dawe, South Frontenac, Ontario. Mrs. Dawe's son, Captain Matthew J. Dawe, was the Commander of 8 Platoon, C Company, 3 Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battalion (3 PPCLI). His company was part of 2 Royal Canadian Regiment Battle Group (2 RCR BG) serving in Kandahar, Afghanistan. He was killed in action in Afghanistan on July 4, 2007.

The Silver Cross mother for 2020 is Mrs. Debbie Sullivan. Mrs. Sullivan's son, Lt(N)

Christopher Edward Saunders was a Naval Officer in the Royal Canadian Navy. Chris was killed during a tragic fire while serving aboard HMCS *Chicoutimi* on October 6, 2004.

Work is well underway for the 2021 Poppy Campaign. Production requirements for Poppies and Wreaths were set in December 2020. Their supporting production schedule is being adhered to and validated with monthly physical counts.

Promotional materials to support the Poppy Campaign were reviewed immediately following the 2019 and 2020 Campaigns. The 2021 Promotional Materials Catalogue, Poster and Literacy Contest Winners Booklet, and supporting order forms have been updated. Provincial Commands have been solicited for their 2021 material forecasts. Procurement for materials to support the 2021 Campaign are well underway with the goal of having all materials in stock by June 1st.

### POPPY TRADEMARKS

The Poppy Trademark remains an active enforcement issue. As such Dominion Command is constantly monitoring the use and misuse of the image aided by many Legion branches or individual members who report infractions. Those that are violating the Poppy trademark are notified of the trademark requirements and are requested to cease. Those that fail to abide by this notification are turned over to the Legion's Trademark lawyer for follow up action.

### CADET LEAGUES AND OUTSTANDING CADETS

We continue to maintain good relationship with the Cadet Leagues. Every year, Dominion Command has a meeting with the Executive Directors of the Leagues and the Commander of the National Cadet and Junior Canadian Rangers Support Group. Items of mutual interest are discussed and a good working relationship is maintained. The Committee is very positive about the Cadet program and the Legion support for it, from the Marksmanship program, to the Cadet Medal of Excellence, the Outstanding Cadets of the Year to Ottawa for Remembrance and of course at the local branch level for cadet units.

### YOUTH EDUCATION-POSTER AND LITERARY CONTESTS

In 2019 and 2020, the Poster and Literary Contests were well supported by branches and Commands with over 83,000 students submitting entries from across Canada. The deadline for each Provincial Command to submit their winning entries to Dominion Command has been 15 February for the past several years and this has enabled the national results to be released by early April annually. We continue to work closely with the Canadian War Museum and an exhibit of the senior winners is on display every year. As well, the second place and honourable mention winners are placed on display at the Parliamentary Precinct every Remembrance period. (This was not possible for 2020 because of COVID-19)

### REMEMBRANCE ISLAND

Every year on Remembrance Day, the world shares a moment of silence at 11 am to pay respect to the fallen. But 100 years on, the purpose behind this day is becoming a little lost on the younger generations. This year, we wanted to get their attention on a platform they are passionate about by creating a Remembrance Day memorial uniquely geared to the gaming community.

Sponsored by Twitch where millions of people come together live every day to chat, interact, and make their own entertainment together, and like YouTube, it is dominated by a select group of influencers with a massive following.

Fortnite is an online video game where up to 100 players are dropped onto an island where they fight to be the last player standing. This is what provides us the canvas we need to build Remembrance Island. Remembrance Island is an educational based game using archival information from World War I, World War II, Korea and Afghanistan. There is no fighting or weapons, the goal is for the streamers/gamers to explore the land in actual three-dimensional scenes from the World Wars, Korea and Afghanistan, such as Normandy Beach, the trenches and see first-hand what it looked like from the veteran's point of view then, and now.



The players follow a path of poppy's interacting with each other and gathering information until they reach the Vimy memorial where exploration stops and they pay their respects with two minutes of silence at the Memorial at 11 pm in real lifetime, but actually 11 am on the island.

Advertising for Remembrance Island in 2020 was the 9 & 10 Nov, and the Island went live on the 11 Nov for the one Day only. The Island was a media success and reports from media stated the island was 'phenomenal' and the Royal Canadian Legion should be congratulated. We were proud to have the Forest Products Association of Canada as the sponsor for 2020 and 2021 and we have included scenes from the Forestry Corps on the Island.

The one-day Remembrance Island brought in over '14 million' views and a large user demand for an extension of the Island (Remembrance Island II) for 2021. Remembrance Island is currently up for a media award for the second year running.

#### **PAY TRIBUTE – 2020 TRIAL**

During the 2020 poppy campaign a Trial was conducted for the tap and pay option for Poppy boxes. Permitting electronic donations in a cashless society. This option also attracted the younger society where they only carry cells phones, prepaid charge cards and credit cards. The 2020 trial was be conducted during the Remembrance period in 137 HSBC Bank Canada Branches across Canada and select Legion Branches in the province of Ontario for a total of 250 poppy boxes. The idea was to have a tap and pay option on our Poppy boxes and still maintain the cash option. The tap and pay is beneficial where there are unattended Poppy boxes in isolated locations. Tap & Pay option will permit a donation using a card or phone and will have a 'que' for holding in remote areas with no WiFi. HSBC Banks Canada paid for the Pay Tribute" Poppy boxes at no cost to the Legion.

All funds from the Pay Tribute Poppy boxes go to the closest Poppy Fund account (no centralized national account). The 2021 Pay Tribute will be developed

and ready for an expanded trial to include all CAF Bases and Wings in Canada. There will be no cost to the Royal Canadian Legion and all funds collected will go to the Local Legion Branch Poppy fund.

Pay Tribute Poppy box has been nominated for an industry award.

#### **DIGITAL POPPY**

The Royal Canadian Legion is embracing the digital age with a new virtual version of the symbolic poppy. We really need to go with the times, and we are trying to reach a younger audience. Fewer people are carrying around cash and change these days, opting to exclusively use cards or cellphones instead. This can be a barrier for people wanting to buy a traditional poppy pin, which usually asks for a cash contribution.

Now, with the Legion's new nationwide program, Canadians can make a monetary contribution online until Nov 11. In return, a digital two-sided poppy will be sent to their email. The website walks you through the process and has an added element of personalization that traditional pins do not have. Your name is engraved on one side, and you can choose to create it in memory of someone else by adding their name on the other side.

The customization element allows you to share the soldier's story, memory, and sacrifice with your digital network on social media or to display the image on your device and is available until Nov. 11, Remembrance Day.

2021 will be the third year for the Digital Poppy which proved to be very successful in 2020. Home Equity Bank continues to be the Corporate Partner for the Digital Poppy program.

#### **LEGION PILGRIMAGE OF REMEMBRANCE**

From 6-20 July 2019, Comrade Bruce Julian led the 30 Pilgrims participating in the 2019 Pilgrim of Remembrance through France and Belgium where they toured battlefields, paid their respects in cemeteries, reflected at memorials and explored museums. Comrade John Goheen was

again selected as the tour facilitator and provided the direction and historical perspective that makes this event so successful and poignant.

Paris was used as the arrival and departure point for the Pilgrimage once again. The delegation included representatives from all Provincial Commands along with paying pilgrims. The group participated in the Menin Gate Ceremony and other Legion ceremonies at various sites such as Beaumont Hamel and Vimy Ridge. Through the visits and experiences while at these significant WWI and WWII sites, the Pilgrims gained a unique perspective and an unprecedented level of understanding of Remembrance.

The Pilgrimage was cancelled for 2021 because of COVID-19. The next Pilgrimage will be held in July 2022.

#### **NATIONAL COLOUR PARTY**

The Committee once again extends its appreciation and thanks to the Dominion Command Colour Party, which continues to represent the Legion at numerous local, national and high-profile events throughout the year. The commitment and dedication of each member is outstanding.

#### **REMEMBRANCE EDUCATION MATERIAL**

The Committee continues to work closely with Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC). One such partnership is the VAC package of Remembrance educational material, which includes our Youth Education Programs pamphlet on the Poster & Literary Contests and the Legion's Teaching Guide.

One package is mailed to each Legion branch and school across Canada in August/September each year and the Legion greatly appreciates the cooperation of VAC in this matter.

The Committee continues to work closely with the Commemoration Division of Veterans Affairs Canada in support of various initiatives and receive regular updates on items of mutual interest such as commemorative events.

#### **VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA MONUMENT RESTORATION WORKING GROUP**

The Legion continues to be involved with and support Veterans Affairs Canada's Cenotaph/Monument Restoration and Construction Programs. These programs enable communities and organizations to apply for funding to conserve and restore existing cenotaphs and monuments and to construct new ones. The Government's program for construction of new cenotaphs and monuments expired at the end of March 2016 and we are awaiting any indication of a program or direction from the Government for new construction.

#### **THE POPPY MANUAL**

A current version of the Poppy Manual is available on-line. Since Legion Manuals are no longer available in a hard copy format, the Committee continues to review and update on a regular basis.

#### **BUDGET**

A copy of the Committee budget for the period 2020-2021 is attached to this report. Delegates may raise any questions they may have at this time concerning Committee expenses, however, any motion for changes to the budget document as it relates to this Committee will be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention business program.

#### **CONCLUSION**

The Legion Poppy and Remembrance Committee continues to focus on ensuring that the Remembrance initiatives and programs of the Legion achieve the objective of perpetuating the memory and deeds of the Fallen. In conclusion, I want to thank the members of the Committee for their support and dedication throughout the past two years.

This report was moved, seconded and approved by the delegates.

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION – DOMINION COMMAND**  
**POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>COMMITTEE</b>					
TRAVEL	3,220	1,157	5,000	5,100	5,202
PER DIEM	1,229	104	2,500	2,550	2,601
POSTAGE & OFFICE	1,534	3,895	1,000	1,020	1,040
TELEPHONE AND FAX	-	-	100	102	104
MISCELLANEOUS	361	-	1,000	1,020	1,040
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,344</b>	<b>5,156</b>	<b>9,600</b>	<b>9,792</b>	<b>9,988</b>
<b>EUROPE ZONE</b>					
GRANT					
EUROPE - WREATHS	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)
	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)
<b>NATIONAL CEREMONIES</b>					
TRAVEL	8,359	990	2,000	2,040	2,081
PER DIEM	16,536	(2,141)	1,500	1,530	1,561
PRINTING, STATIONERY	3,878	-	500	510	520
TELEPHONE, POSTAGE	534	-	500	510	520
COLOUR PARTY ACTIVITIES SUMMER & FALL	-	-	250	255	260
MEETING, PLANNING	119	-	150	153	156
ST. JOHN AMBULANCE	-	-	500	510	520
CEREMONIES OPERATIONS	2,783	174	8,000	8,160	8,323
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,209</b>	<b>(977)</b>	<b>13,400</b>	<b>13,668</b>	<b>13,941</b>
<b>PILGRIMAGE</b>					
POPPY GRANT	-	-	-	-	-
EXPENSES	5,864	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,864</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39,417</b>	<b>(821)</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>18,460</b>	<b>18,929</b>
<b>NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY ASSOCIATED EXPENCES (POPPY FUND)</b>					
EUROPE - WREATHS	459	-	5,500	5,610	5,722
REMEMBRANCE RECEPTION	11,106	280	6,000	6,120	6,242
SILVER CROSS MOTHER	3,614	5,692	5,000	5,100	5,202
CADET OF THE YEAR	4,505	-	10,000	10,200	10,404
<b>NATIONAL LITERARY/POPPY CONTEST</b>					
TRAVEL	1,005	-	5,000	5,100	5,202
PER DIEM	2,776	-	5,000	5,100	5,202
BURSARIES/GIFTS	15,480	352	12,000	12,240	12,485
<b>TOTAL - POPPY FUND</b>	<b>38,945</b>	<b>6,324</b>	<b>48,500</b>	<b>49,470</b>	<b>50,459</b>
<b>TOTAL - GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>39,417</b>	<b>(821)</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>18,460</b>	<b>18,929</b>
<b>TOTAL - NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY</b>	<b>78,362</b>	<b>5,503</b>	<b>66,500</b>	<b>67,930</b>	<b>69,389</b>

## REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

B. Julian, *Chair*  
V. MacGregor, *Vice-Chair*  
T. Campbell, *Member*  
D. Flannigan, *Member*  
M. Fryday-Cook, *Member*  
D. MacEwen, *Member*  
G. Pond, *Member*  
R. Hayley, *Committee Coordinator*  
A. Black, *A/Committee Coordinator*

### MEMBERSHIP OVERVIEW

Over the past year and a half Legion membership has not been exempt from the negative impact of the global pandemic resulting in numerous challenges for our organization. Despite these challenges, the Committee has remained committed to moving forward with implementing their strategic plan of modernizing the Legion membership experience for both branches and members, all focussed on turning our membership fortunes around.

Tremendous progress has been made since the 2018 Dominion Convention including greater branch online participation, the redevelopment of the member online renewal process and the introduction of allowing members to join local branches online. This has resulted in 76% of all 2020 membership being processed online by either the local branch or by the individual member.

Today almost  $\frac{3}{4}$  of all branches are using the membership processing website to its full capabilities ultimately improving the membership experience for both our branches and members.

Pre-pandemic, business improvements were having positive impact as National membership was growing 2% year over year for the first quarter of 2020. Membership growth had not been experienced for decades and is the reason the Committee remains optimistic for the return to more normal times.

During the 2021 Convention Member Services will conduct an informative online membership workshop for all attendees focusing on recent membership improvements and key initiatives in place to help assist with a full post -pandemic recovery.

### MEMBERSHIP BY THE NUMBERS

Membership numbers continued to decline since our last Convention. For 2018 (down 2.1%), 2019 (down 2.1%) and in 2020 numbers were further impacted by the pandemic (down 3.5%) forcing temporary closures and gathering restrictions for most branches. At the time of submitting this report (March 2021) 2021 membership was down 15% year over year.

#### 2020 Year-end Results:

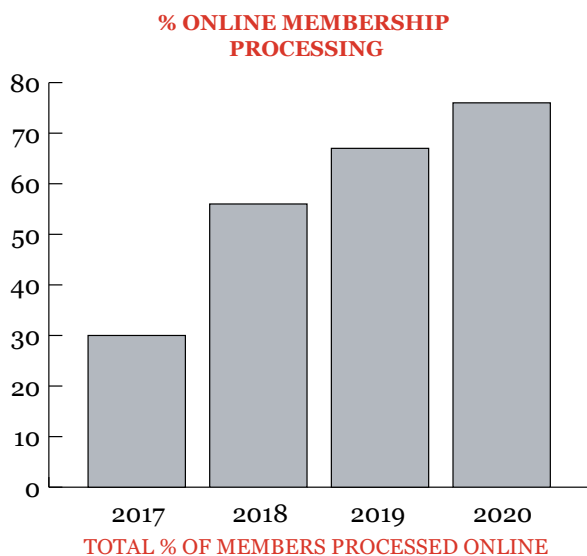
- 248,427 Total Paid Membership - down 8,877 members or 3.5% year over year
- Renewal rates were 84.27% compared to 85.61% in 2019.
- 29,877 New/Reinstated Members were enrolled during 2020 – down 334 members or 1.1% year over year. This included 2,319 new Veteran Welcome members.
- 3,892 members were recorded as deceased during 2020 compared to 4,446 the year before. A decrease of 12.0% year over year

#### Inside the Numbers:

- A total of 39,263 members who had paid for 2019 were not processed/ did not renew for 2020.
- Of these 39,263 members, 4,641 could not be renewed (deceased, cancelled, expelled etc.) leaving a remaining 34,622 members who could have renewed.
- Of these 34,622 members, 9,818 (28.3%) were new members (1 year of service)
- An additional 4,325 (12.4%) had 2 years of service.
- In summary, a total of 14,143 (40.8%) were 'new' members who did not renew, consistent with the previous 2-years.

## 2020 Positives:

- Almost 30,000 new members joined the Legion for the second consecutive year.
- 188,202 total memberships were processed online (by branches and individual members) representing 76% of all 2020 memberships (8% growth over 2019 – see chart below)
- 43,411 members renewed their memberships online during the year. Up 144% over 2019
- 6,454 members joined online compared to 1,456 in 2019. Up 443%
- Continued progress with branches using the membership portal. Up to 90% regular login.
- Collectively we have accumulated 100,000-member email addresses on file. Up 25% year over year.
- Over 13,000 members have signed up for auto renew. Up 121% year over year
- Continued improvement in 4 of our 5 key performance indicator areas (Branch Rates, Member Emails, Branch Portal Processing, Auto Renewals).



## ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- 1) Launch of the Veterans Welcome Program – Over 5,000 Veterans have signed up for a free 1-year Legion membership with 45% renewing after their first year.
- 2) Launch of the MemberPerks program supported by Dominion Marketing.....15,000 members have registered and saved over \$150,000!
- 3) Introduction of allowing new members to join local branches online
- 4) Development of the National Branch Renewal Strategy (see below).
- 5) Development of the Membership Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) focusing on measurement of Renewals, Branch Rates, Member Emails, Auto Renewals, Branch Membership website participation.

**Legion** Branch Membership Renewal STRATEGY

**R** RENEWAL reminders

- Personal phone calls yield best results
- Email reminders
- Direct mail reminders

**E** EMAIL addresses

Collecting and entering member email addresses within the member services website allows both the Branch and Legion House the ability to send important reminder notices electronically.

**N** NEVER again ask members to renew. Sign your members up for Auto Renewal

Auto Renewal automatically renews members annually who have signed up online with a credit card. Branches save time and money. No processing or paperwork required from the Branch.

**E** ELECTRONIC renewal saves time and money for both Branches and Members

Ensure your Branch rate is entered in the member services website to allow your members the opportunity to renew online providing another option for renewal.

**W** WELCOME all with improved Branch hospitality

Review the Branch Hospitality Program

40%

of non-renewing members did not remember receiving a renewal reminder

41%

of non-renewing members would renew online

25%

of non-renewing members found their Branch experience to be inhospitable

**MEMBER SERVICES WEBSITE PROCESSING**

To ensure Branches are always using the most up-to-date membership information we encourage Branches to process all members using the member services website. Not only does this ensure up-to-date member information, but it also improves accuracy and saves time and money while providing improved customer service to all.

**MEMBER SERVICES | MEMBERSHIP@LEGION.CA | 1-855-330-3344**

**DID YOU KNOW:** Direct contact with non-renewing members yields the best results. During 2020, 170,000 email reminders and over 100,000 direct mail pieces were sent soliciting the renewal of existing members. The Committee encourages local branches to directly contact their non-renewing members annually.

## ORGANIZATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

### Member Communications:

Please continue to collect and enter member contact information within the membership website. With this information, Dominion Command can cost effectively email renewal reminders on behalf of the branches encouraging members to renew their local memberships.

### Branch Communications:

Each month Dominion Command emails the All-Branch Communication Newsletter (now called the Legion Dispatch) to the email address appearing on your branch profile page within the membership website and to your standardized legion.ca email address issued for the membership website.

This information piece contains important news, updates, and changes for all aspects of our Legion organization.

Please review your branch email address on your branch profile page within the membership website to ensure the correct email address is listed and if you do not have access to your standardized branch legion.ca account please contact Member Services.

## BUDGET

Please find enclosed with this report a copy of the budgets for the Membership Committee. Any motion for changes to the budgets as relates to the Membership Committee will have to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

## CONCLUSION

The Membership Committee continues to lead the business transformations required to position ourselves for a stronger future for Legion membership. The administrative tools are now firmly in place, but local branches remain the key to improved results.

Please continue to welcome all newcomers who wish to support Veterans, promote remembrance, and want to help assist our communities. Review the branch hospitality program for some helpful tips on creating a more welcoming environment.

Most importantly, please ensure you are receiving, reading, and sharing the monthly Legion Dispatch email communications and that you continue to collect and share member email addresses within the membership website.

The Membership Committee thanks all members, branches, and provincial commands for their resiliency during the pandemic and for embracing and adapting to the changes required to improve and modernize the membership experience. By working together, we will ensure a stronger future for our organization.

This report was moved, seconded and approved by the delegates.

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION – DOMINION COMMAND**  
**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>COMMITTEE</b>					
TRAVEL	197	-	2,500	2,550	2,601
PER DIEM	320	-	2,500	2,550	2,601
PRINTING AND OFFICE	-	-	250	255	260
TELEPHONE & FAX	342	316	350	357	364
MISCELLANEOUS	580	25	1,000	1,020	1,040
	<b>1,439</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>6,600</b>	<b>6,732</b>	<b>6,867</b>
<b>PRINTING &amp; STATIONERY</b>					
MEMBERSHIP FORMS	1,940	344	2,500	2,500	2,500
EARLY BIRD STICKERS	1,403	1,291	1,500	1,500	1,500
	<b>3,343</b>	<b>1,635</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,782</b>	<b>1,976</b>	<b>10,600</b>	<b>10,732</b>	<b>10,867</b>



## REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

---

O. Parkhouse, *Chair*  
S. McKeown, *Vice-Chair*  
S. Gallant, *Member PEI*  
N. Lehr, *Member NL*  
K. Ouellet, *Member QC*  
C. Strong, *Member AB*  
N. Bond, *Committee Coordinator*  
L. O'Neill, *A/Committee Coordinator*  
D. Edmonds, *A/Committee Coordinator*

### OVERVIEW:

Our Public Relations Committee (established December 2017) has been active for over three years. During that time, we have guided responses to emerging issues, and provided feedback to members and colleagues, helping the national Public Relations team complete critical and supportive projects. The emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 did not curtail our work but eliminated participation in in-person meetings and PR events outside of the Poppy Campaign and Remembrance Day activities.

Committee actions from 2018 into 2021, aligned with the organization's current strategic marketing and communications plan. The work of the committee is complemented by bi-monthly Provincial/Territorial Public Relations Officer meetings, which includes representation from across the country. This report will share a range of highlights from Legion PR projects and initiatives, and present planned actions going forward.

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Continued regular bi-monthly meetings with our Public Relations Officers to share information and update our colleagues across the country with useful and timely information and tools.
- Advised on important issues over the months including:
  - COVID-19 response and related communications to Branches, members and the public through media.
  - 2019 Legion anti-hate policy.
  - Holding political meetings.
- Shared significant profiles (articles, videos, newsletters, social media) with the public, including:
  - Legion and COVID-19 help – national response stories
  - Dominion President COVID messages - Legion and member update (videos)
  - Production of the Poppy – how it's made, what donations mean (video)
  - Operation Vet Build – model building program for Veterans (video)
  - Stolen Valour – Legion's strong stance (video)
  - Heroes Mending on The Fly – fly fishing program for Veterans
  - Nijmegen March - Dominion Command representative
  - Buddy Check Coffee – OSI Special Section program
  - Legion Nationals – promotional tool for championships (video)
  - Support of Project Trauma Support program
  - Navy Bike Ride introductory remarks by Legion Grand President (video)
  - Presentation of the First Poppy to the Governor-General of Canada (video)
  - Legion support of homelessness projects
  - New Legion poppy mask created for the pandemic.
- Completed work on public relations activities related to the 75th anniversary of D-Day, of the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War, the commemoration of the Liberation of the Netherlands, and the 100th anniversary of the Poppy symbol.



- Also, refreshed radio and TV PSA initiatives to actively invite membership and show what we do. e.g. Join for 5 years to receive a Poppy 100 anniversary watch; Join for at least a year to receive a Poppy 100 anniversary bouquet; A Veteran may join and receive a free year.
- In 2020, began new partnerships with major “landmarks” across Canada to help promote Remembrance (e.g. CN Tower, Niagara Falls).
- Supported the National Silver Cross Mothers, an integral part our Remembrance Period activities. Included on-site support, extensive media relations, advising and coaching.
- Created/updated tools to help us effectively complete our public relations activities:
  - COVID-19 Legion.ca section including current information from across the country and a new Legion Q and A section.
  - Branch checklist tool to help determine if bookings align with Legion standards.
  - Online “Why I joined” initiative to share member stories and invite new members.
  - Regular social media programs to align with Legion and public events and commemorations or partner achievements.
  - Legion PowerPoint overview in French and English for use in general presentations our members may make.
  - Fact sheets on areas of significance e.g. Veterans Services and Membership.
  - PR Manuals in English and French, they are a guideline for staff and volunteers who handle public relations activities.
  - Speaking notes for Commands and Branches to use during the Remembrance Period.
  - Communications and tools for Branches related to new online privacy regulations.
- Our team crafted/helped craft a range of important advocacy and policy communiqués over the months such as:
  - Updated statement on Stolen Valour.
  - 2019 anti-hate policy related to outlaw and hate groups.
  - Welcome remarks for new minister of Veterans Affairs.
  - Reaction to VAC 2019 mandate letter.
  - National Federal Budget reaction.
  - National Position paper on advocacy issues.
  - Reaction to Office of the Veterans Ombudsman report.
  - Thoughts on medicinal cannabis, and mefloquine research.
  - Dominion President’s presentation to Senate sub-committee on Veterans Affairs.
  - Legion suggestion about the amalgamation of VAC and DND.
  - Legion demand for immediate action to fix long term care issues in Canada.
  - Families left out of new Afghanistan memorial ceremony.
  - Article published in the Ottawa Citizen in 2019 related to Veterans and operational stress injuries.
  - An overview of National Headquarters’ activities in Legion magazine in early 2019, 2020, 2021.
  - Recipient of Royal Canadian Legion Scholarship in Veteran Health Research
  - The struggle of Legion Branches to fund their work and the eventual receipt of federal support dollars via the Veterans Organization Emergency Support Fund.
- National Headquarters assisted with national and regional media topics and support where needed. Timely and proactive handling helped accurately share the Legion’s point of view with accuracy. Here are some topic examples:
  - COVID-19 questions about closures, actions, and plans.
  - New 2019 anti-hate policy.
  - New rules about the legalization of cannabis.
  - Commenting on Canadian soldiers who suffered frostbite while training.
  - Sudden resignation of VAC minister, and ongoing leadership changes.

- New Legion initiatives including the Digital Poppy, Remembrance Island-related video games, digital and online donations.
- Don Cherry remarks about wearing a poppy.
- Poppy trademark violations. In 2019 we made a request to have Canada Border Services Agency monitor for counterfeit items: this request was accepted.
- Poppy Box theft.
- A public – not criminal - case of discrimination involving a member in Atlantic Canada.
- A grocery chain's decision not to allow the wearing of poppies.
- The Remembrance Period and Poppy Campaign in the context of COVID-19.
- We continued proactively handling complaints via our social media channels; and noted an ongoing decrease in the number of complaints. We also saw additional growth in our social media audiences and began a new national Legion presence on Instagram and LinkedIn.
- Our team handled the production of monthly member Debrief and All Branch updates containing crucial information about campaigns and contests to attract new membership.
- We continued producing our well-received monthly Public Relations Officer report full of media highlights, National Headquarters updates, public/member feedback examples and upcoming calendar events.
- We worked with colleagues and partners to help plan for annual key events and some new ones, examples include:
  - Fostering the Legion's partnership in the Canadian Tulip Festival, which included a campaign with Branches to help plant Liberation 75 tulips in the fall of 2019, to bloom in the spring of 2020. The Festival also donated a dollar from each bag of bulbs sold, to the Legion – increasing brand awareness.

- The 2019 National Youth Track and Field competition – advertising, pitching stories, creating a new promotional video, and fielding inquiries. Alerting the public to cancelled event in 2020, 2021.
- Helping with the dissemination of VAC's Veterans Service Card and Service Medal information updates.
- Facilitating VIA Rail Canada's invitation to have Branches hand out poppies in their train stations during the Remembrance period.
- The Legion's Virtual Poppy Drop on Parliament Hill – each year we reached hundreds of thousands of viewers with Facebook Live alone.
- Participating in and supporting the Canada Army Run and "Remembrance Row" – which includes roadside photos of Veterans.
- Participation in the Navy Bike Ride.
- Support and sponsorship of the new CAF Victory March.
- Ongoing support of The Legion National Foundation as needed.

#### MOVING FORWARD:

Along with yearly projects, future public relations efforts include, but are not limited to:

- The production of additional video/audio stories that tell the story of the Legion.
- The visual/audio representation of our work will be a powerful tool that can be used in all regions to share the importance of what we do.
- Revamped Legion.ca website
  - Providing enhanced navigation and simplified content.
- Further focus on ensuring that key information is effectively communicated and pushed down to the Branch level.
  - We need to all make an ongoing commitment to share material where useful, and it is our individual responsibility to read and incorporate this information as best possible.

- Ongoing PR training and tools for those who interact regularly with the media or public.
  - We know that the consistent and regular training of our spokespeople across the country will result in better communication of our common messages.
  - New booklet to outline what we do, and our areas of expertise, targeted at media.

## RESOLUTIONS

No resolutions for voting were submitted between 2018 and early 2021, however we submitted recommendations for consideration and discussion at DEC meetings over that period.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That The Royal Canadian Legion adopt an immediate consequence to anyone found guilty of Stolen Valour. The PR Committee could draft a policy for consideration.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That The Royal Canadian Legion formulate a short yet explicit set of guidelines to outline when and where Legion representatives can and cannot appear in uniform.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the PR Committee help develop a template to report back on where the federal funding goes; and help develop a joint communication strategy so that local government officials can share in the announcements.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the provincial/territorial Public Relations Officers or their designates gather Remembrance Period ideas from their region and send them to the PR committee for compilation and sharing.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Create an understanding with new and existing employees and PR representatives: they must read and remain current on the Legion's current PR issues and activities by staying up to date locally and by reading National Headquarters publications (PRO report, All-Branch, Legion Debrief).

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the provincial/territorial Public Relations Officers who currently attend bi-monthly meetings nationally, also bring with them key stories of interest in their communities that could have national appeal.

## BUDGET

The Committee spending to date remained minimal, falling well within the allocated budget. Spending on Public Relations activities also remained within budget.

## CONCLUSION

Despite the pandemic, we have actively maintained our Public Relations (Marketing/Communications) efforts, in a way that has kept members and the public well-informed about our programs and initiatives. Sustaining and growing these efforts will help ensure a healthy Legion future ahead.

Through our timely and increasingly proactive interaction with people by phone, in person, through email and social media, we have been able to strengthen the solid foundation we built at the beginning of our committee's work. As a result, we continue to protect and enhance the organization's reputation and thereby help move its agenda forward.

Ongoing public relations tools serve our members and Branches well, and offer a full range of important updates to help with operations and to keep our various audiences well informed. Through creative stories, pictures, videos, and other interactions, we have offered even more vehicles by which Canadians can understand how vital our collective work is – and entice them to help us with our mission, by joining our organization.

This report was moved, seconded and approved by the delegates.

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION—DOMINION COMMAND  
PUBLIC RELATIONS

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>COMMITTEE</b>					
TRAVEL	2,425	-	2,000	2,000	2,000
PER DIEM	1,578	-	1,000	1,000	1,000
PRINTING, STATIONERY	-	-	100	102	104
TELEPHONE & FAX	281	-	500	510	520
POSTAGE	-	-	-	-	-
MISCELLANEOUS	19	-	100	102	104
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>4,303</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,700</b>	<b>3,714</b>	<b>3,728</b>
<b>PR SECTION</b>					
<b>EXTERNAL</b>					
MEDIA MONITORING	34,178	37,030	42,000	42,840	43,697
MEDIA DISTRIBUTION	-	-	8,000	8,160	8,323
SPECIALIST CONSULTING	6,600	6,540	7,000	7,140	7,283
NATIONAL MEMORIAL RIDE	14,378	-	-	-	-
NATIONAL MEMORIAL RIDE DONATIONS	-	-	-	-	-
PARTNERSHIP/EVENT PR SUPPORT	31,128	44,783	50,000	51,000	52,020
TRAINING/LIAISON					
- PER DIEM	4,106	3,021	10,000	10,200	10,404
- TRAVEL	5,441	1,522	10,000	10,200	10,404
- PR TRAINING	311	-	5,000	5,100	5,202
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>96,142</b>	<b>92,896</b>	<b>132,000</b>	<b>134,640</b>	<b>137,333</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100,445</b>	<b>92,896</b>	<b>135,700</b>	<b>138,354</b>	<b>141,061</b>
LESS: POPPY FUND CHARGEBACK/GRANT	-	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,200)	(10,404)
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>100,445</b>	<b>82,896</b>	<b>125,700</b>	<b>128,154</b>	<b>130,657</b>

## REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND SPORTS COMMITTEE

---

B. Weaver, *Chair*  
D. Flannigan, *Vice-Chair*  
K. Andrews, *Member*  
M. Crowe, *Member*  
J. Lava, *Member*  
S. Thibaudeau, *Member*  
L. Taha Cheng, *Coordinator*  
A. Keeling Colkitt, *A/Coordinator*

### INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Dominion Command Sports Committee is to maintain close liaison with Provincial Command sports representatives, and to provide leadership and seek cost effective measures to execute all Legion sports programs. The Committee continues to organize, manage, and deliver the Dominion Cribbage, Darts and Eight Ball Championships and the Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships.

The Dominion Command Sports Committee has met nine times since the 2018 Dominion Convention – twice in Ottawa and seven times by teleconference. This report summarizes the Committee's activities over that period.

### MEMBER SPORTS GENERAL

Member Sports continue to promote Legion comradeship and sportsmanship by bringing together members from every branch of the Legion. The sporting events help keep members physically active and add to the social aspect of the branch. This helps attract new members and retain current members, which in turn brings in needed revenue, acts as a member incentive and helps engage members through activities and camaraderie.

### 2018 DOMINION MEMBER SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The results of the three Dominion Member Sports Championships hosted in 2018 are as follows:

#### a. Dominion Cribbage

**Hosted by:** Branch #01-091 Victoria, BC,  
27-30 April 2018  
**Single:** Gary Moore, Branch #08-160  
Centennial-Dartmouth, NS/NU  
**Doubles:** Barry Dillon, Richard Falle,  
Branch #01-091 Prince Edward,  
BC/YT  
**Team:** Sandra Routledge, Catherine  
Bryan, Elaine Dubeau, Veronica  
White, Branch #06-198  
Montcalm Memorial, QC

---

#### b. Dominion Darts

**Hosted by:** Branch #06-120 Mascouche, QC,  
4-7 May 2018  
**Single:** Darren MacNevin, Branch #  
09-001 Charlottetown, PE  
**Doubles:** Chester MacKenzie, Glen  
MacKenzie, Branch #08-156  
MacDonald Memorial, NS/NU  
**Team:** Coady Burke, Scott Shea, Jason  
Smith, Jeffrey Boutilier, Branch  
#08-156 Macdonald Memorial,  
NS/NU

---

#### c. Dominion 8-Ball

**Hosted by:** Branch #03-060 Estevan, SK,  
25-28 May 2018  
**Single:** Kim Bohnet, Branch #02-017  
Robertson Memorial, AB-NT  
**Doubles:** Dave Snoddy, Kevin Houle,  
Branch #05-060 Burlington, ON  
**Team:** Kim Bohnet, Ron Meier, Cy  
Boersma, Kenneth Hicks, Branches  
#02-017 Robertson Memorial &  
#02-238 Bowness, AB-NT

---

## 2019 DOMINION MEMBER SPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS:

The results of the three Dominion Member Sports Championships hosted in 2019 are as follows:

### a. Dominion Cribbage

**Hosted by:** Branch #05-480 Westboro, ON,  
26-29 April 2019  
**Single:** Bill Nelligen, Branch #01-024  
Cranbrook, BC/YT  
**Doubles:** Anne Dubuc, Dennis Fewer,  
Branch #10-012 Grand Falls, NL  
**Team:** Jim McCaffery, Ron Sherwood,  
Ed McFadzen, Kathy Sullivan,  
Branch #07-004 Fredericton, NB  
.....

### b. Dominion Darts

**Hosted by:** Branch #08-078 Dominion, NS,  
3-6 May 2019  
**Single:** Nick Smith, Branch #08-112  
Lawrencetown, NS/NU  
**Doubles:** Bryce Book, Connor Book, Branch  
#01-052 Kamloops, BC/YT  
**Team:** Coady Burke, Jason Smith, Willie  
MacIsaac, Sheldon Fudge, Branch  
#08-156 Macdonald Memorial,  
NS/NU  
.....

### c. Dominion 8-Ball

**Hosted by:** Branch #07-004 Fredericton,  
24-27 May 2019  
**Single:** Greg Gauthier, Branch #07-010  
Miramichi Branch, NB  
**Doubles:** Curtis Beaudoin, Richard  
Urbanik, Branch #04-043  
Norwood & St Boniface,  
MB&NWO  
**Team:** Curtis Beaudoin, Richard  
Urbanik, Richard Martinson, Neil  
Shore, Branch #04-043 Norwood  
& St Boniface, MB&NWO

## 2020 AND 2021 DOMINION MEMBER SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 and 2021 Dominion Member Sports (Cribbage, Darts and Eight Ball) Championships were cancelled.

## MEMBER SPORTS – POINTS OF INTEREST

The Sports Committee has continued to work toward improving the Member Sports program. The following points outline this effort:

- a. **Sports Guide Amendments:** The Sports Committee continues to review the sport programs' policies and procedures and use feedback from the provincial sports representatives to update the Sports Guide as required. The following amendments have been approved by the Dominion Executive Council:

### Subsection 208.d

Amended subsection 208.d to read:

208.d Additional exceptions may apply based on extenuating circumstances which must be approved by the Dominion Sports Committee.

### Subsection 302.b

Amended subsection 302.b to read:

302.b Providing up to \$700 towards transportation and mileage for four competitors per member sport event from their place of residence to the national airport nearest the site of the Championship and return. For Provincial Command team members choosing to travel by car to Dominion Member Sport Championships, each member whose vehicle is utilized for this purpose is provided the equivalent of the lowest available fare-saver airfare and mileage up to \$700 (from their place of residence to the national airport nearest the site of the Championship and return) OR the distance in kilometers as calculated by Dominion Command, whichever is less.

### Subsection 303.d

Amended subsection 303.d to read:

303.d. Arranging for and regulating Legion Cribbage, Darts and Eight Ball within its jurisdiction and ensuring that Provincial Championships are completed at least four weeks prior to the Dominion Championships.



- b. Eight Ball Participation:** In 2018, there were three Provincial Commands that did not participate in the Dominion Eight Ball Championships. BC/YT did not have a Provincial Championships, as they did not have 50% of their zones participating in eight ball. MB&NWO cancelled their Provincial Championships, as they did not have a host for the event. QC only had 11 teams interested; therefore, decided not to run a Provincial Eight Ball Championships. Following positive discussions throughout the past two years, both BC/YT and MB&NWO had scheduled Provincial Eight Ball Championships for 2020. Therefore, all Provincial Commands, except for QC, had planned on sending a team to the 2020 Dominion Eight Ball Championships until they were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. QC Command identified that they only had 5 teams interested in participating in eight ball in 2020 and that there are only 3 branches in their Command that have sufficient eight ball tables to host.

#### LEGION NATIONAL YOUTH TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS GENERAL

The Championships continue to bring together nearly 1,000 athletes from across the country annually to compete in Canada's only U16 and U18 National Track and Field Championships. This national championship, supported by the efforts of thousands of Legion volunteers, gives young Canadians 17 and under a chance to compete against the best, develop confidence and better understand the diversity of other sports-minded youth across Canada. In 2019, the Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships were selected as a top three finalist for the Canadian Sport Tourism Alliance's Sport Event of the Year Award in Group B (budget less than \$1 million).

The Committee continues to pursue avenues of savings through independent travel bookings with airlines, providing revenue sharing activities with host committees, and proactively seeking sponsorship partners. National sponsorship partners over the past three years included Home Hardware, Programmed Insurance Brokers Inc.,

MBNA, and BMO. In addition to the sponsorship initiatives, revenue is also generated by the collection of registration fees which, when combined with sponsorship funds, exceeded \$74,000 in 2019.

#### 2018 LEGION NATIONAL YOUTH TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 42nd Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships took place 8-14 August 2018 in Brandon, Manitoba. The total attendance was 650 athletes, including 317 Legion sponsored athletes, representing all 10 Provincial Commands, and 333 open category athletes. The athletes were supported by 37 Legion sponsored chaperones and 27 Legion sponsored coaches, as well as 97 open category coaches. There were approximately 2,000 spectators, officials, and volunteers from all parts of Canada in attendance which included Veterans, both retired and serving, covering all branches of service.

The program continued to consist of, for Legion athletes, instructional clinics, practice sessions, social activities and the actual meet. For 2018, a remembrance theme of the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War was prominent throughout. As well, the 42nd anniversary of these games was acknowledged.

The President of the Legion, Comrade Dave Flannigan, attended the opening ceremonies and was the official guest of honour. In attendance as well was Mr. Angus Stanfield, Royal Canadian Legion Dominion Vice President and Sports Committee Chair; Ronn Anderson, Royal Canadian Legion MB/NWO President; Larry Maguire, MP Brandon-Souris; Reg Helwer, MLA Brandon West; His Worship Rick Chrest, Mayor City of Brandon; Major Howard Nelson, Acting Base Commander CFB Shilo; and Master Warrant Officer Sean David, Acting Base Chief Warrant Officer CFB Shilo. Immediately following the ceremony, Dominion Command hosted a reception on-site at the Brandon Sportsplex. Further receptions were held at Branch #3 Brandon for the chaperones and coaches on Saturday and Sunday respectively. The closing banquet was hosted at Brandon University in the main dining hall on Monday evening.

From the opening ceremony through to the closing banquet, Canada's contributions to freedom and the sacrifices of our Veterans formed the cornerstone of this event. This was projected through the content of speeches, event publications, local and national media outlets, event paraphernalia sporting the 100th anniversary logo (i.e., volunteer t-shirts, event bags, hats, bibs, event booklets, etc.), and formal recognition of Veterans who were invited guests to the championships, acted as chaperones, volunteered their services, and formed part of the event medal presenters. Other areas of remembrance were the medals presented which used the Brooding Soldier, the central feature of the Saint Julien Memorial, as the basis for the design, the laying of a wreath by the Dominion Sports Chair, and the two minutes of silence during the opening ceremonies. During the final banquet, the playing of the Battle of the Somme, the Heights of Dargai (both written by pipers that fought in those two battles) and Amazing Grace by the Dominion Sports Chair on his grandfather's (a First World War Veteran) bagpipes which were present at the Battle of Vimy Ridge, were especially poignant moments.

The meet was held from 10-12 August under very warm weather temperatures. The facility at the Brandon Sportsplex was in excellent condition and enhanced the overall competition. The meet itself was carried out over a full three-day period under the excellent organization of the meet director, Jim Murray. Seven meet records and two national records were broken. The top Legion female athlete, receiving the LeRoy Washburn trophy, was Savannah Sutherland from Saskatchewan and the top male athlete, receiving the Jack Stenhouse trophy, was Emanuel Désilets from Quebec. Logistically, the caterer provided good meals on site with a nutritionally designed menu developed in concert with a nutritional sport expert. The quarters used to house the Legion teams were in good condition at Brandon University. Transportation for staff and Legion teams was excellent.

For 2018, an extensive social media campaign was conducted which included Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Additional promotion prior to the event was provided through advertisements at

the OFSAA Track and Field Championships, in CFB Shilo's base newspaper, and during TV spots on the PBS Station Prairie Public. Extensive coverage of the event was provided by the Brandon Sun prior to, during, and post event. During the championships, the event was broadcast via live streaming on AthleticsCanada.TV by ColossoVision. Overall, the live feeds were very well received by the audience with a total of 17,666 views of the track feed and 7,382 views of the field feed.

The Brandon community led by the Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) Chair, Barb Andrew, of Branch #3, and the Vice-LAC Chair, Jackie Nichol, of Brandon University, were instrumental in organizing the event on the ground. The entire Brandon community rallied around the program providing a volunteer base of over 300. CFB Shilo was a strong supporter as well, providing logistical support in the form of modular tenting. The City of Brandon, the Province of Manitoba, Athletics Canada, Athletics Manitoba, and Programmed Insurance Brokers Inc. (PIB) were additional gold level sponsors, along side 32 other local sponsors, who made the event possible.

### 2019 LEGION NATIONAL YOUTH TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 43rd Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships took place 7-13 August 2019 in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. The total attendance was 721 athletes, including 314 Legion sponsored athletes, representing all 10 Provincial Commands, and 407 open category athletes. The athletes were supported by 38 Legion sponsored chaperones and 28 Legion sponsored coaches, as well as 120 open category coaches. There were approximately 2,000 spectators, officials, and volunteers from all parts of Canada in attendance which included Veterans, both retired and serving, covering all branches of service.

The program continued to consist of, for Legion athletes, instructional clinics, practice sessions, social activities and the actual meet. For 2019, a remembrance theme of the 75th anniversary of D-Day was prominent throughout. Legion Provincial Command athletes visited the Fortress of Louisbourg where two lucky athletes



were given the opportunity to fire a ground-shaking canon at the top of the fortress.

The President of the Legion, Comrade Thomas D. Irvine, attended the opening ceremonies and was the official guest of honour. In attendance as well was Brian Weaver, Royal Canadian Legion Dominion Vice-President and Sports Committee Chair; Marion Fryday-Cook, Royal Canadian Legion NS/NU President; Jeff Ward, band member of Membertou Mi'kmaw community; Derek Mombourquette, MLA Sydney Whitney Pier - Provincial Minister of Nova Scotia; and Eldon MacDonald, Cape Breton Regional Municipality Councillor. The opening ceremony began with a parade led by Sergeant-at-Arms, Dave Piercy, and his Color Party, followed by the CBU Pipe and Drum Band. Legion teams representing all Provincial Commands, followed by a group of open athletes, made for a wonderful opening. Immediately following the ceremony, Dominion Command hosted a reception on-site at Cape Breton University. Further receptions were held at Branch #138 Ashby for the chaperones and at Cape Breton University for the coaches on Saturday and Sunday respectively. The closing banquet was hosted at Cape Breton University in the Canada Games Complex on Monday evening. During the closing banquet, the President's Award, which recognizes individuals who have demonstrated exceptional dedication, support and service to the Legion Nationals program, was presented to Helen and John Ladouceur.

From the opening ceremony through to the closing banquet, Canada's contributions to freedom and the sacrifices of our Veterans formed the cornerstone of this event. This was projected through the content of speeches, event publications, local and national media outlets and event paraphernalia sporting the 75th anniversary of D-Day logo (i.e. on volunteer t-shirts, event bags, hats, bibs, event booklets, etc.). The program also included formal recognition of Veterans who were invited guests to the championships, acted as chaperones, volunteered their services, and formed part of the event medal presenters. Other areas of remembrance were the medals presented which featured silhouettes that paid tribute to a battle

waged by sea, land and air, the laying of a wreath by the Dominion President, and the two minutes of silence during the opening ceremonies.

The meet was held from 9-11 August under perfect weather conditions. The facility at Cape Breton University was in excellent condition and enhanced the overall competition. The meet itself was carried out over a full three-day period under the excellent organization of the meet director, Jonathan Doucette, the director of officials, Anitra Stevens, and the technical advisor, Serge Thibaudeau. Eight meet records and one national record were broken. The top Legion female athlete, receiving the LeRoy Washburn trophy, was Jaeland Cummings from British Columbia and the top male athlete, receiving the Jack Stenhouse trophy, was Ryan Jacklin from Ontario.

Logistically, the caterer provided excellent meals on site with a nutritionally designed menu developed in concert with a nutritional sport expert. The quarters used to house the Legion teams were in great condition at Cape Breton University. Transportation for staff and Legion teams was great.

For 2019, an extensive digital media campaign was conducted which included Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat and Google Ads. The digital media campaign was successful in reaching a large audience and bringing awareness to the Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships. Live coverage of the championships was also posted on social media, including a Facebook Live video broadcast of the field events.

The following shows results from the 2019 digital media efforts:

#### **2019 follower growth across channels:**

Facebook following grew +432 followers  
Instagram following grew +1,000 followers  
Twitter following grew +100 followers

#### **Facebook post results between April & August 30, 2019:**

Facebook impressions (amount of times people saw a post enter their screen): 692,051  
Facebook engaged users (number of unique Facebook users who engaged with a post): 20,650  
Facebook live video watchers (number of unique Facebook users who watched): 20,082  
Facebook live video views (number of total views): 24,581

#### **Facebook awareness paid ad results (leading up to event)**

493,916 impressions  
1,509 landing page views on website  
\$0.99 per landing page view

#### **Snapchat ad results:**

419,854 impressions  
7,122 swipe ups to the website

#### **Google ad results:**

18,092 impressions  
1,993 clicks (11.02% click through rate) at \$0.99 a click

Additional promotion prior to the event was provided through advertisements at high school track and field championships, radio spots on Cape Breton Stingray radio and billboards throughout the Cape Breton Regional Municipality. Extensive coverage of the event was provided by the Cape Breton Post prior to, during and post event. During the championships, the track events were broadcasted via live streaming on AthleticsCanada.TV. Athletics Canada switched to a subscription-based model this year and 2,027 viewers signed up for the paid account.

The Cape Breton community led by the LAC Chair, Thomas Young, of Branch #138, went above and beyond to provide the best possible experience for the athletes, coaches, chaperones and guests. The entire Cape Breton community rallied around the program providing a volunteer base of over 300. CFB Halifax was a strong supporter as well, along with the Cape Breton Highlanders, providing logistical support in the form of setting up modular tents and providing communication radios. In addition to hosting a fantastic meet, Cape Breton

University displayed their outstanding hospitality and amazing campus through live music, games, recreational sports, an Amazing Race scavenger hunt and an epic paint battle. The Cape Breton Regional Municipality, the Province of Nova Scotia, Athletics Canada, Athletics Nova Scotia, Seaboard Transport, Professional Institute Public Service Canada and Programmed Insurance Brokers Inc. were additional gold level sponsors, along side 50 other local sponsors, who made the event possible.

Legion athlete, Mikayla Boucher, summed up the message of Remembrance during her speech at the closing banquet. “The mission of the Royal Canadian Legion is to support Veterans, promote Remembrance and strengthen communities. We wear our poppies tonight to acknowledge the importance of remembrance,” said Boucher. “Countless Canadian lives have been dedicated to serving our nation, and it is crucial that we always remember and honour the Fallen. We are asking each athlete to show their respect by visiting their local Legion to share their experiences at Legion Nationals and sincerely thank them for this amazing opportunity and their dedication to our country.”

#### **2020 AND 2021 LEGION NATIONAL YOUTH TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 and 2021 Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships were cancelled.

#### **TRACK AND FIELD – POINTS OF INTEREST**

The Sports Committee has continued to work toward improving the Track and Field program while reducing costs. The following points outline this effort:

- a. Sports Guide Amendments:** The Sports Committee continues to review the Legion Nationals’ policies and procedures and use feedback from the provincial sports representatives to update the Sports Guide as required. The following amendments have been approved by the Dominion Executive Council:

##### **Subsection 707.b**

Amended subsection 707.b to read:

707.b Each Provincial Command must name one coach as the Head Coach and *that person has to be a fully certified National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) club coach. All other team coaches require NCCP club coach trained certification.* There may be exceptions to this rule.

#### **Subsection 707.c**

Amended subsection 707.c to read:

707.c Each provincial athletic association is permitted to designate no more than two additional *NCCP club or sport trained coaches to accompany their team for professional development purposes.* All associated expenses are to be paid by the provincial athletic association or the coach, not by Dominion Command.

**b. National Dominion Head Chaperones:** A call for applications was distributed to the Provincial Command executive directors and Provincial Command sports representatives seeking one male and one female head chaperone for the 2020, now 2022, and future Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships. Helen and John Ladouceur, current Dominion Head Chaperones, will also be attending the 2022 Legion Nationals in order to provide training, support, and a thorough transfer of knowledge to the successors. At the 2019 Legion Nationals, Helen and John Ladouceur were presented with the President's Award for their selfless dedication in support of the Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships for the past 20 years.

**c. Athletics Canada Partnership:** The partnership between The Royal Canadian Legion and Athletics Canada has been re-established and at their 2018 Annual General Meeting, Athletics Canada recognized the Legion Nationals as the only official U16 and U18 national outdoor track and field championships. Athletics Canada has also provided budget relieving in-kind sponsorships over the past two years including merchandise,

webcast support, a technical representative, and high performance athlete guest speakers for the Legion athletes' clinics. They also offered a coaches' clinic at the 2019 Legion Nationals.

**d. Legion Nationals Bids to Host:** As a result of an enhanced bid process, increased promotions of the event and an economic impact assessment report, the number of bids received to host Legion Nationals has significantly increased in the past three years. Multiple high-quality bid packages were submitted during the last two bid periods and numerous communities have expressed a high level of interest in hosting Legion Nationals. Following a competitive review of the proposals, the Sports Committee selected Sherbrooke, Quebec, and Calgary, Alberta to host the upcoming Legion Nationals as follows:

- 2022: Sherbrooke, QC, 3-9 August 2022 (competition dates: 5-7 Aug)
- 2023: Sherbrooke, QC, 9-15 August 2023 (competition dates: 11-13 Aug)
- 2024: Calgary, AB, 7-13 August 2024 (competition dates: 9-11 Aug)
- 2025: Calgary, AB, 6-12 August 2025 (competition dates: 8-10 Aug)

#### **DOMINION COMMAND NATIONAL SPORTS TELECONFERENCES**

Since 2017, the Sports Committee has organized annual National Sports teleconferences in order to provide provincial sports representatives with the opportunity to share best practices, discuss issues, questions and concerns, and collaborate in order to enhance the Legion's Member Sports and Track and Field programs. The sharing of information in regards to the positives and negatives within each provincial program has provided a base of realistic expectations on a national scale. It has also served to gain consensus in many areas, which will help the Sports Committee to focus its efforts. A Dropbox folder was also created for the provincial sports representatives to exchange best practices and templates and improve the overall Legion Nationals athletes' and Dominion Member Sports Championships participants' experiences.

## RESOLUTIONS

The Committee has not received any resolutions for the 2021 Convention.

## BUDGET

Enclosed with this report is a copy of the 2021 and 2022 budgets for Member Sports, the Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships, and the Sports Committee. Delegates may raise any questions they may have concerning the budgets at this time. However, any motion for changes to the budgets as related to the Sports Committee will be deferred until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer in the Convention proceedings.

## CONCLUSION

The Dominion Command Sports Committee continues to focus on the development and advancement of the Legion sports programs with an emphasis on improving the events and participants' experiences, while reducing costs, promoting the Legion, and enhancing membership.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of the Committee for their support and dedication throughout the past three years.

This report was moved, seconded and approved by the delegates.

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION – DOMINION COMMAND  
SPORTS COMMITTEE**

	<b>2019 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2020 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2021 BUDGET</b>	<b>2022 BUDGET</b>	<b>2023 BUDGET</b>
<b>COMMITTEE</b>					
TRAVEL	736	-	4,500	4,590	4,682
PER DIEM	788	-	3,500	3,570	3,641
<b>T &amp; F LAC</b>					
- SPRING SITE VISIT	6,428	663	10,000	10,200	10,404
- FALL SITE VISIT	-	-	3,000	3,060	3,121
PRINTING, STATIONERY	184	51	500	510	520
TELEPHONE & FAX	171	82	100	100	100
POSTAGE	398	11	450	450	450
MISCELLANEOUS	3,096	565	1,000	1,000	1,000
<b>TOTAL COMMITTEE</b>	<b>11,801</b>	<b>1,372</b>	<b>23,050</b>	<b>23,480</b>	<b>23,919</b>
<b>DARTS</b>					
TRAVEL					
PARTICIPANTS	21,485	-	24,600	25,092	25,594
COMMITTEE	352	-	2,200	2,244	2,289
AWARDS & PRIZES-PARTICIPANTS	910	909	1,300	1,326	1,353
ADVANCE TO HOST BRANCH	800	800	800	800	800
GROUND TRANSPORTATION	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
<b>TOTAL DARTS</b>	<b>25,047</b>	<b>3,209</b>	<b>30,400</b>	<b>30,962</b>	<b>31,535</b>
<b>CRIBBAGE</b>					
TRAVEL					
PARTICIPANTS	15,836	10,412	24,000	24,480	24,970
COMMITTEE	110	-	1,900	1,938	1,977
AWARDS & PRIZES	910	909	1,300	1,326	1,353
ADVANCE TO HOST BRANCH	800	-	800	800	800
GROUND TRANSPORTATION	1,500	-	1,500	1,500	1,500
<b>TOTAL CRIBBAGE</b>	<b>19,156</b>	<b>11,321</b>	<b>29,500</b>	<b>30,044</b>	<b>30,599</b>

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>EIGHT BALL</b>					
TRAVEL					
PARTICIPANTS	17,286	1,013	21,200	21,624	22,056
COMMITTEE	2,356	-	2,100	2,142	2,185
AWARDS & PRIZES	910	909	1,300	1,326	1,353
ADVANCE TO HOST BRANCH	800	800	800	800	800
GROUND TRANSPORTATION	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
<b>TOTAL EIGHT BALL</b>	<b>22,852</b>	<b>4,222</b>	<b>26,900</b>	<b>27,392</b>	<b>27,894</b>
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS SPORTS</b>	<b>67,055</b>	<b>18,752</b>	<b>86,800</b>	<b>88,398</b>	<b>90,028</b>
<b>TOTAL T &amp; F</b>	<b>165,064</b>	<b>7,075</b>	<b>220,576</b>	<b>229,888</b>	<b>239,385</b>
<b>TOTAL SPORTS &amp; COMMITTEE</b>	<b>243,920</b>	<b>27,199</b>	<b>330,426</b>	<b>341,766</b>	<b>353,332</b>

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>NATIONAL TRACK &amp; FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>					
TRANSPORTATION	205,936	4,000	190,000	193,800	197,676
ACCOMMODATIONS, MEALS	161,736	-	213,588	217,860	222,217
COMMITTEE - TRAVEL	4,843	-	5,200	5,304	5,410
COMMITTEE - PER DIEM	16,943	-	22,788	23,244	23,709
LOCAL COMMITTEE	1,000	299	1,000	1,020	1,040
KITS / SUPPLIES / MEDALS	14,326	6,508	8,000	8,160	8,323
BUSES	15,932	-	13,500	13,770	14,045
HONORARIA	4,500	500	3,000	3,060	3,121
RECEPTION	1,830	-	1,500	1,530	1,561
ATHLETIC FACILITIES	1,500	-	1,000	1,020	1,040
EQUIPMENT / MTG ROOMS	1,759	-	1,000	1,020	1,040
CLINICIANS	1,691	-	1,000	1,020	1,040
OFFICIALS	1,640	-	2,000	2,040	2,081
FREIGHT & EXPRESS	1,458	768	1,000	1,020	1,040
MISCELLANEOUS	863	-	1,000	1,020	1,040
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>435,957</b>	<b>12,075</b>	<b>465,576</b>	<b>474,888</b>	<b>484,385</b>
LESS PROV CMD PORTION	(121,803)	-	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>314,154</b>	<b>12,075</b>	<b>365,576</b>	<b>374,888</b>	<b>384,385</b>
<b>RECOVERIES</b>					
REGISTRATION - NON LEGION ATHLETES	(41,415)	-	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)
SPONSORSHIPS	(25,000)	(5,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)
GRANT-VAC	(7,675)	-	-	-	-
OTHER	(75,000)	-	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)
<b>TOTAL RECOVERIES</b>	<b>(149,090)</b>	<b>(5,000)</b>	<b>(145,000)</b>	<b>(145,000)</b>	<b>(145,000)</b>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>165,064</b>	<b>7,075</b>	<b>220,576</b>	<b>229,888</b>	<b>239,385</b>



## REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND DEFENCE *and* SECURITY COMMITTEE

A. Siew, *Chair*  
Vacant, *Vice-Chair*  
B. Heffernan, *Member*  
C. Gasser, *Coordinator*  
M. Smith, *A/Coordinator*

### INTRODUCTION

The Dominion Command D&S Committee has met via in person, by teleconference, and by videoconference 6 times in total since the last convention. This report summarizes the Committee's activities over that period.

### GENERAL

The Committee continues to monitor defence and security issues as they arise. The following are updates on various issues, without providing the level of detail available in the Committee minutes that were distributed to DEC.

The Committee continues to maintain a presence at the Veteran's Consultation Assembly, the Conference of Defence Associations and the Conference of Defence Associations Institute (CDA/CDAI) AGM and VSS meetings (through Coordinator) to ensure coordinated understanding and efforts.

There has been a significant change of members in the D&S Committee since last Convention. The Chair, Comrade Richard Blanchette, and his replacement, Comrade Jay Milne, resigned from the Committee. Comrade Andrea Siew has recently come onboard as the new Chair.

Comrades Randy Price, Deputy Chair and Bob Cleroux have also resigned. Comrade Brendan Heffernan was welcomed as the RCMP liaison in 2019 following the resignation of Comrade Wayne Martin.

Through a conscientious effort, the Committee will continue to establish and foster direct links with the CDS, VCDS, CMP, Service Commanders and RCMP Commanders. This has been hindered due to the pandemic and the resignation of many of the D&S members. This line of communication continues to serve the Legion as a conduit to express pressing

concerns and coordinate efforts in the areas that affect the efficiency of the CAF and RCMP alike.

### CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

#### Defence Policy

The Committee will continue to monitor the Defence Policy of Strong, Secure, and Engaged (SSE) in several key areas, including the procurement of Surface Combatant Ships, Fighter Jets, and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). Given the large federal deficit from the pandemic, we are concerned about the defence budget and whether it will be sufficient for the ongoing and future procurement projects.

#### Sexual Misconduct Allegations

The Committee has deep concerns over the allegations of sexual misconduct at the upper echelon of the CAF leadership.

The Legion, as a member of the CDA, recently supported a CDA/CDAI statement regarding allegations of sexual misconduct in the CAF. "The statements advocated for thorough and independent investigations to be held, that there must be a safe, secure, and supportive environment for victims to report, that those who are found to have committed the misconduct to be held accountable to the Code of Service Discipline and/or the law as may be applicable, and for long lasting cultural change at all levels of the CAF."

We are concerned about the lack of confidence and trust CAF members may experience towards their leadership. The allegations could negatively affect morale and challenge the effort to recruit new military members and may impact operational effectiveness. We will continue to monitor the evolving events.

## RCMP

Similar to the CAF, recruiting and retention is also a challenge for the RCMP putting them in a constant hiring state. A significant hiring blitz has been underway.

The National Police Federation (NPF) has been certified as the bargaining agent to represent non-commissioned RCMP members and negotiations for a Collective Agreement since 2020 and formal contract negotiations with the employer (Treasury Board) will commence on 25 June 2021, focusing on pay, resource levels and benefits.

In September 2019, Ms. Gail Johnson was appointed as the RCMP's Chief Human Resources Officer (CHRO). She will be responsible for all matters related to the well-being, safety and compensation of RCMP employees.

The RCMP has not been without their own difficult times with the Merlo-Davidson Settlement regarding gender-based discrimination, harassment and assault and the outcry regarding "Defunding the Police" and systemic racism concerns. Regarding the Defunding outcry, there is a need to have a "right sizing" of supporting associated organizations and service providers particularly in the field of mental health and to provide them with the right funding as well. More public education is required as it is a multi-faceted problem with more than the policing aspect.

The RCMP will have its 150th anniversary in 2023 and D&S will seek opportunities with Dominion Command and other Committees for possible coordination and promotion opportunities.

Following the pandemic, the Committee will seek to meet with Commissioner Brenda Lucki and the Chief HR Officer, Gail Johnson.

## CDA AGM AND CDA – CDAI CONFERENCE

LGen (ret) Guy Thibault was name President of the CDA and Chair of the CDAI in August 2019. Since the last Convention, the CDA also named a new Executive Director, Dr. Youri Cormier.

The CDA AGM was held on 3 March 2020 and the 2021 AGM is scheduled for 27 April 2021. In 2020, the Coordinator briefed the various member associations at the AGM about the current activities and advocacy efforts of the Legion in 2020. The Legion's Grand President, Comrade Larry Murray, was an honoured guest speaker at this years AGM. The AGM was attended by the Chair and the Coordinator.

The annual Ottawa Security Conference was held in person in 2020 shortly before the pandemic was announced and significant shutdowns occurred. The Conference in 2021 occurred via videoconference from 10-12 March 2021 and topics included were extremely relevant to the current world situation regarding threats from cyber attacks, disinformation, China, the two Canadian's being held captive in China, Russia, Iran, impacts on the economy, and sexual misconduct allegations in the CAF.

## CF SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

The Committee responsibilities of support to the CAF as previously reported at the 2018 Convention has continued despite the pandemic. Specific responsibilities are:

- Operation Santa Claus - distribution of a Christmas gift to deployed CAF and RCMP personnel;
- Operation Canada Day - distribution of a Canada Day gift to deployed CAF and RCMP personnel;
- Nijmegen Joint Task Force March representation; and
- Comradeship Awards.

Since the assumption of the above listed activities, the Committee has worked in conjunction with the Dominion Supply Department to deliver what has turned out to be well received gifts for both Canada Day and Christmas. The Dominion Supply Department and all Dominion Command staff who assisted in preparing the packages are to be congratulated for the effort put forward to make these programs an ongoing success.

## NIJMEGEN AND VICTORY MARCH

A Legion participant is part of the CAF contingent to the Netherlands for these marches every year. In 2020, 23 nominations were reviewed, up from 12 in 2019, from eight Provincial Commands selecting Comrade Joan Cook, from Legion Branch 212 in Kemptonville, Ontario, as the 2020 RCL Nijmegen representative. Comrade Yvan Corriveau from Branch #43 Norwood St. Boniface in Manitoba had been selected as alternate.

As the marches were cancelled in 2020, Comrade Joan participated with marches in Canada on her own while visiting sites of remembrance and sending pictures for Marketing and Communications to post on the Legion's main website. The Committee invited her to attend the 2021 marches in the Netherlands but unfortunately the 2021 marches have also been cancelled. We will know later this year if she is willing to represent the Legion in 2022 and if she is unable, will request applications in late 2021.

This year there was a new challenge in lieu of the Nijmegen marches. The Joint Task Force Nijmegen Canadian Contingent invited all Canadians to march virtually in their own locations for two days between 1 to 9 May 2021 with members of the CAF.

The goal was to support the CAF team's preparation for the Nijmegen Marches and to highlight the symbolic and unifying relationship between Canada and the Netherlands. Dominion Command provided \$5000 to sponsor this event. It was a tremendous success with over \$90K was raised to support Boomers Legacy, a charitable fund that supports humanitarian initiatives.

## D&S TERMS OF REFERENCE AND COMMAND REPRESENTATIVES (CR)

The TORs were updated as approved at DEC and incorporated into Annex N to Chapter 2 of the OP&P Manual.

From 2017-2019, the Committee's past Chair, Richard Blanchette, appealed to Provincial Commands for a representative. This proved for the most part, unsuccessful.

Rather than appointing Provincial Command representatives, DEC agreed the Committee would benefit greatly from the contribution from CAF and RCMP veterans from across Canada who have experience in a specific area of focus, such as military personnel policy and administration, defence policy development, procurement etc...

The Committee plans to continue to liaise with these subject matter experts and CAF and RCMP leaders as required after the pandemic.

## 2021 CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

The Committee has not received any resolutions to date.

## BUDGET

The budget for the D&S Committee has been generated by the Comptroller and will be brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings. Any motion for changes to the budget related to the D&S Committee are to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer.

## CONCLUSION

This report was moved, seconded and approved by the delegates.

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION – DOMINION COMMAND**  
**DEFENCE & SECURITY COMMITTEE**

	<b>2019 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2020 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2021 BUDGET</b>	<b>2022 BUDGET</b>	<b>2023 BUDGET</b>
TRAVEL	199	165	2,000	2,040	2,081
PER DIEM	-	-	2,000	2,040	2,081
PRINTING, POSTAGE,	281	222	100	102	104
TELEPHONE & FAX	13	40	250	255	260
MISCELLANEOUS	-	368	350	357	364
ANNUAL VIMY AWARD & AGM	6,975	-	7,000	7,000	7,000
CONFERENCE OF DEFENCE ASSOCIATION FEE & CIC FEE	2,098	3,995	2,000	2,000	2,000
COMRADESHIP AWARDS	252	166	1,000	1,020	1,040
CF SPONSORSHIPS					
NIJMEGEN	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>21,818</b>	<b>16,956</b>	<b>26,700</b>	<b>26,814</b>	<b>26,930</b>

## REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND RCEL COMMITTEE

T. Irvine, *Chair*  
D. Flannigan, *Vice-Chair*  
B. Julian, *Member*  
S. Clark, *Coordinator*  
R. McInnis, *A/Coordinator*  
C. Racine, *A/Coordinator*

### INTRODUCTION

The Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League was founded in 1921 at the Empire Conference in Cape Town, South Africa. The League's aim is to ensure that no pre-independence Commonwealth ex-service personnel shall be without help if in need. The Founding Member countries of the League are Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and the United Kingdom.

Worldwide, the RCEL supports 6189 beneficiaries - 2313 Veterans, 3876 widows – providing approximately \$7,000,000.00 annually. All those supported are resident in their country of origin and living in poverty.

In 2020, HRH The Duke of York stepped down from his role as the RCEL Grand President and General The Lord Richards of Herstmonceux, the former Chief of the UK Defence Staff and Deputy Grand President, was appointed to succeed him in that role. The new Deputy Grand President is Major-General Mitch Mitchell.

The Legion was saddened to learn of the passing on 23 August 2020 of Brian Watkins, Canada's Council Member on the RCEL Executive Committee. His widow, Libby Watkins, will continue as Canada's representative and efforts will get underway soon with the RCEL to recommend a second, supporting member.

### ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION COMMITMENT

The commitment of The Royal Canadian Legion's RCEL Committee continues to be the support of Veterans and widows in the Caribbean countries whose organizations and governments are unable to provide full care for their needs. The Legion is responsible for 16

countries in the Caribbean region and the provision of individual assistance can fluctuate as Veterans and widows in need are identified:

	VETERANS	WIDOWS
2020	79	80
2019	51	89
2018	57	99
2017	77	110
2016	91	107

*(Note: Through the work of the Caribbean Project Officer Joanna Lewin, additional Veterans were identified in Jamaica and Antigua in 2020)*

The Legion's ability to meet the needs of these Veterans and widows is directly attributable to the donations contributed by branches each year. The donations received in 2020 are less than in previous years, due to the restrictions and limited branch activities because of the pandemic. Annual donations in recent years have been:

2020	\$74,940.00
2019	\$87,202.35
2018	\$215,934.96
2017	\$179,036.40
2016	\$269,758.50

Branch donations are essential to enable the committee to provide benevolent support to those

Caribbean Veterans and widows living in poverty. They also fund the annual gifts of Poppy material, as well as provide for medical and administrative grants to help the member organizations in the Caribbean.

### COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

The total amount spent on support activities in the Caribbean has been:

2020	\$215,089.96
2019	\$262,615.35
2018	\$291,694.79
2017	\$284,730.81
2016	\$284,227.22

Included in these totals is the annual donation of \$5500.00 to the Jamaica Legion to support expenses of the Curphey Home.

A further \$205,000.00 has been committed for 2021, leaving a remaining balance of \$850,525.06 in the Legion's RCEL account

### POPPY MATERIAL

Poppy material is provided free of charge on request to assist the local Legions in the Caribbean to raise funds for themselves. Shipping costs are considerable.

	POPPY SUPPLIES	SHIPPING COST
2020	\$26,000.92	\$18,622.07
2019	\$15,298.06	\$14,409.00
2018	\$25,350.30	\$22,534.00
2017	\$18,363.86	\$16,507.00
2016	\$23,595.22	\$18,309.00

### FCDO (DFID) PROGRAM

The UK's Department for International Development (now merged with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office) made a total financial commitment of £11.8 million to the RCEL. These funds will provide all supported Veterans and widows worldwide with two meals a day for a five-year period, April 2019 – March 2024.

Caribbean countries funded through the FCDO (DFID) program are Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. The Legion will continue to fund directly to the non-FCDO countries: Bahamas, Tobago, and Trinidad & Tobago. Shared support by both the Legion and RCEL help beneficiaries in Antigua and Jamaica.

This FCDO contribution does not reduce our need for donations from branches, however, as Canada must now provide an increased level of financial assistance to beneficiaries in the Bahamas, Tobago and Trinidad & Tobago, and now Antigua and Jamaica.

### EVALUATION, MONITORING AND WELFARE VISITS

The Legion plans to visit the Caribbean every two years and will alternate countries visited. These visits last took place in 2019; the planned visits in 2021 were postponed to 2022 due to COVID-19 and remain dependant on any continuing travel restrictions.

### 2021 CENTENARY CONFERENCE

The RCEL centenary conference was planned for Cape Town, South Africa for February 2021. Due to the pandemic, this milestone conference was rescheduled to September 2021 in London, UK but has since been further postponed because of potential travel restrictions resulting from the pandemic. It will now be held September 2022 in London, UK.

## CONCLUSION

The Royal Canadian Legion remains committed to helping the ex-service Veterans and widows residing in poverty in the Caribbean. This is accomplished thanks to the generosity of branches that graciously donate the funds necessary to carry out this important work. Without your assistance, this would not be possible. Your kindness changes lives.

This report was moved seconded, and approved by the delegates.

---

## THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION – DOMINION COMMAND RCEL COMMITTEE

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
PER DIEM	1,804	767	600	600	600
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,804</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600</b>



# REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND

## RITUAL, AWARDS and PROTOCOL COMMITTEE

K. Sorrenti, *Chair*  
B. Kiley, *Vice-Chair*  
M. Latimer, *Member*  
J. Van Snick, *Member*  
J. Cher, *Member*  
C. Gendron, *Coordinator*  
R. Jones, *A/Coordinator*

### STATISTICS – MAJOR AWARDS

Statistics shown below represent figures for the last three-year period ending 31 December 2020.

YEAR	RECEIVED	APPROVED
2018	61	43
2019	73	56
2020	69	60

### NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Joel Van Snick and John Cher joined the Committee as Members. Denis Hotte retired and Charls Gendron assumed the role of Coordinator. Rich Jones joined the Committee as Assistant Coordinator.

### HONOURS AND AWARDS

The Committee continues to meet monthly either in person (prior to Covid), electronically or by Zoom and processes applications for the MSM, MSA and the Palm Leaf in a timely manner. There is no backlog of applications.

A procedure was implemented to fast-track re-submissions of applications if there are missing documents such as minutes etc., where otherwise the application would have been approved rather than wait for the next Committee meeting. Meetings of the Whole which included Provincial Command Honours and Awards Chairmen took place during the last three years. The focus of the meetings was the award process and several recommendations were made.

Applications for the MSM and MSA's have decreased dramatically. Prior to Covid, on average, seven applications were received monthly. Prior to this decline, it was common to receive fifteen plus applications per month.

The Committee determined that the prerequisite of having a Life Membership on applying for MSM/MSA award had an impact on the number of applications received.

It was felt that the paying of the per capita upfront for several years was difficult for Branches given their tenuous financial situation.

With the full support of the Provincial Command Ritual and Awards Chairman, it was agreed that to strengthen membership retention by recognizing the work put forth by members and an incentive for younger members to strive for, the following recommendation was made and approved at the November 2019 D.E.C. meeting that the Life Membership criteria for a MSM and MSA Award be removed. An applicant must be a member of the Royal Canadian Legion for a minimum of 15 years. All other criteria for the MSM and MSA as outlined in the Ritual, Awards and Protocol Manual will remain in effect.

### COMMITTEE MANUAL

Since the last convention, Committee members undertook the task of reviewing the manual, section by section, to ensure that all concurred resolutions were included, check for spelling, grammar, and presentation. The manual will be reviewed annually, and any changes will be made in September of the current year.

It is disappointing when we must return an application because of missing information or a weak citation. To help overcome this, we developed a flow chart as to what is required to obtain an application approval. Recent submissions are missing vital information. The Flowchart should be provided by all Commands to each Branch. It is important

that each Command review their current websites and update the Ritual and Awards section with this flowchart and any significant changes to our manual. This flow chart is included with application online. Also, there is an example of a citation to aid members in completing a strong citation.

### COMMEMORATIVE LAPEL PINS

Through the approval of D.E.C. at their April 2019 meeting, authorization for the wearing of the D-Day 75th Anniversary Pin was given to be worn on Legion and L.A. Dress along with the We Support Our Troops lapel pin from April to December 31, 2019. As of December 31, 2019, the D-Day 75th Anniversary Pin was no longer authorized for wear on Legion and L.A. Dress.

At the November 2020 D.E.C. meeting, approval was given for the wearing of the 100th Anniversary of the Poppy Pin on Legion and L.A. Formal Dress from January to 31 December 2021. In keeping with the tradition of wearing the Poppy on the left side near one's heart, below the Legion lapel pin and CAF Service pin.

### WEARING OF L.A. MEDALS ON LEGION DRESS

At the November 2018 D.E.C. meeting, a motion was approved that a new subsection 133 be added to Chapter 1. If a L.A. member becomes a Legion member for extenuating circumstances such as their L.A. is surrendering their charter OR they transfer to a Branch that does not have a L.A., medals awarded by the Ladies Auxiliary may also be worn on Legion uniforms. The existing subsection 133 will be renumbered to 134.

### TVS MEDALS

At the June 2020 D.E.C. meeting, a motion was approved that a TVS Special Section Past Officer medal be created using the same colour ribbon as the TVS Past President medal, Robin Egg Blue as the primary colour with gold stripes and a "TVS Representative" Bar be created. Existing Provincial bars such as 1st Vice-President will be used. The cost of the ribbon and the new bar will be borne by the TVS Special Section.

### OSI MEDALS

At the June 2020 D.E.C. meeting, a motion was approved that an OSI Special Section Past President Medal be created in line with the TVS Special Section Past President medal using green for the primary ribbon colour. Also, a Bar for the Past President Medal be created that reads "BSO OSI" and a Past Officer Medal be created again using green as the primary ribbon colour and gold stripes along with a new bar that reads, "Special Projects". Existing Provincial bars such as 1st Vice-President will be used. The cost to create and stock the medals, bars and ribbon will be borne by the OSI Special Section.

### INFORMAL LEGION DRESS

At the June 2020 D.E.C. meeting, a motion was approved that a Legion Informal Dress consisting of a short sleeve polo shirt be adopted to be worn at various Legion events such as convention business sessions, excluding the opening ceremonies, various Legion meetings i.e., Executive, General and Special, informal Branch events, hospital visitations to Veterans. The informal dress also includes black shoes, black socks, grey trousers for males and black shoes, dark grey hose, grey knee length skirts or slacks for females.

At the November 2020 D.E.C. meeting, a motion was approved to amend the style of shirt to be worn as Informal Legion Dress. The initial discussion focused on a polo shirt, however, the amount of embroidery required for the crest and the bunching of material that would result around the crest would not look good. In addition, a short-sleeved shirt is much more functional as it is more business casual in appearance, making it a better choice.

Every French Blue shirt will be embroidered with the Legion crest. Pinned below the crest will be the member designation, Veteran, Associate, Affiliate or Life Member. The pin will be included with each shirt. The Ritual and Award manual has been amended to reflect the regulations of this dress.

## BUDGET

This report and specifics were included in the budget that was previously brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer in his report.

## RESOLUTIONS

The Committee reviewed three resolutions submitted for consideration at this Convention. All seven resolutions were Non-Concurred by the Committee.

## CONCLUSION

The Ritual, Awards and Protocol Committee is committed to maintain the highest standards for Legion Awards and for the protocol, ritual and ceremonies practiced by members, Branches and Commands of the Legion. The Committee is an active partner in the process of change and renewal currently taking place throughout the Legion. This Committee remains committed to these goals.

This report was moved, seconded and approved by the delegates.

## THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION – DOMINION COMMAND RITUAL & AWARDS COMMITTEE

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
TRAVEL	69	-	100	100	100
PER DIEM	52	-	500	500	500
PRINTING, STATIONERY	113	11	500	510	520
TELEPHONE & FAX	158	23	150	153	156
POSTAGE	4	-	-	-	-
PUBLICATIONS					
DISTRIBUTION OF NEW STOCK	-	337	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>1,250</b>	<b>1,263</b>	<b>1,276</b>

# REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND **CONSTITUTION *and* LAWS COMMITTEE**

---

J. Rycroft, *Chair*  
D. Eaton, *Vice-Chair*  
B. Chafe, *Member*  
G. O'Dair, *Member*  
D. Martin, *Coordinator*  
F. Chute, *A/Coordinator*

## **GENERAL**

The purpose of this Committee is to advise the Legion on constitutional matters arising from interpretation of the Act of Incorporation and The General By-Laws which occurred between Conventions. All requests for rulings are to be directed to the Coordinator of the Committee at Dominion Command; committee consideration is then coordinated via electronic means only – email or teleconference.

## **THE GENERAL BY-LAWS MANUAL**

Since July 2016 the General By-Laws manual is only made available on-line. Since the 2018 convention amendments have been circulated (November 2018, April 2019, January 2020, June 2020, November 2020 and April 2021) and the on-line manual kept current.

## **AMENDMENTS TO PROVINCIAL COMMAND BY-LAWS**

In 2018-2021, the Committee reviewed proposed amendments to the Provincial Command By-Laws for seven commands and two special sections.

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL BY-LAWS**

Since the last Convention held in Winnipeg, MB in August 2018, the Dominion Executive Council approved ten By-Laws amending The General By-Laws of the Legion. By-Laws Nos. 99,100,101,102,103,104, 105, 106, 107 and 108 are presented with this report and are submitted to this convention for ratification under Section 6(2) of the Legion's Act to Incorporate. If not ratified, they will cease to have effect at the end of this convention.

## **REIMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 3**

Based on the pandemic situation across the country DEC will set a national date/time for the reimplementation of the Article 3 complaint

process guidelines on advice of the C&L Committee effective as of a future date yet to be determined.

## **BY-LAW NO. 99**

*A By-Law to Amend The General  
By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion,  
as amended prior to this date*

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Executive Council in session this 28th day of April 2018 that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

## **SUBSECTION 418.B.i.**

Amend reference to "Senior Executive Officers" to read "Senior Elected Officers".

## **SECTION 1205.**

Amend section 1205. to read:

### **1205.**

Each branch shall:

- a.* remit at least monthly to Dominion Command a per capita tax payment of all tax collected during the preceding month; and,
- b.* supply forthwith such information relating to the affairs of the branch as may from time to time be required by its Provincial Command, Special Section, or by Dominion Command.

In the case of a Special Section, their respective President has authority to demand and receive such information from their individual members or any branch of which their Special Section member is also a member, as it relates to the affairs of the Special Section.

#### **BY-LAW NO. 100**

*A By-Law to Amend The General  
By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion,  
as amended prior to this date*

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Executive Council in session this 25th day of August 2018 that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

#### **VARIOUS SECTIONS AND SUBSECTIONS**

Amend all references to “Dominion Secretary” to read “National Executive Director.”

Amend all references to “Provincial Secretary” to read “Provincial Executive Director.”

#### **SUBSECTION 101.C.**

Amend subsection 101.c. to read:

**101.c.** MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING means a member who is not under suspension or is not in arrears in payment of dues. However, a member’s rights and privileges may be limited or restricted in circumstances described herein.

#### **SUBSECTION 617.I.**

Amend subsection 617.i.:

**617.i.** The welcoming ceremony for members of special branches may be deferred until such time as they transfer to a regular branch.

#### **SUBSECTION 708.B.**

Amend subsection 708.b. to read:

**708.b.** An International Zone Commander may, within his territory, after enquiry and for cause clearly stated, suspend the charter or powers of any branch/post or auxiliary, or suspend any officer or take any other action not inconsistent with these By-Laws that is necessary or advisable for the good of the Legion, and shall report to Dominion Command upon the action taken.

#### **BY-LAW NO. 101**

*A By-Law to Amend The General  
By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion,  
as amended prior to this date*

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Convention in session this 28th day of August 2018 that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

*(Note: By-Law amendments No. 96 and No. 97, wherein reference to “Life” as a membership category was removed, were not ratified by delegates attending the 2018 Dominion Convention, hence all such amendments cease to be valid. The following amendments return the noted sections and subsections to their original wording.)*

#### **SUBSECTION 111.A.**

Amend subsection 111.a. to add reference to “life”. to read:

**111.a.** Except as otherwise provided in these By-Laws, only ordinary, life, associate and affiliate-voting members in good standing (see 101.c) shall have the right to vote or hold office at any level of the Legion.

#### **SUBSECTION 122.B.**

Amend subsection 122.b. to remove reference to obtaining approval of Dominion Command, to read:

**122.b.** A Provincial Command, or with the approval of the Provincial Command, a branch or group of branches may become incorporated or cause a corporation to be formed for the purpose of undertaking a housing and/or domiciliary care Program. In all cases, the approval of Dominion Command must be obtained for the use of the name ‘Legion’ in connection with the program.

#### **SUBSECTION 201.B.**

Amend subsection 201.b. to add reference to “life”, read:

- 201.b.** The approved categories of membership are: Life, Ordinary, Associate, Affiliate Voting and Affiliate Non-Voting.

#### **SECTION 220.**

Amend section 220 to add reference to “life”, to read:

- 220.** No branch shall permit any type of membership other than life, ordinary, associate, affiliate and meritorious life (prior to June 2000 only).

#### **SECTION 224.A.**

Amend subsection 224.a. to add reference to “life”, to read:

- 224.a.** Life, ordinary and associate membership in the Tuberculous Veterans Section is open only to a person who is:

#### **SUB-SUBSECTION 224.A.II.**

Amend sub-subsection 224.a.ii. read:

- 224.a.ii.** the child, adopted child, stepchild, grandchild, sibling, niece, nephew, widow/er, parent or spouse of a tuberculous or respiratory disabled life or ordinary member; or

#### **SUBSECTION 225.A.**

Amend subsection 225.a. to add reference to “life”, to read:

- 225.a.** Any life, ordinary, associate or affiliate member of a Tuberculous Veterans Section branch may become a life, ordinary, associate or affiliate member of any branch of the Legion upon presentation of his membership card and payment of branch dues less per capita tax.

#### **SUBSECTION 225.B.**

Amend subsection 225.b. to add reference to “life”, to read:

#### **225.b.**

Any life, ordinary, associate or affiliate member of any branch of the Legion may become a life, ordinary, associate or affiliate member of any branch of the Tuberculous Veterans Section if he meets the membership criteria, upon the presentation of his membership card and the payment of branch dues less per capita tax.

*NOTE: The following are new provisions relating to the basis for complaints:*

#### **SUBSECTION 304.A.**

Add as sub-subsection 304.a.vii.:

- 304.a.vii.** harassment or sexual harassment.

#### **SUB-SUBSECTION 304.C.II.**

Insert as sub-subsection 304.c.ii.:

- 304.c.ii.** Where a complaint alleges harassment or sexual harassment, it must be lodged within 90 days from the time the alleged incident occurred to constitute a valid complaint.

Re-number the existing sub-subsection 304.c.ii. to 304.c.iii.

#### **BY-LAW NO. 102**

*A By-Law to Amend The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion, as amended prior to this date*

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Executive Council in session this 25th day of November 2018 that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

#### **SUBSECTION 111.D.**

Amend subsection 111.d. to read:

- 111.d.** Unless otherwise provided at the time of appointment or in branch or command by-laws, the duration of an appointment is for a term as specified by the appointing authority for that position. Termination before the end of the term may be done only for cause and only by the appointing authority.

Appointees may appeal their removal for cause in accordance with the administrative instructions developed specifically for such an appeal. The appeal committee may either confirm the removal or direct reinstatement.

#### **SUBSECTION 137.G.**

Insert as subsection 137.g.:

**137.g.** The National President of a Special Section may, after enquiry and for cause clearly stated, suspend the charter or powers of any Special Section branch or auxiliary, or suspend any officer thereof or take any other action not inconsistent with these By- Laws that is necessary or advisable for the good of the Legion, and shall report to Dominion Command upon the action taken.

#### **SUB-SUBSECTION 304.B.V.**

Amend sub-subsection 304.b.v. to read:

**304.b.v.** address it to and lodge it with the Secretary of the branch or Executive Director of the Command within the time limits prescribed herein from the date of occurrence alleged by the complainant, or in good faith, the date that the complainant first had knowledge of sufficient facts of the alleged offence to constitute a valid complaint.

#### **SUBSECTION 304.E.**

Amend subsection 304.e. to read:

**304.e.** Where the complaint is against a current or former Branch President, Zone, District or Provincial Command officer, and where it relates to an alleged offence arising out of their duties while serving or having served in this position, it must be lodged with the Provincial Executive Director. For complaints against a current or former officer of a Special Section, and where it relates to an alleged offence arising out of their duties while serving or having served in this position, it must

be lodged with the National President of the respective Special Section.

#### **SUBSECTION 304.F.**

Amend subsection 304.f. to read:

**304.f.** Where the complaint is against a current or former Provincial President, President of a Special Section or a Dominion Command Officer, and where it relates to an alleged offence arising out of their duties while serving or having served in this position, it must be lodged with the National Executive Director.

#### **SUB-SUBSECTION 314.J.II.**

The current sub-subsection 314.j.ii. is re-numbered to 314.j.iii. and amended to read:

**314.j.iii.** where the appeal is against a dismissal of the complaint:  
(1) confirm a dismissal; or  
(2) reverse a dismissal and return the matter to the original level for a new hearing.  
The former sub-subsection 314.j.iii. is re-numbered to 314.j.ii.

#### **SUBSECTION 919.C.**

Amend subsection 919.c. to read:

**919.c.** All resolutions that have been concurred by the applicable Provincial Command and that are national in scope shall be forwarded to Dominion Command so as to be received at its head office at least one hundred and twelve (112) days prior to the opening date of the convention.

#### **SECTION 921.**

Amend section 921 to read:

**921.** All changes of Legion policy and administrative procedures resulting from resolutions passed or by-law amendments enacted by conventions shall, unless otherwise specified, take effect on the first day of the fifth month following convention or 1 January, whichever comes first.



#### **BY-LAW NO. 103**

*A By-Law to Amend The General  
By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion,  
as amended prior to this date*

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Executive Council in session this 14th day of April 2019 that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

#### **SECTION 226**

Add a preamble to subsection 226 to read:

**226.** Provided there are no Article III proceedings pending:

#### **SUB-SUBSECTION 311.A.I.**

Amend sub-subsection 311.a.i. to read:

**311.a.i.** issue a reprimand that may also require a letter of apology to the Branch and/or if applicable, to the individual or individuals that may have been aggrieved.

#### **SUB-SUBSECTION 311.A.IV.**

Amend sub-subsection 311.a.iv. to read:

**311.a.iv.** suspension, which includes removal from office (where applicable), for a period up to 12 months; and/or

#### **BY-LAW NO. 104**

*A By-Law to Amend The General  
By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion,  
as amended prior to this date*

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Executive Council in session this 17th day of January 2020 that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

#### **SECTION 203**

Amend Section 203 to read:

**203.** Any member convicted in Canada of an offence under section 419 of the Criminal Code of Canada (Stolen Valour), or theft, fraud or misappropriation of Poppy funds, Legion funds or Legion property, shall be summarily expelled from the Legion.

#### **BY-LAW NO. 105**

*A By-Law to Amend The General  
By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion,  
as amended prior to this date*

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Executive Council in session this 20th day of March 2020 that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

*Note: Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and the resulting closures of branches and the need to self-isolate the following temporary changes to the General By-Laws have been approved.*

#### **SECTION 129**

Amended Section 129 to read:

Section 129 of the GBLs is rescinded in its entirety effective immediately and until further notice.

#### **SUB-SECTION 308.D.**

Amended Sub-Section 308.d. to read:

Effective immediately, all current and new complaints will be held in abeyance and GBL 308.d. is amended to remove the 45 day requirement.

#### **BY-LAW NO. 106**

*A By-Law to Amend The General  
By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion,  
as amended prior to this date*

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Executive Council in session this 6th day of June 2020 that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

#### **SECTION 1001**

Amend Section 1001 to read:

**1001.** A provincial convention for each Provincial Command shall be held annually or biennially as determined by the Provincial Command, at such time and place as the Provincial Command may decide. However, in exceptional circumstances with the consent of Dominion Command, the interval between provincial conventions may be extended as appropriate.

**BY-LAW NO. 107**

*A By-Law to Amend The General  
By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion,  
as amended prior to this date*

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Executive Council in session this 28th day of November 2020 that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

**SECTION 415**

Amend Section 415 to read:

- a. The Senior Elected Officers shall be authorized to meet at the call of the Dominion President, the Dominion Executive Council or the majority of the Senior Elected Officers.
- b. The Senior Elected Officers:
  - i. are granted delegated authority to establish the budget and to deal with matters of Dominion Command staffing, and
  - ii. may meet when authorized, to discuss any issues that are of interest to The Royal Canadian Legion and make recommendations to the Dominion Executive Council for implementation
- c. A majority of members of the Senior Elected Officers shall form a quorum.

**BY-LAW NO. 108**

*A By-Law to Amend The General  
By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion,  
as amended prior to this date*

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Executive Council in session this 24th day of April 2021 that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

**SECTION 202**

Amend Section 202 to read:

That GBL 202 be amended to read:

No person who advocates the destruction by force of the duly constituted government of the country where the branch may be, or any person proven to advocate, encourage or participate in subversive action or subversive propaganda shall be permitted to become a member.

**BUDGET**

For your information, a copy of the Constitution and Laws Committee budget for the period 2020-2022 is attached to this report. Delegates may raise any questions that they have concerning Committee expenses at this time, but any motion for changes to the budget document as it relates to this Committee will be deferred until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

This report was moved, seconded, and approved by the delegates.

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION – DOMINION COMMAND  
CONSTITUTION & LAWS COMMITTEE**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
TRAVEL	1,320	33	1,500	1,530	1,561
PER DIEM	843	52	1,000	1,020	1,040
PRINTING, STATIONERY	-	-	250	255	260
TELEPHONE & FAX	280	35	250	255	260
POSTAGE	209	78	300	306	312
PUBLICATIONS					
REVISION TO ON-LINE MANUALS	383	370	300	306	312
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,035</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>3,600</b>	<b>3,672</b>	<b>3,745</b>

## REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND VETERANS CONSULTATION COMMITTEE

---

L. Murray, *Chair*  
T. Irvine, *Member*  
B. Julian, *Member*  
S. Clark, *Coordinator*  
R. McInnis, *A/Coordinator*

### GENERAL

The objective of the Veterans Consultation Assembly and the Forum of organizations is to bring together the various Veterans' groups to discuss issues and to find common ground on which to advocate to the Government for the betterment of all Veterans and serving members of the Canadian Armed Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and their families. Previous meetings have proven useful in identifying urgent issues and for finding common themes upon which to advocate to the Government and Veterans Affairs Canada. The Government is very conscious of the Forum and takes seriously the recommendations provided from the Forum.

Meeting frequency is normally one meeting per year: the Assembly met in November 2018 and November 2019, however, the 2020 meeting was postponed due to COVID-19 gathering restrictions.

### ISSUES

**Multifaith Housing Initiative:** This 40-unit Veterans' House is now open in Ottawa and will assist homeless and near homeless Veterans, providing them with affordable housing and support services as they strive to recover from their physical and mental health issues. ON Command provided significant financial support to the project.

**Veterans Ombudsman:** The OVO works for the fair treatment of Veterans and their families while ensuring they have access to programs and services that contribute to their well-being. While efforts will continue to improve these programs, there was a particular focus by the OVO in 2019-2020 on:

- Families: evaluating the impact of VAC programs and services on families of Veterans
- Women Veterans: evaluating the impact of, and identifying gaps in, VAC programs and services delivered to women Veterans

The input by the Legion on these and continuing issues is vital as part of the ongoing liaison with the OVO.

### Correspondence to the Minister,

**Veterans Affairs:** The Assembly sent letters to the Minister VAC concerning:

- The treatment received by Veterans at Ste. Anne's Hospital in Quebec following its transition from VAC to the Quebec Government. The Assembly reminded the Minister of VAC's legacy responsibility for those Veterans and the care that they are receiving given the recent legal action by a member of the hospital's Veteran Committee.
- Issues appropriate to VAC activity with its program announcements for Veterans, including:
  - The Pension for Life implementation
  - The future construct and use of Advisory Groups given that these groups were not actively engaged in recent years, particularly while VAC developed the Pension for Life program
  - The increased delays in service delivery and the adjudication process
  - The Minister's mandate letter and its usefulness to Veterans organizations to hold the Government to account and VAC to achieving stated objectives

Comrades, the Veterans' Consultation Assembly continues to be a valuable forum for open and honest discussion without Government participation. All organizations have voiced appreciation to the Legion for hosting the forum and all readily accept the concept of a joint letter going forward to Government expressing a collective view of Veterans care and support.

## RESOLUTIONS

There were no resolutions submitted to this Committee for consideration, as all resolutions concerning Veterans are considered by the VSS and Defence and Security Committees.

## CONCLUSION

The Veterans Consultation Assembly strengthens the Legion position and builds strong relationships with the various Veterans' organizations. It is an important outreach and consensus undertaking.

---

### THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION – DOMINION COMMAND VETERANS CONSULTATION COMMITTEE

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
TRAVEL	505	-	1,500	1,530	1,561
PER DIEM	1,084	-	1,300	1,326	1,353
PRINTING & OFFICE	-	-	50	51	52
TELEPHONE	-	-	50	51	52
MISCELLANEOUS	127	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,716</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>2,958</b>	<b>3,017</b>

## REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND GOING FORWARD COMMITTEE

---

B. Julian, *Chair*  
T. Irvine, *Vice Chair*  
J. Carleton, *Member*  
L. Murray, *Member*  
K. Scott, *Member*  
R. Zettler, *Member*  
M. Barham, *Advisor*  
J. Rycroft, *Advisor*  
S. Clark, *Coordinator*  
D. Martin, *A/Coordinator*

### STRATEGIC PLAN

The 2018 Dominion Convention approved the Legion's Strategic Plan covering all areas of operation, with governance, infrastructure, modernization and membership being primary areas of focus. The plan enabled the organization to take a proactive approach to operations as this roadmap to the future defined the direction the Legion must travel to meet its goals to achieve growth and continuing success.

COVID-19 was a curve to the road ahead as we directed attention to branch viability, but the pandemic was no roadblock. It was essential that the organization be positioned to proactively provide information and guidance to Provincial Commands and branches, thus enabling the leadership to effectively position the organization for success once we return to a semblance of normal operations. To achieve this, we gained an appreciation of individual branch viability and the financial, operational and human problems they would face once they re-opened. We still achieved growth in our strategic plan because of the focus and foresight it provided. We looked at new ways to do business and introduced new ideas to progress and modernize the organization:

**Governance Sub-Committee:** This committee's recommendation to form a Governance sub-committee to review the governance role of the Senior Elected Officers was supported. The review looked at potential increased oversight for Senior Elected Officers beyond just the budget as specified in GBL 415. The sub-committee's recommendations were presented as By-Law No. 107 in the Constitution and Laws committee report.

**Stolen Valour:** Stolen Valour is not a new phenomenon and this committee recommended the organization adopt a national policy to take action against any Legionnaire who commits this denigration to the honour and sacrifice of those who have earned the right to wear medals and decorations. The national policy was adopted from the policy developed by BC/YT Command and the committee thanks the Command for their consent to making it national in scope.

**Op Harmony:** The committee launched Op Harmony: An Organization of Inclusiveness, Diversity and Equality to develop the organization's strategy as it relates to Legion membership and elected leadership. The committee continues to refine the procedural approach to engaging the entire organization in this important discussion. Ensuring inclusivity in messaging and language through all communications is essential. The policy is in development with further detail to follow.

**MemberPerks:** a new, bilingual MemberPerks rewards program was proposed by this committee and launched in June 2020. It offers thousands of national and local discounts (print coupons and online promo codes) to members through a members-only log-in webpage. These geo-targeted discounts are an important initiative to promote the value of a Legion membership.

**Legion Informal Dress:** The committee's proposal for a new informal dress was supported and will be detailed in the Ritual and Awards Committee report.

## CONCLUSION

Comrades, this committee will continue to actively engage in how we do business to be best-positioned for ongoing success. Now is not the time for a u-turn to the advancements the organization has implemented to the way ahead or to the initiatives adopted to bypass the restrictions the pandemic has caused. We need to be leaders in organizational evolution and operational ingenuity and continue to adopt innovative new measures in overcoming any gaps in how we do business, now and into the future.

This report was moved, seconded and approved by the delegates.

## THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION – DOMINION COMMAND GOING FORWARD COMMITTEE

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
TRAVEL	3,021	-	2,500	2,550	2,601
PER DIEM	2,815	-	2,500	2,550	2,601
PRINTING	-	-	100	102	104
TELEPHONE & FAX	-	-	100	102	104
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,836</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,200</b>	<b>5,304</b>	<b>5,410</b>

## REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

---

B. White, *Chair*  
M.A. Misfeldt, *Past Dominion President*  
B. Chafe, *Dominion Chairman*  
M. Fryday-Cook, *NS/NU Command President*  
D. Gordon, *Former Provincial Executive Director*  
B. Julian, *Ex Officio*  
M. Barham, *Advisor*  
J. Rycroft, *Advisor*  
R. Hayley, *Committee Coordinator*

### OVERVIEW

At the request of the Dominion President the Governance Committee was formed in 2020 as part of executing the National Legion Strategic Plan approved by delegates attending the 2018 Dominion Convention. Legion Governance is one of the six pillars of the Strategic Plan and calls to improve governance effectiveness and performance measurement. The Committee met twice during 2020 and presented an initial recommendation below to DEC at the November 2020 meetings. The recommendation was passed by DEC.

### DEC RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that GBL415 which currently reads:

“The Senior Elected Officers shall meet at the call of the Dominion President for specific purposes only to include the budget and matters of Dominion Command staffing. A majority of members of the Senior Elected Officers shall form a quorum.”

Be amended to read as follows:

415.

- a. The Senior Elected Officers shall be authorized to meet at the call of the Dominion President, the Dominion Executive Council, or the majority of the Senior Elected Officers.
- b. The Senior Elected Officers:
  - i. are granted delegated authority to establish the budget and to deal with matters of Dominion Command staffing, and
  - ii. may meet when authorized, to discuss any issues that are of interest to The Royal Canadian Legion and make recommendations to the Dominion Executive Council for implementation.
- c. A majority of members of the Senior Elected Officers shall form a quorum.”

### MOVING FORWARD:

The Committee awaits further direction from the Dominion President.

This report was moved, seconded and approved by the delegates.



## REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND CENTENARY COMMITTEE

---

O. Parkhouse, *Chair*  
B. White, *Vice-Chair*  
V. MacGregor, *Member*  
J. Mahon, *Member*  
M. Fryday-Cook, *Member*

“The Legion is a living tradition which keeps alive the form of service and patriotism and in doing so adds new worth and meaning to all it touches.”

General Georges Vanier, Canada’s 19th Governor General, First World War Veteran

The celebrations planned to mark the 100th Anniversary of The Royal Canadian Legion will be from June 2025 to July 2026. This will be a time to remind all Canadians of the Legion’s integral place in the fabric of Canadian society. It will also be a time to remind all Canadians that the Legion is a democratic, non-partisan, member based organization whose mission is to serve Veterans, which includes serving Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP members and their families; to be the guardians of Remembrance; and to serve our communities and our country.

The RCL Centenary Committee will have representation from every Command.

In our centenary year, we will be bringing to life our members’ personal stories, memories and charitable work so that we can tell the story of the RCL’s last 100 years. Plans are already underway and the following has begun:

- Centenary Logo designed and approved by DEC;
- RCL Centenary Book to be written;
- Canadian Heraldic Authority contacted for granting of RCL Coat of Arms;
- Royal Canadian Mint contacted for RCL Centenary General Circulation Coin;
- Canada Post Chairperson of the Stamp Advisory Committee contacted for RCL Centenary Commemorative Stamp;

- Centenary Products are being discussed at the Poppy Store;
- National Film Board of Canada contacted for making a film/documentary on 100 years of the Legion

As we reflect on our achievements over the last century we will recognize our members, volunteers, fundraisers, and corporate partners who share our passion for bringing people together to support, commemorate and celebrate our Veterans community and the importance of Remembrance.

To mark 100 years of service in 2025/2026 we’re asking you to join us in celebrating our rich history, the difference we’ve made, and looking forward to the next 100 years.

Once the full committee has been struck, we will be having regular meetings and progress reports will be disseminated on a regular basis.

This report was moved, seconded and approved by the delegates.

## REPORT OF THE TUBERCULOUS VETERANS SECTION

K. Merola, *President*  
B. Underhill, *First Vice-President*  
L. Lindsay, *Vice-President*  
G. Coburn, *Secretary/Treasurer*  
C. Paul, *Past President*

### MEMBERSHIP

As with all areas of the legion, membership remains our primary focus. We have initiated the following activities to help grow our membership. Membership remains stable with all of the TVS Branch's being service Branch's

TVS Branch #44, Vancouver, BC  
TVS Branch #52 Hugh Farthing  
Memorial Branch, Calgary  
TVS Branch #78 Dr. Harold Anderson  
Memorial Branch, Saskatoon  
TVS National Branch Vancouver, BC

The Shalom Branch 178 Vancouver, BC, voted to become a TVS branch and the process to change their Charter to "TVS Shalom Branch 178" is underway.

### NATIONAL REGISTRY OF MEMBERS

TVS formed a National registry of members as RCL nationally does not keep track of TVS members or Dual members. Membership is recorded by branch and Province.

The National registry allows the TVS secretary to reach all of its members at one time and the national list is solely for the use of TVS

### FORMATION OF A VIRTUAL NATIONAL TVS BRANCH

TVS formed a virtual National Branch for those members who wish to join TVS and do not live near one of the three TVS Branch's. Similar to the virtual Dominion Command Branch. We are pleased with this initiative with several new dual members.

You may contact the national Secretary for information on the TVS Section by e-mail - [tvstvanational@gmail.com](mailto:tvstvanational@gmail.com)

### TVS / GENERAL BY-LAW UPDATE:

The TVS By-law amendments have been approved by the Constitution and Laws Committee,

### AMENDMENT

*GBL s. 512. A: a Royal Canadian Legion member who supports the aims, purposes and By-laws of the National Tuberculous Veterans Section.*

### TVS BY-LAWS SECTION 1

#### PURPOSES AND OBJECTS

The purposes and objects of the Tuberculous Veterans' Section (TVS) of The Royal Canadian Legion shall be:

- a.* As laid down in the Act to Incorporate - The Royal Canadian Legion (1981) and as quoted in the introduction of the General By - Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion.
- b.* As set forth in the Article of Faith between the Tuberculous Veterans' Section and The Royal Canadian Legion.
- c.* To ensure that the proper provision is made for those suffering from tuberculosis or any allied pulmonary disease or injury contracted or aggravated during service in the forces of Canada or her Allies.
- d.* To ensure reasonable pensions, employment for such that are capable, medical care and equitable provision for dependant families or tuberculous and respiratory disabled ex - service personnel.
- e.* To assist by education, an example is the lessening of the prevalence of TB, and to cooperate with pulmonary associations wherever and whenever possible.

A new member application reflecting the amendment has been produced and will be provided to members at the Convention via pdf.

#### AMENDMENT – GBL 304.E. AND 304.F.

**CONSENSUS:** It was recommended that GBL 304.e. be amended to add reference to officers of a Special Section.

**CONSENSUS:** It was recommended that GBL 304.f. be amended to add reference to a President of a Special Section.

#### AMENDMENT - GBL 137.G.

##### AUTHORITY OF SPECIAL SECTIONS

**CONSENSUS:** It was recommended to insert the following as GBL 137.g.  
The National President of a Special Section may, after enquiry and for cause clearly stated, suspend the charter or powers of any Special Section branch or auxiliary, or suspend any officer thereof or take any other action not inconsistent with these By- Laws that is necessary or advisable for the good of the Legion, and shall report to Dominion Command upon the action taken.

#### COMMUNITY PHILANTHROPY

TVS Branches continue to volunteer in the community and sponsor programs and the community that are part of our mandate:

- TB and Respiratory research,
- Much needed Respiratory equipment for Hospital and First Responders,
- Education Awards for branch students and students studying Respiratory Therapy,
- Supporting Cadets across the country,
- Veteran and Senior community programs.

#### SPECIAL PROJECTS

##### Flags for Canadian Veterans graves

In 2020 TVS donated money for 1800 Canadian flags for Canadian Veteran war graves Plymouth England. One of Branch 44 members lives in the Jersey Isles and is a member of the Jersey Military Vehicle Club. Each year the club attends a Canada day service for the war dead in Plymouth, England and they place Canadian flags on the graves of Canadian's. Due to COVID the club was not able to attend the ceremony in Plymouth and have saved the flags for a time when it is safe to place the flags.

#### Donation to RCEL

TVS was able to acquire a \$5,000 donation from a colleague of Kandys' for RCEL veterans and wives in Antigua. The grant will provide two meals a day for 15 Veterans and wives and we know this grant will make a significant difference in their comfort and lives.

This grant is significant as there was no money raised in 2020 for the RCEL in the traditional way of "passing the hat" at conventions.

#### TVS EXECUTIVE OFFICER MEDAL

TVS now have Past Officers medals and we are proud to recognize our past officers with these newly created medals. Thank you to Ritual and Awards and to the Legion Store for providing the medals.

#### NATIONAL TVS CONVENTION

This year the TVS Convention will be held alongside the Dominion convention via zoom on Saturday August 14th at 1:00 pm.

This will be my last report to Dominion Convention, and it has been an honour serving with the dedicated group of members of DEC.

I also wish to thank the TVS Executive who have worked along side me to help keep our organization relevant and beneficial to the Legion and the Community at large.

Yours in Comradeship  
Kandys Merola  
National TVS President

## REPORT OF THE OPERATIONAL STRESS INJURY SPECIAL SECTION “BSO Legion OSI”

J. Carleton, *President*  
T. Jenvenne, *1st Vice President*  
D. Reid, *2nd Vice President*  
C. Cook, *Chair*  
S. Clayton, *Treasurer*  
C. Richardson, *Buddy Check Coffee Coordinator*  
C. Hood, *Operation VetBuild*  
C. Richardson, *Immediate Past President*  
G. Hines, *Past President*

In the three years since the 47th Dominion Convention in Winnipeg, the OSI Special Section has expanded its peer support activities, completed 2 strategic planning processes (most recent version at appendix A to this report), participated in multiple bilateral and multi-agency activities, and revised its Bylaws. Further, the Section has submitted a three-year grant proposal to the Veterans Well Being Fund (currently being held by VAC for additional funding this fiscal year) held interim Election processes to replace departed members of the Executive, finalized Terms of Reference for Section Representatives to Provincial Commands, and has conducted its first full set of elections through an online process. The Section continues to coordinate Mental Health First Aid Training for Veterans and participated in the transition of this MHCC run course from an in-class to a virtual offering. Finally, the Section, in collaboration with the PPCLI Association and Project Trauma Support has developed a Peer Advocacy training program which will launch in summer 2021.

Most recently, in 2021, the Section adopted a virtual land acknowledgement that is read at the beginning of all meetings, to complement the acknowledgement and smudging ceremony that is part of its in-person meetings.

The Section has now identified representatives drawn from within the Section to participate in Committees of the Whole, and continues to hold a seat on the national Veterans & Seniors Support and Going Forward Committees. Internally, the Military Sexual Trauma Committee has been stood up and the Sports and Mental Wellness Committee is in the process of standing up.

At time of writing this report in April 2021, the Executive of the Section is as follows:

*Past President:* Glynne Hines  
*Immediate Past President:* Chris Richardson  
*President:* Jill Carleton  
*Chair:* Crystal Cook  
*1st Vice President:* Trevor Jenvenne  
*2nd Vice President:* Darren Reid  
*Treasurer:* Sheila Clayton  
*Buddy Check Coffee Coordinator:* Chris Richardson  
*Operation VetBuild Coordinator:* Craig Hood

### Section Representatives to Provincial Commands

BC/YT	Terri Orser
AB/NWT	Anthony Seward
SK	Paul Valiquette
MB & NWO	Trevor Jenvenne
ON	Darren Reid
QC	Michel Bonenfant
NB	Duane Johnson
NS/NU	George Della
PEI	Owen Parkhouse
NL	Jeffrey Tod Hiscock

While COVID restrictions have prevented peer support activities from continuing in most locations, the Section continues to move ahead and I wish to thank all members of the Executive and Provincial Representatives for their patience in returning to in person activities, while congratulating all for the transition to virtual training.

## Appendix A : Strategic Plan Jan 2021

<b>OUR VISION</b>	To be a leading organization, at the national level in Canada, to which Veterans and their families will turn to be connected to the support that they need to overcome the challenges of living with Operational Stress Injuries (OSI).		
<b>OUR MISSION</b>	To connect Veterans and their families affected by OSI with the necessary support services to help them recover from the effects of an OSI. BSO Legion OSI is a peer-support network that will provide enhanced outreach and support for all Veterans as defined by the Legion.		
<b>WHO WE ARE</b>	BSO Legion OSI is a peer-support network that will provide enhanced outreach and support for all Veterans as defined by the Legion. It is part of Dominion Command and has a formal National and Provincial footprint. Members of the section must be members of the Royal Canadian Legion in good standing, and through their membership at the local level are able to actively assist on OSI questions if needed.		
<b>WHAT WE DO</b>	BSO Legion OSI accomplishes its mission in four ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinating and conducting outreach activities in the Veteran community</li> <li>• Helping to identify and refer any Veteran or their family member who needs help with an OSI issue to the Legions Service Bureau for support</li> <li>• Promoting mental health information and helping dispel the stigma of mental illness, and</li> <li>• Supporting advocacy efforts and information sharing at the Branch, Provincial Command and National Levels.</li> </ul>		
<b>NATIONAL FOOTPRINT AS OF JANUARY 2021</b>	British Columbia/Yukon	Terri Orser	25
	Alberta/Northwest Territory	Anthony Seward	20
	Saskatchewan	Paul Valiquette	11
	Manitoba/North Western Ontario	Trevor Jenvenne	12
	Ontario	Darren Reid	45
	Quebec	Michel Bonenfant	10
	New Brunswick	Duane Johnston	19
	Nova Scotia/Nunavut	George Dellavalle	13
	Prince Edward Island	Owen Parkhouse	10
	Newfoundland and Labrador	Jeff Hiscock	15
	Dominion Command/At-Large	n/a	14
<b>OUR GOALS FOR 2017-2022</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead the coordination of VAC Funded and MHCC delivered MHFA training to veterans.</li> <li>• Formalize partnerships with key external stakeholders including how membership can participate in outreach activities</li> <li>• Implement and conduct Fundraising Strategy</li> <li>• Advocate for veteran/veteran family mental health issues</li> <li>• Operate with transparency to meet the expectations of our membership</li> </ul>		

## BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

BSO Legion OSI was developed in 2016 from an identified need for greater advocacy, and attention to the needs of Veterans and their families affected by OSIs. It was introduced and subsequently approved by vote at the 46th Dominion Convention in June 2016. It was subsequently incorporated Federally with the name Veterans Operational Stress Injury Section.

## WHY AN OSI SPECIAL SECTION?

The OSI Special Section provides a strategically oriented grass roots, Veteran-led function to identify services that are available, areas and communities of need, and establish a connection between the two. Members of the Section are Veterans or family members who have been affected by OSIs, and therefore have a keen interest, understanding, and motivation to be engaged; as well as the credibility at the peer level to connect with an individual who has not been willing or able to get assistance.

BSO Legion OSI is about Veterans reaching out to Veterans to help them get the care that they need – wherever they may be. It is about the Legion living up to its sacred trust and keeping the faith so that no Veteran is forgotten. Above all, it is about supporting veterans and their families who face the struggles that come about from their service yesterday and today, be it here in Canada, in peace support operations, or in conflicts and wars abroad. The silent are often the most difficult to help; they are also the most difficult to reach. Through this initiative, we believe that Veterans and their families will be able to get the help that they need and that we can stem the increase in Veteran suicide, homelessness, and addiction just to name a few of the consequences of operational stress injuries. BSO Legion OSI will not deliver healthcare services. Members will work with local and provincial authorities and other like-minded organizations to ensure that appropriate services are available and connect members and their families with those services. We don't want to duplicate existing services rather replicate working service models across the country and connect Veterans and their families to these services. The

Section will also advocate for Veterans' mental health and work to improve public awareness and to de-stigmatize Veteran mental health issues. As Canada's largest Veteran's service organization, the Legion is uniquely positioned to help veterans and families affected by Operational Stress Injuries. With the reach and diversity of Legion members, we will be able to touch virtually every community in Canada and connect Veterans affected by OSI with resources that they need to help them and their families. The Veterans who have launched this initiative and those who have already pledged their support are strongly committed to helping their fellow Veterans overcome the challenges of their injuries and regain control of their lives. What's good for our Veterans is good for our communities.

As a new organization, BSO Legion OSI is an organization that is growing, learning and in transition.

Ratification of BSO Legion OSI provided the starting line. An interim Executive was formed prior to ratification and stayed in place following ratification (with an offer for other volunteers to step-up if interested). With ratification in place, activities and discussions in the latter part of 2016 focused on planning, development of by-laws which proved to more complicated than originally anticipated, and selection of Provincial Representatives. As the Executive gained increasing understanding of the work already underway within the Legion, as well as the efforts being completed by partner organizations, initial concepts were adjusted.

Since 2016, implementation of the Section and its activities has continued with the institution of two key outreach programs, Buddy Check Coffee and Operation Vetbuild. As well, the Section has coordinated the conduct of MHFA courses for Veterans, participated at the Provincial Command and Branch level in providing advice and information related to OSIs. Members of the Executive and Provincial Representatives also actively engage in Veteran Community dialogue with National organizations such as CMHA, MHCC, CIMVHR,



VAC, the COE for PTSD and the COE for Pain. A member of the Advisory Board for the Section is now the Veterans Advisor at the COE PTSD. Finally, two section members have been used in promotional video and print material for the Royal Canadian Legion related to Veterans and Mental Health.

Final implementation work remains in order to achieve full operational status for the section.

### OUR GOALS 2017-2022

The OSI Special Section provides a strategically oriented grass roots, Veteran-led function to identify services that are available, areas and communities of need, and establish a connection between the two. Members of the Section are Veterans or family members who have been affected by OSIs, and therefore have a keen interest, understanding, and motivation to be engaged; as well as the credibility at the peer level to connect with an individual who has not been willing or able to get assistance.

#### GOAL 1

##### **Lead the coordination of VAC Funded and MHCC delivered MHFA training to veterans**

BSO Legion OSI will work to educate and destigmatize by coordinating Mental Health First Aid Training.

##### *Strategies to accomplish this:*

- MHFA courses will be conducted for interested Veterans and family members across the country for up to 1,500 participants over four years. Branches are expected to host the two-day training events as coordinated by Provincial Representatives.
- When possible, Veterans will be given the opportunity to attend MHFA instructor courses.

#### GOAL 2

##### **Formalize partnerships with key external stakeholders including how membership can participate in outreach activities**

- BSO Legion OSI will continue with activity already started after ratification in 2016 to develop working relationships with like-minded organizations including those with existing

MOUs with the RCL in order to determine where outreach activities exist, where there is a need, and where and how BSO Legion OSI can most effectively contribute. In 2017, BSO Legion OSI will establish stakeholder relationships with partner organizations and formalizing these where existing MOU's are not already in place with RCL supporting Mental Health education and veteran outreach.

##### *Strategies to accomplish this:*

- Formal discussion and outreach by Executive to like-minded organizations with complimentary goals
- Making BSO Legion OSI available through web and Legion information for organizations that are interested in partnering to contact us
- Develop standard information tools so that consistent and transparent information about the organization is available to all
- These activities will continue in 2018-2022

#### GOAL 3

##### **Implement and conduct Fundraising Strategy**

- BSO Legion OSI will conduct a significant fundraising event each year, as well as additional minor fundraising on an on-going basis. Profits raised will be disbursed to support Veterans Mental Health initiatives and organizations in accordance with BSO Legion OSI Bylaws and Policies. In 2022 the Section will develop a fundraising strategy and a gifting policy, as well as establishment of a Fundraising Committee. Documentation supporting charitable status of the Section will be finalized and submitted as this is a key element of the fundraising strategy.

##### *Strategies to accomplish this include:*

- A major Fundraising Event will be held each year
- A key OSI Corporate Sponsor will be sought
- Branded clothing and small items will be made available for sale
- Investigate potential for participation in Bell Let's Talk



#### GOAL 4

##### **Advocate for veteran/veteran family mental health issues**

BSO Legion OSI will continue to strongly advocate for veteran and veteran mental health issues.

##### *Strategies to accomplish this:*

- Bringing issues to both the VSS and DEC Membership with courage on behalf of the BSO Legion OSI membership
- Engaging Mental Health organizations at the National, Provincial, and Local levels
- Working with VAC on Veteran and family mental health

#### GOAL 5

##### **Operate with transparency to meet the expectations of our membership**

BSO Legion OSI will operate with financial accountability and transparency as requested by our members. This goal requires perhaps the most immediate attention from an internal business and governance perspective in 2017 in order to achieve full operating capacity of the Section.

##### *Strategies to accomplish this include:*

- Completion and approval of bylaws, and submission of these for approval (2017)
- Development of a communications strategy (2017)
- A membership platform outside of Facebook, which is the current primary method of communicating with members of the Section (2017)
- Finalize internal policies on operating expenditures (2017)
- Incorporating and meeting the requirements of the Canada Not for Profit Act (2017)
- Ensuring decisions meet the objectives of the organization and that records supporting the decisions are maintained (2017 and ongoing)
- Establishing an independent Audit Committee chaired by an individual external to the Section (2017)
- Preparing for first election of Officers (2018)
- 2018-2022 – Continue and repeat as necessary.

#### **ABOUT BSO LEGION OSI'S STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS**

The 2017--2022 Strategic Planning Process began in August 2016 with a day long meeting of the Executive in Ottawa/ teleconference in late July 2016. This was followed by a teleconference of the Executive and Advisors to conduct a SWOT analysis in August 2016.

Follow on refinement and discussions were subsequently included in monthly Executive and Advisor meetings, until the document was drafted in March 2017.

This version of the updated Strategy (January 2021) has been reviewed and updated by President Jill Carleton and Past President Glynne Hines.

#### **PARTICIPANTS**

The following Executive Council members participated in the SWOT analysis and strategy development:

Lead:	Jill Carleton
Participants:	Glynne Hines
	Craig Hood
	Roger Smith
	Christopher Richardson
	Alannah Gilmore
	Joel Anderson
	Nathalie Vanasse

## REPORT OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

---

S. Clark, *National Executive Director*  
D. Martin, *Director Corporate Services*  
R. McInnis, *Director Veterans Services*  
O. Gorelova, *Comptroller*  
J. Elliott, *Deputy Director Supply*  
R. Hayley, *Deputy Director Member Services*  
D. Edmonds, *Deputy Director Marketing and Communications*

### INTRODUCTION

For much of the past two years, all levels of our organization faced an unprecedented challenge. But challenges are not barriers, rather opportunities for evolution and to show resiliency, innovation and ingenuity. And every Provincial Command, branch and member has done so brilliantly. The history of how the Legion responded to the pandemic is still being written and I will add a chapter to that story on how your National Headquarters responded and what we accomplished.

### AN EXCEPTIONAL STAFF

I am proud to introduce you to the Directors and Deputy Directors you see listed above. Our staffing complement of 37 permanent staff and seven contract personnel across all departments makes for a lean and hard-working team and represents a staff reduction of over 10% from just two years ago and the smallest complement in a decade. We have outsourced and automated functions where it heightened efficiency and made fiscal sense. Every member of the staff has one main goal – to serve our commands, branches and members. As for me, while I have been at the National Headquarters for over 15 years, this marks my first report to you as National Executive Director.

As we focus on goals, it is important also to improve staff knowledge, skills and abilities by aligning workplace methods and strategies to increase effectiveness. Mandatory staff training was introduced in 2020, with the first three courses being *Think YES! Providing Exceptional Customer Service*, *Respectful Workplace* and *Stopping Harassment and Bullying*.

### A PROGRESSIVE APPROACH

The development and progression of operational transformation internally and externally is achieved by embracing technological advances and adopting innovative approaches to improve the member experience. This was never more important than during the closures that impacted normal command and branch operations. By enhancing the effectiveness of our programs and advocacy work, we were better positioned to serve our members, branches and Canada's Veterans. During this convention you will hear of such initiatives as an electronic membership card, the ability to join any branch online, Tap to Pay Tribute Poppy boxes, replacing cheques with the faster and more secure electronic funds transfer, exceptional communications and social media engagement and how conducting business using video conferencing has saved every level of the organization both time and money. These innovations complement but do not replace more traditional methods of doing business.

### OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

Each National Headquarters department worked to overcome the added restrictions and requirements necessary due to the pandemic.

The Corporate Services department continued to expertly administer most of our programs and organized such large-scale activities as Canada's National Remembrance Day ceremony and Dominion Conventions. For 2020, the national ceremony was severely limited in the number of attendees and other restrictions, yet we succeeded in presenting a respectful and memorable

commemoration for all Canadians. A particular focus of the department was governance oversight and advice through interpretation of The General By-Laws, with new pandemic-related queries and situations. Many other activities and achievements will be outlined in the individual committee reports.

The innovation of the Member Services department contributed greatly to the improvements and enhancements of the organization and the staff responded to new challenges with new ideas. In the Membership report, you will learn of these new ideas and solutions, like the online ability to join any branch in the country and the introduction of an electronic membership card. This enrichment of our processes contributes to the prosperity of the Legion...and our assured growth!

Legion Supply continued to expand product offerings and manage such important initiatives as Operation Canada Day and Operation Santa Claus. The growth in sales has been outstanding. In 2019, sales increased 8% while 2020 saw a 56% increase to a value of over \$4M; Provincial Commands share in the gross margin of all sales. In 2019, the online Poppy store processed just under 11,000 orders; 2020 shattered records with over 47,000 orders processed which represented an increase in sales of 247%. The importance and value of this online store was clear during the pandemic.

The Marketing and Communications department continued to work diligently to ensure the Legion was in the hearts and minds of millions of Canadians across this country, especially considering reduced branch operations. The National Headquarters again arranged for the Legion's national TV and radio spots to be aired by national broadcasters, equating to millions in free advertising. Visits to the dominion website increased 37% in 2020 with visits to the website during Remembrance Week 2020 experiencing an enormous 90% growth. Other marketing elements such as email, direct mail, online banners, and print ads increased the exposure of the Legion and were seen by hundreds of thousands of Canadians. We partnered with Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Services to promote the Veterans Welcome Program to 115,000 Veterans.

And the new MemberPerks program, free with every Legion membership, continues to give members access to thousands of discounts in numerous categories; in its first year of operation, members saved almost \$250,000 through the program.

Responsible for the transactional accounting for the National Headquarters is the Finance Department. This group of professionals contribute to the management and improvement of operations by regular measurement and reporting on key numbers crucial to the success of the organization. And they were instrumental in the review and disbursements of the Veterans Organization Emergency Support Fund program.

Support to Veterans is one of the primary objectives of the Legion and that goal never faltered throughout the entirety of the pandemic. The professional Service Officers and all personnel in the National Headquarters Veterans Services department, working closely with every Command Service Officer across the country, achieved that goal. Advocacy to Government, regular appearances before Parliamentary and Senate Standing Committees on Defence and Veterans Affairs, implementing the Legion's Action Plan to Prevent and Eradicate Veterans' Homelessness and supporting research into issues facing Veterans are all part of the exceptional effort and achievement by this department. You will learn much more during the Veterans, Service and Seniors report.

### POPPY CAMPAIGN REVIEW

The Poppy Campaign is one of the Legion's core responsibilities and PR generating activities. The pandemic identified weaknesses and gaps in this national campaign; it was imperative the organization undertake a review to look at the program, its structure, multi-level relationships, reliance on volunteers and methodologies to best achieve the desired outcomes. The external, independent consultants at StrategyCorp undertook this review and relied on the valuable insight provided by commands and branches. The review recommendations will be presented during the convention.

## VETERANS ORGANIZATION EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUND (VOESF)

During the pandemic, many branches struggled financially, having been forced to close or drastically reduce revenue-generating activities. While many branches found unique and creative ways to raise funds, it was not enough for long-term survival and their viability remained uncertain. After tremendous advocacy efforts by Dominion Command and the National Headquarters, on 10 November 2020, the federal Government announced the creation of the VOESF, a \$20M aid package through Veterans Affairs Canada for Veterans organizations, from which the Legion was allocated \$14M. The funds were distributed from the National Headquarters in three phases: December 2020 (701 branches received funding); February 2021 (282 branches received funding) and May 2021 (885 branches received supplemental funding). The Legion is extremely grateful to Veterans Affairs Canada for this lifesaving boost.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Effective communication throughout the pandemic was even more essential as it is a major factor in our productivity and overall success. The National Headquarters Marketing and Communications department, working in concert with each Provincial Command Public Relations Officer, kept members up-to-date on Legion activities, initiatives and advocacy efforts through monthly member and monthly all-branch newsletters. This is the main avenue of information flow. But the most effective messaging is lost if the email messages remain unopened. In 2020, quarterly electronic meetings with the National and Provincial Executive Directors were held and, together with all Directors and Committee Coordinators also attending, established regular opportunities for collaboration, clarification and feedback.

## CONCLUSION

For a year and a half, we have weathered an unprecedented challenge and emerged stronger for it, solidifying the Legion's position as the largest and best Veterans' support organization in the country. We are the sum of our parts, and it is through our collective efforts that we achieve our goal of supporting Veterans, promoting Remembrance and serving our communities. From all members of the National Headquarters staff, we value every command, branch and member of this organization and will continue to work every day to deliver service excellence.

The attached Financial Statements for the 2020 year show successful operations with a net operating surplus, mainly due to significant cost savings due to Covid -19 closures. As well, at the time of writing this, with the continued Covid shutdowns, further program cancellations and expense related items will result in a 2021 budget forecasted surplus of at least \$45,504.

The 2020 year ended with an operational net revenue surplus of \$1,141,764. During the year 2020, the Dominion Executive Council agreed to liquidate investments amounting to \$3,000,000 and distribute the proceeds as COVID-19 relief to branches, with the assistance of provincial commands. The impact of the distribution on the regular operations of the Dominion Command reduced the unrestricted Investment Fund balance by \$2,486,069 and put Dominion Command in an overall negative revenue position of \$1,344,305. Allotted portion of distributed fund was expensed in 2020 through statement of earnings.

There was some unexpected supplementary revenue as a result of a Federal Grant to compensate for wages. The grant was through a Canadian Emergency Wage Subsidy and Dominion Command was able to apply and did successfully meet the requirements of the program, leading to a federal grant of \$471,860, adding to the operational revenue increase.

Membership revenue has been declining for years now. It should be to no one's surprise this year is down as well. The 2020-year membership revenue net of adjusted items was \$5,596,624, below budget by 6% or \$335,797. The number of memberships sold in 2020 was 247,487 compared to 259,257 in 2019. Focus continues on the membership development and the importance of it to all levels of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Interest and dividends earned on investments was \$403,195 in 2020. Market volatility played a large part in not making target of \$541,702. However, it must be noted, the change in investment returns was compounded by the drawing down of reserve funds of \$3,000,000.00 for the purposes of providing branch assistance due Covid 19 in 2020.

On a positive note, as soon as the economy opens, there is an expectation that markets will bounce back and grow at 3-5% by the end of this year. Of course, all this is dependent on the cessation of the virus and Government authorized returns to normality.

The Supply Department had a fantastic year and finished the year with \$4,007,152 in sales, surpassing the budget expectation by \$1,407,460 in sales. Joan and her team deserve a well-deserved thank you from everyone.

Miscellaneous revenue (bequests) provided an additional boost of \$105,308 in revenue.

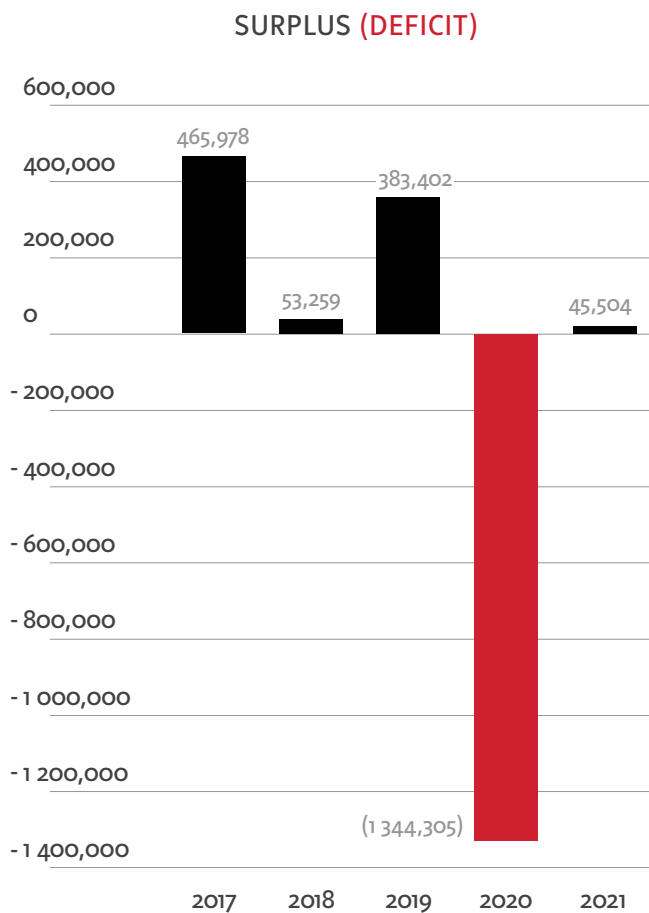
Projections for 2021 appear favorable and I have already reported a projected small operating surplus at the time of writing this report of an estimated \$45,504. It is also recognized, the impact of the Covid Virus will continue to challenge all Branches and Commands in the Dominion.

While some branches had a chance to reopen and were attempting to regain some financial funding/revenue, the third wave and the restrictions that continue with it, are putting massive strain in an already slow recovery for branches and all businesses across country.

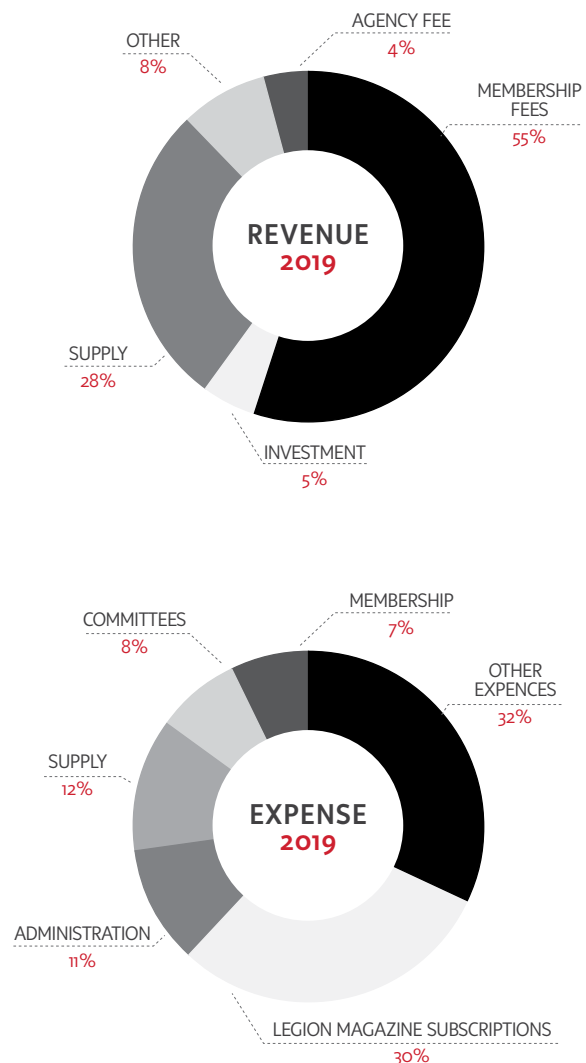
Inflation has crept into the economy as supply and demand has seen lumber, gasoline, power, and food costs spike. Lumber alone has increased 180 percent driving the sales fever of house prices.

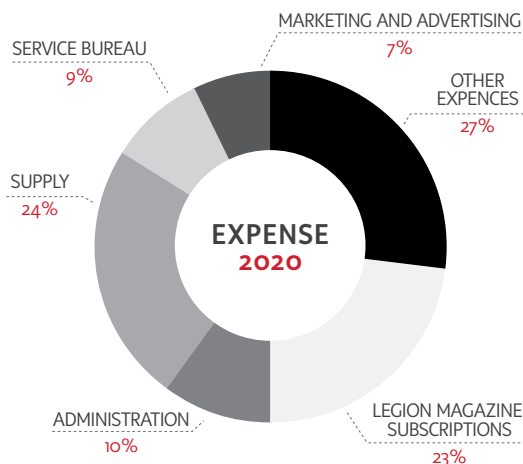
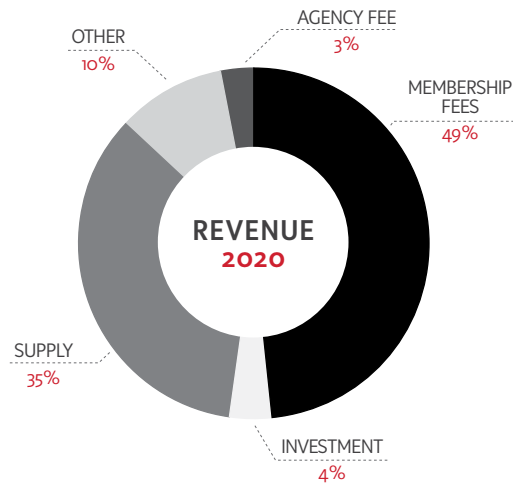
All this is squeezing operations in branches and hurting the preponderance of our membership. Past generations have faced tough times, but they met the challenge with resolve, stubborn, and tenacity to just get things done. Yes, we will bind together and overcome this covid menace.

Below is a graphical representation of the Surplus (Deficit) for 2017 to 2021. Again, the 2020 reflects the disbursement of funds to Branches and Command in the Dominion.



Major efforts are being undertaken to bring new members through more marketing campaigns and programs. The marketing, advertising and promotion activities continues to raise the Legions public profile. This effort is being complemented with the direct marketing and telecalls programs. Present-day marketing programs are directed to retain an existing base of members and attract new members. Below you will find pie charts breaking down revenues and expenses for 2019 and 2020.





**\*Makeup of the Other Revenue:**

- Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy
- Royalties - Member benefits program
- Administrative fees
- Building rental
- Administrative Fee on distribution of Federal Funds
- Veterans' visitation program
- Mastercard royalties
- Estate bequests
- Royalties – Legion Lager

**\*\*Makeup of the Other Expenses:**

- Amortization
- Building
- Committees
- Financial services
- Information technology
- Marketing and communications

- Member services
- Other program expenses
- Veterans' visitation program

**On the EXPENSE side of 2020, by Department follows:**

- Membership Section – increase of \$60,240: Major increases due to credit card processing fees (\$40,579) permanent membership cards (\$18,127). It needs to be recognized that fully 66% of members were processed online last year, and this digital shift creates more business online cost increases with credit card processing fees as well as telephone cost increases.
- Supply Chain Management – overall net gain increase of \$732,810: With the total sales exceeding budget by 1.4M, the cost of goods sold increased correspondingly by \$165,059 product. Personnel cost decreased for combination of the warehouse assistance and costs related to a staff departure (\$91,848). Due to higher volume of sales, postage fees increased by \$59,533. Catalog and advertising were under budget by \$10,233.
- Information Technology was \$83,142 overbudget. The main area of increase was due to Maintenance, Contracts and Support cost increases (\$213,095), which were offset by personnel savings in the department of \$130,940. There were some additional costs associated with securing outside support.
- Other Program expenses - overall savings of \$83,554. Legal expenses were \$25,323 under budget. Translation expenses decreased by \$10,440. The rest are covid related savings.
- Marketing & communication – increased by \$96,933: Social Media cost increased by \$87,855 and the Free membership for retiree's program cost amounted to \$24,090, a portion of which was due to the RCL picking up the cost of the Legion Magazine.



## COMMITTEES

Committees have come under budget by \$778,198. Most savings due to travel and event cancelations in 2020 as a result of Covid 19. The significant savings are:

- Sports – under budget by \$68,047, and Track and Field \$213,501
- Elected Officers - \$13,381: President's budget was underspent by \$75,000.

Across the country, there would appear to be a significant shift toward using online communication platforms rather than face to face meetings requiring travel. There may be a need to establish some standards associated with the when and where and frequency of face-to-face meetings within the RCL.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2020 YEAR: COVID-19 AND ALL IT DELIVERED

\$3,000,000 draw down on Investments in response to Covid 19 – Distributed \$2,486,069, with the balance of the funds on hold for further distribution as needed.

Federal Grant of \$14,000,000 as an outreach to Volunteer organizations experiencing financial difficulties due to Covid -19. Distribution so far is: Round 1(\$7.2M) Round 2 (\$2.9M) balance will be distributed in Round 3. At the time of writing this report, all funds have been distributed.

Canadian Emergency Wage Subsidy – received \$471,860 in 2020. This grant was extended until June 2021. A further application is being made for 2021.

Poppy Donation grant was received from VAC of \$1,200,000 in January 2021 with a second in March 2021 \$488,000K.

## Investments Fund Balances at year ended 2020 was:

General Fund	\$15,096,728
Poppy Fund	\$7,901,238
Centennial Fund	\$2,398,153
RCEL Fund	\$858,665

Attached are the financial statements with the actual results for 2019 and 2020 and the forecasts for 2021.

Comrades, you have been provided with a full accounting of the actual expenses for the years 2019 and 2020 and estimates for the next year. I am now prepared to answer any questions you may have concerning these reported results.

This report was moved, seconded  
and approved by the delegates.

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSE**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>REVENUE</b>					
MEMBERSHIP REVENUE	5,448,980	5,596,624	5,224,055	5,093,454	4,966,117
OTHER MEMBERSHIP REVENUES		411,041			
<b>CANVET</b>					
- AGENCY FEE & SUPPORT	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
INVESTMENT INCOME	546,728	403,195	429,456	438,045	446,806
VETERANS VISITATION	137,160	56,910	120,000	120,000	115,200
SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT	2,564,693	4,007,152	2,625,000	2,750,000	2,900,000
<b>LEGION HOUSE</b>					
- TENANTS	82,920	82,920	82,920	82,920	82,920
- INTERNAL	316,000	316,000	316,000	316,000	316,000
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>					
- MASTER CARD	88,772	56,641	60,000	60,000	61,200
- OTHER	140,157	702,168	150,000	153,000	156,060
ESTATE BEQUEST	-	37,366	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>9,725,410</b>	<b>12,070,017</b>	<b>9,407,431</b>	<b>9,413,419</b>	<b>9,444,303</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
LEGION MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS	2,648,217	2,532,185	2,251,977	2,195,678	2,140,786
CORPORATE SERVICES	805,028	838,478	889,821	907,617	925,770
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	385,736	481,550	304,844	311,531	318,351
MEMBERSHIP	677,570	746,683	737,748	351,423	365,371
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS	389,731	398,060	410,786	419,002	427,382
MARKETING, ADVERTISING, PROMOTION	553,611	759,952	544,134	555,017	566,117
FINANCIAL SERVICES	435,360	265,426	215,942	269,221	274,605
VETERANS SERVICES	42,025	44,698	51,263	52,288	53,334
VETERANS VISITATION	93,451	42,086	88,000	88,000	88,000
SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT	1,745,250	2,599,692	1,920,830	1,978,880	2,016,830
COMMITTEES	811,051	161,331	944,201	951,498	559,849
OTHER PROGRAM EXPENSES	192,853	88,946	142,500	145,000	145,600
AMORTIZATION	107,002	103,847	108,000	110,160	112,363
EMPLOYER PENSION CONTRIBUTION	319,370	436,444	436,427	445,156	454,059
LEGION HOUSE	338,246	412,353	356,633	364,648	372,999
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>9,544,501</b>	<b>9,911,731</b>	<b>9,403,106</b>	<b>9,145,118</b>	<b>8,821,416</b>
<b>NET INCOME (LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<b>180,909</b>	<b>2,158,286</b>	<b>4,325</b>	<b>268,301</b>	<b>622,887</b>
<b>COVID -19 RELIEF DISTRIBUTION</b>		<b>2,486,069</b>			
<b>NET EXPENSE FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>(327,783)</b>			

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**CORPORATE SERVICES**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	666,814	699,380	790,088	805,890	822,008
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	12,642	14,525	14,093	14,375	14,662
OTHER BENEFITS	64,801	65,185	69,340	70,727	72,141
TEMPORARY & CONTRACT STAFF	43,489	47,975	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>787,746</b>	<b>827,065</b>	<b>873,521</b>	<b>890,991</b>	<b>908,811</b>
OFFICE SUPPLIES	46,587	54,452	45,000	45,900	46,818
TELEPHONE	14,657	11,519	15,000	15,300	15,606
POSTAGE, EXPRESS	10,802	9,016	10,000	10,200	10,404
PRINTING, STATIONERY	2,880	5,755	6,000	6,120	6,242
STAFF TRAVEL	1,059	392	800	816	832
INSURANCE	17,281	17,214	20,000	20,400	20,808
RENT (CR TO BUILDING)	108,000	108,000	108,000	110,160	112,363
STAFF RECRUITMENT	8,960	-	2,000	2,040	2,081
COMPUTER NETWORK SUPPORT	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,570	3,641
MISCELLANEOUS	6,521	7,909	2,500	2,550	2,601
TRAINING	7,036	3,656	13,500	13,770	14,045
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>1,015,029</b>	<b>1,048,478</b>	<b>1,099,821</b>	<b>1,121,817</b>	<b>1,144,254</b>
<b>LESS: CHARGED TO:</b>					
MEMBER SERVICES	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,300	15,606
MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,300	15,606
VETERANS SERVICES	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,600	31,212
POPPY FUND	150,000	150,000	150,000	153,000	156,060
	<b>210,000</b>	<b>210,000</b>	<b>210,000</b>	<b>214,200</b>	<b>218,484</b>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>805,029</b>	<b>838,478</b>	<b>889,821</b>	<b>907,617</b>	<b>925,770</b>

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECTION (CORPORATE SERVICES)**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	150,730	141,948	77,099	78,641	80,214
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	4,265	2,899	1,476	1,506	1,536
OTHER BENEFITS	11,434	8,021	9,309	9,495	9,685
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>166,429</b>	<b>152,868</b>	<b>87,884</b>	<b>89,642</b>	<b>91,435</b>
TELEPHONE	10,099	4,537	10,000	10,200	10,404
POSTAGE, EXPRESS	17	-	-	-	-
RENT (CR TO BUILDING)	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
MISCELLANEOUS	160	1,700	100	102	104
<b>NETWORK &amp; PC</b>					
- MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS/LEASES	95,428	169,339	96,000	97,920	99,878
- PROGRAMMING & SUPPORT	104,102	163,756	106,360	108,487	110,657
- SUPPLIES & OTHER	13,042	3,052	10,000	10,200	10,404
CONNECTIVITY & SUPPORT	19,949	12,337	24,000	24,480	24,970
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>419,226</b>	<b>517,589</b>	<b>344,344</b>	<b>351,031</b>	<b>357,851</b>
<b>LESS: CHARGED TO:</b>					
CORPORATE SERVICES	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
FINANCIAL SERVICES	7,500	4,039	7,500	7,500	7,500
MEMBER SERVICES	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500
MARKETING	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
VETERANS SERVICES	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
SUPPLY	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
CANVET	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
IT	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
	39,500	36,039	39,500	39,500	39,500
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>379,726</b>	<b>481,550</b>	<b>304,844</b>	<b>311,531</b>	<b>318,351</b>

DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS  
MEMBER SERVICES

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>REVENUE</b>					
AGENCY FEE	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>400,000</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	365,395	404,355	422,426	430,875	439,492
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	4,642	5,610	5,554	5,665	5,778
OTHER BENEFITS	41,679	46,419	46,668	47,601	48,553
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>531,822</b>	<b>591,423</b>	<b>474,648</b>	<b>484,141</b>	<b>493,824</b>
OFFICE SUPPLIES	31	84	1,200	1,224	1,248
TELEPHONE	11,859	13,005	11,400	11,628	11,861
POSTAGE, EXPRESS	58,826	49,056	55,000	56,100	57,222
PRINTING, STATIONERY	5,858	5,740	7,000	7,140	7,283
RENT (CR TO BUILDING)	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,000
MISCELLANEOUS	9,669	8,436	10,000	10,200	10,404
COMPUTER NETWORK SUPPORT	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,650	7,803
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,300	15,606
PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP CARDS	19,534	33,127	20,000	20,400	20,808
MEMBERSHIP CARDS, FORMS AND PAPER	11,229	1,840	3,500	3,570	3,641
MEMBERSHIP PACK OUT	31,894	31,931	33,500	34,170	34,853
CREDIT CARD PROCESSING FEES	40,454	70,579	45,000	45,900	46,818
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>797,676</b>	<b>881,721</b>	<b>737,748</b>	<b>751,423</b>	<b>765,371</b>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>397,676</b>	<b>481,721</b>	<b>337,748</b>	<b>351,423</b>	<b>365,371</b>

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**MARKETING**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	315,490	359,531	374,522	382,012	389,653
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	5,959	7,490	7,425	7,574	7,725
OTHER BENEFITS	29,053	31,003	30,910	31,528	32,159
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>350,502</b>	<b>398,024</b>	<b>412,857</b>	<b>421,114</b>	<b>429,536</b>
OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,090	1,927	200	204	208
TELEPHONE	2,990	3,793	2,500	2,550	2,601
POSTAGE, EXPRESS	4,830	16	250	255	260
PRINTING, STATIONERY	324	137	200	204	208
STAFF TRAVEL	-	14	500	510	520
RENT (CR TO BUILDING)	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,200	10,404
MISCELLANEOUS	2,494	219	2,500	2,550	2,601
COMPUTER NETWORK SUPPORT	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,550	2,601
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,300	15,606
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>389,730</b>	<b>431,630</b>	<b>446,507</b>	<b>455,437</b>	<b>464,546</b>
LESS: POPPY FUND CHARGBACK	-	33,571	35,721	36,435	37,164
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>389,730</b>	<b>398,059</b>	<b>410,786</b>	<b>419,002</b>	<b>427,382</b>

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**MARKETING, ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>MEDIA - PRINT</b>					
CANVET ADS	24,422	14,948	16,000	16,320	16,646
<b>MEDIA - VIDEO &amp; PHOTOGRAPHY</b>					
PROMOTIONAL VIDEOS	55,997	70,625	80,000	81,600	83,232
<b>MEDIA - INTERNET</b>					
LEGION.CA WEBSITE ADMIN	74,711	95,448	80,000	81,600	83,232
<b>MEDIA - PUBLIC RELATIONS &amp; EVENTS</b>					
MEDIA COVERAGE & P.R. (T &F)	11,500	12,573	12,000	12,240	12,485
EVENTS/TRADESHOWS/SPONSORSHIPS	40,000	70,590	60,000	61,200	62,424
<b>PROGRAMS AND CAMPAIGNS</b>					
FREE MEMBERSHIP FOR CF RETIREES	42,426	59,090	35,000	35,700	36,414
NON RENEWAL MAILERS	38,454	43,281	40,000	40,800	41,616
MEMBERPERKS	-	-	16,950	17,289	17,635
CANVET DESIGN PROGRAM	4,151	2,180	3,500	3,570	3,641
PROMOTIONS AND DONATIONS	17,660	17,348	20,000	20,400	20,808
SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN	76,518	137,855	60,000	61,200	62,424
ONLINE BANNER CAMPAIGN	82,958	44,259	50,000	51,000	52,020
MEMBER/BRANCH ENEWSLETTERS	49,381	72,659	80,000	81,600	83,232
MARKETING 2020 GRANT	-	140,000	150,000	-	-
TRAVEL	2,704	1,028	3,000	3,060	3,121
<b>OTHER PRINTED MATERIAL</b>					
BRANCH COLLATERAL MARKETING MATERIALS	32,707	23,549	35,000	35,700	36,414
OTHER	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>555,685</b>	<b>805,433</b>	<b>741,450</b>	<b>603,279</b>	<b>615,345</b>
LESS: POPPY FUND CHARGEBACK	-	45,480	47,316	48,262	49,228
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>555,685</b>	<b>759,953</b>	<b>694,134</b>	<b>555,017</b>	<b>566,117</b>



**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**FINANCIAL SERVICES**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	253,444	331,741	437,889	446,647	455,580
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	4,775	6,971	7,557	7,708	7,862
OTHER BENEFITS	38,679	34,634	30,309	30,915	31,533
CONTRACT	164,209	92,959	48,000	48,960	49,939
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>461,107</b>	<b>466,305</b>	<b>523,755</b>	<b>534,230</b>	<b>544,915</b>
OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,793	945	1,000	1,020	1,040
TELEPHONE	6,411	5,405	6,500	6,630	6,763
POSTAGE, EXPRESS	10,427	8,406	10,500	10,710	10,924
PRINTING, STATIONERY	2,347	66	1,500	1,530	1,561
STAFF TRAVEL	216	42	150	153	156
AUDIT FEES	67,704	76,000	70,000	71,400	72,828
RENT (CR TO BUILDING)	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,580	30,172
COMPUTER NETWORK SUPPORT	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,650	7,803
MISCELLANEOUS/ FOUNDATION STARTUP	7,743	5,723	8,000	8,160	8,323
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>594,248</b>	<b>599,392</b>	<b>657,905</b>	<b>671,063</b>	<b>684,484</b>
<b>LESS: CHARGED TO:</b>					
SUPPLY	48,888	54,225	60,991	62,211	63,455
VETERANS SERVICES - 10%	-	46,580	60,991	62,211	63,455
POPPY SERVICES - 20%	-	93,161	121,981	124,421	126,909
NATIONAL LEGION FOUNDATION	-	30,000	40,000	40,800	41,616
CANVET	110,000	110,000	110,000	112,200	114,444
	158,888	333,966	393,963	401,842	409,879
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>435,360</b>	<b>265,426</b>	<b>263,942</b>	<b>269,221</b>	<b>274,605</b>

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**VETERANS SERVICES**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>REVENUE</b>					
POPPY FUND GRANT					
LESS: POPPY FUND CHARGEBACK ADMIN 100%	105,316	143,701	168,191	239,835	171,512
POPPY FUND GRANT SALARIES 95%	798,469	849,267	974,001	993,481	1,013,350
TOTAL CHARGE BACK	903,785	992,968	1,142,192	1,233,316	1,184,862
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	762,533	808,188	932,343	950,990	970,010
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	11,232	13,041	14,629	14,922	15,220
OTHER BENEFITS	66,729	72,736	78,292	79,858	81,455
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>840,494</b>	<b>893,965</b>	<b>1,025,264</b>	<b>1,045,769</b>	<b>1,066,685</b>
OFFICE SUPPLIES EXPENSE	6,596	5,276	5,000	5,100	5,202
TELEPHONE	8,857	8,060	7,200	7,344	7,491
POSTAGE	3,707	2,657	5,000	5,100	5,202
STAFF TRAVEL	3,252	717	4,000	4,080	4,162
RENT ( CR TO BUILDING)	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
SERVICE OFFICERS CONFERENCE	-	-	-	70,000	-
ADVOCACY AND REPRESENTATION	2,432	90	5,000	5,000	5,000
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
COMPUTER NETWORK SUPPORT	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
FINANCE DEPT FEES/CHARGEBACK	-	46,580	60,991	62,211	63,455
MISCELLANEOUS	972	821	1,500	1,500	1,500
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>945,810</b>	<b>1,037,666</b>	<b>1,193,455</b>	<b>1,285,604</b>	<b>1,238,196</b>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>42,025</b>	<b>44,698</b>	<b>51,263</b>	<b>52,288</b>	<b>53,334</b>

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>REVENUE</b>					
SALES OF SUPPLIES	2,548,164	3,996,709	2,600,000	2,750,000	2,900,000
LESS COST OF GOODS	1,109,059	1,883,543	1,175,000	1,233,750	1,295,438
<b>GROSS MARGIN</b>	<b>1,439,105</b>	<b>2,113,166</b>	<b>1,425,000</b>	<b>1,516,250</b>	<b>1,604,563</b>
LEGION LAGER ROYALTY	16,529	10,443	25,000	27,000	29,000
PROVINCIAL COMMANDS @ 5.0% OF GROSS MARGIN	72,782	74,238	72,000	73,440	74,909
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	451,126	502,474	534,656	545,349	556,256
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	8,606	8,569	8,523	8,693	8,867
OTHER BENEFITS	55,310	62,943	58,997	60,177	61,380
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>515,042</b>	<b>573,986</b>	<b>602,176</b>	<b>614,220</b>	<b>626,504</b>
TELEPHONE	8,665	7,128	10,000	10,200	10,404
POSTAGE, EXPRESS	87,634	149,533	90,000	91,800	93,636
PRINTING, STATIONERY	808	1,057	1,000	1,020	1,040
STAFF TRAVEL	695	426	1,500	1,530	1,561
INSURANCE	1,465	1,559	1,600	1,632	1,665
RENT (CR TO BUILDING)	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	6,000
WEB STORE - CONNECTIVITY	15,343	15,045	18,000	18,360	18,727
ADVERTISING/CATALOGUE DISTRIBUTION	52,276	69,767	80,000	81,600	83,232
WRAPPING MATERIAL	37,473	53,500	40,000	40,800	41,616
FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT	48,888	54,225	57,000	58,140	59,303
OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,160	5,607	1,500	1,530	1,561
COMPUTER NETWORK SUPPORT	7,000	7,000	7,500	7,650	7,803
MISCELLANEOUS	5,559	3,160	2,500	2,550	2,601
<b>EXPENSE TOTAL</b>	<b>914,790</b>	<b>1,076,231</b>	<b>1,044,776</b>	<b>1,064,472</b>	<b>1,030,561</b>
LESS: POPPY FUND CHARGEBACK	(278,600)	(285,844)	(289,446)	(319,341)	(309,168)
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>636,190</b>	<b>790,387</b>	<b>755,330</b>	<b>745,130</b>	<b>721,393</b>
<b>GAIN OR (LOSS)</b>	<b>819,444</b>	<b>1,333,222</b>	<b>694,670</b>	<b>798,120</b>	<b>912,170</b>

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**OTHER PROGRAM EXPENSES**

	<b>2019 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2020 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2021 BUDGET</b>	<b>2022 BUDGET</b>	<b>2023 BUDGET</b>
RCEL					
CONFERENCE	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
SCOWP	572	-	2,000	2,000	2,000
<b>RCEL TOTAL</b>	<b>5,572</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>7,000</b>
OTHER					
REQUEST FOR SUPPORT	10,000	-	15,000	15,000	15,000
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	3,595	-	-	2,500	2,500
LEGION REPRESENTATION ON LOCAL BOARDS	128	98	500	500	500
LEGAL & OTHER	123,363	44,677	70,000	70,000	70,000
MBP ADS	31,594	19,611	20,000	20,000	20,000
TRANSLATION	18,601	19,560	30,000	30,000	30,600
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>192,853</b>	<b>88,946</b>	<b>142,500</b>	<b>145,000</b>	<b>145,600</b>

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**LEGION HOUSE**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>REVENUE</b>					
RENT TENANTS	82,920	82,920	82,920	82,920	82,920
RENT - CHARGED TO DEPARTMENTS					
- CORPORATE SERVICES	108,000	108,000	108,000	108,000	108,000
- MEMBERSHIP	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,000
- MARKETING	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
- VETERANS SERVICES	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
- SUPPLY DEPT	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
- FINANCE	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000
- IT SECTION	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>398,920</b>	<b>398,920</b>	<b>398,920</b>	<b>398,920</b>	<b>398,920</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	29,033	29,902	29,733	30,328	30,934
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	550	621	580	696	835
OTHER BENEFITS	4,934	5,090	4,320	5,184	6,221
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>34,517</b>	<b>35,613</b>	<b>34,633</b>	<b>36,208</b>	<b>37,990</b>
ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE	5,017	5,001	7,000	7,140	7,283
A/C, ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING	34,547	55,983	32,000	32,640	33,293
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR	85,704	110,204	82,000	83,640	85,313
CLEANING CONTRACT & SUPPLIES	46,463	46,458	52,000	53,040	54,101
FUEL	11,291	10,961	15,000	15,300	15,606
LIGHT & POWER	52,653	55,999	62,000	63,240	64,505
WATER AND SEWAGE	5,584	6,439	6,000	6,120	6,242
TAXES	58,175	59,925	60,000	61,200	62,424
INSURANCE	4,158	4,423	6,000	6,120	6,242
RESERVE FUND	-	21,321	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>338,109</b>	<b>412,327</b>	<b>356,633</b>	<b>364,648</b>	<b>372,999</b>
<b>GAIN OR LOSS</b>	<b>60,811</b>	<b>(13,407)</b>	<b>42,287</b>	<b>34,272</b>	<b>25,921</b>

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**COMMITTEES & ELECTED OFFICERS EXPENSE**

	<b>2019 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2020 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2021 BUDGET</b>	<b>2022 BUDGET</b>	<b>2023 BUDGET</b>
<b>COMMITTEES</b>					
VETERANS, SERVICE AND SENIORS	19,309	4,255	30,000	30,480	30,970
POPPY & REMEMBRANCE	39,417	(821)	18,000	18,460	18,929
MEMBERSHIP	4,782	1,976	10,600	10,732	10,867
PUBLIC RELATIONS	100,445	82,896	125,700	128,154	130,657
RCEL	1,804	767	600	600	600
SPORTS	243,920	27,199	330,426	341,766	353,332
RITUAL & AWARDS	396	371	1,250	1,263	1,276
CONSTITUTION & LAWS	3,035	568	3,600	3,672	3,745
DEFENCE & SECURITY	21,818	16,956	26,700	26,814	26,930
VETERANS CONSULTATION	1,716	-	2,900	2,958	3,017
(FOF) GOING FORWARD	5,836	-	5,200	5,304	5,410
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	-	-	100	100	100
<b>COMMITTEE TOTAL</b>	<b>442,478</b>	<b>134,167</b>	<b>555,076</b>	<b>570,303</b>	<b>585,834</b>
<b>ELECTED OFFICERS</b>	<b>90,833</b>	<b>13,381</b>	<b>105,025</b>	<b>107,126</b>	<b>98,344</b>
DEC/SENIOR ELECTED OFFICERS	71,266	2,947	66,200	67,644	69,117
DOMINION CONVENTION	206,474	10,836	217,900	206,426	(193,445)
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>368,573</b>	<b>27,164</b>	<b>389,125</b>	<b>381,196</b>	<b>(25,985)</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>811,051</b>	<b>161,331</b>	<b>944,201</b>	<b>951,498</b>	<b>559,849</b>

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**ELECTED OFFICERS & DOMINION PRESIDENT**

	<b>2019 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2020 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2021 BUDGET</b>	<b>2022 BUDGET</b>	<b>2023 BUDGET</b>
<b>ELECTED OFFICERS:</b>					
TRAVEL	4,091	-	7,500	7,650	7,803
PER DIEM	2,075	-	4,000	4,080	4,162
TELEPHONE & FAX	0	-	25	26	26
MISCELLANEOUS	2,517	-	500	510	520
SUB-TOTAL	8,683	-	12,025	12,266	12,511
<b>DOMINION PRESIDENT:</b>					
TRAVEL	20,962	5,491	45,000	45,900	46,818
PER DIEM	28,630	4,896	24,500	24,990	25,490
HOSPITALITY	9,352	388	5,000	5,100	5,202
TELEPHONE & POSTAGE	1,906	898	3,000	3,060	3,121
MISCELLANEOUS	3,945	1,708	5,000	5,100	5,202
SUB-TOTAL	64,795	13,381	82,500	84,150	85,833
<b>PROVINCIAL CONVENTIONS:</b>					
TRAVEL	8,400	-	5,000	5,100	-
PER DIEM	8,955	-	5,500	5,610	-
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>17,355</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,500</b>	<b>10,710</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>90,833</b>	<b>13,381</b>	<b>105,025</b>	<b>107,126</b>	<b>98,344</b>



**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

	<b>2019 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2020 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2021 BUDGET</b>	<b>2022 BUDGET</b>	<b>2023 BUDGET</b>
<b>D.E.C. MEETINGS:</b>					
TRAVEL	28,732	382	32,000	32,640	33,293
PER DIEM	34,406	326	25,000	25,500	26,010
PRINTING	31	-	100	102	104
TELEPHONE, FAX & POSTAGE	95	-	100	102	104
MISCELLANEOUS	2,932	1,890	3,000	3,060	3,121
<b>SUB-TOTAL D.E.C. MEETINGS</b>	<b>66,196</b>	<b>2,598</b>	<b>60,200</b>	<b>61,404</b>	<b>62,632</b>
<b>SENIOR ELECTED OFFICERS MEETINGS:</b>					
TRAVEL	5,699	-	6,000	6,120	6,242
PER DIEM	5,285	-	6,000	6,120	6,242
TELEPHONE, FAX & POSTAGE	36	-	-	-	-
PRINTING	-	-	-	-	-
MISCELLANEOUS	50	349	-	-	-
	<b>11,070</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>12,240</b>	<b>12,485</b>
<b>LESS:</b>					
<b>CANVET BOARD AND SHAREHOLDERS MEETINGS</b>	<b>(6,000)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(6,000)</b>	<b>(6,000)</b>	<b>(6,000)</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>71,266</b>	<b>2,947</b>	<b>66,200</b>	<b>67,644</b>	<b>69,117</b>

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**DOMINION CONVENTION**

	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ACTUAL	2021 BUDGET	2022 BUDGET	2023 BUDGET
<b>DEC</b>					
TRAVEL	-	-	20,000	-	-
PER DIEM		-	60,000	-	-
<b>STAFF</b>					
TRAVEL	1,524	626	20,000	-	-
PER DIEM	2,536	-	60,000	-	-
<b>PAST PRESIDENT</b>					
TRAVEL	-	-	4,000	-	-
PER DIEM	-	-	15,000	-	-
<b>DC ZONE COMMANDERS</b>					
TRAVEL	-	-	5,000	-	-
PER DIEM	-	-	6,000	-	-
<b>OTHER</b>					
TRAVEL	-	1,583	30,000	-	-
PER DIEM	-	-	5,000	-	-
ENTERTAINMENT	165	-	2,000	-	-
CREDENTIALS	-	-	2,000	-	-
<b>PRINTING &amp; DESIGN</b>					
CONVENTION REPORTS	(959)	3,972	25,000	-	-
OTHER	-	-	4,000	-	-
TRANSLATION & INTERPRETATION	-	-	-	-	-
POSTAGE	24	3,060	20,000	-	-
FREIGHT	-	-	15,000	-	-
<b>SOCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>					
PRESIDENT RECEPTION	(4,000)	-	5,000	-	-
OTHER	-	-	-	-	-
CONVENTION CENTRE	-	-	60,000	-	-
CONVENTION OPERATION	4,284	-	120,000	-	-
TRANSPORTATION	-	-	-	-	-
CEREMONIES	-	-	500	-	-
LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE	-	-	3,000	-	-
SUPPLY	-	-	100	-	-
	3,574	9,241	481,600	-	-
REVENUE	-	-	70,000	-	-
DELEGATE FEES	-	-	-	-	-
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>3,575</b>	<b>9,240</b>	<b>411,600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
PROVISION	200,000	-	(200,000)	200,000	(200,000)
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>203,575</b>	<b>9,240</b>	<b>211,600</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>(200,000)</b>
RECOVERIES	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>203,575</b>	<b>9,240</b>	<b>211,600</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>(200,000)</b>
<b>COMMITTEE (FROM 15A)</b>	<b>2,898</b>	<b>1,596</b>	<b>6,300</b>	<b>6,426</b>	<b>6,555</b>
<b>TOTAL CONVENTION AND COMMITTEE</b>	<b>206,474</b>	<b>10,836</b>	<b>217,900</b>	<b>206,426</b>	<b>(193,445)</b>

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**CONVENTION COMMITTEE**

	<b>2019 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2020 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2021 BUDGET</b>	<b>2022 BUDGET</b>	<b>2023 BUDGET</b>
TRAVEL	1,401	827	4,000	4,080	4,162
PER DIEM	1,341	416	2,000	2,040	2,081
PRINTING, STATIONERY	42	150	100	102	104
POSTAGE	5	202	100	102	104
MISCELLANEOUS	110	-	100	102	104
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,899</b>	<b>1,595</b>	<b>6,300</b>	<b>6,426</b>	<b>6,555</b>

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND**  
**NET REVENUE RECONCILIATION**  
**DECEMBER 31**

**2020**

<b>REVENUE (EXPENSE) PER DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENTS</b>			
<b>REVENUE ADJUSTMENTS - INTERNAL F/S</b>		12,070,017	
<b>ADD</b>			
	FINANCIAL SERVICES CANVET	110,000	
	NET CHARGES IN FAIR VALUE OF INVESTMENT	184,191	
<b>LESS</b>	INTERNAL DEPARTMENTAL CHARGES	(316,000)	
	<b>REVENUE AS PER AUDITED F/S</b>		12,048,208
<b>EXPENSE ADJUSTMENTS - INTERNAL F/S</b>		9,911,731	
<b>ADD</b>			
	MARKETING HEARTS AND MINDS	200,000	
	INTERNAL RENT PER DEPARTMENT	168,000	
<b>ADD (LESS):</b>			
<b>FUND TRANSFERS FROM (TO)</b>	PENSION TRANSFERS	(283,081)	
	T&F PROVINCIAL PORTION ADJUSTMENT	(38,175)	
	POPPY FUND	947,968	
			10,906,443
<b>REVENUE (EXPENSE) BEFORE THE UNDERNOTED</b>			1,141,765
	<b>COVID-19 RELIEF DISTRIBUTION</b>		(2,486,069)
<b>NET REVENUE FOR THE YEAR PER AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b>			<b>(1,344,304)</b>

# **The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command**

Financial Statements  
**December 31, 2020**



## Independent auditor's report

To the Members of  
The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

---

### Our opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command (the Dominion Command) as at December 31, 2020 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations.

#### What we have audited

The Dominion Command's financial statements comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2020;
- the statement of changes in fund balances for the year then ended;
- the statement of operations for the year then ended;
- the statement of operations – externally restricted funds for the year then ended;
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and
- the notes to the financial statements, which include significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

---

### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Independence

We are independent of the Dominion Command in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
99 Bank Street, Suite 710, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1P 1E4  
T: +1 613 237 3702, F: +1 613 237 3963

"PwC" refers to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an Ontario limited liability partnership.



---

## **Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Dominion Command's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Dominion Command or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Dominion Command's financial reporting process.

---

## **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Dominion Command's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.





- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Dominion Command's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Dominion Command to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**/s/PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP**

Ottawa, Ontario  
May 11, 2021

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command


## Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 4)	12,546,933	2,739,831
Accounts receivable (note 5)	2,446,338	1,996,129
Due from The Legion National Foundation (note 10)	441,418	203,995
Inventory		
General	1,319,416	1,362,511
Poppy promotional material	286,722	169,208
Prepaid expense	347,406	241,430
Prepaid subscriptions	1,409,551	1,353,469
	18,797,784	8,066,573
<b>Marketable investments</b> (note 6)	26,254,784	28,990,789
<b>Capital assets</b> (note 7)	4,769,827	4,955,447
<b>Pension plan – accrued benefit asset</b> (note 8)	-	1,889,900
	49,822,395	43,902,709
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 9)	2,599,296	2,090,640
Revenue collected in advance	3,326,176	3,237,282
Due to Canvet Publications Ltd. (note 10)	3,411	632,432
COVID-19 relief payable to branches (note 15)	287,513	-
Funds held in trust (note 4)	6,737,773	-
	12,954,169	5,960,354
<b>Retirement obligation</b> (note 8)	538,100	475,600
	13,492,269	6,435,954
<b>Fund Balances (Statement of Changes in Fund Balances)</b>		
<b>Unrestricted</b>	3,190,196	3,375,110
<b>Internally Restricted Funds</b>	18,797,488	20,780,101
<b>Externally Restricted Funds</b>	14,342,442	13,311,544
	36,330,126	37,466,755
	49,822,395	43,902,709

### Commitments and contingencies (note 12)

Signed on behalf of the Dominion Executive Council

 President

 Treasurer

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Statement of Changes in Fund Balances

For the year ended December 31, 2020

	Balance – Beginning of year as previously reported \$	Impact of change in accounting policy \$ (note 3)	Balance – January 1 2020 as restated \$ (note 3)	Net revenue (expense) for the year \$	Remeasurements and other items \$	Transfers from (to) \$	Balance – End of year \$
<b>Unrestricted</b>	3,375,110	-	3,375,110	(1,033,148)	(31,500)	879,734	3,190,196
<b>Internally Restricted Funds</b>							
Invested in capital assets (note 7)	4,955,447	-	4,955,447	(200,131)	-	14,511	4,769,827
Other internally restricted (note 11)	3,448,712	-	3,448,712	-	-	5,000	3,453,712
Pension Plan Fund (note 8)	1,889,900	(1,048,700)	841,200	(295,217)	(887,000)	341,017	-
Investment Fund (note 6)	10,486,042	-	10,486,042	184,191	-	(96,284)	10,573,949
<b>Total Internally Restricted Funds</b>	20,780,101	(1,048,700)	19,731,401	(311,157)	(887,000)	264,244	18,797,488
	24,155,211	(1,048,700)	23,106,511	(1,344,305)	(918,500)	1,143,978	21,987,684
<b>Externally Restricted Funds</b>							
Poppy Trust Fund	9,881,954	-	9,881,954	2,131,903	-	(1,143,978)	10,869,879
Centennial Fund	2,310,105	-	2,310,105	110,000	-	-	2,420,105
RCEL Fund	1,028,828	-	1,028,828	(67,027)	-	-	961,801
Benevolent Fund	90,657	-	90,657	-	-	-	90,657
<b>Total Externally Restricted Funds</b>	13,311,544	-	13,311,544	2,174,876	-	(1,143,978)	14,342,442
	37,466,755	(1,048,700)	36,418,055	830,571	(918,500)	-	36,330,126

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31, 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Revenue</b>		
Membership fee revenue	5,596,624	5,415,647
Supply sales	3,996,709	2,548,164
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (note 15)	471,860	-
Other membership revenues	411,041	-
Subscription agency fee (note 10)	400,000	400,000
Interest (note 6)	291,926	424,172
Net changes in fair value of marketable investments (note 6)	184,191	1,294,894
Royalties - member benefits program	122,092	81,856
Dividends (note 6)	111,269	122,557
Administrative fees (note 10)	110,000	110,000
Building rental (note 10)	82,920	82,920
Administrative fee on distribution of federal funds (Note 4)	72,129	-
Veterans visitation program	56,910	137,160
Mastercard royalties	56,641	88,772
Estate bequests	37,366	-
Royalties – Legion Lager	10,443	16,529
Other revenue	36,087	58,300
	<u>12,048,208</u>	<u>10,780,971</u>
<b>Expense</b>		
Corporate services	1,121,559	1,013,198
Building	412,353	338,246
Committees	127,289	742,142
Marketing – hearts and minds	200,000	136,108
Marketing, advertising and promotion	759,952	553,611
Financial services	346,426	516,360
Information technology	471,550	375,736
Legion Magazine – subscriptions (note 10)	2,532,185	2,648,217
Marketing and communications	388,060	379,731
Member services	692,683	623,570
Other program expenses	83,946	187,853
Veterans services	992,666	900,811
Veterans visitation program	37,953	93,451
Supply chain management		
Operation	656,148	576,190
Cost of sales	1,883,543	1,109,059
Amortization		
Furniture and equipment and computers	54,095	57,250
Building	146,036	146,036
	<u>10,906,444</u>	<u>10,397,569</u>
<b>Net revenue before the undernoted</b>	1,141,764	383,402
COVID-19 relief distribution (note 15)	(2,486,069)	-
<b>Net revenue (expense) for the year</b>	<u>(1,344,305)</u>	<u>383,402</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Statement of Operations – Externally Restricted Funds

For the year ended December 31, 2020

	2020			2019		
	Poppy Trust Fund \$	Centennial Fund \$	RCEL Fund \$	Total \$	Total \$	Total \$
<b>Revenue</b>						
Donations	2,205,237	-	74,940	2,280,177		493,195
Interest (note 6)	195,506	54,212	20,305	270,023		313,950
Dividends (note 6)	42,807	14,594	4,501	61,902		59,431
Poppies and wreaths	2,042,069	-	-	2,042,069		3,088,323
Promotional aids	541,506	-	-	541,506		561,942
Grants – other (internal)	5,000	-	-	5,000		5,000
Sales	2,716	-	-	2,716		12,153
Other	20,582	-	-	20,582		15,925
	5,055,423	68,806	99,746	5,223,975		4,549,919
<b>Expense</b>						
Advertising and promotional materials				48,066		44,866
Poppy contests	48,066	-	-	352		19,261
Poppies and wreaths	352	-	-	998,196		1,272,770
Promotional aids	998,196	-	-	240,991		465,488
Trademark defence	240,991	-	-	39,016		67,526
Freight	39,016	-	-	226,053		326,931
General	226,053	-	-	93,848		103,494
Support – supply department	76,010	12,982	4,856	285,844		279,376
Support – administration department	285,844	-	-	152,735		154,143
Support – marketing	152,735	-	-	79,051		-
Support – finance	79,051	-	-	93,161		-
Support – public relations	93,161	-	-	10,000		-
Operation Santa Claus and Canada Day	10,000	-	-	70,311		87,468
Caribbean liaison	70,311	-	-	-		14,595
Remembrance ceremony and videos	-	-	-	-		17,264
National Remembrance Ceremony	-	-	-	45,160		19,789

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Statement of Operations – Externally Restricted Funds ...continued

For the year ended December 31, 2020

	2020			2019
	Poppy Trust Fund \$	Centennial Fund \$	RCEL Fund \$	Total \$
Marketing and promotion	90,400	-	-	68,444
Bells of Peace	-	-	-	39,099
Grants – other external	330,000	-	-	-
Grants – virtual Wall	23,347	-	-	-
Grants – queen's Scholarships	-	-	-	20,000
Grants – other	-	-	-	10,000
Benevolent support and assistance	292,269	-	189,294	520,675
	3,100,962	12,982	194,150	3,308,094
<b>Net revenue (expense) before the undernoted</b>	1,954,461	55,824	(94,404)	1,018,730
Net changes in fair value of marketable investments (note 6)	177,441	54,177	27,377	695,019
<b>Net revenue (expense) for the year</b>	2,131,902	110,001	(67,027)	1,713,749

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended December 31, 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Cash provided by (used in)</b>		
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Net revenue for the year	830,571	2,097,151
Items not affecting cash		
Provision for pension plan	295,217	316,170
Provision for retirement obligation	59,700	61,000
Amortization	200,132	203,286
Realized losses on sales of marketable investments	144,755	11,415
Unrealized gains on marketable investments	(587,942)	(2,001,328)
Contributions to pension plan	(341,017)	(319,370)
Cash paid for retirement obligation	(28,700)	(118,100)
Net change in non-cash working capital items <sup>1</sup>	6,069,706	(1,035,642)
	<u>6,642,422</u>	<u>(785,418)</u>
<b>Investing activities</b>		
Proceeds on sales of marketable investments	5,908,584	6,060,465
Purchase of marketable investments	(2,729,393)	(4,425,703)
Purchase of capital assets	(14,511)	(32,520)
	<u>3,164,680</u>	<u>1,602,242</u>
<b>Net change in cash and cash equivalents for the year</b>	9,807,102	816,824
<b>Cash and cash equivalents – Beginning of year</b>	2,739,831	1,923,007
<b>Cash and cash equivalents – End of year</b>	<u>12,546,933</u>	<u>2,739,831</u>
<b><sup>1</sup> Net change in non-cash working capital items</b>		
Accounts receivable	(450,209)	436,566
Due from The Legion National Foundation	(237,423)	(171,370)
Inventory		
General	43,095	(73,245)
Poppy promotional material	(117,514)	28,495
Prepaid expense	(105,976)	(87,568)
Prepaid subscriptions	(56,082)	(48,274)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	508,656	(205,904)
Revenue collected in advance	88,894	96,609
Due to Canvet Publications Ltd.	(629,021)	(1,010,951)
COVID-19 relief payable to branches	287,513	-
Fund held in trust	6,737,773	-
	<u>6,069,706</u>	<u>(1,035,642)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

---

### 1 Purpose of the organization

The Canadian Legion was incorporated in 1926 under the Companies Act, and its name was amended to The Royal Canadian Legion in 1961 by an Act of Parliament. The Royal Canadian Legion-Dominion Command (the Dominion Command) is a not-for-profit organization under subsection 149(1)(l) of the Income Tax Act and as such is exempt from income taxes.

### 2 Summary of significant accounting policies

These financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations (ASNPO). The significant accounting policies are as follows.

#### Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with ASNPO requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the dates of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expense during the reporting periods. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

#### Fund accounting

##### Unrestricted

All transactions other than externally restricted or designation by management in an internally restricted fund are recorded in the unrestricted fund. Management makes discretionary transfers to the Unrestricted Fund and the Internally Restricted Funds.

Internally Restricted Funds are accounted for as follows:

##### *Invested in capital assets*

Invested in capital assets comprise capital assets less accumulated depreciation and outstanding balances of mortgages or other borrowings attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

##### *Other internally restricted*

These funds were meant as an account for the setting aside and use of reserves as and when needed. The Dominion Command makes discretionary transfers to and from these funds as and when needed.

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

---

### *Pension Fund*

Pension contributions and the actuarially determined pension expense are accounted for in the Pension Fund.

### *Investment Fund*

Interest and dividends earned on marketable investments are accounted for in the Investment Fund or in the Externally Restricted Fund to which they relate. Unrestricted realized and unrealized gains and losses on marketable investments are accounted for in the Investment Fund. The Investment Fund was established on January 1, 1998 by transferring all investments held at that time.

Externally Restricted Funds are accounted for as follows:

### *Poppy Trust Fund*

The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund (Poppy Trust Fund) accounts for the sale of poppies and wreaths and poppy promotional material to the Provincial Commands and local branches. The funds raised are used to assist Canadian ex-service personnel and their dependents and ex-service personnel of Commonwealth and allied countries living in Canada in necessitous circumstances; to pay operating expenses of Dominion Command Veteran Services where required; and to provide a grant to the RCEL Fund to support veterans in the Caribbean.

### *Centennial, RCEL and Benevolent Funds (Special Funds)*

Special Funds are accumulated to finance special activities, including a youth track and field camp and grants to Commonwealth veterans in the Caribbean.

## **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, deposits held with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

## **Inventory**

Inventories are carried at the lower of cost, determined on a first-in, first-out basis, and net realizable value.

## **Marketable investments**

Marketable investments are recorded at fair value in the statement of financial position, and changes in fair value are included in net revenue (expense) for the year of the Investment Fund or appropriate Externally Restricted Fund.

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

---

### Capital assets and amortization

Capital assets are carried at cost less accumulated amortization.

Capital assets are amortized on a straight-line basis, over their estimated useful service lives, at the following annual rates:

Building	2.5%
Furniture and equipment	10.0%
Computers	10.0%

### Employee future benefits

The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command Pension Plan is a multi-employer, contributory, defined benefit pension plan that covers all employees of the Dominion Command and Canvet Publications Ltd. The annual pension payable is based on final average earnings and years of credited service.

In addition to the pension plan, the Dominion Command provides a defined benefit retirement allowance for its employees who have a minimum number of years of service and have attained a minimum age.

Under the immediate recognition approach, the total cost, excluding remeasurements and other items, is included in net revenue or expense of the appropriate fund. Actuarial gains and losses, past service costs and other remeasurements and other items are recognized directly in fund balances.

The defined benefit obligation related to the pension plan is measured based on the most recent actuarial valuation report prepared for funding purposes. The retirement obligation is measured based on an actuarial valuation report prepared specifically for accounting purposes.

### Revenue recognition

The Dominion Command follows restricted fund accounting to record revenue.

Externally restricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the appropriate Externally Restricted Fund. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the statement of operations in the year received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Supply sales revenue is recognized when all of the following criteria are met: persuasive evidence of an agreement exists, the supplies have been shipped or provided to the members, the price is fixed or determinable and collection is reasonably assured.

Membership fee revenue is recorded as revenue in the year it is received unless it relates to a future year, in which case it is deferred and recorded as revenue in the year to which it relates.

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

---

### Allocated expenses

A portion of information technology expenses (system maintenance, programming, computer parts and internet connectivity) is allocated to Corporate services, Financial services, Marketing and communications, Member services, Veterans services and Supply chain management – Operation expenses in the statement of operations in order to reflect support and management oversight provided to those areas. These expenses are allocated based on estimates of time spent by the relevant information technology personnel on those areas during the year.

A portion of Corporate services expenses (salaries and general office) is allocated to Supply, Marketing and communications, Member services, Financial services and Veterans services expenses in the General Fund statement of operations, and to Support – administration department expense in the Poppy Trust Fund, in order to reflect support and management oversight provided to those areas. These expenses are allocated based on estimates of time spent by the relevant administrative personnel on those areas during the year.

A portion of Supply chain management – Operation expenses (salaries and general warehouse) is allocated to Support – Supply department expense of the Poppy Trust Fund in order to reflect warehouse storage costs, shipping and handling for the Poppy Trust Fund inventory, and processing of sales. General warehouse costs are allocated based on \$7 per square foot of the total warehouse space dedicated to Poppy Trust Fund inventory. The remaining expenses are allocated based on estimates of time spent by the relevant personnel during the year.

### 3 Change in accounting policy – early adoption of amendments to the accounting standards

In November 2020, Canada's Accounting Standards Board (AcSB) issued amendments to CPA Canada Handbook Section, 3462 Employee Future Benefits, and CPA Canada Handbook Section 3463, Reporting Employee Future Benefits by Not-for-Profit Organizations. The amendment clarifies that when determining defined benefit obligations (DBO) for plans with a legislative, regulatory or contractual requirement to prepare a funding valuation, all components of funding valuation required to be funded by contributions would be included in the measurement of the DBO, such as the Ontario pension regulator's Provision for Adverse Deviation (PfAD).

The amendments are effective for annual financial statements relating to fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2022, and earlier application is permitted. The Dominion Command opted for early adoption of these amendments on January 1, 2020. The cumulative effect upon adoption of the amendments amounting to \$1,048,700 has been recognized in the statement of changes in fund balances as at January 1, 2020.

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

---

### Allocated expenses

A portion of information technology expenses (system maintenance, programming, computer parts and internet connectivity) is allocated to Corporate services, Financial services, Marketing and communications, Member services, Veterans services and Supply chain management – Operation expenses in the statement of operations in order to reflect support and management oversight provided to those areas. These expenses are allocated based on estimates of time spent by the relevant information technology personnel on those areas during the year.

A portion of Corporate services expenses (salaries and general office) is allocated to Supply, Marketing and communications, Member services, Financial services and Veterans services expenses in the General Fund statement of operations, and to Support – administration department expense in the Poppy Trust Fund, in order to reflect support and management oversight provided to those areas. These expenses are allocated based on estimates of time spent by the relevant administrative personnel on those areas during the year.

A portion of Supply chain management – Operation expenses (salaries and general warehouse) is allocated to Support – Supply department expense of the Poppy Trust Fund in order to reflect warehouse storage costs, shipping and handling for the Poppy Trust Fund inventory, and processing of sales. General warehouse costs are allocated based on \$7 per square foot of the total warehouse space dedicated to Poppy Trust Fund inventory. The remaining expenses are allocated based on estimates of time spent by the relevant personnel during the year.

### 3 Change in accounting policy – early adoption of amendments to the accounting standards

In November 2020, Canada's Accounting Standards Board (AcSB) issued amendments to CPA Canada Handbook Section, 3462 Employee Future Benefits, and CPA Canada Handbook Section 3463, Reporting Employee Future Benefits by Not-for-Profit Organizations. The amendment clarifies that when determining defined benefit obligations (DBO) for plans with a legislative, regulatory or contractual requirement to prepare a funding valuation, all components of funding valuation required to be funded by contributions would be included in the measurement of the DBO, such as the Ontario pension regulator's Provision for Adverse Deviation (PfAD).

The amendments are effective for annual financial statements relating to fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2022, and earlier application is permitted. The Dominion Command opted for early adoption of these amendments on January 1, 2020. The cumulative effect upon adoption of the amendments amounting to \$1,048,700 has been recognized in the statement of changes in fund balances as at January 1, 2020.

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

	As previously reported at December 31, 2019 \$	Impact of change in accounting policy \$	As adjusted at January 1, 2020 \$
<b>Statement of financial position</b>			
Pension plan – accrued benefit assets	1,889,900	(1,048,700)	841,200
<b>Statement of changes in fund balance</b>			
Pension Plan Fund	1,889,900	(1,048,700)	841,200

## 4 Funds held in trust – Veterans Organization Emergency Support Fund

In November 2020, the Minister of Veterans Affairs (VAC) and the Associate Minister of National Defence announced \$20,000,000 in new funding to create a temporary Veterans Organizations Emergency Support Fund in order to provide financial support to veterans organizations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic (note 15), and who are in need of immediate support. Of the \$20,000,000, the Dominion Command received \$14,000,000 under a fully executed contract with VAC for distribution to its branches and provincial commands.

Under the agreement, the Dominion Command is obligated to distribute all funds received and is entitled to retain 10% of the funding received as administrative fees. The Dominion Command will retain a 1% administrative fee to be recorded as and when the distributions are made.

As at December 31, 2020, the Dominion Command has distributed \$7,190,098 and recorded an administrative fee of \$72,129. The remaining \$6,737,773 must be distributed no later than December 31, 2021.

## 5 Accounts receivable

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Commands, branches and members		
Unrestricted	1,385,497	548,618
Poppy Trust Fund	876,739	1,017,753
Other		
Unrestricted	36,938	68,333
Poppy Trust Fund	125,235	332,163
Accrued interest	21,929	29,262
	<u>2,446,338</u>	<u>1,996,129</u>

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

### 6 Marketable investments

	2020		2019	
	Fair value \$	Cost \$	Fair value \$	Cost \$
General Fund	15,096,728	13,744,484	18,231,328	17,136,823
Poppy Trust Fund	7,901,238	7,355,933	7,749,591	7,426,563
Centennial Fund	2,398,153	2,237,200	2,179,935	2,092,953
RCEL Fund	858,665	794,824	829,935	800,050
	26,254,784	24,132,441	28,990,789	27,456,389

Changes in the fair value of marketable investments are given below:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Realized changes in fair value of marketable investments		
Investment Fund	(73,549)	7,083
Externally Restricted Funds	(71,207)	(18,498)
	(144,756)	(11,415)
Unrealized changes in fair value of marketable investments		
Investment Fund	257,740	1,287,811
Externally Restricted Funds	330,202	713,517
	587,942	2,001,328

Marketable investments comprise:

	2020		2019	
	Fair value \$	Cost \$	Fair value \$	Cost \$
Government and government guaranteed bonds	2,984,924	2,843,601	3,251,753	3,283,240
Corporate bonds and pooled bond funds	12,270,540	11,942,136	14,150,073	14,284,571
Corporate stocks and pooled equity funds	10,999,320	9,346,704	11,588,963	9,888,578
	26,254,784	24,132,441	28,990,789	27,456,389

Government and government guaranteed bonds bear interest at fixed rates ranging from 1.50% to 3.75% and mature between 2024 and 2026 (2019 – 1.50% to 3.75% and mature between 2020 and 2026).

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

Corporate bonds bear interest at fixed rates ranging from 1.90% to 3.50% and mature between 2022 and 2026 (2019 – 1.70% to 3.50% and mature between 2020 and 2026). The pooled bond funds invest in high-quality, short- and long-term government securities and corporate bonds, bearing interest at fixed rates.

The Dominion Command invests, directly and through pooled equity funds, in companies in various industries, including energy, materials, industrials, consumer discretionary, consumer staples, financial institutions, telecommunication services and utilities.

### 7 Capital assets

	2020		2019	
	Cost \$	Accumulated amortization \$	Net \$	Net \$
Land	950,220	-	950,220	950,220
Building	5,841,416	2,081,013	3,760,403	3,906,439
Furniture and equipment	152,050	137,395	14,655	17,955
Computers	230,769	186,220	44,549	80,833
	7,174,455	2,404,628	4,769,827	4,955,447

Cost and accumulated amortization amounted to \$7,197,524 and \$2,242,077, respectively, as at December 31, 2020.

### 8 Employee future benefits

The Dominion Command operates a defined benefit pension plan for its employees and employees of Canvet Publication Limited (“Canvet”). The Dominion Command also operates a retirement plan for certain employees which is payable as a single payment on retirement of those employees.

- (a) The Dominion Command is required by regulation to complete a funding valuation at least every three years on its pension plan and annually for the retirement allowance obligation. The most recent funding valuations prepared for all plans were done on January 1, 2020 (2019 – January 1, 2017).



# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

- (b) As at December 31, 2020, a reconciliation of the funded status of benefit plans to the amounts recorded to in the financial statements is as follows:

	2020		2019	
	Retirement obligation \$	Pension plan \$ (note 3)	Retirement obligation \$	Pension plan \$
Fair value of plan assets	-	22,695,500	-	20,677,300
Defined benefit obligation	(538,100)	(21,158,700)	(475,600)	(18,787,400)
Funded status – surplus (deficit)	(538,100)	1,536,800	(475,600)	1,889,900
Less: Valuation allowance	-	(1,536,800)	-	-
Pension asset (retirement obligation)	(538,100)	-	(475,600)	1,889,900

## 9 Government remittances

Government remittances (GST/HST payable) of \$98,619 (2019 – \$59,205) are included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

During the year ended December 31, 2017, the Dominion Command filed a submission under the Voluntary Disclosures Program with the Canada Revenue Agency (note 12).

## 10 Related party transaction and balances

### Canvet

Canvet is an entity incorporated under the Canada Business Corporations Act. Canvet publishes and distributes “Legion Magazine”, which is sold to the membership of the Royal Canadian Legion, non-member subscribers and the general public. The Dominion Command and Canvet are entities under common control based on the majority of the Board of Directors and shareholders of Canvet being in common with the members of the Dominion Command’s Council.

The following transactions with Canvet are included in expenses of the statement of operations:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Legion Magazine – subscriptions current year	2,365,713	2,520,657
Advertising	79,208	67,720
Design services	8,899	14,014
Special issue publications	1,406	1,055

(8)

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

---

The following transactions with Canvet are included in revenues of the General Fund:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Administrative fees	110,000	110,000
Building rental	68,640	68,640
Miscellaneous – network support charge (included in miscellaneous revenue)	5,000	5,000
Subscription agency fee	400,000	400,000
Recharge of pension cost and contribution	162,383	120,648

These transactions are considered to be carried out in the normal course of operations and are measured at the exchange amount, which is the amount established and agreed to by the related parties.

### The Legion National Foundation

The Legion National Foundation (the Foundation) is a registered charity, federally incorporated on April 8, 2016. The Foundation received charitable status on September 11, 2017. The Foundation's purpose is to raise funds for programs of remembrance, and to provide scholarships, bursaries and assistance for the veterans' community.

A member of the Dominion Command serves as a director on the Foundation's Board of Directors, and so the Dominion Command participates in strategic policies of the Foundation.

During the year ended December 31, 2020, the Dominion Command provided services and paid expenses on behalf of the Foundation amounting to \$216,145 (2019 – \$171,370).

Balances with the Foundation are non-interest bearing and have no specified terms of repayment.

## 11 Internally Restricted Funds Balance

The Dominion Command internally restricts a portion of its unrestricted balance for other expenses that will be incurred in the future.

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Building	300,053	300,053
RCEL conference	39,300	34,300
Convention	200,000	200,000
Membership fee	2,914,359	2,914,359
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,453,712	3,448,712

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

---

### 12 Commitments and contingencies

The Dominion Command is committed to the following payments for equipment, poppies and related remembrance materials under various agreements as follows:

	\$
Year ending December 31, 2021	989,229
2022	978,762
2023	926,279
2024	26,279
2025	26,279
Thereafter	26,279

In 2017, the Dominion Command filed a submission under the Voluntary Disclosures Program with the Canada Revenue Agency. Further, discussions with the Canada Revenue Agency regarding HST on membership fee revenue, whether it applied, and to which prior years, if any, are not expected to occur until later in 2020. An exposure exists in excess of estimates accrued to date. It is possible that these estimates could change by a material amount and any such changes will be reflected in the periods in which they become known.

### 13 Allocation of expenses

A portion of Information Technology expenses (system maintenance, programming, computer parts and internet connectivity) has been allocated in the General Fund as follows:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Corporate services	3,500	3,500
Financial services	7,500	7,500
Marketing and communications	2,500	2,500
Member services	7,500	7,500
Veteran services	4,500	4,500
Supply chain management – operation	7,000	7,000

A portion of Corporate services expenses (salaries and general office) has been allocated as follows:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Unrestricted – marketing and communications	15,000	15,000
Unrestricted – member services	15,000	15,000
Unrestricted – veterans services	30,000	30,000
Poppy Trust Fund – support administration department	150,000	150,000

A portion of Supply chain management – Operation expenses (salaries and general warehouse) of \$285,844, 2019 – \$278,600) has been allocated to Support – Administration department expense of the Poppy Trust Fund.

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

---

### 14 Financial instruments

Dominion Command is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of Dominion Command's risk exposure and concentrations. Dominion Command does not use derivative financial instruments to manage its risks.

#### Investment risk

Investment in financial instruments renders Dominion Command subject to investment risks. Interest risk is the risk arising from fluctuations in interest rates and their degree of volatility. The Dominion Command's exposure to interest rate risk arises from its investments in bonds (note 6).

There is also the risk arising from the failure of a party to a financial instrument to discharge an obligation when it is due. Market risk is the risk to the value of a financial instrument due to fluctuations in market prices, whether these fluctuations are caused by factors specific to the investment itself or to its issuer, or by factors pertinent to all investments on the market. The Dominion Command is exposed to market risk through its corporate stocks and pooled equity and bond fund investments (note 6).

#### Concentration of risk

Concentration of risk exists when a significant proportion of the portfolio is invested in securities with similar characteristics or subject to similar economic, political and other conditions. The Dominion Command's investments are described in note 6.

#### Credit risk

The Dominion Command's credit risk arises on cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, due from the Foundation, and marketable investments. The Dominion Command's cash and cash equivalents and investments are maintained at major financial institutions; therefore, the Dominion Command considers the risk of non-performance of these instruments to be remote.

To manage the credit risk on accounts receivable, the Dominion Command assesses the credit risk of new customers before extending credit and ongoing customers periodically. The allowance for doubtful accounts recognized by the Dominion Command on trade receivables is insignificant. Accounts receivable are generally due within 30 to 90 days. No accounts receivable mature beyond one year.

#### Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. Currency risk arises when financial assets or financial liabilities are denominated in a currency other than Canadian dollars. The Dominion Command is exposed to currency risk on marketable investments.

As at December 31, 2020, 26% (2019 – 22%) of marketable investments are denominated in US dollars.

# The Royal Canadian Legion - Dominion Command

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

---

### 15 Impact of COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 outbreak has developed rapidly in 2020, with a significant number of infections. Measures taken by the authorities to contain the virus have affected global and local economic activity. The long-term impact of the outbreak remains uncertain.

During the year ended December 31, 2020, management applied for assistance under Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS), which was set up by the Government of Canada to assist local businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. The subsidy covers employers who had suffered a drop in gross revenues during 2020 that exceed certain thresholds. Contributions recognized under CEWS amount to \$471,860, which was fully received by year-end.

During the year ended December 31, 2020, the Dominion Executive Council resolved to liquidate investments amounting to \$3,000,000 and distribute the proceeds as COVID-19 relief to branches through provincial commands to combat against coronavirus. The impact of such distribution on the regular operations of the Dominion Command reduced the unrestricted fund balance by \$2,486,069 as noted below:

	<b>2020</b> <b>\$</b>
Net revenue from regular operations	1,141,764
Extraordinary expenditure - COVID-19 relief distribution	<u>(2,486,069)</u>
Net revenue (expense) for the year	<u>(1,344,305)</u>

### 16 Comparative figures

Prior year figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

## REPORT OF CANVET PUBLICATIONS LTD.

B. Julian, *Board Chair*  
T. Irvine, *Board Vice-Chair*  
D. Flannigan, *Secretary*  
T. Bursey, *Director*  
B. Chafe, *Director*  
S. Clark, *Director*  
O. Parkhouse, *Director*  
L. Tardif, *Director*  
B. Weaver, *Director*  
I. Weiser, *Director*

### INTRODUCTION

The coronavirus has affected every part of society—including Canada’s military and veterans communities. The publishing industry has been hammered, yet in spite of the challenges, Canvet continues to show a positive bottom line. The staff has remained flexible, working remotely for almost five months of 2021. There will certainly be a reduction to the bottom line, but Canvet will recover.

Through it all, *Legion Magazine* continues to deliver stories of our veterans and Canada’s military history to the mailboxes of subscribers. The magazine has a print and online reach of over 650,000 Canadians and remains one of this country’s largest and most respected publications.

### ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

Canvet began 2020 with high expectations. The goal was to build on the momentum created from posting the two best years in the magazine’s history.

Since the last convention the magazine has seen increased revenue in four areas: subsidy, advertising, design/production services and online sales. Design/production and the online store are new revenue streams created in the last five years. Every dollar is directed to the production of the magazine and maintaining a low subscription price. Historically, non-subscription revenue averaged 19 per cent or approximately \$500,000. Over the last five years, non-subscription revenue has increased to 48 per cent of total revenue.

With the onset of COVID-19, many Canadian businesses have faced serious economic downturn.

Canvet has also seen a slowdown in performance and particularly in the new revenue streams that have been built up over the last years. In spite of this, Canvet finished 2020 in the black and is now positioned to get through 2021 with a small surplus.

At the 2012 Convention, Canvet committed to continue publishing without an increase in the cost of an annual subscription before 2020. There is considerable uncertainty as we work our way through the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, if the magazine remains eligible for the Department of Canadian Heritage Canada Periodical Fund (CPF), then Canvet should be able to extend its commitment to continue operations under the existing subscription fee of \$9.49 by two years. This is the lowest subscription price for a magazine of this size in Canada.

### CANADA PERIODICAL FUND

Canvet has been applying for subsidies from the Canadian government since it began publishing. The CPF is crucial to our bottom line. This year, Canvet received a subsidy for *Legion Magazine* and Canada’s *Ultimate Story* (CUS) quarterly. Combined, this was the highest amount of subsidy in the history of Canvet and a welcome influx of capital. These two CPF grants represented \$950,716.

Eligibility is decided annually and we are entering a period of uncertainty. The government has decided to change the criteria for calculating the amount of subsidy received by Canadian periodicals. These changes will be implemented over four years, with the new formula fully in place by 2024.

Over the last three decades, federal subsidies have saved Canvet over 13 million dollars. The CPF is essential for our survival. All of Canvet's budgets are predicated on the continuing receipt of the government subsidy. The subsidy comes with clear rules and the government must continue to be confident that Legion Magazine and CUS are independent publications and that Canvet is an independent publisher. They have listed as ineligible any periodicals "that primarily report on the activities or promotes the interests of the organization."

### ENGLISH CONTENTS AND FRENCH INSERT

Since our last convention, Canvet has covered a wide range of military history and current affairs, including articles on the demobilization of the First World War; the Canadian Siberian Expeditionary Force; moral injury; what soldiers wore, ate and said in the Second World War; the 75th anniversary of D-Day; the Battle of Mont Sorrel; the Battle of the Somme; the repatriation of Canadian remains in the two world wars; the Battle of Hong Kong; and much more.

In 2020, Canvet added five epubs (199 pages) to its standard publishing schedule of six issues of *Legion Magazine* (624 pages), four Special Interest Publications (SIPs) (400 pages) and six French inserts (160 pages). In 2021, we will add four epubs (191 pages) to that standard publishing line-up.

Since the last convention, some of the SIP topics have included D-Day, John McCrae and the Battles of Flanders, Canada's Great Naval Battles and the Battle of the Somme. Later this year we will release O Canada Volume 4. This year's epubs are Veterans Benefits Guide (English and French), The Great Response, D-Day Remembered and Paratroopers. The full-colour French section of *Legion Magazine* includes translations of those stories of most interest to our French readers along with original history articles. It is available to any member at no extra charge. Please contact Legion Magazine if you wish to receive a French section and are not currently receiving one.

### MEMBER BENEFITS PACKAGE

The Royal Canadian Legion (RCL) Member Benefits Package (MBP) offers discounts for members through Belair Insurance Company, Carlson Wagonlit Travel, IRIS Eyewear, Rogers SimplyConnect, Medipac Travel Insurance, Revera Inc., Arbor Memorial Services Inc., Canadian Safe Step Walk-in Tub Co., HomeEquity Bank, HearingLife Canada and MBNA Canada Inc.

Canvet offers the partners exclusive advertising rates and they reach an exclusive market as an endorsed partner. Every partner contributes financially to the programs of the Legion.

### AWARDS

Last winter, Canvet was awarded gold and the silver in the Canadian Online Publishing Awards. It was a sweep, in the Best Interactive/Infographic Story category. The interactive website on Canada and the Liberation of Netherlands won gold and the website on the October Crisis won silver. The team has racked up 31 national and international awards and nominations.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The full audited Canvet financial statements are provided separately.

### CONCLUSION

Thank you to all the Directors and the team at Canvet for their support during my term.

# **Canvet Publications Ltd.**

Financial Statements  
**December 31, 2020**





## Independent auditor's report

To the Shareholders of Canvet Publications Ltd.

---

### Our opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Canvet Publications Ltd. (the Company) as at December 31, 2020 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Private Enterprises (ASPE).

#### What we have audited

The Company's financial statements comprise:

- the balance sheet as at December 31, 2020;
- the statement of earnings and retained earnings for the year then ended;
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and
- the notes to the financial statements, which include significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

---

### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Independence

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
99 Bank Street, Suite 710, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1P 1E4  
T: +1 613 237 3702, F: +1 613 237 3963

"PwC" refers to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an Ontario limited liability partnership.

---

## **Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with ASPE, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

---

## **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.



- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**/s/PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP**

Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

Ottawa, Ontario  
April 29, 2021

# Canvet Publications Ltd.

## Balance Sheet

As at December 31, 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,437,555	1,369,287
Accounts receivable	95,274	88,470
Income taxes recoverable	-	99,045
Due from The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command (note 5)	3,411	632,432
Prepaid expense	63,752	281,126
	1,599,992	2,470,360
<b>Marketable investments</b> (note 3)	7,148,158	5,810,326
<b>Capital assets</b> (note 4)	52,297	51,321
	8,800,447	8,332,007
<b>Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (notes 5 and 6)	467,059	674,251
GST/HST payable	89,621	120,599
Income taxes payable	135,173	-
Deferred revenue	18,308	11,818
Deferred Canadian Periodical Fund	304,238	292,047
Subscriptions received in advance	1,353,659	1,247,187
	2,368,058	2,345,902
<b>Retirement obligation</b> (note 7)	266,000	226,500
	2,634,058	2,572,402
<b>Shareholders' Equity</b>		
Capital stock (note 8)	8	8
Retained earnings	6,166,381	5,759,597
	6,166,389	5,759,605
	8,800,447	8,332,007

**Commitments** (note 10)

**Approved by the Board of Directors**



Director



Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# Canvet Publications Ltd.

## Statement of Earnings and Retained Earnings

For the year ended December 31, 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Revenue</b>		
Subscriptions (note 5)	2,384,042	2,534,507
Newsstand sales	10,217	10,632
Advertising (note 5)	457,264	520,563
Special editions	185,424	141,359
	<u>3,036,947</u>	<u>3,207,061</u>
<b>Expense</b> (schedule)		
Magazine	1,640,105	1,783,185
Employees	1,517,081	1,452,313
Administrative (note 5)	573,126	624,108
Subscription agency fee (note 5)	400,000	400,000
	<u>4,130,312</u>	<u>4,259,606</u>
<b>Loss before the undernoted</b>	<u>(1,093,365)</u>	<u>(1,052,545)</u>
<b>Other income</b>		
Canadian Periodical Fund	928,247	929,187
Other grants (note 13)	280,109	12,487
Investment income (note 3)	388,557	396,542
Other (note 5)	257,469	181,711
	<u>1,854,382</u>	<u>1,519,927</u>
<b>Earnings before income taxes</b>	761,017	467,382
Provision for income taxes	<u>(354,233)</u>	<u>(170,254)</u>
<b>Net revenue for the year</b>	406,784	297,128
<b>Retained earnings – Beginning of year</b>	<u>5,759,597</u>	<u>5,462,469</u>
<b>Retained earnings – End of year</b>	<u>6,166,381</u>	<u>5,759,597</u>

# Canvet Publications Ltd.

## Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended December 31, 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Cash provided by (used in)</b>		
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Net revenue for the year	406,784	297,128
Items not affecting cash		
Amortization	15,849	15,734
Provision for retirement obligation	39,500	26,200
Realized losses on sale of marketable investments	40,277	14,412
Unrealized losses on marketable investments	(235,601)	(230,714)
Net change in non-cash working capital items <sup>1</sup>	960,792	1,066,585
	<u>1,227,601</u>	<u>1,189,345</u>
<b>Investing activities</b>		
Proceeds on sale of marketable investments	287,297	965,338
Purchase of marketable investments	(1,429,805)	(2,463,239)
Purchase of capital assets	(16,825)	(14,968)
	<u>(1,159,333)</u>	<u>(1,512,869)</u>
<b>Net change in cash and cash equivalents for the year</b>	68,268	(323,524)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents – Beginning of year</b>	<u>1,369,287</u>	<u>1,692,811</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents – End of year</b>	<u>1,437,555</u>	<u>1,369,287</u>
<b><sup>1</sup> Net change in non-cash working capital items</b>		
Accounts receivable	(6,804)	23,242
Income taxes recoverable	99,045	(37,376)
Due from The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command	629,021	1,010,951
Prepaid expense	217,374	(84,830)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(207,192)	102,511
GST/HST payable	(30,978)	(13,449)
Income taxes payable	135,173	-
Deferred revenue	6,490	7,574
Deferred Canadian Periodical Fund	12,191	11,250
Subscriptions received in advance	106,472	46,712
	<u>960,792</u>	<u>1,066,585</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# Canvet Publications Ltd.

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

---

### 1 Nature of operations

Canvet Publications Ltd. (the Company) is incorporated under the Canada Business Corporations Act. The Company publishes and distributes "Legion Magazine", which is sold to the membership of The Royal Canadian Legion, non-member subscribers and the general public.

The Company's objectives are to publish informative articles and information on Canadian military history and current events with an emphasis on military and veterans' issues.

### 2 Summary of significant accounting policies

These financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Private Enterprises (ASPE). The significant accounting policies are as follows:

#### Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with ASPE requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expense during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

#### Cash equivalents

Investments in money market mutual funds are considered cash equivalents as they are short-term, highly liquid investments that are not subject to significant changes in value.

#### Marketable investments

Marketable investments are recorded at fair value in the balance sheet and changes in fair value are included in net revenue for the year.

#### Capital assets and amortization

Capital assets are initially recorded at cost and are then amortized.

Office equipment and computer equipment are amortized over their estimated useful service lives using the declining balance method at annual rates of 20% and 30%, respectively.

# Canvet Publications Ltd.

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

---

### **Income taxes**

The Company uses the income taxes payable method to account for income taxes, where the Company reports only the cost or benefit of current income taxes for the period, determined in accordance with the rates established by taxation authorities.

### **Employee future benefits**

#### Retirement allowance

The Company provides a defined benefit retirement allowance for its employees who have a minimum number of years of service and have attained a minimum age.

The retirement obligation is measured based on an actuarial valuation prepared specifically for accounting purposes. Under the immediate recognition approach, the total cost, excluding remeasurements and other items, is included in employees' expense for the year. Actuarial gains and losses, past service costs and other remeasurements and other items are recognized in net revenue.

#### Pension plan

The Company participates in The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command (“Dominion Command”) Pension Plan, which is a multi-employer, contributory, defined benefit pension plan that covers all employees of The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command and the Company. The annual pension payable is based on final average earnings and years of credited service.

The Company's portion of the pension plan is accounted for as a defined contribution plan such that the Company's contributions to the pension plan are included in employees' expense in the statement of earnings and retained earnings. A pension asset has not been recorded in the balance sheet.

### **Revenue recognition**

The Company principally generates revenue from magazine subscriptions and advertising.

Revenue is recognized when persuasive evidence of an agreement exists, the price is fixed or determinable and collection is reasonably assured. Revenue from subscriptions is recognized when magazines have been shipped, and advertising revenue is recognized when the services has been delivered.

Subscriptions received in advance are deferred as subscriptions received in advance until the revenue recognition criteria is met.



# Canvet Publications Ltd.

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

### Government grants

Government grants related to current year operations are recognized in net revenue for the year. Government grants related to expenses of future accounting periods are deferred and amortized to net revenue as related expenses are incurred. Government grants are presented as other income in the statement of earnings and retained earnings.

### 3 Marketable investments

	2020		2019	
	Fair value \$	Cost \$	Fair value \$	Cost \$
Corporate bonds and pooled bond funds	4,529,207	4,429,258	3,732,065	3,773,064
Government and government guaranteed bonds	933,434	895,021	826,069	829,300
Corporate equities and pooled equity funds	1,685,517	1,556,446	1,252,192	1,176,130
	7,148,158	6,880,725	5,810,326	5,778,494

Corporate bonds bear interest at fixed rates ranging from 1.91% to 3.60% and mature between 2022 and 2026 (2019 – 1.90% to 3.60% and mature between 2020 and 2026). The pooled bond funds invest in high-quality, short and long-term corporate bonds, bearing interest at fixed rates.

Government and government guaranteed bonds bear interest at fixed rates ranging from 1.50% to 3.75% and mature between 2024 and 2027 (2019 – 1.50% to 3.75% and mature between 2020 and 2026).

The Company invests, directly and through pooled equity funds, in companies in various industries, including energy, materials, industrials, consumer discretionary, consumer staples, financial institutions, telecommunication services, utilities and health care.

Investment income comprises:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Interest	140,186	124,174
Dividends	53,047	56,067
Realized losses on sale of marketable investments	(40,277)	(14,412)
Unrealized gains on marketable investments	235,601	230,713
	388,557	396,542

# Canvet Publications Ltd.

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

### 4 Capital assets

	2020		2019
	Cost \$	Accumulated amortization \$	Net \$
Office equipment	165,448	146,830	18,618
Computer equipment	350,259	316,580	33,679
	515,707	463,410	52,297
			51,321

Cost and accumulated amortization amounted to \$498,883 and \$447,562, respectively, as at December 31, 2019.

### 5 Related party transactions

The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command (“the Dominion Command”) and the Company are entities under common control based on the majority of the Board of Directors and shareholders of the Company being in common with the members of the Dominion Command’s Council.

The following transactions with the Dominion Command are included in revenue or other income:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Subscriptions	2,365,713	2,520,657
Advertising	79,208	67,720
Design services (included in other income)	8,899	14,014
Special issue publications (included in other income)	1,406	1,055

The following transactions with the Dominion Command are included in expense:

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Administrative – accounting and computer services	110,000	110,000
Administrative – building rental	68,640	68,640
Administrative – network support charge	5,000	5,000
Subscription agency fee	400,000	400,000

These transactions are considered to be in the normal course of operations and are measured at the exchange amount, which is the amount established and agreed to by the related parties.

Balances with the Dominion Command are non-interest bearing with no specified terms of repayment. Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities is \$7,278 (2019 – \$2,380) owing to the Dominion Command.

# Canvet Publications Ltd.

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

---

### 6 Government remittances

Payroll withholding taxes of \$40,312 (2019 – \$34,366) are included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

### 7 Employee future benefits

The Company participates in the multi-employer defined benefit plan of Dominion Command. The Company has also committed to post retirement allowances for certain employees which are payable as a single payment on retirement of those employees.

- a) The Dominion Command is required by regulation to complete a funding valuation at least every three years on its pension plan. The Company is also required to undertake a valuation for its retirement allowance. The most recent funding valuations prepared for the retiring allowance and pension plan was January 1, 2020 (2019 – retiring allowance December 31, 2019; pension plan January 1, 2017).
- b) A reconciliation of the funded status of the pension plan and retirement allowance of the Company is as follows:

	<b>2020</b>		<b>2019</b>	
	<b>Retirement allowance \$</b>	<b>Pension plan \$</b>	<b>Retirement allowance \$</b>	<b>Pension plan \$</b>
Fair value of plan assets	-	22,695,500	-	20,677,300
Defined benefit obligation	(266,000)	(21,158,700)	(226,500)	(18,787,400)
Funded status – Surplus (deficit)	(266,000)	1,536,800	(226,500)	1,889,900
Less: Valuation allowance	-	(1,536,800)	-	-
Pension asset (retirement obligation)	(266,000)	-	(226,500)	1,889,900

- c) The Company's contributions to the overall defined benefit pension plan of \$162,383 (2019 – \$120,648) are included in employees' expense in the statement of earnings and retained earnings.

# Canvet Publications Ltd.

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

---

### 8 Share capital

Authorized

50,000 common shares

Issued

	2020 \$	2019 \$
8 common shares	8	8

### 9 Reconciliation of the effective income tax rate to the statutory rate

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Earnings before income taxes	761,017	467,382
Income taxes at applicable tax rate of 26.5%	201,670	123,856
Capital cost allowance claimed less than amortization	(1,235)	(2,090)
Non-deductible expenses	(1,178)	1,188
Permanent differences	(51,761)	(59,002)
Temporary differences	225,787	132,402
Income taxed at small business rate	(18,865)	(31,373)
Other	(185)	5,273
	354,233	170,254

### 10 Commitments

The Company is committed under a rental agreement with the Dominion Command to make annual payments of \$68,640 (2019 – \$68,640) for office space.

### 11 Financial instruments

The Company is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of the Company's risk exposure and concentrations. The Company does not use derivative financial instruments to manage its risks

# Canvet Publications Ltd.

## Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2020

---

### Investment risk

Investment in financial instruments renders the Company subject to investment risks. Interest risk is the risk arising from fluctuations in interest rates and their degree of volatility. The Company's exposure to interest rate risk arises from its investments in bonds (note 3).

There is also the risk arising from the failure of a party to a financial instrument to discharge an obligation when it is due. Market risk is the risk to the value of a financial instrument due to fluctuations in market prices, whether these fluctuations are caused by factors specific to the investment itself or to its issuer, or by factors pertinent to all investments on the market. The Company is exposed to market risk through its corporate equities fund, pooled equity fund and pooled bond fund investments (note 3).

### Concentration of risk

Concentration of risk exists when a significant proportion of the portfolio is invested in securities with similar characteristics or subject to similar economic, political and other conditions. The Company's investments are described in note 3.

### Credit risk

The Company's credit risk arises on cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, due from The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command and marketable investments. The Company's cash and cash equivalents and marketable investments are maintained at major financial institutions; therefore, the Company considers the risk of non-performance of these instruments to be remote.

The Dominion Command is a corporation under common control. The Company believes the credit risk related to the receivable is low and the amount to be fully collectible.

Credit risk on accounts receivable is not considered material due to the insignificant amount receivable at year-end.

## 12 Comparative figures

Prior year figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

# **Canvet Publications Ltd.**

## **Notes to Financial Statements**

**December 31, 2020**

---

### **13 Impact of COVID-19 pandemic**

The COVID-19 outbreak developed rapidly in 2020, with a significant number of infections. Measures taken by the authorities to contain the virus have affected global and local economic activity. The long-term impact of the outbreak remains uncertain. Given the unprecedented nature of this event, it is difficult to predict the length or breadth of any earnings disruption and market movements in general.

During the year ended December 31, 2020, the Company received an additional grant of \$235,000 to support its operations in response to the impact of COVID-19.

# Canvet Publications Ltd.

## Schedule of Expense

(Unaudited)

For the year ended December 31, 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Magazine</b>		
Desktop publishing	18,812	16,802
Editorial contributions	98,492	103,443
Freight and express	1,835	2,234
Illustrations	38,327	47,784
Postage	787,604	850,811
Printing	695,035	762,111
	<u>1,640,105</u>	<u>1,783,185</u>
<b>Employees</b>		
Salaries	1,209,101	1,194,708
Other benefits	307,980	257,605
	<u>1,517,081</u>	<u>1,452,313</u>
<b>Administrative</b>		
Accounting and computer services (note 5)	110,000	110,000
Advertising commission – CCM	88,668	89,447
Building rental (note 5)	72,710	72,791
Product expenses	16,173	-
Design and production expenses	80,352	73,434
Directors' meetings	-	6,000
Editorial travel	4,833	35,632
Insurance	11,232	11,772
Miscellaneous	34,818	31,579
Network support charge (note 5)	5,000	5,000
Newsstand expense	35,468	40,050
Office supplies	10,524	15,319
Postage	6,991	6,855
Printing and stationery	5,067	5,846
Professional fees	31,072	26,224
Sales promotion	30,220	60,209
Staff recruitment and training	410	3,237
Subscriptions	2,129	3,500
Telephone and fax	11,611	11,479
Amortization	15,848	15,734
	<u>573,126</u>	<u>624,108</u>
<b>Subscription agency fee (note 5)</b>	<u>400,000</u>	<u>400,000</u>
<b>Total expense</b>	<u>4,130,312</u>	<u>4,259,606</u>

## REPORT OF THE LEGION NATIONAL FOUNDATION

D. Flannigan, *Chair*  
G. O'Dair, *Vice-Chair*  
B. Burnham, *Director*  
L. Murray, *Director*  
P. Kavanagh, *Director*  
S. Clark, *Executive Director*  
S. Laprade, *Director of Development*  
D. Martin, *Coordinator*

### INTRODUCTION

The Legion National Foundation (LNF), with its national scope, fosters initiatives that enhance the lives of Veterans who have served or continue to serve in the Canadian Armed Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

The Foundation mission is expressed through the support of Health and Wellness programs that are tailored to Veterans' unique needs. The Legion National Foundation works closely with organizations and institutions to award scholarships and bursaries to support individuals with their education.

Thanks to our generous donors, children and youth across Canada can learn about Canada's military history and honour the sacrifices that were made by Veterans in the service of their country.

Many members of the Canadian Armed Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police live through physically, mentally, and emotionally demanding circumstances in the service to their country. They make sacrifices, endure hardship, and in some cases, suffer significant personal loss for the betterment of others. In return, these extraordinary men, women, and family members deserve the utmost respect, compassion, and support from Canadians.

The Legion National Foundation, in partnership with The Royal Canadian Legion, works at the national level to support initiatives that positively impact the wellbeing and quality of life of Canada's Veterans and their families.

### THE FOUR PILLARS

The Legion National Foundation Board of Directors focus efforts on four key pillars to support. The pillars are: Veterans' Health and Wellness, Scholarships and Bursaries, Pilgrimages of Remembrance and Remembrance Contests for Children and Youth.

In terms of Veterans' Health and Wellness, the Foundation supports programs and projects to help with homelessness, mental health, financial struggles and transition challenges.

Through the generosity of donors, funds have been distributed throughout Canada to such organizations as Multi-Faith Housing Initiative – Veterans' House, Cockrell House and the Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre.

In addition, funds have been distributed to the three Cadet Leagues: Navy, Army, and Air. Funds are also used to support the Poster and Literary Contests for Youth. Due to the pandemic, the Pilgrimages of Remembrance have been on hold and will resume at an appropriate time.

### FUNDRAISING AND GIVING

The Legion National Foundation raises monies through a diversified fundraising plan that includes gifts from individuals, corporations, and grantors. Individuals give through annual gifts and monthly gifts to support Veterans and their families.

The Digital Poppy Campaign was part of the LNF for the first time in 2020. The campaign ran as part of the overall Poppy Campaign from October 30 - November 11. One of the benefits of



the Foundation hosting this campaign was a tax receipt was provided to donors for their gift.

Individuals donated to the campaign and proudly displayed their Digital Poppy on social media such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Many also shared the Poppy in their email signature too. Many individuals paid tribute to their family member who served in the Military through their Digital Poppy by including their name on the emblem. In many cases, sadly, their family member lost their lives in service to our country. Many individuals shared photos and quotes for their loved ones.

Corporations were inspired to give generously through large donations. Our corporate partners also encouraged their employees to give and, in many cases, provided a Digital Poppy to them to display too on their work email signatures.

Donors are encouraged to give through other giving vehicles as well. For example, a donor gave to the Legion National Foundation through the gift of securities. In many cases people give publicly traded shares to the Foundation as a way of contributing and also as a way of avoiding high capital gains tax.

A Legacy Gift, also known as a gift in your Will, is another option for donors. Through a bequest, individuals leave a gift to the LNF as a way of carrying on their own personal legacy that aligned with their values in life. Many give a Legacy Gift to pay tribute to a loved one or as a way of recognizing all Veterans in Canada.

## WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The Legion National Foundation launched a new website in the Fall of 2020. The site [LNFCanada.ca](https://LNFCanada.ca) provides all Canadians with an overview of the Foundation as well as a donation area for them to give.

The LNF also shares messages on social media including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. This important connection with donors and Canadians helps to share the messages of where the impact is being made in the country.

This report is provided for information only.

## REPORT OF THE CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

M. Barham, *Chair*  
D. Flannigan, *Vice-Chair*  
S. Clark, *Member*  
O. Gorelova, *Coordinator*

### **This fund was established at the 1964 Convention to serve as:**

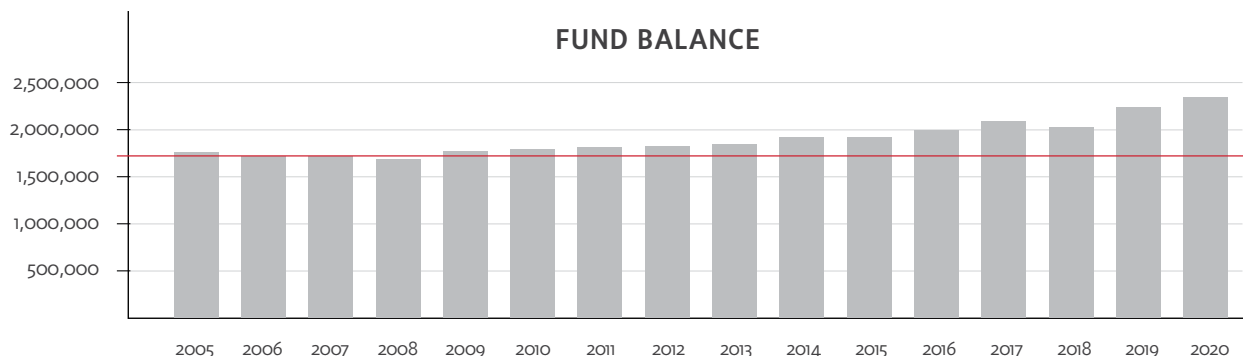
A perpetual memorial to those who have fallen in the service of Canada by continuing the activities of The Royal Canadian Legion, including the promotion of education, sports, commonwealth unity and all other forms of national and community service, which in the light of which of changing conditions may be deemed to be consistent with the aims and objects of The Royal Canadian Legion.

By the mandate of Convention, the Fund can only be used to supplement Track and Field when required and other special projects as agreed by Convention. In 1992 Convention the set the minimum base amount to be kept in the Fund at \$1,500,000.

The Fund dipped to just over \$1.5 million at the end of 2008. In 2009 withdrawals from the fund were suspended to give the Fund a chance to get built up again. The target amount to achieve was set at \$2.0 million.

The total balance in the Fund as of December 31, 2020 was \$2,420,105. The fund investments can be broken down as; 8.1% invested in Government bonds, 54.6% invested corporate bonds and bond funds, 36.2% in corporate stocks, 1.0% in short term deposits and cash.

The balance in the investment funds as of March 31, 2021 was \$2,494,431. A graphical representation of the Fund history is presented below.



A summary of the Operations of the Fund from its inception in 1966 to 2020 can be found in schedule A (attached).

This report was moved, seconded and approved by the delegates.

## SCHEDULE A—CENTENNIAL FUND

### STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSE AND FUND BALANCE FROM JANUARY 1, 1966 TO DECEMBER 31, 2020

<b>REVENUE</b>			7,055,585
<b>EXPENSE</b>			
ACTION PROGRAM			133,817
DOMINION COMMAND			
TRACK AND FIELD	1974 - 1992	2,174,724	
TRACK AND FIELD	1996 - 2009	1,725,000	3,899,724
GERIATRIC FELLOWSHIP	1981 - 1992		1,152,015
FUND MANAGEMENT FEES	1996 - 2020		478,980
			5,664,536
<b>NET REVENUE</b>			1,391,049
<b>CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS</b>			
AMOUNTS DONATED TO START FUND 1964-66			1,029,056
		FUND BALANCE AT BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2020	2,420,105

**Action Program**—Promotion, publicity, travel and administration.

**Dominion Command Track and Field**—39 meets involving approximately 14,600 participants in total.

**Geriatric Fellowship**—Training for 91 doctors, 50 nurses, 11 physiotherapists and 9 occupational therapists.

**Fund Management Fees**—Administration fees for investment fund management.

# CREDENTIALS REPORT

D. Martin, *Chair*  
V. Brown, *Member*  
T. Wheeler, *Member*  
C. Wagner, *Member*  
D. Golding, *Member*  
P. Sweeny, *Member*  
P. Cook, *Member*  
J. Clayton, *Member*  
V. Mitchell-Veinotte, *Member*  
B. McMillan, *Member*  
P. Hillier, *Member*

COMMAND	ENTITLEMENT*	DELEGATES		OBSERVERS
		ACCREDITED	PROXY	
BC/YUKON	507	131	303	
ALBERTA-NWT	419	114	188	
SASKATCHEWAN	200	53	28	
MANITOBA & NWO	263	57	95	
ONTARIO	1107	346	641	
QUEBEC	163	41	9	
NEW BRUNSWICK	104	16	43	
NOVA SCOTIA/NUNAVUT	219	56	57	
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	32	21	8	
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR	63	23	11	
DEC/PDP	20	20	0	
US ZONES	10	5	1	
EUROPE ZONE	5	0	0	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3112</b>	<b>883</b>	<b>1384</b>	<b>184</b>

The figures denote the Command entitlement to delegates and proxies based upon the final 2020 figures for Life, Ordinary, Associate and Affiliate Voting members (General By-Laws Section 903).

# REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE ON DOMINION CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

T. Irvine, *Chair*  
B. Julian, *Vice-Chair*  
D. Martin, *Secretary*

## STATISTICS

The following table provides statistics on the number of resolutions submitted by Provincial Commands and by Dominion Command Committees for consideration by the delegates at Convention.

COMMANDS	CONCURRED AT PROVINCIAL CONVENTIONS	FROM BRANCHES THROUGH PROVINCIAL COMMANDS	DOMINION COMMAND COMMITTEES	TOTAL NUMBER OF RESOLUTIONS
BRITISH COLUMBIA/YUKON	7	8	-	15
ALBERTA-NWT	4	4	-	8
SASKATCHEWAN	2	0	-	2
MANITOBA & NWO	4	0	-	4
ONTARIO	2	4	-	6
QUEBEC	3	0	-	3
NEW BRUNSWICK	3	1	-	4
NOVA SCOTIA/NUNAVUT	5	3	-	8
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	0	3	-	3
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR	1	1	-	2
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>

The total number of resolutions to be considered is 56. For comparison purposes, in 2018 a total of 55 resolutions were presented to the delegates at Convention.

# INDEX TO RESOLUTIONS

---

COMMITTEE/SUBJECT	PAGE NO.
<b>DOMINION ELECTED COUNCIL</b>	149
<b>VETERANS SERVICE AND SENIORS</b>	150
DISABILITY BENEFITS	150
LONG-TERM CARE	150
<b>POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE</b>	151
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	153
<b>DEFENCE AND SECURITY</b>	154
<b>RITUAL AND REWARDS</b>	155
<b>CONSTITUTION AND LAWS</b>	156

## ABBREVIATIONS

In dealing with the resolutions, it should be noted that each has an assigned code and number.

Those abbreviations for Commands such as QUE., ALTA-NWT, etc. are well known. The number following the Command is simply a control number.

The /C following a resolution indicates that it was approved by a Provincial Convention. The procedure for bringing to the convention floor any non-concurred resolution in Part II is that a provincial caucus will decide which of their Command resolutions to bring to the floor and designate who will present the explanation.

Various standing or national committees have generated resolutions and the following is a list of the abbreviations used:

<b>DEC</b>	Dominion Executive Council
<b>SEO</b>	Senior Elected Officer
<b>VSS</b>	Veterans, Service and Seniors
<b>P&amp;R</b>	Poppy and Remembrance
<b>MBR</b>	Membership
<b>D&amp;S</b>	Defence and Security
<b>R&amp;A</b>	Ritual and Awards
<b>C&amp;L</b>	Constitution and Laws

## RESOLUTIONS

---

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE PASSED  
BY THIS 48TH DOMINION CONVENTION

---

### LOYALTY RESOLUTION

13 AUGUST 2021

*May it please Your Majesty:*

*The members of The Royal Canadian Legion  
send greetings to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II  
and humbly desire to convey to Her Majesty  
this expression of loyalty and allegiance.*

*Members will meet in celebration of our  
48th Dominion Convention held virtually  
during the period 13-15 August 2021.*

*We remain profoundly indebted to Your gracious  
Majesty's service and leadership in guiding  
the Commonwealth of Nations and pray that  
Your Majesty may long be spared to continue  
to guide the destinies of these great nations.*

*I remain Your Majesty's humble  
and obedient servant*

### BUCKINGHAM PALACE

*The Queen was pleased to receive your expression  
of loyalty on behalf of the Members of the Royal  
Canadian Legion, sent on the occasion of their  
Forty-Eighth Dominion Convention which is being  
held from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> August.*

*The kind sentiments expressed in your message and  
the assurance of your prayers are much appreciated.  
In return, Her Majesty sends her best wishes to you  
all for memorable and enjoyable virtual gathering.*

*PRIVATE SECRETARY*

# DEC

## 401. SUPPORT FOR CANADA'S INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY

### DEC 1

**WHEREAS** Canada's military heritage includes service by thousands of Indigenous soldiers employed in every trade yet this historical awareness is lacking;

**WHEREAS** the contribution of Indigenous soldiers to Canada's past war effort is sometimes referred to as forgotten, for although in the First World War alone more than 4000 Indigenous soldiers served in uniform, 50 were decorated for bravery, hundreds were killed and thousands more injured, they experienced discrimination and a lack of appreciation and recognition for their service and sacrifice when they returned home to Canada and were deemed ineligible for supports provided to other Veterans;

**WHEREAS** over 3000 First Nations members served in uniform in the Second World War and hundreds served in the Korean War, with numerous decorations and citations awarded for bravery;

**WHEREAS** Indigenous military personnel continued to serve Canada through deployments with NATO during the Cold War, UN and multinational peace support operations, Afghanistan, the Canadian Rangers and unceasingly contribute greatly to Canada's rich military heritage;

**WHEREAS** after the Second World War, the unresolved injustices against Indigenous People started to receive some government and societal awareness;

**WHEREAS** from 1946-1948, this government awareness included hearings into the Indian Act by a Special Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Commons; the committee's final report

called for an end of all separate First Nations education institutions yet the residential school system remained in existence until the 1990s;

**WHEREAS** in 2021, this societal awareness finally grew to a widespread understanding of the suffering, grief and indescribable heartbreak experienced within the Indigenous community stemming from the tragedy and devastating legacy of residential schools;

**WHEREAS** the horrifying loss of children and the discovery of remains at burial sites in Canada is overwhelming and that sorrow is shared throughout every corner of the country and in every facet of society;

**WHEREAS** the path to healing is a long one but it will start with our country's collective understanding, education and support;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that, given the requirement for Canada-wide unity of this national imperative and recognizing the importance of improving cultural and heritage awareness, understanding injustices and commemorating loss, The Royal Canadian Legion and all its commands, branches and members extends its unreserved support, however possible and appropriate, and in collaboration with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities, to assist in this healing journey.

## 1. THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION PUBLICATIONS NS/NU 5/C

**WHEREAS** All Royal Canadian Legion publications should have a linking procedure from index subjects to their articles; and

**WHEREAS** by establishing this linking it will save time when required to check on a certain article expeditiously.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** The Royal Canadian Legion should cause all



Royal Canadian Legion publications to have linking capabilities from index subjects to their articles as per the linking procedure in the Rules of Procedure Manual.

# VETERANS, SERVICE *and* SENIORS

## DISABILITY BENEFITS

.....

### 2. ELIMINATION OF THE MARRIAGE OVER 60 CLAUSE VSS 1

**WHEREAS** Spouses who marry Veterans after the Veteran turns 60 do not receive automatic survivor pensions under the *Canadian Forces Superannuation Act* (CFSA);

**WHEREAS** Pensioners may choose to reduce their own pension in order to provide a corresponding survivor benefit to their spouses. This is known as the Optional Survivor Benefit;

**WHEREAS** The majority of persons who enter a marriage after 60 are not informed that there will be no health benefits available to the spouse unless they are in receipt of a pension. The policy states that if you have remarried or established a common-law relationship prior to your death, your new spouse or common-law partner's health and dental care coverage stops immediately upon your death;

**WHEREAS** in 2015 and 2017 mandate letters, the Government committed to eliminating the "marriage after 60" clause;

**WHEREAS** Budget 2019 announced the Veterans Survivors Fund committing \$150M over 5 years to support Veterans who married over the age of 60 and their spouses; and

**WHEREAS** the Veterans Survivors Fund was supposed to be implemented no later than 31 December 2020 and has not been implemented to date;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The Royal Canadian Legion recommend to Veterans Affairs Canada to implement the Veterans Survivors Fund immediately; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The Royal Canadian Legion recommend to the Federal Government to fulfil its promise to eliminate the Marriage after 60 clause.

## LONG TERM CARE

.....

### 3. LTC FACILITIES ONT 2/C

**WHEREAS** Entitlement to Priority Access Beds (PABS) terminated with the signing of the armistice ceasing activities in Korea July 27 1953;

**WHEREAS** In 2014 VAC announced that due to lack of demand by eligible Veterans that as contract beds (PABS) became vacant many would be closed;

**WHEREAS** Ontario Command's recent survey has indicated that there are significant numbers of Veterans who are ineligible under current regulations waiting for placement;

**WHEREAS** No listing has been kept by either Veterans Affairs Canada or Ministry of Health, Ontario, of the numbers of these Veterans waiting placement for Long Term Care; and

**WHEREAS** Sunnybrook facility has had 50 PABS re-designated as Preferred Access Beds;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** That Veterans Affairs Canada and the Ministry of Health immediately survey the 14 local

LHINs and produce a list of all Veterans waiting placement in LTC facilities; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** That Legislation be enacted to re designate all vacant PABs as Preferred Access Beds to allow immediate placement of all waiting Veterans in LTC facilities and that those facilities be in the areas close to the Veterans normal residence.

**4. VAC CONTRACT BEDS FOR MODERN DAY VETERANS  
NB 2/C**

**WHEREAS** the men and women in all branches of the Canadian Armed Forces and Primary Reserves are serving our Nation;

**WHEREAS** all members of our military, including our Regular Forces and Primary Reservists are serving multiple deployments;

**WHEREAS** hundreds of modern day Canadian Armed Forces members lost their lives, with thousands more wounded or left suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder;

**WHEREAS** the needs of the Canadian Armed Forces Veterans for long-term care is increasing;

**WHEREAS** the “Social Covenant between the People and Government of Canada and the Armed Forces of Canada” to maintain a quality of life worthy of the sacrifices that the CAF member has made, must be honoured; and

**WHEREAS** a third of the “contract beds” set aside for Veterans are either vacant or occupied by non-Veterans;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The Royal Canadian Legion, on behalf of all Canadian Forces Veterans, strongly advocate to extend the eligibility of “VAC Contract Beds” to include all Canadian Forces Veterans.

# POPPY *and* REMEMBRANCE

**5. POPPY MANUAL – UPDATE SECTION 402 II.  
BC/Yukon 16**

**WHEREAS** Section 402 (ii) of the Poppy Manual allows for acquisition, maintenance or rental of medical alert systems for Veterans and their widows/widower to a maximum of \$300.00 annually;

**WHEREAS** Veterans Affairs Canada does cover payment for the Emergency Call Devices for some Veterans but not all Veterans; and

**WHEREAS** the annual cost of monitoring medical alert systems often puts undue financial burdens on Veterans;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Section 402(ii) of the Poppy Manual be modified to include the monitoring of medical alert systems to a maximum of \$1,500.00 annually.

**6. POPPY STATUS REPORT  
ATLA-NWT 1/C**

**WHEREAS:** Article 130(b) of the General By-Laws states that the financial year for the Poppy year shall commence on the 1st day of October each year and terminate on the 30th day of September the following year, except for Dominion Command;

**WHEREAS:** Article 208(h) of the Poppy Manual states the Branch President shall ensure that the Branch Status Report, Poppy Trust Funds is completed by 31st October and submitted to the appropriate Provincial Command;

**WHEREAS:** Current policy results in Branches reporting after the annual campaign has already commenced placing undue burden on Poppy and financial staff; and

**WHEREAS:** General Accounting Practices and accrual accounting dictate that having the Poppy year terminate on 31st December each year is more productive:

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

That Dominion Command be approached to amend Article 130(b) of the General By-Laws and Article 208(h) of the Poppy Manual to amend the Poppy Year for all Branches to read commencing on the 1st day of January each year and terminating on the 31st day of December each year.

**7. TIMING OF POPPY YEAR**  
**ALTA-NWT 2/C**

**WHEREAS** Article 130(b) of the General By-Laws states that the financial year for the Poppy year shall commence on the 1st day of October each year and terminate on the 30th day of September the following year, except for Dominion Command;

**WHEREAS** Article 612(a) of the Poppy Manual states that Provincial Commands are required to submit an annual audited statement of the Command Poppy Trust Fund Account for the previous fiscal year by 31st December each year;

**WHEREAS** Article 1206(b) of the General By-Laws states that each Provincial Command shall submit, to Dominion Command, annually by the 31st day of December an audited statement of its Poppy Trust Account for the previous year;

**WHEREAS** current policy results in Branches having to report statistics to the Provincial Command after the annual campaign has already commenced. This places undue burden on Poppy, Command and financial staff; and

**WHEREAS** general accounting practices and accrual accounting principles dictate that having the Poppy year terminate on 31st December each year is more productive:

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Dominion Command be approached to amend the General By-Laws and Poppy Manual for the Poppy Year for all Provincial Commands to be the calendar year;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Dominion Command be approached to amend Article 130(b) of the General By-Laws to read: “The financial year for all poppy accounts will be the calendar year.”; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Dominion Command be approached to amend Article 612(a) of the Poppy Manual to read: “Provincial Commands are required to submit an annual audited statement of the Command Poppy Trust Fund Account for the previous fiscal year by 31st of March each year.

**8. POPPY FUNDS FOR EDUCATION 402 VI. A.**  
**ALTA-NWT 6**

**WHEREAS** the granting of bursaries from Poppy funds is limited to students who are veterans, children, grandchildren or great-grandchildren, per Section 402 vi (a) of the Poppy Manual;

**WHEREAS** the Poppy Manual, Section 401, states that the basic purpose and obligation of the Poppy Trust funds are to assist a Veteran as defined in subsection 101.d of the General By-Laws, and **their families**; and

**WHEREAS** the spouse of a veteran is an integral part of a family:

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the inclusion of “spouse” be added to Section 402 vi (a) to allow the granting of bursaries to a spouse of a veteran.

9. **POPPY MANUAL 403. II. K. – COIN SORTING  
MACHINES MAINTENANCE**  
ONT 6

**WHEREAS** section 403 ii (k) allows for 10% of the purchase price of a coin sorting machines used for the Poppy Campaign with an approved Special Use Form to be paid for out of the branch Poppy account; and

**WHEREAS** it is good practice to keep these sorting machines properly maintained so that they may be used fully and without the risk of malfunction when needed during the Poppy Campaign;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that 10% of the cost of maintenance for coin sorting machines designated to count/sort/wrap coins collected during the annual Poppy Campaign be included in Section 403 ii (k) along with the purchase of same.

10. **E-TRANSFERS INTO POPPY TRUST FUNDS**  
ONT 7

**WHEREAS** People are using contactless payment methods more than cash; and

**WHEREAS** The Legion's Poppy Campaign and Donations have been adversely affected; and

**WHEREAS** Dominion Command has been moving towards electronic donations using a tap feature on Poppy Boxes; and

**WHEREAS** The Branches which provide front line services for Veteran Support have not been afforded a similar opportunity;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the option of electronic money transfer, contactless payment and tap donation for direct deposit into Poppy Trust Funds of Branches for poppy donations be immediately made available to all Branches.

11. **SCHOOL CURRICULUM**  
NB 3/C

**WHEREAS** Canadian Veterans have answered the call to duty by Canada in time of Peacekeeping;

**WHEREAS** Canadian Veterans have answered the call to duty by Canada in time of war;

**WHEREAS** Canadian Veterans of World War II are now in their mid-nineties and very few remain;

**WHEREAS** the sacrifices made by our Canadian Veterans have never been forgotten by the citizens who they have freed from oppression; and

**WHEREAS** the same cannot be said that here in Canada their memory is being passed on to the younger Canadian generations as part of our school curriculum;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The Royal Canadian Legion should be lobbying our Provincial and Territorial Governments to have their Canadian Veterans sacrifices made part of the school curriculum, so that their memory will never fade away and will forever be REMEMBERED.

## MEMBERSHIP

13. **CONTINUOUS SERVICE ON LAPEL PINS**  
ONT 1/C

**WHEREAS** currently the lapel pin reflects the number of continuous years of membership that a member has been in their current category; and

**WHEREAS** a number of members have changed category including the members

who were previously in the “FRATERNAL” category and have their start date amended:

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Dominion Command provide the number of years on the lapel pins to reflect the total number of continuous membership that a member has regardless of previous category.

**15. DOMINION COMMAND DELEGATES**  
**NB 4**

**WHEREAS** Article 903(a) states every branch shall be entitled to send to a convention, one delegate for every 100 voting members or fraction thereof;

**WHEREAS** membership in Branches is getting smaller and smaller;

**WHEREAS** Branches with less than 100 voting members cannot send more than one (1) delegate this stopping other voting members the right to attend convention as accredited delegates; and

**WHEREAS** more than one (1) voting member of a small branch should be able to vote at convention:

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Article 903(a) be changed to read “Every Branch shall be entitled to send to a convention two (2) delegates for every 100 Voting members or fraction thereof and 1 delegate for the remaining 100 members or fraction thereof.”

## DEFENCE *and* SECURITY

**402. CANADIAN ARMED FORCES (CAF)**  
**D&S 1**

**WHEREAS** the Royal Canadian Legion is concerned over the allegations of sexual

misconduct at all levels of the CAF and the need for long lasting cultural change, the need to improve the reporting and investigation of sexual misconduct incidents and to provide support to survivors in the CAF;

**WHEREAS** in a 2018 Statistics Canada Survey, in the 12 months preceding the survey, 900 members of the Regular Force and 600 members of the Primary Reserve Force reported that they had experienced sexual assault in the military workplace or by a CAF member, DND employee or civilian contractor;

**WHEREAS** there is a need for an independent external oversight body to ensure that initiatives to change the culture and eliminate sexual misconduct are implemented by the CAF;

**WHEREAS** there is a need for independent investigations, that there must be a safe, secure and supportive environment for victims to report and that those who are found to have committed the misconduct be held accountable.

**WHEREAS** many previous studies have stated the need for an independent oversight body including:

- The 1995 Report on the *Study of Mechanics of Voice/Complaint Resolution in the Canadian Armed Forces* by Brigadier General (Retired) Larry T. Doshen which recommended that the establishment of an Inspector General office would give members confidence that their voice would be heard;
- The 1996 *Report of the Special Advisory Group (SAG) on Military Justice and Military Police Investigation Services* by the late former Chief Justice of Canada, Brian Dickson recommended the establishment of an independent office of complaint and review system;
- The 1997 Report of the Somalia Commission of Inquiry recommended that the National Defence Act be amended to establish an

independent Inspector General office with a well-defined and independent jurisdiction, comprehensive powers and reporting directly to Parliament;

- The 2015 Report, *External Review into Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Harassment in the Canadian Armed Forces* by Former Supreme Court Justice Marie Deschamps recommended the establishment of independent centre for accountability for sexual assault and harassment outside of the CAF with the responsibility for receiving reports of inappropriate sexual conduct, as well as prevention, coordination and monitoring of training, victim support, monitoring of accountability, and research, and to act as a central authority for the collection of data.
- The 2021 *Report of the Third Independent Review Authority to the Minister of National Defence* by Justice Morris Fish on the provisions of the National Defence Act related to military justice recommended the review of the independent oversight and redress mechanisms of the CAF; and
- The 2021 House of Commons Status of Women Committee Report, *Eliminating Sexual Misconduct within the CAF: Report 4* recommended the establishment of a fully independent Inspector General Office.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that to effect meaningful change that the Dominion President of the Royal Canadian Legion call on the Government to establish a fully independent Office of the Inspector General of the Canadian Armed Forces and the Department of National Defence reporting to Parliament.

## RITUAL *and* AWARDS

### 216. LEGION MEDALS

BC/YUK 4/C

**WHEREAS** the government of Canada as well as the Canadian Armed Forces have long recognized honors and awards by awarding decorations and medals to its members. Everything from the Victoria Cross to anniversary and commemorative medals are awarded. These medals can be worn on the left hand side of the Legion blazer as per protocol;

**WHEREAS** The Royal Canadian Legion has also recognized honors and awards by awarding decorations and medals. Everything from the meritorious service medal and palm leaf to anniversary medals can be worn on the right hand side of legion dress as per protocol;

**WHEREAS** the general public has often confused legion medals with service medals although they are worn on different sides of the legion blazer and are different in appearance;

**WHEREAS** these medals are awarded for service or recognition. This situation should not be confused by mixing in medals that can be purchased for collection or vanity;

**WHEREAS** Legion members work hard for, and are very proud of the medals and awards they receive. Mixing them in with medals that have been purchased reduces their significance. Wearing purchased medals on the same uniform or blazer as awarded military medals reduces the significance of the military medals as well; and

**WHEREAS** mixing together these highly valued awarded medals with medals that can be purchased, greatly reduces the perceived or intrinsic value of the awarded medals.



**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that that all medals, including commemorative medals, distributed and sold by Dominion Command to Branches, Districts, Zones, Ladies Auxiliary's and Provincial Commands, be clearly identified as not for resale; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that no Legion medals be sold to the public or individuals outside of replacement of these medals.

## CONSTITUTION *and* LAWS

### 16. GENDER EQUALITY

NB 1/C

**WHEREAS** the Chaplain's Manual (p.1) states: "In fact it is the policy of the Legion to be open to accepting of Comrades from all walks of life";

**WHEREAS** The Royal Canadian Legion's General By-Laws under purposes and objects specifically item (b) to bring about unity of all who have served and item (w) to engage only in activities which will be to the credit and benefit of the Canadian Community and which will encourage and promote the positive reputation of the Legion;

**WHEREAS** all members are to "have equal privilege and standing" as stated in By-Law 101(b);

**WHEREAS** The Royal Canadian Legion By-Laws under interpretation 101 (p) indicates masculine words include the feminine, may now be outdated language as the Legion has evolved over the years to modernize the interpretation of spouse and Veteran, among others, to keep up with the current culture of Canada and our evolving understanding of what it means to be human;

**WHEREAS** The Government of Canada returned to the original version of "O Canada" which was originally written with gender neutral language and are becoming more aware of social justice issues throughout Canada;

**WHEREAS** The use of masculine pronouns provide an impression that women are excluded from the organization or excluded from various leadership positions such as chairman;

**WHEREAS** equality is better for everyone;

**WHEREAS** Gender neutral language such as "Chairperson" or "Chair" indicates inclusivity for all; and

**WHEREAS** The Royal Canadian Legion actively promotes membership in the Legion through new member recruitment and retention campaigns and the use of gender neutral language may help to increase and retain new members:

#### **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

- A) The Royal Canadian Legion remove By-Law 101 (p); and
- B) The Royal Canadian Legion revises their General By-Laws to reflect the use of gender neutral language.

## ONLINE RESOURCES TO REPORTS AND ADDRESSES

---

### REPORTS

Larry Murray, CM, CMM, CD

### ADDRESSES

Mrs. Deborah Sullivan, National Silver Cross Mother

Brigadier-General Guy Bélisle MB, MSM, CD , Chaplain General (Day 1)

Brigadier-General Guy Bélisle MB, MSM, CD , Chaplain General (Day 2)

Una Cleminson, Royal British Legion

BJ Clark, National President and Marty Donoghue, Chief Executive –  
New Zealand Returned and Service Association

Mr. Bill Oxford, American Legion

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada

Gen. W.D. Eyre, CMM, MSC, CD

Cathy Bach, National President – Army Cadet League of Canada, Brenda Pinto National  
President Navy League of Canada and Hille Viita, President - Air Cadet League of Canada

Sam Laprade, Legion National Foundation





13 - 15 AUGUST 2021

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

BRANCH \_\_\_\_\_

COMMAND \_\_\_\_\_