**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION**

**DOMINION COMMAND COUNCIL/COMMITTEES**

**CODE OF ETHICS FOR MEMBERS**

File: 28-1

**Goal:** Members of the Dominion Command Council and/or a Committee must operate in a fair and accountable manner in dealing with the business of The Royal Canadian Legion. It is recognized that as volunteers who are senior elected executive officers or duly appointed members from across Canada, members’ outside lives may sometimes conflict with their volunteer activities. Therefore, this Code of Ethics has been established as an essential component of good governance and accountability.

**Code:** Members of the Dominion Command Council and/or Committees are committed to observing and promoting the highest standards of ethical conduct in the performance of their responsibilities. Accordingly, Dominion Command requires all members of the Dominion Command Council and/or Committees to accept the obligations set out in this Code as a minimum guideline for ethical conduct and undertake to:

**Accountability**

1. Faithfully abide by the Act of Incorporation, the General By-Laws and policies of the Royal Canadian Legion, including decisions made by the Dominion Convention and the Dominion Executive Council.
2. Exercise reasonable care, good faith and due diligence in organizational affairs and decisions.
3. Fully disclose, at the earliest opportunity, information that may result in a perceived or actual conflict of interest and recuse themselves from further activity involving the conflict.
4. Fully disclose, at the earliest opportunity, information of fact that would have significance in board decision making.
5. Remain accountable for prudent fiscal management of resources to Legion members, the Dominion Executive Council and our partners.

**Professional Excellence**

1. Maintain a professional level of courtesy, respect and objectivity in all activities related to the Royal Canadian Legion.
2. Strive to uphold those practices and assist other members of the Dominion Executive Council and/or Committees in upholding the highest standards of conduct.

**Personal Gain**

1. Exercise the powers invested for the good of all members of the Royal Canadian Legion rather than for their own personal gain.

**Equal Opportunity**

1. Ensure the right of all Legion members to appropriate and effective services without discrimination based on geography, political, religious, or socio-economical characteristics of the province or region represented.
2. Ensure the right of all Legion members to appropriate and effective services without discrimination based on the Legion’s volunteer or staff make up in respect to gender, sexual orientation, national origin, race, religion, age, political affiliation or disability, in accordance with all applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

**Confidential Information and Materials**

1. Keep all Confidential Information and Confidential Materials they receive confidential and not, without the prior written consent of the appropriate party, disclose any Confidential Information or Confidential Materials to any other person, firm, company or other entity, except as may be required by law or judicial or administrative process.
2. Take all reasonable care to prevent any unintended or inadvertent disclosure of such Confidential Information or Confidential Material.
3. Advise the appropriate parties if any inappropriate disclosure of Confidential Information or Confidential Material has been disclosed.
4. Not use any of the Confidential Information or Confidential Material for any purpose other than the purpose for which it was provided and upon conclusion of the matter for which the Confidential Information or Confidential Material was received, to the extent possible, take reasonable steps to either return the Confidential Information or the Confidential Materials to the party who provided it or another appropriate person, or destroy it in such a manner as to prevent it from being disclosed, (such as by shredding or burning).

**Collaboration and Cooperation**

1. Respect the diversity of opinions as expressed or acted upon by the members of the Royal Canadian Legion, the Dominion Executive Council, Dominion Convention, committees and membership, and formally register dissent as appropriate.
2. Promote collaboration, cooperation and partnership among members of the Royal Canadian Legion.

**Acknowledgment and Acceptance**

By signing this Code of Ethics, I signify:

(1) my acceptance and willingness to abide by its principles and

(2) my acknowledgement that a failure to comply with this Code may constitute a breach of my obligations to the Legion.

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