



3 April 2020

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Message from the Dominion President re: Branch Emergency Funds

Good afternoon Comrades:

As the situation with COVID-19 progresses, it is clear that many Branches are suffering and are extremely worried about their long-term survival through this crisis. So are we.

Today, our Dominion Command Executive Council made an unprecedented decision to release 3 million dollars from the Legion's national reserves to provide Branch Emergency Funds, non-repayable grants to struggling Branches across our country. These are not Poppy Funds. As a reminder, Poppy Funds are used exclusively for supporting Veterans and cannot be used for operational purposes.

The funds will be managed through our Provincial/Territorial Commands, and via International Zones. The initial total amount transferred to regions next week will be equivalent to one thousand dollars per Branch, and the specific amounts disbursed directly to Branches will be based on individual need. Commands and Zones will be required to inform Dominion Command on how funds were distributed.

Details on how to receive financial support through Commands and Zones will be forthcoming but it will be as quick and easy as we can make it, since we know some of you need the funds urgently.

Important note for Branches: Please stand by for further information, Commands and Zones will be in contact with instructions on how to request assistance.

Despite the current challenges, I once again thank you for all the work you are doing to support our most vulnerable. You are incredible members.

Sincerely,

Thomas D. Irvine, CD
Dominion President

