

# Minutes of the Dominion Executive Council

**Victory Boardroom  
Legion House - Ottawa, ON**

**20-22 February 2015**

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.



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**20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

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**ATTENDEES:**

Tom Eagles	- Dominion President
Dave Flannigan	- Dominion First Vice President
Thomas Irvine	- Dominion Vice President
Ed Pigeau	- Dominion Vice President
André Paquette	- Dominion Vice President
Mark Barham	- Dominion Treasurer
Jack Frost	- Dominion Chairman
Angus Stanfield	- BC/Yukon Command President
Wayne Donner	- Alberta-NWT Command President
Dick Wells	- Saskatchewan Command President
Dan Kidd	- Manitoba & NWO Command President
Bruce Julian	- Ontario Command President
Norman Shelton	- Quebec Command President
Harold Harper	- New Brunswick Command President
Ron Trowsdale	- NS / NU Command President
Gilles Painchaud	- PEI Command President
Ross Petten	- NFLD/LAB Command President
Clarence Paul	- TVS President
Jim Rycroft	- Chairman C & L Committee
Ron Goebel	- Chairman R & A Committee

**ABSENT:**

Gordon Moore	- Immediate Past Dominion President
Larry Murray	- Grand President
Richard Blanchette	- Chairman Defence and Security Committee

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:**

Brad White	- Dominion Secretary
Steven Clark	- Director Administration
Tim Murphy	- Director Finance
Ray McInnis	- Director Service Bureau
Peter Underhill	- Director Supply
Scott Ferris	- Director Marketing and Membership
Jennifer Morse	- Canvet General Manager

- Angela Keeling Colkitt - Executive Assistant
- Kelly Therien - Executive Assistant
- Sharon Adams - Staff Writer - Canvet Publications
- Eric Harris - Editor - Canvet Publications
- Bruce Poulin - Public Relations Observer

**ANNEXES:**

- Annex A - Grand President's Remarks
- Annex B - Dominion President's Remarks
- Annex C - Administrative Arrangements
- Annex D - Veterans, Service and Seniors Committee Report
- Annex E - Poppy & Remembrance Committee Report
- Annex F - Membership and Outreach Committee Report
- Annex G - Sports Committee Report
- Annex H - Ritual & Awards Committee Report
- Annex I - Constitution & Laws Committee Report
- Annex J - RCEL Committee Report
- Annex K - Dominion Convention Committee Report
- Annex L - Defence & Security Committee Report
- Annex M - Veterans Consultation Assembly Report
- Annex N - Leadership & Development Committee Report
- Annex O - Canvet Publications Ltd.
- Annex P - Dominion Secretary's Report
- Annex Q - Dominion Treasurer's Report
- Annex R - Provincial Commands Financial Statement Review
- Annex S - Tuberculous Veterans Section Report
- Annex T - BC/Yukon Command Report
- Annex U - AB-NWT Command Report
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- Annex W - Manitoba & NWO Command Report
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- Annex BB - Prince Edward Island Command Report
- Annex CC - NFLD/LAB Command Report
- Annex DD - Senior Officers' Reports
- Annex EE - Charters Issued and Cancelled
- Annex FF - Dominion Command Branches
- Annex GG - Requests for Support
- Annex HH - Meetings and Invitation List
- Annex II - Other Business

**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**1. OPENING**

The meeting of the Dominion Executive Council opened at 08:55 hours on 21 February 2015 in the Victory Boardroom of Legion House.

**2. GRAND PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

The remarks from the Grand President are at Annex "A".

**3. DOMINION PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

The Dominion President's remarks are at Annex "B".

**4. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS**

The administrative arrangements are an information item only and are at Annex "C".

**5. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a) The VSS Committee report was presented and is attached at Annex "D". In addition, the Committee Chairman met with the new Minister of Veterans Affairs and the new Deputy Minister this past week. The focus at VAC is to ensure that Veterans take priority as expressed through a Veteran-centric service approach.

**MOTION:** It was moved that DEC endorse the funding of the Project Healing Waters program in the amount of \$15,000 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund to "Projet des Eaux Curatives" for three fly fishing events in 2015 at \$5,000.00 per event.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that DEC approve the amount of \$500,000 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund to support mental health research for Veterans and the new PET MRI machine at the Royal Ottawa Hospital as it develops its Centre of Excellence for Mental Health.

**CARRIED**

**ACTION: VSS Committee Chairman  
The Report Carried**

- b) P & R Committee report was presented and is attached at Annex "E".

**MOTION:** It was moved that the expenses for the National Silver Cross Mother incurred during the Remembrance period be charged against the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund on an annual basis.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the actual annual administrative costs associated with Dominion Command personnel administering the Poppy Program be reimbursed from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the Dominion Command Supply Department supply chain management costs associated with the Poppy campaign be recovered from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund on an annual basis.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that Dominion Command funding (\$16K) to Provincial Commands for bursaries be reinstated but with the requirement that Commands justify the need for such funding that cannot be covered within the Command's Poppy Trust Fund.

**CARRIED**

**ACTION: P & R Committee Chairman**  
**The Report Carried**

- c) Membership and Outreach Committee report was presented and is attached at Annex "F". It was highlighted that BC/Yukon Command is the inaugural winner of the Bert Garrett Award which recognizes the highest percentage increase in membership achieved by a command.

**MOTION:** It was moved that the Membership & Outreach Committee amend the Membership manual by inserting a new statement in the ELIGIBILITY section of the Membership manual just after the Citizenship requirements on page 9; that it be titled – Military Service Recognition.

**CARRIED**

**ACTION: Membership Committee Chairman**  
**The Report Carried**

- d) The Sports Committee report was presented and is attached at Annex "G". Comrade Donner expressed his desire to see provincial command sports officers conduct the Dominion Command Members Sports events within regional areas which would reduce overall costs. This was not taken any further as that is the purview of the Dominion Command Sports Committee.

**MOTION:** It was moved that a mandatory dress code be established for Dominion level member sports participants to include as a minimum collared shirts, slacks and closed shoes.

**CARRIED**

**ACTION: Sports Committee Chairman**  
**The Report Carried**

- e) The Ritual and Awards Committee report was presented and is attached at Annex "H".

**MOTION:** It was moved that a lapel pin to commemorate the Centenary period of WWI be permitted to be worn on Legion Dress between November 1, 2015 and November 30, 2016. Such a commemorative lapel pin would be permitted to be worn along with the current "We Support Our Troops" lapel pin for this one year period when the Legion shows its support in commemorating this historical centenary period of Canadian history. The time frame would also allow this pin to be worn over two Remembrance periods.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the wording of the Initiation Ceremony following the explanation of the Legion Emblems in Section 406 of the Ritual, Awards and Protocol manual be changed to read as follows:

*"Comrades, it gives me great pleasure to extend the right hand of comradeship and to present you with your Legion badge. Membership in The Royal Canadian Legion is governed by General By-Laws. This manual along with other manuals may be found on the Legion website at [www.legion.ca](http://www.legion.ca)"*

**CARRIED**

**RECOMMENDATION:** It was recommended that the approved Honour Roll be made available for sale to our Branches through our Supply Department. It was further recommended that a concentrated marketing program be put in place through our Legion website and all-branch mailings to promote this program. This is to include the criteria for having names placed on these Honour Rolls.

**RECOMMENDATION WITHDRAWN**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the wording "*and I am not a communist, fascist or anarchist*" be eliminated from the membership application form and that the wording "*no anarchist, communist or fascist shall be permitted to become a member, nor shall*" be eliminated from the General By-Laws Section 202.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that Section 133 of the Ritual, Awards and Protocol manual be changed to read as follows: "Legion medals, other than Anniversary Commemorative medals, shall not be worn on the Ladies Auxiliary uniform."

**CARRIED**

**ACTION: R & A Committee Chairman**  
**The Report Carried**

- f) The Constitution and Laws Committee's report was presented and is attached at Annex "I".

**MOTION:** It was moved that the following be added as subsection 110.b:

- 110.b            The use of a member's private contact information is restricted to conducting the administrative affairs of the branch or Command.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the following be added as subsection 111.d:

- 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 the same manner as if the removal was a disposition of removal from office or position held as a result of a complaint hearing. The appeal committee may either confirm the removal or direct reinstatement.

**CARRIED**

The Constitution and Laws Committee provided three options to further clarify the roles and responsibilities of Dominion Command Zones, that being Eastern Zone US, Western Zone US and Europe Zone. As currently written within the General By-Laws, the powers of the Zone Executive are not clearly defined.

**MOTION:** It was moved to accept Option 3: Limited Power – Designated as International Zones (IZ) with limited command powers. This option will be further amplified by the Constitution and Laws Committee and amendments to the General By-Laws will be produced accordingly.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that in order to clarify the procedure for electronic voting that:

- i.        the Rules of Procedures for Legion Meetings manual contain the basics for electronic voting;
- ii.       the vote be conducted under the care and control of the Chairman;
- iii.      vote date and timings in reference to deadlines and discussion be set before the vote and adhered to;
- iv.      the quorum requirement be stated beforehand;
- v.        time for discussion be set aside prior to the vote and no vote be cast until the set time for discussion has ended; and



- vi. the results of each member's vote be published with the results of the vote.

**DEFEATED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the electronic voting procedure be developed based on the principles above and become part of Dominion Command's Organization, Policy and Procedures manual. This procedure is to be used for electronic votes carried out by the DEC.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** In regards to the AB-NWT resolution passed at the Dominion Convention in June 2014 regarding the implementation of a standardized nominating and voting system applicable to all branches, the Dominion President moved to have DEC approve his action to suspend the implementation of this resolution under Section 417 of the General By-Laws according to the recommendations made in the Constitution and Laws Report.

**CARRIED**

**Voting Contrary – Wayne Donner – President ALTA-NWT**

**ACTION: C & L Committee Chairman**

**The Report Carried**

- g) The RCEL Committee's report was presented and is attached at Annex "J".

**CARRIED**

**ACTION: RCEL Committee Chairman**

**The Report Carried**

- h) The Dominion Convention Committee's report was presented and is attached at Annex "K".

**MOTION:** It was moved that the convention delegate registration fee be increased to \$60 starting with the 2016 Dominion Convention.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the convention observer registration fee be increased to \$20 starting with the 2016 Dominion Convention.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the convention exhibitor fee be increased to \$800 for companies and \$500 for individuals starting with the 2016 Dominion Convention.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the convention exhibitor fee no longer include supplied power.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that three keynote speakers be invited to address the 2016 Dominion Convention, one on each day of business.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that simultaneous interpretation no longer be provided but all printed material be available and presentations projected in both official languages.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the Dominion Convention Committee compare the cost savings to hold a Dominion Convention in late August with a report and recommendation to follow to DEC that may affect conventions after the 2016 Dominion Convention.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that Dominion Conventions be held on a three-year cycle commencing after the 2016 Dominion Convention.

**DEFEATED**

**ACTION: Dominion Convention Committee Chairman**  
**The Report Carried**

- i) The Defence and Security Committee's report was presented and is attached at Annex "L".

**MOTION:** It was moved that a strategic plan for recruitment of new members be developed in concert with the Legion Marketing/Membership Department that focuses on the CAF audience involved with the CAF/Support programs administered by the D&S Committee.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the Legion design a "Veteran Card" including the process for verification and distribution for those Legion members who request authentication of their veteran status.

**DEFEATED**

**ACTION: D & S Committee Chairman**  
**The Report Carried**

- j) The Veterans Consultation Assembly Committee report was presented and attached at Annex "M".

**ACTION: Veterans Consultation Forum Chairman**  
**The Report Carried**

- k) The Leadership and Development Committee Report was presented and attached at Annex "N".

**The Report Carried**

- l) Canvet Publications Ltd was presented and attached at Annex "O".

**The Report Carried**

## **6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/REVIEW OF DEC ELECTRONIC DECISIONS**

The DEC last met on 13 September 2014. The minutes were distributed electronically.

**MOTION:** It was moved that the DEC minutes of 13 September 2014 be approved.

**CARRIED**

The following decisions were made via electronic voting on 1 December 2014 and are an information item only.

**MOTION:** It was moved that member sports continue on a two-year cycle beginning in 2015 with Eight ball and Darts to be staged in odd years and Curling and Cribbage in even years.

**DEFEATED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that travel costs for members attending national sports events be limited to a maximum of \$700 (or less) per member with the exception of remote areas which will require increased funding on an as needed basis.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the hosting restriction of rotating between the three geographical areas be removed and the process of soliciting branches to host sports events be opened up to any branch within Canada.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that in 2016 Dominion Command will financially support curling for the six participating commands and allow up to six more Legion teams to enter from any command including ONT, QUE, ALTA-NWT and NB. The independent teams will be selected on a first come first serve basis and will be responsible for their own travel expenses.

**CARRIED**

## **7. DOMINION SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The Dominion Secretary's Report was presented and is attached at Annex "P".

## **8. DOMINION TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Dominion Treasurer's Report was presented and is attached at Annex "Q". This annex includes all the changes made to the budget through the adoption of the motions below.

**MOTION:** It was moved that the budget be increased for the investment revenue line by \$95,000 from \$425,000 to \$520,000.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the projected membership losses for 2015 be revised from 15,900 to 13,000 members; this is consistent with historical trends and adds approximately \$30,000 in membership revenues.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the \$250,000 allocation in the Membership Department budget for the replacement of the membership system be removed and that an allocation up to a maximum of \$400,000 be earmarked from the reserve be identified for replacement/overhaul of the membership system as directed by the Dominion Convention.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the reasonable expenses associated with the administration of the Dominion RCEL program be reimbursed from Poppy Trust Funds.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the expenses for the Senior Elected Officers to attend provincial conventions be returned to the budget.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the Provincial Command Sports Chairman run the Dominion Command national sporting tournaments.

**DEFEATED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that no future Dominion Command budgets be in deficit.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved that the 2015 budget be approved based on the implementation of the changes approved above.

**CARRIED**

## **9. PROVINCIAL COMMANDS - FINANCIAL STATEMENT REVIEW**

The Provincial Commands Financial Statement review was presented and is attached at Annex "R".

## **10. COMMAND / SECTION REPORTS**

- a) The Tuberculous Veterans Section  
The report was presented and is attached at Annex "S". **The Report Carried**
- b) BC / Yukon Command  
The report was presented and is attached at Annex "T". Comrade Stanfield also stated that their Command insurance provider will be donating \$20,000 to the Dominion Command Track and Field program. After the DEC meeting, it was clarified that this is to support the BC/Yukon Command Team.  
**The Report Carried**
- c) Alberta – NWT Command  
The report was presented and is attached at Annex "U". **The Report Carried**

- d) Saskatchewan Command  
The report was presented and is attached at Annex "V". Comrade Wells indicated that there may be problems with the Saskatchewan government wanting to provide additional veterans' license plates. **The Report Carried**
- e) Manitoba & NWO Command  
The report was presented and is attached at Annex "W". **The Report Carried**
- f) Ontario Command  
The report was presented and is attached at Annex "X". **The Report Carried**
- g) Quebec Command  
The report was presented and is attached at Annex "Y". **The Report Carried**
- h) New Brunswick Command  
The report was presented and is attached at Annex "Z". **The Report Carried**
- i) Nova Scotia / Nunavut Command  
The report was presented and is attached at Annex "AA". **The Report Carried**
- j) Prince Edward Island Command  
The report was presented and is attached at Annex "BB". **The Report Carried**
- k) NFLD / LAB Command  
The report was presented and is attached at Annex "CC". **The Report Carried**

## **11. SENIOR OFFICER REPORTS**

The Senior Officers' reports were information items only and are attached at Annex "DD".

## **12. CHARTERS ISSUED AND CANCELLED**

The Charters issued and cancelled for 2014 were presented as an information item only and are attached at Annex "EE".

## **13. DOMINION COMMAND BRANCHES**

The Dominion Command Branches reports were presented and are attached at Annex "FF".

**MOTION:** It was moved that DEC approve the per capita fees for branch 13-013 at \$50. **CARRIED**

## **14. REQUESTS FOR SUPPORT**

Requests for support were presented as an information item only and are attached at Annex "GG".

## 15. MEETINGS AND INVITATIONS

The schedule of DEC meetings was discussed. It was decided that to better reflect the budgetary process, the SEO Budget meeting would occur in September vice November to prepare the budget followed by the meeting of DEC in November at which time the budget for the upcoming year would be reviewed and approved. The updated meetings and invitations list is attached at Annex "HH".

The next full two day DEC meeting would be held in April. The dates for this will be forthcoming.

## 16. OTHER BUSINESS

Other business items were presented and are attached at Annex "II".

- a. Veterans' License Plates. As discussed, all Provinces are to adopt the definition of a veteran, as passed at the Dominion Convention in 2000, as well as passed at DEC September 2010 as a common criteria upon which to distribute a veterans' license plate across Canada.
- b. NFLD Ferry Trademark Issue. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador is commissioning two new ferries and has requested the use of the term "Legionnaire" to name a ferry and the other one will be called "Veteran". They have also requested the use of the Poppy emblem.

**MOTION:** It was moved that authorization be given to use the word "Legionnaire" for the ferry as well as the Poppy emblem on both ships. The Legion does not control the use of the term Veteran.

**CARRIED**

- c. Curling and 8-Ball Championships. During the Focus on the Future meeting on Friday, 20 February, the scheduling of member sports events came under discussion. It was the recommendation of that meeting that the Dominion President exercise his powers under Section 417 of the General By-Laws to suspend the curling and 8 ball events for 2016 as these two events are not nationally subscribed to. The use of these powers of the President is deemed necessary as these events were mandated by Dominion Convention. Therefore the Dominion President made the following motion to DEC:

**MOTION:** It was moved that Dominion Curling and 8-Ball Championships for 2016 season be suspended. The Dominion Sports Committee will bring forward recommendations for continuance to the Dominion Convention in 2016.

**CARRIED**  
**UNANIMOUS**

- e. Position Paper – Veterans Matter. The Royal Canadian Legion Position Paper was handed out to DEC members for their review and support. This paper is a culmination of Legion resolutions relating to Veteran, defence and

security issues. The intent of this paper is to provide information to Canadians prior to the upcoming election so that informed debate can occur throughout the country.

**MOTION:** It was moved that DEC support the Dominion President on the position paper.

**CARRIED**  
**UNANIMOUS**

- f. Dominion Command Medals. The Dominion Command Past Officer medals will be passed out to the SEOs who will be attending provincial command conventions so that presentations can be made in front of the command delegates at their conventions.
- g. Steven Clark, Director of Administration, was recognized for his 10 years of service.
- h. Article III of the General By-Laws. Comrade Julian again reiterated his concern that the application of Article III leads to long delays in resolving issues and a more easy process needs to be found to handle these types of issues within the Legion. The Chairman of C&L was tasked to review this and provide a report to the next DEC.

## 17. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no additional correspondence discussed.

## 18. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Dominion Executive Council adjourned at 2:20 pm on 22 February 2015.



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Dominion Chairman

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Dominion Secretary

GRAND PRESIDENT'S REMARKS TO DEC, FEBRUARY, 2015

THANK YOU, COMRADE CHAIR.

COMRADES, I MUCH REGRET THAT I AM UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE, IN PERSON, IN THIS IMPORTANT MEETING AND DO APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE A FEW REMARKS BY TELEPHONE. I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE A FULL AGENDA FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS SO I WILL KEEP MY COMMENTS BRIEF.

SINCE OUR LAST DEC MEETING IN SEPTEMBER, I HAVE HAD THE HONOUR OF PARTICIPATING WITH COMRADE TOM IN A NUMBER OF MEMORABLE EVENTS, INCLUDING THE PRESENTATION OF THE FIRST POPPY IN OCTOBER TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL ONCE AGAIN DID A GREAT JOB OF MAKING THIS CEREMONY AND THE RECEPTION WHICH FOLLOWED VERY SPECIAL AND VERY ENJOYABLE FOR ALL THE VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES, WHO WERE IN ATTENDANCE.

HIS DEDICATION TO VETERANS AND TO SERVING MEMBERS OF THE CANADIAN FORCES AND THEIR FAMILIES IS IMPRESSIVE AND THIS WAS EVIDENT AGAIN AT THE ANNUAL NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY AND DURING THE LUNCHEON THAT HE AND HER EXCELLENCY AND THE CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF HOSTED FOR THE SILVER CROSS FAMILY FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY.

BECAUSE OF THE TRAGIC EVENTS IN ST. JEAN, QUEBEC AND AT THE WAR MEMORIAL THE WEEK PRIOR, THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY SOMEHOW SEEMED EVEN MORE POIGNANT AND MOVING THAN NORMAL.

THE EVENT ALSO INCLUDED THE RE-DEDICATION OF THE NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL BY HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE PRINCESS ROYAL, WHICH ALSO ADDED TO THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CEREMONY AND TO THE SECURITY PRESENCE.

IN ADDITION TO HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE GOVERNOR GENERAL, THE PRIME MINISTER AND ALL THEIR SPOUSES, MORE CANADIANS PARTICIPATED IN THE NATIONAL CEREMONY THAN EVER. THE MEDIA ESTIMATE OF 50,000 SEEMED LOW TO THOSE OF US WHO WERE PRESENT.

THE CEREMONY WAS OUTSTANDING IN EVERY RESPECT AS IT HAD TO BE AND I WOULD SIMPLY LIKE TO PASS ON A HUGE BRAVO ZULU AND HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE IN THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION INVOLVED IN THE PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF THE 2014



NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY. YOUR EFFORTS MADE CANADA PROUD AT A TROUBLING TIME.

IN FACT, THANKS TO THE SELFLESS DEDICATION OF MANY PEOPLE, THE ENTIRE WEEKEND OF ACTIVITIES IN THE NCR WAS OUTSTANDING IN EVERY RESPECT.

AS IN THE PAST, THE SELFLESS DEDICATION OF OUR REMARKABLE SILVER CROSS MOTHER, GISELE MICHAUD, WAS AN INSPIRATION TO ALL INVOLVED, INDEED TO COUNTLESS CANADIANS ACROSS THE COUNTRY WHO SAW OR HEARD ONE OF HER MANY INTERVIEWS DURING THIS PERIOD.

IN LATE NOVEMBER, COMRADE TOM, COMRADE RAY AND I ALSO ATTENDED THE FIFTH ANNUAL MILITARY AND VETERAN HEALTH RESEARCH FORUM, WHICH WAS HELD THIS YEAR IN TORONTO FOR THE FIRST TIME.

THIS LARGE AND IMPRESSIVE GATHERING OF CIVILIAN AND MILITARY HEALTH RESEARCHERS CONTINUES TO GROW IN STATURE AND QUALITY.

COMRADE TOM GAVE AN EXCELLENT ADDRESS ON THE SECOND DAY OF THE CONFERENCE AND FORMALLY PRESENTED THE LEGION'S MASTERS SCHOLARSHIP IN HEALTH RESEARCH TO A VERY IMPRESSIVE YOUNG WOMAN, BRIGITTE PHINNEY, WHICH WAS EXTREMELY WELL RECEIVED AND MUCH APPRECIATED BY THE PARTICIPANTS.

I WOULD LIKE TO CONCLUDE COMRADES WITH A FEW PERSONAL THOUGHTS ABOUT THIS MEETING.

THE EXTENDED DEC IN FEBRUARY IS ALWAYS AN IMPORTANT GATHERING BUT I BELIEVE THAT IT IS PARTICULARLY CRITICAL THIS YEAR.

I THINK THAT ALL OF YOU SHOULD BE PLEASED AND A NUMBER OF YOU SHOULD BE COMMENDED ON THE EXCELLENT PROGRESS ACHIEVED TO DATE IN RESPONDING TO THE WILL OF CONVENTION BY IMPLEMENTING THE DOMINION PRESIDENT'S DEFICIT REDUCTION PLAN.

THAT HAS BEEN A TERRIFIC STEP. NOW THE CHALLENGE WILL BE TO HOLD THE LINE ON EXPENDITURES, WHICH IN MY EXPERIENCE IN A NUMBER OF SIMILAR SITUATIONS, WILL NOT BE EASY.

MOST IMPORTANTLY THOUGH, REVENUES MUST BE MAINTAINED AND INCREASED, PRIMARILY THROUGH RETAINING AND INCREASING MEMBERSHIP, WHICH IS THE LIFEBLOOD OF THIS GREAT ORGANIZATION.

SIMPLY STATED, THE BLEEDING MUST STOP AND BE REVERSED OR THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION AS WE KNOW IT AND AS CANADIANS KNOW AND ADMIRE IT CANNOT CONTINUE AS IS.

GETTING BACK 'INTO THE BLACK' BY 2016 WILL BE GREAT. HOWEVER, REMAINING 'IN THE BLACK', IF OUR NUMBERS CONTINUE TO DECLINE, WILL REQUIRE THAT AT SOME POINT RELATIVELY SOON, CRITICAL SERVICES TO VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES AS WELL AS TO COMMUNITIES, SENIORS, YOUTH AND SO ON, WILL NEED TO BE CUT, AND THE LEGION WILL BECOME JUST ONE MORE SOCIAL ORGANIZATION.

THAT WOULD BE TRAGIC, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE IT IS NOT NECESSARY. HOWEVER THE MEMBERSHIP BLEEDING MUST BE HALTED AND REVERSED OR THAT WILL BE THE REALITY.

I BELIEVE THAT YOUR DELIBERATIONS DURING THIS DEC AND YOUR INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE LEADERSHIP FOLLOWING THIS DEC ARE ESSENTIAL TO MOVING THE LEGION FORWARD TO A MUCH MORE POSITIVE REALITY, WHICH IS ACHIEVABLE AND WHICH IS WHAT THE VAST MAJORITY OF LEGIONNAIRES AND THE VAST MAJORITY OF CANADIANS WANT.

I AM REALLY SORRY THAT I CAN'T BE WITH YOU FOR THE IMPORTANT DISCUSSIONS OF NEXT FEW DAYS.

HOWEVER, GIVEN THE TALENT AND DEDICATION IN THAT ROOM, I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL HAVE A VERY SUCCESSFUL AND PRODUCTIVE MEETING.

THAT CONCLUDES MY COMMENTS.

THANKS VERY MUCH, COMRADES

Comrades this is the fourth time most of us are meeting face to face to discuss our strategic plan for the future of The Royal Canadian Legion since I became your president and I am pleased with the changes we have already adopted and very excited by some of the initiatives that we will be discussing here today.

## 1. BACKGROUND:

You will recall in June of 2014, at our dominion convention in Edmonton, AB, I had announced my six-point action plan with a particular emphasis on finance and membership. So let me begin with finances since we just held a meeting with the Focus on the Future Committee where the Legion Deficit Reduction Plan was discussed at length. Today, we will carry-on these conversations particularly as they relate to committees and programs.

## 2. FINANCES:

### a. WAY AHEAD – COMMITTEES & PROGRAMS

Proposed changes to Legion committees and their respective programs, however, were not as easy to adopt as the changes to Dominion Staff. This should not come as a surprise since Legion programs account for almost 75% of the Legion's entire operating budget.

Comrades, the Budget Committee made it clear that The Royal Canadian Legion cannot sustain an annual deficit financing. We need to get our financial house in order – as requested by our delegates from Dominion Convention. It is my intention to have a balanced budget no later than 2016. But this cannot happen unless we make the difficult decisions regarding committees and their programs. In order to help us deal with this issue we adopted a two tiered approach: (1) Committees and (2) programs.

With respect to Committees, we have made changes the following changes effective Fall 2014:

- (1) Reduced the number of Dominion Staff that participate in events;
- (2) Membership and Outreach Committees have been merged together;
- (3) Reduced the number of Committee meetings to one per year;
- (4) We are making more use of teleconferences instead of face to face meetings. This has resulted in improved communications in both content and frequency.
- (5) With only a few exceptions, only elected officers are eligible to be on Committees;
- (6) We are also looking at alternate sources of financing which includes possibilities for sponsorships and the establishment of a Remembrance Foundation. This will help to offset the dependence upon membership per capita

So now we have the third and perhaps greatest challenge on how best we may achieve a balanced budget by 2016 – programs.

You will see from the agenda you have been provided that we will have some time allotted to discuss some of the major changes proposed to some Legion programs.

It is critical that we reach consensus here today on the future of these programs if we are to achieve a balanced budget for 2016.

I trust that our discussions will always keep in mind my criteria regarding Legion programs:

- (1) Dominion Programs must be cost effective;
- (2) Dominion Programs must be national in scope;
- (3) Dominion programs must promote the broader interests of the Legion;
- (4) Branch or provincial or national Programs must have an impact on membership. If there is no correlation then the program needs to be reviewed;
- (5) Programs have a direct correlation to membership. So if you run a Bingo you will recruit people of a "certain" age, the same thing about "darts", and "line dancing" etcetera. The point I am making is that we need to be cognizant that the age group that participate in our programs equals the age group we will be recruiting our members. If we are targeting a specific age group then we need to develop programs for this specific age group. In this case, programs designed for a younger public and potential member; and
- (6) Membership will follow programs. By extension an active branch with the right programs will usually mean the membership issue will solve itself.

### 3. WAY AHEAD – MEMBERSHIP (RECRUITMENT & RETENTION)

As I am sure you will understand, trying to achieve a balanced budget when a principal source of income is a per capita tax on

an ever decreasing membership is very difficult. A critical mass of Legion Members remains the lifeblood of The Royal Canadian Legion.

Seen from this perspective, I am also pleased to report that the Membership and Outreach Committee has drafted a Strategic Membership Plan. As you may well know, the statistics for 2014 show that our membership has dropped from 307,000 to 295,000 – which is a steady trend for the past decade.

While the hemorrhaging of members may be a constant for the past several years the retention rate is approximately 29,000 non-renewals. Comrades, this is unacceptable.

Our communications ability has improved 10 fold over the past few years. We have also sent out news releases extolling the great work that is being conducted at all levels of the Legion and what we are doing with our programs like the “Leave the Streets Behind” initiative. People are listening, people are becoming aware and people are paying attention with interest to the Legion.

But then we lose 29,000 of them. Branches must take ownership of this problem. More will be said on this issue by the Membership Chairman, but I think it is clear that the leadership of the Legion must be more pro-active.

In order for the Legion to keep operating with the infrastructure and command structure it currently has our membership needs to be around 400,000.

Comrades, I know 400,000 sounds like a lot of members but there was a time when we had at least 400,000 or more members. Remember that in 1984 we had a total of 602,000 members so the task is not impossible.

With this new Strategic Membership Plan, I believe we have an important set of tools and resources for us to move forward. But it will require your support. More importantly it will require leadership from you, from our provincial commands, our districts, our zones and most importantly from our Branch Presidents.

It must be made clear that we all have a vested interest in achieving a critical mass of Legion members if we are to maintain relevant in our communities.

On the subject of membership, many of you will know that I have been very favorable to an initiative from the Membership and Outreach Committee to allow for a Ladies Auxiliary presence at DEC. Our best estimates are that there are more than 75,000 members of the Ladies Auxiliary and I believe they should be a part of the discussions on what the future of the Legion should look like.

We need to look at doing things differently from the past because we know the current practices are leading to a steady decline in membership. As I am sure many of you will appreciate, there are members of DEC that represent much smaller constituencies, so this should be a rather easy decision to make.

Comrades, the face of Canada's Veterans is changing and so too must we. Today, there are three Veterans for every Veteran that survived the war in Korea or World War II combined.

These younger former combatants have a different profile and different priorities. Seen from this perspective, we have a tremendous responsibility during our conventions to change and adapt as well. This is no longer business as usual.

Many of you will also know that I am a strong believer that we can never have too many veterans in the Legion. I know I may sound like a broken record (for those who remember what a record is...) but not all commands have been making progress in recruiting Veterans.

In fact, a couple of provincial commands have seen their ordinary memberships in relation to the military population in their province drop significantly. This too will be a great topic for discussion, but I don't want to steal Dave and Tom's thunder, but I did want to show you how we live in exciting times.

Again, thank you for coming, and welcome to our first DEC meeting in the New Year. Let's make history by taking the first steps in achieving a balanced budget for 2016 and trying to achieve a critical mass of Legion Members.



**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ITEM 4**  
**20 - 22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**4. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS**

a. Schedule -

- i. Day 1 - Friday 20 February. Focus on the Future meeting with emphasis on the deficit reduction plan. The meeting will convene at 0900 hours in the Victory Boardroom. Each Committee Chairman will be responsible to provide a review of the Committee's activities to reduce the deficit with a general opening statement being provided by the Dominion President and the Dominion Treasurer.
- ii. Day 2 – Saturday 21 February. DEC commencement of business at 0900 hours and continue throughout the day. The Chief of Military Personnel will be providing a briefing at 1400 hours to the members of DEC. The Minister of Veterans Affairs has been invited to address DEC in the morning. Awaiting reply.
- iii. Day 3 - Sunday, 22 February. DEC will reconvene at 0900 hours and will adjourn at the completion of meeting.
- iv. Lunches. Lunches will be provided daily with reimbursement taken from the claim forms by Finance.

b. Local Map - The Holiday Inn Select hotel is located in the "KANATA CENTRUM" shopping area directly across the highway from LEGION HOUSE. This shopping area includes facilities such as Wal-Mart, Future Shop and Golf Town, a number of restaurants, O'Connor's Pub, and a large 20-Theatre facility all within easy walking distance of the hotel. Map is attached.

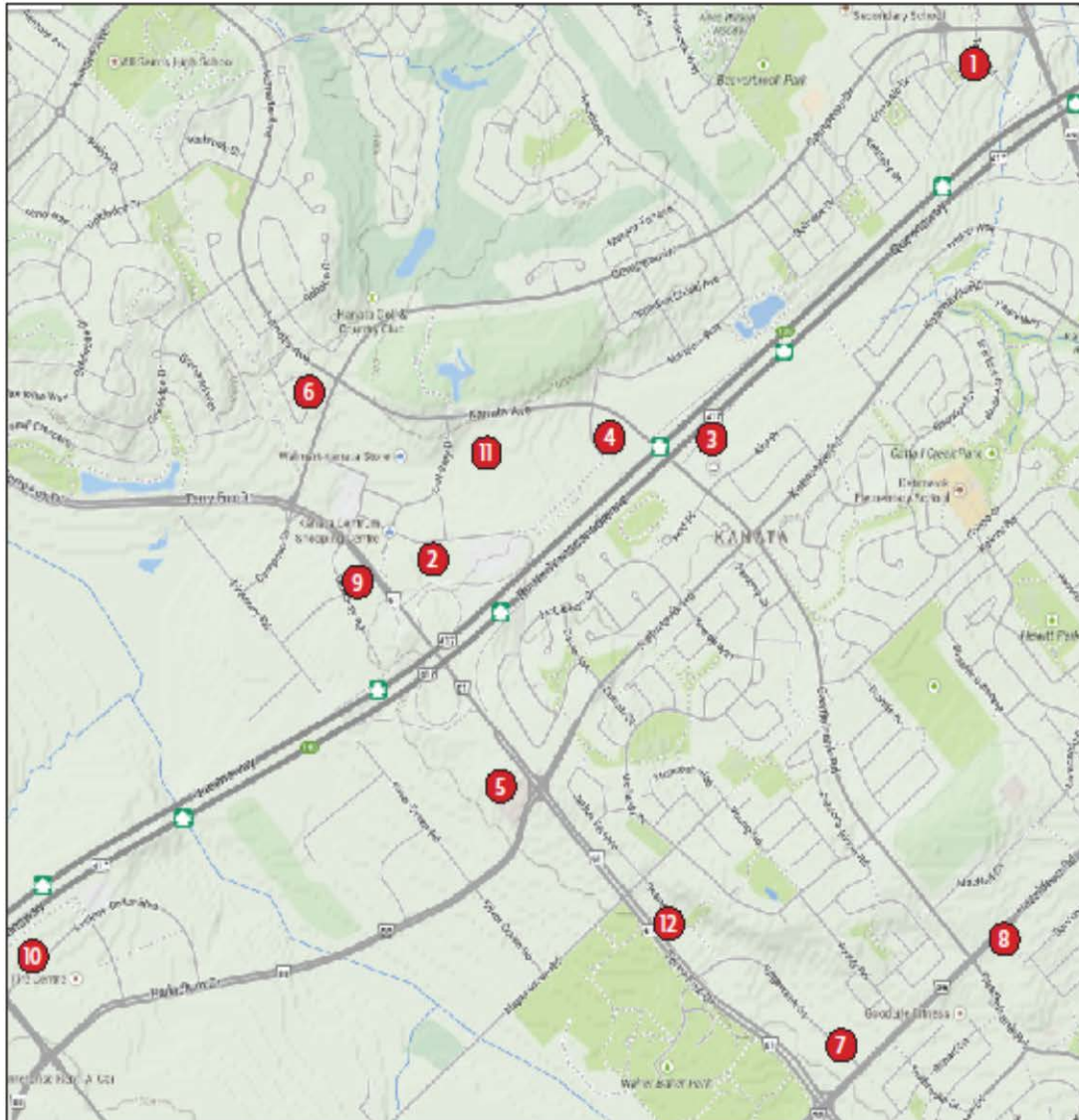
c. Hotel Reservations - Reservations are made for committee members by Dominion Command at the Holiday Inn Select Hotel & Suites, 101 Kanata Avenue, Kanata, Ontario K2T1E6, for the evening prior to the meeting and for the evenings of the meeting. Depending on the meeting agenda, attendees may be able to depart the last day of the meeting. In that case, they should cancel the final night of the hotel upon arrival or as soon as their return arrangements have been made. Hotel reservations are guaranteed late arrival which ensures accommodation if arrival is after 1800 hrs. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please advise the Executive Assistant to the Dominion Secretary or contact the hotel (1-800-465-4329) to cancel the reservation before 1800 hrs of the arrival date. Failure to do so will result in a charge for the hotel room. Please take note that DEC members are responsible to pay their hotel bill at check out and then reclaim on their expense claim forms.

d. Reports/Books – DEC members are reminded that paper copies of the

reports and books will no longer be produced by Dominion Command.

- e. Smoking - Members are reminded that Ottawa City By-Laws do not permit smoking in any office building including bars and restaurants. However, the Director of Administration will provide one of the smokers with a door pass to enable smokers to use the **rear entrance of the building** to permit smoking outside during the break periods. Smoking is not permitted on the front steps.

The Royal Canadian Legion—Dominion Command (Legion House)  
86 Aird Place, Ottawa, ON K2L 0A1  
613-591-3335



1. LaPointe Seafood Restaurant
2. Centrum Area
  - numerous restaurants
  - shopping facilities
  - movie theatre
3. Legion House
4. Holiday Inn Select Hotel
5. Country Inn Suites Hotel

6. Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO)
7. Wendy's, Tim Horton's
8. Pizza Hut, Burger King
9. Dairy Queen, Italian Restaurant
10. Canadian Tire Place—Hockey arena
11. Walmart
12. Darcy McGee's, East Side Mario's,  
A & W, Swiss Chalet

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
VETERANS, SERVICES AND SENIORS COMMITTEE  
TO THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

65-1

<b>T. Eagles</b>	-	<b>Chair</b>
<b>D. Flannigan</b>	-	<b>Vice- Chair</b>
<b>C. Strong</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>B. Julian</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>R. Trowsdale</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>M. Tremblay</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>G. O'Dair</b>	-	<b>Ex-Officio Seniors</b>
<b>L. Murray</b>	-	<b>Ex-Officio Member</b>
<b>R. McInnis</b>	-	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>C. Gasser</b>	-	<b>A/Secretary</b>

**GENERAL**

The VSS Committee last met on 24 February 2014 and has since then held four teleconferences.

**LEGION ADVOCACY**

Advocacy efforts have focused on ensuring that all Veterans 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. It is important that all Legion Branches continue to welcome all Veterans, that Branch Service Officers receive their annual training such that they are knowledgeable on programs and services available for our Veterans and that we continue to support programs. The Dominion President / VSS Chair and Committee continued to address key issues affecting Veterans and their families:

- a. On 20 October 2014 the Dominion President and Dominion Secretary met with the VAC Executive to discuss the New Veterans Charter review, Outreach and Visitation Initiative contract, resolutions and commemoration activities.
- b. On 20 October 2014 the Dominion President and Dominion Secretary had an introductory meeting with the Chair VRAB and the Chief Advocate Bureau of Pensions Advocates.
- c. In late October, our call to action went out and a national letter writing campaign was launched calling on the government to take the action needed to implement the recommendations from the ACVA report. We are calling on all Canadians to support this effort and send a letter to their Member of Parliament. In two months,

10,000 letters had been sent to Members of Parliament, this is quite successful when compared to the Funeral and Burial letter.

- d. 08 November 2014 - The Veterans Consultation Assembly meeting scheduled for 8 November had been the subject of many discussions in various forums. In consideration of the events in both Quebec and the nation's capital, along with the outpouring of support from all Canadians during this Remembrance period, the decision was made to postpone the meeting until 2015.
- e. On 19 November 2014, the Dominion President and Dominion Secretary attended the VAC stakeholder meeting in Quebec City along with other Veterans organizations. The importance of this meeting is that VAC provided an opportunity for Veterans organizations to come together and we were introduced to General (Retd) Walter Natynczyk, the new Deputy Minister. It was a very positive meeting.
- f. On 20 January 2015, the Dominion President sent out a News Release stating our support for the RCMP Independent Report on the Moncton Shooting.

### **SENIORS INITIATIVE**

Comrades George and Carolyn attended the Pan Canadian Seniors Strategy Meeting on 7 October 2014. The attendees of the meeting discussed the issues and challenges for seniors care, services and supports. Key issues in the continuum of care that were identified include prevention and wellness, primary care, home/community based care, hospital and long term care, and palliative care. The challenges of each were discussed.

Comrade Carolyn is a member of the Prevention and Wellness Working Group from the continuum of care. She has attended a teleconference and an in-house meeting that discussed the scope and definition of primary care and issues or enabling factors that flow across all the working groups.

### **VETERANS EMERGENCY TRANSITION SERVICES (VETS) CANADA PARTNERSHIP**

The VSS Chair sent a letter to VETS Canada highlighting the Legion's Homeless Veterans Program and support of their proposal to establish a partnership. The Legion announced a partnership with VETS Canada in April 2014 and a formal Letter of Understanding will be signed in 2015.

### **HOMELESS VETERANS NATIONAL PROGRAM**

Dr. Jimmy Bourque from the University of Moncton coordinates the research working group and he released his first paper in December. He also presented a paper at the recent CIMVHR Forum in Toronto. He will continue working with Dr. David Pedlar from VAC and Dr. Alice Aikens from CIMVHR.

Ms. Kathy Darte from VAC recently developed a draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for the working group on homeless Veterans; the VSS Chair will chair the working group. The TOR has not been finalized.

### **LEGION SCHOLARSHIP**

The VSS Committee supported that the Legion continue to support CIMVHR through our participation on both the Advisory Council and on the Technical Advisory Committee. This participation is crucial to ensuring that non-governmental stakeholders have influence in ensuring arms-length research continues.

Currently, the Legion contributes \$5K (Silver level) sponsorship annually to the CIMVHR Forum. Given the success and value of the Forum the VSS Committee endorsed the continuation of our sponsorship of the CIMVHR Forum for the next three years through the Outreach Committee to DEC. The funding would be contingent upon confirmation by 1 January each year that the CIMVHR Forum will continue to occur in its current format. There is no change in the current format and the next forum is scheduled for November 2015 in Quebec City.

Comrades Larry, Ray and Tom attended the CIMVHR Forum in Toronto from 24-26 November. It was an excellent forum and Comrade Tom presented the first Legion Masters Scholarship to Ms. Brigitte Phinney. In his brief presentation he highlighted the support and programs that the Legion provides to Veterans and their families and advised the attendees that all would be welcome as new members in The Royal Canadian Legion. The forum is also a great opportunity to network with the academic, CAF and Veterans Affairs Canada senior folks engaged in health research. The next CIMVHR Forum will be held next November in Quebec City.

### **HEALING WATERS**

**Project Healing Waters ( Projet des Eaux Curatives)** is a national not-for profit organization run by volunteers with a passion for fly fishing. Through fly fishing lessons and clinics, this project provides a unique outlet for healing and social rehabilitation to injured Veterans suffering from an operational stress injury. This program has had a tremendous impact on helping Veterans deal with significant psychological injuries.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Projet des Eaux Curatives program provides unique opportunities to ill and injured CF members and retired members to learn life-long adaptive fitness skills. It is recommended that DEC endorse the funding of the Project Healing Waters program through the Poppy and Remembrance Committee to DEC in the amount of \$15,000 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund to Projet des Eaux Curatives be approved for three fly fishing events in 2015, \$5,000.00 per event.

Projet des Eaux Curatives proposal is attached to this report.

## **OUTREACH AND VISITATION INITIATIVE PROGRAM**

The final stats for the first year ending 14 October 2014 - Taskings 4285, Vets visited 3789.

In collaboration with VAC personnel, we conducted an OVI training course in Ottawa on 10 October 2014 at Legion House for 17 volunteers and we presently have 130 volunteers.

Funding is available to conduct 8,000 visits in 2015 and additional volunteers are required in order to meet the increased tasking. We requested volunteers in critical areas of need and to date, we have eight volunteers. It is anticipated we will conduct another course in April 2015.

## **SERVICE DOG PROPOSAL**

The Canadian General Standards Board advised full funding for the development of a new National Standard of Canada for Service Dogs has been secured from VAC and there is no need to seek any additional funding. It is expected to take approximately 18 months to develop the standards.

Concurrently, VAC is running a pilot project with 50 Veterans with service dogs; the pilot project is expected to take 24 months at a cost of \$500K to VAC.

## **CAF MILITARY FAMILIES' PROPOSAL**

A letter and a draft Letter of Agreement (LOA) was sent to the Director Military Family Services proposing a national level partnership between Dominion Command of the Royal Canadian Legion and Military Family Services (MFS) to encourage open communication, a coordinated outreach approach, collaborative marketing, messaging, and monitoring of the needs of military families, Veterans and the communities in which they reside. It is anticipated that the LOA will be signed by CMP and the Dominion President in February 2015.

The Legion attended the inaugural meeting of the Military and Veteran Families in Canada: Leadership Circle on 14 January 2015. Comrade Tom is the leadership representative of the Legion and Comrade Ray is the management representative.

## **VSS Housing Inventory**

The Legion Housing Inventory binder was last updated in 2011, approval was provided at the VSS meeting last February to proceed with updating the binder and the website. Minor amendments have been received and the VSS Housing Inventory Binder will be updated electronically on our website in 2015.

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

Command Service Officers attended the bi-annual service officer training / professional development session in Charlottetown on 22-24 October 2014. They benefitted from consultation with VAC officials responsible for service delivery with whom they deal on a regular basis while receiving updates on latest policies and business processes and compassion fatigue training. It was extremely well received by all and the service officers look forward to their regional training sessions in 2015.

**DOMINION COMMAND SERVICE BUREAU ACTIVITIES**

Dominion Command Service Officers continues to experience a significant increase in the overall number of first applications received and Entitlement Appeals:

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
Benevolent	422	401	375
<b>First Application/ DR</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>273</b>
VRAB Appeals	158	165	207

The Service Bureau expects the increase in Veteran clients to continue across the country as we expand our outreach and interactive tools on the internet are introduced.

**FIRST APPLICATIONS AND DEPARTMENTAL REVIEWS**

First Applications and Departmental Reviews prepared and submitted by Legion Command Service Officers have increased this year. While the claims from the traditional Veteran population are declining, there is an increase of claims by modern Veterans, including still serving CAF and RCMP members. In Dominion Command, **this year 21.5% of claims were from serving CAF members**, 4.9% were related to RCMP service and 73.6% were retired. . We cannot provide the percentage overall as not all Commands collected this data, we will attempt to rectify this for next year.

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
Total First Application Claims submitted by RCL	1848	2137	2511
Departmental Reviews submitted by RCL	136	142	158
Total Claims Withdrawn/Counselled Out	363	435	518
Total Claims Handled by RCL	2347	2714	3187

Comprehensive statistics for all Command Service Officers are attached to this report.



## VETERANS REVIEW AND APPEAL BOARD

VRAB Appeals and Reconsiderations continued to be heard at Legion House with representation from Dominion Command Service Officers.

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
Total VRAB Reviews	197	356	375
Total VRAB/RfR Appeals	77	127 <sup>1</sup>	207*
Total VRAB Cases Handled by RCL	297	491	582

## BENEVOLENT REQUESTS

Requests for benevolent fund assistance decreased slightly with **375** being processed by the Dominion Command Service Bureau in 2014, compared to 400 in 2013. Overall disbursements have increased by approximately 14.72 %. The following table outlines our benevolent efforts for the various funds and provides a snapshot of Dominion Command's efforts over the past three years.

FUND	2012		2013		2014	
	NO. OF CASES	AMOUNT	NO. OF CASES	AMOUNT	NO. OF CASES	AMOUNT
POPPY	135	\$ 98,178.27	85	\$ 60,748.56	88	\$70,467.90
SCOWP	11	\$ 6,738.89	16	\$ 6,513.81	15	\$7,655.82
RAFBF	124	\$139,520.99	134	\$115,379.32	129	\$140,552.44
RNBTF	42	\$ 27,498.63	31	\$ 23,462.18	25	\$26,270.95
UK Regimental	110	\$ 92,256.46	134	\$ 136,251.26	118	\$147,816.98
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>\$364,193.24</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>\$342,355.13</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>\$392,764.09</b>

POPPY: Poppy Benevolent Fund  
 SCOWP: Standing Committee on Welfare Payments (RCEL)  
 RAFBF: Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund  
 RNBTF: Royal Navy Benevolent Trust Fund

## CONCLUSION

This is my report and I move its adoption

Attachments:

1. Service Bureau Network Statistics
2. Projet des Eaux Curatives Proposal

\*This includes 132 Appeals which were counseled out.

Command Services Officer's Stats		Last Updated	09 Feb 15 - 08:31	VRAB					
Command	1st APP	DR	Counselled Out/Withdrawn	FW D DC	RE V	APP/Rf R	VIP/A A	SCAN Info	
BC / Yukon		157	10	62	0	4	0	12	11
	Totals	157	10	62	0	4	0	12	11
Alta / NWT		396	25	49	0	0	0	29	6
	Totals	396	25	49	0	0	0	29	6
Sask		34	2	14	0	1	0	7	4
	Totals	34	2	14	0	1	0	7	4
Man / NW Ont		15	0	2	10	0	0	2	2
	Totals	15	0	2	10	0	0	2	2
Ont		1199	23	53	47	350	21	328	35
	Totals	1199	23	53	47	350	21	328	35
Que		102	8	200	3	1	0	1	2
	Totals	102	8	200	3	1	0	1	2
NB		149	27	0	0	11	0	102	2
	Totals	149	27	0	0	11	0	102	2
NS / NUN		196	33	4	7	0	0	19	2
	Totals	196	33	4	7	0	0	19	2
PEI		2			5				
	Totals	2	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
NFLD / LAB		14	4	2	0	1	0	2	0
	Totals	14	4	2	0	1	0	2	0
DOM COMD		247	26	132	0	7	75	26	4
	Totals	247	26	132	0	7	75	26	4
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>2511</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>68</b>

DR: Departmental Review

VRAB Rev / App / R for R: Veterans Review and Appeal Board: Review / Appeal / Reconsideration

VIP / AA: Veterans Independence Program / Attendance Allowance

SCAN: Second Career Assistance Network

**DOMINION COMMAND POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE  
Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Canada  
Funding Proposal**

**Healing Waters - Request for Funding – 2015 (Sent By PDF)**

**Projet des Eaux Curatives (Project Healing Waters) Fly Fishing Events across  
Canada Funding Proposal**

**Subject:** To financially support Project Healing Waters by providing fly fishing equipment and training for Veterans who suffer with Operational Stress Injuries (OSIs) for events to be held in 2015 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund.

**Background:** Project Healing Waters is a national not-for-profit organization run by volunteers with a passion for fly fishing and a dedication to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled Veterans. Some of their Directors are Veterans themselves. This project provides a unique outlet for healing and social rehabilitation to injured Canadians and primarily focuses on Canadian Armed Forces members suffering from an operational stress injury. The program provides basic fly fishing, fly casting and fly tying lessons and clinics for wounded and injured personnel. It provides an opportunity to learn a new life-long hobby, or improve or adapt their skills with new abilities. This social rehabilitation program provides life-long skills and a relaxation skill.

Veterans participating in the program are selected through the Operational Stress Injury clinics and the Soldier On program. All necessary equipment, activities, lessons, services, transportation, accommodation and meals are provided at no cost to the Veterans.

**Cost:** Project Healing Waters is requesting \$38,000 plus an additional \$7,000 as a contingency should fund raising efforts not be as expected, for a total of \$45,000 for the events in 2015 at Williams Lake, BC, Quebec City, QC and in Gaspé, QC. The fourth event in Thunder Bay, ON is 100% financed by Wounded Warriors Canada. \$45,000 will cover the expenses of 70 Veterans and breaks down to \$600.00 for each to attend.

This is the only request to The Royal Canadian Legion that will be received for 2015 from Project Healing Waters. The remaining program costs are being sought from other organizations and fund raising events. In 2014, The Royal Canadian Legion provided \$14,000.

Should the proposal be approved, they would only request the funds as each project draws near.

By funding the request solely from Dominion Command, it ensures other Commands and Branches are not approached and provides The Royal Canadian Legion with a coordinated opportunity for a national media release.

**Support and Funding Partners:** Contributors include Wounded Warriors Canada and in BC, \$16,000 will be provided from the provincial government and Williams Lake Businesses.

On 18 December 2014, the VSS Committee met by teleconference and discussed in length the funding request recommendation for \$45,000.000. The recommendation was defeated and an amended motion was considered by the Committee to fund a total of \$15,000.00 for three fly fishing events across Canada. The recommendation to send it to the P&R Committee was carried.

**MOTION:** It was moved that the VSS Committee request the Poppy and Remembrance Committee approve \$45,000 for the three fly fishing events across Canada. After a lengthy discussion, the motion was defeated. **NOT CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded that the VSS Committee request the Poppy and Remembrance Committee approve \$15,000 for three fly fishing events across Canada. **CARRIED**

Attachments:

1. Healing Waters 2015 Poppy Fund Sponsorship Request

**Recommendation:** That the Poppy & Remembrance Committee continue to support Project Healing Waters in the amount of \$15,000 for 2015.

THE POPPY & REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE **APPROVED** THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000 FOR PROJECT HEALING WATERS FOR 2015.

## VETERANS, SERVICE AND SENIORS COMMITTEE

### Projet Eaux Curative (Project Healing Waters) Fly Fishing Events across Canada

#### Funding Proposal

**Subject:** To financially support Project Healing Waters by providing fly fishing equipment and training for Veterans who suffer with Operational Stress Injuries (OSIs) for events to be held in 2015 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust fund.

**Background:** Project Healing Waters is a national not-for profit organization run by volunteers with a passion for fly fishing and a dedication to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled Veterans. Some of their Directors are Veterans themselves. This project provides a unique outlet for healing and social rehabilitation to injured Canadians and primarily focuses on Canadian Armed Forces members suffering from an operational stress injury. The program provides basic fly fishing, fly casting and fly tying lessons and clinics for wounded and injured personnel. It provides an opportunity to learn a new life-long hobby, or improve or adapt their skills with new abilities. This social rehabilitation program provides life-long skills and a relaxation skill.

Veterans participating in the program are selected through the Operation Stress Injury clinics and the Soldier On program. All necessary equipment, activities, lessons, services, transportation, accommodation and meals are provided at no cost to the Veterans.

**Cost:** Project Healing Waters is requesting \$38,000 plus an additional \$7000 as a contingency should fund raising efforts not be as expected, for a total of \$45,000 for the events in 2015, at Williams Lake, BC, Quebec City, QC, and in Gaspé, QC. The fourth event in Thunder Bay, ON is 100% financed by Wounded Warriors Canada. \$45,000 will cover the expenses of 70 Veterans and breaks down to \$600.00 for each to attend.

This is the only request to The Royal Canadian Legion that will be received for 2015 from Project Healing Waters. The remaining program costs are being sought from other organizations and funding raising events. In 2014, The Royal Canadian Legion provided \$14,000.

Should the proposal be approved, they would only request the funds as each project drew near.

**By funding the request solely from Dominion Command, it ensures other Commands and Branches are not approached and provides the Royal Canadian Legion with a coordinated opportunity for a national media release.**

**Support and Funding Partners:** Contributors include Wounded Warriors Canada and in BC, \$16,000 will be provided from the provincial government and Williams Lake Businesses.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the funding request for \$45,000.00 to Projet Eaux Curative to permit a 70 Veterans to attend these fly fishing events and allow for a coordinated opportunity for a media release.

**Attachments:**

1. Les Eaux Projet Curative, Peche à la Mouche Canada, dated 15 October 2014.
2. Summary of Current Expenses, received 16 December 2014
3. Biography of Gervais Jeffrey from Project Healing Waters website

L E S E A U X C U R . A T I V E S  
P E C H E L P . M O U C H E C A N A D A

LA LEGION ROYALE CANADIENNE

Direction nationale

86 Place Aird

Ottawa ON, K2L OAI mercredi,

15 octobre 2014

Mr. Tom Eagles, president national

« Les Eaux curatives par la Peche a la Mouche du Canada » « Healing Waters Fly Fishing Canada (HWFFC) » est un organisme provincial et enregistré comme organisme but non lucratif qui offre gratuitement ses services aux veterans canadiens qui furent blesses dans les diverses missions auxquelles le Canada a participe et plus specialement celle de l'Afghanistan.

Le but et la mission de l'organisme sont d'enseigner a nos veterans blesses un nouveau style de vie par l'enseignement de l'art du montage de mouches et de la peche a la mouche. L'objectif de cette approche therapeutique est de leur apprendre une nouvelle fa9on de se relaxer. Il est prouve que la peche a la mouche a un effet therapeutique sur ceux qui la pratiquent.

En janvier prochain, nous voulons offrir a nouveau ces cours de montage de mouches. Afin que ce cours et les autres a venir puissent continuer d'etre gratuits pour nos veterans, nous avons besoin de 45,000 \$ comme support financier. Cette aide financiere nous permettra d'etendre nos services et de permettre a plus de veterans de participer aux diverses activites et sorties nationales qui seront offertes durant l'annee 2015. Presentement, nous avons la possibilite de faire les activites suivantes « Cariboo Wounded Warrior fly fishing event », « Project Healing Water US joint venture in Thunder Bay On. », pour ne nommer que ces deux evenements majeurs comme exemple.

Merci de nous aider a servir ceux qui ont servi.

Sincerement votre

Directeur provincial Projet  
les Eaux curatives 1840  
27e Rue  
Quebec, (Quebec) G1J 1C7

Enregistre au Quebec comme association a but non lucratif : NEQ :# 3369178291

**CARIBOO WOUNDED WARRIOR FLY FISHING EVENT**

NUMBER PARTICIPATING: 30

SEPTEMBER 18 TILL THE 23RD

ESTIMATED COST	\$ 40,000.00
FUNDING FROM	
WILLIAMS LAKE BUSINESS	4,000.00 \$
VOLUNTERARY DONATION	1,000.00 \$
WOUNDED WARRIORS CANADA	8,000.00 \$
BC BUSINESS	12,000.00 \$
DONATION IN KINDS (MEALS, LODGING)	5,000.00 \$
TOTAL	30,000.00 \$
NATIONAL COMMAD	10,000.00 \$

**SALMOND FLY FISHING ADVENTURE**

NUMBER PARTICIPATING: 15

SEPTEMBER 2015

ESTIMATED COST	32,000.00 \$
FUNDING FROM	
WOUNDED WARRIORS CANADA	8,000.00 \$
PARTICIPANTS	3,000.00 \$
DONATION IN KIND (MEAL, LODGING)	3,000.00 \$
TOTAL	14,000.00 \$
NATIONAL COMMAND	18,000.00 \$

**Quebec WOUNDED WARRIORS FLY FISHING ADVENTURE**

NUMBER PARTICIPATING: 25

JUNE 2015

ESTIMATED COST	16,000.00 \$
FUNDING FROM	
LOCAL LEGIONS	3,000.00 \$
LOCAL BUSINESS	1,500.00 \$
ANNUAL AUCTION	1,500.00 \$
TOTAL	6,000.00 \$
NATIONAL COMMAND	10,000.00 \$

**WOUNDED WARRIORS WILDERNESS ADVENTURE**

100% FUNDED BY WOUNDED WARRIORS CANADA  
 WITH THE REMAING FUNDS FROM THE 25,000 \$



## Gervais Jeffrey of Quebec

I joined the military 30 years ago and I only have a few years left to do before retirement. Been posted to various and sometime exotic such as Valcartier, Germany, Goose Bay Labrador, Gagetown, Ottawa, and Petawawa and now finally back home Valcartier.

I learn fly fishing when I was 8 year old. Since then, I'm avid fly fisher and take every opportunity to wet my line. While in Goose Bay, I taught myself fly tying since then, I tie my own flies. I also participate in a fly fishing forum giving advice (2 cent worth) or telling my fishing stories. On the same forum, I publish some of my fly creation for the benefit of other fly fishermen.



How did I got involved with this project is not by accident but by a ricochet from my involvement with a youth group here in Quebec City. I was looking for a sponsor when I wrote a request letter to Jack's company. Jack got me in contact with Kerry and the story goes on.

I think this is a great project and I want to help out and bring my knowledge and expertise to this project. Been in Afghanistan myself and while I was working at the hospital, I seen our wounded soldiers. Now, it is time for me to give more to them.

---

J'ai joint la vie militaire il a un peu plus de trente ans. Heureusement, il ne me reste que quelques années de services avant de me retirer. Durant ma carrière, nous fumes mutés dans plusieurs endroit certain d'entre eux on peut dire exotique tel que Valcartier, Allemagne, Goose Bay labrador, Gagetown, Ottawa Petawawa et finalement retour au point de départ.

J'ai appris la pêche à la mouche à l'âge de 8 ans et je n'ai jamais abandonné ce sport. Durant mon séjour au Labrador, j'ai appris à monter mes propres mouches. Je participe aussi activement à des forums qui parlent de pêche. J'aime bien donné mon avis ou des trucs. Sur ce même forum, j'ai publié quelques mouches de ma création pour le plaisir des partager avec les autres pêcheurs. Comment j'ai joint le projet Healing Waters, c'est un peu le hasard et du fait que je travaille avec un groupe de jeunes qui apprennent le montage de mouches et aussi ils apprennent le maniement de la canne à pêche. À la fin du projet, nous les amenons à la pêche pour qu'ils puissent tester leurs mouches. J'ai écrit une lettre de demande de support à la compagnie de Jack qui lui m'a mis en contact avec Kerry.

Lors de mon séjour en Afghanistan, je travaillais à l'hôpital multinational rôle 3. J'y travaillais en tant qu'officier du bien-être, j'ai vu et connu quelques uns de nos soldats blessés. Je crois fortement que ce projet pourra aider nos soldats blessés.

Je suis marié à Lise qui est ma compagne depuis plus de trente ans et nous avons un garçon de 24 ans qui est encore à l'université.

**ADDENDUM TO THE  
REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
VETERANS, SERVICE AND SENIORS COMMITTEE TO  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
21 FEBRUARY 2015**

File 65-1

**THE ROYAL OTTAWA HOSPITAL (ROH) FOUNDATION FUND PROPOSAL**

The Royal Ottawa Hospital Foundation Fund presented their proposal to the VSS Committee and the Poppy and Remembrance Committee on 19 February 2015. Attached are the VSS proposal and information data sheets on the ROH.

The overall campaign goal is 25 million dollars, which would be broken down into four categories, research, care, education and advocacy. They have raised approximately 19 million dollars supported by several external charities and require approximately 6 million dollars to fulfill the campaign goals. The Royal Canadian Legion has an opportunity to support The Royal Ottawa Hospital Campaign for Mental Health with a contribution of \$500,000.00.

We have been advocating for many years better mental health services for our serving members and Veterans, The Royal Ottawa Hospital would like to acquire a PET-MRI machine, the PET-MRI is a powerful tool for developing next generation diagnostics using brain imaging. By acquiring one of a few PET-MRI machines in the world, their neuroscientists will be able to increase their ability to identify the cause of a Mental Illness and define an effective treatment.

It will show our younger Veterans that The Royal Canadian Legion does care about mental health and there would be no better way to show this support than by donating towards the purchase of the PET-MRI technology. It was confirmed that we can donate to The Royal Ottawa Foundation Fund specifically towards the purchase of the PET-MRI technology.

The Poppy & Remembrance Committee reviewed the proposal for funding to The Royal Ottawa Foundation Fund and agrees that this donation meets the criteria for Poppy Funds.

**Recommendation:**

To support the purchase of PET-MRI technology for the Royal Ottawa Hospital, the VSS Committee recommends approval in the amount of \$500,000.00 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund. The Poppy and Remembrance Committee endorses this proposal, therefore for your consideration and approval.

## DOMINION COMMAND POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE

### The Royal Ottawa Foundation Fund

#### Funding Proposal

#### The Royal Ottawa Foundation Fund - Request for Funding – 2015

**Subject:** To financially support the Royal Ottawa in obtaining a PET-MRI Technology to allow doctors and researchers to examine the structural and functional changes in the brain. PET is highly sensitive and will allow the ROH to quickly track chemical changes in the living brain and MRI provides a clear “image” of where in the brain function is altered.

**Background:** The Royal is partnered with the Canadian Armed Forces in establishing a first-ever Chair in Military Mental Health and a National Canadian Military and Veterans Mental Health Centre of Excellence.

The Royal is the only psychiatric hospital in Canada that operates an Operational Stress Injury Clinic (OSI). Considered best-in-class by patients, families and the military, The Royal’s OSI program provides specialized outpatient programs serving CAF Veterans, and current and eligible members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and their families.

The ROH goal is to advance leading-edge research aimed at improving outcomes for those suffering as a result of combat duty and other traumatic situations.

They have increased their capacity in military mental health as they build on the success of Minds the Matter military app developed for Canadian Forces families.

The ROH is heavily involved with the military and veterans regarding mental health. Dr. Zul Merali and Ms. Cynthia Little presented the ROH’s goals in their campaign for mental health; namely their goals are simple and clear – to get more people suffering from mental illness into recovery faster, and to transform the way major depression is treated.

**Cost:** The overall campaign goal is 25 million dollars, which would be broken down into four categories, research, care, education and advocacy. They have raised approximately 19 million dollars and require 6 million dollars to fulfill the campaign goals.

After hearing the presentation and the answers to our specific questions, the

Veterans, Service and Seniors Committee discussed at length the presentation and the importance of mental health. It was determined that we have sufficient funding in the Poppy Fund to permit a substantial donation to the Royal Ottawa Foundation Fund. We also discussed the importance of obtaining the PET-MRI technology and this would be an excellent link to any donation from The Royal Canadian Legion.

We have been advocating for better mental health services for the past few years and this PET-MRI is a powerful tool for developing the next generation diagnostics using brain imaging. It will also show our younger Veterans that The Royal Canadian Legion does care about mental health and there would be no better way to show this support than by donating to the purchase of the PET-MRI technology.

It was confirmed that we can donate The Royal Ottawa Foundation Fund specifically for the purchase of the PET-MRI technology.

By funding the request solely from Dominion Command, it ensures other Commands and Branches are not approached and provides The Royal Canadian Legion with a coordinated opportunity for a national media release.

On 19 February 2015, the VSS Committee met and discussed in length the funding request and the Committee recommended that we support a donation of \$500,000.00 to the Royal Ottawa Foundation Fund specifically to the purchase of the PET-MRI technology. The Committee approved the recommendation and to send it to the Poppy and Remembrance Committee for approval.

**Recommendation: It is recommended that the funding request for \$500,000.00 to The Royal Ottawa Foundation Fund be approved.**

**Attachments:**

1. ROH Fact Sheets

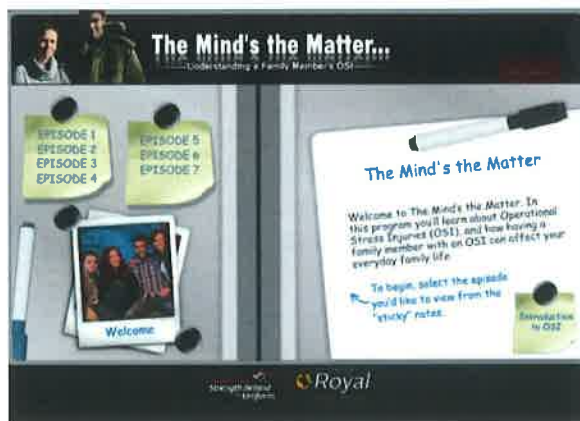
## The Royal and the Military

Our goal is to advance leading-edge research aimed at improving outcomes for those suffering as a result of combat duty and other traumatic situations.

With philanthropic support we will increase our capacity in military mental health as we build on the success of "The Mind's the Matter" military app developed for Canadian Forces families, a collaboration in which we take great pride.

In response to the critical needs of military family members, The Royal worked with the **Military Family Services Division of DND** to develop this web-based, interactive video series for Canadian Forces (CF) families who may be living with someone who has an Operational Stress Injury (OSI).

This initiative is a first-of-its-kind tool for CF families, providing real life solutions for spouses and teens coping with a difficult situation. This bilingual tool can be seen at [www.familyforce.ca](http://www.familyforce.ca)



## Chair in Military Mental Health

The Royal is also proud to be partnering with the **Canadian Armed Forces (CAF)** in establishing a first-ever **Chair in Military Mental Health** and a national **Canadian Military and Veterans Mental Health Centre of Excellence**.



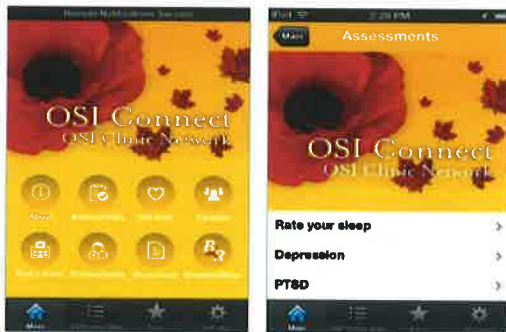
*Lieutenant-General David Millar, Chief of Military Personnel; George Weber, President & CEO, The Royal; Brigadier-General Jean-Robert Bernier, Surgeon General; Dr. Jonathan Meakins, grandson of Brigadier Jonathan C. Meakins; Colonel Rakesh Jetly, Senior Psychiatrist and Mental Health Advisor to the Surgeon General; James Bezan, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Defence; Dr. Zul Merali, President & CEO, The Royal's Institute of Mental Health Research, following the Chair's announcement at The Royal in December 2014.*

Colonel Rakesh Jetly, Senior Psychiatrist and Mental Health Advisor to the Surgeon General, is the first to receive the 3-year tenure as the "CF Brigadier Jonathan C. Meakins Chair in Military Mental Health", named after Brigadier Meakins who was one of the world's first PTSD researchers during WW1.

## Treating Operational Stress Injuries

The Royal is the only psychiatric hospital in Canada that operates an **Operational Stress Injury Clinic (OSI)**. Considered best-in-class by patients, families and the military, The Royal's OSI program provides specialized outpatient programs serving Canadian Forces Veterans, and current and eligible members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and their families.

**OSI Connect** is a mobile learning and self-management app developed by The Royal to assist the Canadian Armed Forces, veterans and RCMP community with operational stress injuries (OSI). Available through iTunes, OSI Connect is portable and provides information and assistance at the touch of a button.



*Available through iTunes, OSI Connect is portable and provides information and assistance at the touch of a button.*

## PTSD Education

Dr. Zul Merali, CEO of The Royal's Institute of Mental Health Research (IMHR), has led the creation of the **Canadian Depression Research & Intervention Network (CDRIN)**, a national network of Depression Research Hubs linking the best scientific and clinical minds in depression research.



CDRIN, in collaboration with the Mood Disorders Society of Canada and the Canadian Medical Association, has developed a **Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Continuing Medical Education (CME)** training program.

The goal of this e-learning program is to enhance the knowledge of physicians in the identification and treatment of PTSD, including information on available resources, latest treatment options and support networks throughout Canada.

Building on our capacity in military mental health, we look forward to improving care by advancing new research in post-traumatic stress disorder and building better understanding of military and veteran mental health issues.



## Our goals are simple and clear –

to get more people suffering from mental illness into recovery faster,  
and to transform the way major depression is treated.

Mental illness – specifically major depression – is the single greatest cause of workplace disability in our society today. This presents a huge financial burden and, more importantly, the human cost is enormous. Normal healthy lives are devastated. Families are torn apart.

### *Transforming Mental Health with PET-MRI Technology*

As a world-class research institute and leading Academic Health Sciences Centre, The Royal is here to transform the lives of those suffering from mental illness with innovative and effective treatments, and to identify new methods for prevention and early detection.



#### **Opportunity**

Diagnosing a mental illness, particularly major depression, is extremely complex. Although mental illnesses are caused by alterations in brain functioning, identification of the underlying abnormalities remains difficult as the brain cannot be "probed" as easily as other organs such as the heart or liver.

Recent technological advances, like non-invasive brain imaging, are opening up "windows" to the brain that allow us to look inside and learn more about how and where depression affects the brain. This research can be translated into better care by enabling informed diagnoses based on empirical data.

#### **The PET-MRI Solution**

Two leading imaging technologies, PET (positron emission tomography) and MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) allow doctors and researchers to examine the structural and functional changes in the brain. PET is highly sensitive and allows us to quickly track chemical changes in the living brain (*in vivo*) and MRI provides a clear "image" of where in the brain function is altered.

A combined PET-MRI system is a powerful tool for developing next generation diagnostics using brain imaging. With this tool, researchers at The Royal can unlock the mysteries of the brain to transform how major depression is diagnosed and treated.

Every day 500,000 Canadians are absent from work due to psychiatric problems; mental health is the number one cause of disability in Canada, accounting for 70% of disability claim costs.

Mental illness is linked to more lost work days than any other chronic condition, costing the Canadian economy \$51 billion a year in lost productivity.

1 in 5 Canadians will experience a mental illness at some point in their lifetime. The remaining 4 will have a friend, family member or colleague who will.

#### **Research conducted with this combined PET-MRI system will:**

- enable early and accurate detection of depression and other significant neuropsychiatric disorders (e.g. schizophrenia, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and epilepsy);
- help get those suffering into recovery faster using personalized and effective interventions based on brain imaging;
- significantly improve outcomes for patients, their families and the workplace, while lowering health care and disability costs;
- attract more world-class clinicians, scientists and graduate students to Ottawa, Ontario and Canada.



## Our goals are simple and clear –

to get more people suffering from mental illness into recovery faster,  
and to transform the way major depression is treated.

### Experts at The Royal

#### Dr. Georg Northoff

MD, PhD, EJLB-CIHR Michael Smith Chair in Neuroscience and Mental Health and holder of a prestigious Canada Research Chair for Mind, Brain Imaging and Neuroethics at the University of Ottawa Institute of Mental Health Research (IMHR) where he is also Director of the Mind, Brain Imaging and Neuroethics Clinical Research Unit.



#### Dr. Pierre Blier

MD, PhD, Endowed Chair in Mood Disorders and holder of a prestigious Canada Research Chair in Psychopharmacology.



### Placing Canada at the Forefront

The Royal is seeking funding for a combined PET-MRI imaging system (\$12 M CAD). We are in a major campaign looking for transformational gifts to help create a world leading Brain Imaging Centre in the Nation's Capital. Private and corporate philanthropy will enable us to subsequently leverage additional support from the public sector to advance Canada's innovation in mental health care.

Once we raise the funds necessary to purchase the combined PET-MRI system, The Royal will immediately put the technology into action in research that will ultimately benefit all Canadians. We have the space dedicated to house the machine and we are ready to manage the operating costs through co-operative agreements with other research partners.

Acquisition of an integrated PET-MRI system will not only allow The Royal to expand its research, it will also encourage more pan-Canadian and international collaborations and funding. For example, the Montréal Neurological Institute & Hospital (MNI) and the University of Ottawa Heart Institute have expressed interest in partnering with The Royal to further drive the research and clinical benefits of this unique technology.

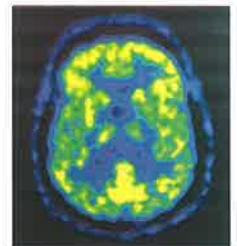
The only instrument of its kind in North America dedicated to the diagnosis, understanding and treatment of mental health issues, the PET-MRI brain imaging system will take translational research from the bedside to bench and back again.

This is powerful technology delivering transformational results that will advance Canada to the forefront of mental health research and care.

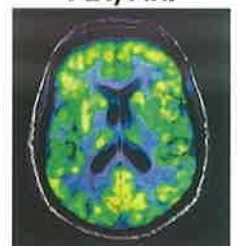
MRI



PET



PET/MRI



**This is life-saving research**  
**This is history worth making**



Mental Health - Care & Research  
Santé mentale - Soins et recherche





## Our goals are simple and clear –

to get more people suffering from mental illness into recovery faster, and to transform the way major depression is treated.

Dr. Zul Merali,  
President & CEO,  
uOttawa, Institute of  
Mental Health Research



**Mental illness** — specifically major depression — is the single greatest cause of workplace disability in our society today. Apart from the financial burden, the human cost is enormous. Normal healthy lives are devastated. Families are torn apart. Lives are lost.

We are dealing with a health care problem of epidemic proportions, and with our aging population, it is only going to get worse.

As one of the largest providers of mental health care in Canada — The Royal is here to transform the lives of those suffering from mental illness with innovative and effective treatments, and to identify new methodologies for prevention and early detection.

## Why is this important?

Diagnosing a mental illness, particularly major depression, is extremely complex. There are sociological as well as psychological and physiological considerations. It is a multidisciplinary process of checklists, tests and analysis of a patient's responses in interview type situations — a time consuming process where trust must be established in order to move forward. But even so, the results at the end of this process are still open to interpretation.

But unlike cancer — where a tumor is visible and a blood cell count is abnormal, or diabetes — where a patient's symptoms can be mapped to their blood sugar levels with a simple blood test, depression has no such indicators. There is no blood test. There is no scan. We are literally asking questions and relying on the answers to create a diagnosis.

**We are literally relying on the answer to “how do you feel?”**

This methodology has allowed the mental health profession to successfully put one third of clients into recovery; one third can be managed on an ongoing basis, unfortunately leaving one third who are deemed untreatable.

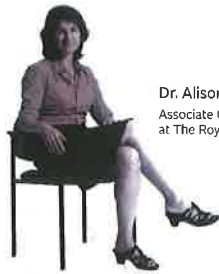
So, we want to stop having to solely rely on “how do you feel?” and instead be able to tell a client what they're feeling, why they're feeling it, and how we are going to change it.

At The Royal, we feel this is unacceptable. We cannot forget these people. We cannot allow this suffering to continue. We absolutely have to get more people into recovery faster.

To do this, we need to accelerate our research, build on our successes and instigate positive changes in how our mental health services are delivered.

Right now our clinical trials are yielding tremendously positive results. Our studies on the linkages between depression and other mental illnesses have informed new clinical practices and innovative treatments that are gaining traction and being adopted internationally. We have hand-picked researchers from all over the world — the best in their field — to be a part of a revolution in mental illness detection, prevention and treatment.

The Royal is becoming a national model of excellence for mental health research and patient care.



Dr. Allison Freeland  
Associate Chief of Psychiatry  
at The Royal

At The Royal, we view depression research and the development of new, more impactful treatments as our primary goal.

Depression can be linked to cardiovascular disease, to schizophrenia and to a myriad of physical and mental illnesses. If we can successfully treat depression, we can impact the health of individuals and our society in ways that we never thought possible.

**Imagine...**

Walking into a unique Depression Research Centre at The Royal, where a team of specialists would run blood tests and brain scans and identify a mental health problem that is unique to your biology. Your treatment would be specific to you or your family member. Depression would be detected earlier. Treatments would be more effective. More people would get better faster. Lives would be saved.

We need to be able to flip a switch as if to turn on a light that allows us to look inside the brain and make informed diagnoses based on empirical data. A PET/MRI brain imaging unit will allow us to do that. We need the latest in technology here at The Royal to realize our potential and create real impact.

We have the ability to do this, but we need your help.

Simply stated – these things cost money. And that is why we are asking you to become our partner in ensuring a better tomorrow, with better results.



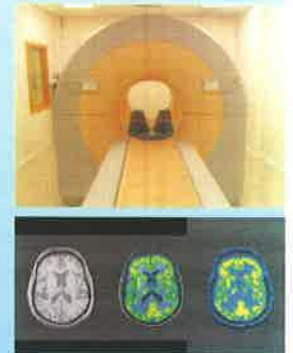
Dr. Pierre Blier  
Canada Research Chair  
in Psychopharmacology



Dr. Georg Northoff  
Canada Research Chair in Mind,  
Brain Imaging and Neuroethics

**Supporting The Royal's Campaign for Mental Health will:**

- Allow us to purchase a custom built PET-MRI scanner — The only one of its kind in North America dedicated to mental health research and care
- Increase specialized Women's and Cultural Health programs
- Expand our reach and care through Telemedicine and web-based self-help programs
- Educate, inform and banish the stigma around mental illness through public advocacy programs
- Offer Fellowship grants to attract health care professionals to specialize and serve areas of greatest need
- Enable continued professional development among our staff through educational bursaries



According to the World Health Organization, depression is the greatest health burden on society today. But yet it receives less than 5% of research funding. **Does that make sense to you?** We are facing the prospect of an epidemic of mental illness that our system is not ready for.

We can get ahead of this. We need to get ahead of this. We're asking for you to become a leader for mental health today and support our campaign. You can make a difference.

**This is history worth making.**



DEPRESSION TAKES. WE NEED YOU TO GIVE.

## "I've been suffering since I was a child"

*I've had the best care, the best treatment, and I'm still sick.  
Am I the 33% who can't be cured? Is this my life?*

Rachel S. – Patient at The Royal

The field of mental health is the most complicated health challenge our society faces today. With every affected individual displaying symptoms that are unique to them, successful diagnoses and treatment rates are just too low.

Research is crucial if we are to find new treatments to help people like Rachel. It's time.



## Here's how The Royal will transform people's lives

### World-class Brain Imaging

By acquiring one of a few PET-MRI machines in the world, our neuroscientists will be able to increase their ability to identify the cause of a Mental Illness and define an effective treatment. This machine will be the only one of its kind in North America dedicated solely to mental health research and it will open the door to a new era of success in mental health care.

### Depression Research Centre

A Centre of Excellence dedicated to the discovery of new treatments for depression, and to understanding the links between depression and other illnesses.

## This is our vision for The Royal

Imagine a place where people suffering from depression and all forms of mental illness could go and get the best treatment in the world – treatment personalized to their condition, designed to get them better – faster, transforming their life, stopping their suffering.

**Dr. Zul Merall** CEO, Institute of Mental Health Research at The Royal

### A Revolution in Mental Health Research and Care

The PET-MRI brain imaging system is a holistic solution that will allow our research scientists to look at the brain at a molecular level, seeing in real-time how treatments are affecting the brain. It will give us a deeper understanding of why the brain isn't functioning properly, and lead to effective diagnoses and treatments.

It's a like a biopsy on a living brain – imagine the possibilities.

It's time.



Join Canada's leader in depression research and innovative mental health care.

Call, e-mail or visit us online:  
613 722-6521 ext. 7092 [foundation@theroyal.ca](mailto:foundation@theroyal.ca) [www.theroyal.ca](http://www.theroyal.ca)

Campaign for  
**MENTAL  
HEALTH**



## **WE CAN'T FIX WHAT WE CAN'T SEE**

**World-class brain imaging unlocks the deepest secrets of the living brain.**

**It's time to change the game in mental health research and care.**

Are you with us?

By supporting our Campaign for Mental Health, you are a part of a revolution in mental health research and patient care. We want to change the way we treat mental illness – where better research means better care.

Help us get more people better faster. Help us stop the suffering.

**Visit [www.theroyal.ca](http://www.theroyal.ca) and get involved**



Mental Health - Care & Research  
Santé mentale - Soins et recherche



**Our goals are simple and clear –**  
to get more people suffering from mental illness into recovery faster,  
and to transform the way major depression is treated.

### What it will take to succeed

GIFT AMOUNT	# REQUIRED	TOTAL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
\$5,000,000 or greater	1	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
\$2,500,000	2	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000
\$1,000,000	5	\$5,000,000	\$15,000,000
\$500,000	7	\$3,500,000	\$18,500,000
\$250,000	10	\$2,500,000	\$21,000,000
\$100,000	15	\$1,500,000	\$22,500,000
\$50,000	20	\$1,000,000	\$23,500,000
\$25,000	20	\$500,000	\$24,000,000
All levels	many	\$1,000,000	\$25,000,000

*Are you with us?*



## Our goals are simple and clear –

to get more people suffering from mental illness into recovery faster,  
and to transform the way major depression is treated.

### Campaign Case Overview

#### RESEARCH: \$18 M

At The Royal, we view depression research and the development of new, more impactful treatments as our primary goal. By establishing a Depression Research Centre we plan to transform the way we diagnose and treat depression by developing:

- new tools for the rapid and accurate diagnosis of depression (e.g. using brain scan or blood tests) to complement subjective interview-based methods
- customized treatments based on biology and genes
- treatments that work fast and reliably – current treatments work well only one third of the time
- a better understanding of how social or environmental factors interact with biological factors to impact vulnerability or resiliency

##### Philanthropy will support:

- Imaging Equipment & Infrastructure: State of the art brain Imaging equipment
- Creation of Depression Research Centre
- Chair in Suicide Research

#### EDUCATION: \$1.55 M

In a time of constantly evolving tools, techniques and protocols, any health care organization must prioritize education. Our goal is to make education a presumed feature of the work and care culture at our facilities while becoming the leading expert and educational resource to external agencies and the community.

##### Philanthropy will support:

- Professional Education Bursary - education support to build professional capacity
- Fellowship Funding - stipend support to attract and retain world-class fellows
- Community Engagement & Education:
  - Public Education Programs - workplace & community
  - Family Support Services

#### CARE: \$4.9 M

A number of key priority initiatives have been identified to help The Royal improve patient outcomes and ensure that our services continue to respond to the needs of our target population.

##### Philanthropy will support:

- Women's Mental Health Program - specialized care & research programs
- Cultural Psychiatry - improving the effects of culture on mental health, illness and recovery
- Information Technology in Psychiatry
- Telepsychiatry Program - equipment & human capital to expand care to rural and remote communities
- Web Based Mental Health - clinically sound interactive online self-help programs

#### ADVOCACY: \$550,000

We need to continue to promote The Royal's *You Know Who I Am* multimedia advocacy and awareness campaign. Daniel Alfredsson has helped to reduce stigma and heighten awareness of our cause and afforded us the opportunity to attract new Leaders for Mental Health. They included mental health survivors seeking help for the first time and openly telling their stories, business leaders getting involved in our cause and donors supporting us with their philanthropy. Philanthropy in this area will help attract matched in-kind media support.

##### Philanthropy will support:

- Web marketing / Social Networking
- Advertising & Media
- Awareness Events

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
 POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE  
 TO THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

File: 35-1

<b>E. Pigeau</b>	-	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>A. Stanfield</b>	-	<b>Vice-Chairman</b>
<b>M. Willis</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>J. Yeo</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>B. Weaver</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>R. Petten</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>W. Donner</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>W. Maxwell</b>	-	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>K. Therien</b>	-	<b>A/Secretary</b>

**GENERAL**

Since the Poppy and Remembrance Committee last met on 24 February 2014, the Members have conducted several electronic meetings and one teleconference. An inaugural meeting of the Poppy Communication Network (PCN) was also held on 14 January 2015. The next scheduled meeting of the Committee will be on 19 February 2015.

**SALES REPORT**  
**POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE MATERIAL**  
**DOMINION COMMAND**

i. Dominion Command sales of Poppy and Remembrance material from 2011 through 2014 were:

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
JANUARY	-6,713.79	-3,388.71	25,739.00	126.10
FEBRUARY	16,178.00	2,484.54	47.90	447.90
MARCH	91,449.55	979.10	6,656.07	6,572.90
APRIL	1,123.40	77,327.92	23,358.05	5,037.77
MAY	92,310.63	22,944.40	30,107.08	36,464.94
JUNE	153,728.05	146,193.67	141,680.90	203,904.72
JULY	217,367.62	285,317.22	194,131.36	55,623.55
AUGUST	693,018.40	300,849.39	42,435.49	208,307.94
SEPTEMBER	897,767.11	1,058,192.33	1,008,620.45	1,145,684.84
OCTOBER	683,072.49	1,047,836.37	909,189.42	1,045,977.48
NOVEMBER	677,594.32	405,314.56	717,655.10	460,591.04
DECEMBER	1,718.86	-1,610.08	172,250.90	193,519.43
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,518,614.64</b>	<b>3,342,440.71</b>	<b>3,271,871.72</b>	<b>3,362,258.61</b>
	(+13%)	(-5%)	(-2%)	(+3%)

ii. Individual Poppy and Wreath distribution quantities for 2011 through 2014 were:

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
Lapel Poppy, Box of 1000	18,684	17,433	16,439	16,846
Car / Window Poppy	23,715	24,871	20,377	20,940
Table Poppy	3,114	3,824	3,349	3,216
#8 Wreath	3,939	3,300	3,569	3,009
#14 Wreath	20,108	19,422	18,802	18,480
#20 Wreath	9,142	8,758	8,309	8,635
#24 Wreath	924	954	877	800
#26 Wreath	100	84	42	30
Poppy Spray	362	347	268	219
Grass Cross	8,950	8,071	8,233	7,713
White Cross	2,761	2,300	2,132	2,057

iii. 2014 was the first year of a 5 year contract with The Trico Group (TTG) to manufacture and distribute Poppies and Poppy Wreaths. Complaints over product quality and delivery delays were a small fraction of what they have been over the past several years. There were a few issues, but these were exceptions and were addressed by your supply department and TTG on a case by case basis. Several reports of poor quality wreath stands were reported and TTG has been very co-operative in correcting this problem. While it appears the problems incurred with manufacturing and fulfilment delays may be behind us, diligence will continue to be exercised to ensure TTG maintains their excellent service.

iv. During the 2014 Poppy Campaign, 4280 Rolls of 500 (2,140,000 individual) lapel Poppy stickers and 207,401 of the "LEST WE FORGET" bracelets were distributed.

v. Development of promotional materials to support the 2015 is well underway. To recognize the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of John McCrae's "In Flanders Fields" a tent card that branches can use during this year's campaign is being developed.

vi. As part of the 2014 Poppy Campaign programs such as the Wreaths for Parliamentarians, support for international embassies and consulates, support for international ceremonies and missions, National Ceremony wreaths, Poppy & Wreaths components to RCEL supported programs, were managed.

vii. 2014 saw many thousands of phone calls regarding where to obtain Poppies and wreaths handled. For the 2015 Poppy Campaign, a section of the Legion.ca web site will be devoted to "Where can I get a Poppy".



## **THE POPPY CAMPAIGN**

The annual Poppy Campaign continues to be the most important project of the Legion each year. Dominion Command is honoured to assist with the arrangements for the First Poppy Presentation to the Governor General which is the ceremonial launch of the campaign. The First Poppy Presentation for 2014 was held on October 21<sup>st</sup> to Governor General David Johnson. This presentation is followed by ceremonial launches in each of the Provincial Commands prior to the official start of the campaign on the last Friday in October which in 2014 was 31<sup>st</sup> October. National corporations pledged or renewed their support for the annual Poppy Campaign.

## **NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY**

The Legion is honoured to organize and direct this national ceremony on behalf of the People of Canada. In both 2013 and 2014, an estimated 40,000 spectators attended the Ceremony. The Silver Cross Mother for 2014/2015 is Mrs. Gisèle Michaud of Edmundson, NB.

The period of service for all National Silver Cross Mothers will extend from 1 November to 31 October of the following year.

## **REQUEST FOR SUPPORT**

A request for support was received from the Royal Canadian Artillery Heritage Campaign. This project was reviewed by the Poppy and Remembrance Committee which supported it. The project was also the subject of an "all-branch" mailing for information purposes. This is a national project and will be located in a very prominent site in Ottawa. DEC approved a donation of \$5,000 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund and an appropriate letter of appreciation was received from the Heritage Campaign.

## **POSTER AND LITERARY CONTESTS**

The Poster and Literary Contests are well supported by branches and Commands with over 100,000 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 three years and this has enabled the national results to be released before the end of March in these years. The Poster and Literary Contests Entry Forms have been revised to provide clearer direction in completing these forms, which are also available on line on our website.

## **2015 PILGRIMAGE OF REMEMBRANCE**

Planning for the 2015 Pilgrimage of Remembrance is continuing and will take our Pilgrims through France and Belgium and into the Netherlands, touring battlefields, paying their respects in cemeteries, and reflecting at memorials.

Paris will be used as the arrival and departure point for the Pilgrimage. Command Pilgrims have been selected and a series of recommendations will be prepared for consideration of this Committee for its February meeting including confirmation of the itinerary for Pilgrimage 2015 from 11 to 25 July, 2015. In view of the significance of 2015 in commemoration of various events in the Netherlands, the 2015 Pilgrimage will be revised to permit the appropriate commemoration at Bergen Op Zoom.

### **THE POPPY MANUAL**

The Poppy Manual is now only available by electronic means on our website at [www.legion.ca](http://www.legion.ca).

### **POPPY TRADEMARK**

Since the last meeting in February 2014, 22 requests for the use of the trademarked image of the Poppy have been considered. 15 were approved and 7 declined.

### **POPPY COMMUNICATION NETWORK**

The first teleconference of the Poppy Communication Network (PCN) was held on January 14<sup>th</sup> with members of the Poppy and Remembrance Committee and the Poppy Chairs from each Command. Items of interest concerning programs under Poppy and Remembrance were discussed. It was the general consensus that the PCN have quarterly meetings with the next one scheduled for 15 April. The suggestion was made that branches could communicate to the Poppy Chairs in their Commands to discuss issues for further discussion with the Poppy and Remembrance Committee as required.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW OF POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE PROGRAMS**

As directed by Convention 2014, a review of the 21 programs under the purview of the Poppy and Remembrance Committee was conducted. A report was produced and will be presented to DEC in February.

### **CONCLUSION**

In the absence of questions or discussion, I move acceptance of this report.

Ed Pigeau,  
Chairman, Poppy & Remembrance Committee

**ADDENDUM TO THE  
REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
POPPY & REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE TO  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
21 FEBRUARY 2015**

35-1

<b>Ed Pigeau</b>	-	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>Angus Stanfield</b>	-	<b>Vice Chairman</b>
<b>Mel Willis</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>John Yeo</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>Brian Weaver</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>Ross Petten</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>Wayne Donner</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>W. Maxwell</b>	-	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>K. Therien</b>	-	<b>A/Secretary</b>

**POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE**

The Poppy and Remembrance Committee met on 19 February 2015.

**PROGRAM REVIEW**

A review of the programs under the purview of the Poppy & Remembrance Committee was conducted. As a result of this review, the Committee is making the following recommendations for consideration by the Dominion Executive Council:

**RECOMMENDATION #1:** That the expenses for the Silver Cross Mother incurred during the Remembrance period be charged against the Dominion Poppy Fund on an annual basis.

**RECOMMENDATION #2:** That the actual annual administrative costs associated with Dominion Command personnel regarding the Poppy Program be reimbursed from the Dominion Poppy Fund.

**RECOMMENDATION #3:** That the Dominion Command Supply Department supply chain management costs associated with the Poppy campaign be recovered from the Dominion Poppy Fund on an annual basis.

**RECOMMENDATION #4:** That funding for Provincial Commands for bursaries be **reinstated** but with the requirement that Commands are to request such funding on the basis of need.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
MEMBERSHIP & OUTREACH COMMITTEE TO  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
FEBRUARY 21, 2015**

**File: 23-1**

<b>Tom Irvine</b>	–	<b>Co-Chairman</b>
<b>Dave Flannigan</b>	–	<b>Co-Chairman</b>
<b>Norm Shelton</b>	–	<b>Member</b>
<b>Frank Sullivan</b>	–	<b>Member</b>
<b>Harold Harper</b>	–	<b>Member</b>
<b>Gilles Painchaud</b>	–	<b>Member</b>
<b>Gordon Moore</b>	–	<b>Member</b>
<b>Scott Ferris</b>	–	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Bruce Poulin</b>	–	<b>Assistant Secretary</b>
<b>Leah O’Neill</b>	--	<b>Observer</b>
<b>Amanda Black</b>	--	<b>Observer</b>

**MEMEBRSHIP PROCESSING**

The final year end membership numbers by Command have been provided to all Provincial Secretaries as of February 10 and are attached as Appendix A. Below is presented the annual analysis of Legion membership for comparison purposes.

**ANALYSIS OF MEMBERSHIP 2003 – 2014**

Year	Renewals	New Members	Final Paid Membership	Members not Renewed	Deceased Members	Total Potential Renewals	Gain/(Loss) in Membership
2014	271,722	23,362	295,084	35,737	6,503	29,234	-12,375
2013	284,056	23,403	307,459	36,137	7,472	28,665	-12,734
2012	296,771	23,422	320,193	35,438	7,310	28,128	-12,016
2011	308,075	24,134	332,209	27,579	7,491	20,088	-10,936
2010	317,684	25,461	343,145	30,544	7,441	23,103	-5,083
2009	322,925	25,303	348,228	29,545	7,732	21,813	-11,974
2008	334,366	25,836	360,202	39,007	8,167	30,840	-13,165
2007	347,125	26,242	373,367	41,459	7,998	33,461	-15,217
2006	361,932	26,652	388,584	45,536	8,321	37,215	-16,884
2005	375,831	29,637	405,468	43,240	9,100	34,140	-10,603
2004	385,497	30,574	416,071	43,659	9,030	34,629	-13,085
2003	397,945	31,211	429,156	45,503	8,847	36,656	-14,292

The delay in processing membership recently resulted from several factors:

1. Following the two incidents involving CAF personnel being killed in October, an unusually large amount of membership renewals were received at Dominion Command in the week's leading up to and just after Remembrance Day.
2. Compounding the issue was losing a staff member who had a stroke. While we were able to replace this person relatively quickly, there was still a hiring and training process that had to be conducted.
3. Our membership processing system is cumbersome, labour intensive and in the past, the membership section has not been well led. There are too many internal stove pipes (individuals handling only one part of the overall process) which complicate the overall processing system.
4. Our membership system relies on volunteers at branches to do the processing and we encourage all processing to happen between the months of September and December (The Early Bird Campaign). This creates an influx of processing happening in a compressed period of time.

Within the Membership Department we have implemented new rules governing when employees can take leave (ensuring it is never during our busiest times), stricter rules for sick leave, and we have also implemented a departmental credo requiring employees to recognize and respect our members who are responsible for their employment. (Available on request.)

### **Update On Membership Processing System**

Stemming from the resolution passed at the Dominion Convention of 2014, and based on the challenges faced over and over again with membership processing, Dominion Command set about to investigate potential solutions for a new membership processing system. A full review of all functions was conducted within the department and a needs analysis document was created. More than eight companies were identified that could provide solutions and a request for information was sent to these companies. Based on their feedback three companies were shortlisted and asked to send in proposals. The three companies are Aptify, ASI Solutions, and InSite Systems.

These companies are making presentations to Dominion Command the week of February 16 and a recommendation will be forthcoming to DEC as part of the Feb 20 & 21 meetings.

### **TWO YEAR MEMBERSHIP DRIVE PLAN**

A two year event cycle has been drafted outlining a number of membership retention and recruitment activities. These events have been compiled based on feedback from branches as well as on the signature activities engaged in by the Legion. The plan follows the yearly calendar and consists of the following:

Month(s)	Activity
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Non-renewal mailer sent from Dominion Command</li><li>• Tool-kit developed and shared to all branches getting them engaged in contacting all non-renewed members.</li></ul>

March – June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One By One campaign with Caribbean cruise as grand prize</li> <li>• Dominion Command to provide in-branch promotional materials</li> </ul>
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canada Day promotion</li> <li>• Branches to host Canada Day activities and include membership drive as major part of this day</li> <li>• Dominion Command has various supplies available for activities</li> </ul>
August – December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Starting Early Bird Campaign one month earlier to spread out the period of time when members are renewing.</li> </ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many Commands have Legion Week activities – we will work to make this a national activity in 2015</li> </ul>
October – November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead up to Remembrance activities and launch of Poppy Campaign</li> <li>• It is anticipated for 2015 there will still be a very high level of appreciation for all things Remembrance</li> <li>• All branch need to embrace engaging in membership recruitment activities throughout this period. While we must not overshadow Remembrance and be respectful throughout, there are huge membership recruitment opportunities at this time of year.</li> </ul>

These activities will be supported by the creation of new printed materials for membership provided by Dominion Command – posters, welcome kits, brochures, etc. The national advertising campaign will also support the larger national activities such the new outreach Remembrance Campaign (between Legion Week in September and Remembrance Day). Social media and the Legion website will also support these activities as well as driving a strong part of our advocacy and awareness.

**ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE – JUNE 2014 TO FEBRUARY 2015**

- Discussions on development of new recruitment campaigns around Canada Day and Remembrance Week
- Creation of Two Year membership plan
- Assignment of each Committee member to work with two Commands to assist membership issues and reporting
- Approved recruitment initiative through Service Bureau letters to clients
- Creation of Town Hall Facebook concept and execution to come in 2015
- Letter of congratulations from Dominion President to members with more than 70 years service
- Discussion on including Ladies Auxiliary in Legion membership
- Development of recommendation to recognize Veterans

- Communications to membership on welcoming all visitors, Get the Grump Out of the Legion

## **RECOMMENDATION TO RECOGNIZE VETERANS WITHIN LEGION BRANCHES**

Following the ongoing receipt of complaints regarding Legion branches turning away Veterans visiting our branches, the Membership & Outreach Committee have drafted a motion to amend the Membership manual that would seek to develop a policy addressing such situations. The committee recommends inserting this new statement in the ELIGIBILITY section of the Membership manual just after the Citizenship requirements on page 9; that it be titled – Military Service Recognition.

The new policy would then appear as follows:

### **MILITARY SERVICE RECOGNITION**

Membership in the Legion is open to anyone who meets the eligibility requirements as stipulated in this manual. **There is no requirement for a person who wants to join the Legion to have military or RCMP service.** While The Royal Canadian Legion was formed by Veterans for Veterans, our members today come from a broad cross section of the Canadian public. At the core of their interest in joining the Legion is a desire to support Canada's Veterans and their families, our communities and our country.

It is important to restate the Legion's definition of a Veteran:

***A Veteran is any person who is serving or has honorably served in the Canadian Armed Forces, the Commonwealth or its wartime allies, or as a Regular Member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or as a Peace Officer in a Special Duty Area or on a Special Duty Operation, or who has served in the Merchant Navy or Ferry Command during wartime.***

Recognizing that it is the obligation of every Legion member to encourage all Veterans to join our ranks, it is recommended that any Veteran with a valid I.D. indicating their service to the Canadian Armed Forces or RCMP, and in accordance with the Legion's mandate to support all Veterans, be allowed to enter a Legion Branch as a welcomed guest.

For those Commands where Provincial Liquor laws require Legion branches to have guests signed in any member present in the branch will be able to sign in a Veteran, who possesses a valid I.D. Doing so will be a show of comradeship and welcome hospitality. We must all do our part to welcome all Veterans into our branches and ultimately encourage them to join the Legion.

Complaints in relation to this recommendation can be filed by any member of the Legion according to the Legion's General By-Laws, Article Three, specifically Section 304, subsections iii and v. By not welcoming Veterans with proper identification into any Legion branch we are breaking our obligation to the Legion to support all Veterans and may well be bringing the Legion into discredit within the Veteran community.

## **OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**

For 2015 the core of our outreach and advocacy activities will focus on pushing for the three recommendations we seek changed in the New Veterans Charter, as well as seeking action on the 14 recommendations of the ACVA Report. With an election looming for 2015, a great deal of our outreach will also focus on creating a position paper that will educate the major political parties on the advocacy positions of the Legion and our members' expectations for improvements to the care and benefits for Veterans and their families.

Highlights since last DEC report:

- 120 interviews received and completed by Dominion Command. (Tom Eagles, Scott, Bill and Bruce)
- 37 Media products distributed. The media products distributed in 2014 represents a 66% increase in the number of media products compared with 2013.

We move acceptance of this report.

David P. Flannigan  
Co-Chair Membership & Outreach

Tom Irvine  
Co-Chair Membership & Outreach



The Royal Canadian Legion  
Paid Membership Summary – Year End 2014

ANNEX "F" TO  
DEC MINUTES  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015

	<u>Prev Yr Voting</u>	<u>Current Voting</u>	<u>LF</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>AS</u>	<u>AV</u>	<u>ML</u>	<u>AN</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Prev YR Total</u>	<u>%</u>
<b>Provincial Commands</b>											
01 - BRITISH COLUMBIA/YUKON	55,361	53,512	1,261	14,501	22,476	15,274	7	275	53,794	55,665	96.64
02 - ALBERTA/NWT	43,740	41,930	1,312	9,461	20,008	11,149	3	183	42,116	43,944	95.84
03 - SASKATCHEWAN	11,575	11,126	734	2,417	6,508	1,467	2	58	11,186	11,646	96.05
04 - MANITOBA/NWO	25,114	24,212	677	4,405	14,616	4,514	10	101	24,323	25,232	96.40
05 – ONTARIO	115,770	110,377	3,200	26,338	60,725	20,114	19	256	110,653	116,062	95.34
06 - QUEBEC	13,817	13,291	447	4,119	5,473	3,252	7	156	13,454	13,991	96.16
07 - NEW BRUNSWICK	9,174	8,793	528	3,579	3,864	822	0	33	8,826	9,215	95.78
08 - NOVA SCOTIA/NUNAVUT	22,802	21,631	1,156	6,382	10,307	3,786	3	148	21,782	22,987	94.76
09 - PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	2,085	2,082	184	653	1,040	205	0	17	2,099	2,101	99.90
10 - NEWFOUNDLAND/LABRADOR	4,284	4,225	301	1,384	2,097	443	6	12	4,243	4,301	98.65
<b>Provincial Commands</b>	<b>303,722</b>	<b>291,179</b>	<b>9,800</b>	<b>73,239</b>	<b>147,114</b>	<b>61,026</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>1,239</b>	<b>292,476</b>	<b>305,144</b>	<b>95.85</b>
<b>Dominion Command Branches</b>											
	874										
13 - DOMINION COMMAND		1,333	11	716	334	272	0	11	1,344	888	151.35
16 - RETIRED MILITARY MEMBER AT LARGE	459	315	0	315	0	0	0	0	315	459	68.63
<b>Dominion Command Branches</b>	<b>1,333</b>	<b>1,648</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>1,347</b>	<b>123.16</b>

US

The Royal Canadian Legion  
Paid Membership Summary – Year End 2014

ANNEX "F" TO  
DEC MINUTES  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015

	<u>Prev Yr</u> <u>Voting</u>	<u>Current</u> <u>Voting</u>	<u>LF</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>AS</u>	<u>AV</u>	<u>ML</u>	<u>AN</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Prev YR</u> <u>Total</u>	<u>%</u>
17 - EASTERN US ZONE	472	453	49	169	152	83	3	0	456	475	96.00
	200										
18 - WESTERN US ZONE		192	20	95	60	17	0	0	192	201	95.52
<b>US</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>95.86</b>
<b>Europe</b>											
	292										
19 - EUROPE ZONE		301	9	154	54	84	0	0	301	292	103.08
<b>Europe</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>103.08</b>
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>306,019</b>	<b>293,773</b>	<b>9,889</b>	<b>74,688</b>	<b>147,714</b>	<b>61,482</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>1,250</b>	<b>295,084</b>	<b>307,459</b>	<b>95.98</b>

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
SPORTS COMMITTEE  
TO THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

42-2

<b>A. Paquette</b>	-	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>S. Wessel</b>	-	<b>Vice-Chairman</b>
<b>M. Wells</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>L. Washburn</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>D. Kidd</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>J. Ladouceur</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>C. Paul</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>D. Martin</b>	-	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>A. Keeling Colkitt</b>	-	<b>Asst Secretary</b>

**GENERAL**

This report covers the period from 13 September 2014 to 20 February 2015. The Committee last met on 14 September 2014 with minutes distributed to DEC on 24 September 2014.

**2015 NATIONAL YOUTH TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Ste Therese, QC will host the 2015 Legion Nationals on 6 – 11 August 2015. The initial site visit occurred on 23-26 Oct 14 and was considered very successful – preparations are well under way. A second site visit is scheduled for 16-18 Apr 15.

**2015 MEMBER SPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Information packages were sent out to the provincial command offices in early February. As a reminder the following lists the events, locations and timings for 2015:

- Curling:** 14-19 March 2015  
Hosted by: – Branch #122 Birch Hills, SK
- Cribbage:** 24 - 27 April 2015  
Hosted by Branch #281 Spruce Grove, AB
- Darts:** 1 - 4 May 2015  
Hosted by: Branch # 6 Surrey, BC
- Eight Ball:** 29 May-1 June 2015  
Hosted by: Branch #1 Calgary, AB

## **DEC RECOMMEDATIONS - MEMBER SPORTS**

The Sports Committee sat on 14 Sep 14 to review the Legion sports programs with a view to cost savings while maintaining a fair and equitable program. As per the minutes of this meeting the discussions focused on Member Sports with a consensus reached based on the following principle that Member Sports at a national level are important to the Legion as a whole. A second review of the motions presented was conducted by the Budget Committee during their in-house meeting on 21 Nov – all were supported.

Based on this preliminary work the following motions were sent on 26 Nov14 for DEC vote (electronically via e-mail). The motions and results were as follows:

- a. **MOTION**: That Member Sports continue on a two year cycle beginning in 2015 with Eight ball and Darts to be staged in odd years and Curling and Cribbage in even years. **DEFEATED**
- b. **MOTION**: That travel costs for members attending be limited to a maximum of \$700 (or less) per member with the exception of remote areas which will realize increased funding on an as need basis. **CARRIED**
- c. **MOTION**: That the hosting restriction of rotating between the three geographical areas be removed and the process of soliciting branches to host be opened up to any branch within Canada. **CARRIED**
- d. **MOTION**: That in 2016 Dominion Command will financially support curling for the six participating commands and allow up to six more Legion teams to enter from any command including ONT, QUE, ALTA-NWT and NB. The independent teams will be selected on a first come first serve basis and will be responsible for their own travel expenses. **CARRIED**

Based on the results of these motions the following actions have been conducted:

- All member sports will be conducted in 2015 – hosting information was sent to all four affected branches.
- An all-branch was sent out electronically to solicit 2016 hosting opportunities for all member sports regardless of location. This includes curling in non-participating provincial commands.
- An all branch was sent out electronically soliciting participation in 2015 Dominion Curling for Legion teams not selected by their provincial command.

## **MEMBER SPORTS DRESS CODE**

There have been situations at the national championships where participants during play were dressed in a manner that was considered below that of an acceptable standard. Based on expectations from the committee and related dress codes in similar national events conducted outside the Legion's control it was felt that a national code of dress for Legion national tournaments should be established.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That a mandatory dress code be established for national member sports to include as a minimum collared shirts, slacks and closed shoes.

## **2016 MEMBER SPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Applications to host the 2016 Dominion Member Sports Championships were due from the Western Region to Dominion Command by 31 Aug 14. Several submissions were received but were not considered by the committee at the Sep 14 meeting pending the results of the recommendations (i.e. motions) as listed above. Submissions to host based on returns from the new all-branch will be reviewed and considered by the Dominion Command Sports Committee at its Sep 2015 meeting.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Sports Committee's next meeting is scheduled for 14 Sep 2014.

I move acceptance of this report as presented.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
RITUAL AND AWARDS COMMITTEE  
TO THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

<b>R Goebel</b>	-	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>K. Sorrenti</b>	-	<b>Vice-Chairman</b>
<b>B. Kiley</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>M. Latimer</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>C. Gendron</b>	-	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>R. Mandy</b>	-	<b>Assistant Secretary</b>

**COMMITTEE ACTIVITY**

The Ritual and Awards Committee last reported to DEC on 13 September 2014. The Committee has met three times at Dominion House, and twice by teleconference since then. Applications for major awards are reviewed in a timely manner and all matters pertaining to Ritual and Insignia are attended to. There is no backlog of applications.

**REVIEW OF PROGRAMS AND BUDGET**

Through the 2015 budget process, a request was made by our Dominion President for all committees to engage in an extensive program review. Although there were no real programs for which our Committee required inclusion in a program budget, there are programs that our Committee is involved in that we felt required mention. With this in mind, our Committee completed and submitted a complete review of our various initiatives and programs to our Dominion President.

**COMMEMORATIVE LAPEL PIN**

At the Pre-Convention D.E.C. meeting held in Edmonton in June, 2014, approval was given authorizing the wearing of the "We Support Our Troops" lapel pin on Legion Dress indefinitely. This motion received approval with the intent that we as a Legion will always support our troops. At our most recent September D.E.C. meeting, approval was also given for striking a WW1 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative lapel pin for wear on Legion Dress between November 1, 2015 and November 30, 2016. Section 105d of our Ritual, Awards and Protocol manual does not limit the wearing of only one authorized commemorative or celebratory pin on the right lapel of the Legion blazer.

**Recommendation:** With various WW1 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative events taking place between 2014 and 2018, the Committee recommends that a Commemorative lapel pin for this historical event be permitted to be worn on Legion Dress between November 1, 2015 and November 30, 2016. Such a lapel pin would be permitted to be worn along with the current "We Support Our Troops" lapel pin for this one year period when we as a Legion show our support in commemorating this historical military event in

Canadian history. The time frame would also allow this pin to be worn over two Remembrance periods.

### **90<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY MEDAL**

In 2016 The Legion will commemorate the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a Veterans and Community Service Organization. Due to the aging of our Veterans and membership, unfortunately many of our dedicated and committed members may not be with us for our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. With this in mind, our Committee introduced a 90<sup>th</sup> RCL Anniversary Commemorative Medal for wear on Legion Dress at our most recent D.E.C. meeting in September which received the approval of D.E.C. This Commemorative Medal depicts the Legion Colours as well as the Royal Newfoundland Regiment Colours, to tie in with the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Beaumont-Hamel. The medal has since been made available for sale to all members of The Legion through our Supply Department for wear on Legion Dress in June of 2015.

### **R.A.P. MANUAL**

Since we no longer have hard copy manuals available to Branches through our Supply Department, it necessitates a minor change to be made to the wording of our Initiation Ceremony for new members as found in Chapter 4 of our Ritual, Awards and Protocol manual. Currently, in Section 405 of our manual, once the Presiding Officer has conducted the Ceremony it is stated that "It gives me much pleasure to extend the right hand of comradeship and to present you with your Legion badge **and a copy of the General By-Laws of the Royal Canadian Legion**".

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the wording of the Initiation Ceremony following the explanation of the Legion Emblems in Section 405 of the Ritual, Awards and Protocol manual be changed to read as follows:

"It gives me great pleasure to extend the right hand of comradeship and to present you with your Legion badge. Membership in The Royal Canadian Legion is governed by General By-Laws. This manual along with other manuals may be found on the Legion website at [www.legion.ca](http://www.legion.ca) "

### **COMMITTEE WEBSITE LINK**

The Committee continues to review the information posted on the Ritual and Awards Legion website section. The Committee continues to work on a plan for the development of a standard PowerPoint style seminar presentation for Ritual, Awards Protocol and Ceremonial Events. This seminar will serve to assist Commands, Zones, Districts and Branches in promoting awareness at all levels regarding the proper use of the Legion Ritual, Awards and Protocol system.

## **HONOUR ROLL**

A new initiative was introduced by our Committee at our 2014 Dominion Convention that received full support. This initiative involved the production of an Honour Roll similar to the ones currently located in Legion Branches, Government buildings, schools, libraries and churches in communities across Canada.

These current Honour Rolls honour those who served in WW1, WW11 and Korea. The new Honour Roll is to include the names of Canadian Armed Forces, R.C.M.P., Civilian Police and Firefighters, as well as other civilians who served in an operational theatre in one of the recognized UN/NATO Peacekeeping/Military missions since 1953 in which Canada participated.

## **HONOURS AND AWARDS APPLICATIONS - 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2014**

<b>AWARD</b>	<b>APPROVED</b>	<b>RETURNED</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Palm Leaf - MSM	18	6	24
Palm Leaf - MSA	3	0	3
MSM	40	45	85
MSA	4	3	7
Media Award	0	0	<b>0</b>
Friendship Award	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Reviewed</b>	65	54	119

**Recommendation:** That the approved Honour Roll be made available for sale to our Branches through our Supply Department. It is further recommended that a concentrated marketing program be put in place through our Legion website and all-branch mailings to promote this program. This is to include the criteria for having names placed on these Honour Rolls.

## **CONCLUSION**

I ask that a Voting DEC member move adoption of this report.



## **Membership Form And General By-Law Recommendation**

At our D.E.C. meeting in February of 2014, discussion took place in regards to the Declaration given by new members during the Initiation Ceremony process. This discussion centred around what was actually in the Ritual and Awards Manual and what was contained in the Membership Application Form.

On the application form that all applicants must complete, it states that "I hereby solemnly declare that I am not a member of, nor affiliated with, any group party or sect whose interests conflict with the avowed purposes of the Legion, and I am not a communist, fascist or anarchist, and do not, and will not, support any organization advocating the overthrow of our government by force, or which advocates, encourages or participates in subversive action or propaganda."

Section 202 of our General By-Laws also states "No anarchist, communist or fascist shall be permitted to become a member, nor shall any 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, be permitted to become a member."

Our Ritual, Awards and Protocol manual does not include the wording of "communist, fascist or anarchist" in the Initiation Ceremony member declaration. I would like to therefore make the following recommendation.

**Recommendation:** That the wording "**and I am not a communist, fascist or anarchist**" be eliminated from the membership application form and that the wording "**no anarchist, communist or fascist shall be permitted to become a member, nor shall**" be eliminated from the General By-Laws Section 202.

## **90<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY MEDAL**

At our most recent D.E.C. meeting held in September of 2014, it was moved that a 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Medal be struck for wear on Legion dress. It was further recommended that such a medal would be made available for wear on Legion dress in June of 2015 and available for sale in Branches through our Supply Department in early 2015. The medal would be made available for sale to all members of the Legion. This recommendation received unanimous approval from D.E.C.

Since that time and through the issuance of this Commemorative Medal, queries have been received from the members of our Ladies Auxiliary in regards to the medal being available for sale to their members and if the medal could be worn on their uniform.

Legion Dress is regulated in Chapter 1 of our Ritual, Awards and Protocol Manual. This includes the wearing of Accoutrements, Service Orders, Decorations and Medals, including Legion Medals, on Legion Dress. In this same chapter under Sections 132 we address the wearing of medals on Ladies Auxiliary uniforms. In Section 133 of the manual it states that Legion medals are not to be worn on the L. A. uniform. In being consistent in following the rules and regulations contained within our Legion manuals, our Committee followed the ruling in Section 133 in regards to our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Medal.

As members of the Royal Canadian Legion, we all have the highest regard for members of our Ladies Auxiliaries and for all the good work that they do in assisting our Branches. It is with this in mind that we make the following recommendation:

**Recommendation:** To better recognize the work of the members of our Ladies Auxiliary, it is recommended that Section 133 of the Ritual, Awards and Protocol manual be changed to read as follows: "Legion medals, other than Anniversary Commemorative medals, shall not be worn on the Ladies Auxiliary uniform."

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
CONSTITUTION AND LAWS COMMITTEE  
TO THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**File: 17-2**

**J. Rycroft - Chairman**  
**D. Eaton - Vice-Chairman**  
**J. Frost - Member**  
**G. O'Dair - Member**  
**S. Clark - Secretary**  
**D. Martin - Assistant Secretary**

**GENERAL**

The Committee met last by teleconference on 9 January 2015. Members continue to review and respond to Constitution and Laws questions by email and telephone as necessary.

**PROPOSED BY-LAW AMENDMENT – GBL 110.b.**

Branch members, executive or otherwise are reportedly using the branch membership email system to air grievances against individual members, the branch itself or for other personal purposes. Therefore, the following recommendation is brought forward for DEC consideration and approval:

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the following be added as subsection 110.b:

110.b The use of a member's private contact information is restricted to conducting the administrative affairs of the branch or Command.

**PROPOSED BY-LAW AMENDMENT – GBL 111.d.**

Following DEC direction to find a workable solution to remove a person for cause from an appointed position, the following recommendation is brought forward for DEC consideration and approval:

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the following be added as subsection 111.d:

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 the same manner as if the removal was a disposition of removal from office or position held as a result of a complaint hearing. The appeal committee may either confirm the removal or direct reinstatement.

## **ZONES OUTSIDE CANADA**

Ambiguity exists between the function of Zones operating outside Canada and the administrative purpose of a Zone within Canada. This item will be presented for discussion and clarification.

## **ELECTRONIC VOTING**

The Committee reviewed on-line electronic voting procedures. In order to allow for a freer and unfettered discussion on issues that go to an electronic vote, the following guidelines are brought forward for DEC consideration and approval:

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that:

- i. the Rules of Procedures manual contain the basics for electronic voting;
- ii. the vote is conducted under the care and control of the Chairman;
- iii. vote date and timings in reference to deadlines and discussion are set before the vote and adhered to;
- iv. the quorum requirement is stated beforehand;
- v. time for discussion needs to be set aside prior to the vote and no vote is cast until the set time for discussion has ended; and
- vi. the results of each member's vote is to be published with the results of the vote.

## **2014 CONVENTION RESOLUTION ON ELECTIONS - ALTA-NWT 16**

A Dominion Convention Resolution on elections (ALTA-NWT 16) was passed at Dominion Convention. While the intent of the resolution was to achieve consistency in voting across Commands and branches, differing opinions exist on how to achieve this.

- To achieve the objective, GBL section 515 would be deleted, thereby taking away the power of Provincial Commands to govern proxy voting. To not do so, any change would not apply to all members but rather be subject to whatever decision on proxy voting each Provincial Command made;
- Advance polls and proxy voting are inconsistent concepts. Consequently, for a standard provision for all branches in Canada such that election voting

procedures are the same for every member (not just those attending the meeting), an enabling provision in the GBL is required;

- The resolution is viewed as being impossible to achieve in practice. For example, every member cannot be given a vote, whether they are at the meeting or not, for drop down positions without proxy voting. This would mean eliminating advance polls which now exist in many branches and imposing a proxy system which would be complex, convoluted and time-consuming to the extent that it would, in the opinion of the committee, thwart any workable election process for many branches.

Based on the preceding, the Dominion President exercised his powers under section 417 of The General By-Laws and suspended the implementation of resolution ALTA-NWT 16 (attached).

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that DEC vote in accordance with GBL 417 to ratify the action of the Dominion President.

Note: A two thirds majority vote is required to pass the motion.

I would ask a member of DEC to move approval of this report.

## ZONES OUTSIDE CANADA

Ambiguity exists between the function of Zones operating outside Canada and the administrative purpose of a Zone within Canada.

For example:

Reference	Comment / Question
GBL 101.i. ZONE means the branches/posts in a specified area within a command formed by that command into a unit for administrative purposes.	No exception is made for outside Canada zones and it is not specified that Dominion Command is the Command for outside Canada zone purposes.
GBL 705. All zones constituted in the United States of America and Europe shall be governed by these By-Laws as they relate to Provincial Commands in Canada, and may pass By-Laws consistent with these By-Laws.	

How the By-Laws relate to Provincial Commands in Canada:

Reference	Comment / Question
GBL 601. Each branch shall be under the discipline of its Provincial Command.	<p>In reality, outside Canada zones are under Dominion Command but where do we authorize that?</p> <p>Where are complaints against outside Canada Branch/Post Presidents lodged?</p> <p>Has Dominion Command or the Zone been handling them?</p> <p>Do outside Canada Zone Commanders think they can exercise GBL 505 powers, for example? Do we want them to be able to?</p>

Reference	Comment / Question
GBL 107.c. In areas outside the territorial jurisdiction of any Provincial Command, the responsibility for organizing branches rests with Dominion Command.	That is a responsibility for "organizing" but "controlling" remains unspecified.
GBL 604. Branch by-laws shall not become effective until approved by the provincial command having jurisdiction over the branch.	This is just one example: Is every reference to Provincial Command in Article VI to be taken to mean Dominion Command in the case of outside Canada Zones? If that is the case, don't we have to say so in the GBLs?
GBL 703.c. Branches/posts shall be governed by these By-Laws in the same manner as branches in Canada.	

The above are just some examples. We may think we know how it all goes together but we don't seem to have nailed down the concepts for the way things really operate and many of our senior people don't necessarily have the same view of what it all means.

It is suggested that it is time for DEC to become aware of the situation and decide to entrench the status quo which seems to be zones with quasi command status and to make the appropriate changes to the GBLs to reflect this: perhaps call the outside Canada zones something else to avoid confusion; decide how many Command-like functions the "zones" would have; or relegate them to administrative bodies like they are in Canada.

Reference	Comment / Question
GBL 507. A Provincial Command, for purposes of administration, may group branches in a specified area within the command into a unit to be known as a Zone, and provide for the election of a presiding officer to be known as Zone Commander, and for the election or appointment of other officers and a Zone Council or Zone Committee.	

Reference	Comment / Question
GBL 509.a. Provincial Commands are solely responsible for the administration of Zones and Districts within their jurisdiction (i.e. meetings, voting rights, eligibility for election, property rights, per capita taxes, etc.).	
GBL 509.b. Conversely, Zones and Districts shall operate only as administrative agents of the Provincial Command.	

Questions:

1. Does DEC want zones to have full, limited or no Provincial Command powers? If limited, to what extent:
  - Authority for conducting complaint hearings for complaints against outside Canada Branch/Post Presidents?
  - Any or all GBL 505/418 powers?
2. If zones are to have no Command powers, then does not Dominion Command have to be specified to act where the GBL reference is to provincial commands as it relates to outside Canada zones?



## RESOLUTION FOR SUBMISSION TO DOMINION CONVENTION

2014

COMMAND	BRANCH
ALBERTA-NORTHWEST TERRITORIES	

**SUBJECT: Elections**

**DOMINION COMMAND NO: ALTA-NWT 16**

**WHEREAS** section 6. b. of the *Rules of Procedure For Legion Meetings* contradicts the fundamentals of a democratic society in matters respecting the conduct of elections by not ensuring that each member has the opportunity to cast a ballot for each candidate, particularly in the case of advance polling, e.g., a Vice-President who has dropped down to the next level having not been successful at the first level nominated;

**WHEREAS** section 1303 of *The General By-Laws* respecting Matters of Procedure states in part "In all matters of procedure not provided for in the By-Laws of any command or branch, the provisions of the Legion's "Rules of Procedure for Legion Meetings" shall apply..."; and

**WHEREAS** the fundamentals of a democratic society include competitive elections that are fair both substantively and procedurally and each vote has an equal weight, each citizen an equal opportunity to vote and each candidate has an equal right to support from those who chose to vote for him:

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The Royal Canadian Legion replace section 6. b. of the *Rules of Procedure for Legion Meetings* with wording that ensures that all Branches in all Commands conduct their elections in the same manner thus ensuring consistency in the conduct of an election and that each member has an opportunity to cast a ballot and that each candidate has an equal opportunity to receive support after having dropped to a lower level.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
RCEL COMMITTEE  
TO THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**RCL: 26-2-4  
26-2-5**

<b>T. Eagles</b>	- <b>Chairman</b>
<b>G. Moore</b>	- <b>Vice Chairman</b>
<b>D. Flannigan</b>	- <b>Member</b>
<b>B. White</b>	- <b>Secretary</b>
<b>G. Foster</b>	- <b>Assistant Secretary</b>

### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The RCL RCEL Committee met on 8 November 2014 to discuss the needs of the Commonwealth veterans and widows in the Caribbean as part of our accepted mandate. In all, 16 countries are supported with the recent additions of Antigua and Barbuda and Bermuda. A total of 113 veterans and 110 widows are being supported and this year's budget is set at ~\$240K with ~\$350K remaining for contingency funds. Donations from branches and individuals continue to be received on a daily/weekly basis at Dominion Command.

### **BELIZE**

Governance issues continue to plague the Belize Legion with a legal challenge before the courts. At this point the current executive and secretary have been relieved of duties although the secretary continues to act as an administrator. Grants to Belize have been withheld until the situation gets resolved and there is a reestablishment of an executive and administrative system.

### **BERMUDA**

As previously noted Bermuda has been granted provisional status in the RCEL. With full status expected to be ratified at the RCEL conference in 2016. To fully assess the benevolent needs in Bermuda, it was planned to visit the island as part of the January liaison visit but due to the hurricane last fall, Bermuda was not visited.

### **TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

The RCL and RCEL were successful in mandating an annual general meeting for the T&T Legion this past December. There have been outstanding governance issues for quite some time but these seem to be resolved with a totally new executive being elected. The new executive is in the stages of completely revamping the organization and it appears that the outgoing executive has left with much of the documentation and files. At the current time both the RCL and RCEL are providing assistance to get the

new organization moving. We are also withholding any grant monies until they are prepared to administer and account for them.

## **LIAISON VISIT**

As mentioned in the last report to DEC, the Dominion President has directed that RCEL liaison visits to the Caribbean will be conducted every second year offset from the Dominion Convention year. In January, the Dominion President and Secretary visited Dominica, Antigua and Barbuda and Bahamas during the period 10 – 18 January 2015.

### **Dominica**

11 January was a full day of travel commencing with an early morning departure from Toronto directly to Antigua. After a three hour layover in Antigua the journey continued with a local LIAT flight to Dominica via Guadeloupe. Arriving at night and after being met in by Mr. Pascal and Mr. Paquet at the airport the trek over the centre of the island mountain range and through the rainforest we finally arrived at Roseau at about 2100 hours. The Fort Young Hotel in Roseau was used for accommodations throughout.

The morning of the 12<sup>th</sup> commenced with a courtesy call on His Excellency Charles Savarin, President of the Commonwealth of Dominica. His Excellency is a strong supporter of the Legion, is their Patron and participates in the First Poppy Presentation and Remembrance services. Immediately following this we visited Mr. Cymbert Angol who is the only surviving veteran in the country. Mr. Angol was active in the Legion executive but is now mostly blind but at 90 years old he still possesses a sharp mind. The remainder of the day saw the team visit four of the nine widows who resided in the Roseau area. Those visited were: Mrs. Irma Julien who lost her husband and son last year; Mrs. Patricia Benjamin who is experiencing mild dementia, Mrs. Decima Rolle and Mrs. Monica Barber. It was not possible to visit the remainder of the widows.

On 13 January, we visited the local Legion HQ and discussed issues then it was off to the airport to await a flight to Antigua.

### **Antigua and Barbuda**

This was the first visit to Antigua as they are being reconstituted within the RCEL. The Antigua and Barbuda Ex Servicemen's Association is led by recent retirees from both the British Forces and the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force. They are ably led and well organized.

We arrived late in the afternoon of 13 January and were met by the members of the executive at the airport as we entered into the immigration area. They ensured a smooth and expedited passage through this area. We then went to our arranged hotel, the Wind Chimes Inn, which was located at the end of the runway. Although a very clean and modest establishment it did not have a dining area and is located away from the main parts of town. Staff were very attentive and friendly. Alternate

accommodations should be considered for future visits.

On 14 January a courtesy call was made on the Sir Rodney Williams GCMG, the Governor-General of Antigua and Barbuda in the morning. This was the first call made by the Association on the Governor General who agreed to become their Patron and to be involved in projects of commemoration and Remembrance activities. The Association presented the GG with a plan to refurbish the national monument which stands in the centre of St. John's. Following the visit to the GG, we walked to the monument and saw first-hand that work required to refurbish the site.

The remainder of the day was spent visiting all of the Commonwealth veterans and widows. One veteran, Mr. Potter died on the Monday preceding our visit. Five Commonwealth veterans were visited: Mr. Appleton, 89 years old; Mr. Halliday, 94 years old and lives in a care facility; Mr. Hesky who lives by himself and has a son who plays in the UK professional soccer leagues; Mr. Hurst who has dementia and is taken care of by his daughter; and Mr. Peters, 94 years old. Mrs. Potter the widow of recently deceased veteran Alfred Potter was visited and the only other widow, Mrs. Martin accompanied us on the visits and she is very active in fund raising for the Association.

Other veterans and widows of the post-independence defence force were visited. These veterans are being taken care of by the Association through its fund raising efforts. Visited veterans were: Mr. Zachariah, 94 years old; Mr. Parker and Mr. Smith, a medic who lives in a shack with no electricity or running water and disposes of his used adult diapers on the floor. One widow, Mrs. Peters also lives in a shack where collected water in a rain barrel serves as her water supply. To make an honest assessment, the Commonwealth veterans were in better condition physically than their post-independence counterparts.

15 January commenced with a visit to the CDS of the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force, Colonel Sir Trevor Thomas. Colonel Thomas was trained in Canada for his formative years and did all his infantry training in Gaagetown NB. He is a strong supporter of the Association and pledged his support to the veterans and to assist in assessing their living conditions. We then paid a courtesy call on the Prime Minister, Mr. Gaston Browne who promised his full support to the Association. Following that discussions were held at Leah's House which will become the new residence of the Association and is located adjacent to the parliament. This facility will greatly assist the organization to locate all their files and administrative needs. The house is currently undergoing major renovations and should be ready for full occupancy by the summer. Later that afternoon it was back to the airport for the flights to Nassau Bahamas.

## **Nassau Bahamas**

We arrived in Bahamas at 2230 hours on 15 January after transiting through Miami Florida. The trek through immigration at Miami took close to 2.5 hours. Accommodations were booked through the local Legion at discount prices in the downtown Hilton Hotel.

The morning of 16 January commenced with a courtesy call on Her Excellency, Dame Marguerite Pindling, GCMG and Governor General of Bahamas. She is the Patron of the Bahamas Legion and is well known and actively supports the Legion.

The remainder of the morning was used to conduct a verification of veterans and widows at a meeting hall in one of the main churches in Nassau. Only those who were mobile were able to attend. Following the verification process we visited the renovated office of the Bahamas Legion as well as the veterans' cemetery which is in need of upkeep.

We were asked if there were any alternatives to stick pin poppies as young school children were sticking each other with the pins. On return we included two rolls of poppy stickers in each shipment headed down to the Caribbean and wait to see how well they are received.

On 17 January we spent the day visiting those veterans and widows who were not able to attend the verification process at the church. In total all veterans and widows living on the island of Nassau were visited which included 20 of the 23 veterans and 26 of the 29 widows. The overall standard of living in Bahamas is greater than on the other islands but is also costly as most goods have to be imported from the US.

The Bahamas Legion is well administered by Active Reservist Ms. Adina Munroe who is paid by the Bahamas Defence Force to administer and look after the veterans. While we have had past issues with determining the basis of need, the increased numbers of veterans and widows has been caused by an aggressive outreach campaign through the Defence Force to locate and look after veterans.

We returned home on the 18 of February.

Comrades, I move acceptance of my report.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
DOMINION CONVENTION COMMITTEE  
TO THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**File: 19-1**

<b>T. Eagles</b>	-	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>D. Flannigan</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>J. Frost</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>B. White</b>	-	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>S. Clark</b>	-	<b>Assistant Secretary</b>
<b>B. Maxwell</b>	-	<b>Assistant Secretary</b>

**46<sup>TH</sup> DOMINION CONVENTION, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR  
11-15 JUNE 2016**

Planning for this convention is well underway; the first meeting with the St. John's Local Arrangements Committee was held on 18 October 2014. The LAC Chairman, Comrade Berkley Lawrence, is supported by an excellent committee.

**CONVENTION FACILITY**

The Mile One arena was the planned location for all business sessions and the opening, installation and closing ceremonies; registration and exhibits would be in the St. John's Convention Centre (SJCC). Following the Convention Committee visit in October, it was determined that the expanded SJCC will have sufficient space to also hold the business sessions; contract revisions are possible and underway as both facilities are owned and controlled by the same company. Provincial Command caucus meetings will remain in the Delta St. John's, the command hotel.

**ACCOMMODATIONS**

The Command Hotel is the Delta St. John's. Other hotels contracted include the Extended Stay, Marriott Courtyard, Murray Premises, Quality Hotel, and Sheraton. Nightly room rates vary from \$150-279.

**CONVENTION CALL**

The Convention Call will be issued in December 2015.

## **REGISTRATION FEES**

The registration fee for delegates (\$50) has remained unchanged since at least the 1990's and the fee for observers (\$15) has remained unchanged since 2001. While these fees do not fully cover the cost of convention operations, they do offset these expenses. The following recommendations are brought forward for DEC consideration and approval:

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the convention delegate registration fee be increased to \$60 starting with the 2016 Dominion Convention.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the convention observer registration fee be increased to \$20 starting with the 2016 Dominion Convention.

## **EXHIBITORS**

The fee charged to companies and organizations for a booth in the exhibition area of the 45<sup>th</sup> Dominion Convention was \$750; a reduced rate was charged to individuals. This rate also included supplied power and table/chairs. Historical rates and years of change are:

1999: \$300 for companies / \$100 for individuals  
2001: \$600 for companies / \$200 for individuals  
2008: \$750 for companies / \$450 for individuals

The following recommendation is brought forward for DEC consideration and approval:

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the convention exhibitor fee be increased to \$800 for companies and \$500 for individuals starting with the 2016 Dominion Convention.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the convention exhibitor fee no longer include supplied power.

## **LOGO AND THEME**

A logo and theme for the Convention have been proposed and will be reported at a future meeting once confirmed.

## **KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

A keynote speaker addressed the delegates during each day of the 2014 Convention. The following recommendation is brought forward for DEC consideration and approval:

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that three keynote speakers be invited to address the 2016 Dominion Convention, one on each day of business.

## **WORKSHOPS**

The pre-convention workshops at the 2014 Dominion Convention were a tremendous success and will again be offered in 2016, with topics to be determined. Based on delegate feedback, one room with a capacity of 400 will be reserved for workshops with the presenters rotating rather than having the delegates change rooms for each workshop. The timings of the workshops will also be adjusted to better accommodate those registering.

## **BUDGET REVIEW**

The review of the Dominion Convention Committee and Convention Operations budgets identified a number of sources of potential savings or streamlining initiatives which will not impact convention operations. Sources of savings totaling \$46,917 (not including committee travel savings) are detailed in Annex A.

## **SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION**

Simultaneous interpretation (SI) is provided for all Business Sessions, Monday through Wednesday. This service is not well used, with only one person taking a receiver in 2012 and eight in 2014; these units can also be used for amplification so it is unknown if the translation service was used. The cost for SI is approximately \$12,000 for each convention; in 2014, it was \$7150 for technical set-up and the soundproof booth and \$5300 for the translators.

Delegates to the 2000 Dominion Convention recognized the high cost and historical low usage rate of this service and passed a resolution giving the convention planning committee discretion in determining the level of service to be provided. As the Committee Reports and Resolutions book (yellow book) is available in both English and French and presentations could also be translated and projected in both languages, consideration should be given as to the need for simultaneous interpretation.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Due to its high cost and historical low usage at Dominion Convention, it is recommended that simultaneous interpretation no longer be provided but all printed material be available and presentations projected in both official languages.

## **TIMING OF DOMINION CONVENTIONS**

According to meeting planning professionals, the most expensive month to hold a convention at any location in Canada is June, the height of the tourist season. The



least expensive time is spring (April) followed by late August (before Labour Day).

Delegates to the 2000 Dominion Convention concurred with changing the timeframe of Dominion Conventions to provide the best savings and authorized Dominion Command to implement this change as quickly as possible, with this new timeframe becoming the standard for all future Conventions. While locations have been selected for the next two conventions, no contracts have been signed with the convention facility or hotels.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the Dominion Convention Committee compare the cost savings to hold a Dominion Convention in late-August with a report and recommendation to follow to DEC that may affect conventions after the 2016 Dominion Convention.

### **FREQUENCY OF DOMINION CONVENTIONS**

With five exceptions in our history, Dominion Conventions have been held biennially. Section 7 of the Act to Incorporate and Section 901 of The General By-Laws specify a Dominion Convention will take place at least every two years but with the unanimous consent of all Provincial Commands, a three year interval could be permitted. The interval between conventions was considered by the Commission on Governance, Structure and Command Representation in their report to Convention in 2008; annual savings of \$83,500 could be realized. Again, while locations have been selected for the next two conventions, no contracts have been signed with the convention facility or hotels.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that Dominion Conventions be held on a three-year cycle commencing after the 2016 Dominion Convention.

### **FUTURE CONVENTION ACTIVITIES**

The following is a list of activities regarding future conventions:

- a. **2016 Convention, St. John's, NL, 11-15 June 2016:** Preparations are on-going.
- b. **2018 Convention, Winnipeg, MB, 16-20 June 2018:** No new developments.
- c. **2020 Convention, Saskatoon, SK, 13-17 June 2020 (Dates TBC):** No new developments.
- d. **2022 and 2024 Conventions:** Preliminary preparations are underway to identify potential locations in central and eastern Canada.

I move the acceptance of my report.

Annex A  
To the Report of the Dominion Convention Committee  
February 2015

**Dominion Convention Committee**

1	Initial fall LAC planning meeting, two years out	Dominion President, Dominion Secretary will not attend
2	Final April LAC planning meeting, year of convention	Dominion 1 <sup>st</sup> VP, Dominion Chairman, LAC Chairman for next convention will not attend

**Dominion Convention Arrangements – Food and Beverage**

3	Cancel fridge rental and daily glass/ice service for Dominion President, Grand President, Dominion 1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Fridge rental: 2 x \$500 Glass/ice: \$25/day/room	\$1000 \$ 600
4	Cancel purchase of alcohol to stock the suites of Dominion President, Grand President, Dominion 1 <sup>st</sup> VP		\$3400
5	Cancel concierge or club level floor rooms and lounge access for DEC and invited guests	For 2014, it was an extra \$15-30/room/day depending if spouse accompanied	\$5500
6	Thursday evening pre-convention meeting with LAC	Cancel coffee/tea/pop/juice	\$288
7	Dominion President reception	Reduce food and beverage menu. Offer cash bar with 1 complimentary drink ticket per guest. Seek sponsorship to reduce budget from \$20K to \$10K	\$10,000
8	Cancel Past President breakfast	Reduced cost in 2014 as all were on the breakfast plan	\$200
9	Cancel alcoholic drinks and food at pre-opening ceremony reception	Food (\$1260), Bar (\$710) Pop/coffee/tea/juice (\$291) Total: \$2261 Reduce budget to \$500	\$1761
10	Eliminate spouse's luncheon		\$753
11	Revise arrangements for scrutineers	Lunch and coffee/tea is provided. Total \$3859 for 3 days. Reduce budget to \$750/day	\$1609
12	Reduce food and cancel alcoholic drinks at pre-installation ceremony reception	Food (\$1000), Bar (\$217) Total: \$1217 Reduce budget to \$500	\$717
13	Cancel lunch in Dominion President's suite following post-convention DEC meeting	Provided for SEOs	\$592

14	Cancel daily coffee/tea/juice service in DC office	Guests, speakers and staff to purchase own from concessions	\$1122
15	Cancel daily coffee/tea service to LAC office	LAC to purchase own from concessions	\$650
16	Cancel backstage offerings for stage personnel	Currently offer coffee/tea/juice 4 times daily, pastries twice daily, lunch once daily.	\$2750

**Dominion Convention Operations – Furniture and Equipment**

17	Finance office safe	Cancel rental and purchase own	\$1500
18	Flowers	Use 2 presentation bouquets and one floral spray at podium only; eliminate remaining stage flowers. Reduce budget from \$1500 to \$300	\$1200
19	Cancel follow spot for opening ceremony	Eliminated in 2014	\$825
20	Cancel microphone in caucus rooms	Use house sound where available	\$460
21	Cancel funded power for exhibitor booths	Power is currently paid by DC. Cost is \$86/outlet; total \$3870	\$3870
22	Cancel 2 telephone lines in DC office	Use VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) telephones, DC cell phones	\$480
23	Cancel fax line in DC office	Use email only	\$240
24	Cancel 2 telephone lines in LAC office		\$480
25	Cancel 1 telephone line at registration	Use DC cell phones	\$240
26	Cancel 2 telephone lines at DC supply sales	Use DC cell phones	\$480
27	Cancel 1 telephone line in LAC sales		\$240
28	Cancel dedicated telephone line from stage to DC office	Rarely used. Use ClearCom only	\$240
29	Cancel counter-height tables for registration; use standard tables	Rented 8 tables	\$360
30	Cancel laptop kiosk for supply sales area		\$450
31	Cancel highback steno chairs for registration and supply		\$270
32	Cancel desks in registration; use draped tables	Rented 2 desks	\$590
33	Cancel workstations DC office; use draped tables	Rented 2 workstations	\$1000

34	Cancel office chairs in DC office; use folding chairs	Rented 5	\$375
35	Cancel desks in DC office; use draped tables	Rented 3 desks	\$750
36	Cancel rented filing cabinet	Provide own	\$125
37	Cancel rented cash registers	Rented 8; purchase 6 (reduce registration lines from 4 to 3)	\$1200
38	Cancel rented printers for membership booth	Rented 2; provide own	\$600

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
DEFENCE AND SECURITY COMMITTEE  
TO THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**File: 82-27**

<b>R. Blanchette</b>	-	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>R. Price</b>	-	<b>Vice Chairman</b>
<b>W. Martin</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>D. Brown</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>L. Murray</b>	-	<b>Ex-Officio</b>
<b>D. Martin</b>	-	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>R. McInnis</b>	-	<b>A/Secretary</b>

**GENERAL**

This report covers the period from 13 September 2014 to 20 February 2015. The Committee last met on 7 November 2014 with minutes distributed to DEC on 21 November 2014.

**COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

The committee continues to monitor defence and security issues as they arise. Particular issues being addressed/monitored are:

- **Cadet Cutbacks on Winter Clothing.** A response from the Director of Cadets has confirmed that as of February 2014 - "Parkas are part of the issued uniform and there is sufficient funding with our new program of recovery and re-issue for every cadet to have a uniform. The sports gear has been dissatisfying to cadets for years, so Cadets are enjoying the fact that they can wear their own shorts. For those who cannot afford shorts, we are maintaining sufficient shorts at Cadet Training Centres to provide shorts to them. We will continue to provide shorts for those who need them. To meet this need in the future we are looking for shorts that are more appropriate for the activities that require them."
- **War Brides and Citizenship.** As reported to DEC in Feb 2014 there are veterans, and children of veterans who, through bureaucratic oversight, are being denied their legitimate birthright to Canadian citizenship. One particular case brought to the Legion's attention in the fall of 2013 was that of a Mrs. M. Vermeersch of Simcoe, ON whose particular background, as a daughter of a Canadian WWII veteran born in England to a War Bride, has resulted in denial of citizenship. As a direct result of Mrs. Vermeersch's non-status, the Legion made a direct appeal to the PM, through a letter in Sep 2013 to amend the Immigration Act. Since that time the Legion was encouraged by Citizenship and Immigration Minister Chris Alexander's statement in Jan 14 that changes to the Citizenship Act were forthcoming. In particular, complicated circumstances that have barred War Brides and children of War Brides from obtaining Canadian citizenship

would be fixed under new legislation. Since that time the Minister of Immigration announced Bill C-24, "the *Strengthening Canadian Citizenship Act*, which became Canadian law on June 19, 2014 and gave hope to an early and permanent resolution to this situation. However, in the case of Mrs. Vermeersch there has been no progress to date.

A second letter has been sent to the Prime Minister's office asking for an update on Mrs. Vermeerch's case and those of other disenfranchised children of veterans.

### **NIJMEGEN MARCH 2015**

A call for applicants to apply for the Legion position on the Canadian Armed forces 2015 Nijmegen Team was sent out to all provincial commands on 12 Dec 14. The dates for the march, including travel, are 16-27 July 15 inclusive. Returns are due at Dominion Command by 2 March 15.

### **LEGION CONNECT UPDATE**

The LegionConnect project, designed as a social interactive program for veterans is complete and awaiting release pending a promotion and marketing plan.

### **CAF SPONSORSHIP/SUPPORT**

The Committee reviewed the current programs under its mandate in support of the CAF. The common theme through all programs was the need to be more active in promoting membership within the Legion.

- a. **Comradeship Awards.** Designed to recognize an individual's contribution to the well-being and morale of his or her peers, per serial, upon graduation at both the CAF and RCMP recruit schools. Includes a two year subscription to Legion Magazine.
- b. **Operation Santa Claus.** Designed to enhance the morale of deployed CAF, RCMP and other Canadian police force elements deployed out of country.
- c. **Operation Canada Day.** Designed to enhance the morale of deployed CAF, RCMP and other Canadian police force elements deployed out of country.
- d. **Nijmegen March.** Designed to facilitate remembrance among the CAF contingent by sponsoring their visit to Vimy Ridge and for 2013/14 Menin Gate.

It was felt that the listed support programs should be enhanced to provide more information to the target audience on Legion programs, Legion support and the benefits as well as processes required to being a Legion member (i.e. on-line and branch). As well it was felt that the Legion on-line membership should be the focus of recruitment for the target audience as this would reflect the individual's familiarity with the electronic

medium as well as help offset their constant movement due to postings and deployments.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That a strategic plan for recruitment of new members be developed in concert with the Legion Marketing/Membership Department that focuses on the CAF audience involved with the CAF/Support programs administered by the D&S Committee.

## **VETERAN ID CARD**

At the 2014 Convention, Resolution Ont-8\_e (Veteran Id Card) was passed which supported the issuance of a Veteran's ID Card as follows:

**“THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The Royal Canadian Legion be prepared, and so indicate to DND and VAC to issue such a card;

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED** this would be handled in the same manner as various Provincial Commands dealing with the issuing of veterans license plates and Dominion Command would issue a wallet size card indicating the bearer did serve honourably in Her Majesty's Forces.”

The issue of a veteran ID card has been an ongoing issue within the Legion as evidenced by convention resolutions in 2008, 2012 and 2014. The 2008 resolution received a positive response from DND but there has been no movement on this issue in the past six years. Furthermore it was concluded that the requirement for an official veteran ID card, as supported by the convention, was to access veteran discounts as offered by the commercial sector.

As this issue is being continuously presented by the Legion membership with no positive outcome from DND, the committee recognized that something could be done to better identify the “veteran status” of Legion members. The ability to identify a veteran within the Legion fold is currently possible based on the Legion Membership category – Ordinary Member but it could be done in a clearer way with a redesigned membership card. It would reflect the bearer's veteran status, gain recognition over time and eventually become the legitimate way to qualify for commercial veteran discounts.

The card could be designed, verified and issued to veteran members of the Legion upon application – a cost for production and verification could be charged as well.

By producing and controlling the issue of a “Legion Veteran Card”, membership in the Legion would be enhanced and the wishes of the convention met.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Legion design a “Veteran Card” including the process for verification and distribution for those Legion members who request authentication of their veteran status.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Next Committee meeting will be Friday 20 February 2015 at 1200 hrs in concert with:

**CDA Institute Annual Seminar** Thursday & Friday, 19 & 20 February 2015 Fairmont  
Chateau Laurier Hotel, Ottawa, Canada

In the absence of questions or discussions, I would ask a member of DEC to move acceptance of this report.



**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
VETERANS CONSULTATION FORUM  
TO THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**File: 10-2**

**L. Murray - Chairman**  
**T. Eagles - Member**  
**D. Flannigan - Member**  
**R. Blanchette - Member**  
**B. White - Secretary**  
**R. McInnis - Asst Secretary**

**GENERAL**

Comrades, the Committee had scheduled a meeting with the veterans' consultation group on 8 November 2015. Leading up to that meeting there was much negative public discussions concerning veterans' issues so the Committee reconsidered the need for a meeting given the close proximity to Remembrance Day. In the interests to ensure that Remembrance Day remained one of reverence and solemnity the veterans' consultation meeting of 8 November was deferred.

**NEXT MEETING**

At the time of writing this report, the Government is scheduled to provide a response to the 14 recommendations made by the ACVA at the end of January. It is also anticipated that any financial promises will be made in the upcoming budget. A meeting of the Committee would be advantageous following the budget and it appears that this has been delayed until at least April. The next meeting of the Committee is likely to occur in late April or early May.

I would ask a member of DEC to move adoption of this report.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
TO THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**File: 40-2**

<b>E. Pigeau</b>	-	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>J. Frost</b>	-	<b>Vice Chairman</b>
<b>M.A. Misfeldt</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>G. Moore</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>P. Varga</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>S. Clark</b>	-	<b>Secretary</b>

**GENERAL**

This committee last met by teleconference on 10 December 2014.

**MODULE REVIEW AND COMPLETION**

Module Managers are in the process of finalizing the remaining topics with editing in preparation for uploading to the website projected for completion in September. The committee's goal is to have the modules available on-line by 31 December 2015.

A suggested order of the learning modules or chronology of topics will also be developed to assist all users, and particularly new members, with their approach to this educational resource.

I move the acceptance of my report.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
CANVET PUBLICATIONS LTD.  
TO THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**D. Flannigan - Board Chairman**  
**T. Eagles - Board Vice-Chairman**  
**B. White - Secretary**  
**M. Barham - Director**  
**T. Irvine - Director**  
**J. Frost - Director**  
**G. Moore - Director**  
**A. Paquette - Director**  
**E. Pigeau - Director**

**BUDGET**

The combination of careful budgeting and successful marketing has set the scene for another outstanding year. Advertising and the government subsidy, two key revenue streams, are at record levels. The magazine is in the third year of an eight-year financial cycle that will balance early profits with later deficits. Canvet's current surplus is what will allow the magazine to publish without an increase in the subscription price until 2020--exactly as per our 2012 commitment to convention. This commitment is based on the magazine's eligibility for the Canada Periodical Fund (CPF). Canvet's most significant concern remains the increasing rate of decline in subscribers. Those aspects of Canvet's business that we can control are thriving.

**CANADA PERIODICAL FUND**

The Department of Canadian Heritage (DCH) was very late in getting the applications for the CPF out to publishers. The department posted the new Aid To Publishers guidelines and application for 2015-2016 in January. The application is completed and has been submitted to DCH. The magazine won't know the outcome until September.

There were changes in the eligibility criteria this year. The government continues to list as ineligible any periodicals "that primarily report on the activities or promotes the interests of the organization", but have now added a second requirement, in that same theme, to the list in order to hammer the point home and close any loopholes. "Periodicals produced by or for an organization that promotes the organization's main business, when it is not periodical publishing." will also not be eligible. It is vital that DCH continue to be confident that Legion Magazine is an independent publication with journalistic integrity.

Last summer Canvet was approved for funding for \$686,228, the second best year of funding in the history of Canvet. Over the last ten years this subsidy has saved Legion Magazine almost six million dollars. We cannot overstate the importance of this revenue. The funding formula is primarily based on paid or "bona fide" circulation. The

decline in subscribers will result in less revenue.

### **MEMBER BENEFITS PACKAGE (MBP)**

The newest partner in The Royal Canadian Legion MBP is Best Western and they are offering Legion members and their families 10% off rooms as well as automatic inclusion in their Gold Elite program. Best Western will also donate 10% of base level Best Western Service Reward points to the Legion for every hotel room sale to Legion members.

The other partners include Starkey Hearing Technologies Canada, Carlson Wagonlit Travel, Premier Care in Bathing, Arbor Memorial, Philips Lifeline Canada, We Care Home Health Services, Medipac Travel Insurance, Shaw Direct, Corby Spirit and Wine Limited, Home Hardware and MBNA Canada Bank.

Although Canvet administers the MBP, all royalties or monies that are agreed upon with the partners go directly to Dominion Command. None comes to Canvet. The only money Canvet receives is in advertising insertions from the partner. Together the partners donate approximately \$125,000 annually to Legion programs along with the savings realized from exclusive member benefits. In addition, some like Carlson Wagonlit and Medipac help with both the Youth Pilgrimage and conventions, Shaw offers two free high definition satellite receivers along with free installation up to \$300 to branches, while partners like Lifeline and We Care offer educational sessions on health for interested branches and commands.

### **STAFFING**

Eric Harris has joined the team at Canvet. He is our new Editor, replacing Dan Black who retired in January.

### **OPERATION SANTA CLAUS**

Once again, Canvet has shipped 3,000 magazines to Canadian Forces personnel on peacekeeping assignments and in isolated posts around the globe. Based on our single copy sale price this represents a donation of \$17,850.

### **CONCLUSION**

I move the adoption of my report.

**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ITEM 6  
20 - 22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/REVIEW OF DEC ELECTRONIC DECISIONS**

**a. Approval of Minutes**

The DEC last met ON 13 September 2014. The minutes were distributed electronically.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the DEC minutes of 13 September 2014 be approved.

**b. Review of DEC Decisions – Email Voting**

The following decisions were made via electronic voting on 1 December 2014:

**MOTION:** That Member Sports continue on a two year cycle beginning in 2015 with Eight ball and Darts to be staged in odd years and Curling and Cribbage in even years.

**DEFEATED**

**MOTION:** That travel costs for members attending be limited to a maximum of \$700 (or less) per member with the exception of remote areas which will realize increased funding on an as need basis.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** That the hosting restriction of rotating between the three geographical areas be removed and the process of soliciting branches to host be opened up to any branch within Canada.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** That in 2016 Dominion Command will financially support curling for the six participating commands and allow up to six more Legion teams to enter from any command including ONT, QUE, ALTA-NWT and NB. The independent teams will be selected on a first come first serve basis and will be responsible for their own travel expenses

**CARRIED**

**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ITEM 7  
20 - 22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**7. DOMINION SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Comrades,

a. Supply

i. Sales as of February 2, 2015 are as follows:

	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
JANUARY	118,655	117,834	106,184	132,512
				<b>YTD (+25%)</b>
FEBRUARY	112,216	106,099	91,638	
MARCH	148,064	121,181	114,337	
APRIL	170,597	163,070	138,102	
MAY	187,340	164,987	149,107	
JUNE	*150,366	118,446	**159,048	
JULY	84,347	91,977	96,852	
AUGUST	114,049	92,902	90,974	
SEPTEMBER	149,040	124,820	184,143	
OCTOBER	279,199	223,136	295,317	
NOVEMBER	230,503	267,707	287,264	
DECEMBER	109,114	135,860	128,847	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,853,490 (+6%)</b>	<b>1,728,019 (-7%)</b>	<b>1,841,813 (+7%)</b>	

\* Includes June 2012 Convention Sales of \$34,659.

\*\* Includes June 2014 Convention Sales of \$44,351

ii. 2014 Sales were very strong through the September to November months. This was largely the result of increased sales to CANEX stores, museums, both web stores, and the mailing of the fall branch catalogue. Reaction to products using the new Legion branding and commemorative in nature has been very positive.

iii. At the onset of 2015 sales are expected to be strong, principally as a result of the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary medal. As of February 2<sup>nd</sup> over 3300 orders have been received. Sales on this medal are just starting and will likely result in a temporary increase that will not repeat on an annual basis, similar to the surge in sales we experienced in 2008 when we introduced the "We Support Our Troops" products.

iv. Other commemorative products in development are a "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier" pin for 2015 and products to further recognize Beaumont Hamel in 2016.

v. Support, in the form of supply chain management for other Legion departments, committees and programs continues. Specifically, support provided for the Poppy Campaign has been addressed in the Poppy & Remembrance Committee report.

vi. Management of trademarks continues on a daily basis. Since last reported, 33 written requests were handled.

b. Staffing

	2013	2014	Feb 2015	Notes
Permanent	42	40	40	
Long Term Contract	1	2	2	i
Short Term Contract	1	0	0	ii
Casual/Temporary	2	1	3	iii
Student for T&F			1	iv
<b>TOTALS (Dominion Command)</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>v</b>

Notes:

- i. One part time service officer in the Service Bureau and one long term contract in supply for phone orders.
- ii. No short term contracts
- iii. Two temp contracts in membership for processing and one in supply for the warehouse due to permanent personnel on light duties. One person in membership is dedicated solely to the administration of non-Legion members who are direct subscribers to Legion Magazine. This is becoming a full time job with more than 6300 direct subscribers.
- iv. Annual student placement on honorarium to assist with Track and Field.
- v. Canvet will report its personnel independently.

Catherine O'Grady has tendered her resignation effective 6 Feb 15 and is moving to her new employment. The position has been advertised with a commencement date of early March for the new hire. Edith Lieshman will retire on 27 Feb 15. Her replacement has been hired and is currently working in the position so at the end of February, there will be 39 permanent personnel on strength. Brenda May is currently on Extended Sick Leave and is expected to transition to LTD coverage in early March.

- c. Computers for Branches. Dominion Command continues to work with Industry Canada to provide our branches used computers at extremely cost effective prices. Should any commands wish further information please contact Bruce Poulin in the Marketing and Membership Department.
  
- d. Profit Sharing. Attached for reference are the profit sharing figures for 2014. As previous circulated the profit sharing resolution of 5% of gross margin became effective on 1 October 2014 in accordance with the General By-Laws.
  
- e. Membership Processing. Will be discussed in the Membership Report.

Comrades, that concludes my report and I am prepared to respond to your questions.



**2014 SALES TOTAL BY COMMAND UP TO SEPT 30TH**

	COMMAN D	BRANCH	LA BRANCH	DISTRIC T	ZONE	MEMBER	OTHER	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL	PC SHARE
B.C. /YUKON	\$3,823.35	\$102,135.18	\$9,366.41	\$0.00	\$991.90	\$14,924.25	\$0.00	\$131,241.09	13.71%	\$2,506.76
ALBERTA-NWT	\$2,324.22	\$94,554.18	\$2,682.24	\$216.88	\$0.00	\$15,839.30	\$0.00	\$115,616.82	12.08%	\$2,208.33
SASK.	\$1,571.58	\$36,566.03	\$268.18	\$122.55	\$101.96	\$7,243.94	\$0.00	\$45,874.24	4.79%	\$876.22
MAN. & N/W ONT.	\$1,037.20	\$53,489.51	\$3,563.60	\$4.00	\$278.91	\$4,566.78	\$0.00	\$62,940.00	6.57%	\$1,202.18
ONT.	\$4,400.06	\$298,968.11	\$27,593.42	\$590.95	\$2,099.15	\$47,239.41	\$0.00	\$380,891.10	39.78%	\$7,275.19
QUEBEC	\$4,836.51	\$53,053.37	\$681.26	\$1,159.22	\$0.00	\$9,180.00	\$0.00	\$68,910.36	7.20%	\$1,316.22
N.B.	\$1,201.50	\$31,933.43	\$2,608.51	\$107.95	\$0.00	\$4,175.90	\$0.00	\$40,027.29	4.18%	\$764.54
NOVA	\$1,907.55	\$62,546.30	\$913.61	\$0.00	\$99.34	\$5,462.65	\$0.00	\$70,929.45	7.41%	\$1,354.78
SCOTIA/NUNAVUT P.E.I.	\$625.61	\$6,843.32	\$53.95	\$0.00	\$72.00	\$720.60	\$0.00	\$8,315.48	0.87%	\$158.83
NFLD. & LAB	\$4,268.06	\$25,575.62	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,623.02	\$0.00	\$32,666.70	3.41%	\$623.95
SUBTOTAL PCS								\$957,412.53	100.00%	\$18,287.00
US	\$0.00	\$1,179.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$380.15	\$0.00	\$1,559.33		
EUROPE	\$0.00	\$1,460.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$140.85	\$0.00	\$1,601.10		
MISC	\$0.00	\$372.39	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,222.90	\$164,216.75	\$169,812.04		
								1,130,385.00		

25% OF GAINS \$18,287.00

Miscellaneous sales include sales directly to non-Legion entities such as the government, DND, CANEX Stores, museums, cadet groups, the public, business, and staff.

**2014 SALES TOTAL BY COMMAND AFTER SEPT 30TH**

	COMMAND	BRANCH	LA BRANCH	DISTRICT	ZONE	MEMBER	OTHER	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL	PC SHARE
B.C. /YUKON	\$114.50	\$44,632.58	\$1,840.27	\$0.00	\$1,001.00	\$7,156.45	\$0.00	\$54,744.80	9.27%	\$1,953.96
ALBERTA-NWT	\$0.00	\$59,807.89	\$1,557.98	\$212.50	\$0.00	\$8,260.60	\$0.00	\$69,838.97	11.83%	\$2,492.70
SASK.	\$2,115.63	\$19,367.02	\$130.52	\$0.00	\$20.00	\$2,961.45	\$0.00	\$24,594.62	4.16%	\$877.83
MAN. & N/W ONT.	\$134.84	\$26,651.73	\$3,696.74	\$0.00	\$330.12	\$1,897.60	\$0.00	\$32,711.03	5.54%	\$1,167.53
ONT.	\$8,880.25	\$225,232.02	\$12,404.30	\$3,610.00	\$7,248.80	\$30,827.65	\$0.00	\$288,203.02	48.80%	\$10,286.58
QUEBEC	\$42.45	\$25,768.83	\$400.75	\$325.82	\$0.00	\$4,618.52	\$0.00	\$31,156.37	5.28%	\$1,112.04
N.B.	\$46.21	\$22,016.22	\$627.23	\$180.00	\$0.00	\$1,509.20	\$0.00	\$24,378.86	4.13%	\$870.13
NOVA	\$665.00	\$34,422.99	\$119.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,042.72	\$0.00	\$38,249.97	6.48%	\$1,365.22
SCOTIA/NUNAVUT										
P.E.I.	\$38.95	\$4,634.22	\$43.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$552.70	\$0.00	\$5,269.82	0.89%	\$188.09
NFLD. & LAB	\$787.80	\$19,149.61	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,490.73	\$0.00	\$21,428.14	3.63%	\$764.82
SUBTOTAL PCS								\$590,575.60	100.00%	\$21,078.91
US	\$0.00	\$32.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$56.90	\$0.00	\$88.90		
EUROPE	\$0.00	\$49.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$396.55	\$0.00	\$445.91		
MISC	\$0.00	\$606.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,315.20	\$109,395.38	\$120,317.08		
								711,427.49		

5% Of GROSS MARGIN \$21,078.91

Miscellaneous sales include sales directly to non-Legion entities such as the government, DND, CANEX Stores, museums, cadet groups, the public, business, and staff.

**SUPPLY DEPARTMENT  
GROSS MARGIN  
CALCULATION  
October 1 to December 31,  
2014**

\$

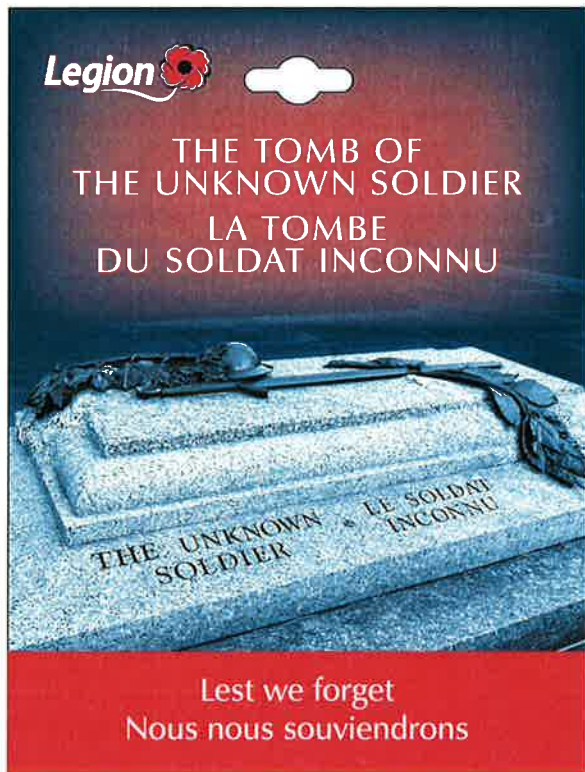
**SALES** 711,427.49

**COST OF SALES** (289,849.35)

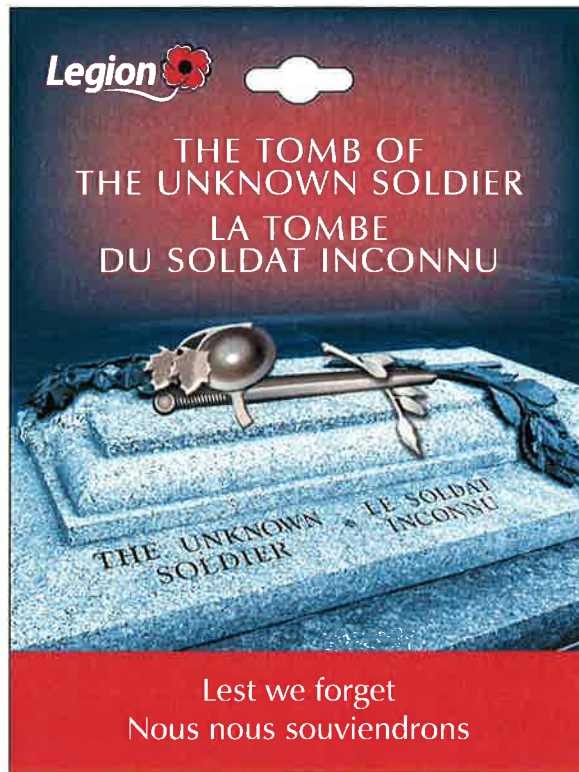
**GROSS MARGIN** 421,578.14

**Share to Provincial Commands @  
5.0%** 21,078.91

### The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Pin and Card Pin: Pewter with Black Accents (in recessed areas)



Front



Front with Pin



Actual Size:  
1.5" w x 0.75 h



Back



Two Posts with  
Butterfly Clips

**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ITEM 8  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**8. DOMINION TREASURER'S REPORT**

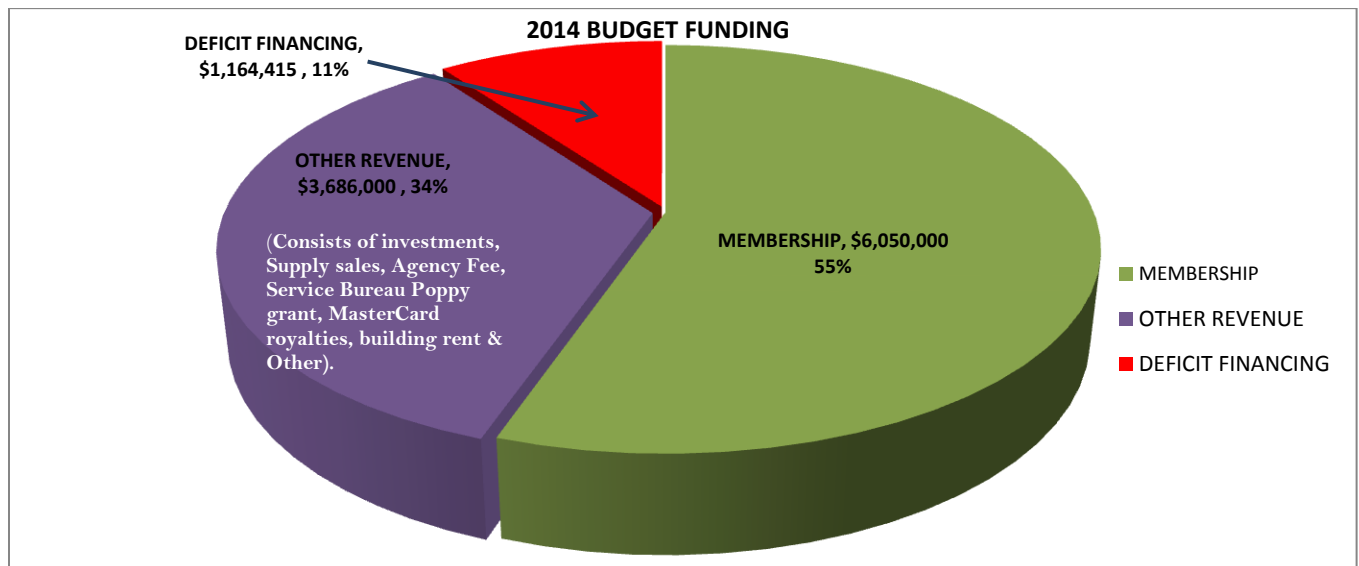
**A. FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGET REVIEW**

**I. 2014 YEAR END REVIEW**

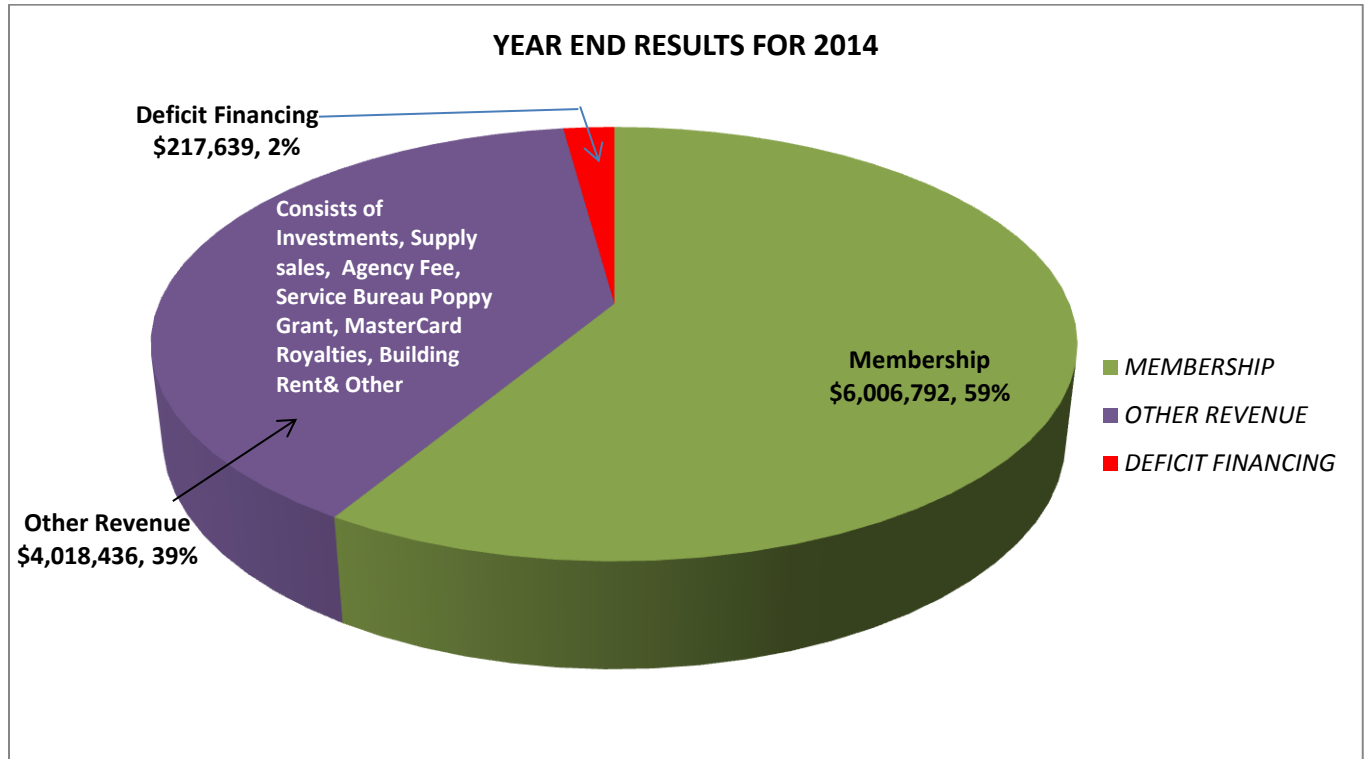
The 2014 Operating Budget has come with an operating deficit of \$217,639. This is \$946,766 less than the 2014 original Operating Budget of \$1,164,415. This is an excellent turnaround in a short period of time. This was a total group effort and congratulations to us all for achieving this result. However, deficit financing is not sustainable in the long run and more steps will be needed to bring the budget into balance.

An illustration of the 2014 results as compared to the 2014 budget is illustrated below.

The original budget:



The final results:



As can be seen, the year started with an expectation that deficit financing of 11% would be required to fund the operations. It ended with deficit financing of only 2% required. This allowed us to keep more in our reserves and investments. After drawing down the \$217,639 from the Reserve, there remains \$2,941,330 for future years.

Restating the deficit of \$217,639 into membership terms, in order to balance the 2014 year without deficit financing, we would have had to obtain an additional 20,400 members from where we ended the year. Or at the start of the year, if it had been logical to assume that we could retain all the members that we had; only an additional 7,400 members would have been needed to achieve this. As our membership numbers continue to diminish it makes the goal of balancing our finances much more difficult. In the situation of falling membership revenue, the only way to do this is to reduce or eliminate programs and events. So we either increase our membership numbers or decrease our operations.

## Revenue

Total revenue surpassed budget by \$189,228 despite membership revenue finishing the year \$43,208 below the already low expectations of a decline of 13,000 members.

The move to Bank of Montreal Harris Private Banking has had an immediate impact. A total of \$548,722 in investment revenue was earned. This is an additional \$113,722 (26%) over the budget target. As well, at year end the Fair Market Value of the general fund investments exceeded cost by \$356,224. This is a very strong performance as BMO Harris has only managed the portfolio for the last three months of the year.

The Service Bureau Grant from the Poppy Fund was increased to 90% of Department budget. This provided additional funds of \$63,000. The Supply Department sales exceeded budget by \$41,813.

## Expenses

Expenses were \$757,548 less than budgeted. Post-Convention, all second Committee meetings were cancelled and air travel was restricted to low cost fares. Reductions in Advertising and Promotional budgets were also achieved.

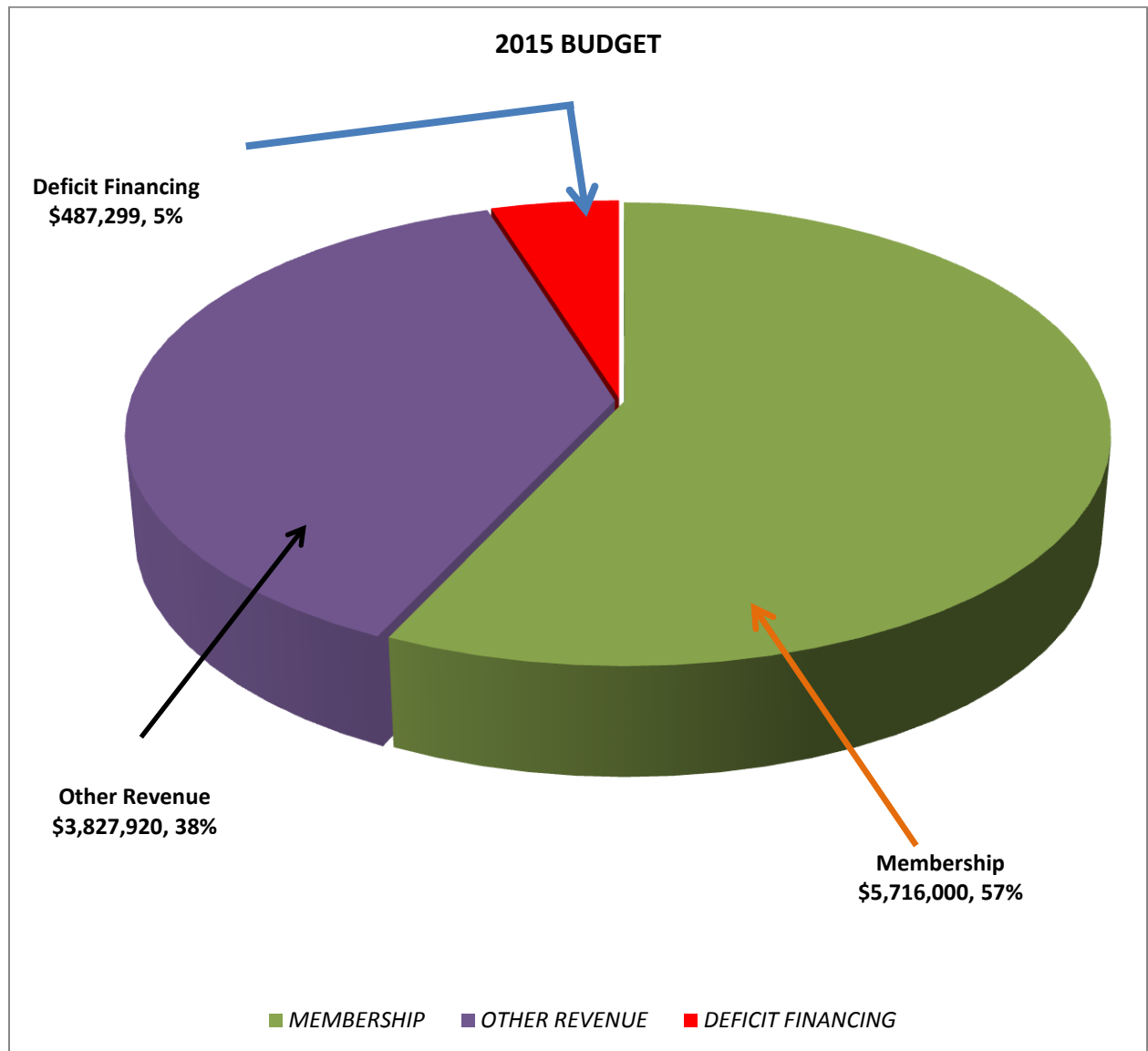
In the Committees, the Focus on the Future Committee did not have a meeting. The Sports budget came in \$85,996 less than expected. In Track & Field additional sponsorships were acquired from the Bank of Montreal (\$25,000) and the Running Room \$1,000. Defence & Security was \$72,381 under budget as the Sport Champions funding was not required (\$17,000) and Legion Connect was underspent by \$39,000.

## II. 2015 BUDGET

### a. Draft Budget Presented to DEC

The 2015 budget projects an operating deficit of \$487,299. Relating this to membership numbers an increase of 46,000 would be required to balance the budget.

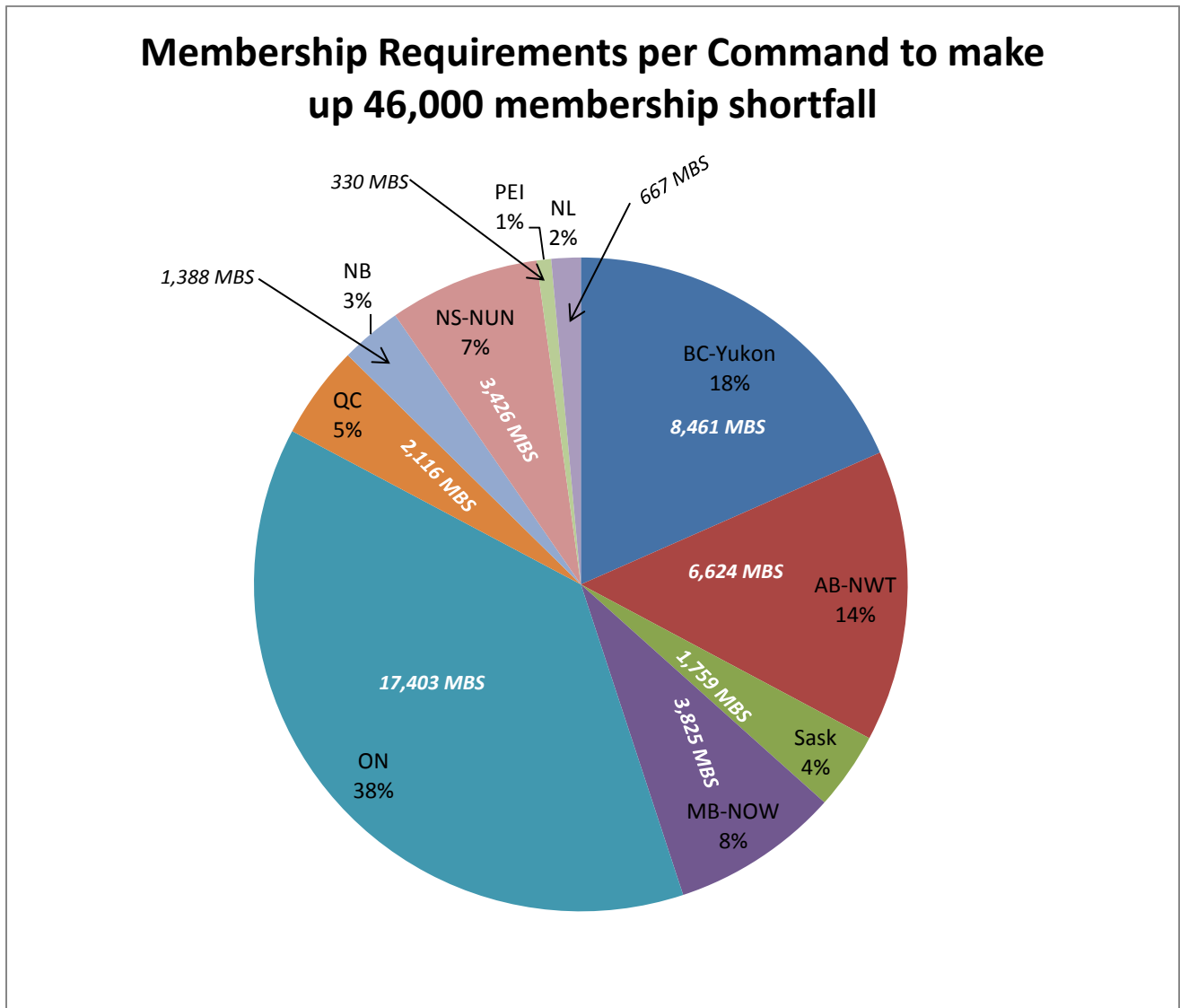
Below is a graphic representation of the initial draft 2015 budget for review by DEC.



Note the increase in deficit financing from the 2014 ending position of 2% to 5%. This is an increase of 1.5 times the previous year or 150%.



Below is a graphic of how the 46,000 member shortfall breakdown by Command.



### Revenues

Total revenue is expected to decline by \$292,000 or 3%.

This decline is due to the expected drop in membership. Incorporated into the budget is a loss of 15,900 members for the year.

Investment income was set at \$425,000 in the budget. Given the impressive results in 2014 for this line item coupled with the fact that the draw down on our investments to fund the projected deficits has been reduced sharply, this line warrants further review. Consideration should be given to increase this line to \$520,000. This is an increase of \$95,000.

Tenant rent has been increased for the first time in 7 years. This will bring in an additional \$11,000.

### Expenses

Expenses have been reduced by \$969,000 from the 2014 budget.

For the staff there will be no cost of living increase in 2015. As well, the staff contributions into the pension plan will increase by 50% by January 1, 2017. Benefits under the plan have been slashed by over 20% going forward.

Expense recoveries have been increased for first time in many years. The recovery for Accounting, payroll and benefits support to Canvet has risen from \$75,000 to \$110,000. This is the first increase since 1999. The Supply Department operating costs to manage Poppy sales; procurement and delivery have been changed from a partly funded basis to a fully funded basis. This will result in an additional recovery of \$178,000. The activities for the National Remembrance Ceremony were reviewed and items that can be funded from Poppy funds will do so starting in 2015. This includes cadets, the reception, and wreathes. The funding for the Silver Cross mother has also been transferred pending approval by the Poppy and Remembrance Committee and DEC.

To obtain alternate funding sources a Charitable Foundation will be set up. This Foundation will be able to provide tax receipts for donors. It is expected to cost \$50,000 to get this done.

To increase operational efficiency a new Membership Processing system will be initiated. A budget allocation of \$250,000 has been set aside.

In the Committees, low cost air fares, the elimination of spouse travel and limiting Committees to a one meeting per year brings us closer to a balanced budget. In the Defence and Security Committee the investment in Legion Connect is nearing completion resulting in a reduction in the budget by \$25,000. As well, with funding of the CF Sports Championships no longer required a savings of \$18,000 will be realized.

In the DEC budget the dinner/reception has been eliminated. A "bare bones" plan for the 2016 Dominion Convention has allowed the off year reserve to be reduced by \$50,000.

With the Youth Track & Field meet being held in central Canada (St Therese, Quebec) as opposed to Langley BC), the Sports budget has been reduced substantially. A valiant effort was made by the Sport Committee to reduce costs in their draft budget submission to the Senior Elected Officers. It was proposed that the four Participation Sports events be alternated every two years. In the odd numbered years Eight Ball and Darts would be held. In the even numbered years it would be Curling and Cribbage. However subsequent to that meeting, it was decided to restore all participation sports to an annual basis. This increased the deficit funding requirement by \$78,900 moving us further from the goal of a balanced budget.

The travel to the Provincial Conventions, which cost \$43,000 in 2013, has been replaced by a video presentation (expected to cost \$5,000) by the Dominion President for the use at these Conventions. As well, Bursaries paid to some Provincial Commands have been eliminated for a savings of \$16,000.

Comrades, the direction given at the 2014 Dominion Convention have been heard. Everyone at all levels has pitched in to reduce costs to try to keep this organization financially viable.

The alternative to cost reduction is increasing the membership base. But at this stage the membership numbers continue to decline which puts even more pressure on reducing programs and events.

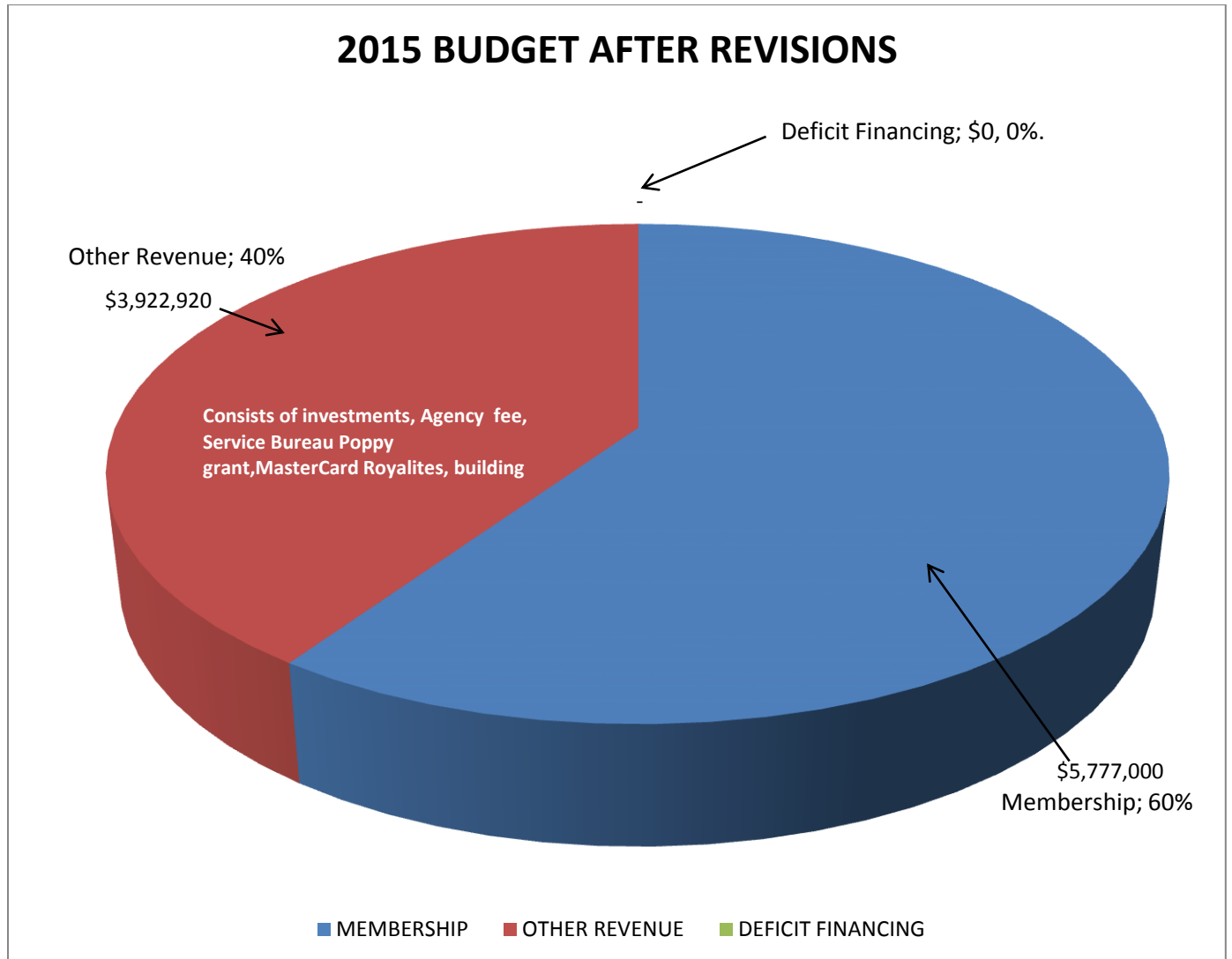
#### **b. Revised Budget**

The following changes were recommended to be made the 2015 Budget:

- i. The loss of members has been reduced from 15,900 to 13,000 as this is reflective of the average loss per year over the last ten years. This reduces the deficit by \$30,000.
- ii. Investment revenue has been increased by \$95,000 to \$520,000 as this is more reflective of the 2015 expectations.
- iii. The new Membership system for \$250,000 is to be funded by reserves to a maximum of \$400,000.
- iv. Travel and per diems for the Senior Elected Officers (SEO) to Provincial Conventions be reinstated for an estimated cost of \$32,500.
- v. Bursaries are to be restored to a maximum of the previous support of \$16,000. Provincial Commands must apply for the bursary and approval will be subject to a means test based on the Command balances in their Poppy Funds. Any approved Bursaries will be funded through the Poppy Fund.
- vi. The RCEL Liaison trip is to be funded from the Poppy Fund reducing the budget by \$26,600.
- vii. That all reasonable general administration support provided for Poppy Fund related activities such as the National Remembrance Ceremony by all Departments and support for Poppy general operations from Finance and the Administration Departments is to be increased from a nominal \$25,000 to \$142,949.

These changes will eliminate the need to deficit finance the 2015 budget.

Below is a graphic representation of the revised 2015 budget after adjusting for the recommended changes.



### III. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

See attached.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the 2015 budget be approved after adjusting the figures for approved changes.

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND  
GENERAL FUNDS

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSE

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b>REVENUE</b>				
Per Capita Tax	6,309,064	6,006,792	6,050,000	5,777,000
Canvet				
- Agency Fee & Support	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
Investment Income	459,261	548,722	435,000	520,000
Service Bureau Revenue	553,000	699,000	636,000	679,000
Supply Department	1,728,020	1,841,813	1,800,000	1,800,000
Legion House				
- Tenants	72,438	72,438	72,000	82,920
- Internal	316,000	316,000	316,000	316,000
Miscellaneous				
- Master Card	64,966	64,137	62,000	60,000
- Other	64,778	76,247	65,000	65,000
Estate Bequest	240,212	80	-	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<u>10,207,739</u>	<u>10,025,228</u>	<u>9,836,000</u>	<u>9,699,920</u>
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
Legion Magazine Subscriptions	3,164,096	2,988,364	3,015,000	2,846,000
<u>Administration</u>	879,113	912,348	917,000	772,551
- IT Section	279,901	268,787	305,200	305,950
Marketing & Membership	963,367	835,160	932,600	791,000
Marketing, Advertising, Promotion	432,046	347,620	489,000	398,000
Finance	385,699	396,501	398,600	361,300
Service Bureau	675,636	756,759	794,300	754,400
Supply	1,677,511	1,599,631	1,744,725	1,472,494
Committees	1,270,498	1,078,558	1,371,490	1,016,825
Miscellaneous	155,755	120,185	163,500	203,100
Depreciation	119,762	119,483	120,000	100,000
Employer Pension Contribution	415,138	468,902	415,000	342,000
Legion House	332,967	350,570	334,000	336,300
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<u>10,751,491</u>	<u>10,242,867</u>	<u>11,000,415</u>	<u>9,699,920</u>
<b>NET INCOME (LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<u>(543,752)</u>	<u>(217,639)</u>	<u>(1,164,415)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Per Capita Tax Reserve utilized</b>	<u>543,752</u>	<u>217,639</u>	<u>1,164,415</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**STATEMENT A**

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND  
 GENERAL FUNDS**

**ADMINISTRATION**

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
Salaries	661,749	678,748	677,000	689,000
Retirement Allowance	10,882	7,743	11,900	12,600
Other Benefits	60,398	63,075	63,000	64,500
Temporary & Contract Staff	<u>8,846</u>	<u>13,992</u>	<u>8,100</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<u>741,874</u>	<u>763,558</u>	<u>760,000</u>	<u>766,100</u>
Office Supplies	35,069	53,364	53,000	35,000
Telephone	14,425	14,536	13,000	8,000
Postage, Express	13,078	8,585	12,000	10,000
Printing, Stationery	7,804	9,340	10,000	8,000
Staff Travel	754	692	1,000	1,000
Insurance	19,735	19,912	20,000	20,400
Rent (CR to Building)	108,000	108,000	108,000	108,000
Staff Recruitment	7,718	7,622	6,000	2,000
Computer Network Support	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Miscellaneous	4,848	6,403	7,000	5,000
Training	<u>7,809</u>	<u>2,336</u>	<u>9,000</u>	<u>9,000</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<u>964,113</u>	<u>997,348</u>	<u>1,002,000</u>	<u>975,500</u>
Less: charged to:				
Membership Section	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Service Bureau	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Poppy Fund	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>142,949</u>
	<u>85,000</u>	<u>85,000</u>	<u>85,000</u>	<u>202,949</u>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<u>879,113</u>	<u>912,348</u>	<u>917,000</u>	<u>772,551</u>

**STATEMENT B**

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND  
 GENERAL FUNDS**

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECTION (Administration Department)**

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
Salaries	171,568	172,481	173,000	173,000
Retirement Allowance	2,825	1,971	3,100	3,200
Other Benefits	<u>14,956</u>	<u>15,675</u>	<u>15,600</u>	<u>19,000</u>
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<u>189,349</u>	<u>190,127</u>	<u>191,700</u>	<u>195,200</u>
Office Supplies	182	-	100	100
Telephone	3,429	3,804	3,500	1,750
Postage, Express	22	20	100	100
Printing, Stationery	141	14	300	100
Staff Travel	-	-	100	100
Rent (CR to Building)	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Miscellaneous	44	35	400	100
<u>Network &amp; PC</u>				
- Maintenance Contracts/Leases	60,822	58,318	69,000	70,300
- Programming & Support	7,506	6,224	20,000	20,000
- Supplies & Other	12,250	8,658	8,000	12,200
- Website & Internet connectivity & support	<u>20,157</u>	<u>15,588</u>	<u>26,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<u>303,901</u>	<u>292,787</u>	<u>329,200</u>	<u>329,950</u>
Less: charged to:				
Administration	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Finance	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Membership & Marketing	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Service Bureau	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Supply	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Canvet	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
	<u>24,000</u>	<u>24,000</u>	<u>24,000</u>	<u>24,000</u>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<u>279,901</u>	<u>268,787</u>	<u>305,200</u>	<u>305,950</u>



**STATEMENT C**

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND  
 GENERAL FUNDS**

**MARKETING AND MEMBERSHIP**

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b>REVENUE</b>				
Agency Fee	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<u>400,000</u>	<u>400,000</u>	<u>400,000</u>	<u>400,000</u>
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
Salaries	591,420	556,874	621,000	497,000
Retirement Allowance	9,351	8,160	10,600	9,000
Other Benefits	59,099	56,925	60,000	55,000
Temporary & Contract Staff	20,627	23,741	20,000	25,000
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<u>680,496</u>	<u>645,700</u>	<u>711,600</u>	<u>586,000</u>
Office Supplies	3,746	829	9,000	5,000
Telephone	8,813	9,024	8,000	8,000
Postage, Express	39,468	35,588	40,000	30,000
Printing, Stationery	3,781	2,415	4,000	4,000
On Line Membership	31,876	-	-	-
Staff Travel	387	263	1,000	500
Rent (CR to Building)	64,000	64,000	64,000	64,000
Miscellaneous	3,064	2,591	7,000	3,500
Computer Network Support	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Administrative Support	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Membership cards, forms and paper	17,371	20,312	28,000	20,000
Membership Pack out	19,447	14,060	20,000	20,000
Provincial Conventions	13,332	-	-	-
Legion Website & Internet	3,743	4,305	4,000	14,000
Website Upgrade	37,842	73	-	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<u>963,367</u>	<u>835,160</u>	<u>932,600</u>	<u>791,000</u>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<u>563,367</u>	<u>435,160</u>	<u>532,600</u>	<u>391,000</u>

**STATEMENT D**

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND  
GENERAL FUNDS**

**MARKETING, ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION**

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>	<u>Category</u>
<u>Media - Print</u>					
Canvet Ads	30,442	30,442	29,700	15,000	Membership
Esprit de Corps	4,520	-	-	-	Membership
RCMP Quarterly	3,164	6,328	3,500	3,500	Membership
Canadian Geographic	18,645	9,605	26,000	-	Membership
Ubiquitous Advertising	480	2,401	5,000	5,000	Membership
Legion Policy Positions	-	-	5,000	-	Membership
Advertising Other	18,296	16,886	18,000	-	Membership
	4,131	3,425	19,800	45,000	Membership
<u>Media - Audio</u>					
Memorial Cup	1,180	5,650	8,000	6,000	Marketing
Blue Jays	42,697	-	-	-	Marketing
PSA's	-	5,650	5,000	5,000	Marketing
Audio - Other	109	202	-	-	Marketing
<u>Media - Video</u>					
PSA's	-	6,780	6,000	6,000	Marketing
Video - Other	-	5,644	25,000	20,000	Marketing
<u>Media - Internet</u>					
Media Internet - Other	55,980	65,978	57,500	60,000	Membership
<u>Media - Public Relations &amp; Events</u>					
Media Coverage & P.R. (T &F)	12,136	12,053	25,000	10,000	Marketing
Media Coverage & P.R. - Other	22,662	30,201	20,000	30,000	Marketing
<u>Programs and Campaigns</u>					
Membership Gift Pack	4,051	-	-	-	Membership
Free Membership for CF retirees	4,592	2,971	10,000	5,000	Membership
Non Renewal Mailers	57,176	52,888	80,000	60,000	Membership
Incentive Program for Renewals / Recruitments (1 X 1)	23,393	17,620	25,000	-	Membership
Early Bird Campaign	-	-	6,000	5,000	Membership
New Recruitment Campaign	63,374	23,787	20,000	25,000	Membership
Marketing - Program	9,345	10,835	20,000	25,000	Marketing
Design Program	28,487	19,901	20,000	20,000	Marketing
Other	15,485	6,763	10,000	20,000	Marketing
<u>Other Printed Material</u>					
News Letter	1,715	-	-	-	Membership
Flyers and Postcards	-	-	10,000	10,000	Marketing
Bookmarks	-	-	3,500	-	Marketing

**STATEMENT D**

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND  
 GENERAL FUNDS**

**MARKETING, ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION**

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>	<u>Category</u>
We Care Poster	-	-	5,000	5,000	Marketing
Renewal Poster	-	-	-	-	Marketing
Early Bird Poster	-	-	4,500	2,500	Marketing
The RCL & C.F. Brochure	-	-	6,000	5,000	Marketing
RCL Needs You Brochure	-	-	6,000	5,000	Marketing
Posters/Brochures	1,258	9,596	5,000	-	Marketing
RCL Welcomes You Brochure	-	-	4,500	5,000	Membership
Other	8,728	2,014	-	-	Membership
	<u>432,046</u>	<u>347,620</u>	<u>489,000</u>	<u>398,000</u>	

**SUMMARY - BY BUDGET LINE ITEM**

Media - Print	79,679	69,088	107,000	68,500
Media - Audio	43,986	11,502	13,000	11,000
Media - Video	-	12,424	31,000	26,000
Media - Internet	55,980	65,978	57,500	60,000
Media - Public Relations & Events	34,798	42,255	45,000	40,000
Programs and Campaigns	205,902	134,764	191,000	160,000
Other Printed Material	<u>11,701</u>	<u>11,610</u>	<u>44,500</u>	<u>32,500</u>
Total	<u>432,046</u>	<u>347,620</u>	<u>489,000</u>	<u>398,000</u>

**SUMMARY - BY CATEGORY**

Membership	298,687	234,344	310,000	228,500
Marketing	<u>133,359</u>	<u>113,275</u>	<u>179,000</u>	<u>169,500</u>
Total	<u>432,046</u>	<u>347,620</u>	<u>489,000</u>	<u>398,000</u>

**STATEMENT E**

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND  
 GENERAL FUNDS**

**FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
Salaries	368,435	374,618	375,000	371,000
Retirement Allowance	6,063	4,358	6,600	6,800
Other Benefits	<u>39,008</u>	<u>42,213</u>	<u>42,000</u>	<u>44,000</u>
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<u>413,505</u>	<u>421,188</u>	<u>423,600</u>	<u>421,800</u>
Office Supplies	1,353	1,219	2,000	2,000
Telephone	3,184	3,890	2,500	2,500
Postage, Express	5,572	3,679	8,000	5,000
Printing, Stationery	1,145	1,255	3,000	3,000
Staff Travel	226	140	500	500
Audit Fees	55,166	60,372	52,000	58,000
Rent (CR to Building)	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000
Computer Network Support	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Miscellaneous	<u>1,598</u>	<u>1,614</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<u>513,749</u>	<u>525,357</u>	<u>526,600</u>	<u>526,800</u>
Less: charged to:				
Supply	53,050	53,856	53,000	55,500
Canvet	<u>75,000</u>	<u>75,000</u>	<u>75,000</u>	<u>110,000</u>
	<u>128,050</u>	<u>128,856</u>	<u>128,000</u>	<u>165,500</u>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<u>385,699</u>	<u>396,501</u>	<u>398,600</u>	<u>361,300</u>

**STATEMENT F**

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND  
 GENERAL FUNDS**

**SERVICE BUREAU**

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b>REVENUE</b>				
Poppy Fund Grant	<u>553,000</u>	<u>699,000</u>	<u>636,000</u>	<u>679,000</u>
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
Salaries	503,032	549,621	564,000	573,000
Retirement Allowance	8,113	6,145	9,800	10,400
Other Benefits	<u>46,515</u>	<u>58,637</u>	<u>54,500</u>	<u>60,000</u>
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	557,661	614,402	628,300	643,400
Office Supplies Expense	7,277	2,744	7,000	7,000
Telephone	6,733	6,065	7,000	7,000
Postage	9,194	10,254	10,000	5,000
Staff Travel	7,075	3,585	9,000	4,500
VAC - Liaison	568	-	3,000	3,000
Rent ( Cr to Building)	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
Service Officers Conference	-	40,678	39,000	-
Legion Cares Program	-	-	-	-
Advocacy and Representation	8,022	-	10,000	5,000
Administrative Support	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Computer Network Support	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Miscellaneous	<u>1,106</u>	<u>1,033</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>1,500</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<u>675,636</u>	<u>756,759</u>	<u>794,300</u>	<u>754,400</u>

**STATEMENT G**

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND  
GENERAL FUNDS**

**SUPPLY DEPARTMENT**

	<b>2013 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2014 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2014 BUDGET</b>	<b>2015 BUDGET</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>				
Sales of Supplies	1,728,020	1,841,813	1,800,000	1,800,000
Less Cost of Goods	<u>778,752</u>	<u>795,885</u>	<u>792,000</u>	<u>792,000</u>
<b>GROSS MARGIN</b>	949,267	1,045,928	1,008,000	1,008,000
<b>Provincial Commands @ 5.0% of Gross Margin</b>	n/a	21,079	n/a	50,400
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
Salaries	518,589	490,430	521,000	452,000
Retirement Allowance	8,549	5,964	9,200	8,200
Other Benefits	64,144	64,451	69,000	62,000
Temporary & Contract Staff	<u>21,339</u>	<u>23,858</u>	<u>42,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	612,622	584,704	641,200	562,200
Telephone	8,489	6,988	9,000	9,000
Postage, Express	62,463	30,392	65,000	65,000
Printing, Stationery	4,472	2,470	6,000	6,000
Staff Travel	4,855	3,685	6,000	5,000
Insurance	1,600	1,697	1,500	1,500
Rent (CR to Building)	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
Storage	379	-	-	-
Poppy Store	3,780	-	-	-
Web Store - T1 connection line	12,600	12,600	12,600	12,600
Advertising/Catalogue Distribution	70,470	56,240	80,000	80,000
Wrapping Material	18,654	20,768	27,000	20,000
Finance/Administration Support	53,050	53,856	53,000	55,500
Office Supplies	416	816	3,000	3,000
Bad Debts	1,700	1,800	2,000	2,000
Computer Network Support	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Miscellaneous	<u>1,372</u>	<u>2,364</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
<b>EXPENSE TOTAL</b>	922,923	865,459	975,300	939,200
Less: Poppy Fund Chargeback	<u>(41,000)</u>	<u>(80,000)</u>	<u>(41,000)</u>	<u>(258,706)</u>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<u>881,923</u>	<u>785,459</u>	<u>934,300</u>	<u>680,494</u>
<b>GAIN OR (LOSS)</b>	67,344	260,469	73,700	327,506
<b>PROVINCIAL COMMAND SHARE@ 25%</b>	<u>(16,836)</u>	<u>(18,287)</u>	<u>(18,425)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>50,508</u>	<u>242,182</u>	<u>55,275</u>	<u>327,506</u>

**STATEMENT H**

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND  
 GENERAL FUNDS**

**MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE**

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE</b>				
RCEL Conference	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
SCOWP	<u>1,681</u>	<u>708</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
<b>RCEL TOTAL</b>	16,681	15,708	17,000	17,000
Request for Support	10,000	5,000	20,000	20,000
Annual General Meeting	4,010		-	5,000
Dominion Bursaries	16,000	16,000	16,000	-
Historica (EWC)	66	33	500	500
Legal & Other	44,693	24,312	45,000	45,000
Charitable Foundation Start Up	-		-	50,000
MBP Ads	31,956	32,280	33,000	33,000
Translation (note )	<u>32,349</u>	<u>26,854</u>	<u>32,000</u>	<u>32,600</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<u>155,755</u>	<u>120,185</u>	<u>163,500</u>	<u>203,100</u>

**Note: Translation**

This amount reflects the cost of translation services only. It does not include the extra printing and paper costs for the minutes of meetings, manuals, publications or Convention documents. These costs are distributed throughout the departmental expenses under "office supplies and printing and stationary". Some costs are recovered for the resale items.

**STATEMENT I**

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND  
 GENERAL FUNDS**

**LEGION HOUSE**

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b>REVENUE</b>				
Rent Tenants	72,438	72,438	72,000	82,920
Rent Charge to Depts.				
Administration	108,000	108,000	108,000	108,000
Marketing & Membership	64,000	64,000	64,000	64,000
Service Bureau	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
Supply Dept	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
Finance	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000
IT Section	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<u>388,438</u>	<u>388,438</u>	<u>388,000</u>	<u>398,920</u>
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
Salaries	23,347	25,733	23,600	25,900
Retirement Allowance	384	297	500	500
Other Benefits	4,172	4,629	3,900	4,100
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<u>27,904</u>	<u>30,659</u>	<u>28,000</u>	<u>30,500</u>
Elevator Maintenance	6,117	5,850	7,000	7,000
A/C, Electrical, Plumbing	25,230	48,073	35,000	32,000
Interior & Exterior	82,017	68,324	65,000	65,000
Cleaning Contract & Supplies	51,879	48,035	51,000	52,000
Fuel	8,848	10,729	11,000	11,200
Light & Power	46,083	52,316	49,000	50,000
Water and Sewage	1,379	1,425	2,000	2,000
Taxes	48,969	50,345	51,000	51,500
Insurance	4,541	4,814	5,000	5,100
Reserve Fund	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<u>332,967</u>	<u>350,570</u>	<u>334,000</u>	<u>336,300</u>
<b>GAIN OR LOSS</b>	<u>55,470</u>	<u>37,868</u>	<u>54,000</u>	<u>62,620</u>



**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND  
 GENERAL FUNDS**

**COMMITTEES & ELECTED OFFICERS EXPENSE**

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b>COMMITTEES</b>				
1 Veterans, Service and Seniors	37,608	32,657	39,500	33,000
2 Poppy & Remembrance	99,196	52,976	76,000	26,650
3 Membership	21,164	10,084	32,250	22,750
4 Outreach	74,929	30,668	51,500	33,500
5 RCEL	21,016	34,068	36,600	21,475
6 Sports	390,193	415,004	501,000	346,100
7 Ritual & Awards	7,934	5,679	6,900	4,700
8 Constitution & Laws	1,358	2,414	8,650	800
9 Defence & Security	55,486	51,419	123,800	75,200
10 Veterans Consultation	10,631	5,758	10,400	5,350
11 Focus on the Future	20,537	-	13,400	7,150
12 Leadership Development	218	24	1,900	300
<b>COMMITTEE TOTAL</b>	<b>740,270</b>	<b>640,750</b>	<b>901,900</b>	<b>576,975</b>
13 Elected Officers	181,846	86,983	118,200	148,550
14 DEC/Senior Elected Officers	83,435	81,409	96,700	76,350
15 Dominion Convention	264,948	269,415	254,690	214,950
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b><u>530,228</u></b>	<b><u>437,808</u></b>	<b><u>469,590</u></b>	<b><u>439,850</u></b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b><u>1,270,498</u></b>	<b><u>1,078,558</u></b>	<b><u>1,371,490</u></b>	<b><u>1,016,825</u></b>

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
 DOMINION COMMAND**

**VETERANS, SERVICE AND SENIORS**

	<b><u>2013 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 BUDGET</u></b>	<b><u>2015 BUDGET</u></b>
<b><u>COMMITTEE</u></b>				
Travel	14,507	5,438	10,000	7,500
Per Diem	7,879	5,974	8,000	6,000
Cdn. Assoc. on Gerontology	250	-	-	-
Seniors Support Guide	-	5,130	-	-
CIMVHR Forum	-	3,072	10,000	10,000
Printing, Stationery	1,428	1,567	1,000	500
Telephone & Fax	386	219	600	600
Postage	223	37	400	400
Business Transformation Initiatives	2,901	3,082	3,000	1,500
Homeless Veterans Summit	-	7,899	5,000	5,000
Miscellaneous	1,637	238	1,500	1,500
<b><u>Publications</u></b>				
- Write off old stock			-	-
- Distribution of new stock	8,398	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>37,608</u></b>	<b><u>32,657</u></b>	<b><u>39,500</u></b>	<b><u>33,000</u></b>

2 A

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, DOMINION COMMAND  
POPPY & REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b><u>COMMITTEE</u></b>				
Travel	4,471	5,145	7,500	7,050
Per Diem	3,141	4,298	5,000	2,350
Postage & Office	4,619	1,782	3,500	2,000
Telephone and Fax	100	72	1,000	500
Teachers Guide Update	50		1,000	1,000
Write Off Old Publications	-	1,397	1,000	1,000
Purchase and distribution of new stock	4,552		5,000	-
Miscellaneous	704	891	1,000	500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>17,637</u>	<u>13,583</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>14,400</u>
<b><u>EUROPE ZONE</u></b>				
Grant	10,000	-	-	-
Europe - Wreaths	781	1,365	1,000	-
	<u>10,781</u>	<u>1,365</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>-</u>
<b><u>NATIONAL CEREMONIES</u></b>				
Travel	6,139	5,771	6,000	4,500
Per Diem	10,977	8,101	6,000	4,500
Printing, Stationery	3,968	14	5,500	500
Telephone, Postage	425	454	1,000	500
Colour Party Activities				
Summer & Fall	131	419	500	250
Meeting, Planning	335	117	200	200
Remembrance Reception	5,780	4,728	4,500	-
St. John's Ambulance	300	300	300	300
Silver Cross Mother	5,582	3,571	5,000	-
Cadet of the Year	10,055	-	10,000	-
Miscellaneous	4,210	4,197	2,500	1,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>47,903</u>	<u>27,672</u>	<u>41,500</u>	<u>12,250</u>
<b><u>PILGRIMAGE</u></b>				
Poppy Grant	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(33,750)
Expenses	47,875	35,355	33,500	33,750
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>22,875</u>	<u>10,355</u>	<u>8,500</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>99,196</u>	<u>52,976</u>	<u>76,000</u>	<u>26,650</u>

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, DOMINION COMMAND  
 POPPY & REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE

2 B

	<u>2013</u> <u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014</u> <u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	<u>2015</u> <u>BUDGET</u>
<b><u>NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY ASSOCIATED EXPENSES (Poppy Fund)</u></b>				
Europe - Wreaths	-	-	-	1,000
Remembrance Reception	-	-	-	4,500
Silver Cross Mother	-	-	-	5,000
Cadet of the Year	-	11,080	-	10,000
 <u>National Literary/Poppy Contest</u>				
Travel	3,107	3,699	5,000	5,000
Per Diem	5,659	4,710	5,000	5,000
Bursaries/Gifts	6,615	12,722	10,875	10,875
<b>Total - Poppy Fund</b>	<u>15,382</u>	<u>32,211</u>	<u>20,875</u>	<u>41,375</u>
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<u>47,903</u>	<u>27,672</u>	<u>41,500</u>	<u>12,250</u>
 Total - National Remembrance Ceremony	 <u>63,285</u>	 <u>59,883</u>	 <u>62,375</u>	 <u>53,625</u>

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
 DOMINION COMMAND**

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b><u>COMMITTEE</u></b>				
Travel	7,288	2,272	7,000	3,500
Per Diem	3,931	2,784	7,000	3,500
Printing and Office	144	1,478	500	500
Postage	14	-	250	250
Publications Write off	-	-	-	-
Purchase &	-	-	-	-
Distribution of New	-	54	-	-
Telephone & Fax	13	89	500	500
Miscellaneous	388	267	5,000	2,500
	<u>11,778</u>	<u>6,944</u>	<u>20,250</u>	<u>10,750</u>
<b><u>PRINTING &amp; STATIONERY</u></b>				
Membership Forms	6,514	3,140	8,500	8,500
Early Bird Certificate	-	-	500	500
Early Bird Stickers	2,872	-	3,000	3,000
	<u>9,386</u>	<u>3,140</u>	<u>12,000</u>	<u>12,000</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>21,164</u>	<u>10,084</u>	<u>32,250</u>	<u>22,750</u>

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
 DOMINION COMMAND**

**OUTREACH**

	<b><u>2013 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 BUDGET</u></b>	<b><u>2015 BUDGET</u></b>
<b><u>COMMITTEE</u></b>				
Travel	5,902	4,579	9,000	3,750
Per Diem	3,754	4,235	6,000	3,750
Printing, Stationery	169	244	1,000	500
Telephone & Fax	566	601	500	500
Postage	402	102	-	-
Miscellaneous	336	130	-	-
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b><u>11,128</u></b>	<b><u>9,891</u></b>	<b><u>16,500</u></b>	<b><u>8,500</u></b>
<b><u>PR SECTION</u></b>				
<b><u>External</u></b>				
Media Monitoring	33,176	1,087	-	-
Media Distribution	14,977	11,652	25,000	20,000
<b><u>Training/Liaison</u></b>				
- Per Diem	6,663	5,044	5,000	2,500
- Travel	<u>8,985</u>	<u>2,996</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>2,500</u>
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b><u>63,800</u></b>	<b><u>20,778</u></b>	<b><u>35,000</u></b>	<b><u>25,000</u></b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b><u>74,929</u></b>	<b><u>30,668</u></b>	<b><u>51,500</u></b>	<b><u>33,500</u></b>

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
 DOMINION COMMAND

RCEL COMMITTEE

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b><u>Meetings:</u></b>				
<u>Committee</u>				
-Per Diem	870	870	900	675
 <u>RCEL - Hong Kong</u>				
Travel	-	-	-	18,000
Per Diem	-	-	-	2,800
	<u>870</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>900</u>	<u>21,475</u>
 <u>Caribbean Legion Liaison:</u>				
Travel	10,037	16,413	23,000	-
Per Diem	9,533	16,361	12,000	-
Postage, Printing	304	171	300	-
Telephone & Fax	28	-	50	-
Miscellaneous	244	254	350	-
	<u>20,146</u>	<u>33,198</u>	<u>35,700</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>21,016</u>	<u>34,068</u>	<u>36,600</u>	<u>21,475</u>

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

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b><u>COMMITTEE</u></b>				
Travel	3,863	4,900	5,000	3,750
Per Diem	3,701	6,088	5,000	3,750
T & F LAC Ste. Therese - 2015/16	-	6,110	-	6,000
Langley- 2013/2014	8,651	6,934	10,000	-
Printing, Stationery	164	1,153	4,000	1,000
Telephone & Fax	110	11	800	200
Postage	237	372	300	300
Write Off Old Publications	-	-	-	-
Purchase and distr. of new stock	6,927	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	572	739	2,500	1,000
<b>TOTAL COMMITTEE</b>	<u>24,224</u>	<u>26,306</u>	<u>27,600</u>	<u>16,000</u>
<b><u>CURLING</u></b>	Bloomfield Station PE	Bloomfield Station PE	Dauphin MB	Birch Hills SK
Travel Participants	18,213	12,434	25,000	20,000
Committee	2,270	2,525	4,000	4,000
Awards & Prizes	2,240	1,396	2,300	1,300
Entertainment	300	300	300	-
Ground Transportation	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Advance to Host Branch	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
<b>TOTAL REGULAR CURLING</b>	<u>26,523</u>	<u>20,154</u>	<u>35,100</u>	<u>28,800</u>
<b><u>DARTS</u></b>	Chester NS	Chester NS	Orleans ON	Surrey BC
Sponsorship (recovery)	-	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)
Travel Participants	17,515	23,885	30,000	28,000
Travel Committee	2,558	2,166	2,600	2,600
Awards & Prizes-participants	2,654	1,488	2,300	1,300
Awards & Prizes-Branches	-	5,000	-	200
Awards & Prizes-Branch Raffle	-	10,000	-	-
Entertainment	200	43	200	-
Advance to Host Branch	800	800	800	-
Ground Transportation	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
<b>TOTAL DARTS</b>	<u>25,227</u>	<u>19,883</u>	<u>12,400</u>	<u>8,600</u>



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SPORTS COMMITTEE - PAGE 2

		<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
		<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
<b><u>CRIBBAGE</u></b>					
		Liverpool NS	Liverpool NS	North Bay ON	Spruce Grove AB
Travel	Participants	22,702	33,963	35,000	28,000
	Committee	1,586	1,227	3,000	2,500
Awards & Prizes		2,839	1,463	2,300	1,300
Advance to Host Branch		800	800	800	800
Entertainment		200	200	200	-
Ground Transportation		<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>
<b>TOTAL CRIBBAGE</b>		<u>29,627</u>	<u>39,153</u>	<u>42,800</u>	<u>34,100</u>
<b><u>EIGHT BALL</u></b>					
		<i>Fredericton</i> NB	<i>Fredericton</i> NB	<i>Tecumseh</i> ON	<i>Calgary</i> AB
Travel	Participants	21,052	25,823	30,000	28,000
	Committee	1,877	1,118	3,000	2,500
Awards & Prizes		2,635	2,130	2,300	1,300
Advance to Host Branch		800	800	800	800
Entertainment		200	200	200	-
Ground Transportation		<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>
<b>TOTAL EIGHT BALL</b>		<u>28,064</u>	<u>31,570</u>	<u>37,800</u>	<u>34,100</u>
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS SPORTS</b>		<u>109,441</u>	<u>110,760</u>	<u>128,100</u>	<u>105,600</u>
<b>TOTAL T &amp; F</b>		<u>256,528</u>	<u>277,937</u>	<u>345,300</u>	<u>224,500</u>
<b>TOTAL SPORTS &amp; COMMITTEE</b>		<u>390,193</u>	<u>415,004</u>	<u>501,000</u>	<u>346,100</u>

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
 DOMINION COMMAND**

**NATIONAL TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIP**

	<b>2013 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2014 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2014 BUDGET</b>	<b>2015 BUDGET</b>
	Langley BC	Langley BC	Langley BC	Ste. Therese QC
Transportation	213,072	238,246	230,000	180,000
Accommodations, Meals	171,601	170,683	180,000	153,600
Committee - Travel	13,255	11,386	10,000	7,650
Committee - Per Diem	11,603	9,360	17,600	13,350
Local Committee	580		1,000	1,000
Kits / Supplies / Medals	4,586	3,040	11,500	5,000
Buses	8,091	-	10,000	10,200
Honoraria	3,000	3,000	4,000	3,000
Reception	2,809	2,500	2,200	1,000
Medical	38		1,000	200
Athletic Facilities	-	-	4,000	500
Equipment / Mtg Rooms	44		2,000	500
Clinicians	-	-	2,000	500
Officials	-	-	4,000	2,000
Freight & Express	1,040		3,000	2,000
Miscellaneous	476	378	1,000	1,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>430,195</b>	<b>438,593</b>	<b>483,300</b>	<b>381,500</b>
Less Prov Cmd Portion	<u>(127,564)</u>	<u>(96,223)</u>	<u>(106,000)</u>	<u>(100,000)</u>
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>302,632</b>	<b>342,369</b>	<b>377,300</b>	<b>281,500</b>
<b>RECOVERIES</b>				
Registration - Non Legion Athletes	(19,103)	(18,432)	(12,000)	(12,000)
Sponsorships	(27,000)	(46,000)	(20,000)	(45,000)
Grant - VAC	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Recoveries</b>	<u>(46,103)</u>	<u>(64,432)</u>	<u>(32,000)</u>	<u>(57,000)</u>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<u>256,528</u>	<u>277,937</u>	<u>345,300</u>	<u>224,500</u>

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
 DOMINION COMMAND**

**RITUAL & AWARDS COMMITTEE**

	<b><u>2013 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 BUDGET</u></b>	<b><u>2015 BUDGET</u></b>
Travel	1,213	1,911	1,900	1,650
Per Diem	2,723	3,053	3,800	2,550
Printing, Stationery	-	548	500	200
Telephone & Fax	65	-	200	100
Postage	102	117	500	200
<u>Publications</u>				
- Write off old stock	-	-	-	-
- Distribution of new stock	3,831	50	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>7,934</u></b>	<b><u>5,679</u></b>	<b><u>6,900</u></b>	<b><u>4,700</u></b>

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

	<b><u>2013 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 BUDGET</u></b>	<b><u>2015 BUDGET</u></b>
Travel	76	197	200	150
Per Diem	165	277	600	350
Printing, Stationery	404	251	500	100
Telephone & Fax	69	26	100	100
Postage	420	211	350	100
Miscellaneous	224	114	100	-
<u>Publications</u>				
- Write off old stock	-	-	1,800	-
- Distribution of new stock	-	1,338	5,000	-
	<u>1,358</u>	<u>2,414</u>	<u>8,650</u>	<u>800</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>				

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
 DOMINION COMMAND**

**DEFENCE & SECURITY COMMITTEE**

	<b><u>2013 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 BUDGET</u></b>	<b><u>2015 BUDGET</u></b>
Travel	4,694	3,976	5,500	4,600
Per Diem	3,810	4,307	5,500	4,600
Printing, Postage,	751	272	150	-
Telephone & Fax	-	-	100	-
Miscellaneous	-	163	400	200
Annual Vimy Award & AGM	5,620	3,700	6,000	5,650
Conference of Defence				
Association Fee & CIC Fee	2,116	2,075	2,150	2,150
Legion Connect	46	1,074	40,000	15,000
Comradeship Awards	2,224	333	6,000	3,000
 <b><u>CF Sponsorships</u></b>				
* Sports Championship & Award Ceremony				
* - Sponsorships	-	-	17,000	-
* - Travel and Per Diem	-	-	1,000	-
- Operation Santa Claus	13,505	15,001	16,000	16,000
- Operation Canada Day	14,719	8,519	16,000	16,000
- Nijmegen	8,000	12,000	8,000	8,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b><u>55,486</u></b>	<b><u>51,419</u></b>	<b><u>123,800</u></b>	<b><u>75,200</u></b>

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
DOMINION COMMAND**

**VETERANS CONSULTATION**

	<b><u>2013 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 BUDGET</u></b>	<b><u>2015 BUDGET</u></b>
Travel	5,599	2,968	5,100	2,600
Per Diem	4,616	2,790	5,100	2,600
Printing & Office	-	-	50	50
Telephone	41	-	50	50
Postage	-	-	50	-
Miscellaneous	<u>374</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>10,631</u>	<u>5,758</u>	<u>10,400</u>	<u>5,350</u>

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
DOMINION COMMAND**

**FOCUS ON FUTURE COMMITTEE**

	<b><u>2013 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 BUDGET</u></b>	<b><u>2015 BUDGET</u></b>
Travel	10,713	-	6,500	3,500
Per Diem	9,721	-	6,500	3,500
Printing	39	-	50	50
Postage	21	-	50	50
Telephone & Fax	43	-	50	50
Miscellaneous	-	-	250	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>20,537</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>13,400</u></b>	<b><u>7,150</u></b>

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
 DOMINION COMMAND**

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
Travel	-	-	500	-
Per Diem	-	-	500	-
Printing & Office	76	-	100	100
Postage	-	-	100	-
Telephone & Fax	142	24	200	200
Miscellaneous	-	-	500	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>218</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>1,900</u>	<u>300</u>



**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
 DOMINION COMMAND**

**ELECTED OFFICERS & DOMINION PRESIDENT**

	<u>2013 BUDGET</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b>ELECTED OFFICERS:</b>				
Travel	11,912	11,362	16,000	14,000
Per Diem	5,731	9,945	10,000	6,000
Telephone & Fax	13	-	200	50
Miscellaneous	<u>1,074</u>	<u>5,929</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<u>18,730</u>	<u>27,235</u>	<u>28,200</u>	<u>21,050</u>
<b>DOMINION PRESIDENT:</b>				
Travel	68,610	25,564	51,000	51,000
Per Diem	36,593	21,753	27,000	27,000
Hospitality	7,264	5,225	5,000	5,000
Telephone & Fax	1,720	2,519	2,500	2,500
Miscellaneous	<u>5,969</u>	<u>4,687</u>	<u>4,500</u>	<u>4,500</u>
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<u>120,156</u>	<u>59,748</u>	<u>90,000</u>	<u>90,000</u>
<b>PROVINCIAL CONVENTIONS:</b>				
Video from the President	-	-	-	5,000
Travel	25,561	-	-	20,000
Per Diem	16,536	-	-	12,500
Hospitality	<u>863</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<u>42,960</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,500</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>181,846</u>	<u>86,983</u>	<u>118,200</u>	<u>148,550</u>

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
 DOMINION COMMAND**

**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

	<u>2013 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 ACTUAL</u>	<u>2014 BUDGET</u>	<u>2015 BUDGET</u>
<b>D.E.C. MEETINGS:</b>				
Travel	36,358	32,429	41,000	32,000
Per Diem	33,997	38,015	40,000	35,000
Reception/Dinner	2,696	2,537	3,900	-
Printing	565	767	2,500	250
Telephone, Fax & Postage	82	110	300	100
Miscellaneous	<u>1,626</u>	<u>3,209</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
<b>SUB-TOTAL D.E.C. MEETINGS</b>	75,325	77,067	89,700	69,350
 <b>SENIOR ELECTED OFFICERS MEETINGS:</b>				
Travel	6,155	5,161	5,400	5,400
Per Diem	7,927	5,177	7,100	7,100
Telephone, Fax & Postage	28	4	100	100
Printing	-	-	100	100
Miscellaneous	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>300</u>
	14,110	10,342	13,000	13,000
<b>LESS:</b>				
Canvet Board and Shareholders Meetings	<u>(6,000)</u>	<u>(6,000)</u>	<u>(6,000)</u>	<u>(6,000)</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>83,435</u>	<u>81,409</u>	<u>96,700</u>	<u>76,350</u>

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
 DOMINION COMMAND**

**DOMINION CONVENTION**

		<b><u>2013 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 BUDGET</u></b>	<b><u>2015 BUDGET</u></b>
DEC	Travel	-	28,072	25,500	-
	Per Diem	-	67,194	62,000	-
Staff	Travel	-	22,127	20,000	-
	Per Diem	-	50,827	62,000	-
Past President					
	Travel	-	8,319	7,500	-
	Per Diem	-	13,115	15,000	-
DC Zone Commanders					
	Travel	-	6,645	2,400	-
	Per Diem	-	6,825	3,500	-
VIP - (Floris)		-	-		
Other		-	-		
	Travel	-	3,926	5,000	-
	Per Diem	-	9,468	6,000	-
	Entertainment	-	5,223	2,400	-
Credentials		-	6,008	5,500	-
Printing & Design					
	Convention Reports	-	15,764	20,000	-
	Other	-	9,344	4,000	-
Translation & Interpretation		-	5,150	8,000	-
Postage		-	13,807	30,000	-
Freight		-	14,408	5,000	-
Social Activities					
	President Reception	-	13,660	20,000	-
	Other	-	1,009	3,000	-
Convention Centre		-	16,210	110,000	-
Convention Operation		-	239,921	130,000	-
Transportation		-	-		
Ceremonies		-	559	1,000	-
Local Arrangements Committee		-	1,767	4,000	-
Supply		-	2	1,000	-
		-	559,351	552,800	-
Revenue		-	62,015	70,000	-
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>		-	497,336	482,800	-
Provision		250,000	(250,000)	(250,000)	200,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		250,000	247,336	232,800	200,000
<b><u>COMMITTEE (FROM 15A)</u></b>		<u>14,948</u>	<u>22,079</u>	<u>21,890</u>	<u>14,950</u>
<b>TOTAL CONVENTION AND COMMITTEE</b>		<u>264,948</u>	<u>269,415</u>	<u>254,690</u>	<u>214,950</u>

15A

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
DOMINION COMMAND**

**CONVENTION COMMITTEE**

	<b><u>2013 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 ACTUAL</u></b>	<b><u>2014 BUDGET</u></b>	<b><u>2015 BUDGET</u></b>
Travel	8,945	10,277	10,000	7,500
Per Diem	5,118	9,588	9,000	6,750
Printing, Stationery	401	1,021	750	100
Telephone & Fax	74	1	40	-
Postage	76	163	300	100
Miscellaneous	<u>335</u>	<u>1,029</u>	<u>1,800</u>	<u>500</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>14,948</u></b>	<b><u>22,079</u></b>	<b><u>21,890</u></b>	<b><u>14,950</u></b>

DEC  
20- 21 February 2015

**STATEMENT 1**

**PROVINCIAL COMMANDS  
Consolidated Summary**

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>
<b><u>General Funds</u></b>			
Total Assets	22,296,755	22,203,444	93,311
Net Assets	21,106,152	20,915,178	190,974
Net Operating Income/ (Deficit)	(21,301)	(328,560)	307,259
Supply Sales	149,729	104,852	44,877
<b><u>Trust Net Assets</u></b>	7,608,963	7,247,265	361,698
<b><u>Poppy Funds</u></b>			
Total Assets	7,513,006	7,094,811	418,195
Net Assets	6,660,074	6,235,699	424,375
Net Revenue (Deficit)	312,350	281,054	31,296
Poppy Sales	4,107,143	4,108,032	(889)
<b><u>Charitable Foundations Net Assets</u></b>	10,460,600	9,844,890	615,710

**REPORT OF TUBERCULOUS VETERANS SECTION  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**C. R. Paul-President  
K. Merola -1st Vice President  
P. Varga -2nd Vice President  
S. Fraser -Secretary Treasurer  
B. Wignes -Past President**

Introduction: The National TVS extends to you greetings from all its members.

Activities of the National Executive:

Membership: It is with sadness that we announce the closing of Branch 1 in New Brunswick. This came as a shock to the members of our executive as we were not informed and only learned of the closure through reports from Dominion Command. This leaves three remaining Branches, # 44 in Vancouver, # 52 in Calgary and # 78 in Saskatoon. We are still actively recruiting new members, but it is a slow process and we are striving to keep up to the losses due to an ageing population.

Tuberculosis: For most Canadians, the risk of developing tuberculosis (TB) is very low. Still, there are about 1,600 new cases of TB reported in Canada every year, so it is important to know the symptoms and how to minimize your risk.

The rate of TB in Canada is among the lowest in the world, with a steady decrease being seen over the past 30 years. Despite this low incidence for its overall population, certain populations in Canada, including Aboriginal populations, are disproportionately affected by TB.

Even though tuberculosis can be cured with antibiotics, it continues to be a major health problem. In 2010, approximately 1.4 million deaths related to TB were reported worldwide.

Education Awards: (formally known as our scholarships and bursaries) continue to award needy students for post-secondary education with funds to help with the expenses associated with college and university educations. As a national body our executive is trying to develop a way of funding a student working in the field of Respiratory ailments, possibly doing a scientific research paper.

Teleconferences: The national TVS executive has been using Teleconferencing for a few years now as a way of communicating with each other, usually getting in 3 or 4 conferences a year. We still send E mails as a way of generally keeping up with the business of our organization but find that we get more accomplished talking to one another

Conclusion: Our executive has revisited our TVS National Bi-laws and have done a great job of bringing our bi-laws up to date and in line with Dominion Command. I look forward to the next year as president of the Tuberculous Veterans Section and hope we can continue to strive for better benefits for our Veterans.

I respectfully move the adoption of my report

Clarence R Paul  
National TVS President

**REPORT OF BC / YUKON COMMAND  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

While we have faced some unforeseen and major challenges this past year, we have stayed the course and kept our programs functioning. Now, with our Executive Director back, we can once more move forward with key strategies. She is working full time and we are all pulling for her full recovery. I cannot begin to express my gratitude to the entire staff - Inga put together an amazing team. The PEC body and thousands of loyal members stepped up to keep this Command moving ahead. The challenges we face are huge but I am confident that we are well positioned to meet them.

Here are some things that were significant in 2014:

- As promised to our delegates in 2011 at Convention we have not only delivered a balanced budget but are paying back the dollars invested in reorganizing our Command structure and the office.
- We continue to fund the VTN Trauma and Transition counselling for Veterans - we ran 3 programs in 2014 and are looking at running four sessions in 2015 - approx. \$180K commitment.
- Our BCIT/Legion Military Skills Conversion Program has exceeded all expectations - an award winning program helping many of our younger Veterans transition to school and careers while taking into account their military experience. We have committed to extend this another four years.
- We launched an inaugural Service Dogs program under our Foundation and are looking at the infrastructure for the delivery of dogs to needy Vets. It is a complex system and we are learning as we go, however it is well funded.
- Cockrell House, our program for homeless vets, now into its sixth year, is healthy and we are looking at expansion - not just on southern Vancouver Island, but at other locations in the province where the need exists, Trail is one example.
- Our Branch Advisory Committee has become by far our biggest and most active committee and has successfully aided many branches through difficult times. We consider this a core strategy of direct intervention with branches that are headed off track. It also includes assistance to plan redevelopment projects on Legion real estate. We have renewed our association with Dave MacDonald and have numerous projects at various phases - ensuring our future.



- The Insurance Program has full enrollment and has remained stable in three years whereas rates in the industry have increased exponentially. We are confident that all branches are properly insured with up to date value appraisals and access to legal advice for free. Premiums are monthly with no service fees, and we have established a fund from which branches can borrow funds for insurance related issues.

In 2015 we are focused on a new model for our convention. It will take place June 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> and is being organized by staff and a select group of Legion members with specific skills and experience. The savings from the short form convention are projected to be significant, and we have tested the agenda to ensure the business of our Command will be done. It requires discipline in creating the agenda, and determination to do something new, but the branches have been very supportive. We also feel that having a convention on a weekend makes it easier for working delegates to attend. We expect a good turn out and have booked the Ramada Conference Centre in Abbotsford.

We continue to operate on a strict austerity budget and remain accountable to our members in keeping costs at critical priorities only. We feel our current culture in BC and Yukon is as successful and collegial as it is because members are starting to understand the overall strategies and trust our leadership.

We continue to implement a province wide wave of change in our liquor licensing. Branches can now apply to have family dinners or lunches including their children in our branches while alcohol is being served. This is a game changer for us and over the next two years will re-establish Legion branches as community hubs.

As for recruitment of new members, we are pleased that Dominion Command is continuing the One-on-One program and we are pushing it strongly. We must make it easier to join the Legion - enough discussions - time to do it. Additionally, we must make it more desirable to join the Legion. Society is changing, as are the needs and wants of our new Veterans – Veterans as deserving of our support and respect as those who served in past conflicts. The future of the Legion is directly tied to its ability to attract new members, and Dominion should be exploring new business models to do so.

We have attached a reprint from an on line blog that we feel well captures the issues we face as a national organization that needs to change. We are exploring exactly these issues, and what our new branch will look like in the next 3 to 10 years. Our traditional lounge and hall model doesn't work as universally as it used to.

We would like to include this remark on the topic of getting things done expeditiously. The Legion system of a resolution every two years at convention doesn't cut it in the fast paced world of today. Our DEC is elected to govern between conventions and I believe we need more decisions made more quickly.

We have implemented this in BC and believe it is high time that DEC meetings produce actionable and direct solutions between conventions.

In closing I want to applaud President Tom Eagles for his commitment and diligence in righting the fiscal ship. We know that at the direction of convention in 2014, there is much to do in cutting expenses. Times have changed and with our still dwindling membership it takes guts to bite the bullet and live within our means. We are looking forward to seeing the documentation and impact of sensible and deep cuts to expenses within Dominion. Our branches have learned how to manage their businesses as have Commands for the most part. We are very pleased to see Dominion join ranks on this issue.

Respectfully Submitted, Angus Stanfield, President BC Yukon Command

# The Minute Book

Sunday, 11 January 2015

## How the Legion Halls are Failing

Topic: Commentary



### **How the Legion Halls are Failing Today's Veterans**

Michael M. O'Leary

The Royal Canadian Legion (RCL) continues to promote itself as the voice of the Canadian veteran in dealing with the Government and other national agencies. Despite the upsurge of splinter veterans' groups, admittedly the result of so many ex-service members being made to feel unwelcome in Legion halls because they were not official "big 'V' Veterans" under the old rules, the RCL continues to dominate the discussions that influence change. Many of those splinter groups are represented, at the media face of their operations, by angry representatives whose vitriolic speech achieves little but a hardening of the bureaucracy to not be held hostage to empty threats and bombast.

But the Royal Canadian Legion has its own problems. Most significant among these is the disconnect between the institutional goals of the RCL to support and help veterans, and the local goals of Legion branches to sustain brick and mortar Legion halls and their perpetual schedules of dart and euchre tournaments, fish fry dinners, and how to keep the lights on over the horseshoe pits. Increasingly, these Legion branches have been run by committees with no (or very few) ex-serving members among themselves or, in some cases, among their membership at all.

Many Legion branches have reached the point where they have little connection to, or understanding of, the needs of younger veterans as individuals. Most of the veteran care initiatives they have brokered over the past few decades have been geriatric care issues. This lack of connection is especially so in regard to young, newly released (or even still serving) soldiers, sailors and airmen (and women). Much of this disconnect comes from a failure to understand what the Legion hall did in its original conception, and how that served the veterans who frequented them in

the early days of the institution.

As anyone who has been watching the explosion of on line discussions about actually helping and supporting new veterans will realize, the most valuable resource they need and capitalize on is effective communication. This is not communications with existing veteran organizations, or with Government agencies, it is communications among themselves. Nothing has changed from the days when their grandfathers and great-grandfathers returned from the wars of their respective generations.



Many of the Legion branches across Canada trace their roots to the years after the First World War or the Second World War. They were formed by local veterans who, by sheer demographic participation, were present in platoon and company and battalion sized groups in large and small towns across the country. I use those specific terms for their groups intentionally. In the First and Second World War, it was most likely that men who knew one another enlisted together. They joined the same units, trained together, and served together. They came home to the same towns, having shared the same experiences, having lost the same friends, and were there to remember and to represent that service and loss to the families of their friends whose sons, brothers and fathers did not return. The evolution of the Legion halls was a natural formation of structure around the soldiers, sailors and airmen with shared service who found comfort and communication among themselves, Their connection was not that they had served, but that they had served together.

Today, new veterans don't join the Legion, and the Legion doesn't really understand why. Legion executive members without military service see the Legions as "places where veterans gather" and have no personal experience to understand the essential context of shared experience which leads to the needed levels of inter-communication between veterans. Those executives confuse what the Legion halls became over 60 or 80 years with what their original purpose in supporting returned veterans was. What the modern veteran needs, the current Legion branches with their halls and bars cannot provide.

So, what are the new veterans doing? They are seeking and developing ways to communicate, with

each other. Not just with other veterans, but with the veterans they served with, the same benefit those veterans of the World Wars found in their hometown Legion halls with the fellow Legionnaires that they served with. The new veterans are building, in the online environment, exactly what their predecessors used to have. The existing Legion halls have no role in the way this informal communication network is evolving. In fact, the way the new veterans are building their own virtual groups is completely foreign to most of the current generation of Legion executive members and only by radical change will the Royal Canadian Legion be able to repurpose their facilities to serve the new generation of veterans.

The new veterans aren't looking for bars, they're probably the first generation of veterans that widely understand that taking your hurting friend to the bar is probably one of the worst options in assisting him in getting help. They also aren't looking for halls, those Legion branch halls that grew out of the need for the original Legionnaires' children and grandchildren to have a place for wedding receptions, and to have dances and expanded games events for married Legionnaires as the Branches changed from close-knit veterans support groups into community service clubs. The new veterans are looking for what the original Legion veterans had before worrying about paying an over-extended mortgage on a dilapidated building became the executive's biggest worry.



In the 1920s, an ex-soldier might go to the Legion hall after work on Friday, and sit at the bar next to the guy he shared a trench dugout with for over three years in France. In the 1950s, his son went to the Legion hall and sat beside the guys he crewed a tank with in Normandy. Today's veteran walks past the Legion hall in southwestern Ontario, because he knows his fire team partner went back home to Prince George, British Columbia, and they will possibly never have a weekly chat together in person. He also knows that no-one in that hall can fill that role in place of his fire team partner. So he goes home, logs into the internet and asks his buddy on facebook or by email how he is doing, and sends along one of the photos he took of that friend sleeping against a mud brick wall in Afghanistan. They connect, they talk, they check up on one another, but the current Legion hall has no role because its current format does not serve their needs.

Want to revamp your branch's Legion hall? Sit down with a few of the new veterans (you know the ones, some of them are barely out of their teens) and ask what they'd like to see. It may be time to tear down half your bar and install a modern coffee facility, and train your bartender to be a decent barista. Ask how they talk to their fellow soldiers, the ones they served with that now live a

thousand miles away. It may be time to install a wifi network, add internet terminals in quiet rooms, and video conferencing capabilities that let them see each other and talk to one another, or even to play video games with each other across that digital divide (because they are not going to be joining your euchre league any time soon). Build communication networks, ones that multiple veterans in Legion halls across the country can use to share a discussion. Facilitate the communication they are seeking, don't presume to be the people they want to talk to. In this way, there's a chance for the RCL to provide what the Legion halls did for past generations, but it needs the realization that the bar was a place to sit and talk; it was not a purpose in itself.

Today's veterans aren't looking to immediately become the new generation of blue-jacketed Legionnaires at Remembrance Day ceremonies. But they do have the same needs as the veterans of the 1920s and 30s, and of the 50s and 60s. They need to be able to talk to each other as the most important capability the RCL can provide them. The challenge comes from the fact that they don't live in the same towns the way those earlier generations of veterans did. But that's ok, the means and technology exist to support their needs. All it will take within the Royal Canadian Legion is the will to make it happen, both at the institutional level and in the individual branches across the country.

Posted by regimentalrogue at 12:01 AM EST  
Updated: Sunday, 11 January 2015 12:08 AM EST

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Comments Page

**Sunday, 11 January 2015 - 9:41 AM EST**

**Name:** "Christopher J Harvie"

**Home Page:** <http://ifyebreakfaith.blogspot.ca>

Dear Sir,

A very good post with some clear insight to the RCL and what its needs are to service contemporary veterans. I have two points. First, due to the institution of the new rank structure, the term "Aviator" can be used in place of the gender specific "Airman" or "Airwoman." Aside from that, fantastic overall.

My second point is that I'd like to share with you my recent post on the development and relevance of the RCL:

<http://ifyebreakfaith.blogspot.ca/2014/12/in-pace-paratus-sed-ut-paratus-ad-pace.html>

I would be very flattered if you could be so kind as to share with me your thoughts on it.

Kind regards,

CJ Harvie

*Reply to this Comment*

**Sunday, 11 January 2015 - 6:19 PM EST**

**Name:** "M.D. French"

I think your analysis is essentially sound, but misses one key point.

For so long, the Legion thought of itself as dedicated to the needs of veterans of WWI and WWII that it seems to have forgotten that its purpose was to serve veterans as such. Korea veterans felt the need to establish their own advocacy group. Subsequent veterans - peacekeeping veterans, Bosnian veterans, Afghanistan veterans - became increasingly alienated from an organization which claimed to be the principal voice of veterans but seemed to concern itself only with veterans of certain conflicts.

The Legion actively opposed pensions for Reservists despite the fact that many of those returning from newer conflicts were reservists. They provided cover for the government in replacing comprehensive veterans benefits with the cost containing Veterans Charter to the detriment of newer veterans. The Legion was satisfied that existing veterans, the only constituency the Legion really cared about - were safely grandfathered into the former benefits regime.

The Legion by and large turned its back on new veterans, and now wonder why new veterans have turned their back on the Legion.

It isn't a mystery.

**REPORT OF ALBERTA – NWT COMMAND  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**Communications**

Through our IT person, we were able to purchase laptops at a significantly reduced cost from an oil company. Loaded with Office 365, they were distributed to the members of the SEO in December 2014. The District Commanders will receive their laptops in April 2015. We have already seen a reduction in meeting costs and the possibility of more interactions. We are looking forward to exploring what all the new software has to offer. Most of our Branches have email access. When computers come available from companies downsizing and moving we offer those computers to the Branches. They are usually new and come with updated software.

In 2013, we offered computer packages with accounting software to the Branches. We are seeing more interest from the Branches to utilize this program. It is our hope to have some consistency across the Command and give us the ability to assist all Branches. We have the ability to log into their systems and see exactly what they are seeing. Our best advocate for signing up for the program has been the Branches that are currently using it.

**Multi-Unit Manager**

We had a pilot project where one person managed multiple Branches in a geographically defined area. The pilot project ran for over a year and unfortunately we have dropped it. There were several issues which we could not overcome such as:

- finding a qualified person to work outside the major cities
- unacceptance by the Branch membership ie“ Command was meddling”
- separating business from The Legion

We continue to look at new ideas to assist Branches with their business operations.

**Convention 2015**

At our 2013 Provincial Convention, it was determined that we had more first time convention attendees than ever before. When we asked why, we found it was because we reduced the number of days and utilized more of the weekend for business and workshops. In an effort to continue this trend, for 2015 we have decided to start business sessions on Saturday and wrap up Sunday. Our opening ceremonies and parade will be Friday evening.

**Veterans License Plates**

The change in the Legion’s definition of a Veteran has caused a lot of commotion within



our Command. When we originally established the license plates, in Alberta, we used the VAC definition. The applications were adjusted to ensure the requirements were the same as other provinces. Since the inclusion of the RCMP there has been a lot of backlash from Military Veterans.

### **Resolution**

The decision to hold off on the resolution regarding voting has caused a lot of turmoil in our Command. We repeatedly asked for a ruling and it was not until after many of the Branch elections were underway and a complaint was sent to Dominion Command that a memo was sent out. This should have been handled before October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 not in December.

### **New Branch**

We are pleased to have a new Branch in our Command The Branch is Okotoks Branch No 291.

Wayne Donner  
President

**REPORT OF SASKATCHEWAN COMMAND  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

As the Provincial President of Saskatchewan Command, I am pleased to provide this report for the province of Saskatchewan.

**MEMBERSHIP:**

Our 2013 membership was 11, 646 and, as of November 30, 2014, 11,053 – which represents a drop of 593. Although a few new members have been recruited, the retention of members remains a problem. We have not seen an increase in overall membership for many years, but are getting a slightly better indication of why that might be so.

Many of our branches are run by an entrenched executive that has served for decades. In many cases, these executives are not open to new ideas, and any new and younger members quickly become disillusioned. In many cases, general meetings are held during work hours, which also precludes new and younger members from participating. Until there is a “culture shift” in these branches, they are unlikely to have a sustainable membership. As a result, the branches will simply fold and close as the entrenched executives pass away.

We currently have 174 branches, a drop of three since our last report. Many other branches choose to remain open but completely inactive, which poses an administrative burden to command. Many branches, although offered free computers, refuse to establish an email address and consequently do not receive any information or publications from Dominion Command. This is extremely troubling for the future of these branches and the members they serve.

The future of the Legion in Saskatchewan depends on a culture change. When a new and younger member is recruited into a branch, it is absolutely essential that the existing members be willing to listen to and embrace the new ideas that member brings. This will ensure the new member remains interested, willing to volunteer, and willing to serve in an executive position.

Our command will continue to encourage branches to accept and welcome new members, but the culture change must come from the branches themselves. If the branch is not willingly to accept new people with new ideas, the branch simply does not have a place or future in the Legion.

As for the branches who are completely inactive, yet insist on remaining open, it is the intention of this Command to encourage the branch to close in hopes its members will be better served by a more committed branch. Although this will decrease our number of branches, it will ensure that our members are better informed and appreciated.

## **VETERANS SERVICES AND SENIORS**

Saskatchewan is a huge province, yet Veterans Affairs chose to close one of two district offices in the province. The staff that work with veterans at the remaining office in Regina was cut from 7 individuals to 3. Although the remaining staff at the District Office are exceptional people, they are simply incapable of keeping up with the workload.

There is consequently a trend developing whereby the District Office is considering the Command Service Officer as their fourth employee. On many occasions, the VAC district office has requested that the Command Service Officer transport Veterans Affairs clients from rural locations to medical appointments or rehab in other cities. Veterans Affairs expects that the Legion will pay all expenses involved for these trips. The Command Service Officer also has to put off working with his own clients to service Veterans Affairs clients.

This situation is creating a false picture of how well Veterans Affairs is managing after the downsizing. If it is in fact a Legion employee who is doing the work, and Legion funds paying for the work, it can hardly be said that Veterans Affairs is properly servicing their own clients.

We intend to monitor this situation carefully, and in future will only assist when our funds and our Service Officer's time allows.

Our "Leave the Streets" behind program continues although we have recently had to re-evaluate the program. Saskatchewan does not have infrastructure to house homeless veterans and we were, consequently, paying one month's rent and damage deposit for an apartment for the veteran. At the current rental prices in Saskatchewan, this was costing the program an average of \$3000.00 per veteran. That type of expenditure is not sustainable. We have consequently revised our program to offer emergency accommodation for one night only while we attempt to direct the veteran to social services. It should also be noted that several of the veterans who have presented themselves as homeless to us are in receipt of Veterans' Affairs disability payments and military pensions, but state they 'have just moved to town' and need a place to stay. We intend to deny this sort of request in future.

Command Office has fielded numerous complaints regarding the Long Term Surveyor Program. This program is currently offering a flat fee of \$20.00 per visit, yet expects its volunteers to travel hundreds of kilometres to accomplish their visit. Our Saskatchewan volunteers are indicating that they are not likely to continue with the program as their out-of-pocket expenses are becoming exorbitant. Our volunteers are also questioning the value of the program as they are no longer allowed to collect information on how the veterans is being cared for. The program seems to have become a very expensive social visit for the volunteer and the veteran.

## **REMEMBRANCE AND POPPY**

Albeit due to tragic circumstances, (the death of a Canadian soldier), command had an extremely successful poppy campaign this year. It was unfortunate that it took a tragedy to remind the public of the cause of Remembrance, but there was heightened interest and support for all activities surrounding Remembrance Day this year. We can only hope we can retain that level of support from the public in the future. Many thanks to Dominion Command for keeping up with the increased demand for Poppy supplies.

We are working on our yearly Literary and Poster contest as we speak. Our command still enjoys approximately 26,000 entries from throughout the province. We continue to award 10 Scholarships and 10 Bursaries on a yearly basis. They are \$300.00 each and are well received and appreciated by the students.

The gap in servicing towns and communities where there are no Branches, continues to widen. We are fortunate that we have members in Branches that will pick up the slack in driving to these communities to ensure that the areas are covered with supplies, speakers and information to the schools regarding our Literary and Poster contest. Although our membership is declining, we are thankful that we still have many, many dedicated members in our communities that work for the betterment of our organization.

A serious challenge facing our Command is the misuse of Poppy funds. The Royal Canadian Legion and the Poppy Campaign will lose the trust of the Canadian public if this trend continues. The greatest type of misuse is collecting Poppy Funds under the guise of assisting veterans, and then promptly turning around and giving those funds to other charities such as the Cancer Society, the Multiple Sclerosis Society, or any other pet charity the Legion members have. There is also a prevalent belief that Poppy funds should be expended on artwork, landscaping and general maintenance for the local seniors' home – despite the fact that the seniors' home does not house or support veterans.

It is therefore considered essential by this Command that the Poppy Manual be revised to clearly and unequivocally state what constitutes an authorized use of Poppy Funds.

We cannot afford to lose the public trust. Canadians have been generous in that past in supporting veterans and veterans care. They believe the money they donate goes to veterans. Should the public ever discover that this is not the case, their generosity will disappear along with the confidence in the Royal Canadian Legion.

## **YOUTH**

Our yearly Track and Field Camp remains successful year after year with many qualified coaches and dedicated camp personnel. We continue to have over 150 athletes in attendance and continue to send a contingent to the National Camp on a yearly basis. We would not be able to run this camp without our many dedicated Legion

members. We are just now getting ready to hold our yearly planning meeting to lay plans for this year's camps.

Sask. Command awards 20 Cadet Medals of Excellence on a yearly basis as well, and is well received by the province.

Saskatchewan Command has also begun a new initiative called the Legion Legacy Project. Although the project is still in the planning stages, the Legacy Project is intended to fund educational aides and/or scholarships for high school and university students who are pursuing a course in military and strategic studies. Further details will be provided as the project gets underway.

## **SPORTS**

Our sports program has not changed in the last year. Cribbage remains extremely popular and made a healthy profit in 2014. Darts, golf and bowling also made a profit, but curling and 8-ball pool operated at a loss.

It is expected that there will be changes to the sports program at the Dominion level. We will monitor carefully how those changes affect participation at the Provincial level and will adjust our program accordingly.

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Sask. Command will publish its eighth Military Service Recognition Book this spring. The donations that our Command receives from the publication of these yearly books averages over \$100,000.00 per book. This is a huge financial boon for our Command and we have not been required to raise the provincial portion of our Per Capita Tax since the inception of these books.

The Sask. Command Website continues to be monitored and updated for content and is promoted at all times.

We are currently in negotiations with the Saskatchewan government to try and revisit the criteria of qualification for a Veterans' license plate in keeping with Dominion Command's new and expanded definition of a veteran. The government is reluctant to incur the additional cost this will bring to the program.

Saskatchewan Command was the recipient of a \$50,000 donation from Brandt Industries this past November. Their generosity was greatly appreciated and publicly acknowledged by the Command.

## **LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT**

Our Command Service Officer is once again preparing for the annual Branch Service Officer training in the spring of 2015. The training will be conducted by District and all Branches will be advised that this training is mandatory for Branch Service Officers. We

will also be asking Poppy Chairs to attend as well, as the training will focus on the proper use of Poppy Funds.

We continue to collect and publish training material on our website and eagerly accept any resources Dominion Command chooses to create. We especially look forward to the eventual publication of the on-line Leadership seminars promised by Dominion Command.

## **SUMMARY**

Saskatchewan Command continues to operate and function well. Our finances are healthy and continue to improve each year thanks to the Military Recognition Books. Our Sask. Command Office staff of four remains the same with our Prov. Executive Director, full time Provincial Service Officer, full time Admin. Assistant and a part time bookkeeper. This appears to be working well for the moment and of course will be monitored and assessed as time goes on. Our building is aging and the expenses relating to it are closely monitored. Overall, though, the expenses on the building are minimal compared to leasing or selling and repurchasing.

Saskatchewan Command will hold its provincial convention this year in Prince Albert, Sask. from October 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see increased interest from the membership in standing for election to executive positions. We also look forward to hearing new and innovative ideas from the Convention floor on how to improve this great organization of ours.

In closing, I thank the chair for the opportunity to present this report. Serving on the Dominion Executive Council has been a great learning experience for me and I have greatly appreciated the opportunity to work with the all the Provincial Presidents. I thank all of you for the support and advice you have given me.

Respectfully submitted,  
M.C. (Dick) Wells  
Provincial President, Sask. Command

**REPORT OF MANITOBA & NWO COMMAND  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

Comrade Chairman, Comrades

As my term as President expires in June, I am pleased to present my last report to the Dominion Executive Council. At this point in time our Command Office is making our accommodation reservations for our Provincial Convention in Winnipeg in June 2015 hosted by Transcona Branch #7.

**Membership**

Manitoba Northwestern Ontario Command has 139 branches, 92 in rural Manitoba, 29 in Northwestern Ontario and 18 in Winnipeg. Unfortunately this is 6 branches less than reported two years ago. These closures were due to declining Membership. Our Membership at the end of December stands at 23,939 that's a 94.88% renewal rate.

All our Branch Membership Chairmen have to be congratulated for the time and effort they and their committees put in not only doing paperwork but also managing recruitment drives. Membership Chairmen spend a lot of time at their Branches.

**Poppy Campaign**

Although all the numbers are not yet submitted, the preliminary outlook is that this past year was a very good Poppy Campaign. All in all the real winners here are the veterans and their families.

**Leadership and Development**

This past year, we held 4 seminars at the request of our Districts. Power point presentations were made (complete with handouts). We are still not getting a good response from Districts on hosting these seminars.

Laptop computers have been purchased and pertinent information was downloaded on them from our District Commanders, so far we have no feedback from anyone regarding their use.

We still have Branch executives that think they know it all and New Members that this isn't for them. We are slowly breaking down those myths.

Since January 1, 2014 the number of charges against Branch Presidents handled by our Command has greatly increased.

## **Youth**

Our Literary and Poster participation has once again increased. Our Command is very involved with the Army, Navy and Air Cadets. Our District Commanders awarded Cadet Medals of Excellence.

The Legion Athletic Camp held at The International Peace Gardens now in its 53<sup>rd</sup> year had 600 attendees. At the time of writing this report we are unsure of the reasons for the decline in attendance. The Sports Camp wishes to extend their thanks to all Branches for their continued support.

Once again Provincial Command and the Ladies Council funded the purchase of team uniforms for the Canadian Youth Track and Field Championships in Langley British Columbia. The team that was sent to Langley this summer was a young team with 21 out of 36 athletes attending their first National Championship. Many of the athletes came home with the motivation to train and improve and the knowledge of what it takes to be the best athletes in their sport.

## **Sports**

In Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario, Member Sports remains a great recruiting tool. Cribbage is our strongest event with Branches from all 9 Districts participating followed by Darts and Golf with 8 Districts. "8" Ball had only 6 teams participate in 2014. Curling had 14 Regular Teams entered and 10 Senior Teams hosted by Neepawa Manitoba.

## **Veteran Services and Legion Seniors**

In conjunction with L&D, our Command Service Officer has presented workshops in Dryden Ontario and in Dauphin Manitoba. No further workshops are planned at this time and none have been requested.

The local VAC Office in Winnipeg has requested that our Service Officer make a presentation to their staff relative to our Homeless Initiative. Details are still being worked out. Two of our Members traveled to Ottawa to be trained on the New Outreach and Visitation Initiative.

Our Command Service Officer went to Charlestown for the biennial Professional Development Session sponsored by Dominion Command.

We are continuing our efforts to locate and aid Homeless Veterans in our Command.

Respectively submitted and moved for adoption

Dan Kidd  
President  
Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario



**REPORT OF ONTARIO COMMAND  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

Comrade Chairman, Comrade President, Comrades all, it doesn't get any easier, but, Ontario Command continues to strive to assist our branches to remain financially viable, to represent our command's and our members interests and maintain the aims and objectives our organization was founded to uphold.

Since my last report we have had 1 branch (Br. 518 Thamesford) relinquish its charter and two branches (Br. 28 and Br. 628 in Chatham) amalgamate.

All reports suggest our last Remembrance campaign was an outstanding success due in large part to the events that took place at the National War Memorial and in Quebec, However it is unfortunate that a certain Ottawa branch took advantage of this situation and against commands direct instructions not to do so, began their poppy campaign early. Command wide the most recent poppy summary report available (2012-13) show campaign revenue of \$6.44 million.

In an attempt to assist our branches increase membership Ontario Command provided to them, 200,000 copies of the "Thanks for Wearing a Poppy" booklet, which had been slightly altered from its original Dominion Command produced format so that our branches could personalize it for their own use. Instructions were simple; these booklets were to be distributed to the general public at every opportunity, particularly during the remembrance period. As with all initiatives for some reason known only to them some branches chose not to participate, but those that did reported wide spread success in attracting new members.

Ontario Commands Youth Education programs continue to attract wide support. Participation in the Royal Canadian Legions traditional Poster and Literary contests continues to be strong. Ontario Command also conducts a "public speaking" competition were competitors which are divided into four "age classes" work their way up from branch all the way to the provincial level. This year's provincial competition will be held at Branch #25 Sault Saint Marie on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our newly introduced Video Remembrance Competition, designed to involve our more "technically savvy" students was also expanded and was an overwhelming success.

Our Track & Field program continues to achieve excellent results and high participation with both a provincial "summer meet" and a "winter indoor meet" being held. Again, congratulations to BC/Yukon Command for a great National Meet where Ontario athletes won a record 54 medals and broke 9 Canadian youth records. However there have been concerns raised that the move to the Decathlon from the traditional Octathlon puts a undue strain on many of our District Meets athletes and organizers.

Our Provincial Service Officers continue to experience an increased “work load” with the closure of the VAC Regional Offices and their increasing presence on Canadian Forces Bases. We have also relocated the Windsor Office to London to better serve South Western Ontario. We have also met with VAC staff on two separate occasions to voice our concerns and offer suggestions.

Our Homeless Veterans Program is extremely active, with a running total of over 378 clients assisted, 130 permanently housed and to date have spent just shy of \$775,000. Along with our Legion sponsored facilities on Parliament and Bathurst Streets, we are in negotiations with the “Fred Victor Society” for the future use of 10 “apartment units” built for this year’s Pan Am Games. We also have agreed to jointly assist along with the Multi-Faith Housing Corporation of Ottawa and others, in funding for a 16 unit homeless veterans housing complex in the Rock Cliff area.

In an attempt better serve and reconnect with both our members and our branches Ontario Command has initiated a Provincial Revitalization Committee. It is a committee chaired by our 3 vice-presidents but made up of members from zones and branches from across the command. Realizing there are many impediments to significant change such as existing structure and bylaws, current federal and provincial acts, branch autonomy and an inherent resistance to fundamental change their mandate is quite simple---come up with a better, more efficient, more productive more financially responsible way for our branches and commands to move forward. This committee after an initial “face to face” meeting now meets electronically and has divided into subcommittee’s which will review and brainstorm all aspects of the Legion, structure governance and finance, everything except our founding principles. We realise it is an ambitious and daunting challenge, fraught with pitfalls, but if we are to survive as an organization changes are necessary.

Speaking of change, our complaint procedure is ”becoming a joke”. I know the subject came up in Edmonton and the response was “well its better than it used to be”, I disagree. The process is complicated, misunderstood, misused, overly used and abused. Knowledgeable executives and members can use this convoluted process to intimidate and run roughshod over their members who may not be in the “clique” or silence members whose opinions may differ from their own. It has and is happening right now in one of my branches and when our concerns and possible solutions were brought to Dominion the response was existing bylaws do not allow for intervention except by the Dominion President and that the “process must follow its natural course” .

This term, from this one branch Ontario Command has received 21 complaints against the president:

13 deemed invalid with 3 pending  
15 appeals received  
9 deemed invalid with 1 pending

We have **no idea** how many complaints, have been laid, handled and mishandled by

this branch but our information is that they are numerous

From the rest of Ontario Command we have received 73 complaints against a president

69 deemed invalid  
14 appeals received  
9 deemed invalid

Few members know the proper way to lodge a complaint or appeal, few branches know how to process or handle a complaint and few complaint committees' have a clue at what they are doing.

A totally unproductive use of branch and command staff time and resources

**There has got to be a better way**

Yours in comradeship and service  
Bruce Julian  
President, Ontario Command

**REPORT OF QUEBEC COMMAND  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

Since last February, we have been working hard to reduce the deficit that was in place when I started my mandate as Provincial President. We have made several changes to the platform of our Provincial Convention and as a result, we will be see a savings of approximately \$25,000.00 compared to 2013. We are also looking for a new building to purchase which give us a savings of \$30,000.00 or more per year. Another issue that is still ongoing is the lawsuit filed by five members from Quebec City. As a whole, things are looking positive for 2015.

The following is a brief summary of our individual committees.

Membership:

Since starting his work on the committee in May 2013, our Membership Chairman has been working very hard with the District Commanders and is getting very good results. We lost a total of 421 members in 2014, compared to 518 in 2013 but, we are unable to define how many are deceased because this amount is no longer listed on the montly reports. We are continuing to investigate why members haven't renewed and hopefully we will get some back.

Sports:

The main interest of this committee in Quebec is to keep Darts and Cribbage as National events because we make a profit on these two activities. We have over thirty branches that participate in the Darts and approximately twenty-two that take part in the Cribbage.

Track & Field:

With the event taking place in Ste-Thérèse, Quebec over the next two years, we predict a savings of approximately \$10,000.00 each year. I have attended a few of the Planning Committee's meetings and I can report that things are coming along nicely.

Leadership:

We are continuing to send instructors to District Meetings to teach whichever subject is required by the area in question and, we are getting very good participation from our branches.

Poppy:

Our Chairman for this committee was doing a great job but had to resign in December for health reasons. We are currently training a new Chairman and things are going well.

Ste-Anne's Hospital:

This committee visits over 300 veterans every month, bringing them little odds and ends such as toothpaste, kleenex, hand lotion, and whatever else they like to receive. At our Christmas visit, each ward gets something big that they need (stereo, tv, vcr, etc.), and each patient gets to see Santa and receives a gift. The hospital is still making cut-backs and they recently reinstated the annual outings to visit our branches that was cancelled in 2014.

Honors & Awards:

This committee is doing very well.

Service Office:

Both of our Service Officers are very busy and are working extremely hard since we have more cases than ever before. We had a seminar in May for all of our branches and it was very well attended.

Financial:

Our Treasurer resigned in December due to health issues and we appointed someone to take his place until our Convention in May. Their main priority is to find ways for us to save at least \$80,000.00 in 2015.

In closing, I want to express how nice it is for me to be here to represent Quebec. I hope that our meetings this weekend are productive and are beneficial to our members, in particular, our Veterans.

Yours in Comradeship,  
Norman Shelton  
Quebec Provincial President

**REPORT OF NEW BRUNSWICK COMMAND  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

This report reflects activities of The Royal Canadian Legion, New Brunswick Command and its Branches since February 2014.

The financial situation for New Brunswick Command is not a positive one. We are committed to balancing the budget and not to have any deficit budgeting. In order to attain this there have been significant changes to SEO and Council expenses and other areas but none of the changes affect the services we provide. At the present time our total assets slightly exceed \$1,224,000.00 which includes short and long term investments of \$685,000.00. We are projecting a balanced budget for 2015 and there will be no Per Capita Tax increase for this year.

Programs like the youth leadership camp and track & field continue to operate within budget and were funded by the Military Service Recognition booklet. This booklet continues to be a huge success. The fundraiser revenue exceeded our expectations and we will continue with this project as the interest is very strong and the support has been over whelming. In the last eleven years this project has generated just over \$1,000,000.00 for our Command.

The 72 branches in the province are struggling with declining memberships and revenues, but are still holding their own in most cases. However, there have been 2 branches which have turned in their charter and another is in the process of winding down their branch. It is expected that another branch may also suffer the same fate in 2015. Some branches have sold their large halls and downsized at a new location in order to continue operating. This seems to have worked very well. A couple of branches are talking with other community organizations about joining together to share their property and the operating expenses. One of the larger expenses for the branches has been property taxes. However, the province eliminated the assessment on branch property so there are now no taxes to be paid. As part of this process the provincial government also waived all outstanding taxes. This was a good day for the Legion branches in New Brunswick.

The 2014 poppy campaign was successful with most branches receiving donations and revenue from wreath and cross sales equal to prior years. No major problems were encountered last year except for the wreath and cross stands which were very flimsy and would not stay standing. Hopefully this will be corrected for this year.

The Community Service Fund committee meets twice a year to review applications from branches for donations to support community based projects or events. Since the inception of the fund, in excess of \$802,000.00 has been donated to various projects or events in the name of the Royal Canadian Legion. This program will continue for many years to come.

New Brunswick Command has decreased the number of bursaries awarded from 50 to 25, but has increased the amount of each bursary from \$250.00 to \$500.00, so the overall cost is the same. The majority of the branches in the province also award bursaries. Numerous cards are received each year from the students thanking us for our support.

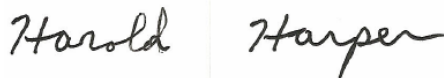
Cards also come in for other youth programs including the Poster and Essay Contest. The 2014 Poppy Campaign Poster and Essay Committee are presently in the process of judging the large number of entries received for this year.

The Veteran Licence Plate Program continues to receive approximately 5-7 applications each week. After many years of working with the provincial government it was announced in the summer of 2014 that the Reservists and RCMP members would be included in this program. It was also announced that motorcycle plates would be available in the fall. To date, this has not happened but we have been advised that the motorcycle plates will be available once they get software problems corrected. Hopefully they will be ready for the spring of 2015.

New Brunswick Command has started a rather large undertaking of investigating the possibility of downsizing our Council. We currently have eight (8) Districts with one being split into Zones. We are looking at reducing the number of Districts to four (4), with each one being split into Zones. The proposal was taken to Council in September 2014. The District Commanders were asked to take the proposal back to their branches for feedback. A committee has been formed to look at the feedback from the branches and prepare a recommendation on the downsizing for our Council meeting this spring. If the reduction in Districts is successful there will be a cost saving for Command due to a reduction in Council travel expenses.

In closing, New Brunswick Command is holding our own but we must make changes in order to keep going. We are very positive that we can maintain the quality of service that we provide and take pride in this. The Executive has been tremendous and very supportive and the results show this.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harold Harper". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of a vertical line.

Harold Harper  
Provincial President

**REPORT OF NOVA SCOTIA / NUNAVUT COMMAND  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

Since last D.E.C. Meeting in September Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command has been very busy doing the work of the Legion. I as President attended many ceremonial events such as The Aftganistan Memorial in Halifax, N.S. Commissionaires Donation event, Battle of Britain and November 11th Ceremonies etc..I also had the honour of presenting the first poppy to Lt.Governor J.J.Grant for November 11th.

Our Branches continue to be a challenge to meet their requests such as training sessions for By-law compliance, membership issues, Honours and Awards issues etc.

We are now in full planning mode for our Command Convention to be held in Truro N.S. in May.

Several measures have been taken to cut expenses in all areas of Command and we will be presenting A SURPLUS BUDGET for the first time in years.!

The biggest challenge we face is dealing with the negative attitude of many Legionnaires in our Branches who continue to criticize Command but fail to offer new ideas. This is an ongoing task but we are dealing with the topics as they appear.

This is my last D.E.C. Meeting as President of Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command and I wish to state it has been a distinct honour and privilege to have served on D.E.C. and to have worked with you all as we strive to serve our Veterans and this great organization The Royal Canadian Legion.

I wish you all the best in your future dealings and I will never forget!.

In Comradeship

Ronald T Trowsdale  
President  
Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command



**REPORT OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND COMMAND  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

Comrade Chairman and Comrades:

The year started with the closing of the DVA District Office in Charlottetown at the end of January. A number of meetings took place with the District Director to work out details on how the services to veterans will be provided in the future. DVA Minister Fantino also came to Charlottetown at that time to ensure the veterans that the services offered will not be any less if anything they will better.

The military opened a family Service bureau in the HMCS Queen Charlotte Armouries in Charlottetown, Command created a partnership with them in an effort to reach more veterans. All through the summer months they visited festivals across the Island as an awareness program and at the same time distributed information on programs offered by the Legion.

As has been the practice over the past few years PEI Command has partnered with DVA and shared a booth at the Provincial PEI Teachers Convention in mid-October. This has always been very effective in generating interest in Remembrance and the Legion Poster and Literary Contest within the school system.

There have been a number of workshops during the last year starting with a Membership. There is always a Poppy workshop in the fall. All workshops have had great attendance with more in the planning.

The participation at Remembrance Day ceremonies across the Island at all cenotaphs was at an all-time high, so were donations to the Poppy Campaign.

A number of smaller branches are continually finding it harder to operate and are strapped financially mainly due to the large infrastructure that they have to maintain. One branch has created a partnership with the local Lions' Club and will rent them some of their space. Command has taken over the operation of the Charlottetown Br #1 for a period of time. In the last year the Branch has been dysfunctional and had a lack of leadership. The loss of any branch has a large impact on PEI Command in general with only 19 branches all across the Island.

Our Command Service Officer resigned his position in the spring so a new one needed to be hired. Our new S.O is Debbie Rockman, she is a former DVA employee certainly a big asset to her when dealing with DVA programs. Her workload and that of the Branch Service Officers has increased substantially with the closure of the DVA District Office.

There were 75 applications for bursaries at Command and 5 were presented in the amount of \$2,500 also a number of bursaries were also awarded at Branch level.

The PEI Command participates in various veterans program offered by Dominion Command. At present we are very fortunate not having any homeless veterans on the Island. We regularly monitor and stay connected with homeless shelters across the province to see if any Veterans are in need. To that effect we have partnered with the Salvation Army who operates a homeless shelter in the Charlottetown area.

Our Past President Comrade Kennedy is now a volunteer and also trained in the Outreach and Visitation Initiative program, having a smaller number of veterans makes it easier to reach them regularly on an individual basis.

Over all PEI Command is working well, it has a dedicated Executive Council and support staff.  
The budget is tight but manageable.

One area that is always of some concern is membership; even though this problem is not isolated to PEI Command it continues to remain a priority. Some branches have made some real progress by working together with other Veterans organizations.

*Gilles Painchaud*

Yours in Comradeship.  
Gilles Painchaud – President

**REPORT OF NFLD/LABRADOR COMMAND  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
20-22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**General**

Newfoundland and Labrador Command has had a very busy 2014 dealing with several Branches with Financial and Administrative problems. At the moment we are on top of all these issues with several being resolved in the New Year. The Command Office staff has once again been restructured to make the running of our entire Command more efficient. We are proud to say for the first time in the history of our Command we have a full time Service Officer to deal entirely with service for our veterans and their dependents. We hired a new Provincial Secretary in November so we now have three full time employees. We have also made some physical renovations to the office with more required.

**Branches**

We have 46 branches in our Command and approximately 4,000 members. A few of the Branches run into trouble every now and then and we do the best we can to guide and advise them along the way. We have adopted a new Training Seminar Program and are anxious to hear from our delegates at Provincial Convention what they think of the new format.

**Training** was conducted during the fall. All training sessions were well received and considered successful. Training sessions included the following:

- Veteran Services
- Poppy and Remembrance
- Branch Organization
- Finance and Administration
- Leadership Development
- Membership
- Rituals, Insignia and Ceremonial
- Honours and Awards
- Hugh Conner's Award

**Provincial Convention**

2015 and 2016 are promising to be two very exciting years for NL Command as we will hold our 64<sup>th</sup> Biennial Provincial Convention in August 2015 at Br. #01, St. John's and then, for the second time only, we will host the Dominion Convention in 2016. If all those from across the country show up in 2016, we will host one of the biggest conventions Dominion has ever seen. The planning process started in 2014 and refer below to the LAC 2016 Committee Report:

LAC 2016 Committee Report  
For Provincial President  
For DEC meetings 2015

Dated 12 Jan 2015

The committee consists of the following Comrades:

Berkley Lawrence – Committee Chairman  
Jim Kennedy – Vice Chairman – Convention Floor Committee Chairman  
Todd Martin – Vice Chairman – Ways and Means Chairman  
Herb Corcoran – Secretary – Registration Committee Chairman  
Doug McCarthy – Treasurer, Sgt-at-arms Committee Chairman,  
Colour Party Committee Chairman,  
Souvenir Book Committee Chairman  
Craig Power – Medical Committee Chairman  
Don Walsh – Wreath Laying Committee Chairman  
Bill Smith – Lost and Found Committee Chairman  
Bill Gushue – Special Entertainment Night Committee Chairman  
Ian Walsh – Opening/Closing Committee Chairman  
Terry Hurley – Parade Commander, Parade Committee Chairman  
Dale Rideout – Transportation Committee Chairman  
Nick Facey – Scrutineer Committee Chairman

Currently the only committee vacant is the Reception Committee, but it is hoped that someone from Branch 10, Portugal Cove Branch (closest to the airport) will step up to take this Committee.

Things are progressing well with the planning of the convention. The Dominion Staff, Comrades Steve Clark and Bill Maxwell, were in St. John's in October 2014 for meetings. These provided great insight for the LAC Chairman as I attended all meeting with the DC staff and learned a great deal, plus made some very important contacts. As was discussed at the meeting with The Delta Staff and confirmed with the Mile One Stadium staff it is now planned to hold the convention inside the newly renovated and enlarged Convention Center and not use the Stadium at all. This will make for a greater venue for the convention.

Currently the LAC is waiting for approval of our theme "Looking Back to See Ahead". Once approval is received the LAC will commence with the development of a logo and provide same to the DC staff.

We are a little disappointed that the Edmonton Convention Committee did not supply us with an After Action Report, but undaunted we will proceed.

In December, we received a cheque for \$3000.00 from DC and it was deposited in our account immediately. A full report on expenses to cover this amount will be provided to

the DC staff upon completion of the convention.

As of the date of this report, except for the approval of the theme, there is nothing pressing at this time, the LAC Chairman is confident that things are progressing smoothly and looks forward to our next meeting of the complete LAC Executive members in March. It is my plan to start to hold more frequent meetings and to have most if not all items handled and in place for the return of the DC staff in October 2015.

For information of the DC staff, our plan is to host a post-convention party on the Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016, during the evening. This will be to thank all the volunteers who assisted in the convention. Our plan is to present certificates to each volunteer. Plans have not been finalized, but I wish to mention this early so that anyone from the DEC or Ottawa Staff who wishes to attend can make proper plans. Official invitations will be given out during or prior to the convention.

Berkley Lawrence, LAC 2016 Chairman  
"Looking Back to See Ahead" (hopefully)  
596-2559, Email: LAC2016@legionnl.ca

## **Membership**

Like many other Provinces across Canada, NL Command continues to seek ways to improve membership. In accordance with dominion statistical report, this Command only had 2/46 Branches below the 85% renewal rate.

All Branches within this Command are striving to increase their membership numbers by trying to recruit while strongly encouraging present members to renew. We will continue to move forward and try to find better ways to improve our membership by targeting experienced active and retired military personnel and others regardless of background, age or profession.

A copy of the Article called "Get the Grump Out of the Legion" was sent to all Executives/District Commanders for distribution to their applicable Branches.

## **VSS (Support to Veterans)**

A Legion Action Committee is operating effectively at two of the three DVA contracted facilities within the province, St John's and Botwood but not Corner Brook. The well-being of Veterans is of the utmost importance. A very competent and caring staff ensures all requirements are met for each Veteran. The Chair resigned from the position and a new Chair member has taken over.

The Premier and Lt. Governor took the time out of their busy schedules to personally visit Veterans at the Pavilion over the holiday season.

All Branches are encouraged to continue utilizing the "Visitation Program" to Veterans/Senior facilities. For Corner Brook Long Term Care, for section 4, it was

reported that they do not have access issues currently. There have been challenges in that if there is not a waitlist for priority access, the bed will be utilized for residents on the CBLTC wait list. When VAC presents a candidate they will be admitted without delay. The VAC Pavilion office in St John's is aware through regular contact. Status updates are also sent monthly. There are currently no new projects in Corner Brook.

Provincial Command is assisting the Caribou Pavilion in St John's with fundraising for the Jim Shields Memorial Garden and will be doing the same with the Memorial Garden at the Botwood Pavilion.

Legions in Grand Falls and Botwood visited the Botwood Pavilion while the Legion in Corner Brook visited the Corner Brook Pavilion over the holiday season. This initiative was well received by all Pavilion Veterans/Seniors.

### **Ad-Hoc Committee**

As I last reported to you in February 2014 our Command struck an Ad Hoc Committee to investigate why Canadian Forces Veterans are not joining the Royal Canadian Legion. During our SEC meeting in November 2014 we had a presentation by the Ad Hoc Committee formed by Comrade Ross Petten when he became President. The report, entitled "***Why today's Veterans and present serving CF members are not joining The Royal Canadian Legion***", was discussed in great detail. The funding and time constraints on the Committee and the poor response from branches and CF veterans somewhat limited the amount of information that the committee could compile. However, the information they did receive was quite clear. Their report has

Based on the Ad Hoc Committee's Report on "***Why today's Veterans and present serving CF members are not joining The Royal Canadian Legion***" NL Provincial Command made the following recommendations:

- ✓ The Ad Hoc Committee Report would serve as a terms of reference to start the process. A good starting point would be the Conclusion Statement, Summations and Recommendations contained on pages 33 to 40 of the Ad Hoc Committee Report.
- ✓ Provincial Command would form a provincial committee to further investigate the lack of Canadian Forces participating in The Royal Canadian Legion. As our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents are veterans; they would be two excellent sources of reference.
- ✓ The committee, where possible, would be comprised of a representative from each of the six districts of Provincial Command. It should not be assumed that these individuals would be our District Commanders as they have enough duties to perform.
- ✓ Where possible the committee representatives should be veterans.
- ✓ In order to run this committee command is proposing a budget of \$5,000 as a suggested figure.

- ✓ Since our present Command Service Officer is a long-term serving member of the CF, we3 recommend that he be approached and either be placed on the committee as a serving member or as a source of reference.

The NL Provincial Command Executive will be recommending a \$5,000 budget in 2015 to try to solve the mystery of why CF veterans do not join The Royal Canadian Legion.

### **Provincial Command Service Officer**

Data for 2014:

1. First Applications completed categorized by:
  - Still serving (0)
  - Retired (14)
  - RCMP (0)
2. Departmental Reviews (4)
3. VRAB Reviews (1)
4. VRAB Appeals and RFRs (Dominion Command) (Unknown)
5. Number of Veterans counselled out/claims withdrawn (2)
6. Information and SCAN Seminars conducted (0)
7. Field visits to Branches (number of branches) (0)
8. VIP Applications submitted or WI for VIP (2)
9. Poppy Trust Fund Assistance provided in 2014 (14)

### **The following info is pertaining to files from previous years:**

- Additional files that required follow up from the previous years (29). These files needed to be reviewed and updated as they were incomplete. They are broken down as follows:
  - Poppy Trust Fund Assistance (10)
  - First Applications (16)
  - VIP (3)

**Note:** 17 of these 29 files are still ongoing.

- This means that they required additional action, or are still under review.
  - Still Under Review (14)
  - Further Action ongoing (3)
  - Files Complete (12)

### **Future Initiatives:**

- Service Officer Regional Training – May
- Branch Service Officer Professional Development Seminar (May/June 2015)

### **Training Seminar**

To hopefully reduce the costs of training, our spring 2014 PEC included a two day

training session to help get our District Commanders to take the training components directly to their respective districts.

## **2014 Provincial Command Pilgrimage to Europe**

The July 2014 Pilgrimage to Beaumont Hamel was yet another successful foray into the past. Participants of the Pilgrimage called it "a trip of a lifetime and were moved, humbled and honored to participate".

We must thank Brenda Slaney and Melanie Martin, Honor 100 and others who were instrumental in the organization of this trip. The historian, nurse and translator are all integral players in this trip. Using EF Tours made meals, transportation, and hotel check-ins and museum entrance seamless.

Our nine day trip had many highlights:

- On day one all the NL RCL contingent meet at Branch #56 for information and a meet and greet session.
- On day two we arrived in London meet our EF Tour Director and proceeded to the Brookwood Military Cemetery which is the largest CWGC cemetery in the United Kingdom with almost 6,000 servicemen and women from both the First and Second World Wars. We then proceeded from Dover to Calais and on to the Arras area of France where we spent our first night.
- On day three we took the guided tour of Beaumont Hamel Park including the trenches, monument, and cemeteries. All participants were stirred at their first viewing of the spectacular bronze caribou, a symbol for so much that is Newfoundland and Labrador. Most students were absorbed in the story of the Danger Tree. During the afternoon we visited the Thiepval WWI Memorial, which stands in memory of the missing of the Somme. The memorial contains over 72,000 names of Commonwealth soldiers who died during the battle of the Somme and have no known grave. Next it was on to the Wellington Quarry for a guided tour of the chalk quarries which were dug in the middle ages. Each participant wore a helmet and headset to listen to the presentations. We learned that during the First World War the tunnels were linked to create an underground network where 24,000 soldiers hid waiting for the offensive to begin.
- Day four took us back to Beaumont-Hamel for an afternoon ceremony. We started the day with a tour of the WWI battlefields near the town of Auchonvillers in the midst of vast poppy fields. There were tears of pride and sorrow in all our pilgrim's eyes during this ceremony. Surely this afternoon was the highlight of our trip. After the ceremony at Beaumont Hamel we attended a reception at the town of Mailley-Maillet which is twinned with Torbay Newfoundland.
- On day five we went to Vimy Ridge monument and did a tour of the battlegrounds, trenches and tunnels. Next we visited the Monchy le Preux monument. Later in the day we visited Cabaret Rouge Commonwealth War Cemetery where we held a service for veteran John Bray's cousin. We visited a Scottish Division cemetery that was situated in the midst of a farmer's field.



There was a stone placed there in memory of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment.

- On day six on our way to Ypres, Belgium we stopped at the Caribou Memorial in the town of Masnieres to hold our ceremony. There were members of the community there to greet us when we arrived. The mayor laid a wreath and also gave her necklace to one of our girls. We stopped into Marcoing British Cemetery to have a service and recognize a fallen Newfoundland constable. We then proceeded to the Caribou monument in Gueudecourt. We arrived in Ypres in the early afternoon and went to the Flanders Field Museum. We found this very inspirational that fallen soldiers are remembered daily for their sacrifice.
- On day seven we visited the only Caribou monument found in Belgium, at Kortrijk, and had our usual service there. Next we visited d'Hont Farm where a local farmer has set up a memorial to Tommy Ricketts. We presented the farmer with a bronze bust of Tommy Ricketts to attach to his memorial display. Next we visited the expansive Tynecott Cemetery and Interpretation Center. We visited Langemark German Cemetery. To enter into the cemetery one must walk through a "portal" that displayed videos of war. There are numerous mass graves located in Langemark. There are over 44,000 in the cemetery and at least 24,000 are unidentified. Next we headed to Essex Farm where Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae wrote his well-known poem. Located here are a small commonwealth cemetery and the nursing station out of which McCrae worked.
- On day eight we began our journey home. I was on the bus to Calais and then the ferry to Dover. Upon our arrival in London we visited Wandsworth Cemetery where several Newfoundlanders are buried. It is so heartwarming to see that wherever we went there was someone or some group that was remembering along with us. It appears that our soldiers will not be forgotten.

Our last day had an early rise and a quick ride to the airport. Once inside Security, all members of the Pilgrimage filled out a survey, which has been informative as to what were their impressions of the trip.

There was a full service at each of the monuments and partial services at most cemeteries that we visited. All Legion members, veterans and students took part by a reading, a prayer and singing the Ode to Newfoundland and O Canada. Our bugler played the last post at each venue. All pilgrims had the opportunity to be involved in some way.

### **Youth Track & Field Report**

The 2014 National Track and Field meet took place at Langley BC from August 13th to August 19th. The team arrived at Trinity West University in Langley on August 7<sup>th</sup>. The staff at TWU was terrific and couldn't do enough for the teams. The competition started on Friday at 10am and the opening ceremony was held on that night and competition continued Saturday and Sunday. There were great athletes from across our nation that attended the meet. All our athletes received a personal best. They really worked hard and tried their best. This National meet prepares and shapes these athletes for their futures such as, the Canada games and the Olympics. Also there are always scouts

from various Universities that are looking for athletes to invest in by offering them scholarships.

The athletes are all proud to represent our Province and our veterans.

### **Poppy and Remembrance Committee Report**

The committee has not met in 2014 since the PEC meetings.

**Literacy and Poster Contest** – The Committee met in Jan 2014 and screened the winning entries from the Branches. Many entries were disqualified for various reasons and this will be addressed at the Provincial Convention in Aug 2015. We were fortunate to have one Provincial winner win at the Dominion level. During last year's campaign the number of entries received at the Provincial Level has been down from previous years. We are hopeful that the talks with the Department of Education will increase this number of entries this year. We did reach out to a school in Labrador and mail the program information directly to them.

**History Challenge** - Again as we all know this item is conducted in District 2. We were not happy with one of the schools that participated this year and this issue will be addressed.

**Poppy Orders and Reporting** - Deadlines for ordering poppies and promotional material were set for the end of May and August. For the most part Branches complied with these dates. All orders received at Command office were filled and mailed out to all Branches. Also, command office confirmed that each Branch has been given all the material required to push the annual Poster and Literary contest through the schools in their areas.

**Remembrance Ceremonies** - The only major event to date has been the Memorial Day Parade in July and this was a great success, I am sure the Ceremonial Committee will comment further on this subject.

**Silver Cross Representative (mother/father/spouse/dependent)** - We spoke on this topic at the PEC and there must have been some miscommunication. The way of conducting this will be looked at in the New Year. Once we reach a determination on the way forward we will develop a form and if approved this form will be included in a mail out to all Branches (after November) asking for nominations for this prestigious position. The form will indicate that the successful person(s) will be asked to do both July 1<sup>st</sup> and November 11<sup>th</sup> ceremonial parades. There was a problem with this for 11 Nov as the person selected for 1 July did not inform us he would not be available for 11 Nov. This will be addressed at the PEC meetings in Mar 2015.

**Priority of Veterans Associations** - We changed the order of laying the wreaths at the national cenotaph in July by combining like organizations and this worked very well, there needs to be some minor adjustments made and this will be done for the Nov Parade.

**Provincial Command Pilgrimage to Europe** – the committee selected the Veterans, chaperons and translators to attend the pilgrimage. We started the process by developing the criteria to be followed and although there some negative feedback on the selections, the committee felt they followed a good criteria and this will be used again this year.

There was some negative feedback on the clothing for the students this year. The use of the windbreaker was not well received and it was stated by some that we should go back to the blazer. This will have to be discussed further as it will need to be included in the budget.

**Education Committee** - We have included this committee under the PR Committee as a sub-committee. It will be chaired by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. The only duty of this committee is review applications for the Command bursaries and determine the winners. Again the PR Committee will look at method to promote this important item. The bursary applications were reviewed and two Provincial and two Dominion winners were selected.

**A Call to Remember** - Again District 2 hosted the competition and again only the four high schools attended the competition. The next competition is scheduled for May 2015 and so far only District 2 has expressed interest in participating. There are efforts within District 5 Branch 3 Deer Lake to attract interest by the high schools in that location.

## **Remembrance Day**

The bright, beautiful day this year brought thousands out across the province to honour our fallen. Every branch we have spoken to reports an increase in the number attending memorials and cenotaphs all across Newfoundland and Labrador. As always, Provincial Command coordinated events in St John's at the Newfoundland-Labrador Field of Honour, the Sergeants' Memorial, the Peacekeepers Memorial and the Newfoundland and Labrador National War Memorial.

## **Remembrance Activities Master Schedule**

There were a wide variety of Remembrance events around the province in the two week period leading up to November 11<sup>th</sup>. They included but were not limited to Afghan Memorial Service, Fly the Flag Ceremony at the provinces capital, school visitations and Remembrance Day services all over the province.

## **Lest We Forget - Military Service Recognition Book**

We have published Volume 14 in our series of Military Service Recognition books. This project was once again successful from both a financial and community perspective. Just this past fall we met with the marketing company who publishes the books and did some brainstorming on what other items could be put in future volumes. There are several old pictures about with unidentified veterans on them. We have asked the publisher to insert pictures with the hopes that some of them may be identified. NL Command purchased a new scanner and pictures from any Branch may be taken and included in the book.

### **Wreaths Across Canada**

Provincial Command provided financial support to this initiative within the province this past year. In December 2014, members of the Legion assisted this organization in the laying of over 900 wreaths at the St. John's "Field of Honor". A \$500 donation was made from NL Provincial Command.

### **Command Office Infrastructure**

Improvements to the Command Office are an ongoing process. There has been an office constructed for our Service Officer to give him privacy and a more professional looking environment for our Veterans. The position has been increased from part time to a full time position. We have upgraded our Computer System, purchased new equipment and through the use of volunteers have given our Command Office a new look.

### **Surplus Computers**

NL Command received correspondence from Manager RCL Dominion Command early in 2014 regarding available surplus computers from Industry Canada. The Provincial Secretary has been in discussion with the IT Manager NL region and is in the process of obtaining appropriate licenses, the operating system and software requirements. Once completed, the computers will be available for pickup at planned locations estimated for Feb 2015 for use in all 46 Branches within NL.

### **Website / Email Management**

Our old website was taken down as it required a major update. We are still working with JAC, webmaster/website designer, to produce an effectively, user friendly site for our Branches and general public.

### **Provincial Calendar of Events**

A consolidated Provincial Command Calendar of Events covering all aspects of Command and District events as well as Administrative/Financial items is in place.

## **Public Relations**

Provincial Command's official spokesperson Gary Browne has been extremely busy as our PR person. He has scripted numerous reports, taken part in radio and TV programs, acted as Master of Ceremonies for several events and has been a great source of reference on numerous topics and issues in the province. His services over 2014 have been outstanding and he has been a great ambassador to our Command. Gary was awarded the CLB Governor and Commandants Medallion for his Achievement of Excellence.

**2014 Public Relations Report:** includes the following involvement:

**Canadian Bosnian Veteran (Shawn Lewis)** - Organized a show of support rally for Canadian Veterans by several NL Veterans Motorcycle groups which took place at NL National War Memorial on Water Street.

**Lt. Colonel Thomas Nangle CF - WW1:** Committee member related to recognition for former President of the Great War Veterans Association (Nfld.), WW1 local hero and humanitarian extraordinaire, Royal Newfoundland Regiment WW1 Padre Nangle. We were granted permission to erect a plaque to Lt. Col. Nangle on the National War Memorial (Duckworth Street side).

## **Lectures/Presentations re WW1/RCL**

- Memorial University graduating teaching interns (at Branch 56)
- RCL NL France Pilgrimage Group-youths/adults (at Branch 56)
- WW1 Veterans Families/His and Her Honour the LG re. Basilica Museum Exhibit
- St. Patrick's Hall School Alumni on the Centenary of WW1
- St. Bonaventure's College Grades 7 and 8 on WW1 and a special WW1 Project
- Education First International Battlefield Tours to Teachers re. NL and WW1
- MacDonald Drive Grade school - General Assembly on WW1 Centenary
- Families of WW1 Blue Puttees re. Lt. Col. Nangle and Boy Soldiers
- Attended and spoke at a major WW1 Archives Summit sponsored by The Rooms Archives Division.

## **Change to RCL Veteran Definition:**

The RCL Veteran Definition was expanded after the Comrade Browne researched and initiated a motion on same which was presented to NL PEC, who in turn gave unanimous support to forward the said motion to be presented to DEC for action at the 2014 Dominion Convention in Alberta. The motion petitioned that all police/peace officers who have officially served in overseas special operations/postings be automatically accepted as RCL Veterans under our respective definition. The motion was unanimously passed. The adopting of this motion affected at least 3000 or more police/peace officers who have served our Country overseas with distinction.

## **Meetings:**

- Basilica WW1 August 4th Commemoration Evening re. The outbreak of WW1. This was a very successful evening of WW1 Music, recitations, poems and a special performance by the Signal Hill Tattoo - dressed in WW1 uniforms with rifles. The Legion had a high profile at the Commemoration with NL Command President Petten, our Signing Legionnaires and our Public Relations Chair taking part in the Commemoration. CLB Band and youth choirs also participated. The Basilica was full, and Forget-me-nots were distributed to all those attending. Information posters on Lt. Col. Nangle were displayed.
- Meeting with Provincial Government WW1 Commemorations' Director re. WW1 Commemoration Activities
- Met with Comrade O'Rourke of Branch 56 and Town Manager, to assist them re Protocol for the official opening of a wonderful new Veterans War Memorial in Outer Cove, Logy Bay Middle Cove.
- Meetings with President of St. Bonaventure's College and respective WW1 Commemorations Committee
- Meetings with different groups re. Nangle Recognition activities
- Command Archival Research Sessions/Meetings with Comrade Frank Gogos, Professor Fred Hawksley of MUN, and documentary maker, Mike Wert in relation to archives at our Command Office.
- Meeting/phone calls and e-mails with Mr. Joe Earls, grandson of WW1 veteran, in relation to donation of WW1 Medals
- Meetings with Mayor O'Keefe's City of St. John's WW1 Legacy Committee
- Meeting with Regiment Advisory Council Chair Ron Penney and Jim Lynch in relation to getting permission to erect a plaque on National War Memorial on Water Street to commemorate the Newfoundlanders who fought/died in the War of 1812-14. A significant plaque was placed on our National Memorial and unveiled by the Lieutenant Governor on July 1, 2014 at the conclusion of the Remembrance Ceremony.

## **Special Activities/Projects:**

- Ceremonial Committee Reinstatement was initiated in 2014 to stream-line and approve Remembrance related parades and similar functions under the stewardship of NL Command i.e. July 1st NL Memorial Day, November 11th, Poppy Campaign - Fly the Flag etc. and PEC has received very positive feedback from many community members that respective changes are significantly improving parades and related activities.
- The Lance-Corporal Martin P. Kent Memorial WW I Memorial Fund as proud RCL members donated 10 life-saving defibrillators to the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary to be utilized in their respective police detachments throughout NL for emergency response.
- Comrades Frank Sullivan, Frank Gogos and Gary Browne held a special meeting, at our request, with Greg Walsh and Ann Chafe who are senior managers at The Rooms [NL Provincial Archives Division]. The meeting was

requested by NL Command to seek professional assistance from The Rooms Management and Staff in initiating a process to evaluate, register and classify all archives in the possession of all RCL Branches in NL. Our request was very positively received by Mr. Walsh and Mrs. Chafe. The said managers agreed to prepare a funding proposal for the RCL NL Command in order to obtain funding for the extremely critical matter for the stewardship and protection of all archives held by the RCL NL Branches/Command.

### **Miscellaneous Meetings/Activities:**

The Official Spokesperson/PRO attended the following meetings/activities:

- PEC Meetings [briefing/training and updates sessions only]
- Dominion Command 2016 Convention Local Committee Meetings
- The Rooms Summit Conference on WW1 Activities/Archives
- Opening of new CFS St. John's Headquarters Building in company with other PEC Representatives
- Opening of Jim Shields Memorial Garden at DVA Pavilion with other PEC
- Official Launch of MUN WW1 Commemoration Program
- Master of Ceremonies for July 1st, Poppy Campaign Ceremony, Fly the Flag and November 11th Parades. Also liaised with police officials regarding security issues for the 2014 Remembrance parades following the murders of two CAF members in Canada
- Participated in two Dominion Command Public Relations Officers Teleconferences
- Attended a briefing meeting along with other local 2016 Convention Committee with visiting Comrades from DC
- Attended the NL Craft Council's WW1 Exhibit

### **Media Related Activities:**

The Official Spokesperson/PRO for NL Command was very busy throughout 2014 conducting media interviews/appearances with TV, Radio and Newsprint journalists and Open-line commentators on numerous RCL/Veteran related issues, from both a local and national perspective. The following is not meant to be an all-encompassing list in relation to the media topics covered but it will certainly give the reader the general picture of the important role played by our PRO 2014:

- CBC Radio "Cross Talk" re. veteran support/perceived lack thereof
- VOXM Radio "Veteran Suicides"
- NTV News "July 1st Pre-parade interview "
- NTV "Places To Go " interview on importance of NL's National War Memorial
- NTV and VOXM Radio Interviews on Newfoundland going to War (WW1) and August 4th/2014 Commemoration of official start to WW1, at the Basilica
- CBC Radio Corner Brook Interview on closing of VAC Office in Corner Brook
- NTV and CBC Radio interview on PTSD and RCMP Cpl's suicide

- CBC TV interview for a special report on PTSD and CAF/Veterans
- CBC Radio and NTV interviews at Fly the Flag Ceremony
- CBC, NTV and VOXM Radio interviews on respective Remembrance Parades
- VOXM Open-line interviews on Veteran Issues
- VOXM Open-line interview on Nov 11th and to thank Navy/Army/Air Cadets for their tremendous support to the NL RCL Branches/Command for Remembrance Parades, Poppy Campaigns etc.

### **Conclusion PR Report:**

2014 was a very busy and challenging year for our Official Spokesperson/PRO for the RCL NL Command. There will always be challenges for the RCL, both provincially and nationally, as we, like our predecessors, continue to strive to accomplish our Mission Statement: to serve veterans and their families, and to promote Remembrance and to serve our Country and our communities.

### **Conclusion – President NL Command**

I feel good about The Royal Canadian Legion NL Command, which is a professional team made up of our PEC, Provincial Chairs, Command Staff, and the 46 Branches throughout Newfoundland and Labrador. These are changing times and I feel confident with the people and support around me in Newfoundland and Labrador Command.

Ross Petten, President  
NL Command



**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ITEM 11**  
**20 - 22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**11. SENIOR OFFICER REPORTS**

The reports are attached for your information only.

### **ANAVETS Convention in Penticton British Columbia October 4-8, 2014**

It was my honour to attend the 52 Biennial Convention of the Army, Navy, Air Force Veterans in Canada held in Penticton, British Columbia. I arrived on Sunday October 5, 2014. That afternoon I joined in the parade to the Cenotaph where a wreath laying ceremony took place. At 1700 hours the Convention was officially opened with remarks from President George Beaulieu, after which there was a speech from Minister Fantino, followed with greetings from a number of dignitaries including Mayor Litke of The City of Penticton. Shortly there afterwards, the meeting was adjourned.

On Monday October 6, 2015, I attended the business session and listened to a number of presentations and greetings from a number of organizations. On behalf of the Royal Canadian Legion I gave greetings.

As the meeting agenda had moved to ANAVET's business, I, along with a number of other guests, withdrew from the convention. I returned home to Calgary evening of October 6, 2014.

The important take away from the Convention were that the ANAVETs organization are facing the same challenges we are at the RCL.....an aging group of members, diminishing membership, and financial viability.

This is my report and I so submit.

Mark Barham

## **GALA ATHLETAS 2014**

Comrades,

Just a few notes on the Gala Athletas that took place in Montréal on the 22 November 2014.

I had the pleasure of representing Dominion Command in my official role as the Sports and Track and Field Chairmen at the Gala Athletas event during the evening of November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Laurent Godbout the Directeur général for the Fédération Québécoise d'Athlétisme met me on my arrival and requested that I join him along with several other dignitaries at one of the satellite head tables. All introduced themselves and made everyone feel at ease.

The gala started at 19:30 sharp. There were two MC's throughout the entire evening. The presentation of the 30 or more awards were presented during the meal in its entirety. When the awards were being presented the first to come up would be the presenter for that specific category followed by the final three athletes. When assembled on the stage the presenter would open an envelope and announce the winner, present the chosen winner with a trophy and a plaque of appreciation to the two runner ups. Just like the Oscars.

Although several breaks were taken this procedure took up the entire evening with the exception of the final presentation. I will say the up to this point the room itself was a little noisier than what it should have been especially during the presentations.

Sylvain Proulx President for Athletics Québec was invited to the podium to introduce the winner for Athletas Hommage. This award is the Cadillac of awards in this field. From this point on one could hear a pin drop in the room as all attention was focussed on Sylvain. When the Royal Canadian Legion was announced as this year's recipient the entire hall immediately gave what seemed like a five minute standing ovation as I proceeded to the stage in order to receive the trophy which will be on display at Legion House. I was also given the opportunity to respond and thank the Fédération Québécoise d'Athlétisme for the honour they bestowed on us.

Following the photo shoot there was a line up that came forward to congratulate us for involvement with the Track and Field program. It was an even greater pleasure to hear from those attending whose sons, daughter and even the athletes themselves, who had been through our program, say that it was one of the best experiences that they had experienced thus far.

I can only say that based on this experience, we the Royal Canadian Legion have one of the best youth programs in Canada.

André J Paquette VP  
Chairmen Sports and Track and Field

**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ITEM 12  
20 - 22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**12. CHARTERS ISSUES AND CANCELLED**

The tables below represent the number of branches and Ladies' Auxiliaries which surrendered their charter in 2014. There was one new charter issued this past year.

<b>The Royal Canadian Legion Cancelled Charters 2014</b>						
<b>Command</b>	<b>Closed Branch</b>	<b>Destination Branch</b>	<b>Date of Cancellation</b>	<b>Members Last Paid 2013</b>	<b>Last paid 2014</b>	<b>Surrendered or Revoked</b>
BC/Yukon	226	01-000	07/01/2014			S
Saskatchewan	349	02-000	06/01/2014			S
	115	02-000	31/07/2014			S
	291	02-000	02/09/2014			S
	004	02-000	15/12/2014			S
Manitoba/NWO	162	04-000	20/06/2014			S
	006	04-000	01/12/2014			S
Ontario	557	05-000	01/05/2014			S
Quebec	009	06-000	22/01/2014			S
	107	06-000	02/04/2014			S
	259	06-000	01/05/2014			S
New Brunswick	001	07-000	10/11/2014			S

<b>The Royal Canadian Legion New Charters 2014</b>						
<b>Command</b>	<b>Formed Branch</b>		<b>Date of Formation</b>			
ALTA-NWT	291		29/10/2014			

For comparison to 2013:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Surrendered</b>	<b>Revoked</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Total</b>
2013	18	0	0	
2014	12	0	1	

<b>Ladies' Auxiliary Cancelled Charters 2014</b>						
<b>Command</b>	<b>Closed Branch</b>	<b>Destination Branch</b>	<b>Date of Cancellation</b>	<b>Members Last Paid 2013</b>	<b>Last paid 2014</b>	<b>Surrendered or Revoked</b>
BC/Yukon	034		05/02/2014			S
	240		17/04/2014			S
MAN&NWO	159		12/05/2014			S
	055		12/05/2014			S
	086		13/08/2014			S
	132		18/08/2014			S
ONT	033		13/01/2014			S
	422		10/03/2014			S
	414		23/04/2014			S
	636		09/06/2014			S
	266/046		09/07/2014			S
	335		27/09/2014			S
	605		29/09/2014			S
	315		16/12/2014			S
NB	001		10/11/2014			S

<b>The Royal Canadian Legion Amalgamated Charters 2014</b>						
<b>Command</b>	<b>Amalgamated Branches</b>		<b>Date of Amalgamation</b>			
ONT	266/046		01/05/2014			

**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ITEM 13**  
**20 - 22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**13. DOMINION COMMAND BRANCHES**

a. Dominion Ottawa Branch 13-013

The following is the membership status of the Dominion Command Branch, 13-013, as of 31 December 2014:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Total 2014</b>	<b>Total 2013</b>
Life	11	2
Ordinary	716	735
Associate	334	316
Affiliate Voting	273	146
Affiliate Non-voting	11	12
Meritorious Life	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1345</b>	<b>1211</b>

b. Retired Military Member – One year Free Membership 16-015

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
New Members	208	265				
Lapsed	1	2	774			
Transferred	24		135			
Possible Renewals	170		196			
<b>Total</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>1105</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>137</b>

The outreach to all these members continues to emphasize the benefits of belonging to the Legion and ability to join branches in their local communities. In addition, all members in these branches will be receiving a renewal letter commencing in April 2015.

Per capita dues for 13-013 have been set at \$50.00. At this time, there is no need to increase those fees.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that DEC approve the per capita fees for branch 13-013 at \$50.00.

**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ITEM 14**  
**20 - 22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**14. REQUESTS FOR SUPPORT**

- a. Thank you letter for the \$15,000 donation to Royal 22e Regiment is attached. Please note that the final installment of the grant, \$5,000, as agreed upon by DEC in February will be sent this spring.
- b. Thank you letter for the \$5,000 donation to the RCA Heritage Campaign John McRae Statue Project is attached.
- c. Thank you letter and framed limited edition copy of "In Flanders Fields"



**Major-général Pierre Lalonde, CD**

RECEIVED  
DOMINION COMMAND

NOV 4 2014

Société du patrimoine de la  
Citadelle et du Royal 22<sup>e</sup> Régiment  
C.P. 6020, Succ Haute-ville  
Québec, Qc G1R 4V7

Le 28 octobre 2014

*Au nom de la grande famille du Royal 22<sup>e</sup> Régiment, je désire vous exprimer toute notre reconnaissance et notre appréciation pour votre contribution envers notre projet de développement du Musée Royal 22<sup>e</sup> Régiment.*

*Votre donation de 15 000 \$, étalée sur 3 ans, à la campagne de financement honore votre organisation et rend hommage aux quelques 100 000 Canadiens et Canadiennes ayant servi notre pays au sein du Régiment.*

*Grâce à vous, la campagne de financement se porte bien; plus de 6,1 M\$ ont été amassés ou promis à ce jours. De cette somme, plus de 229 000 \$ proviennent de donations personnelles de membres ou amis du Régiment.*

*Attaché, vous trouverez le reçu pour fin de charité de votre 2<sup>e</sup> versement de 5 000 \$.*

*Encore une fois, permettez-moi d'exprimer ma reconnaissance personnelle et celle du Régiment pour vos efforts à notre cause.*

*Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur White, l'expression de mes sentiments reconnaissants.*

*Je me souviens,*

Président, campagne de financement du  
nouveau Musée Royal 22<sup>e</sup> Régiment

Monsieur Brad White,  
Secrétaire National, La Légion Royale Canadienne  
Dominion Command  
86, Aird Place  
Ottawa (ON), K2L 0A1

*Receipt to Fin*

*R: 10-14(2014)  
BW*



Regimental Headquarters  
The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery  
Canadian Forces Base Shilo  
PO Box 5000 Stn Main  
Shilo MB R0K 2A0



Quartier général régimentaire du  
Régiment royal de l'Artillerie canadienne  
Base des Forces canadiennes Shilo  
PO Box 5000 Stn Main  
Shilo MB R0K 2A0

The Royal Canadian Legion  
Dominion Command  
86 Aird Place  
Ottawa, ON  
K2L 0A1

8 January 2015

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your support of the RCA Heritage Campaign through your recent donation of \$5000.00 to the John McCrae Statue project. A 2014 tax receipt is enclosed reflecting the amount of your gift. Because of your generous donation, you will also receive an engraved framed limited edition copy of "In Flanders Fields". It is through commitments such as yours that we will continue to preserve this important part of Canadian heritage and ensure that our history is kept alive today and for generations to come.

Once again, thank you for your kind donation to the Heritage Campaign, and enabling it to move forward with its goal of celebrating our heritage and securing the future by recognizing The Regiment's contributions to Canada.

Yours sincerely

M.J. Draho  
Major  
Regimental Major  
The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery

Enclosure: 1

*Receipt to Finance*

*10-14  
BL*

Regimental Headquarters  
The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery  
Canadian Forces Base Shilo  
PO Box 5000 Stn Main  
Shilo MB R0K 2A0



Quartier général régimentaire du  
Régiment royal de l'Artillerie canadienne  
Base des Forces canadiennes Shilo  
PO Box 5000 Stn Main  
Shilo MB R0K 2A0

The Royal Canadian Legion  
Dominion Command  
86 Aird Place  
Ottawa, ON  
K2L 0A1

RECEIVED  
DOMINION COMMAND

JAN 27 2015

8 January 2015

Dear Sir,

In recognition of your recent gift of \$5000.00, please find your engraved framed limited edition copy of "In Flanders Fields" recently re-printed from a plate taken from a copy handwritten by John McCrae a few months before he died and given to Major General E.W.B. Morrison.

Once again, thank you for your kind donation to the Heritage Campaign, and enabling it to move forward with its goal of celebrating our heritage and securing the future by recognizing The Regiment's contributions to Canada.

Yours sincerely,

M.J. Draho  
Major  
Regimental Major  
The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery

Enclosure: 1

R: 10-14 (2015)  
BLJ

**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ITEM 15  
20 - 22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**15. MEETINGS AND INVITATIONS**

**2015**

14-19 Mar	Dominion Curling, Branch #122 Birch Hills, SK
26 Mar	Ritual & Awards Committee Meeting, Ottawa, ON (Memorial Boardroom)
24 Apr	Outreach and Visitation (OVI) training course
24-27 Apr	Dominion Cribbage, Branch #281 Spruce Grove, AB
1-4 May	Dominion Darts, Branch #6 Surrey, BC
9 -13 May	Ontario Provincial Convention, Niagara Falls, ON
15-17 May	Quebec Provincial Convention, Chomedey, QC
17-18 May	NS/NU Provincial Convention, Truro, NS
21 May	VSS Teleconference
29-30 May	PEI Provincial Convention, Cornwall, PE
29 May-1 Jun	Dominion Eight Ball, Branch #1, Calgary, AB
5-7 June	BC/Yukon Provincial Convention, Abbotsford, BC
13-15 Jun	Alberta-NWT Provincial Convention, Lethbridge, AB
21-23 Jun	Manitoba/NWO Provincial Convention, Winnipeg, MB
23-25 Jun	VRAB Hearings, Ottawa, ON (Victory Boardroom)
5-11 Aug	Legion National Youth Track & Field, Sainte-Thérèse, QC
21-26 Aug	NFLD Provincial Convention, St. John's, NL
28 Aug – 3 Sep	American Legion Convention
4-6 Sep	New Brunswick Provincial Convention, Sussex, NB
14 Sep	Nat. RD Ceremony Organizing Committee, Ottawa, ON (Memorial Boardroom)
18 Sep	Pay Committee Meeting (13:00 hrs)
18 Sep	Investment Committee Meeting (1430 hrs)
19 Sep	SEO / Budget Committee Meeting
20 Sep	Army Run, Ottawa, ON
17-19 Oct	Saskatchewan Provincial Convention, Prince Albert, SK
20-22 Oct	VRAB Hearings, Ottawa, ON (Victory Boardroom)
6 Nov	Defence & Security Committee Meeting
23-25 Nov	CIMVHR Forum, Quebec City, QC
23 Nov	Nat. RD Post-Ceremony Organizing Committee, Ottawa, ON (Memorial Brdm)
26 Nov	Sports Committee Meeting
27 Nov	Canvet Board Meeting (0830 hrs)
27 Nov	RCEL Committee Meeting (1015 hrs)
27 Nov	Dominion President's Christmas Reception
28 Nov	DEC Meeting

**2016**

April TBD	DEC Meeting
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**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ITEM 16**  
**20 - 22 FEBRUARY 2015**

**16. OTHER BUSINESS**

- a. Bursaries. During the deficit reduction process Dominion Command identified a savings of \$16K annually that was provided to Commands for bursaries. While these funds were provided there was no accounting on how they were used. The chart below details which Commands received bursary funds and also provides the monies reported to be in the Commands' Central Poppy Fund as of 30 September 2013.

Command	Bursary Funds Provided by Dominion Command (\$)	Command Central Poppy Fund Balances as of 30 Sept 2013 (\$)
BC/YT	0	202,825
AB-NT	0	1,585,815
SK	2,000	56,642
MB/NWO	4,000	262,007
ON	0	385,873
QC	2,000	24,467
NB	2,000	24,673
NS/NU	2,000	314,565
PE	2,000	1,880
NL	2,000	117,620

- b. Veterans License Plate. The Command President of Alta – NWT Command has asked that the issue of veterans' license plate for RCMP be raised to the meeting. Attached is a memorandum that was sent out to all Provincial Presidents from the Dominion President on 9 January 2015. This memorandum resulted from a discussion of the Provincial Secretaries in November where they strongly supported a directive coming from Dominion Command to standardize the access to veterans' license plates.

**Dominion Command  
The Royal Canadian Legion**



**La Direction nationale  
La Légion royale canadienne**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** All Provincial Presidents **FILE:** 11-15  
**FROM:** Tom Eagles **DATE:** 12 January 2015  
Dominion President  
**SUBJECT: Veterans License Plates – Consistent Applications Criteria**

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Happy New Year Comrades,

I am sure that all Commands are receiving inquiries regarding access to Veterans License plates and why criterions are not consistent across the country. Comrades we need to fix this situation and I would like to highlight to you all some of the decisions that have been made at past DEC meetings as well as our own discussions leading into the convention last June.

A review of previous decisions of DEC follows:

- a. **Veterans License Plates**. At the September 2010 DEC meeting, the members carried the following motion:

**MOTION:** The Legion adopts the definition of a veteran, as passed at the Dominion Convention in 2000, as a common criterion upon which to distribute a veteran's license plate across Canada.

Following which a further motion was passed:

**MOTION:** It was moved that the DEC approve the following additional criteria for issuing Veterans license plates:

- a) A grandfather clause for all previous issued plates.
- b) A criterion to deal with members of the Canadian police forces who have served in special duty areas as defined by the Government. It is interesting to note that Canada has correctional service officers in

- Afghanistan.
- c) A criterion to deal with Canadian citizens who served with US forces during the Vietnam War.

**ACTION: Provincial Presidents**

The Legion definition of a veteran was once again revised at the 2014 Dominion Convention. Our definition now reads:

*"A veteran is any person who is serving or has honorably served in the Canadian Armed Forces, the Commonwealth or its wartime allies, or as a Regular Member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or as a Peace Officer in a Special Duty Area or on a Special Duty Operation, or who has served in the Merchant Navy or Ferry Command during wartime."*

Comrades, the time is now. We need to standardize the access to a Veteran's license plate. Given our past decisions at DEC which are still valid, I am asking that each one of you take the new definition of a Veteran which the Legion has adopted by resolution at convention to your provincial licensing authorities and adopt it for access to Veteran's license plates.

I further ask that this be done by September 2015 and that this be reported to DEC in September.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Eagles". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Tom Eagles  
Dominion President