

# Committee Reports *and* Resolutions

50th Dominion Convention  
The Royal Canadian Legion  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
22 - 26 August 2026

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.

27 May 2026

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## FOREWORD

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**Dear Comrades,**

I am especially pleased to welcome each of you to The Royal Canadian Legion's 50th Dominion Convention this year – during our 100th anniversary! It is special that we are holding our gathering here, in Winnipeg, the city where our organization was born so many years ago.

Our 2026 theme says it all: *A Century of service. Honouring the past. Shaping the future.*

The discussions we have and decisions we make at this milestone event, will live on into the next century. We must continue to keep Veterans at the centre of all we do, even when our personal opinions differ. On behalf of our Dominion Executive Council members and our Senior Elected Officers, we look forward to productive discussions, and a good dose of celebration.

We can only imagine the excitement and pride our founders would feel to know their dedication lives on in each of you, and in the excellent work our organization performs for Canada's Veterans, their families and our communities.

We continue to hold the torch of Remembrance high, helping Canadians to carry heartfelt gratitude for the sacrifice of our Veterans – which to this day has kept us strong, safe, and free. Through ceremonies, special programs, and the iconic red Poppy, we will forever take this fundamental duty seriously. We will Remember them.

Since we last met, the world around us has changed once again, but you have remained steadfast in your commitment, and it shows. From Service Officers helping Veterans navigate benefit entitlements, to Branches putting on fundraising dinners, or volunteers stepping up to help out in times of natural disasters. We have witnessed it all and we appreciate you.

On a personal note, I thank you for the trust you have put in me as Dominion President, it has been a true honour to serve in this capacity over the past two years. It has renewed in me the belief that we are the strongest Veterans organization in Canada and I feel the future is bright for our Legion.

Thank you for joining us for some great fellowship – and Happy 100th Anniversary!

In comradeship,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Berkley Lawrence".

Berkley Lawrence  
Dominion President  
The Royal Canadian Legion

# NOTES *for* DELEGATES

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## WELCOME

We welcome all branch delegates to our Dominion Convention. Please feel free to reach out to a Dominion Command staff representative should you require assistance. We hope you enjoy your convention experience.

## SEATING

Only properly registered voting delegates may sit in areas identified by provincial command signs. Due to limited seating capacity to meet fire regulations, provincial commands may be required to control the number seated in their allocated areas. There is a separate section set aside for Observers.

## NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTIVE OFFICE

- The nominations process for the offices of Dominion President, Dominion First Vice President, Dominion Vice President (x3), Dominion Treasurer, and Dominion Chair shall be conducted prior to Convention.
- Nominations will not be accepted from the floor during the 2026 Dominion Convention. The nomination process is outlined in the 2026 Dominion Convention Call.
- The election of the Dominion President will occur on Monday. The Dominion First Vice-President and Vice-Presidents elections will take place on the Tuesday. Treasurer and Dominion Chair elections will occur on Wednesday.
- All unsuccessful candidates for the office of President shall automatically be nominated for the office of First Vice-President.
- All unsuccessful candidates for the office of First Vice-President shall automatically be nominated for the office of Vice-President.

## BALLOTING/VOTING PROCESS

- Registered approved voting Delegates will be able to vote electronically via the 2026 convention app on their smartphone or tablet with data or Wi-Fi capabilities. Electronic voting will only occur for the positions of elected office.
- If a ballot vote is required for a resolution on the floor the Chair will advise the delegates of the page number and colour of the ballot to be used or may elect for electronic voting to be used.
- The number of ballots/votes cast will be verified against the report of the Credentials Committee. The vote will be tabulated electronically. The Chief Scrutineer will complete the special election returns form and report the result of the ballot/vote to the Election Chair who will advise the Convention. Only one office will be voted on at a time.

## VOTING CARDS

The orange-coloured pull-out voting card, available at your provincial command booth, is to be used for all non-ballot votes.

## QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE (RED CARD)

Takes precedence over all other motions (except adjournment or recess). It is a matter which has to do with safety, comfort, dignity and freedom from disturbance, or any incident or situation which interferes with any of the aforementioned. The question must be stated concisely and clearly and the Chair will give an immediate decision.

## POINT OF ORDER (BLUE CARD)

An action to ensure orderly procedure. It may refer to a breach or violation of the Rules of Procedure or of the By-Laws, or of mandates and rules of some superior authority. When raised it should be recognized immediately by the Chair.

# DOMINION COMMAND OFFICERS

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## HONORARY OFFICERS

### **Patron**

Her Excellency the Right Honourable  
Louise Arbour CC, GOQ  
Governor General of Canada and Commander-in-  
Chief of Canada

### **Grand President**

Larry Murray, CMM, CD

## DOMINION HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENT

General Jennie Carignan, CMM, MSC, MSM, CD  
Commissioner Michael Duheme  
His Highness Prince Floris of the Netherlands

## DOMINION HONORARY CHAPLAIN

Rabbi Idan Scher  
Colonel Lisa Pacarynuk, CD

## DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

### **Dominion President**

B. Lawrence

### **Dominion First Vice-President**

S. McKeown

### **Dominion Vice-Presidents**

T. Jenvenne  
V. MacGregor  
J. MacIsaac

### **Dominion Treasurer**

J. Carleton

### **Dominion Chair**

B. Chafe

### **Immediate Past Dominion President**

B. Julian

## PROVINCIAL COMMAND/

## SPECIAL SECTION PRESIDENTS

### **British Columbia/Yukon**

R. Underhill

### **Alberta-NWT**

D. Velichko

### **Saskatchewan**

R. Taylor

### **Manitoba & NWO**

R. Cutbush

### **Ontario**

L. McClellan

### **Quebec**

L. Fortier

### **New Brunswick**

H. Defazio

### **Nova Scotia/Nunavut**

G. Della-Valle

### **Prince Edward Island**

D. Doucette

### **Newfoundland and Labrador**

J. Boone

### **President of the Tuberculous Veterans' Section**

D. Redden

### **OSI Special Section**

C. Hood


## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

R. Hayley

## DOMINION COMMAND PAST PRESIDENTS


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

 Lieutenant—General  
Sir Arthur Currie  
Quebec, 1928—1929


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


 Major John S. Roper  
Nova Scotia, 1931—1934


 Brigadier—General Alex Ross  
Saskatchewan, 1934—1938

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


 Alex Walker  
Alberta, 1940—1946

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

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


 Group Captain Alfred Watts  
British Columbia, 1950—1952

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

 Very Reverend  
John O. Anderson  
Manitoba, 1954—1956


 David L. Burgess  
Ontario, 1956—1960


 The Honourable  
Justice Mervyn Woods  
Saskatchewan, 1960—1962


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

 Fred T. O'Brecht  
Ontario, 1964—1966

 Ronald E. MacBeath  
New Brunswick, 1966—1968

 Robert Kohaly  
Saskatchewan, 1968—1970

 The Honourable  
Justice Redmond Roche  
Quebec, 1970—1972

 Robert G. Smellie  
Manitoba, 1972—1974

 Robert D. McChesney  
Ontario, 1974—1976

 Douglas McDonald  
Ontario, 1976—1978

 Edward C. Coley  
Alberta, 1978—1980

 Al Harvey  
Newfoundland, 1980—1982

 Dave Capperault  
Ontario, 1982—1984


 Steve Dunsdon  
British Columbia, 1984—1986

 Anthony Stacey  
Ontario, 1986—1988

 Gaston Garceau  
Quebec, 1988—1990


 Fred Williams  
Newfoundland, 1990—1991

 Jack Jolleys  
British Columbia, 1991—1994

 Hugh M. Greene  
Alberta, 1994—1996

 Joseph Kobolak  
Ontario, 1996—1998

 Chuck Murphy  
British Columbia, 1998—2000

 William (Bill) Barclay  
Saskatchewan, 2000—2002

Allan Parks  
Prince Edward Island,  
2002—2004

Mary Ann Misfeldt  
British Columbia, 2004—2006

Jack Frost  
Ontario, 2006—2008

Wilfred Edmond  
Nova Scotia, 2008—2010

 Patricia (Pat) Varga  
Saskatchewan, 2010—2012

Gordon Moore  
Ontario, 2012—2014

Tom Eagles  
New Brunswick, 2014—2016

Dave Flannigan  
Newfoundland 2016 — 2018

Thomas Irvine  
Quebec 2018—2021

Bruce Julian  
2021—2024

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 *Designates deceased*







THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

## TESTAMENT—ARTICLES *of* FAITH

• *The First Part* •

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

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

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

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

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

### REMEMBRANCE

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

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

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

### JUST RIGHTS

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

## LOYALTY

### THAT WE MAINTAIN OUR LOYALTY

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

## COMRADESHIP—SERVICE

### THAT OUR ORIGINAL BASIS OF

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

## MEMBERSHIP

### THAT THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

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

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

## SYMBOLS

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

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

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

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

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

### • *The Second Part* •

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

### • *The Third Part* •

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

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

B. Lawrence, *Chair*  
S. McKeown, *Vice-Chair*  
L. Murray, *Ex-Officio*  
C. Pedersen, *Member*  
B. Chafe, *Member*  
D. Gordon, *Homeless Veterans*  
G. O'Dair, *Seniors Advisor*  
C. Hood, *BSO Legion OSI Special Section*  
L. Taha Cheng, *Observer*  
C. Hughes, *Coordinator*  
A. Pasha, *A/Coordinator*

## INTRODUCTION

Since the Dominion Convention in New Brunswick in 2024, advocacy efforts have focussed on ensuring that all Veterans including members of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), RCMP, and their families are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect such that they are afforded the same benefits and services irrespective of when and where they served.

## RESOLUTIONS

The government response for Dominion Convention 2024 resolutions has not yet been received and will be distributed to Legion Branches if received.

## MANDATE OF VSS COMMITTEE

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

## ADVOCACY

The Dominion President stresses the importance of continuing our advocacy efforts regarding the availability of mental health services to all Veterans and their families, for improvement to the backlog of disability applications, for homeless Veterans, women Veterans, changes to long-term care eligibility criteria, for increased supports to keep seniors in their own homes, for the elimination of the Marriage After 60 Clause. We will continue to monitor the above issues with the CAF and VAC.

Recently the VAC advised that almost half of the Bureau of Pension Advocates and their support

staff would not have their temporary contract renewed. This will create further delays from two years currently, to up to four or more years, for files to be reviewed for Veterans who wish to appeal VAC decisions. Dominion Command Service Officers expect to see more requests for representation with appeals to the Veterans Review and Appeal Board. We will monitor this closely and have requested that the VAC Minister reverse her decision and ensure there are sufficient advocates.

The Legion continues to be a valuable, respected, and sought-after organization for participation in a variety of roles and consultations. The following is a snapshot of Legion advocacy efforts on behalf of all Veterans, their families, and seniors since 2024:

- a. January 2025** – attended Veteran Family Virtual Summit.
- b. January 2025** – Women Veterans Forum.
- c. October 2024 and October 2025** – Veterans Consultation Assembly held at Dominion Command. National organizations who support Veterans and their families attended and there was consensus on many issues of concern.
- d.** Former Deputy Minister of VAC, Paul Ledwell's Coffee Group meetings occurred in 2025 however none have occurred since his retirement. A meeting with the new DM will occur in the near future.
- e.** Dominion Command testified at several Senate Sub-Committee on Veterans Affairs (ACVA) studies, including– in December 2025 on the Federal Budget effect on Veterans pensions

and to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disability regarding to Veterans and the homelessness crisis and still-serving members who are finding it increasingly difficult to find and pay for housing.

- f. March 2025 and March 2026** – Attended Women in Defence (WiDs) Breakfast in support of still – serving and women Veterans.
- g.** Various meetings with the VAC Minister’s Advisory Groups on Policy, Service Excellence and Transition, Care and Support, Family, and Mental Health. All groups have a Legion representative from Dominion Command.
- h.** Various meetings with the CAF Sexual Misconduct Support and Resource Centre, ATLAS (formerly Centre of Excellence of Mental Health), and the CAF Transition Centre.
- i. April 2026** – Meeting with the Conservative shadow Minister for Veterans Affairs, Blake Richards.
- j. May 2026** – Meeting with VAC Deputy Minister Nancy Gardiner

### SUICIDE PREVENTION AMONG CANADIAN VETERANS

An ACVA report on veteran suicide and prevention was published late in April 2026 and is being thoroughly reviewed by the Committee and Dominion Command. There are 16 recommendations made to the CAF and VAC and the statistics noted are alarming.

The report begins by stating:

*“Every nine days, one Regular Force Veteran dies by suicide in Canada. If we knew anything about the suicide rate among Reserve Veterans, the combined rate for all Veterans would probably be more than one a week.”*

Every death by suicide is one too many, and prevention must remain the highest priority.

After completing a comprehensive review of the report, we will engage with the Government and advocate as appropriate.

### HOMELESS VETERANS NATIONAL PROGRAM

One homeless veteran is one too many.

Through the Leave the Streets Behind Homeless Program, and reports from the Provincial Commands, the total number of homeless Veterans identified and assisted has risen to 1,723 with 176 female, 5 Indigenous, 16 Indigenous, 14 RCMP, and 4 from the United States.

Legion Branches and Provincial Commands have disbursed over \$4 million dollars in support of the homeless Veterans program.

Most Commands are providing funding either through the Poppy Fund or a Benevolent Fund. Service verification is being done through Dominion Command Veterans Services or VAC and it is mandatory for Service Verification to be completed prior to assistance being provided to the Veteran to ensure funds, donated by the public, are appropriately disbursed.

The Edmonton Veterans House has broken ground and three other sites in Canada are being evaluated for similar projects and housing.

We continue to monitor the national budget and the impact it has on VAC’s Veteran Homelessness Program and the partnership with community organizations. This program will provide services and rent supplements to Veterans experiencing homelessness to help them get them back on their feet. It will enable longer term support to Veterans experiencing homelessness, such as rent supplements and wrap-around services, such as counselling and substance abuse treatment.

The Program also provided funding for research on veteran homelessness, to deepen an understanding of this issue and improve programs and services. Several organizations have been awarded to conduct the research, and we look forward to receiving their results and conclusions. It was estimated that the Program would assist 2,000-3,000 Veterans with the funding provided but statistics for this have not been provided.

## SENIORS INITIATIVE

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

We continue to advocate for the elimination of the Marriage After 60 Clause for better support for survivors of Veterans who have married after the age of 60.

## WOMEN VETERANS COUNCIL

In December 2024, VAC stood up a Women Veterans Council (WVC) to advise the Minister on issues affecting women Veterans and the first official meeting took place in January 2025. This was a key recommendation of the *Invisible No More* report. The inaugural Council was to determine the unique care and support needs of women Veterans are properly identified and that they would play a key role in shaping programs and supports by drawing on their leadership, expertise, and lived experience to improve how the Government serves women Veterans.

The Legion had hoped that once established, the WVC would be tasked with evaluating the implementation of all 42 *Invisible No More* recommendations. Such oversight would help ensure the recommendations are meeting their intent, that meaningful progress is being achieved in a timely manner.

In January 2026, after only one year, six of the twelve members of VAC's WVC resigned from

their participation on the council. Five of these six women were from the eight members drawn from the CAF. This fact is reflective of the seriousness of the structural issues encountered within the institutional framework and the WVC is not currently in a position to provide this oversight. We will continue to advocate to VAC for a fair, transparent, and accountable process to replace departing CAF members. At the same time, we emphasize that the WVC must be respected, meaningfully heard, and adequately resourced to fulfill its mandate to strengthen its role, enhancing its effectiveness, and enabling it to provide informed, impactful advice. This is particularly critical in maintaining proper oversight and sustained progress on the 42 recommendations outlined in the *Invisible No More* report.

## LEGION SCHOLARSHIP – CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR MILITARY AND VETERAN HEALTH RESEARCH

The Dominion President presented the 2024 RCL Legion Doctoral Scholarship in Military and Veteran Health Research to Raphaëlle Merlo, from the Université Laval who is researching the optimization of psychological care for Veterans in her study called: *Positive Epidemiology - Pre- and Peri-Pandemic Psychological Resilience in Older Veterans in the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging* at the forum in Winnipeg, MB.

In 2025, the President presented the Doctoral Scholarship to Kim Huynh from Queen's University who is assessing the *Effects of non-concussive impacts on brain physiology in military personnel, specifically regarding firearm recoil* at the forum in Ottawa, ON.

The recipient for 2026 is not yet known and has not been selected at the time of this report.

The 2026 Scholarship will be presented at the CIMVHR Forum in Halifax, NS in October 2026.

## COMMAND SERVICE OFFICERS

It is also important that Legion Branches continue to welcome all Veterans and that Branch Service Officers

receive their annual training such that they are knowledgeable on the ever-changing programs and services available for our Veterans and their families.

For many of our Veterans and their families, navigating the intricate world of VAC benefits, compensation, and assistance programs can be a challenging experience. Command Service Officers are highly trained professionals with government security clearance and continue to provide expert service and support. They are committed to guiding and assisting still serving and retired military Veterans, members of the RCMP, and their families, through the complete process to access the benefits and services to which they are entitled and to represent them with appeals when necessary.

A reminder that Command Service Officers provide free representation and you do not have to be a Legion member to access services and that outreach must remain a priority. It is important to ensure that all Veterans who require assistance with their disability applications to VAC, to review for reassessments if awarded/pensioned medical conditions have worsened, or who may have received unfavorable decisions and need to appeal, be encouraged to contact a Legion Command Service Officer for free assistance.

Provincial and Dominion Command Service Officers are security cleared and kept up to date with any changes in VAC policies and can professionally advise and assist on a multitude of benefits and programs.

The Memorandum of Understanding between the Legion and VAC includes provisions to equip Command Service Officers with VAC issued laptops and access to Veterans' files, where written consent has been provided, enabling a thorough review of each case to ensure the best possible support and service. We offer a cautionary note as we are aware of unscrupulous organizations that attempt to take advantage of Veterans and any vulnerabilities by charging service fees, by taking a percentage of benefits awarded, or even by claiming to offer

free help, but still profiting in hidden ways. We advise Veterans to avoid such services. The Legion, VAC, or other reliable organizations help with absolutely no cost to the veteran.

Despite some changeover in Command Service Officers at various Provincial and Dominion Command, the number of Veterans and families they serve continues to increase. Assistance with first applications increased by over 1000, for a total number of 3083 first applications in the last two years, a 32% increase from the previous period. From 2024-2025 Command Service Officers also represented for 251 Departmental Reviews and over 220 Entitlement Review Hearings, Entitlement Appeals and Requests for Reconsiderations.

Over 2000 Veterans were counselled out or withdrawn. This happens when a veteran decides not to pursue a claim or an appeal further at that time from advice provided to them after careful review by a Command Service Officer. It is always a veteran's choice and if they decide to proceed, we will professionally support and represent them with dedication and determination. Command Service Officer training and mentoring for new Command Service Officers by Dominion Command is ongoing and we expect our assistance will increase as they become more knowledgeable in their roles. As a new VAC business process develops for the submission of disability applications is launched in the coming months, all Command Service Officers are continually learning best practices.

With the assistance of Comrade Darren Reid, we have reached out to the Rangers and look forward to assisting them with VAC benefits and programs.

### **CAF TRANSITION GROUP MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND PARTNERSHIP**

Expanding support beyond the previous JPSU model to the CAF Transition units, recognizes that every member leaving military service faces a major life transition, not just those who are ill or injured. This will make a real difference in how smoothly members move into civilian life.

A memorandum of understanding has been signed by the Legion and the CAF Transition Groups and its units across Canada. Similar to the one developed previously with the Joint Personal Support Centres (JPSUs), it formalizes the integration of a Command Service Officer and the specific unit in their location, to have office space on an occasional basis, dependant on need and volume. Some larger bases may require once per week and other smaller ones, once per month.

In alignment with this, Military Transition Engagement and Partnerships (MTEP) is a team within the Transition Group that engages and collaborates with external organizations. The Legion has been noted as a key partner because of the services we provide to members, Veterans and their families.

### **BUDGET REPORT**

For your information, a copy of the VSS Committee budget for the period 2025-2026 is attached to this report. Delegates may raise any questions that they have concerning Committee expenses at this time, but any motion for changes to the budget document as it relates to this Committee will have to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

### **CANADA LIFE**

In 2023, the administrator for the Public Service Health Care Plan switched from Sun Life to Canada Life. We were deeply concerned initially as many Veterans and family members noted shared lived experiences of service delays and of being placed on hold as long as two and a half

hours while waiting to get through the phone line to a representative. Complex health services seem to be negatively impacted; however simple health services seem to move at a fast rate.

There have been improvements since 2023, and no further problems have been identified.

In 2025, Canada Life also became the administrator of the Public Service Dental Plan and Dominion Command has not received any further complaints.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

The VSS Committee reviewed two Resolutions, which have been non-concurred.

### **CONCLUSION**

The VSS Committee will continue their advocacy efforts focused on ensuring that all Veterans and their families are afforded the same benefits and services irrespective of when and where they served.

We will continue to monitor the backlog of disability applications and all mandated priorities that have not come to fruition as of the date of this report. We will continue to advocate strongly for homeless Veterans, women Veterans, changes to long-term care eligibility criteria, for increased supports to keep seniors in their own homes, for the elimination of the Marriage After 60 Clause and any other injustices we become aware of.

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

I move acceptance of this report as presented.

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

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
TRAVEL	380	326	300	300	306
PER DIEM	801	-	-	-	-
CIMVHR FORUM	11,656	16,057	20,000	15,000	15,300
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	415	283	650	650	663
OFFICE SUPPLIES	-	147	500	500	510
MISCELLANEOUS	130	440	2,000	2,500	2,550
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,581</b>	<b>17,253</b>	<b>25,950</b>	<b>20,950</b>	<b>21,369</b>

## REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND

# POPPY *and* REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE

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S. McKeown, *Chair*  
D. Moore, *Vice Chair*  
J. MacIsaac, *Member*  
D. Doucette, *Member*  
C. Thomson, *Member*  
D. Velichko, *Member*  
L. Fortier, *Member*  
L. Taha Cheng, *Coordinator*  
T. Backer, *A/Coordinator*  
C. Hughes, *Advisor*

### INTRODUCTION

The Poppy and Remembrance Committee provides national leadership and oversight for the Legion's Remembrance programs, ensuring they remain meaningful, accessible, and relevant to Canadians. Through policy direction, program development, and close collaboration with Provincial Commands, Branches, partners, and volunteers, the Committee advances initiatives that honour those who served and sacrificed for Canada.

Over the past two years, the Committee has continued to guide the evolution of the Poppy Campaign and broader Remembrance programming. This work reflects a deliberate effort to uphold longstanding traditions while adapting delivery methods to meet the expectations of a changing society, ensuring that the significance and integrity of Remembrance are preserved.

### POPPY CAMPAIGN

The annual Poppy Campaign remains a central element of the Legion's Remembrance efforts. Each year, millions of Canadians wear the Poppy as a visual pledge to honour Canada's Veterans and remember those who sacrificed for the freedoms we enjoy today. The Poppy Campaign is ceremonially launched with the presentation of the First Poppy to the Governor General of Canada, followed by similar presentations to Lieutenant Governors across the country.

The following initiatives and activities are key components of the Poppy Campaign and are delivered through the coordinated efforts of Legion departments, Provincial Commands, Branches, and national and local partners.

### CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

Corporate partnerships continue to be integral to the success of the Poppy Campaign. By welcoming the campaign into their workplaces and retail environments, corporate supporters help ensure Canadians can participate across the country. These collaborations also play an important role in promoting Remembrance. Through visibility initiatives such as banners at airports, signage on public transit, in-store displays, television and radio advertising, and recognition at major sporting events, corporate partners help extend the reach of the Poppy Campaign and reinforce the importance of Remembrance across Canada.

Recent initiatives have also focused on modernizing donation methods and responding to the increasing shift toward cashless giving. These initiatives complement traditional donation methods while enhancing overall accessibility to the Poppy Campaign. This includes Starbucks' point-of-sale campaign and TD's centralized payee system, both of which enabled cashless donations in support of local Branch Poppy Funds. Legion National Headquarters supplied TD Bank branches and Starbucks corporate-operated locations with Poppy boxes in advance of the campaign. Donations collected through these systems were directed to the appropriate local Legion Branch Poppy Fund via electronic fund transfer (EFT) following the campaign.

Further enhancing accessibility, an initiative with Amazon.ca expanded access to lapel Poppies through an online storefront. Recognizing that not every community across Canada has a local Legion Branch, this collaboration helped ensure that Canadians

nationwide could participate in the Poppy Campaign. Through the Legion storefront on Amazon.ca, lapel Poppies were offered for donations of \$2, \$5, \$10, and \$20, providing an additional channel for engagement. One hundred percent of the funds raised through this initiative were directed to the Legion's Poppy Trust Fund in support of Veterans and their families.

### **PAY TRIBUTE**

Building on broader efforts to modernize donation methods, the Pay Tribute program continues to provide a convenient, contactless way for Canadians to support the Poppy Campaign. Through tap-enabled Poppy boxes, donors can contribute using debit, credit, or mobile payment options, ensuring accessibility in an increasingly cashless environment.

In 2024, marking the fifth year of the program and the first in partnership with RBC following its acquisition of HSBC, The Royal Canadian Legion and RBC Canada distributed 1,050 Pay Tribute Poppy boxes to 343 Legion Branches nationwide. These boxes enabled Canadians to donate \$2, \$5, or \$10 with a simple tap of a payment card or mobile device, raising \$706,327 in support of Branch Poppy Funds.

In 2025, the program was significantly expanded to increase national reach and accessibility. A total of 2,377 Pay Tribute Poppy boxes were distributed to 440 Legion Branches. As part of this expansion, the program transitioned to a simplified single-donation device, allowing Canadians to contribute \$5 with each tap and enabling a greater number of boxes to be deployed nationwide. Notably, there was no cap placed on the number of boxes available to Branches, providing increased flexibility for local participation. While uptake continues to grow, results also indicate an opportunity to further maximize the program's impact through broader participation and full utilization of deployed devices.

This expanded network resulted in \$855,345 raised. Funds collected through the Pay Tribute program were distributed to participating Legion Branch Poppy Funds via electronic funds transfer prior to year-end.

### **NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE INITIATIVES**

A range of national initiatives continued to support shared moments of reflection and expand opportunities for Canadians to engage in Remembrance.

The Legion's Virtual Wall of Honour and Remembrance was projected on the Senate of Canada Building, displaying images of Canadian Veterans submitted by families nationwide. This initiative continues to provide a powerful visual tribute and creates a meaningful opportunity for Canadians to connect personally with those who served.

The Two Minutes of Silence remains one of the most sacred and unifying elements of Remembrance Day. In support of this collective moment of reflection, national efforts to encourage participation continue to expand in both scale and visibility.

Across Canada, thousands of digital advertising displays voluntarily paused at 11:00 a.m. on November 11, replacing scheduled advertisements with a Remembrance message featuring "11-11-11" and a Poppy, prompting Canadians to stop and reflect. This coordinated national initiative represents a significant demonstration of support from industry partners and serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of observing the two minutes of silence, regardless of location.

In addition, participation at the community level continued to grow. In Ottawa, OC Transpo paused bus and rail service at 11:00 a.m., with announcements made to inform passengers of the significance of the moment. Together, these initiatives reinforce the importance of collective remembrance and help ensure that Canadians are encouraged to pause and reflect, wherever they may be.

### **POPPY STORIES**

Poppy Stories continues to provide an interactive digital experience, allowing Canadians to scan their lapel Poppy and learn about individual Veterans. By sharing personal histories, including family background, service, and life experiences,

the initiative fosters a deeper and more personal connection to the Fallen.

In 2024, Poppy Stories highlighted fallen members of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) in recognition of its 100th anniversary. Canadians who scanned their Poppy were first introduced to stories of RCAF members, alongside stories representing all branches of the Canadian Armed Forces. This thematic approach helped connect national milestones with individual acts of service and sacrifice.

### **NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY**

The Royal Canadian Legion continues to organize and conduct the National Remembrance Day Ceremony at the National War Memorial in Ottawa on behalf of the people of Canada. Of note, the year 2024 marked the 80th anniversary of D-Day and the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force. The year 2025 marked the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War and the liberation of the Netherlands, as well as the 25th anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the National War Memorial in Ottawa. These significant anniversaries were recognized during events surrounding the National Remembrance Day Ceremony. Additionally, the 2025 Ceremony included, for the first time in its history, the flypast of an RCMP Black Hawk helicopter, paying tribute to those RCMP members who have fallen in the service of Canada.

Attendance remained strong, with approximately 35,000 spectators present in both years, in addition to millions more participating through national broadcast and digital platforms. The Ceremony continues to serve as a significant national moment of reflection, bringing Canadians together to honour those who served and reaffirm our collective commitment to remember.

### **THE NATIONAL SILVER CROSS MOTHER**

The 2024 National Silver Cross Mother was Mrs. Maureen Anderson of Oromocto, New Brunswick. Mrs. Anderson's two sons, Sergeants Ron (born May 27, 1974) and Ryan (born February 19, 1979) Anderson, both served with the Royal Canadian

Regiment and completed overseas deployments, including in Afghanistan. Following their service, both were diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and later passed away.

The 2025 National Silver Cross Mother was Mrs. Nancy Payne of Lansdowne, Ontario. Mrs. Payne's son, Corporal Randy Joseph Payne (born May 29, 1973), served with 1 Garrison Military Police Company. He was killed in action in Afghanistan on April 22, 2006, when a roadside bomb struck his vehicle while returning to Kandahar Airfield.

### **SUPPORT TO THE LEGION NATIONAL FOUNDATION**

Dominion Command continues to collaborate with The Legion National Foundation to deliver commemorative and educational initiatives. These programs provide opportunities for Canadians to deepen their understanding of service and sacrifice while reinforcing the importance of Remembrance across generations.

### **PILGRIMAGE OF REMEMBRANCE**

The Pilgrimage of Remembrance offers participants a meaningful opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of Canada's military history and the sacrifices made in service to Canada. Representing all Provincial Commands, the 2025 Pilgrims travelled to significant locations across France and Belgium, including battlefields, cemeteries, museums, and memorials, where they reflected on the service and sacrifice of Canadian Veterans.

Upon their return, Pilgrims have shared their experiences within their communities, helping to foster a renewed appreciation for Remembrance and ensuring that these stories continue to be passed on to future generations.

### **NATIONAL YOUTH REMEMBRANCE CONTESTS**

In collaboration with The Legion National Foundation, the National Youth Remembrance Contests invited students to honour Veterans through creative expression, including poster, literary, and video submissions. Each year, over 70,000 students from across Canada participated, reflecting the continued strength and reach of this important

program. These contests encouraged personal reflection and fostered a meaningful connection to the significance of Remembrance.

The Canadian War Museum continued to support this initiative by exhibiting first place national winners in selected categories. In addition, creative works by second place winners were displayed at Parliament near the Room of Remembrance, providing further national recognition of student achievement.

As part of this program, first place senior winners were invited to Ottawa to attend the National Remembrance Day Ceremony, where they placed a wreath on behalf of the Youth of Canada. During their visit, participants also had the opportunity to experience Canada's national institutions, including a guided tour of the Senate of Canada Building led by the Usher of the Black Rod, visits to the Speaker's Office, the House of Commons, and the Remembrance Room, as well as a luncheon with the Governor General at Rideau Hall. This experience reinforced the importance of youth engagement and helped ensure that the tradition of Remembrance is carried forward to future generations.

The impact of the program was also reflected through broader national opportunities. The senior first place colour poster winner from 2023 was selected to design the Royal Canadian Mint's 2026 \$2 commemorative circulation coin marking the 100th anniversary of The Royal Canadian Legion, demonstrating the lasting influence of youth contributions to Remembrance.

#### **CADETS AND JUNIOR CANADIAN RANGERS**

The Legion continues to maintain a strong and valued relationship with Cadets and Junior Canadian Rangers. These youth programs contribute to the Poppy Campaign, participate in commemorative ceremonies, and support Veterans in communities across Canada.

The Legion also sponsors the Cadet Medal of Excellence, recognizing outstanding citizenship and dedication among Cadets. In addition, the top Cadets and a Junior Canadian Ranger were invited to assist

dignitaries in placing wreaths during the National Remembrance Day Ceremony in Ottawa. As part of their participation, they also took part in visits to the Senate of Canada Building, the House of Commons, and Rideau Hall, providing a unique opportunity to experience Canada's national institutions and to be recognized at the national level for their achievements.

#### **REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY PLANNING RESOURCE FOR TEACHERS**

In 2024, in partnership with Veterans Affairs Canada and the Department of National Defence, a comprehensive resource was launched to support educators in planning school-based Remembrance Day ceremonies. This resource includes customizable presentations, videos, music, and speaking notes, providing educators with practical tools to engage students in remembrance.

#### **SYMBOLS OF REMEMBRANCE: POPPIES, WREATHS, AND THE POPPY STORE**

The Legion continues to provide Canadians with meaningful symbols of Remembrance through the distribution of Poppies, wreaths, and related items. Since their introduction in 2022, biodegradable Poppies and wreaths have demonstrated strong adoption. Produced from natural materials such as paper, cotton velvet, plaster, moss, and bamboo, these items support the Legion's ongoing efforts to move toward more environmentally responsible practices.

In addition to Poppies and wreaths, the Legion Supply Department offers a wide range of Remembrance items year-round through the online Poppy Store at [poppystore.ca](http://poppystore.ca). These products provide Canadians with opportunities to visibly demonstrate their support for Veterans and Remembrance beyond the Poppy Campaign period.

To improve accessibility, a selection of these items has also been made available through Amazon. This approach supports broader public awareness, helps ensure Canadians can access official Legion-supplied Remembrance items, and contributes to the sustainability of programs that serve Veterans and their families.

## POPPY TRADEMARK

Since 1921, the Poppy has stood as a national symbol of Remembrance, and protecting its integrity is a key responsibility of the Legion. The Royal Canadian Legion Dominion Command holds the Poppy trademark, supported by protection under an Act of Parliament that originally came into force in 1948.

The Legion ensures that the Poppy is not used to commercialize, politicize, or misrepresent the Poppy Campaign and the donations it raises. Ongoing efforts focus on monitoring and addressing unauthorized use across both physical and digital platforms, including retail environments, e-commerce sites, and social media, helping to prevent misuse, confusion, and misrepresentation.

Recent enhancements include more proactive monitoring, improved collaboration with e-commerce platforms to remove unauthorized listings, and greater consistency in partner use and attribution. At the same time, emphasis continues to be placed on education and support, with clearer guidance and dedicated resources available to assist Branches and partners in the proper use of the symbol.

Together, these efforts reinforce the protection and integrity of the Poppy, ensuring it remains a trusted and meaningful symbol of Remembrance for Canadians.

## POPPY MANUAL

The Poppy Manual continues to be reviewed and updated to reflect evolving practices. A current version of the manual is accessible on Legion.ca and a summary of recent amendments is available on the Member Services Website. A notable update is the establishment of a standardized Poppy Campaign period from October 24 to November 11.

### Poppy Campaign Duration – Standardization

Under the previous model, the Poppy Campaign began on the last Friday in October, resulting in a variable duration ranging from 12 to 18 days depending on the calendar. This variability created

inconsistency in planning, communications, and partnership engagement, while also impacting the available fundraising window.

To provide greater consistency and expanded opportunities, the Poppy Campaign has been standardized to run annually from October 24 to November 11. This change establishes a predictable and stable campaign framework, allowing Branches to plan more effectively, engage partners earlier, and maximize visibility and donation opportunities for the Poppy Fund.

A consistent campaign period also provides Canadians with more time to obtain and wear the Poppy as a visible pledge of Remembrance, while supporting broader promotion and participation in commemorative activities. It also strengthens coordination across all levels of the organization, reinforces national messaging, and enhances the overall impact of the Poppy Campaign.

## POPPY TRUST FUNDS

Based on the amounts reported by Branches to Provincial Commands, below is a summary of the revenue, campaign expenses, and disbursements of Poppy Trust Funds for the reporting period.

REPORTING PERIOD	2024	2025
REVENUE	23,282,690.87	23,476,902.68
CAMPAIGN EXPENSES	4,773,724.54	6,339,405.59
DISBURSEMENTS	15,945,176.70	18,296,123.53

## VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA COMMEMORATION ADVISORY GROUP

The Legion continued to hold a seat on the Veterans Affairs Canada Commemoration Advisory Group, which provides advice and recommendations to the Minister of Veterans Affairs on engaging Canadians in paying tribute to those who have served. This includes input on commemorative programming, education, and public awareness initiatives. Through this forum, the Legion contributed its perspective to help inform national approaches to Remembrance and recognition.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Efforts to strengthen communication with Branches continued throughout the reporting period. Initiatives included Committee of the Whole meetings with Provincial Command Poppy and Remembrance Chairs, webinars supporting the Pay Tribute program, presentations at Dominion Executive Council meetings, and expanded outreach through printed and digital materials in both official languages.

These efforts will continue to focus on improving clarity, accessibility, and engagement, ensuring Branches remain well supported in delivering the Poppy Campaign and Remembrance programming.

## BRANCH SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

In addition to the continued supply of biodegradable Poppies, wreaths, and Poppy Campaign promotional materials, supporting Branches in the delivery of the Poppy Campaign remains a key priority. Efforts continue to focus on providing practical tools, resources, and guidance to enhance local promotion, community engagement, and overall campaign effectiveness.

To support these efforts, a range of resources have been developed and made available in both official languages through the Member Services Website. This includes downloadable Poppy Campaign promotional posters, offered in multiple formats for both print and digital use, as well as Memorial Banner templates to assist Branches in recognizing and honouring deceased Veterans from their communities.

New commemorative crosswalk designs were also introduced to support municipalities and Branches in creating visible, year-round symbols of Remembrance within their communities.

These resources, combined with ongoing communications, training opportunities, and national partnership initiatives, are intended to support Branch-led delivery while strengthening the visibility and impact of Remembrance across Canada.

## 2026 CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

The Committee reviewed 10 resolutions submitted for consideration at this Convention.

## BUDGET

A copy of the Committee budget is attached to this report. Delegates may raise any questions at this time; however, any motions for changes will be addressed when the Dominion Treasurer formally presents the budget.

## CONCLUSION

The Poppy and Remembrance Committee continues to provide national leadership in the delivery and evolution of the Legion's Remembrance programs. Through the Poppy Campaign, national commemorative initiatives, and year-round stewardship of the Poppy as a symbol, the Legion remains committed to ensuring that Remembrance is meaningful, visible, and accessible to Canadians.

Over the reporting period, efforts have focused on strengthening consistency, expanding participation, and modernizing program delivery. Initiatives such as the standardization of the Poppy Campaign period, the continued growth of cashless giving, and enhanced national partnerships have supported improved planning, increased public engagement, and stronger overall campaign impact.

At the same time, the Legion has continued to advance education and youth engagement. These efforts help ensure that the importance of Remembrance is understood and carried forward by future generations.

A continued emphasis on communication and practical support to Branches remains essential. By providing tools, resources, and guidance, the Legion is working to ensure Branches are well equipped to deliver the Poppy Campaign and Remembrance programming effectively within their communities. The Committee remains committed to balancing tradition with innovation, safeguarding the integrity of the Poppy and the significance of Remembrance, while adapting to meet the needs of a changing society. Through these efforts, the Legion will continue to honour those who served and ensure that their sacrifices are never forgotten.

I move acceptance of this report.

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

	2024 ACTUAL	2025 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET	2027 BUDGET
<b>COMMITTEE</b>					
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	75	133	-	100	102
OFFICE SUPPLIES	47	277	5,000	4,800	4,896
MISCELLANEOUS	-	-	500	500	510
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>5,500</b>	<b>5,400</b>	<b>5,508</b>
<b>NATIONAL CEREMONIES</b>					
TRAVEL	3,913	4,144	5,500	5,500	5,610
PER DIEM	11,600	9,764	9,500	10,500	10,710
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	356	254	550	400	408
OFFICE SUPPLIES	-	-	600	600	612
MEETING, PLANNING	-	-	500	200	204
ST. JOHN'S AMBULANCE	-	-	500	500	510
CEREMONIES OPERATIONS	3,915	4,450	4,500	4,150	4,233
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,784</b>	<b>18,612</b>	<b>21,650</b>	<b>21,850</b>	<b>22,287</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,906</b>	<b>19,022</b>	<b>27,150</b>	<b>27,250</b>	<b>27,795</b>
REMEMBRANCE RECEPTION	12,758	15,089	14,700	14,700	14,994
P&W & OTHER COMMERATIVE ITEMS	46,598	27,343	68,000	68,000	69,360
SILVER CROSS MOTHER	9,693	6,322	8,700	8,700	8,874
CADET OF THE YEAR	23,691	20,554	25,000	25,000	25,500
<b>TOTAL - POPPY FUND</b>	<b>92,740</b>	<b>69,308</b>	<b>116,400</b>	<b>116,400</b>	<b>118,728</b>
<b>TOTAL - GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>19,906</b>	<b>19,022</b>	<b>27,150</b>	<b>27,250</b>	<b>27,795</b>
<b>TOTAL - NATIONAL</b>					
<b>REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY</b>	<b>112,646</b>	<b>88,328</b>	<b>143,550</b>	<b>143,650</b>	<b>146,523</b>

# REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Jack MacIsaac, *Chair*  
Rosalind Larose, *Member*  
Don McCumber, *Member*  
Lynn McClellan, *Member*  
Roberta Taylor, *Member*  
Rob Cutbush, *Member*  
Danny Redden, *TVS*  
A. Black, *Coordinator*  
R. Hayley, *A/Coordinator*

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS SINCE CONVENTION AUGUST, 2024

Since the last Dominion Convention in August 2024, the Membership Committee is pleased to report continued strong growth, with Legion membership reaching 300,000 as of the first week of May 2026. In 2026 membership is projected to grow for the fifth consecutive year, following decades of decline. This milestone reflects the success of our modernization efforts and the dedication of Commands, Branches, and Volunteers.

### MEMBERSHIP RESULTS:

#### 2024 Year-End Results

- Total Paid Membership: 269,389 (+5.03%)
- Renewal Rate: 87%
- New/Reinstated Members: 45,153 (+5.7%)

#### Third consecutive year of membership growth

#### 2025 Year-End Results

- Total Paid Membership: 270,724 (+.50%)
- Renewal Rate: 85%
- New/Reinstated Members: 39,497 (-12.5%)

New/Reinstated Members decreased, primarily a result of per capita tax increases in 2025, and as many prospective members delayed joining to take advantage of the 2026 free membership program.

#### Fourth consecutive year of overall membership growth

#### 2026 Year-to-Date Update (as of April 26, 2026)

- Total Paid Membership: 297,218
- Growth since 2025 Year-End: +10%

- Renewals: 216,218
- Renewal Rate: 80%
- New/Reinstated Members: 80,001

New member growth has significantly accelerated in 2026, reflecting the impact of the free membership program and the return of deferred demand from 2025.

### CENTENARY YEAR INITIATIVES

2026 marks a historic milestone for The Royal Canadian Legion as we celebrate 100 years of service.

A key highlight of the Centenary Year is the Free Membership initiative for all new members in 2026, which has significantly contributed to record-breaking membership growth and increased awareness of the Legion's mission.

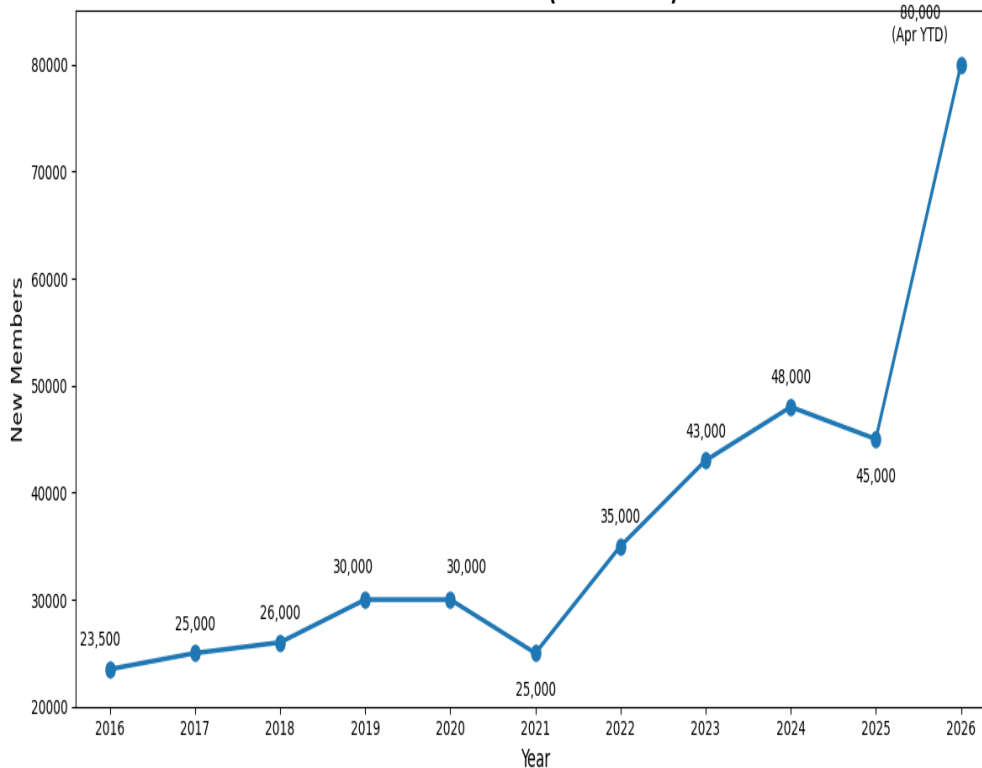
In addition, the "Legion 100 – Win Big Giveaway" has been introduced as a national incentive program to encourage membership growth and retention into 2027.

These initiatives, combined with an aggressive social media advertising campaign, have significantly increased awareness, engagement, and participation across the country, contributing directly to the strong membership growth seen in 2026.

### NEW MEMBERSHIPS 2016 TO 2026

New member acquisition has demonstrated strong and sustained growth over the past decade, increasing from 23,500 in 2016 to 45,000 in 2025, and reaching 80,000 as of April 2026. This significant rise reflects the impact of modernization efforts, enhanced digital engagement, robust marketing initiatives, and the success of the 2026 Centenary Free Membership initiative.

**New Members (2016-2026)**



**AGE DEMOGRAPHICS OF NEW MEMBERS**

- Approximately 15% of new members are aged 40 and under
- Approximately 21% are aged 45 and under
- Approximately 28% are aged 50 and under

New member acquisition continues to reflect a shift toward a younger demographic, supported by modernization efforts and increased digital accessibility.

**COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

**Member Communications:**

The continued collection of member email addresses and phone numbers remains critical. These tools enable cost-effective communication, including renewal reminders and program awareness.

**Branch Communications:**

The Legion Dispatch remains a key monthly communication tool. Branches are encouraged to ensure their contact information is accurate within the membership system to receive important updates.

**MEMBERSHIP SERVICES BRANCH / MEMBER SUPPORT**

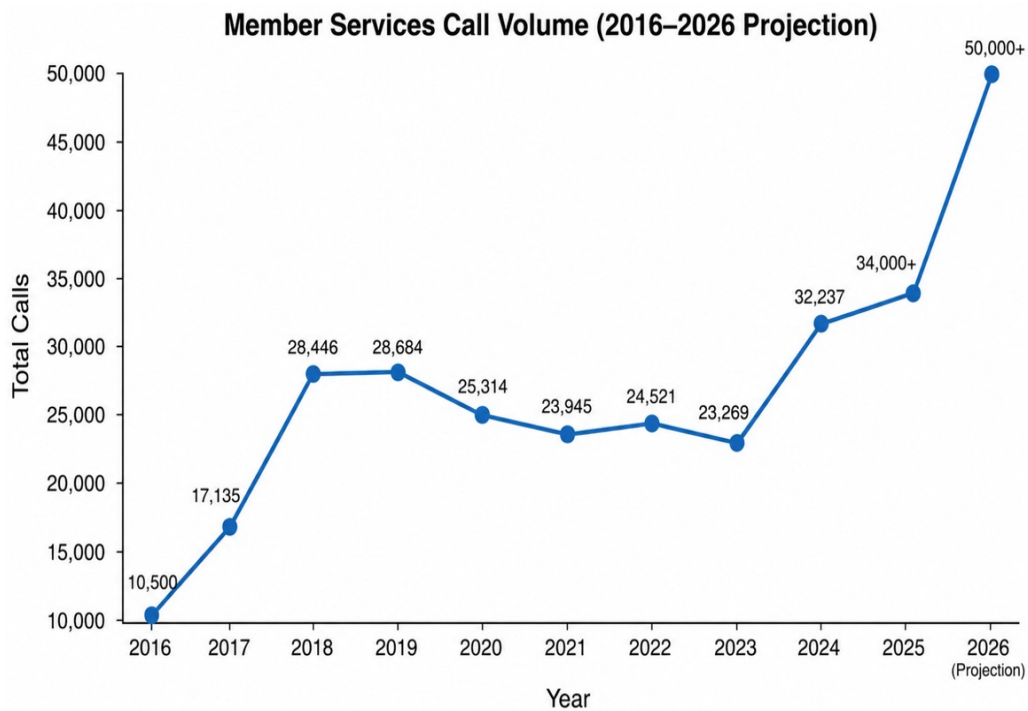
**Member Services Inbound Calls:**

Member Services have experienced significant and sustained growth in service demand. Annual call volumes have increased from approximately 10,500 calls in 2016 to over 34,000 in 2025, representing more than a threefold increase.

As of the end of May 1st, 2026, call volumes have already reached 17,000 and are projected to exceed 50,000 by year-end. This continued growth reflects the success of membership initiatives, as well as increased engagement from both current and prospective members.

**Member Services Emails:**

Member Services has experienced significant and sustained growth in email inquiries. Annual volumes have increased from approximately 5,600 in 2016 to over 40,800 in 2025, representing more than a sevenfold increase.



In 2026, email inquiries are projected to exceed 52,000 by year-end, with volumes expected to increase significantly beginning in September as renewal and membership activity enters its peak period.

This continued growth reflects the increasing shift toward digital communication, expanded outreach efforts, and stronger engagement from both current and prospective members and branches. Combined, Member Services has seen a substantial increase in total service interactions, reflecting significantly higher engagement from both members and prospective members in recent years.

**PROCESSING ON THE PORTAL – SHIFT TO MEMBERS PROCESSING**

Over the past decade, membership processing has undergone a significant transformation. While branches historically managed the majority of transactions, all processing is now distributed across three channels: Member Portal, Branch Portal, and CRM by Dominion staff.

As of 2025, approximately 67% of all processing is completed directly by members, compared

to 28% at the branch level and just 5% through CRM at Dominion. This shift reflects the success of ongoing modernization efforts, improving efficiency, reducing processing times, and enhancing the overall member experience.

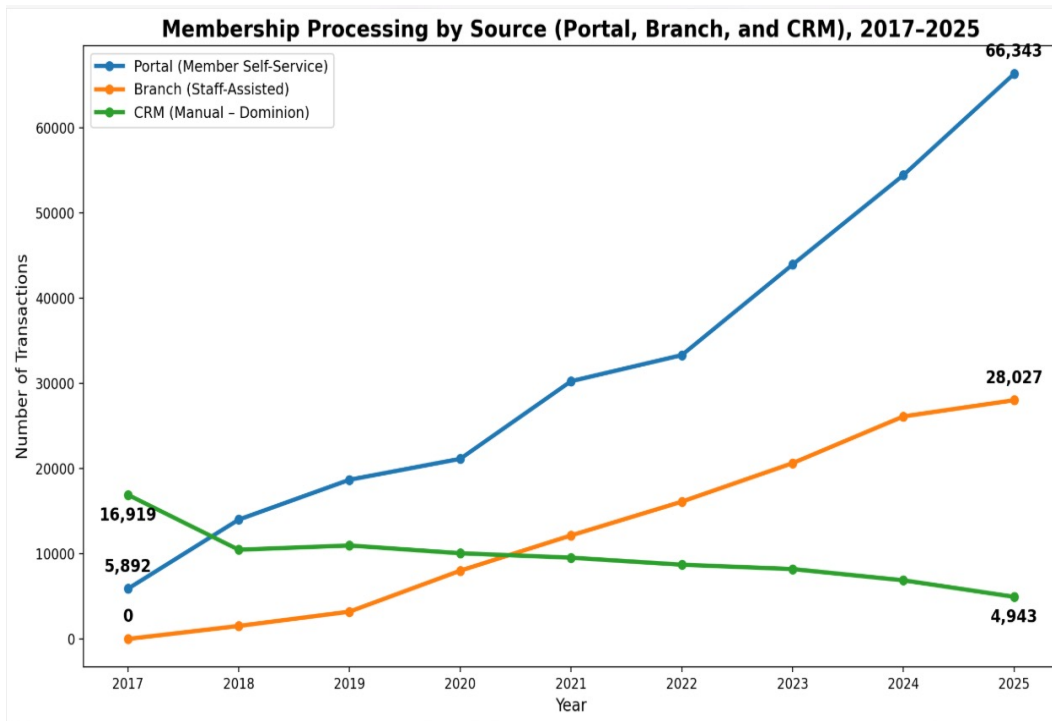
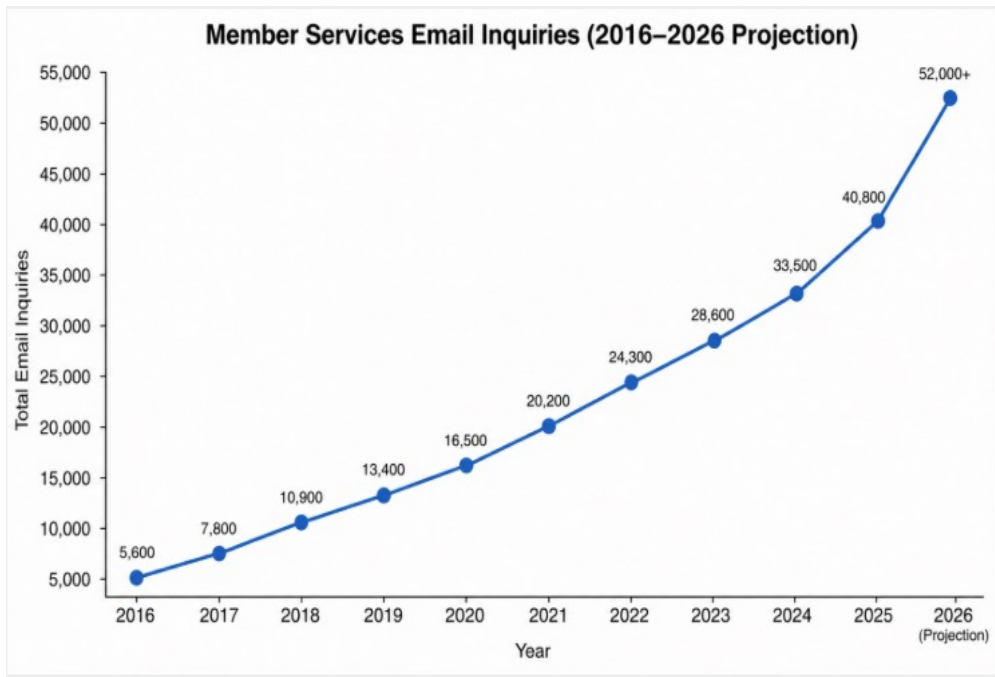
**AUTO-RENEWAL GROWTH**

Since its introduction, the Auto-Renewal program has experienced significant and sustained growth.

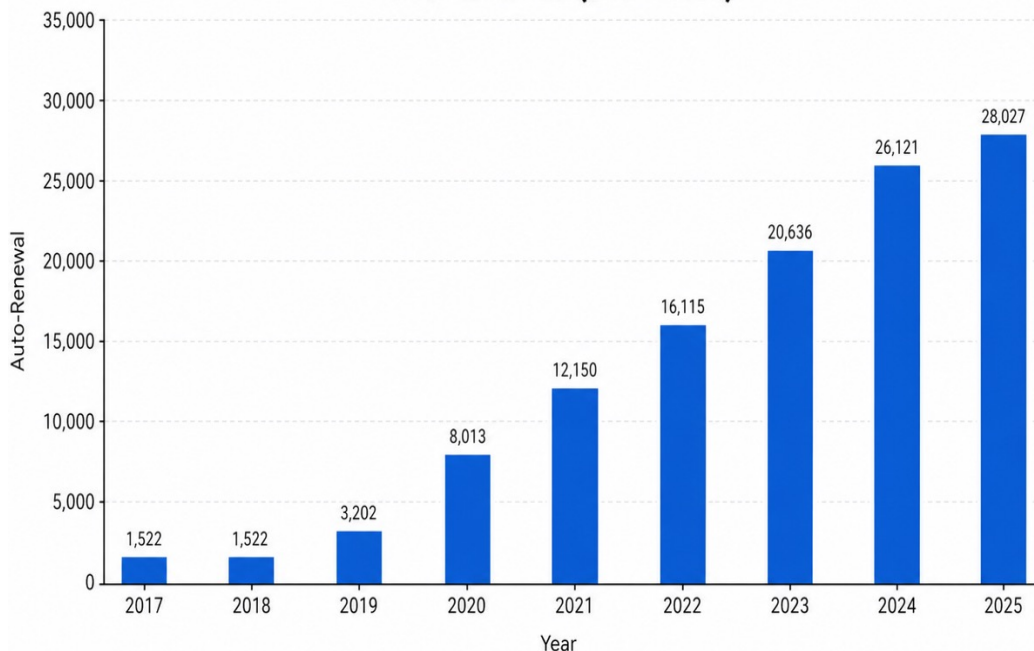
Participation has increased from just 1,522 members in 2018 to 28,027 members in 2025, representing more than an 18-fold increase.

This steady growth reflects increasing member adoption of convenient renewal options, as well as the success of ongoing efforts to promote automated renewal through digital tools and improved member engagement strategies.

The continued expansion of Auto-Renewal supports higher retention rates, reduces administrative processing on branches, and contributes to a more stable and predictable membership base.



### Auto-Renewal (2017-2025)



#### MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS – MEMBER / BRANCH - EMAIL ENGAGEMENT

Over the past two years, Marketing has sent more than 8.5 million emails to members, including 4.63 million in 2024 and 3.88 million in 2025.

In 2026, communication efforts have expanded significantly, with approximately 2.4 million emails already delivered in Q1 alone—well above previous years.

This level of outreach highlights the importance of maintaining accurate member contact information and ensuring branches remain informed and aligned with communications being delivered to members.

#### DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT (DIGITAL MEMBERSHIP CARDS AND DIGITAL LEGION MAGAZINE)

Digital adoption continues to grow, with strong participation in Digital Card usage. A total of 144,009 members are currently utilizing Digital Cards, reflecting increased uptake of digital membership tools.

In 2026, Canvet Publications introduced its new digital magazine, expanding its communication reach and providing members with more accessible and timely content. Since its launch, the E-Magazine has reached 74,778 members and subscribers by the end of April, demonstrating strong early engagement and interest in digital communications.

The introduction of the E-Magazine, along with the continued growth of Digital Card adoption, has enabled the Legion to deliver key environmentally friendly components of its Centenary strategy at no additional cost through modernization efforts. By reducing reliance on traditional printing and mailing, these digital tools are improving accessibility while supporting long-term cost efficiencies as adoption continues to grow.

#### MEMBERPERKS PROGRAM

The MemberPerks Discount Program continues to add value to Legion membership, Over 50K members are enjoying MemberPerks. Together, they've saved \$4M on shopping, travel, dining and more. This national program provides meaningful savings and enhances the overall membership offering and is offered free to all Legion members!

## LOOKING AHEAD

The Membership Committee remains focused on:

- Renewals and retention of Centenary Members
- Expanding auto-renewal participation
- Continued Administration Modernizing to connect and attract a younger demographic
- Enhancing the overall member welcome experience
- Supporting branches in local recruitment and retention efforts
- Strengthening data collection and communication strategies
- Promoting awareness of how membership and volunteer efforts support Veterans, RCMP, communities, and local branches

## CONCLUSION

The progress achieved since the last Dominion Convention in August 2024 reflects a collective commitment to innovation, service excellence, and sustained growth across the organization.

As we celebrate the Legion's 100th Anniversary, we are encouraged by the strong momentum generated through our Centenary initiatives, increased member engagement, and continued success in recruitment and retention efforts.

With a solid foundation in place and a clear strategic direction, the Legion is well positioned to build on this success, strengthen its membership, and enhance its impact in communities across Canada.

Our Member Services team at National Headquarters remains committed to supporting all branches and members, delivering responsive and high-quality service to meet the evolving needs of our organization.

The Membership Committee extends its sincere appreciation to the Dominion Executive Council, Provincial Commands, Branches, and all members for their continued dedication and support.

I move acceptance of this report.

## THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION – DOMINION COMMAND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

	2024 ACTUAL	2025 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET	2027 BUDGET
<b>COMMITTEE</b>					
OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,243	-	400	400	408
MISCELLANEOUS	-	-	100	100	102
	1,243	-	500	500	510
<b>PRINTING &amp; STATIONARY</b>					
MEMBERSHIP FORMS	2,797	5,408	2,000	2,000	2,040
EARLY BIRD STICKERS	1,666	1,478	1,500	1,500	1,530
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,706</b>	<b>6,886</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,080</b>

# REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND SPORTS COMMITTEE

T. Jenvenne, *Chair*  
K. Andrews, *Member*  
H. Defazio, *Member*  
R. Underhill, *Member*  
S. Thibaudeau, *Technical Advisor*  
E. Gentès, *Coordinator*  
K. Therien, *A/Coordinator*

## INTRODUCTION

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

The Dominion Command Sports Committee has met seven times since the 2024 Dominion Convention, with all meetings having been conducted via video-teleconference. This report summarizes the Committee's activities over that period.

## MEMBER SPORTS GENERAL

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

## 2024 DOMINION MEMBER SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS

- a. Dominion Cribbage**  
**Hosted by:** Branch #07-033 Shediac, NB  
**Single:** Judy Dove, Branch #011 Woodstock, NB  
**Doubles:** Barry Dillon, Richard Falle Branch #91 Prince Edward, BC/YT

**Team:** Tammy Shiells, Fredrick Horsman, Richard Falle, Barry Dillon,  
Branch #91 Prince Edward, BC/YT

**b. Dominion Darts**

**Hosted by:** Branch 06-241 Laval, QC  
**Single:** Rodney Tobin, #50 Conception Bay, NL

**Doubles:** Coady Burke, Jason Smith, Branch 156 Halifax, NS/NU

**Team:** Dalton Desmarais, Bryce Book, Chris Purdy, Jim Brown, Branch #52 Kamloops, BC/YT

**c. Dominion Eight Ball**

**Hosted by:** Branch #07-024 Hartland, NB  
**Single:** Darryl Doolittle, Mark Johnston, Branch #36 Valley City, ON

**Doubles:** Darryl Doolittle, Branch #36 Valley City, ON

**Team:** Darryl Doolittle, Mark Johnston, Colton Keuhl, Brandon Raddatz, Branch #36 Valley City, ON

## 2025 DOMINION MEMBER SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS

**a. Dominion Cribbage**

**Hosted by:** Branch #05-112, Whitby, ON  
**Single:** Paulette Lebel Branch #226 Red Rock, MB/NWO

**Doubles:** Barry Dillon, Richard Falle Branch #91 Prince Edward, BC/YT

**Team:** Jennifer Lussier, Janey Raymond, Allan Rose, Gloria Smith

Branch #30 West Kildonan,  
MB/NWO

**b. Dominion Darts**

**Hosted by:** Branch #05-410 Port Stanley, ON

**Single:** Martin Tremblay Branch #245  
Dorval, QC

**Doubles:** Bryce Book, Dalton Desmarais  
Branch #50 Conception Bay, NF

**Team:** Coady Burke, Sheldon Fudge,  
William MacIssac, Jason Smith  
Branch #156 MacDonald  
Memorial, NS/NU

**c. Dominion Eight-Ball**

**Hosted by:** Branch #07-004 Fredericton, NB

**Single:** Russ Kelly Branch #49 Mt.  
Arrowsmith, BC/YT

**Doubles:** Dave Williams, Brad Utterhagen  
#49 Mt. Arrowsmith, BC/YT

**Team:** Lawrence Bordon, John Dugas,  
Jon Kynock, Bob Miklos  
Branch #27 Vimy, NS/NU

**2026 DOMINION MEMBER SPORTS  
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The 2026 Dominion Member Sports Championships were hosted at the following locations:

**a. Dominion Cribbage**

**Hosted by:** Branch #08-009 Windsor, NS

**Dates:** April 24-27

**b. Dominion Darts**

**Hosted by:** Branch 02-015 Cochrane, AB

**Dates:** May 1-4

**c. Dominion Eight Ball**

**Hosted by:** Branch 04-043 Winnipeg, MB

**Dates:** May 22-25

**MEMBER SPORTS – POINTS OF INTEREST**

The 2025 Team Darts Champion, #156 MacDonald Memorial, NS/NU won all games

making them undefeated and the only team to complete this feat in recent history.

**LEGION NATIONALS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

In 2024 and 2025, Legion Nationals welcomed nearly 1,000 athletes, officially surpassing that milestone in 2025—the highest participation in the event’s history. As Canada’s only U16 and U18 national track and field championships, it brings together young athletes from across the country to compete, build confidence, and connect with peers who share a passion for sport. Supported by thousands of Legion volunteers, the event offers a unique opportunity for youth to experience national-level competition while gaining a deeper appreciation for Canada’s diversity of other sports minded youth.

At its core, Legion Nationals is a values-based sporting program, delivering and demonstrating the RCL’s values to Canadian youth through meaningful life experiences. It develops Canada’s future leaders through the program centered around community, remembrance, and inclusivity. The primary focus of the Committee is to continue to instill our values into the Legion Nationals through meaningful engagement with Canada’s youth.

The Committee continues to pursue avenues of cost-saving and revenue-generating opportunities through sponsorships, grants, revenue-sharing initiatives, and increased participation. In 2025, these efforts generated more than \$110,000 in combined funding and registration revenue.

**2024 LEGION NATIONAL YOUTH  
TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The 46th Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships took place 7-13 August 2024 in Calgary, Alberta. The total registration was 968 athletes, including 327 Legion sponsored athletes, representing all 10 Provincial Commands, and 641 open category athletes. This was highest number of athletes to attend a Legion Nationals ever! The athletes were supported by 36 Legion sponsored chaperones and 31 Legion sponsored coaches, as well as 121 open category coaches. There were approximately 2,000 spectators,

officials, and volunteers from all parts of Canada in attendance which included Veterans, both retired and serving, covering all branches of service. The program continued to consist of, for Legion athletes, instructional clinics, practice sessions, social activities, and the actual meet. For 2024, a remembrance theme of the 10th Anniversary of Afghanistan was prominent throughout. For Provincial Command teams, the highlight of the event was having the opportunity to listen to Mike Trauner, Canadian Forces and Afghanistan Veteran, speak about his experience in Afghanistan and going on to become a decorated athlete.

The Royal Canadian Legion Dominion President attended the event and was the official guest of honour. Additionally, the Royal Canadian Legion Vice-President and Sports Committee Chair, Comrade Brian Weaver, was present throughout the event. In attendance as well was Comrade Rosalind LaRose, AB/NWT Command President. The opening ceremony began with a parade led by Sergeant-at-Arms, Stu McCann, and his Colour Party. The music was provided by piper Jim Ross. Legion teams representing the participating Provincial Commands made for a wonderful opening. Immediately following the ceremony, Dominion Command hosted a reception on-site at Foothills Athletics Park. Further receptions were held at Branch #238 Bowness for the coaches and chaperones on Saturday and Sunday respectively. The closing banquet was hosted at the MacEwan Hall at the University of Calgary on Sunday evening. During the closing banquet, the President's Award, which recognizes individuals who have demonstrated exceptional dedication, support, and service to the Legion Nationals program, was presented to Mr. Norman Shelton.

From the opening ceremony through to the closing banquet, Canada's contributions to freedom and the sacrifices of our Veterans formed the cornerstone of this event. This was projected through the content of speeches, event publications, local and national media outlets and event paraphernalia sporting the 10th Anniversary of Afghanistan (i.e., on volunteer t-shirts, event bags, hats, bibs, event

booklets, etc.). Other areas of remembrance were the medals presented which featured silhouettes that paid tribute to the Afghanistan Veterans. On-site, numerous Afghanistan Veterans were in attendance and were provided an opportunity to present medals. Additionally, two minutes of silence, the Act of Remembrance, and the laying of a wreath by the guest of honour, were all done during the opening ceremonies.

A major highlight of the event was the attendance of the Legion Nationals Ambassador, Afghanistan Veteran Mike Trauner. Mike lost both his legs from an improvised explosive device while serving in Afghanistan in 2008. Mike has since gone on to be a successful national athlete, winning multiple medals including 2 Invictus Games gold medals. Mike spoke to the Legion Teams during the athlete clinics and was present throughout the competition. His experience and perseverance inspired all the athletes and helped educate the public on the sacrifices serving Canadian Forces members, and Veterans, make for Canada.

The meet was held from 9-11 August under favourable weather conditions. The facility at Foothills Athletics Park was in excellent condition and enhanced the overall competition. The meet itself was carried out over a full three-day period under the excellent organization of the meet director, Kim Cousins, and the technical advisor, Serge Thibaudeau. Five meet records were broken. The top Legion female athlete, receiving the LeRoy Washburn trophy, was Kiana Charest from Ontario and the top male athlete, receiving the Jack Stenhouse trophy, was Gursheer Gabri from British Columbia/Yukon.

Logistically, the cafeteria from the University of Calgary provided all food for the Legion Teams while food trucks provided food at the track. The food provided to the Legion Teams from UofC was excellent throughout the entire week. The quarters used to house the Legion teams were in adequate condition at the University of Calgary.

The Calgary community led by the LAC Chair (Paula McKenzie) and Co-Chair (Jessica Steinbach) worked extremely hard to provide the best possible experience for the athletes, coaches, chaperones, and guests. Additionally, Legion Branch #238 provided exceptional support and hospitality during the chaperones and coaches reception. The entire Calgary community rallied around the program providing a volunteer base of approximately 200 people. Additionally, the Southern Alberta Area, Regional Cadet Support Unit provided support during the opening ceremony, the medal presentations, the closing banquet, photography, and recruitment. Athletics Canada, Calgary Track Council, Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada, and Programmed Insurance Brokers Inc. were diamond level sponsors, alongside many other local sponsors, who made the event possible.

In summary, the 2024 Legion Nationals was a great success, and the Dominion Sports Committee looks forward to building upon that success during the 2025 Legion Nationals.

### 2025 LEGION NATIONAL YOUTH TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 47th edition of the Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships was held from August 6-12, 2025, marking the second consecutive year hosted in Calgary, AB. The total registration reached 1,001 athletes, including 331 Legion sponsored athletes, representing all 10 Provincial Commands. This marked a historical milestone as the first time the event surpassed 1,000 registered athletes. 36 Team Chaperones, 31 Team Coaches and 120 Open Coaches attended on-site to support these athletes. This year welcomed the first-ever registered Para athletics athlete, expanding the event's inclusivity and outreach.

The program continued to host legion teams with athlete and coach clinics, practice time, an opening ceremony, social activities, a closing banquet and the highest level of track and field championships in Canada for these U16 and U18 athletes.

In 2025, a remembrance theme of the 80th anniversary to the Liberation of the Netherlands was honoured and prominent throughout. This

was projected through speeches, commemorative medals, and event materials featuring a prominent orange theme and remembrance logo.

The Royal Canadian Legion (RCL) Dominion President attended the event and was the official guest of honour. Additionally, the RCL Vice-President and Sports Committee Chair, Comrade Trevor Jenvenne, was present throughout the event.

Other notable guests included:

- Dave Velichko, AB/NWT Command President
- Stéphanie Fréchette, Vice-President at the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada (PIPSC)
- Stephen Lewis, Director of Atlantic Canada Business Insurance & Programs at Programmed Insurance Brokers Inc.
- Carole Pederson, SK Command President

The opening ceremony featured a parade led by Sergeant-at-Arms Brad Mills. Piper Connor Chisholm, of the Calgary and District Pipes and Drums, provided the bagpipe music. The national anthem was performed bilingually by Romy McMorrow. Legion teams representing the participating Provincial Commands made for a wonderful opening.

Throughout the event, VIP, Chaperone and Coach receptions were held at Branch #238 Bowness Saturday and Sunday. The closing banquet was hosted at MacEwan Hall at the University of Calgary on Monday evening. During the closing banquet, the President's Award, which recognizes individuals who have demonstrated exceptional dedication, support, and service to the Legion Nationals program, was awarded to Mr. John Crook.

A standout highlight of the event was the Legion National Ambassador Mike Trauner, an Afghanistan veteran. His inspiring story of resilience and achievement quickly captured the athlete's attention. Mike Trauner lost both his legs from an improvised explosive device while serving in 2018. Mike has since gone on to be a successful athlete and multi-time gold medallist at the Invictus games. Trauner spoke to the Legion teams at the athlete clinic and was present throughout the competition speaking

about his experiences serving for the Canadian Forces as well as his international athletic career. The Track and Field Championships took place at Foothills Athletics Park. It is a great competition venue with a lot of space to offer. The weather was favourable with some light rain on the Friday morning; it cleared up Saturday and Sunday. The top female athlete, receiving the LeRoy Washburn trophy was Lily Stroda from Team British Columbia / Yukon and the top male athlete, receiving the Jack Stenhouse trophy, was Dennis Iriowen from Team Ontario.

Once again, the cafeteria from the University of Calgary provided all food for the Legion teams while food trucks provided additional food at the track for open athletes, spectators, and everyone else. Food and accommodations at the University of Calgary received highly positive feedback, with satisfaction ratings between 95-100% across all categories.

The Local organizing committee, led by LAC Chair Paula McKenzie, and Co-Chair Jessica Steinback, worked extremely hard to provide the best possible experience for the athletes, coaches, chaperones and guests. Additionally branch #238 provided support and hospitality during the chaperones and coaches reception, not to be missed a very recent change in their president who jumped in with the most helpful, and kind attitude to serve us given their own staffing constraints.

Athletics Canada, Calgary Track Council, Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada, and Programmed Insurance Brokers Inc. were top level sponsors, alongside many other local sponsors, who made the event possible.

In conclusion, the 2025 Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships was a resounding success. The Dominion Sports Committee looks forward to building upon that success as we look ahead to Regina in 2026 & 2027.

#### **LEGION NATIONALS – POINTS OF INTEREST**

2025 saw the most number of athletes registered breaking the 1000 mark, while also registering and seeing its first Para athlete compete at the event.

**Legion Nationals Bids to Host:** As a result of an enhanced bid process and increased promotions of the event, the Committee continues to receive high quality bids from multiple cities across Canada. For the 2028/2029 Legion Nationals, the Committee received four bids from host cities. As a result of the bid process, the following locations will host the next four Legion Nationals:

- 2026: Regina, SK, 5-11 August (competition dates: 7-9 Aug)
- 2027: Regina, SK, 4-10 August (competition dates: 6-8 Aug)
- 2028: Nanaimo, BC, 9-15 August (competition dates: 11-13 Aug)
- 2029 Nanaimo, BC, 8-14 August (competition dates: 10-12 Aug)

#### **RESOLUTIONS**

The Sports Committee reviewed one resolution submitted for consideration at this convention. The resolution was non-concurred.

#### **BUDGET**

Enclosed with this report is a copy of the 2026 - 2028 budgets for Member Sports, the Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships, and the Sports Committee. Delegates may raise any questions they may have concerning the budgets at this time. However, any motion for changes to the budgets as related to the Sports Committee will be deferred until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer in the Convention proceedings.

#### **CONCLUSION**

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

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

I move acceptance of this report.

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

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
<b>COMMITTEE</b>					
TRAVEL	137	-	1,000	1,000	1,020
PER DIEM	516	4,240	1,000	1,000	1,020
<b>T &amp; F LAC</b>					
- SPRING SITE VISIT	8,938	4,695	10,500	10,500	10,710
- FALL SITE VISIT	-	2,465	5,000	-	-
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	300	217	500	500	510
OFFICE SUPPLIES	59	80	500	500	510
MISCELLANEOUS	-	282	1,300	1,300	1,326
<b>TOTAL COMMITTEE</b>	<b>9,950</b>	<b>11,979</b>	<b>19,800</b>	<b>14,800</b>	<b>15,096</b>
<b>DARTS</b>					
TRAVEL					
- PARTICIPANTS	21,653	21,116	24,000	24,000	24,480
- COMMITTEE	2,394	1,785	2,500	2,500	2,550
AWARDS & PRIZES-PARTICIPANTS	1,184	-	1,500	1,500	1,530
ADVANCE TO HOST BRANCH	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,224
GROUND TRANSPORTATION	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,142
<b>TOTAL DARTS</b>	<b>28,531</b>	<b>26,201</b>	<b>31,300</b>	<b>31,300</b>	<b>31,926</b>
<b>CRIBBAGE</b>					
TRAVEL					
- PARTICIPANTS	22,344	21,149	20,000	22,000	22,440
- COMMITTEE	1,398	1,246	2,000	2,500	2,550
AWARDS & PRIZES	1,184	2,042	1,000	1,500	1,530
ADVANCE TO HOST BRANCH	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,224
GROUND TRANSPORTATION	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,142
<b>TOTAL CRIBBAGE</b>	<b>28,226</b>	<b>27,737</b>	<b>26,300</b>	<b>29,300</b>	<b>29,886</b>
<b>EIGHT BALL</b>					
TRAVEL					
- PARTICIPANTS	18,147	21,980	22,000	22,000	22,440
- COMMITTEE	1,674	1,162	2,000	2,000	2,040
AWARDS & PRIZES	1,184	943	1,000	1,500	1,530
ADVANCE TO HOST BRANCH	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,224
GROUND TRANSPORTATION	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,142
<b>TOTAL EIGHT BALL</b>	<b>24,305</b>	<b>27,385</b>	<b>28,300</b>	<b>28,800</b>	<b>29,376</b>
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS SPORTS</b>	<b>91,012</b>	<b>93,302</b>	<b>105,700</b>	<b>104,200</b>	<b>106,284</b>
<b>TOTAL T &amp; F</b>	<b>204,391</b>	<b>232,398</b>	<b>282,512</b>	<b>257,400</b>	<b>265,548</b>
<b>TOTAL SPORTS &amp; COMMITTEE</b>	<b>295,403</b>	<b>325,700</b>	<b>388,212</b>	<b>361,600</b>	<b>371,832</b>

	2024 ACTUAL	2025 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET	2027 BUDGET
<b>NATIONAL TRACK &amp; FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>					
TRANSPORTATION	271,797	270,134	270,000	265,000	270,300
ACCOMMODATIONS, MEALS	243,879	275,908	241,112	250,000	255,000
COMMITTEE - TRAVEL	10,347	9,937	6,500	6,500	6,630
COMMITTEE - PER DIEM	10,532	15,310	18,000	18,000	18,360
LOCAL COMMITTEE	-	-	1,000	1,000	1,020
KITS / SUPPLIES / MEDALS	24,672	18,095	22,400	22,400	22,848
BUSES	4,883	9,870	17,500	17,500	17,850
HONORARIA	-	-	3,000	3,000	3,060
RECEPTION	1,316	-	1,500	1,500	1,530
ATHLETIC FACILITIES	-	-	1,000	1,000	1,020
EQUIPMENT / MTG ROOMS	-	5,006	1,000	1,000	1,020
CLINICIANS	-	-	500	500	510
OFFICIALS	1,316	-	2,000	2,000	2,040
FREIGHT & EXPRESS	1,663	1,978	1,000	2,000	2,040
MISCELLANEOUS	920	227	1,000	1,000	1,020
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>571,325</b>	<b>606,465</b>	<b>587,512</b>	<b>592,400</b>	<b>604,248</b>
LESS PROV CMD PORTION	(162,235)	(171,832)	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>409,090</b>	<b>434,633</b>	<b>437,512</b>	<b>442,400</b>	<b>454,248</b>
<b>RECOVERIES</b>					
REGISTRATION - NON LEGION ATHLETES	(58,299)	(61,935)	(30,000)	(45,000)	(45,900)
SPONSORSHIPS	(40,300)	(30,300)	(20,000)	(30,000)	(30,600)
GRANT-VAC	(6,100)	(10,000)	(5,000)	(10,000)	(10,200)
CENTENNIAL FUND	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(102,000)
<b>TOTAL RECOVERIES</b>	<b>(204,699)</b>	<b>(202,235)</b>	<b>(155,000)</b>	<b>(185,000)</b>	<b>(188,700)</b>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>204,391</b>	<b>232,398</b>	<b>282,512</b>	<b>257,400</b>	<b>265,548</b>

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

A. Siew, *Chair*  
B. Heffernan, *Vice-Chair*  
B. Sauve, *Member*  
M. Pearson, *Member*  
J. McGowen, *Member*  
G. Jensen, *Member*  
R. Coltart, *Coordinator*

## INTRODUCTION

The Dominion Command Defence and Security (D&S) Committee has met in person or by videoconference 8 times since the last convention. This report highlights the Committee's activities over that period.

## GENERAL

The Committee continues to monitor and advocate on defence and security issues that affect the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and the RCMP including:

- National defence and security policies
- Policies and programs related to the morale and welfare of serving members and their families
- Protective and mission equipment and systems
- Readiness, operations and training

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

Through a deliberate effort, the Committee will continue to engage and foster direct links with the Minister of National Defence, Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), Vice CDS, Chief of Military Personnel (CMP), Service Commanders as well as the Minister of Public Safety and the RCMP Commissioner. Committee members also attend CAF Stakeholder briefings and engagement sessions. This engagement continues to serve The Legion as a conduit to address issues and coordinate efforts in the areas that affect the operational effectiveness of the CAF and RCMP respectively and to ensure the support and safety CAF and RCMP members and their families.

The Committee coordinated several key visits with the Dominion President and/or Legion staff including:

- CAF CDS – General Jenni Carignon
- RCMP Commissioner – Michel Dumais

Since the last Convention the Committee welcomed a new member: Comrade Greg Jensen, a long serving CAF Veteran and 45 year Legion member.

## STRATEGIC OVERVIEW

Over the past year, Canada has seen significant developments in defence and security. In April 2024, the Government released its updated defence policy, *Our North, Strong and Free*, which set out a renewed vision for protecting Canada's sovereignty—particularly in the Arctic—while committing to long-term investments in capabilities, personnel, and defence infrastructure. This policy established the strategic foundation for rebuilding and modernizing the CAF.

Building on this foundation, Budget 2025 announced \$85 billion in new investments over five years for the CAF—a generational increase that will accelerate the rebuilding and rearming of the force. It also reflects a renewed commitment to strengthening the RCMP, recognizing its critical role in national security, border integrity, and community safety across Canada. Together, these investments have enabled Canada to achieve the NATO 2% defence spending benchmark in 2025–26, marking a historic milestone and the first time since the end of the Cold War that the country has met this key alliance commitment. These combined efforts reflect a strengthened national approach to security, sovereignty, and support for allies, driven by major investments in military capability, policing, infrastructure, and

personnel. They also reinforce a parallel commitment to the care and well-being of CAF members and their families, recognizing that operational readiness depends on strong support systems at home, including housing, health care, and Veteran transition services.

At the same time, the global security environment continues to grow more complex, shaped by great-power competition, ongoing conflicts, rapid technological change, and increasing pressure on Arctic sovereignty—factors that directly affect Canada’s national interests. In this context, NATO allies are discussing more ambitious long-term spending levels, potentially as high as 5% of GDP on defence and related security investments. For Canada, reaching 2% is therefore not an endpoint but a foundation for sustained leadership and continued investment to ensure the CAF remains ready, resilient, and well-supported in an increasingly uncertain world.

### ADVOCACY ISSUES

The following is a summary of key issues that the Committee was engaged with and were included in the Committee minutes that were distributed to DEC.

#### **CAF Sexual Misconduct and Cultural Change**

The Legion remains deeply concerned by the over 30 years of allegations of misconduct in the CAF. The impact in terms of trusting leadership, morale, and operational effectiveness is severe. While there has been significant progress, lasting change requires a commitment at all levels and there is still more to be done.

The Committee has been monitoring the progress of the cultural change initiatives and we can confidently say we have seen significant progress. The Defence and Security Committee continues to monitor the progress of the cultural change initiatives in the CAF and participates as part of ongoing stakeholder engagement.

#### **Canadian Victoria Cross**

The Canadian Victoria Cross is awarded for the most conspicuous bravery, a daring or pre-eminent act of valour or self-sacrifice, or extreme devotion to duty,

in the presence of the enemy. Since inception on 1 January 1993, it has never been awarded. A Legion Magazine article called for the honour to be awarded to Private Jess Randall Larochelle and several Veterans organizations have also requested that he should be considered for the Canadian Victoria Cross. He was previously awarded the Star of Military Valour for his actions in Afghanistan.

In November 2021, DEC endorsed adding the Legion’s voice to the Veteran community’s initiative to award the Canadian Victoria Cross and called for consideration of Private Jess Larochelle to be awarded this honour by the CDS and the Canadian Forces Decorations Advisory Committee. The Legion released this statement in December 2021: <https://legion.ca/news/articles/2021/12/01/legion-supports-awarding-victoria-cross-to-afghanistan-veteran>.

While sadly, Private Larochelle passed away on, 30 August 2023, the campaign to award the Canadian Victoria Cross continues. On 15 April 2026 a petition was submitted to the House of Commons to revisit awarding the Victoria Cross to Jess Larochelle, and to consider establishing a military honours review board. Although, The Legion was not involved with the Petition effort, The Legion supports the request to establish an honours review board with a view to awarding the Victoria Cross. The Government has until 30 May to respond to the Petition.

#### **RCMP Definition of Veteran for Commemoration Purposes**

Approved by the Dominion Executive Council (DEC) in 2022, the Royal Canadian Legion requested that the Minister of Veterans Affairs, in consultation with the Minister of Public Safety, amend the current definition of a Veteran for commemoration purposes to include former members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

The Office of the Veterans Ombud’s 2012 report, Honouring and Connecting with Canada’s Veterans, noted that the current Government of Canada definition does not recognize RCMP service, despite the organization’s long-standing operational

contributions alongside the CAF, including in military operations and peacekeeping missions. The report recommended that the definition be amended to include former RCMP members for commemorative recognition.

In November 2022, the Minister of Veterans Affairs responded to The Legion indicating that the Government would continue to provide only informal recognition to the RCMP. The Dominion President subsequently sent follow-up correspondence on 7 February 2023 and again on 26 October 2023; no responses have been received. This issue was also raised in the November 2025 Veterans Consultation Assembly letter to the Minister, with no reply to date. The matter has also been shared with the RCMP Veterans Association for awareness and support.

### **Domestic Operations and the Requirement for a Dedicated Response Capability**

The Committee continues to follow the support provided by the CAF and the RCMP for the unprecedented climate emergencies and other domestic operations. This support is not sustainable. There have been calls for the creation of a dedicated emergency response force. The Minister of Emergency Preparedness stated in September 2023 that they are looking at options and in July 2023, the Government announced \$82 million in funding to support the capacity-building efforts of the Canadian Red Cross (CRC), St. John Ambulance, The Salvation Army, the Search and Rescue Volunteer Association of Canada (SARVAC) and Team Rubicon (added in 2024).

This effort is called the Humanitarian Workforce (HWF) program and aims to build a scalable civilian workforce that can be rapidly deployed in emergencies, broadening the resources available to respond to large-scale emergencies such as human-induced and climate-related disasters in Canada, and reducing the reliance on the CAF and the RCMP in disaster response. The Committee continues to follow this issue.

### **National Women Veterans Monument**

In November 2023, DEC approved a motion to request that the Government of Canada establish

a monument to honour and recognize the over 100 years of military service of Canadian Women Veterans which the Dominion President followed up with a letter to the Minister of Veterans Affairs.

A monument recognizing Canadian Women Veterans would honour their service, resilience, and sacrifice, highlighting their integral role in shaping the military and societal landscape of Canada. It would serve not only as a symbol of gratitude for their service and sacrifice but also as a reminder of the ongoing need for gender equality and inclusivity in the CAF. Today, there are almost 100,000 women Veterans who have served Canada, and it is time that their service and sacrifice be recognized.

The Dominion President has sent two letters to the Minister of Veterans Affairs and the request was included in the Veterans Consultation Assembly November 2025 letter, which no response has been received.

### **Marriage After 60**

Responsibility for eliminating the “Marriage After 60” clause rests with the Minister of National Defence under the *Canadian Forces Superannuation Act* (CFSA), and the Minister of Public Safety holds responsibility under the *Royal Canadian Mounted Police Superannuation Act* (RCMPSA). Historically, the age threshold of 60 was established to maintain parity with the *Public Service Superannuation Act*; however, this rationale is increasingly outdated as Canadians are living longer and forming partnerships later in life.

Under the current provisions, if a Veteran marries after the age of 60, their spouse is not entitled to receive the Veteran’s earned pension upon their death, unless additional measures are taken. The Legion continues to call on the Government to eliminate this clause, consistent with the 2022 Veterans Affairs Parliamentary Committee (ACVA) report on this issue. While an optional Survivor Benefit exists, it requires Veterans to reduce their current pension. Given current economic conditions, many Veterans cannot afford this reduction. This issue was raised in the October 2024 and November

2025 Veterans Consultation Assembly letter to the Minister of Veterans Affairs, and a response is still outstanding.

### **Women Veterans**

The Committee is monitoring the implementation of the recommendations of the June 2024 ACVA report on Experience of Women Veterans, titled *Invisible No More. The Experiences of Canadian Women Veterans*. An independent study by Mount St. Vincent University to evaluate the implementation of the Report's 42 recommendations is ongoing and initial findings will be released in June 2026. The Committee will continue to monitor the implementation of the recommendations.

The report is available here: <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/Committee/441/ACVA/Reports/RP13177333/acvarp15/acvarp15-e.pdf>

### **RCMP Cadet Training Allowance**

The Dominion President sent a letter to the Minister of Public Safety on 4 December 2024 to urge the Government to increase the RCMP Cadet training allowance to a level competitive with other police services across Canada.

The RCMP Cadet training allowance of \$525 per week had remained unchanged for over 15 years, despite Cadets undergoing the longest training program in Canada. Budget 2025 responded to this issue and in April 2026 new RCMP cadets began receiving a \$1000 training allowance per week.

### **Canadian Public Safety Broadband Network**

The Dominion President sent a letter to the Minister of Public Safety on 4 December 2024 to recommend that the Government of Canada establish a new Canadian Public Safety Broadband Network (PSBN). Such a network is critical to strengthening national security and improving emergency response capabilities within Canada. A PSBN would provide a secure, high-speed communications platform dedicated to public safety organizations, ensuring seamless and reliable connectivity during crises. Budget 2025 responded to this issue.

### **Women Veterans Council**

The Dominion President wrote to the Minister of Veterans Affairs regarding the resignation—after only one year—of five of the eight CAF women Veterans from the Women Veterans Council. The Legion participated in drafting the terms of reference, as well as the assessment and selection process. The Legion is concerned with the Council's independence, effectiveness, transparency, and accountability moving forward. A response from the Minister, received on 16 February, reaffirmed a commitment to a transparent and fair process for selecting new members. The Committee continues to monitor action to re-establish the Women Veterans Council as there has been no changes to the Council.

### **CAF Housing Availability**

Recent reports by the Office of the Auditor General and the Parliamentary Committee on National Defence identified a nationwide shortfall of approximately 6,000 residential housing units for CAF members. The CAF's 24 February announcement of plans to build 7,500 new units is a positive and welcome step toward addressing this gap. However, given the urgency of the housing shortage, it is important to recognize that construction will take several years to complete. It will be critical to ensure that new housing is prioritized and built in locations where the need is greatest. For further details, see: <https://www.ctvnews.ca/ottawa/article/dnd-to-build-2000-military-housing-units-in-ottawa-and-eastern-ontario/>

### **Bill C11 the *Military Justice System Modernization Act***

Bill C-11, which proposes that all Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) sexual misconduct cases be referred to civilian authorities for investigation and prosecution, has been passed by the House of Commons and is now before the Senate. The Legion remains concerned about the lack of choice afforded to victims of sexual assault regarding how their cases are investigated and prosecuted. The Committee will continue to monitor the situation closely.

## **Suicide Prevention**

ACVA published a study into suicide prevention among serving CAF members and Veterans. There were 18 written submissions and 54 witnesses. The testimony highlighted the need for current and accurate data on the number of Veteran suicides and the lack of mental health supports available to family members who have been affected by service conditions. The Legion has published a statement urging the Government to implement all 16 recommendations in full and without delay. The Committee will monitor the implementation of the recommendations.

## **Bill S-246 Recognition of Wartime Service**

The Royal Canadian Legion has expressed support for Bill S-246, *An Act Respecting the Recognition of Wartime Service*, introduced by Senator Hassan Yussuff, which seeks to establish a formal framework for the designation of wartime service in Canada. The proposed legislation would enable the Government of Canada to more consistently and equitably recognize military operations beyond traditionally defined conflicts, ensuring appropriate acknowledgement of Veterans' service. This initiative directly reflects Recommendation 2 of the House of the ACVA report on the Persian Gulf War, which identified gaps in the current approach to wartime recognition. The Legion has previously supported the implementation of this recommendation in correspondence with the Minister of Veterans Affairs and views this legislative proposal as an important step toward ensuring Veterans of operations like the Persian Gulf War receive consistent and meaningful recognition.

## **Requirement for a National Security Strategy**

Canada is at a critical moment in its national security posture. Budget 2025 commits to significant increases in defence and public safety spending, including expanded investments in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), the RCMP, and to meet Canada's NATO obligations. The Royal Canadian Legion recognizes that while increased funding is necessary, it must be guided by a clear and integrated National Security Strategy to ensure these investments are effective, sustainable, and protect those who serve.

Canada's last comprehensive National Security Strategy was released in 2004. Since then, the security environment has changed significantly, with emerging and evolving threats including great-power competition, cyber operations, quantum technologies, foreign interference, the impacts of climate change on Arctic sovereignty, increased domestic deployments, and hybrid warfare. Without clear strategic direction, operational demands can outpace planning and support, placing undue risk on CAF and RCMP members and creating long-term consequences for their health, well-being, and families.

In April 2026 DEC approved a motion that The Royal Canadian Legion call upon the Government of Canada to develop and publicly release a comprehensive National Security Strategy.

## **Corps of Commissionaires**

The Legion is concerned with the Government's recent decision to end its longstanding right of first refusal for security contracts. As one of the largest employers of Veterans in the country, this change raises important questions about continued employment opportunities and support for those who have served. The Legion urges the Government to review this decision and to ensure that Veterans are not adversely affected, with meaningful pathways to stable, dignified post-service employment remaining a priority.

## **MEETINGS**

### **Annual CDA Conference**

Committee Members attended the Conference of Defence Associations Institute's annual Ottawa Conference on Security and Defence (March 4–5, 2026), themed "The Road to Five Percent." The event brought together senior officials, CAF leadership, and experts to discuss Canada's evolving security environment, defence spending, military readiness, continental defence, and procurement modernization. Keynote speakers highlighted emerging threats, the importance of alliances, and opportunities for collaboration. Participation provided the Committee with valuable insight into Canada's defence priorities and reinforced

The Legion's role as a stakeholder in defence, remembrance, and support for those who serve.

### **Stakeholder Engagement on CAF Recruiting**

At an April 20, 2026 briefing senior CAF leadership highlighted significant progress in recruiting and personnel growth, alongside emerging pressures on the training system and force readiness. The CAF has exceeded its Strategic Intake Plan (SIP) targets for two consecutive years, achieving a net growth of approximately 2,000 personnel last year and nearly 3,000 this year—representing a 30-year recruiting high. Current Regular Force strength stands at about 68,000 members, with projections to reach the authorized level of 71,500 by 2029, ahead of the original 2032 target. The Reserve Force has also outperformed expectations, achieving 137% of its recruiting goals over the past two years and reaching a paid strength of 25,054 personnel. Processing timelines have improved significantly, with application-to-offer timelines reduced from 271 days to 134 days, supported by a pool of roughly 44,000 qualified applicants.

However, this recruiting success has intensified pressure on the training pipeline. Trained effective strength remains significantly lower, with approximately 53,560 personnel in the Regular Force and 22,437 in the Reserve Force, and an estimated 12,000 members currently awaiting occupational training. As the SIP increases to 8,200 next year (up from 7,310), this backlog is expected to grow unless training capacity is expanded. Constraints in infrastructure, instructor availability, and equipment are now the primary limiting factors in force generation.

At the same time, the introduction of advanced capabilities—such as the F-35 fighter jet, Remotely Piloted Aircraft System and the P-8 Maritime Patrol Surveillance airplane—is placing additional demands on specialized training systems and skilled personnel. These pressures are compounded by a persistent “missing middle” in mid-level ranks and continued attrition, with approximately 5,900 releases this year.

In an increasingly complex global security environment, marked by rising geopolitical tensions and rapid technological change, these challenges underscore a critical point: recruiting success alone is not sufficient. The CAF must be able to convert increased intake into trained, deployable capability. Addressing training bottlenecks, accelerating onboarding processes, and rebuilding experience within the force will be essential to ensuring that personnel growth translates into a ready, resilient, and operationally effective force.

### **SPONSORSHIP AND SUPPORT**

The Committee continues to support the CAF and RCMP through:

- Operation Santa Claus which includes the distribution of a Christmas gift to every deployed CAF and RCMP member
- Operation Canada Day which includes a Canada Day gift to every deployed CAF and RCMP member
- Comradeship Awards provide a plaque to the top student at the RCMP Depot in Regina
- Comradeship Awards provide a plaque to the top student at the CAF recruit school in St Jean

### **Nijmegen March**

Previously, Legion participation formed part of the CAF contingent to the Netherlands for the annual Nijmegen March. The event has been cancelled since 2020. In 2025, the CAF issued a CANFORGEN noting that the Government of the Netherlands had requested renewed CAF participation in the Nijmegen March. In response, the CAF has designated personnel currently posted in Europe for 2026 to support this request, while undertaking a review of its future participation in the event. Accordingly, there is no Legion participation in the Nijmegen March pending the outcome of the CAF review and its subsequent decision regarding continued involvement.

### **CAF/ RCMP Indigenous Youth Programs**

There are five CAF Indigenous youth programs across the country that are held annually for six weeks each summer. The program provides Indigenous

youth the opportunity to experience a taste of Army life to see if they would like to join the CAF.

The RCMP also has a similar program called the Indigenous Pre-Cadet Training Program which is a three-week training session at the RCMP Training Academy (Depot) in Regina.

The Legion is working to establish a recognition of comradeship award to the top student of each program.

### Women in Defence and Security (WiDS)

The Legion continues to sponsor and attend the WiDS Breakfast. This is a large event, with over 2,000 people in attendance, recognizing the contribution of women in defence and security across the country. Cynthia Ngarachu, the Director of the Legion National Foundation, was recognized as a remarkable leader at this years event.

### Vimy Award and Dinner

The Legion continues to proudly sponsor and attend the annual Vimy Gala, an important national event that honours Canada’s military heritage and

the service and sacrifice of Veterans. The Legion is also honoured to attend alongside the Silver Cross Mother, whose presence serves as a solemn reminder of the personal cost of service and sacrifice borne by Canadian families. Through its ongoing involvement, The Legion reinforces the importance of remembrance, national service, and enduring support for all who have worn the uniform in Canada.

### 2026 CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

The Committee has not received any resolutions for review

### BUDGET

The budget for the Defence and Security Committee has been generated by the Comptroller and will be brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer in the Convention proceedings. Any motion for changes to the Committee’s budget are to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer.

### CONCLUSION

I ask a voting member to move acceptance of this report as presented.

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

	2024 ACTUAL	2025 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET	2027 BUDGET
TRAVEL	2,264	60	400	400	408
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	811	32	100	100	102
OFFICE SUPPLIES	207	475	500	500	510
MISCELLANEOUS	1,197	5,170	1,000	1,000	1,020
ANNUAL VIMY AWARD & AGM	12,000	6,000	8,000	8,000	8,160
<b>CONFERENCE OF DEFENCE</b>					
ASSOCIATION FEE & CIC FEE	1,350	1,350	4,000	4,000	4,080
RCMP BENEVOLENT FUND GALA	-	-	-	2,000	2,040
COMRADESHIP AWARDS	7,535	2,690	1,500	1,500	1,530
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>25,364</b>	<b>15,777</b>	<b>15,500</b>	<b>17,500</b>	<b>17,850</b>

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
**RCEL COMMITTEE**

- B. Lawrence, *Chair*
- B. Julian, *Vice-Chair*
- S. McKeown, *Member*
- V. MacGregor, *Member*
- T. Jenvenne, *Member*
- J. Maclsaac, *Member*
- B. Chafe, *Member*
- J. Carleton, *Member*
- R. Hayley, *Coordinator*
- C. Racine, *A/Coordinator*

**INTRODUCTION**

The Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League (RCEL) was founded in 1921 at the Empire Conference in Cape Town, South Africa. Its mission is to ensure that no pre-independence Commonwealth veteran is left without support in times of need. The League’s founding member countries are Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and the United Kingdom.

In 2025, RCEL UK provided assistance to 2,278 beneficiaries worldwide (compared to 3,560 in 2024), including 585 Veterans and 1,693 widows. This support represents an annual funding envelope of equivalent to approximately \$3.3 million. All beneficiaries reside in their countries of origin and are living in poverty.

In 2020, HRH The Duke of York stepped down as RCEL Grand President and Field Marshal the Lord Richards of Herstmonceux, former Chief of the UK Defence Staff, became Grand President, with King Charles III as Patron. The Deputy Grand President is Major-General Mitch Mitchell, whose longstanding dedication ensures continuity of the League’s mandate. Both Lord Richards and Major-General Mitchell attended and represented RCEL at the 2025 conference in Ottawa.

**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION COMMITMENT – NON FCDO COUNTRIES**

The Royal Canadian Legion’s RCEL Committee remains committed to supporting pre-independence Veterans and widows in Caribbean countries where local organizations and governments are unable to fully meet their needs. The Legion is

currently responsible for three countries in the region. The number of beneficiaries fluctuates as individuals in need are identified:

	VETERANS	WIDOWS
2025	5	20
2024	11	23
2023	11	24
2022	12	25
2021	16	32

The Legion’s ability to support these individuals is directly tied to donations from branches. Contributions in recent years are as follows:

2025	\$204,419.25
2024	\$246,503.30
2023	\$242,182.20
2022	\$259,469.60
2021	\$348,289.05

Branch donations are essential for providing benevolent support to Veterans and widows living in poverty, as well as funding annual distributions of Poppy materials. In recent years, funds have also been allocated to support branch administrative needs, including equipment such as computers and printers, to improve reporting.

## COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Total expenditures supporting Caribbean beneficiaries:

2025	\$177,213.67
2024	\$200,459.71
2023	\$199,289.91
2022	\$190,929.07
2021	\$153,913.52

These totals include an annual contribution of \$7,500 to the Jamaica Legion to support operations at the Curphey Home (increased from \$5,500 in 2024). A cost-of-living increase was also approved in 2024 to better support beneficiaries' basic needs.

An additional \$185,000 has been committed for 2026, leaving a projected balance of \$1.3 million in the Legion's RCEL fund.

## POPPY MATERIAL DISTRIBUTION

Poppy materials are provided free of charge upon request to support fundraising efforts by Caribbean Legions. Shipping costs remain significant. Efforts are ongoing with High Commission offices to explore shipment via diplomatic or military transport to reduce costs.

	POPPY SUPPLIES	SHIPPING COST
2025	\$30,225.52	\$9,204.98
2024	\$27,983.80	\$15,642.08
2023	\$22,132.27	\$15,795.08
2022	\$19,647.79	\$23,276.34
2021	\$6,031.24	\$9,994.35

## FCDO (DFID) PROGRAM

The UK's Department for International Development, now part of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), approved a three-year extension to the Commonwealth Veterans

Program in 2024. This extension runs until March 31, 2027, providing an additional £4 million in aid.

FCDO-supported Caribbean countries include Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent. The Legion continues to directly fund Antigua, Bahamas, Tobago, and Trinidad & Tobago. Support in Jamaica is shared between RCEL and the Legion. This funding does not reduce the need for branch donations. The FCDO has indicated that this may be the final extension, although discussions continue regarding support until the last beneficiary has passed. There remains a possibility that, after 2027, full responsibility could return to the Legion, as was the case prior to 2020.

## EVALUATION, MONITORING AND WELFARE VISITS

Until 2024, biannual monitoring visits were conducted in supported countries. Due to the declining number of beneficiaries and the availability of sufficient reporting, visits will now occur on an as-needed basis.

Routine engagement continues during the Legion President's cruise visits to Caribbean ports, where remembrance ceremonies are held in coordination with local agencies. These visits reinforce recognition of the Caribbean's contributions to the Second World War and strengthen ties between Canadian Veterans and remaining pre-independence Veterans.

## 2025 – 35TH RCEL CONFERENCE

The Royal Canadian Legion was honoured to host the 35th RCEL Conference from June 28 to July 2, 2025, in Ottawa. The Conference was attended by 36 Commonwealth nations including the Governor General of Canada, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon. It was the first time The Royal Canadian Legion hosted the Conference since 2005.

## 2026 CONVENTION

Delegates from RCEL UK have confirmed their attendance at the Royal Canadian Legion's 2026 Centenary Convention in Winnipeg, where further updates will be shared.

**CONCLUSION**

The Royal Canadian Legion remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting pre-independence Veterans and widows living in poverty in the Caribbean. This vital work is made possible through the generosity of branch donations. Without this support, these efforts would not be

possible. Your contributions continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those in need.

**MOTION**

I move acceptance of this report.

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

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
EXPENSES	-	-	400	400	408
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>408</b>

# REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND RITUAL, AWARDS and PROTOCOL COMMITTEE

B. Kiley, *Chair*  
M. Latimer, *Vice-Chair*  
T. Chevalier, *Member*  
E. Tester, *Member*  
G. Budden, *Member*  
C. Gendron, *Coordinator*

## STATISTICS – MAJOR AWARDS

Statistics shown below represent figures for the last two-years period ending 31 December 2025.

YEAR	RECEIVED	APPROVED
2024	27	24
2025	45	44

## NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Since the last report, Ernie Tesler and Gerald Budden have joined the Committee as new members, replacing John Cher, Don McCumber, and Jack Porter.

## HONOURS AND AWARDS

The Committee continues to meet monthly, either electronically or via Zoom, and processes applications for MSM, MSA, and Palm Leaf in a timely manner. There is currently no backlog of applications.

The Committee also continues to use the fast-track resubmission process described in the previous report. Applications missing minor information—such as signed minutes—can be approved promptly once the required details are received, rather than waiting for the next scheduled meeting.

The number of applications has decreased slightly compared to the previous reporting period.

## RITUAL AND AWARD MANUAL

The Committee has undertaken a comprehensive review and update of the RCL Ritual and Award Manual, ensuring alignment with the ongoing work of the EDI Committee, particularly as it

relates to inclusivity and appropriate standards of dress. This review reflects a broader commitment to modernizing policies while maintaining the dignity and traditions of the organization. In developing the updated dress guidelines, careful consideration is being given to established practices and evolving standards. The new policy will be informed by the approaches adopted by the RCMP and CAF, helping to ensure consistency with respected national institutions while promoting clarity, inclusiveness, and professionalism.

## BUDGET

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

## RESOLUTIONS

The Committee reviewed 8 resolutions submitted for consideration at this Convention which 7 were Non-Concurred and one Concurred with amendment by the Committee.

## CONCLUSION

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

I ask a voting member of DEC move acceptance of this report as presented.

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

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
TRAVEL	-	-	-	-	-
PER DIEM	-	-	-	-	-
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	-	-	-	-	-
OFFICE SUPPLIES	-	-	120	150	153
PUBLICATIONS					
RAP MANUAL AMENDMENTS & TRANSLATION	-	1,721	1,500	1,500	1,530
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,721</b>	<b>1,620</b>	<b>1,650</b>	<b>1,683</b>

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

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D. Gordon, *Chair*  
D. Eaton, *Vice-Chair*  
G. Della Valle, *Member*  
B. Chafe, *Member*  
M. Simmons, *Member*  
C. Thomson, *Member*  
S. Van Muyen, *Coordinator*  
J. Ryan, *A/Coordinator*

**GENERAL**

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

**THE GENERAL BY-LAWS MANUAL**

The General By-Laws manual has been available on-line and is kept current with any amendments.

**AMENDMENTS TO PROVINCIAL  
COMMAND BY-LAWS**

In 2024-2026, the Committee reviewed proposed amendments to the By-Laws for four (4) Provincial Commands and one (1) Special Section.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL BY-LAWS**

Since the last Dominion Convention in 2024, the Dominion Executive Council approved three (3) By-Laws amending The General By-Laws of the Legion. By-Laws Nos. 114, 115, and 116 are presented with this report and are submitted to this convention for ratification under Section 6(2) of the Legion's Act to Incorporate. If not ratified, they will cease to have effect at the end of this convention.

**BY-LAW NO. 114**

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

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Executive Council in session this 26th day of April 2025 that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

**SUBSECTION 304.B.I.**

Amend subsection 304.b.i. to read: Complaints lodged under subsections i and ii are subject to a mandatory Arbitration process. Arbitration to be conducted by an Arbitrator or Arbitration Team as determined by the respective branch President. The Arbitrator or Arbitration Team shall attempt to resolve the dispute by agreement. Unless the Arbitrator or Arbitration Team is satisfied that there is good reason to extend the time period, Arbitrations should be completed within 21 days from the time the Arbitrator or Arbitration Team receives the complaint. The Arbitrator or Arbitration Team may extend the time on their own or upon the requests of one of the parties.

**SUBSECTION 301.I.I (1)**

Amend subsection 301.i.i (1) to read: last known email, OR, enclosing a copy of the document in an envelope addressed to the member at their last known address and forwarding same by certified or registered mail or prepaid courier; OR

**SUBSECTION 418.B.II**

Amend subsection 418.b.ii to read: An appeal under the above provision must be made in writing and served on the National Executive Director within 30 days of the notice of decision. Service must be made by email, or registered mail or prepaid courier or personal delivery in the presence of a witness;

**BY-LAW NO. 115**

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

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Executive Council

in session this 22nd day of November 2025 that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

#### **SUBSECTION 301.M**

Add subsection 301.m. to read: Valid: Means that the complaint is one that can be brought in relation to conduct set out in 304(a) and is brought within any time limit applicable to the specific complaint. A decision that a complaint is valid is not a determination that the complaint has merit or will likely succeed. It is only a decision that the complaint meets the requirements to move forward through the Article III process to resolution.

#### **SUBSECTION 137.E.**

Amend subsection 137.e. to read: The Operational Stress Injuries (OSI) section, otherwise known as the BSO Legion OSI, for the purpose of supporting the needs of Veterans and their families, who are affected by OSI is a recognized Special Section of The Royal Canadian Legion with authorized representation on the Dominion Executive Council.

#### **SUBSECTION 401.C**

Amend subsection 401.c to read: One representative from each Special Section, the Tuberculous Veterans' Section and the BSO Legion OSI, for a total of two representatives.

#### **BY-LAW NO. 116**

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

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Executive Council in session this 26th day of April 2026 that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

#### **SECTION 227**

Add section 227 to include all information currently outlined in section 226 (Transfers).

#### **SECTION 226**

Amend section 226 to read:  
BSO Legion OSI

a. Ordinary or Associate Membership (as defined in GBL RCL) in the BSO Legion OSI is open to all RCL members in good standing who are:

i. A Veteran who is affected by an OSI or who has supported comrades with an OSI;

ii. The child, adopted child, stepchild, sibling, widow/widower, parent, or spouse of a Veteran who is affected by an OSI;

iii. A caregiver of a Veteran who is affected by an OSI; or

iv. A mental health practitioner specializing in OSI/PTSD that deal directly with Veterans and their families.

b. Advisors: The BSO Legion OSI President may appoint advisor members of the BSO Legion OSI. Advisors who do not meet the criteria for membership shall be considered non-voting members.

c. Verification: The Officers of the Executive may request proof of Veteran Status from members who are Veterans.

#### **SUBSECTION 301.C.**

Amend subsection 301.c. to read: Conflict of Interest: Is deemed to exist when a member has, through their office, influence or knowledge, a real or perceived interest in, or effect on the outcome of any complaint or appeal made under the provisions of this Article. No member shall sit, or continue to sit, upon any committee or arbitration team (or arbitrator) herein for the purposes of Article III where a conflict of interest exists.

#### **SUBSECTION 308.B**

Amend subsection 308.b. to read: Within 21 days of receiving the complaint the President shall appoint a Complaint Committee or Arbitrator / Arbitration Team (see Section 304.b. if applicable).

#### **SUBSECTION 304.B.I**

Amend subsection 304.b.i. to read: Complaints lodged under subsections i and ii are subject to

a mandatory Arbitration process. Arbitrator or Arbitration Team shall be appointed in accordance with 308.b.i. Arbitration to be conducted by an Arbitrator or Arbitration Team as determined by the respective branch or Command President. The Arbitrator or Arbitration Team shall attempt to resolve the dispute by agreement. Unless the Arbitrator or Arbitration Team is satisfied that there is good reason to extend the time period, Arbitrations should be completed within 21 days from the time the Arbitrator or Arbitration Team receives the complaint. The Arbitrator or Arbitration Team may extend the time on their own or upon the requests of one of the parties.

#### **SUBSECTION 304.B.II**

Amend subsection 304.b.ii to read: If the Arbitrator or Arbitration Team is unable to resolve the complaint, then the Arbitrator or Arbitration team shall determine if the complaint has been substantiated, and if substantiated may impose a disposition under 311 b. If the complaint is not substantiated, it shall be dismissed. In either case, the decision shall be communicated to all parties within 10 days.

#### **SUBSECTION 304.B.III**

Amend subsection 304.b.iii to read: The decision of the arbitrator or arbitration team is final unless an error has been made in the interpretation of these bylaws in which case an appeal can be filed with the branch or Command President within 10 days. The appeal shall be heard by a committee of three members appointed by the branch or Command President. The decision of the appeal committee is final and cannot be appealed any further.

#### **SUBSECTION 304.C.IV**

Amend subsection 304.c.iv to read: enclose payment of a complaint filing fee in the amount of \$100 payable to the Branch or Command with which the complaint is filed. The complainant will have the \$100 returned in all but one circumstance. That circumstance is where there is a final disposition at a hearing or arbitration (after all appeals, if any, are heard) and at that hearing or arbitration the entire complaint is completely dismissed. Then and only then will the \$100 filing fee be forfeited; and

#### **SECTION 917**

Amend section 917 to read:

- a.* When balloting is for the election of more than one officer, delegates may vote for up to, but not more than, the number of officers to be elected.
- b.* A delegate may not vote more than once on the ballot for any candidate.
- c.* The ballots shall be in a form approved by the Convention Committee.
- d.* Ballots not marked in conformity to this section shall not be counted.
- e.* The candidates receiving a majority of the ballots cast shall be elected.
- f.* If one or more but not all candidates receive a majority on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be held for the offices remaining unfilled.
- g.* Whenever on any ballot no candidate is elected, the name of the candidate who received the lowest number of votes shall be deleted from subsequent ballots, provided that:
  - i.* if the total of the votes received by the two with the lowest number of votes is less than the votes received by the candidate with the next lowest number of votes, the names of the two with the lowest number of votes shall be deleted from subsequent ballots; and
  - ii.* similarly, if the three candidates having the lowest number of votes do not have a total vote equal to that of the candidate having the next lowest number of votes, their names shall be deleted from subsequent ballots

#### **SUBSECTION 1101.C**

Remove/delete subsection 1101.c from the General By Laws.

#### **BUDGET**

For your information, a copy of the Constitution and Laws Committee budget is attached to this report.

Delegates may raise any questions that they have concerning Committee expenses at this time, but any motion for changes to the budget document as it relates to this Committee will be deferred until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

I would now ask a member of the Dominion Executive Council to move adoption of my report.

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

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	133	461	350	350	357
PUBLICATIONS					
- REVISION TO ON-LINE MANUALS	191	908	500	500	510
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>1,369</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>867</b>

# REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND VETERANS CONSULTATION COMMITTEE

L. Murray, *Chair*  
B. Lawrence, *Member*  
R. Hayley, *Coordinator*  
C. Hughes, *A/Coordinator*

## GENERAL

The objective of the Veterans Consultation Assembly is to bring together the various national Veterans' groups to discuss issues and to find common ground on which to advocate to the Government for the betterment of all Veterans and serving members of the Canadian Armed Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and their families. As the largest Veterans support organization in Canada, it is incumbent upon us to ensure we seek the input from all Veterans organizations to ensure our advocacy remains current and relevant to those we serve. The recommendations provided from the Forum are provided directly to the Government and Veterans Affairs Canada for follow up and action.

Over the past 2 year the following Associations have participated in the Forum:

ANAVETs  
Airborne Regiment Association of Canada  
Canadian Army Veterans  
Canadian Association of Veterans  
in UN Peacekeeping  
Canadian Naval Air Group  
Canadian Peacekeeping Veterans Association  
Commissionaires  
Legion OSI Special Section  
Maritime Air Veterans Association  
Merchant Navy Commemorative Theme Project  
Military Nurses Association of Canada  
National Council of Veterans Associations in Canada  
NATO Veterans Organization of Canada  
Persian Gulf Veterans of Canada  
Rainbow Veterans of Canada  
RCAF Association  
RCMP Veterans Association  
War Amputees of Canada

Meeting frequency is normally one meeting per year: the Assembly met in November 2024, and October 2025, and scheduled to meet later in 2026.

## PRESENTATIONS

The Assembly welcomed a number of agencies and individuals integral to the cause of Veterans, enabling the participants to engage in discussion on a variety of topics:

### **Veterans Review and Appeal Board (VRAB):**

Chris McNeil, Chair of VRAB, provided an update on the government of Canada agency responsible for hearing reviews and appeals by ill and injured CAF Veterans and members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in relation to disability pension and award decisions by Veterans Affairs Canada.

**Concussion Legacy Foundation Canada:** Tim Fleischer, National Director, spoke of Project Enlist, Operation Brain Health and brain injury in the Canadian Military. The Foundation's mission is to advance the study, treatment, and prevention of the effects of brain trauma and associated mental health implications in Canadian military personnel.

**Heroes Mending on the Fly:** Gervais Jeffrey, National Director, and Orest Babij, National Secretary, provided an update on recent activities dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled Veterans through fly-tying, fly-fishing and associated activities, including education and outings.

**Veterans Ombud:** Col (ret'd) Nishika Jardine updated the Assembly on the purpose of her office which was established to investigate complaints and challenge the policies and decisions of Veterans Affairs Canada where individual or systemic

unfairness has been found. Her office has released studies and publications on mental health treatment benefits for family members, peer support for Veterans who have experienced military sexual trauma, and Women Veterans of the CAF and RCMP.

**Canadian Institute for Military and Veteran Health Institute:** Paul Hook, Managing Director, provided an update on how their organization, in partnership with many other organizations, is enabling more of Canada’s military, Veteran, and family health research requirements to be met. He reviewed how they are working to enhance the accessibility of military, Veteran and family health research while engaging with network members to foster collaborations, which enables increased research and improves knowledge translation activities.

**Legion Veterans Services:** Carolyn Hughes, Director Veterans Services National Headquarters, provided updates on services offered through our national network of Service Officers and spoke about current advocacy issues surrounding support to Veterans, RCMP members, and their families.

**CONCLUSION**

The Veterans Consultation Assembly continues to be a valuable Forum for open and honest discussion amongst national Veterans organizations. It reinforces strong relationships and highlights our responsibilities to work closely with others who share a common mission.

I would ask a member of the Senior Elected Officers to move my report.

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

	2024 ACTUAL	2025 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET	2027 BUDGET
TRAVEL	-	-	200	200	204
PER DIEM	-	-	250	250	255
MISCELLANEOUS	723	-	1,000	1,000	1,020
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>1,479</b>

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
**GOING FORWARD COMMITTEE**

- B. Lawrence, *Chair*
- B. Julian, *Member*
- S. McKeown, *Member*
- L. Murray, *Member*
- V. MacGregor, *Member*
- T. Jenvenne, *Member*
- J. Maclsaac, *Member*
- J. Carleton, *Member*
- B. Chafe, *Member*
- D. Gordon, *Advisor*
- R. Hayley, *Coordinator*
- S. Van Muyen, *Assistant Coordinator*

**OVERVIEW/UPDATE**

The Going Forward Committee meets as required to discuss strategic topics relating to the continued success of the organization. The Committee also provides leadership, direction, and oversight on national strategies. As all Committee members are Senior Elected Officers or Dominion Executive Council members they receive regular updates on the execution progress of these strategies. The Committee is pleased to announce tremendous progress in key strategic initiatives launched over the past few years.

**STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

The 2018 Strategic Plan provided a 10-year vision for operational success and organizational sustainability. Since then, tremendous progress has been made on modernization and membership, leading to significant growth and a revitalization of our organization.



The operational execution of this plan continues as ongoing efforts remain on some of our pillars. This plan will be reviewed and updated for our 2028 Dominion Convention.

**EDI COMMITTEE**

The EDI Committee is pleased to be launching the Legion EDI Awareness Program at our 2026 Convention. This strategy began in 2021, when it was observed that the Legion lacked a strong equity, diversity, and inclusiveness (EDI) strategy as it related to its membership and elected leadership.

The Going Forward Committee originally established the Op Harmony Committee (which later transitioned to the EDI Committee), tasked with the development of a strategic plan to identify and operationalize objectives and goals to support efforts across the Legion. The 2026 Convention EDI Awareness Program will mark the beginning of the Action Plan to strive to be a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive organization. The timing is right, as we welcome a record number of new members to our organization thanks to our Centenary membership strategy.

**JANUARY 2026 MEETING**

The Committee convened in January of 2026 to discuss the following strategic initiatives:

- Indigenous Accessories and Legion Dress
- Exploring a consistent number of days for the Poppy Campaign

- Expanding our education efforts on the Poppy
- Developing a Dominion Command legacy project

The above topics were forwarded to the appropriate Dominion Committees for consideration.

### CONCLUSION

Comrades, this Committee will continue to be actively engaged in how we do business to ensure we are positioned for continuing success. The organization has turned a significant corner after many decades of decline and is once again a vibrant, growing Canadian institution.

I move acceptance of my report.

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

	2024 ACTUAL	2025 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET	2027 BUDGET
TRAVEL	-	-	500	500	510
PER DIEM	-	-	250	250	255
MISCELLANEOUS	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>765</b>

# REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION (EDI) COMMITTEE

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V. MacGregor, *Chair*  
M. Emery, *Vice Chair*  
B. Chafe, *Member*  
L. Murray, *Member*  
M. Fryday-Cook, *Member*  
A. Siew, *Member*  
E. Poissant, *Coordinator*  
M. Ouellette, *A/Coordinator*

## GENERAL

Since the adoption of our National EDI Statement at the 2024 Dominion Convention, the EDI Committee has been very busy planning and implementing the EDI program.

- The Committee began by reviewing and updating the EDI Action Plan.
- We coordinated with National Headquarters staff on the creation of a dedicated EDI page on the Legion Portal, providing members with access to EDI resources.
- In 2025–26, the Committee began developing a “Request for Proposal” document (RFP) for the provision of EDI training for Legion leadership and members.
- The Committee submitted a proposal to DEC in November 2025 which recommended a contractor and budget to develop an EDI awareness program. The proposal from Empowered EDI and the the program budget was subsequently approved by DEC>
- In early January 2026, a kickoff meeting was held with the CEO of Empowered and the EDI Core Group to initiate development of the Legion EDI Awareness Program (EDI Foundations PowerPoint for in-person and virtual delivery, and a Legion Members “Learning Moment” video).
- Throughout development, Empowered engaged Committee members on a regular basis to help ensure the EDI Awareness Program is strong and relevant.
- On 12 March 2026, a pilot session of the EDI Foundations presentation (leadership program) was delivered to the Dominion Core Group. The Committee then held a feedback and debrief session to finalize the presentation.

- The first iteration of the EDI Foundations presentation was shared with DEC on 24 April 2026.
- On 7 May 2026, a feedback session on the “Learning Moment” video was held with the Core Group and the Committee.
- In middle May 2026, a session was planned with Provincial Command EDI representatives to gather feedback on the “Learning Moment” video and identify options to strengthen EDI communications.
- The first virtual EDI Foundations session will be held with Provincial Command Executive members in June 2026.
- The “Learning Moment” video for all Legion members will be launched at the EDI Workshop to be held at the Dominion Convention in August 2026.

## THE WAY AHEAD: COMMITTEE PLANS / GOALS

- a. In 2026–27, the EDI Committee will focus on coordinating development and rollout efforts to support the Empowered EDI Awareness Program across the Legion.
- b. Our efforts will include enhanced internal communications and resources, promote updated EDI content and educational materials through the Legion Portal which will ensure broad access to current information across all levels of the organization.
- c. As the EDI Awareness Program is delivered, it will support data collection for analysis. This analysis will help the Committee evaluate progress and refine EDI action plans aligned with the organization’s strategic objectives.

I move acceptance of this report.

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

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
RESOURCES/WORKSHOPS	-	-	5,500	75,000	5,610
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,500</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>5,610</b>

## REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND CENTENARY COMMITTEE

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V. MacGregor, *Chair*  
M. Fryday-Cook, *Vice-Chair / NS-NU Representative*  
C. Thompson, *BC-YK Representative*  
D. Bolduc, *AB-NWT Representative*  
C. Pedersen, *SK Representative*  
G. Conrad Davey, *MB-NWO Representative*  
S. McKeown, *ON representative*  
J. St-Laurent, *QC Representative*  
T. McEvoy, *NB Representative*  
C. Smith, *NL Representative*  
K. Merola, *TVS Representative*  
C. Cook, *OSI Representative*  
L. Murray, *Ex-Officio*  
B. Lawrence, *Ex-Officio*  
R. Hayley, *Ex-Officio*  
N. Bond, *Ex-Officio*  
T. Backer, *Committee Coordinator*  
J. Ryan, *Assistant Coordinator*

### GENERAL

*“If this great task can be carried on by a united organization imbued with the same spirit that carried the Canadian forces to victory on the battlefield, future generations will rise up to acclaim the men who magnified their war service by rendering an infinity greater service to the nation in the days of peace.”*

-Sir Richard Ernest William Turner, KCMG, VC, DSO South African War and First World War Veteran. Chair of the Unity Conference and one of the original founders of the Legion.

For nearly 5 years, the Centenary Committee has been working on the plans leading up to the celebration of the Royal Canadian Legion’s centennial year. The committee has been made up of representatives from each command and sections within the organization. As we reflect on the organization’s achievements over the last century, the committees plan was to recognize our members, volunteers, and corporate partners who share our passion for bringing people together to support, commemorate and celebrate our Veterans community and the importance of promoting Remembrance.

The purpose of the creation of the Centenary Committee was to ensure a dignified celebration of 100 years of commitment to Veterans, their families, communities across Canada, and our sacred trust to ensure that Canadians always Remember. The centenary year of 2026 has been a time to commemorate our collective history, but also look towards the future of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Since the last convention, the committee has made great progress in initiating and launching centenary projects and events. In early 2025, Dominion Command launched a Centenary Task Force, which assigned staff members with key centenary responsibilities. In coordination with the committee, the Centenary Task Force has been executing multiple plans and programs and forging new national partnerships during this unprecedented year. The Centenary Task Force continues to regularly meet to discuss these projects, planning updates, and their overall strategies going forward.

### CENTENARY PROJECT UPDATES

Many projects and plans have already been launched for our centenary year. Below is a brief update on some of the major initiatives that have already been accomplished:

- **Royal Canadian Legion Centenary medal:** One of the first products launched for the 100th anniversary was the Centenary Medal, which quickly became a popular commemoration item for members.
- **Royal Canadian Legion 100 Year History Website:** A website was launched to highlight the 100-year timeline of the organization.
- **Royal Canadian Legion 100th Anniversary Documentary:** In partnership with Canvet, a short documentary was produced to educate our history through video.
- **Centenary Merchandise:** The Legion House Supply Department have been producing and selling many Centenary items through the Poppy Store for branches, legionnaires, and the Canadian public.
- **Centenary Coin:** The Royal Canadian Mint has released limited edition silver and gold coins to commemorate the 100th anniversary.
- **Legion 100 Anniversary Tulip:** A symbolic flower was chosen in collaboration with the Canadian Tulip Festival. Proceeds of orders will support the Legion and the anniversary flower was also available in person at the 2026 festival.
- **17 July 2026:** The official day marking the 100th anniversary of the organization. Branches across the country took part in a shared National Day of Recognition by holding a

commemorative ceremony and/or celebrations within their communities.

- **National Contest:** A sweepstake for all Legion members who either renew their membership, shop the Legion store or donate to the Poppy Fund.
- **Centenary Dinner and Convention:** A Centenary banquet and other events scheduled to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the organization.
- **Remembrance Initiative:** A special initiative inviting Canadians to take part in an act of collective Remembrance. Branches have been supported with materials to gather personal messages of remembrance, and these individual reflections will come together as part of a larger national tribute.

#### THE WAY AHEAD: COMMITTEE PLANS / GOALS

Going forward, the Centenary Committee looks forward to celebrating the rest of our centennial year. The committee's goal is to finish the year ensuring that the remaining centenary projects meet their respective timelines. The committee will continue to meet to discuss project updates, share information among provincial representatives, and support any national 100th anniversary plans that are still upcoming during the second half of 2026.

I move approval of this report.

# REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND

## TUBERCULOUS VETERANS SECTION

Danny Redden, CD, *President*  
Dawn Adams, *Vice-President*  
Morris Glowa, *PEC Representative*  
Peter Merola, *Past President*

### TVS PRESIDENT REPORT

The Tuberculosis Veterans Section comprises of four Branches in three provinces. There are about 560 members across Canada.

#### British Columbia

TVS Branch 44, Vancouver  
President Heddy Bing

Shalom Branch 178, Vancouver  
President Danny Redden CD

#### Saskatchewan

Dr. Harold Anderson Memorial Branch 78  
Saskatoon President Patti Paul

#### Alberta

Hugh Farthing Memorial Branch 52, Calgary  
President Marilyn Bushell

The Tuberculosis Veterans Section (TVS) holds a significant place in the history of the Royal Canadian Legion (RCL). Established a decade before the RCL's formation, TVS was among several sections that united in 1926 to create the organization we know today as the Royal Canadian Legion. TVS served as a pioneering model for veteran advocacy, which has been carried forward by the Legion. Although TVS primarily focused on Veterans with tuberculosis, its Service Officer model was broadly adopted by the Legion.

Tuberculosis also known colloquially as the “**white death**,” or historically as consumption, is a contagious disease usually caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (MTB) bacteria. Tuberculosis initially infects the lungs, but it can also spread to other parts of the body. Most infections show no symptoms, in which case it is known as inactive or latent tuberculosis. A small proportion of latent infections progress to active diseases that, if left untreated, can

be fatal. Typical symptoms of active TB are chronic cough with blood- containing mucus, fever, night sweats and weight loss. Infection of other organs can cause a wide range of symptoms.

Tuberculosis is spread from one person to the next through the air when people who have active TB in their lungs cough, spit, speak or sneeze. People with latent TB do not spread the disease. A latent infection is more likely to become active in individuals with weakened immune systems.

Tuberculosis (TB) in Canada remains a significant public health concern. TB incidence has remained relatively stable over the past two decades. Despite being a low-incidence country, Canada faces persistent disparities, with TB disproportionately affecting Indigenous peoples (Inuit, First Nations, Métis) and individuals born outside Canada.

#### Forms of TB

- Latent TB infection (LTBI): The bacteria remain dormant individuals are not contagious but may develop active TB later.
- Active TB disease: Individuals are symptomatic and can transmit TB through airborne droplets. Pulmonary TB is the most common form but, TB can also affect lymph nodes, bones, joints, and other organs.

#### Prevention

- Vaccination: Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine is used selectively in high-risk populations, such as infants in Inuit and First Nations communities.
- Public health measures: Screening of newcomers, contact tracing, and treatment of latent TB are key.

- Addressing social determinants: Improving housing, nutrition, and access to healthcare is critical to reducing TB risk.

### **Burn Pits**

Burn pits were widely used on Canadian Forces bases during deployments to the Persian Gulf and Afghanistan to dispose of countless kinds of waste, including toxic chemicals. Canadian Forces members and Veterans have since raised concerns about the health effects of this exposure.

Veterans Affairs Canada considers each case individually and the PACT Act of 2022 has expanded Veterans Affairs health care for Veterans exposed to burn pits.

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is also prevalent among many Veterans. TVS branches continue advocating for Veterans with respiratory health issues.

As with all Legion branches, TVS relies on the dedicated service of its members who are committed to supporting Veterans in any way possible.

TVS branches actively participate in all Legion activities, including fundraising and Poppy Tagging. TVS offers the exceptional opportunity for Dual membership to all RCL members, allowing individuals from any branch across Canada to also affiliate with TVS and support its goals and objectives.

Yours in Comradeship,  
Danny Redden CD TVS President

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

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C. Hood, **President**  
A. Boudreau, **1st Vice President**  
J. Dobson, **2nd Vice President**  
C. Stevens-Cook, **Chair**  
D. Muise, **Treasurer**  
J. Le Roy, **Secretary**  
J. Carleton, **Immediate Past President**

Comrade Dominion President, honoured guests, Comrade members and staff, I come with warm greetings from BSO Legion OSI.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the OSI Special Section, ratified at the 46th Dominion Convention in 2016. Our mandate is to promote good mental health among our Veterans and their immediate families while fighting mental health stigma. We achieve this through advocating for better mental health care, and by creating programs that empower our participants.

**WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF BSO LEGION OSI?**

The BSO Legion OSI Bylaws under ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP is defined as:

- 201.** Definitions: a. BSO Legion OSI adopts the definitions of membership categories as per the GBL RCL.
- 202.** BSO Legion OSI Membership: Ordinary or Associate membership (as defined in GBL RCL) in the BSO Legion OSI Special Section is open to all RCL members in good standing who are:
- a. a Veteran who is affected by an OSI or who has supported comrades with an OSI,
  - b. the child, adopted child, stepchild, sibling, widow/widower, parent, or spouse of a Veteran who is affected by an OSI,
  - c. a caregiver of a Veteran who is affected by an OSI, or
  - d. a mental health practitioner specializing in OSI/PTSD that deal directly with Veterans and their families. Advisors: a. The BSO Legion OSI President may appoint advisor members of the BSO Legion OSI.
- 203.** Advisors who do not meet the criteria for membership shall be considered non-voting members.

To summarize, we are Veterans and immediate family members of the Royal Canadian Legion who firmly believe in the Legion’s mandate as well as our own. We seek to support our fellow Veterans and their families, whether Legion members or not. We represent a cross section of the Legion’s membership from coast to coast to coast. Simply put, we are you. I say this to highlight that we work with Legion branches across the country, by informing our members, who are your members in creating ways to support those Veterans and family members in your communities. We are a national initiative strengthened by a national voice that comes from each of your respective commands.

**PEER TO PEER SUPPORT PROGRAMS:**

Currently and thanks to the dozens upon dozens of branches and our dedicated volunteers across our great country, Operation VetBuild, a program that incorporates hobby to improve mental health while in a social setting, and Buddy Check Coffee, which provides camaraderie and support have been a great success in helping the Legion fulfill its mandate in supporting Veterans and their families.

This year, I am proud to announce that we are in the planning stages of 2 new programs that will assist branches even further in continuing that support.

Operation Eat Well is a cooking program that will utilize branch kitchen spaces to teach Veterans and their family members how to prep and cook healthy meals, recognizing that good physical health and a proper diet contribute to good mental health. Operation Green Thumb is an urban gardening program that will utilize the outdoor spaces on branch properties to create urban/compact vegetable gardens. Crops yielded from this program will be divided between participants, and Veterans in need within the communities, and in some cases a portion

could go to Operation Eat Well. This program will help develop helpful skills to promote healthy living and overcome food insecurities through these obtained skills.

It is our intent to launch Operation Eat Well this year and Operation Green Thumb to be launched in preparation for the 2027 growing season. We will be looking for 3 branches for each program to run the pilot, before opening it up nationwide. If your branch is interested in participating in the history making pilots, please contact us.

#### **HONOURS AND AWARDS:**

We are expanding our honours and Awards to recognize section members who volunteer their time to host our programs, participate in committees, act as Program National Coordinators, or serve as Provincial Reps.

This will be achieved by providing additional bars to our OSI Medal as well as a BSO Legion OSI President's challenge coin, and certificate of appreciation.

These efforts are carried out to not only recognize our members, but to also encourage those out there who are running programs on their own without our knowledge or support to join the section and fall under our program guidance for consistency and reporting purposes. Only those who are section members that run Buddy Check Coffees, OVB, or our upcoming programs would qualify for recognition.

#### **BRAND CONSISTENCY:**

BSO Legion OSI along with Dominion Command have worked toward creating a brand related to our programs. Buddy Check Coffee and Op VetBuild should essentially become household names across all the branches. This establishes familiarity, consistency, and a level of comfort. It also makes it easier when speaking to corporate donors as to how we directly support Veterans and their families through the Poppy Fund. What we are hoping for here is a bit of support from all levels of the Legion to adopt the branding to achieve our

aims. As mentioned, we intend to encourage brand consistency through our recognition programs.

#### **MFHA:**

We have engaged Broadmind and partnered with them to offer the Mental Health first Aid Course for Veterans. This is a zero-cost endeavor to us as it is funded by VAC. In March, we ran 2 Mental Health First Aid Courses which included a 25-person in-house course in Toronto, and a 15-person virtual course. Priority went to those who run our peer-to-peer support programs. This also helps incentivize participation with the section when running peer-to-peer support programs.

As long as there is funding support through VAC and we can fill the seats, we will keep running them. Vacant seats will be pushed out to the rest of the Legion and can include paid Command service officers if they wish to attend.

#### **HOW TO REACH US:**

It is our hope that by the time I deliver this report to you, our website will be up and running and linked to the RCL national page. We can also be reached for inquiries via email at [membership.bso.osi@gmail.com](mailto:membership.bso.osi@gmail.com)

I am proud to say that over the past year, BSO Legion OSI has grown by 15% over the past year. Now that you have received this report, it is our hope that we will see exponential growth over the coming weeks, months and years.

#### **SUMMARY:**

We are a small organization within the Legion with a big footprint. We will continue to advocate for better support from the government, but we will not stand idle in waiting for others to take care of our own. In the meantime, we look forward to growing even bigger over time and will continue to support branches in supporting their community's Veterans and family members through our varied initiatives.

I move acceptance of this report.

# REPORT OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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R. Hayley, *National Executive Director*  
S. Van Muyen, *Director Corporate Services*  
C. Hughes, *Director Veterans Services*  
O. Gorelova, *Director Financial Services*  
D. Edmonds, *Director Marketing and Communications*  
L. Taha Cheng, *Director Poppy and Remembrance*  
T. Diamond, *Director Supply Sales and Merchandising*  
A. Black, *Manager Member Services*  
N. Bond, *Manager National Communications and Public Relations*  
J. Strathearn, *Manager Information Services*

## INTRODUCTION

This is an exciting time to be part of The Royal Canadian Legion as we celebrate our 100th anniversary during an unprecedented time in our history. As our Centenary focusses on celebration, education and growth, I remind everyone The Legion is growing again!

Legion membership has been growing for four consecutive years, and thanks to our Centenary strategic plan our organization is guaranteed to grow again in 2026! Our Centenary Free Membership offer has proven that Canadians believe in our mission and want to learn more of the work we do while playing a role in supporting our Veterans and their families, Remembrance and our local Communities.

Our growth should not be taken for granted, as many national organizations who have been in business for 100 years are unable to lay claim to a revitalization of their brand, business and mission as they start their second century of operations. The reason for this success lies directly with our highly dedicated, outstanding volunteers found across our 1,350 local branches. This strength remains unmatched in Canada.

We have an inspiring itinerary planned for Winnipeg, and we look forward to honouring our past, while celebrating our successes during our historic 50th Dominion Convention.

## STRATEGIC DIRECTION AND OPERATIONAL EXECUTION

Our recent success is the result of executing a strategic plan approved by 2018 Dominion Convention delegates leading us to 2026 where we are entering a revival phase as part of our organizational life cycle.

Data remains critical to our success and our operational decision making has been based on data thanks to investments in modernization. The collection of data, and data analysis, is an extremely valuable commodity when involved with transformational organization evolution. Data collection, data analysis, and operational execution positioned us to launch a highly cost-effective, and forward-thinking Centenary strategy.

During this convention, you will hear how we have achieved consistent growth and sustainability by investing in technology and how it will be necessary to continue with these investments to continue transforming our business while honouring and respecting our 100-year history.

## MODERNIZATION AND COLLABORATION

Modernization continues to be at the forefront of our current success underlining the importance of an unwavering collaborative focus at all levels of our organization. This is not a statement, but an action plan, as we continue to evolve to be better positioned for the next 100 years.

The results of modernization and collaboration are clear and can be seen in our Centenary campaign

results in Membership, Supply, and even Legion Magazine. Continued collaboration will be essential as we begin a modernization phase for Poppy and Remembrance to ensure we can expand our Remembrance pillar into the next century.

### **HIGHLY DEDICATED PROFESSIONAL STAFF DELIVERING SERVICE EXCELLENCE**

Leading the transformational charge are the National Headquarters Directors, Managers and staff members. Our total staffing complement of 45 personnel consistently ‘punch above their weight’ in delivering service excellence and enhancing the branch and member experience. One of our biggest assets, aside from our brand, and dedicated volunteers, is our staff and I have the luxury and pleasure of working with the best team I have encountered in over 4 decades of professional business experience. In the last decade, due to retirements, our staff have gotten younger and more diverse which bodes well for our continued success, succession planning, and ultimately our Headquarters organizational future.

Each National Headquarters department works hard to maintain strong customer service all while supporting our local branches, membership and provincial commands.

Support to Veterans, RCMP members, and their families remains a primary pillar of our Mission Statement. Our highly dedicated, professional Service Officers and support personnel of our Veterans Services department, continue to work closely with every Command Service Officer across the country, fulfilling this mission. Working together with the CAF and VAC is a significant role this department plays as displayed by the renewal update of our Memo of Understanding (MOU) with The Department of National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces Transition Group. This renewed MOU ensures we will continue to provide the supports necessary as serving members transition to civilian life.

Advocacy to government, is a key element to this service and recently our Headquarters has placed an increased focus on this work as we prepare for the

Canadian Armed Forces aggressive expansion plans. Veteran Services is well-positioned and proactively preparing to meet the challenge of increased support demands and you will learn much more during the Veterans Service and Seniors report.

The Corporate Services department efficiently continued to expertly administer many of our national programs and organize large-scale activities such as Canada’s National Remembrance Day ceremony, Dominion Conventions, and record setting National Track and Field Championships. In addition, 2025 also included national non-traditional events such as the 25th Anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Commemoration Ceremony and the hosting of the 35th RCEL Annual Conference which attracted 36 Commonwealth Nations from across the globe to Ottawa. The department was also actively involved working closely with the EDI Committee in the planning and rollout of the EDI program to be launched at convention. Many other activities and achievements will be outlined in the individual committee reports during Convention, including execution of the highly successful Centenary strategic plan.

The Member Services department has been at the forefront of Legion modernization and is where our exceptional customer service begins. They are primarily the first point of contact for members, branches and the public. Did you know this department has responded to over 150,000 individual inquires since our last convention? This visibility, availability, and professionalism is playing a large role in supporting our success. In the Membership report, you will learn of membership growth, digital membership cards, portal processing support, automated renewal calling campaigns, auto renewal program and other acquisition and retention tools driving our success.

The Poppy and Remembrance department will be the next Department leading modernization as the three core team members are charged with executing the strategic direction and management of the national Remembrance initiatives including the Poppy Campaign. Along with the P&R Committee,

they closely manage Poppy Fund expenditures while enforcing the Poppy trademark. Did you know, through our partnership with Amazon Canada, the Department removed over 20,000 online Poppy trademark infringements since the last convention? This action ensures revenues raised from the Poppy trademark go directly to supporting Veterans and their family members. The department has worked tirelessly in advancing key national partners such as RBC, TD Bank, Amazon, Starbucks, The Royal Canadian Mint, and Veterans Affairs Canada. The Poppy and Remembrance committee report will highlight the strategic plan to modernize ensuring we are growing our Remembrance mission pillar with all Canadians. You will hear successes like the Pay Tribute program, in addition to the National Youth Remembrance Contests and how modernization will help us grow this mission over the next century.

Legion Supply sales continue to grow while managing key national initiatives such as Operation Canada Day and Operation Santa Claus, through which thousands of gift packages are sent annually to Canadian Armed Forces members serving overseas. The Legion has been a founding partner in delivering these programs for over 25 years. Supply & Merchandising achieved record sales in 2025, increasing 24% year over year, with strong momentum continuing into the first quarter of 2026, driven in part by strong experienced management and new centenary products. Notably, 12% of Q1 2026 record sales were generated from new customers. In 2025, the online Poppy Store processed over 31,000 orders, a 7% increase from the previous year. The current year is on track for continued growth, with provincial commands benefiting from increased gross profit margins as they share financially in this success. Planned upcoming enhancements to the web store will further expand online capabilities for the public, members, and branches.

The Marketing department continued to produce professional targeted communications to support all aspects of our business. In 2025 they launched our largest ever Social Media campaign in support of our Centenary strategic plan positively impacting,

Membership, Supply, Poppy and Remembrance, and Veterans Services. The team continues to leverage strong developed partnerships with Canada Post (launch of our Centenary stamp), The Royal Canadian Mint (launch of numerous commemorative and circulation coins), Ford Canada (Legion 100 Win Big Giveaway), amongst many other national partners. Their strong efforts are directly linked to our successes across our numerous business platforms. They seamlessly continue to manage key communications pillars such as legion.ca along with our membership portal and our monthly newsletters to branches and members all while promoting our national advocacy positions. They also closely manage the relationship with our Member Benefit Partners in ensuring Legion members receive special offers through these partnerships. They are also responsible for our MemberPerks program, free with every Legion membership, allowing, over 50,000 members to have saved over \$3.6 million in purchases since inception. If you have not yet signed up for MemberPerks, click here <https://legion.ca/member-login/memberperks>

Our Finance Team continues to provide highly professional skilled oversight of our finances at our National Headquarters and Dominion Command and is also instrumental in the development of our annual budgets and financial projections. They continue to work closely with all elements of our organization in adherence to strict fiduciary principles and are responsible for regularly remitting collected funds to branches and provincial commands. This small team is responsible for financial controls and complete full accountability audits each year for The Legion, The Legion National Foundation and Legion Magazine. Did you know last year our team was successfully audited on 1.4 million general ledger transactions? A testament to their quality of performance and the volume of financial transactions they oversee for our growing business.

## COMMUNICATIONS

As a large growing national organization, we rely on effective communications especially at a time of continued evolution. Our Communications team,

working in concert with each provincial command keeps branches and members up to date on Legion activities, initiatives and advocacy efforts through monthly member and All-Branch newsletters. Electronic communications have become our standard method of updating our organization with important knowledge. The statistics indicate we're reaching more members—and getting stronger engagement from those who open our communications.

Did you know, in the first quarter of 2026, we delivered significantly more emails (2.4 million) than in Q1 2024 (850 thousand) and 2025 (929 thousand), expanding our reach. At the same time, clickthrough rates climbed to 11.7% in 2026, up from 6.9% in 2024, showing we're improving at driving action from engaged readers.

Internally, our Headquarters Management team continue to host regular videoconference meetings with the Provincial Executive Directors, (held

monthly since 2021), reinforcing our ongoing open communications and collaboration.

## CONCLUSION

The Royal Canadian Legion is a widely recognized national institution and as the largest Veterans' support organization in the country, has earned the respect of Canadians, government, media and many other agencies. Our 100th year is a time to celebrate our accomplishments.

Of course, none of our success could be achieved without the dedication of tens of thousands of volunteers across Canada, the US, and Europe.

Please take a bow, sit back, and enjoy your very special milestone convention!

I would ask a member of the Senior Elected Officers to move the adoption of my report.

## REVENUES

For the fiscal year 2025, The Royal Canadian Legion recorded a net surplus of \$414,956 from general operations, down from \$897,242 in 2024. This reflects total income from all sources including sales, investments, bequests, royalties, and both realized and unrealized gains after deducting operational expenses. While core operations generated a deficit of \$1,315,223 before other and investment income, strong investment returns and additional revenue sources helped offset the shortfall. Combined restricted funds (Poppy Trust, Centennial, RCEL) generated a net surplus of \$1,224,327, compared to \$1,685,244 in 2024. The decrease was primarily due to lower Poppy and wreath sales and higher cost of goods sold, partially offset by strong investment returns.

## REVENUE - INVESTMENTS

The Legion experienced a strong year, recording unrealized gains of \$1.06 million. Dividends and interest income also grew significantly, increasing by 19% or \$74,281 compared to the previous year. As is well known, the Legion relies heavily on investment earnings to support its operations. This year, dividends totaled \$549,004, while interest income amounted to \$113,514.

In 2025, Canada's investment markets performed better than expected. Stock markets rose strongly, helped by gains in financials, energy, and materials, especially as oil and gold prices increased. Lower interest rates also supported both stocks and bonds, improving overall investor confidence.

However, economic growth was uneven. Trade tensions, including U.S. tariffs, and a weaker Canadian dollar created challenges by raising costs and putting pressure on some businesses. While exports benefited from the weaker dollar, higher import prices kept inflation a concern.

Looking ahead to 2026, markets are expected to continue growing at a slower pace. Lower interest rates should support both stocks and bonds, but risks like global tensions, trade issues, and currency weakness may cause some ups and downs. Overall, the outlook remains cautiously positive, with steady but more moderate growth expected.

## REVENUE – MEMBERSHIP

Looking on a positive note, membership revenue has shown steady growth over the past four years, reaching \$6,612,266 an increase of \$399,617 compared to last year. In 2025, a total of 270,281 memberships were processed, up 1,951 members (0.7%) year over year.

Based on current 2026 figures, 271,272 memberships have been processed to date, representing 16% increase over the same period last year. This includes 65,257 new or reinstated members, a significant rise from 19,606 at this time last year. Year-to-date renewals total 210,687, accounting for 78% of all memberships processed so far.

Notably, 99% of new members continue to join local branches, underscoring the importance of branch-level engagement. Social media activity has also increased, with branches actively sharing stories about welcoming new members. This increased engagement has been supported by 100th anniversary activities and broader marketing efforts, helping branches strengthen connections within their communities.

## REVENUE - SUPPLY

In 2025, sales of supplies reached \$4,161,933, exceeding budget by approximately \$443,000 and increasing by 23% over 2024. This growth was driven partially by the introduction of new products developed for the 100th anniversary celebrations.

As a result, gross margin was strong at \$2,523,024, well above both budget and prior year, with healthy margins despite higher cost of goods sold. Total expenses were \$1,346,205, slightly above budget and reflecting increased activity. Personnel costs were well controlled and below budget, while higher freight and postage costs reflected increased shipping volumes. These were partially offset by savings in advertising, though finance and administrative support costs increased. Net expenses totaled \$1,098,760, in line with budget expectations.

## REVENUE – OTHER

In 2025, the Legion received supplementary income, including a bequest of \$46,269 and other miscellaneous income totaling \$100,500. Other income consists of MBP contributions and various corporate donations.

## EXPENSES BY DEPARTMENT

- **Member Services:** In 2025, Member Services costs were lower than in 2024 by \$47,890, mainly because of staffing changes. At the same time, credit card processing and phone costs increased by \$24,470 as more members continued moving to online services. By 2025, about 75% of memberships were processed online, which naturally added to transaction-related costs. Some savings were still achieved through reduced spending on physical membership card pack-outs, as more members switched to digital cards.
- **Supply Chain Management:** In 2025, Supply performed better than in 2024, with sales rising to \$4,161,933, an 11% increase year over year. This growth was driven by stronger demand and new products introduced for the 100th anniversary. Cost of goods sold increased to \$1,638,909, which reflects the higher level of sales activity, and personnel costs also rose slightly due to changes in warehouse staffing. Overall, 2025 was a stronger year than 2024, with solid sales growth and steady day-to-day operations, even with ongoing pressure from higher shipping costs and supply chain challenges.

Looking ahead, momentum is expected to continue. The 100th anniversary helped drive strong results in 2025, and it is expected to have an even bigger impact in 2026. Work is already underway to build on this through more community engagement and events that bring members together and strengthen connections across the organization.

- **Veterans Services:** Veterans Services expenses increased in 2025 compared to 2024, rising from \$1,095,978 to \$1,176,586, an increase of about \$80,608. This reflects the continued and growing demand for support services for Veterans and their families. While costs were higher than in 2024, they are directly tied to the level of support being delivered. Overall, the increase year over year reflects the ongoing commitment to maintaining and responding to the needs of Veterans across the country.
- **Information Technology:** Expenses in 2025 were slightly lower than in 2024 by \$12,741 overall. Most of the savings came from lower spending on Programming & Support (down \$30,441) and Website & Internet services (down \$21,695) compared to the previous year. These savings were partly offset by higher Maintenance Contracts and Leases, which increased by \$40,974. These savings were partially offset by higher Maintenance Contracts and Leases, which exceeded budget by \$40,974 due to additional expenses carried forward from 2024 into 2025. The IT systems upgrade approved in the prior year was not fully expensed in 2024, contributing to the overall variance. Other variances were not significant. As in previous years, Enginess Consulting was engaged to provide specialized support for complex upgrades to the Legion's operating systems.
- **Legion House:** Expenses in 2025 were higher than in 2024, mainly due to the timing of an HVAC replacement project. The work was originally planned for 2024 but was completed and billed in 2025, resulting in an increase of \$140,171 year over year. All related costs were covered through reserves. Aside from

this project, maintenance and repair costs were consistent with 2024, with only a slight increase due to routine maintenance and minor unexpected repairs.

- **Marketing & Communications:** Spending in 2025 was lower than in 2024, with savings of \$29,082. Most of this reduction came from lower social media and promotional activity compared to the previous year.
- **Finance Services:** Costs increased slightly in 2025 by \$5,836 compared to 2024, mainly due to higher staffing costs. The ERP system project also remained on hold in 2026 due to resource constraints across departments, with plans to resume work in 2028.
- **Other Program Expenses:** Expenses were lower in 2025 compared to 2024, with a reduction of \$65,620, mainly due to fewer legal-related activities during the year.

## COMMITTEES

In 2025, committee expenses were lower than in 2024 by \$46,995. Most of the savings came from Sports and Public Relations, which cost less than the previous year. The DEC and Senior Elected Officers also spent slightly less than in 2024, adding another \$3,222 in savings. Overall, committee spending was more controlled in 2025 compared to 2024, while still supporting all key activities.

## INVESTMENT RESERVES

As of year-end, investments by account were:

- General Fund: \$19,677,823
- Poppy Fund: \$7,420,532
- Centennial Fund: \$2,423,041
- RCEL Fund: \$1,561,090

Inflation has eased compared to the high levels seen in 2022 and 2023, and interest rates are now gradually coming down. However, uncertainty remains due to global trade tensions, currency shifts, and geopolitical risks. Canada's economy is expected to grow more slowly. Lower interest rates should help support markets in 2026, though volatility is likely to continue.

## BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Royal Canadian Legion's 2025 financial results were stronger than budgeted and reflected a positive year across many areas of operations. Total revenue reached \$13,808,780, which was approximately \$920,075 or 7.1% higher than the 2025 budget of \$12,888,705. One of the largest contributors to this favourable result was Supply revenue, which exceeded budget by approximately \$456,569. Increased product demand, along with the success of merchandise tied to the Legion's 100th anniversary celebrations, helped drive these stronger results. Membership revenue also continued to perform well, coming in \$218,878 above budget as both membership growth and renewals remained steady throughout the year. Additional revenue above budget came from the Member Benefits Program, Corporate Donations, and few unbudgeted items such as Estate Bequests. Investment income also remained stable and slightly ahead of expectations despite continued economic uncertainty and market fluctuations.

Total expenses for 2025 were \$13,097,722, approximately \$219,977 or 1.7% above budget. Although some areas experienced higher costs than anticipated, overall spending remained well controlled in relation to the increase in revenues. The largest variances occurred in Legion House operations. Legion House expenses were mainly impacted by the HVAC replacement project that had originally been planned for the prior year but was completed in 2025. Supply Chain Management expenses also increased due to higher sales activity and increased freight and shipping costs. Membership expenses rose reasonably as more members continued using online services and digital membership processing.

At the same time, several departments finished the year under budget and helped offset some of these additional costs. Financial Services, Veterans Services, Committees, Employer Pension Contributions, and Other Program Expenses all

reported savings compared to budget. Information Technology expenses also remained slightly below budget overall, despite additional maintenance and upgrade costs carried forward from previous years.

As a result of the strong revenue performance, net income from operations totaled \$414,956 compared to a budgeted surplus of \$10,960. Overall, the 2025 budget results reflect a solid financial year, supported by continued membership growth and strong Supply performance. The positive results also provide a strong foundation as the Legion continues into 2026 and builds on the momentum created through its 100th anniversary initiatives.

Looking ahead to 2026 and 2027, the budgets show stable growth for the organization. Revenue is expected to continue increasing from \$14,482,851 in 2026 to \$14,624,193 in 2027, mainly due to ongoing membership growth and continued strong supply sales following the success of the 100th anniversary activities. Membership renewals remain strong, and branches continue to attract new members across the country.

At the same time, operating costs are expected to continue rising, with total expenses budgeted at \$14,472,595 in 2026 and \$14,483,761 in 2027,

driven by inflation and higher expenses related to freight, technology, utilities, insurance, and staffing. Membership Services and Supply operations are also expected to remain high, which will continue to place pressure on operating budgets. Despite these challenges, the Legion is projecting balanced operations with modest surpluses of \$10,256 in 2026 and \$140,432 in 2027.

Overall, the organization remains financially stable and well positioned to continue supporting Veterans, members, and communities across Canada.

**RECOMMENDATION 1:** It is recommended that Deloitte be re-appointed as our auditors for the years 2026 and 2027.

Attached are the financial statements with the actual results for 2024 and 2025 and the forecasts for 2027. Comrades, you have been provided with a full accounting of the actual expenses for the years 2024 and 2025 and estimates for the next year. I am now prepared to answer any questions you may have concerning these reported results.

I move acceptance of my report.

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

	2024 ACTUAL	2025 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET	2027 BUDGET
<b>REVENUE</b>					
MEMBERSHIP FEE REVENUE	6,212,649	6,612,266	6,393,388	7,606,642	7,758,775
<b>CANVET</b>					
- AGENCY FEE & SUPPORT	400,000	400,000	400,000	440,000	448,800
INVESTMENT INCOME	480,652	545,865	540,000	510,000	430,500
VETERANS SERVICES POPPY FUND GRANT	1,152,415	1,247,702	1,247,702	1,281,407	1,307,036
SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT	3,388,448	4,175,264	3,718,695	3,838,893	3,915,671
<b>LEGION HOUSE</b>					
- TENANTS	97,920	97,920	97,920	104,784	104,784
- INTERNAL	326,000	326,000	326,000	326,000	326,000
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>					
- MASTER CARD	177,817	34,470	-	-	-
CORPORATE DONATIONS	32,000	39,000	10,000	10,000	10,200
MEMBER BENEFITS PROGRAM	245,183	256,994	155,000	280,125	235,728
- OTHER	96,547	27,030	-	85,000	86,700
ESTATE BEQUEST	151,223	46,269	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>12,760,854</b>	<b>13,808,780</b>	<b>12,888,705</b>	<b>14,482,851</b>	<b>14,624,193</b>

**\*Note 1**

**\*Note 1**

The \$650,000 is included in the 2026 membership revenue projection to reflect the approved centenary initiative outlined in the DEC recommendation dated November 23, 2024. As part of this initiative, all new members joining during the Legion's centenary year (2026) will receive a one-year complimentary membership. No per capita tax or membership fees will be collected or remitted at any level of the organization (Dominion Command, Provincial Commands, Local Branches, or Legion Magazine) for these members during that first year.

Although these memberships are free to new members, the cost will be fully covered by a one-time investment of approximately \$650,000 from Dominion Command, funded through existing Dominion investments. This amount is shown as revenue in the general fund for 2026 budgeting purposes, to align with the value of services provided.

The funds will not be withdrawn from the Dominion investments upfront. Instead, actual disbursements will occur quarterly, on a need basis, depending on the number of free memberships redeemed throughout the year. This strategic investment is projected to yield long-term benefits, including a projected return of \$563,000 in new membership revenue by 2030, with full ROI anticipated by 2028.

	2024 ACTUAL	2025 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET	2027 BUDGET
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
LEGION MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS	2,765,468	3,025,805	2,802,525	3,721,897	3,796,335
CORPORATE SERVICES	1,035,676	993,465	1,009,402	1,015,851	1,036,168
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	520,176	546,853	559,594	618,212	630,116
MEMBERSHIP	871,252	919,142	861,626	919,103	927,355
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS	389,296	383,737	369,740	379,633	387,226
MARKETING, ADVERTISING, PROMOTION	958,250	985,832	963,254	1,168,231	981,118
FINANCIAL SERVICES	452,374	335,781	410,944	360,492	370,122
VETERANS SERVICES	1,140,979	1,221,587	1,301,117	1,336,660	1,363,393
SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT	2,204,806	2,737,669	2,640,096	2,883,850	2,951,888
COMMITTEES	831,678	735,824	834,082	876,000	797,692
OTHER PROGRAM EXPENSES	266,031	58,881	124,600	132,600	135,050
AMORTIZATION	99,984	98,686	65,000	75,000	75,000
EMPLOYER PENSION CONTRIBUTION	485,315	531,761	568,045	540,166	580,000
LEGION HOUSE	362,769	522,699	367,720	444,900	452,298
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>12,384,054</b>	<b>13,097,722</b>	<b>12,877,745</b>	<b>14,472,595</b>	<b>14,483,761</b>
<b>NET INCOME (LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<b>376,800</b>	<b>711,058</b>	<b>10,960</b>	<b>10,256</b>	<b>140,432</b>

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

	2024 ACTUAL	2025 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET	2027 BUDGET
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	859,179	864,666	859,617	849,841	866,838
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	16,799	16,998	16,858	16,647	16,980
OTHER BENEFITS	105,988	84,462	74,814	82,951	84,610
LEGION HOUSE EXPENSE	39,854	41,735	41,113	42,412	43,260
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>1,021,820</b>	<b>1,007,861</b>	<b>992,402</b>	<b>991,851</b>	<b>1,011,688</b>
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	17,336	12,933	19,000	21,000	21,420
OFFICE SUPPLIES	44,795	34,088	36,000	36,000	36,720
STAFF TRAVEL	2,098	893	1,000	8,000	8,160
INSURANCE	27,005	17,074	45,000	35,000	35,700
RENT (CR TO BUILDING)	108,000	108,000	108,000	108,000	110,160
STAFF RECRUITMENT	4,039	3,049	2,500	2,500	2,550
COMPUTER NETWORK SUPPORT	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,570
MISCELLANEOUS	12,378	13,636	6,000	10,000	10,200
TRAINING	4,690	2,431	6,000	10,000	10,200
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>1,245,661</b>	<b>1,203,465</b>	<b>1,219,402</b>	<b>1,225,851</b>	<b>1,250,368</b>
<b>LESS: CHARGED TO:</b>					
MEMBERSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,300
MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,300
VETERANS SERVICES	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,600
POPPY FUND	149,985	150,000	150,000	150,000	153,000
	<b>209,985</b>	<b>210,000</b>	<b>210,000</b>	<b>210,000</b>	<b>214,200</b>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>1,035,676</b>	<b>993,465</b>	<b>1,009,402</b>	<b>1,015,851</b>	<b>1,036,168</b>

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

	2024 ACTUAL	2025 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET	2027 BUDGET
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	186,726	198,493	197,069	211,006	215,226
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	3,721	3,908	3,858	4,137	4,220
OTHER BENEFITS	23,145	24,950	23,867	24,569	25,060
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>213,592</b>	<b>227,351</b>	<b>224,794</b>	<b>239,712</b>	<b>244,506</b>
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	3,600	2,011	2,000	2,000	2,040
OFFICE SUPPLIES	6	-	500	200	204
RENT (CR TO BUILDING)	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,200
MISCELLANEOUS	186	53	300	300	306
<b>NETWORK &amp; PC</b>					
- DONATION APP P&R	-	-	-	50,000	50,000
- UPGRADE OF IT SYSTEM	16,517	2,785	-	-	-
- MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS/ LEASES	143,503	200,974	160,000	160,000	163,200
- PROGRAMMING & SUPPORT	168,475	142,559	173,000	173,000	176,460
- SUPPLIES & OTHER	5,980	3,815	10,000	10,000	10,200
- WEBSITE & INTERNET					
CONNECTIVITY & SUPPORT	5,317	4,305	26,000	20,000	20,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>567,176</b>	<b>593,853</b>	<b>606,594</b>	<b>665,212</b>	<b>677,116</b>
<b>LESS: CHARGED TO:</b>					
CORPORATE SERVICES	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
FINANCE	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500
MEMBERSHIP	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500
MARKETING	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
VETERANS SERVICES	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
SUPPLY	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
CANVET	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
IT	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
LNF	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
P&R DIVISION	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
	47,000	47,000	47,000	47,000	47,000
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>520,176</b>	<b>546,853</b>	<b>559,594</b>	<b>618,212</b>	<b>630,116</b>

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS**  
**MEMBER SERVICES**

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>					
AGENCY FEE	400,000	400,000	400,000	440,000	440,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>440,000</b>	<b>440,000</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	455,678	472,053	479,763	506,486	506,486
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	9,083	9,295	9,303	9,838	10,035
OTHER BENEFITS	50,997	57,465	56,960	61,179	62,403
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>515,758</b>	<b>538,813</b>	<b>546,026</b>	<b>577,503</b>	<b>578,923</b>
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	76,468	84,339	61,000	61,000	62,220
OFFICE SUPPLIES	3,547	2,075	6,100	6,100	6,222
RENT (CR TO BUILDING)	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,000	55,080
MISCELLANEOUS	1,700	5,528	3,000	3,000	3,060
COMPUTER NETWORK SUPPORT	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,650
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,300
PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP CARDS	40,219	20,634	19,000	40,000	40,800
MEMBERSHIP CARDS, FORMS AND PAPER	5,355	13,461	5,000	5,000	5,100
MEMBERSHIP PACK OUT	39,367	40,982	40,000	40,000	40,800
CREDIT CARD PROCESSING FEES	112,340	136,810	105,000	110,000	112,200
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>874,784</b>	<b>833,064</b>	<b>894,830</b>	<b>937,378</b>	<b>981,864</b>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>871,254</b>	<b>919,142</b>	<b>861,626</b>	<b>919,103</b>	<b>927,355</b>

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS  
MARKETING**

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	368,419	388,649	376,460	387,936	395,695
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	7,339	7,651	7,404	7,634	7,787
OTHER BENEFITS	32,168	34,543	32,938	33,497	34,167
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>441,722</b>	<b>393,766</b>	<b>457,793</b>	<b>397,869</b>	<b>405,826</b>
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	3,749	4,244	3,300	3,300	3,366
OFFICE SUPPLIES	-	141	400	200	204
STAFF TRAVEL	303	182	400	400	408
RENT (CR TO BUILDING)	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,200
MISCELLANEOUS	1,655	1,989	2,500	2,500	2,550
COMPUTER NETWORK SUPPORT	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,550
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,300
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>441,133</b>	<b>464,899</b>	<b>450,902</b>	<b>462,967</b>	<b>472,226</b>
LESS: POPPY FUND CHARGBACK	51,836	81,162	81,162	83,334	85,001
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>389,297</b>	<b>383,737</b>	<b>369,740</b>	<b>379,633</b>	<b>387,226</b>

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

	2024 ACTUAL	2025 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET	2027 BUDGET
<b>MEDIA - PRINT</b>					
CANVET ADS	23,274	29,996	24,000	40,000	40,800
<b>MEDIA - VIDEO &amp; PHOTOGRAPHY</b>					
PROMOTIONAL VIDEOS	-	8,854	25,000	25,000	25,500
<b>MEDIA - INTERNET</b>					
LEGION.CA WEBSITE ADMIN	159,420	183,639	125,000	150,000	153,000
<b>MEDIA - PUBLIC RELATIONS &amp; EVENTS</b>					
MEDIA COVERAGE & P.R. (T &F)	10,342	2,980	10,000	25,000	25,500
CAF SUPPORT	113,255	83,324	128,250	128,250	130,815
<b>PROGRAMS AND CAMPAIGNS</b>					
CENTENARY SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN		-	-	250,000	-
FREE MEMBERSHIP FOR CF RETIREES	31,950	-	55,000	-	-
NON RENEWAL MAILERS	136,229	164,049	100,000	100,000	102,000
MEMBERPERKS	28,250	28,250	28,250	31,075	31,697
TELESALES	4,520	3,390	15,000	5,000	5,100
CANVET DESIGN PROGRAM	1,482	2,486	5,000	5,000	5,100
PROMOTIONS AND DONATIONS	53,337	169,436	70,000	70,000	71,400
SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN	232,937	196,797	225,000	225,000	229,500
ONLINE BANNER CAMPAIGN	73,996	61,883	55,000	55,000	56,100
MEMBER/BRANCH ENEWSLETTERS	49,720	58,591	75,000	75,000	76,500
SOCIAL MEDIA - AGENCY	87,355	90,957	90,000	94,500	96,390
TRAVEL	2,586	-	7,500	7,500	7,650
<b>OTHER PRINTED MATERIAL</b>					
BRANCH COLLATERAL MARKETING MATERIALS	27,317	30,525	40,000	40,000	40,800
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>1,035,970</b>	<b>1,115,157</b>	<b>1,078,000</b>	<b>1,326,325</b>	<b>1,097,852</b>
LESS: POPPY FUND CHARGEBACK 18%	125,760	194,040	194,040	237,389	197,613
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>910,210</b>	<b>921,117</b>	<b>883,960</b>	<b>1,088,936</b>	<b>900,238</b>

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

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	480,334	616,710	616,670	643,506	656,376
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	9,615	12,142	12,083	12,620	12,872
OTHER BENEFITS	51,853	63,701	58,854	62,229	63,474
CONTRACT	61,271	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>603,073</b>	<b>692,553</b>	<b>687,607</b>	<b>718,355</b>	<b>732,722</b>
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	4,672	7,948	6,500	5,000	5,100
OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,194	1,382	1,700	1,700	1,734
STAFF TRAVEL	-	39	100	100	102
AUDIT FEES	130,808	95,000	95,000	100,000	102,000
RENT (CR TO BUILDING)	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,580
COMPUTER NETWORK SUPPORT	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,650
ERP UPGRADE	92,284	-	100,000	-	-
MISCELLANEOUS	5,406	1,829	7,500	7,500	7,650
MISCELLANEOUS	8,838	6,308	7,000	7,500	7,500
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>873,937</b>	<b>835,251</b>	<b>934,907</b>	<b>869,155</b>	<b>886,538</b>
<b>LESS: CHARGED TO:</b>					
SUPPLY	63,340	68,998	93,491	86,916	88,654
VETERANS SERVICES - 10%	69,408	93,491	93,491	86,916	88,654
POPPY SERVICES - 20%	138,815	186,981	186,981	173,831	177,308
NATIONAL LEGION FOUNDATION	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,800
CANVET	110,000	110,000	110,000	121,000	121,000
	421,563	499,470	523,963	508,663	516,416
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>452,374</b>	<b>335,781</b>	<b>410,944</b>	<b>360,492</b>	<b>370,122</b>

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

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>					
POPPY FUND GRANT	1,152,415	1,247,702	1,247,702	1,281,407	1,307,036
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	877,660	918,432	969,303	994,889	1,014,787
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	17,515	18,134	19,052	19,564	19,955
OTHER BENEFITS	78,842	91,964	79,948	90,591	92,403
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>974,017</b>	<b>1,028,530</b>	<b>1,068,303</b>	<b>1,105,044</b>	<b>1,127,145</b>
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	6,924	7,629	8,500	8,500	8,670
OFFICE SUPPLIES	3,053	3,799	3,000	3,000	3,060
STAFF TRAVEL	4,651	8,113	5,000	10,000	10,200
RENT ( CR TO BUILDING)	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,900
SERVICE OFFICERS CONFERENCE	-	-	42,000	42,000	42,840
ADVOCACY AND REPRESENTATION	290	-	700	700	714
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,600
COMPUTER NETWORK SUPPORT	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,590
FINANCE DEPT FEES/CHARGEBACK	69,408	93,491	93,114	86,916	88,654
MISCELLANEOUS	3,136	525	1,000	1,000	1,020
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>1,140,979</b>	<b>1,221,587</b>	<b>1,301,117</b>	<b>1,336,660</b>	<b>1,363,393</b>

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

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>					
SALES OF SUPPLIES	3,370,074	4,161,933	3,718,695	3,838,893	3,915,671
LESS COST OF GOODS	1,398,171	1,638,909	1,550,000	1,685,724	1,719,438
<b>GROSS MARGIN</b>	<b>1,971,903</b>	<b>2,523,024</b>	<b>2,168,695</b>	<b>2,153,169</b>	<b>2,196,232</b>
LEGION LAGER ROYALTY	(18,374)	(13,331)	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)
PROVINCIAL COMMANDS @ 5.0% OF GROSS MARGIN	99,388	129,298	100,500	106,908	109,812
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
SALARIES	624,660	627,113	616,359	649,377	662,365
RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE	11,989	12,332	11,993	12,654	15,185
OTHER BENEFITS	75,608	75,285	69,698	75,099	90,119
TEMPORARY & CONTRACT STAFF	43,077	15,711	5,000	10,000	10,000
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>755,334</b>	<b>730,441</b>	<b>703,050</b>	<b>747,130</b>	<b>777,668</b>
WEBSTORE DEVELOPMENT				100,000	100000
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	6,275	5,543	6,500	7,500	7,650
OFFICE SUPPLIES	4,409	4,545	1,500	2,000	2,040
FREIGHT, EXPRESS & POSTAGE	57,679	186,963	200,000	200,000	200,000
STAFF TRAVEL	-	941	500	1,000	1,020
INSURANCE	4,152	2,966	3,500	4,500	4,590
RENT (CR TO BUILDING)	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	61,200
WEB STORE - CONNECTIVITY	18,543	18,230	16,000	20,000	20,400
ADVERTISING/CATALOGUE DISTRIBUTION	70,904	60,626	70,000	49,000	49,980
WRAPPING MATERIAL	63,513	69,850	70,000	75,000	76,500
FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT	63,340	68,998	93,491	86,916	88,654
COMPUTER NETWORK SUPPORT	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,140
MISCELLANEOUS	3,528	804	3,500	3,500	3,570
<b>EXPENSE TOTAL</b>	<b>1,214,065</b>	<b>1,346,205</b>	<b>1,335,541</b>	<b>1,470,454</b>	<b>1,510,224</b>
LESS: POPPY FUND CHARGEBACK	(407,430)	(247,445)	(245,445)	(272,328)	(277,775)
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>806,635</b>	<b>1,098,760</b>	<b>1,090,096</b>	<b>1,198,126</b>	<b>1,232,450</b>

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

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
REQUEST FOR SUPPORT	4,629	-	10,000	10,000	10,000
LEGION REPRESENTATION ON LOCAL BOARDS	63	-	100	100	100
LEGAL & OTHER	231,817	34,224	92,500	92,500	94,350
TRANSLATION	29,522	24,657	22,000	30,000	30,600
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>266,031</b>	<b>58,881</b>	<b>124,600</b>	<b>132,600</b>	<b>135,050</b>

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

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>					
RENT - TENANTS	97,920	87,920	97,920	104,784	104,784
RENT - CHARGED TO DEPARTMENTS					
- CORPORATE SERVICES	108,000	108,000	108,000	108,000	108,000
- MEMBERSHIP	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,000
- MARKETING	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
- VETERANS SERVICES	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
- SUPPLY DEPT	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
- FINANCE	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000
- IT SECTION	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
- P&R DIVISION	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>423,920</b>	<b>413,920</b>	<b>423,920</b>	<b>430,784</b>	<b>430,784</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>					
ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE	5,892	5,217	6,120	6,300	6,426
A/C, ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING	56,080	29,384	43,600	43,600	44,472
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR	102,013	94,880	92,000	92,000	93,840
CLEANING CONTRACT & SUPPLIES	56,690	55,086	60,000	60,000	61,200
FUEL	11,497	13,574	20,000	20,000	20,400
LIGHT & POWER	43,465	49,141	60,000	60,000	61,200
WATER AND SEWAGE	9,314	10,284	9,000	9,000	9,180
TAXES	66,011	67,748	67,000	69,000	70,380
INSURANCE	11,807	8,415	10,000	10,000	10,200
RESERVE FUND	-	188,970	-	75,000	75,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>362,769</b>	<b>522,699</b>	<b>367,720</b>	<b>444,900</b>	<b>452,298</b>

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

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
<b>COMMITTEES</b>					
VETERANS, SERVICE AND SENIORS	12,581	17,253	25,950	20,950	21,369
MEMBERSHIP	5,706	6,886	4,000	4,000	4,000
RCEL	-	-	400	400	408
SPORTS	295,403	325,700	388,212	361,600	371,832
RITUAL & AWARDS	-	1,721	1,620	1,650	1,683
CONVENTION COMMITTEE	8,726	1,309	7,000	10,500	10,710
CONSTITUTION & LAWS	324	1,369	850	850	867
DEFENCE & SECURITY	25,364	15,777	15,500	17,500	17,850
VETERANS CONSULTATION	723	-	1,450	1,450	1,479
EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION	-	-	5,500	75,000	5,610
(FOF) GOING FORWARD	-	-	750	750	765
POPPY & REMEMBRANCE	19,906	19,022	27,150	27,250	27,795
<b>COMMITTEE TOTAL</b>	<b>368,733</b>	<b>389,037</b>	<b>478,382</b>	<b>521,900</b>	<b>464,368</b>
<b>ELECTED OFFICERS</b>	<b>66,820</b>	<b>66,207</b>	<b>111,500</b>	<b>55,500</b>	<b>77,010</b>
DEC/SENIOR ELECTED OFFICERS	179,799	147,079	87,200	93,600	95,604
DOMINION CONVENTION	216,326	133,501	157,000	205,000	160,710
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>462,945</b>	<b>346,787</b>	<b>355,700</b>	<b>354,100</b>	<b>333,324</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>831,678</b>	<b>735,824</b>	<b>834,082</b>	<b>876,000</b>	<b>797,692</b>

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

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
<b>ELECTED OFFICERS:</b>					
TRAVEL	-	-	1,500	1,500	1,530
PER DIEM	-	-	1,000	1,000	1,020
MISCELLANEOUS	3,740	-	500	500	510
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>3,740</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,060</b>
<b>DOMINION PRESIDENT:</b>					
TRAVEL	18,040	5,812	48,500	30,000	30,600
PER DIEM	17,325	13,282	27,500	10,000	10,200
HOSPITALITY	21,116	17,062	5,000	5,000	5,100
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	1,869	487	2,500	2,500	2,550
MISCELLANEOUS	4,730	4,397	5,000	5,000	5,100
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>63,080</b>	<b>41,040</b>	<b>88,500</b>	<b>52,500</b>	<b>53,550</b>
<b>PROVINCIAL CONVENTIONS:</b>					
TRAVEL	-	10,315	14,000	-	14,280
PER DIEM	-	14,852	6,000	-	6,120
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25,167</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,400</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>66,820</b>	<b>66,207</b>	<b>111,500</b>	<b>55,500</b>	<b>77,010</b>

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

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
<b>D.E.C. MEETINGS:</b>					
TRAVEL	68,498	46,211	40,000	45,000	45,900
PER DIEM	8,779	77,425	35,000	35,000	35,700
OFFICE EXPENSE GENERAL	-	33	100	100	102
MISCELLANEOUS	12,026	16,701	8,000	8,000	8,160
<b>SUB-TOTAL D.E.C. MEETINGS</b>	<b>89,303</b>	<b>140,370</b>	<b>83,100</b>	<b>88,100</b>	<b>89,862</b>
<b>SENIOR ELECTED OFFICERS MEETINGS:</b>					
TRAVEL	8,130	4,488	6,000	8,000	8,160
PER DIEM	<b>9,138</b>	<b>7,257</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,080</b>
OFFICE SUPPLIES	-	147	-	-	-
MISCELLANEOUS	227	818	100	100	102
	<b>17,495</b>	<b>12,710</b>	<b>10,100</b>	<b>12,100</b>	<b>12,342</b>
<b>LESS:</b>					
<b>CANVET BOARD AND SHAREHOLDERS MEETINGS</b>	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,600)	(6,600)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70,314</b>	<b>147,079</b>	<b>87,200</b>	<b>93,600</b>	<b>95,604</b>

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

	2024 ACTUAL	2025 ACTUAL	2025 BUDGET	2026 BUDGET	2027 BUDGET
<b>DEC</b>					
TRAVEL	31,848	(542)	-	30,000	-
PER DIEM	68,428	129	-	65,000	-
<b>STAFF</b>					
TRAVEL	34,720	768	-	30,000	-
PER DIEM	69,416	3,529	-	65,000	-
<b>PAST PRESIDENT</b>					
TRAVEL	5,669	-	-	7,500	-
PER DIEM	8,332	-	-	10,000	-
<b>DC ZONE COMMANDERS</b>					
TRAVEL	-	-	-	5,000	-
PER DIEM	-	-	-	6,000	-
<b>OTHER</b>					
TRAVEL	2,802	-	-	5,000	-
PER DIEM	2,375	-	-	2,000	-
ENTERTAINMENT	-	-	-	-	-
CREDENTIALS	287	-	-	-	-
<b>PRINTING &amp; DESIGN</b>					
CONVENTION REPORTS	10,847	-	-	12,000	-
OTHER	-	-	-	-	-
TRANSLATION & INTERPRETATION	-	-	-	1,000	-
POSTAGE	-	-	-	15,000	-
FREIGHT	15,070	-	-	-	-
<b>SOCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>					
PRESIDENT RECEPTION	14,392	-	-	5,000	-
OTHER	2,271	-	-	2,000	-
CONVENTION CENTRE	84,555	-	-	100,000	-
CONVENTION OPERATION	188,280	-	-	242,000	-
TRANSPORTATION	8,403	-	-	10,000	-
CEREMONIES	1,089	-	-	1,000	-
LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE	2,380	-	-	6,000	-
	551,163	3,884	0	619,500	0
BOOTH REVENUE	(51,866)		0	(50,000)	0
DELEGATE FEES	(51,697)	0	0	(75,000)	0
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>447,600</b>	<b>3,884</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>494,500</b>	<b>0</b>
PROVISION	(200,000)	150,000	150,000	(250,000)	150,000
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>247,600</b>	<b>132,191</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>244,500</b>	<b>150,000</b>
RECOVERIES	(40,000)	0	0	(50,000)	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>207,600</b>	<b>132,191</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>194,500</b>	<b>150,000</b>
<b>COMMITTEE (FROM 15A)</b>	<b>8,726</b>	<b>1,309</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>10,500</b>	<b>10,710</b>
<b>TOTAL CONVENTION AND COMMITTEE</b>	<b>216,326</b>	<b>133,501</b>	<b>157,000</b>	<b>205,000</b>	<b>160,710</b>

**DOMINION COMMAND / GENERAL FUNDS  
CONVENTION COMMITTEE**

	<b>2024 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 ACTUAL</b>	<b>2025 BUDGET</b>	<b>2026 BUDGET</b>	<b>2027 BUDGET</b>
TRAVEL	4,666	1,309	5,000	8,000	8,160
PER DIEM	4,060	-	2,000	2,500	2,550
OFFICE EXPENSES	710	-	-	100	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,726</b>	<b>1,309</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>10,500</b>	<b>10,710</b>

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

**2024**

<b>REVENUE (EXPENSE) PER DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENTS</b>			
	<b>REVENUE ADJUSTMENTS - INTERNAL F/S</b>	12,760,854	
<b>ADD</b>			
	FINANCIAL SERVICES CANVET	110,000	
	NET CHARGES IN FAIR VALUE OF INVESTMENT	1,067,661	
	SUPPLY REVENUE ADJUSTMENT	32,985	
	OTHER REVENUE	457,657	
<b>LESS</b>			
	INTERNAL DEPARTMENTAL CHARGES	(316,000)	
	VSS POPPY GRANT	(1,152,415)	
	<b>REVENUE AS PER AUDITED F/S</b>		13,641,346
	<b>EXPENSE ADJUSTMENTS - INTERNAL F/S</b>	12,384,054	
<b>ADD</b>			
	INVESTRMENT MANAGENT FEES	119,527	
	INTERNAL RENT PER DEPARTMENT	326,000	
<b>ADD (LESS): FUND TRANSFERS FROM (TO)</b>			
	PENSION TRANSFERS	(531,761)	
	DOMINIAN CONVENTION REALIZED	200,000	
	BUILDING RESERVE	150,000	
	INVESTMENT FUND BUILDING AMORTIZATION	96,284	
	<b>TOTAL ESPENSES AS PER AUDITED F/S</b>		12,744,104
	<b>REVENUE (EXPENSE) BEFORE THE UNDERNOTED</b>		897,242
	<b>NET REVENUE FOR THE YEAR PER AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b>		<b>\$ 897,242</b>

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

**2025**

<b>REVENUE (EXPENSE) PER DEPARTMENTAL STATEMENTS</b>			
	<b>REVENUE ADJUSTMENTS - INTERNAL F/S</b>	13,808,780	
<b>ADD</b>			
	FINANCIAL SERVICES CANVET	110,000	
	NET CHARGES IN FAIR VALUE OF INVESTMENT	1,067,661	
	OTHER REVENUE		
	DOMINIAN CONVENTION	150,000.00	
<b>LESS</b>			
	INTERNAL DEPARTMENTAL CHARGES	(316,000)	
	VSS POPPY GRANT	(1,247,702)	
	SUPPLY REVENUE ADJ.	(43,347)	
	<b>REVENUE AS PER AUDITED F/S</b>		13,529,392
	<b>EXPENSE ADJUSTMENTS - INTERNAL F/S</b>	13,086,668	
<b>ADD</b>			
	INVESTRMENT MANAGENT FEES	116,653	
	CENTENIAL FUND REALIAZED	20,592	
	INTERNAL RENT PER DEPARTMENT	326,000	
<b>ADD (LESS): FUND TRANSFERS FROM (TO)</b>			
	PENSION TRANSFERS	(531,761)	
	INVESTMENT FUND BUILDING AMORTIZATION	96,284	
	<b>TOTAL ESPENSES AS PER AUDITED F/S</b>		13,114,436
	<b>REVENUE (EXPENSE) BEFORE THE UNDERNOTED</b>		414,956
	<b>NET REVENUE FOR THE YEAR PER AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b>		<b>\$ 414,956</b>

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# Financial statements of The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command

December 31, 2025

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## Independent Auditor's Report

To the members of  
The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command (the “Dominion Command”), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2025, and the statements of changes in fund balances; operations – General Fund; operations – Externally Restricted Funds; and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies (collectively referred to as the “financial statements”).

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Dominion Command as at December 31, 2025, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards (“Canadian GAAS”). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Dominion Command in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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

## Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal controls relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Dominion Command's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Dominion Command's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Dominion Command to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

*Deloitte LLP*

Chartered Professional Accountants  
Licensed Public Accountants  
May 1, 2026

**The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command**  
**Statement of financial position**  
As at December 31, 2025

	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Assets</b>			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		<b>5,982,925</b>	2,989,244
Accounts receivable	3	<b>2,102,523</b>	3,400,596
Due from The Legion National Foundation	8	<b>268,339</b>	387,932
Due from Canvet Publications Ltd.	8	<b>21,572</b>	63,079
Inventory			
General		<b>2,186,730</b>	2,282,803
Poppy promotional material		<b>248,136</b>	176,155
Prepaid expenses		<b>376,920</b>	290,590
Prepaid subscriptions - current		<b>2,178,927</b>	1,634,820
		<b>13,366,072</b>	11,225,219
Prepaid subscriptions - non-current		<b>156,873</b>	149,197
Marketable investments	4	<b>30,088,240</b>	29,435,817
Capital assets	5	<b>4,118,825</b>	4,311,422
		<b>47,730,010</b>	45,121,655
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	6	<b>1,290,521</b>	1,131,813
Revenue collected in advance - current		<b>4,626,415</b>	3,822,385
		<b>5,916,936</b>	4,954,198
Revenue collected in advance - non-current		<b>379,938</b>	377,103
Retirement obligation	7	<b>550,000</b>	542,700
		<b>6,846,874</b>	5,874,001
Commitments	10		
<b>Fund balances</b>			
Unrestricted		<b>7,096,016</b>	6,265,938
Internally Restricted Funds		<b>20,980,252</b>	20,051,472
Externally Restricted Funds		<b>12,806,868</b>	12,930,244
		<b>40,883,136</b>	39,247,654
		<b>47,730,010</b>	45,121,655

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

Approved by the Dominion Executive Council

 \_\_\_\_\_, President

 \_\_\_\_\_, Treasurer

**The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command**

**Statement of changes in Fund balances**

Year ended December 31, 2025

	Balance – Beginning of year \$	Net revenue (expense) for the year \$	Remeasurements and other items \$	Transfers from (to) \$	Balance – End of year \$
<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>6,265,938</b>	<b>(457,735)</b>	<b>(3,800)</b>	<b>1,291,613</b>	<b>7,096,016</b>
<b>Internally Restricted Funds</b>	<b>4,311,422</b>	<b>(194,970)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2,373</b>	<b>4,118,825</b>
Invested in capital assets	3,331,510	–	–	150,000	3,481,510
Other internally restricted Investment Fund	12,408,540	1,067,661	–	(96,284)	13,379,917
Total Internally Restricted Funds	20,051,472	872,691	–	56,089	20,980,252
	<b>26,317,410</b>	<b>414,956</b>	<b>(3,800)</b>	<b>1,347,702</b>	<b>28,076,268</b>
<b>Externally Restricted Funds</b>	<b>8,753,443</b>	<b>1,086,608</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>(1,247,702)</b>	<b>8,592,349</b>
Poppy Trust Fund	2,493,175	(19,118)	–	(100,000)	2,374,057
Centennial Fund	1,592,969	156,836	–	–	1,749,805
RCEL Fund	90,657	–	–	–	90,657
Benevolent Fund	12,930,244	1,224,326	–	(1,347,702)	12,806,868
Total Externally Restricted Funds	39,247,654	1,639,282	(3,800)	–	40,883,136

Notes

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

## The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command

### Statement of operations – General Fund

Year ended December 31, 2025

	Notes	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Membership fee revenue		6,612,266	6,212,649
Supply sales		4,161,933	3,370,074
Related party revenue	8		
Subscription agency fee		400,000	400,000
Administrative fees		110,000	110,000
Building rental		97,920	97,920
Estate bequests		46,269	151,223
Royalties – member benefits program		256,994	245,183
Other membership revenues (donations)		39,000	32,000
Mastercard royalties		34,470	177,817
Royalties – Legion Lager		13,331	18,374
Other revenue	8	27,030	31,947
		<b>11,799,213</b>	<b>10,847,187</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Corporate services		1,375,491	1,373,184
Building		564,436	402,622
Committees		753,637	1,198,844
Marketing, advertising and promotion	8	930,175	949,385
Financial services		416,780	533,373
Investment management fees		116,652	107,585
Information technology		536,853	510,176
Legion Magazine – subscriptions	8	3,064,617	2,765,468
Marketing and communications		373,737	379,296
Member services		865,142	817,252
Other program expenses		67,692	269,866
Veterans services		1,176,586	1,095,978
Supply chain management			
Operation		1,038,759	746,636
Cost of sales		1,638,909	1,398,171
Amortization			
Furniture and equipment and computers		48,934	50,232
Building		146,036	146,036
		<b>13,114,436</b>	<b>12,744,104</b>
Net revenue (expense) before undernoted		<b>(1,315,223)</b>	<b>(1,896,917)</b>
Other revenue		—	457,657
<b>Investment revenue</b>			
Net changes in fair value of marketable investments	4	1,067,661	1,748,265
Dividends		113,514	108,914
Interest		549,004	479,323
		<b>1,730,179</b>	<b>2,794,159</b>
<b>Net revenue for the year</b>		<b>414,956</b>	<b>897,242</b>

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

**The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command**  
**Statement of operations – Externally Restricted Funds**  
Year ended December 31, 2025

	Poppy Trust Fund	Centennial Fund	RCEL Fund	2025 Total	2024 Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Revenue</b>					
Donations	543,511	—	204,419	747,930	744,932
Donations - Corporate Partners	250,275	—	—	250,275	350,830
Poppies and wreaths	3,415,632	—	—	3,415,632	3,029,191
Promotional aids	837,306	—	675	837,981	654,561
Other	—	—	—	—	47,825
	<b>5,046,724</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>205,094</b>	<b>5,251,818</b>	<b>4,827,339</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Advertising and promotional materials	6,618	—	—	6,618	12,729
Poppies and wreaths	1,726,272	—	—	1,726,272	1,549,249
Promotional aids	385,090	—	—	385,090	317,577
Trademark defence	24,723	—	—	24,723	33,086
Freight	464,886	—	—	464,886	507,263
General	33,983	—	—	33,983	102,308
Investment Management Fees	43,684	13,201	8,013	64,898	64,641
Bank Fees	46,179	—	—	46,179	35,919
Support					
Supply department	247,445	—	—	247,445	407,430
Administration department	150,000	—	—	150,000	150,000
Marketing	275,202	—	—	275,202	177,596
Finance	186,981	—	—	186,981	138,815
Public relations	17,406	—	—	17,406	11,004
Operation Santa Claus and Canada Day	88,425	—	—	88,425	104,082
National Remembrance Ceremony	139,144	—	—	139,144	92,740
Marketing and promotion	96,478	—	—	96,478	180,492
Grants	342,457	—	—	342,457	132,500
Poppy department	338,770	214,959	—	553,729	366,072
RCEL Ottawa	—	—	—	—	7,507
Donation expense	81,953	—	171,360	253,313	258,796
Benevolent support and assistance	4,695,696	228,160	179,373	5,103,229	4,653,806
	<b>351,028</b>	<b>(228,160)</b>	<b>25,721</b>	<b>148,589</b>	<b>173,533</b>
Net revenue (expense) before undermoted					
<b>Investment revenue</b>					
Net changes in fair value of marketable investments	437,259	126,373	74,757	638,389	1,099,475
Interest	240,749	65,733	48,894	355,376	325,743
Dividends	57,572	16,936	7,464	81,972	86,493
	<b>735,580</b>	<b>209,042</b>	<b>131,115</b>	<b>1,075,737</b>	<b>1,511,711</b>
<b>Net revenue (expense) for the year</b>	<b>1,086,608</b>	<b>(19,118)</b>	<b>156,836</b>	<b>1,224,326</b>	<b>1,685,244</b>

Notes

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

## The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command

### Statement of cash flows

Year ended December 31, 2025

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Net revenue for the year	1,639,282	2,582,486
Items not affecting cash		
Amortization	194,970	196,268
Unrealized gains on marketable investments	(231,700)	(2,664,806)
Realized gains on sales of marketable investments	(1,474,350)	(202,338)
Provision for retirement Allowance	(3,800)	(12,800)
Contributions to pension plan		
Provision for retirement obligation	7,300	29,100
Changes in non-cash working capital items		
Accounts receivable	1,298,073	(1,570,475)
Due from The Legion National Foundation	119,593	(33,109)
Due from Canvet Publications Ltd.	41,507	137,295
Inventory		
General	96,073	(100,658)
Poppy promotional material	(71,981)	83,664
Prepaid expense	(86,330)	70,758
Prepaid subscriptions	(544,107)	223,290
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	158,708	(305,343)
Revenue collected in advance	806,865	1,903
	<b>1,950,103</b>	<b>(1,564,765)</b>
<b>Investing activities</b>		
Proceeds on sale of marketable investments	5,757,748	5,511,016
Purchase of marketable investments	(4,704,121)	(3,890,111)
Purchase of capital assets	(2,373)	(199,359)
	<b>1,051,254</b>	<b>1,421,546</b>
Net change in cash and cash equivalents during the year	<b>3,001,357</b>	<b>(143,219)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	<b>3,138,441</b>	<b>3,281,660</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of year</b>	<b>6,139,798</b>	<b>3,138,441</b>

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

# The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command

## Notes to the financial statements

December 31, 2025

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### 1. Purpose of the organization

The Canadian Legion was incorporated in 1926 under the Companies Act, and its name was amended to The Royal Canadian Legion in 1961 by an Act of Parliament. The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command (the Dominion Command) is a not-for-profit organization under subsection 149(1)(l) of the Income Tax Act and as such is exempt from income taxes.

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies

These financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations (ASNPO). The significant accounting policies are as follows.

#### *Basis of accounting and presentation*

The Dominion Command has adopted fund accounting as a basis of reporting its activities.

#### *Unrestricted Fund*

All transactions other than externally restricted or designated by management in Internally Restricted Funds are recorded in Unrestricted Funds. Management makes discretionary transfers to the Unrestricted Fund and the Internally Restricted Funds.

Internally Restricted Funds are accounted for as follows.

#### *Invested in capital assets*

Invested in capital assets comprise capital assets less accumulated amortization and outstanding balances of mortgages or other borrowings attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

#### *Other internally restricted*

These funds are intended to account for the setting aside and use of reserves as and when needed. The Dominion Command makes discretionary transfers to and from these funds as and when needed.

#### *Pension Plan Fund*

Pension contributions and the actuarially determined pension expense are accounted for in the Pension Fund.

#### *Investment Fund*

Interest and dividends earned on marketable investments are accounted for in the Investment Fund or in the Externally Restricted Funds to which they relate. Unrestricted realized and unrealized gains and losses on marketable investments are accounted for in the Investment Fund. The Investment Fund was established on January 1, 1998 by transferring all investments held at that time.

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

### **Notes to the financial statements**

December 31, 2025

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## **2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

Externally Restricted Funds are accounted for as follows.

### *Poppy Trust Fund*

The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund (Poppy Trust Fund) accounts for the sale of poppies and wreaths and poppy promotional material to the Provincial Commands and local branches. The funds raised are used to assist Canadian ex-service personnel and their dependents and ex-service personnel of Commonwealth and Allied countries living in Canada in necessitous circumstances; to pay operating expenses of Dominion Command Veteran Services where required; and to provide a grant to the RCEL Fund to support veterans in the Caribbean.

### *Centennial, RCEL and Benevolent Funds (Special Funds)*

Special Funds are accumulated to finance special activities, including a youth track and field camp and grants to Commonwealth veterans in the Caribbean.

### *Cash and cash equivalents*

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, deposits held with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

### *Inventory*

Inventories are carried at the lower of cost, determined on a first-in, first-out basis, and net realizable value.

### *Financial instruments*

#### *Initial measurement*

Financial assets and financial liabilities originated or exchanged in arm's length transactions are initially recognized at fair value when the Dominion Command becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. Financial assets and financial liabilities originated or exchanged in related party transactions, except for those that involve parties whose sole relationship with the Dominion Command is in the capacity of management, are initially recognized at cost.

The cost of a financial instrument in a related party transaction depends on whether the instrument has repayment terms. The cost of financial instruments with repayment terms is determined using its undiscounted cash flows, excluding interest and dividend payments, less any impairment losses previously recognized by the transferor. The cost of financial instruments without repayment terms is determined using the consideration transferred or received by the Dominion Command in the transaction.

#### *Subsequent measurement*

The Dominion Command subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost except marketable investments measured at fair value.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost consist of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable and due from Legion National Foundation. Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost consist of accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and due to Canvet Publications Ltd.

**2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

*Financial instruments (continued)*

*Transaction costs*

Transaction costs on financial assets and financial liabilities measured at amortized cost are adjusted against the carrying value of the related asset or liability and then recognized over the expected life of the instrument using the straight-line method. Transaction costs on equity investments quoted in active markets are recognized immediately in the statement of operations.

*Impairment*

At the end of each reporting period, Dominion Command assesses whether there are any indications that a financial asset measured at amortized cost may be impaired. If there are indicators of impairment, and the Dominion Command determines there has been a significant adverse change in the expected amount or timing of future cash flows, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to the higher of the expected cash flows expected to be generated by holding the asset, discounted using a current market rate of interest, and the amount that could be realized by selling the asset at the statement of financial position date.

*Capital assets*

Capital assets are carried at cost less accumulated amortization.

Capital assets are amortized on a straight-line basis, over their estimated useful service lives, at the following annual rates:

Building	2.5%
Furniture and equipment	10.0%
Computers	10.0%

*Employee future benefits*

The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command Pension Plan is a multi-employer, contributory, defined benefit pension plan that covers all employees of the Dominion Command and Canvet Publications Ltd. The annual pension payable is based on final average earnings and years of credited service.

In addition to the pension plan, the Dominion Command provides a defined benefit retirement allowance for its employees who have a minimum number of years of service and have attained a minimum age.

Under the immediate recognition approach, the total cost, excluding remeasurements and other items, is included in net revenue or expense of the appropriate fund. Actuarial gains and losses, past service costs and other remeasurements and other items are recognized directly in fund balances.

The retirement obligation is measured based on an actuarial valuation report prepared specifically for accounting purposes.

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

### **Notes to the financial statements**

December 31, 2025

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## **2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

### *Revenue recognition*

The Dominion Command follows restricted fund accounting to record revenue.

Externally restricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the appropriate Externally Restricted Fund. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the statement of operations in the year received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Supply sales revenue is recognized when all of the following criteria are met: persuasive evidence of an agreement exists, the supplies have been shipped or provided to the members, the price is fixed or determinable and collection is reasonably assured.

Membership fee revenue is recorded as revenue in the year it is received unless it relates to a future year, in which case it is deferred and recorded as revenue in the year to which it relates.

### *Allocated expenses*

A portion of information technology expenses (system maintenance, programming, computer parts and internet connectivity) is allocated to corporate services, financial services, marketing and communications, member services, veterans services and supply chain management – operation expenses in the statement of operations – general fund in order to reflect support and management oversight provided to those areas. These expenses are allocated based on estimates of time spent by the relevant information technology personnel on those areas during the year.

A portion of corporate services expenses (salaries and general office) is allocated to supply chain management, marketing and communications, member services, financial services and veteran's services expenses in the statement of operations – general fund, and to support – administration department expense in the Poppy Trust Fund, in order to reflect support and management oversight provided to those areas. These expenses are allocated based on estimates of time spent by the relevant administrative personnel on those areas during the year.

A portion of supply chain management – operation expenses (salaries and general warehouse) is allocated to support – supply department expense of the Poppy Trust Fund in order to reflect warehouse storage costs, shipping and handling for the Poppy Trust Fund inventory, and processing of sales. General warehouse costs are allocated based on \$7 per square foot of the total warehouse space dedicated to Poppy Trust Fund inventory. The remaining expenses are allocated based on estimates of time spent by the relevant personnel during the year.

### *Use of estimates*

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with ASNPO requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the dates of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expense during the reporting periods. Significant estimates included in the accompanying financial statements relate to allowance for doubtful accounts, inventory reserves, estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment, the assumptions used in the determination of the obligation relating to the employee future benefits and certain accruals. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

## The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command

### Notes to the financial statements

December 31, 2025

#### 3. Accounts receivable

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Commands, branches and members		
Unrestricted	<b>1,270,334</b>	2,196,084
Poppy Trust Fund	<b>801,447</b>	1,173,093
Other		
Unrestricted	<b>6,791</b>	7,110
Accrued interest	<b>23,951</b>	24,309
	<b>2,102,523</b>	3,400,596

#### 4. Marketable investments

	Fair value \$	2025 Cost \$	Fair value \$	2024 Cost \$
General Fund	<b>19,157,484</b>	<b>15,446,483</b>	17,801,186	14,583,716
<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>19,157,484</b>	<b>15,446,483</b>	17,801,186	14,583,716
Poppy Trust Fund	<b>7,156,540</b>	<b>6,140,332</b>	8,233,965	6,902,989
Centennial Fund	<b>2,305,872</b>	<b>1,918,097</b>	2,320,058	1,942,570
RCEL Fund	<b>1,468,344</b>	<b>1,260,351</b>	1,080,608	915,266
<b>Externally restricted</b>	<b>10,930,756</b>	<b>9,318,780</b>	11,634,631	9,760,825
	<b>30,088,240</b>	<b>24,765,264</b>	29,435,817	24,344,541

Changes in the fair value of marketable investments are given below:

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Realized changes in fair value of marketable investments		
Investment Fund	<b>574,130</b>	76,175
Externally Restricted Funds	<b>900,219</b>	106,759
	<b>1,474,349</b>	182,934
Unrealized changes in fair value of marketable investments		
Investment Fund	<b>493,531</b>	1,672,090
Externally Restricted Funds	<b>(261,830)</b>	992,716
	<b>231,701</b>	2,664,806

**The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command**  
**Notes to the financial statements**

December 31, 2025

**4. Marketable investments (continued)**

Marketable investments comprise:

	Fair value \$	2025 Cost \$	Fair value \$	2024 Cost \$
Government and government guaranteed bonds	2,972,944	2,991,265	2,882,734	2,943,659
Corporate bonds and pooled bond funds	13,944,687	14,019,521	12,569,589	12,694,915
Corporate stocks and pooled equity funds	13,170,609	7,754,478	13,983,494	8,705,967
	<b>30,088,240</b>	<b>24,765,264</b>	29,435,817	24,344,541

Government and government guaranteed bonds bear interest at fixed rates ranging from 1.25% to 3.70% and mature between 2026 and 2032 (1.25% to 3.75% and mature between 2025 and 2030 in 2024).

Corporate bonds bear interest at fixed rates ranging from 2.25% to 5% and mature between 2026 and 2032 (2.2% to 6.5% and mature between 2026 and 2030 in 2024). The pooled bond funds invest in high-quality, short and long-term government securities and corporate bonds, bearing interest at fixed rates.

The Dominion Command invests, directly and through pooled equity funds, in companies in various industries, including energy, materials, industrials, consumer discretionary, consumer staples, financial institutions, telecommunication services and utilities.

**5. Capital assets**

	Cost \$	Accumulated Amortization \$	2025 Net \$	2024 Net \$
Land	950,220	—	950,220	950,220
Building	5,857,585	2,811,193	3,046,392	3,192,428
Furniture and equipment	106,198	105,098	1,100	6,016
Computers	231,672	110,559	121,113	162,758
	<b>7,145,675</b>	<b>3,026,850</b>	<b>4,118,825</b>	4,311,422

Cost and accumulated amortization amounted to \$7,152,954 and \$2,841,532 respectively, as at December 31, 2024.

**6. Government remittances**

Government remittances (GST/HST payable) of \$60,233 (\$7,097 in 2024) are included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

## The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command

### Notes to the financial statements

December 31, 2025

#### 7. Employee future benefits

The Dominion Command operates a defined benefit pension plan for its employees and employees of Canvet Publication Limited (Canvet). The Dominion Command also operates a retirement plan for certain employees which is payable as a single payment on retirement of those employees.

- (a) The Dominion Command is required by regulation to complete a funding valuation at least every three years on its pension plan. The Company is also required to undertake a valuation for its retirement allowance. The most recent funding valuations prepared for Dominion Command's pension plan was done on January 1, 2023, and the most recent actuarial valuation of the retirement allowance was done on January 1, 2023.
- (b) As at December 31, 2025, a reconciliation of the funded status of benefit plans to the amounts recorded to in the financial statements is as follows:

	Retirement obligation \$	2025 Pension plan \$	Retirement obligation \$	2024 Pension plan \$
Fair value of plan assets		<b>(36,808,600)</b>	—	(35,814,500)
Defined benefit obligation	<b>(550,000)</b>	<b>42,515,900</b>	(542,700)	39,507,400
Funded status – surplus (deficit)	<b>(550,000)</b>	<b>5,707,300</b>	(542,700)	3,692,900
Less: Valuation allowance		<b>(5,707,300)</b>	—	(3,692,900)
Pension liability (retirement obligation)	<b>(550,000)</b>	—	(542,700)	—

#### 8. Related party transactions and balances

##### Canvet

Canvet is an entity incorporated under the Canada Business Corporations Act. Canvet publishes and distributes "Legion Magazine", which is sold to the membership of the Royal Canadian Legion, non-member subscribers and the general public. The Dominion Command and Canvet are entities under common control based on the majority of the Board of Directors and shareholders of Canvet being in common with the members of the Dominion Command's Council. The Dominion Command does not control Canvet and therefore does not consolidate its results.

The following transactions with Canvet are included in expenses of the statement of operations:

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Legion Magazine – subscriptions current year	<b>2,937,407</b>	2,548,396
Marketing, advertising and promotion	<b>63,200</b>	59,785

## The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command

### Notes to the financial statements

December 31, 2025

#### 8. Related party transactions and balances (continued)

*Canvet (continued)*

The following transactions with Canvet are included in revenues of the statement of operations:

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Administrative fees	<b>110,000</b>	110,000
Building rental	<b>97,920</b>	97,920
Miscellaneous – network support charge (included in other revenue)	<b>5,000</b>	5,000
Subscription agency fee	<b>400,000</b>	400,000

These transactions are considered to be carried out in the normal course of operations and are measured at the exchange amount, which is the amount established and agreed to by the related parties.

Balances with Canvet are non-interest bearing and have no specified terms of repayment.

*The Legion National Foundation*

The Legion National Foundation (the Foundation) is a registered charity, federally incorporated on April 8, 2016. The Foundation received charitable status on September 11, 2017. The Foundation's purpose is to raise funds for programs of remembrance, and to provide scholarships, bursaries and assistance for the veteran's community.

A member of the Dominion Command serves as a director on the Foundation's Board of Directors, and so the Dominion Command participates in strategic policies of the Foundation. The Dominion Command does not control the Foundation and therefore does not consolidate its results.

During the year ended December 31, 2025, the Dominion Command provided services and paid expenses on behalf of the Foundation amounting to \$233,031 (\$380,328 in 2024). These transactions are considered to be carried out in the normal course of operations and are measured at the exchange amount, which is the amount established and agreed to by the related parties.

Balances with the Foundation are non-interest bearing and have no specified terms of repayment. The balance due from the Foundation at year-end was \$268,339 (\$387,932 in 2024).

#### 9. Internally Restricted Funds balance

The Dominion Command internally restricts a portion of its unrestricted balance for other expenses that will be incurred in the future:

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Building	<b>275,638</b>	275,638
RCEL Conference Convention	<b>36,513</b>	36,513
Membership fee	<b>255,000</b>	105,000
	<b>2,914,359</b>	2,914,359
	<b>3,481,510</b>	3,331,510

**The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command**  
**Notes to the financial statements**  
December 31, 2025

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**10. Commitments and contingencies**

The Dominion Command is committed to the following payments for equipment, poppies and related remembrance materials under various agreements as follows:

	\$
2026	1,046,255
2027	933,908
2028	26,085
2029	17,853
2030	-
	<u>2,024,101</u>

**11. Allocation of expenses**

A portion of information technology expenses (system maintenance, programming, computer parts and internet connectivity) has been allocated in the statement of operations as follows:

	2025 \$	2024 \$
Unrestricted – marketing and communications	<b>15,000</b>	15,000
Unrestricted – member services	<b>15,000</b>	15,000
Unrestricted – veterans services	<b>30,000</b>	30,000
Poppy Trust Fund – support administration department	<b>150,000</b>	150,000

A portion of supply chain management – operation expenses (salaries and general warehouse) of \$247,445 (\$407,430 in 2024) has been allocated to support – supply department expense of the Poppy Trust Fund.

**12. Financial instruments and financial risk factors**

The Dominion Command is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of the Dominion Command’s risk exposure and concentrations. The Dominion Command does not use derivative financial instruments to manage its risks.

*Liquidity risk*

Liquidity risk is the risk an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with its financial liabilities. The Dominion Command is exposed to liquidity risk mainly with respect to its accounts payable and accrued liabilities. The Dominion Command monitors its cash balances and cash flows generated from operations to meet its requirements.

*Market risk*

Market risk is the risk the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: interest rate risk, currency risk and other price risk.

## The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command

### Notes to the financial statements

December 31, 2025

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## 12. Financial instruments and financial risk factors (continued)

### *Interest rate risk*

Interest rate risk is the risk the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Dominion Command is exposed to interest rate risk on its fixed and floating interest rate financial instruments. Fixed interest instruments subject the Dominion Command to fair value risk, while floating interest rate instruments subject it to cash flow risk. As at December 31, 2025, the Dominion Command's exposure to interest rate risk is as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents	Fixed and floating rate
Marketable investments – bonds	Fixed and floating rate

### *Currency risk*

Currency risk is the risk the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. Currency risk arises when financial assets or financial liabilities are denominated in a currency other than Canadian dollars. The Dominion Command is exposed to currency risk primarily on its transactions and balances in US dollars (USD). The following financial instruments were denominated in USD presented in CAD:

	<b>2025</b>	2024
	<b>CAD</b>	CAD
Cash and cash equivalents	<b>91,934</b>	78,394
Marketable investments	<b>4,162,949</b>	4,741,470
	<b>4,254,883</b>	4,819,864

### *Other price risk*

Other price risk is the risk the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual financial instrument or its issuer, or factors affecting all similar financial instruments traded in the market. The Dominion Command's exposure to this risk arises from its marketable investments in corporate equities and pooled equity funds. The Dominion Command invests in a diversified portfolio of securities and is not exposed to concentrations of other price risk to a particular industry or company.

### *Credit risk*

The Dominion Command's credit risk arises on cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, and accounts receivable due from Legion National Foundation and marketable investments. Dominion Command's cash, and cash equivalents and marketable investments are maintained at major financial institutions; therefore, the Dominion Command considers the risk of non-performance of these instruments to be remote.

To manage the credit risk on accounts receivable, the Dominion Command assesses the credit risk of new customers before extending credit and ongoing customers periodically. The allowance for doubtful accounts recognized by the Dominion Command on trade receivables is insignificant. Accounts receivable are generally due within 30 to 90 days. No accounts receivable mature beyond one year.

## REPORT OF CANVET PUBLICATIONS LTD.

S. McKeown, *Board Chair*  
B. Lawrence, *Board Vice-Chair*  
B. Chafe, *Secretary*  
S. Clark, *Director*  
D. Coombs, *Director*  
R. Hayley, *Director*  
T. Jenvenne, *Director*  
B. Julian, *Director*  
V. MacGregor, *Director*  
J. MacIsaac, *Director*

### INTRODUCTION

*Legion Magazine* continues to share the stories of our Veterans and Canada's military history with subscribers across the country. The magazine has a print and online reach of over 900,000 Canadians and it remains one of this country's largest and most respected publications.

### DIGITAL MAGAZINE

Canvet Publications is pleased to announce that *Legion Magazine* is now available in a digital format. Subscribers can now choose between receiving a print edition or a digital edition of the magazine. Readers who wish to switch from print to digital can do so simply by calling the magazine.

Digital magazines offer many benefits to readers. They provide interactive, multimedia-rich content such as videos and enhanced web experiences, allows readers to enlarge the text for improved readability, and includes direct links to related online content. Switching to digital also reduces the environmental footprint associated with printing and delivering print magazines.

### LEGION MAGAZINE ONLINE

In 2026, legionmagazine.com will have more than 3.25 million visits, and it continues to grow yearly. The site showcases our award-winning interactive websites, historic photo archives, podcasts, videos, and the Last Post database with over 212,000 names to date. Canvet continues to produce videos in the Military Milestones series with more coming this year.

### SUBSIDY REVENUE

In 2025, the Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) for *Legion Magazine* and *Canada's Ultimate Story* (CUS) totaled \$805,522, a 12% decrease over 2024.

The Department of Heritage requires all publications to apply annually and Canvet is hopeful the latest application will be successful. The rules for acceptance are clear, *Legion Magazine* and *CUS* must remain independent publications, produced by an independent publisher. Any periodicals "that primarily reports on the activities or promotes the interests of the organization" will be excluded from receiving funding.

The funding is allocated over the government fiscal year, which will bridge 2025 and 2026.

Canvet's budgets are dependent on support from the federal government.

### EDITORIAL

*Legion Magazine* is the leading voice on Canada's military history and Veterans' issues. Publishing dozens of articles, including: **FRICION IN THE GULF** The Persian Gulf War is an important chapter in Canada's military history; **FLYING OVER THE EDGE** A flying ace who dodged a Spanish firing squad; **DRUG WAR** During the third year of the WWI, Canadian troops were swept up in a controversy over cocaine; **THE WARS NOBODY WON** Following the break-up of the former Yugoslavia in 1991, a series of wars beset the region (May/June); **THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION 100** The Royal Canadian Legion turns 100 (July/August).

Future articles in 2026 includes stories on:  
**THE SUEZ CRISIS** It was a postwar military confrontation in Egypt that threatened to divide the Western alliance (September/October);  
**CAMP X** Officially known as Special Training School 103, Camp X operated during WW II for covert agents (November/December).

For the 2026 *CUS* special issue series we have published: **CANADIAN HEROES AND THE VICTORIA CROSS** (Winter); **CANADA AND THE COLD WAR** (Spring); and for the rest of 2026, **BATTLE OF THE SOMME** (Summer); and finally, **O CANADA, VIKINGS** (Fall).

In addition to translations of articles from the English edition, each French insert includes an original article on a topic from French Canada's military history.

### MEMBER BENEFITS PACKAGE

The Royal Canadian Legion (RCL) Member Benefits Package (MBP) offers discounts for members through IRIS Eyewear, MEDIPAC Travel Insurance, Arbor Memorial, Canadian Safe Step Walk-In Tub Co., HomeEquity Bank, HearingLife Advantage, belairdirect car and home insurance, Blowes & Stewart Travel Group Ltd., Ultramatic Inc., and Rogers/Red Wireless. Not only do the partners offer member discounts, but they also contribute significant funding to Legion programs. Canvet offers the partners preferred advertising rates, so they reach an exclusive market as an endorsed partner.

### AWARDS

In February, Canvet was awarded six awards—four gold and two silver—at the Canadian Online Publishing Awards:

**Gold** - Best Feel-Good Story - “Unconquerable Souls” (May/June 2025 issue and online)  
by Stephen J. Thorne  
<https://legionmagazine.com/unconquerable-souls/>

**Gold** - Best Blog Column - “Front Lines” (In every issue and online)  
by Stephen J. Thorne  
<https://legionmagazine.com/category/defence-today/journal/>

**Gold** - Best Video Content - “Victory! Canada and the End of WW II” (On Legion Magazine YouTube channel, June 2025)  
Narrated by Kim Coates  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GfBkMAUCe9s>

**Gold** - Best Patriotic Story - “Think Again” (May/June 2025 issue and online)  
by Marc Milner  
<https://legionmagazine.com/think-again/>

**Silver** - Best Photojournalism - “Unconquerable Souls” (May/June 2025 issue and online)  
by Stephen J. Thorne  
<https://legionmagazine.com/unconquerable-souls/>

**Silver** - Best Website/Digital Edition - “The Invictus Games 2025” (May/June online issue)  
by Ankush Katoch  
<https://legionmagazine.com/features/Invictusgames2025/>

Canvet's award total to date now stands at 49, beginning in 2011.

### CONCLUSION

This report is provided for informational purposes only.

# REPORT OF THE LEGION NATIONAL FOUNDATION

T. Irvine, *Chair*  
B. Julian, *Vice Chair*  
L. Murray, *Director*  
B. Burnham, *Director*  
A. Siew, *Director*  
L. Mercier, *Director*  
R. Hayley, *Executive Director*  
S. Van Muyen, *National Coordinator*  
C. Ngarachu, *Director of Development*

The Legion National Foundation is proud to mark its 10th anniversary this year. The Foundation was incorporated as a registered charity in April 2016, with activities fully in swing by 2018. What started as a vision to better serve Canada's Veterans has grown considerably over the past decade, supporting Veterans and their families from coast to coast to coast.

Led by a volunteer Board of Directors, the Foundation works nationally to improve the lives of those who have served, and continue to serve, in the Canadian Armed Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

## PROGRAM PILLARS

The Foundation's work is guided by four program pillars that support Veterans and uphold a commitment to Remembrance.

1. Veterans Health and Wellness.
2. Scholarships and Bursaries.
3. National Youth Remembrance Contests.
4. Pilgrimage of Remembrance.

The first two pillars focus on direct support for Veterans and families. The other two honour service through Remembrance programs delivered in partnership with The Royal Canadian Legion.

### 1. Veterans Health and Wellness

The Foundation provides grant funding to organizations across Canada that work directly with Veterans. These grants support programs addressing homelessness, mental and physical health, and the transition to civilian life. By partnering with trusted

organizations on the ground, the Foundation helps ensure support reaches those who need it most.

### 2. Scholarships and Bursaries

The Foundation invests in young people connected to Canada's military community through this pillar. Bursaries provided through the Navy, Army, and Air Cadet Leagues help youth pursue post-secondary education. The Foundation also supports a master's student through the Canadian Institute for Military and Veteran Health Research (CIMVHR), helping advance research that benefits Veterans and families.

### 3. National Youth Remembrance Contests

The National Youth Remembrance Contests delivered with The Royal Canadian Legion continue to engage close to 100,000 students each year. Through posters, essays, poems, and video submissions, students are encouraged to reflect on the service and sacrifice of Veterans.

### 4. Pilgrimage of Remembrance

The Pilgrimage of Remembrance offers participants a unique opportunity to visit France and Belgium and follow in the footsteps of those who served in the First and Second World Wars. For many, it is a deeply personal experience that brings Canada's military history into sharper focus.

## FUNDRAISING GROWTH

The past two years have been jam-packed with fundraising activity. The Legion National Foundation continues to build a stable and growing base of support, with revenues increasing an average of 20 to 25 percent each year as a result of stronger donor engagement and consistent stewardship across a

community of more than 60,000 supporters. This positive trend is expected to continue into 2026.

Regular communications through newsletters and appeals help keep donors connected to the impact of their contributions. Notably, the Foundation has been the beneficiary of two legacy gifts in recent years, an important milestone for a young charity. Donations of securities are also on the rise, adding to a more diversified giving menu.

The Digital Poppy campaign, the Foundation's flagship fundraising initiative, continues to set new records each year through corporate and individual giving. In 2025, the campaign exceeded 2024 results by 10%. This was achieved despite 2025 having the shortest campaign period. In contrast, 2024 had the longest. Sponsorship activity in support of Digital Poppy remains robust. The most recent campaign secured new corporate sponsors and saw increased overall giving.

Moreover, sponsorship in other areas continues to develop. In September 2025, the Foundation proudly welcomed Canvet Publications as a National Tier Sponsor of the National Youth Remembrance Contests, with their investment covering all national operating costs.

In 2025, the Foundation introduced the "We Will Remember Them Highlight Tour," a condensed, self-funded extension of the Pilgrimage of Remembrance. Open to all Canadians, the inaugural eight-day tour through France and Belgium hosted 15 participants. This land-only program provides an immersive experience of Canada's military legacy while serving as a powerful fundraising tool for the Foundation with each participant package including a \$4,000 donation to benefit Veterans and families.

Following a successful launch, the 2026 tour welcomed double the participants and continues to grow into a dependable source of unrestricted

revenue. Designed to run as an annual activity, it is already proving to be one of the Foundation's most exciting new revenue streams.

## DISBURSEMENTS AND IMPACT

The Foundation's impact is reflected in its disbursements. Grant applications are reviewed three times a year at Board meetings held in the spring, fall, and at year end.

Examples of the Foundation's recent grants include continued investment in efforts to provide permanent housing for homeless Veterans. The Foundation was an early supporter of Veterans House Canada's Ottawa project and has carried that commitment forward with a \$200,000 donation to its Edmonton initiative. In a similar vein, a \$25,000 grant to Ottawa Inner-City Ministries supports Veteran Outreach for homeless and at-risk Veterans in the National Capital Region, while a \$50,000 donation to Veterans House Victoria extends that commitment to British Columbia.

The Foundation also supports the transition to civilian life through targeted funding. The Veterans Transition Network received \$75,000 to support Veterans moving back into civilian life in Atlantic Canada. Camp Aftermath, a program centred on healing and connection for Veterans and their families, received \$60,000. Gifts to the Canadian War Museum and the Juno Beach Centre go toward making sure the stories of those who served don't disappear.

Over the last two years, over \$400,000 has been invested in Veterans and their families across Canada. These disbursements reflect a shared commitment to supporting Veterans in the moments and areas that matter most, while ensuring their service is Never Forgotten.

This report is provided for information only.

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
**CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE**

J. Carleton, *Chair*  
B. Lawrence, *Vice-Chair*  
R. Hayley, *Member*  
O. Gorelova, *Coordinator*

**This fund was established at the 1964 Convention to serve as:**

A perpetual memorial to those who have fallen in the service of Canada by continuing the activities of The Royal Canadian Legion, including the promotion of education, sports, commonwealth unity and all other forms of national and community service, which in the light of changing conditions may be deemed to be consistent with the aims and objects of The Royal Canadian Legion.

By the mandate of Convention, the Fund can only be used to supplement Track and Field when required and other special projects as agreed by Convention. In 1992 Convention the set the minimum base amount to be kept in the Fund at \$1,500,000.

The Fund dipped to just over \$1.5 million at the end of 2008. In 2009 withdrawals from the fund were suspended to give the Fund

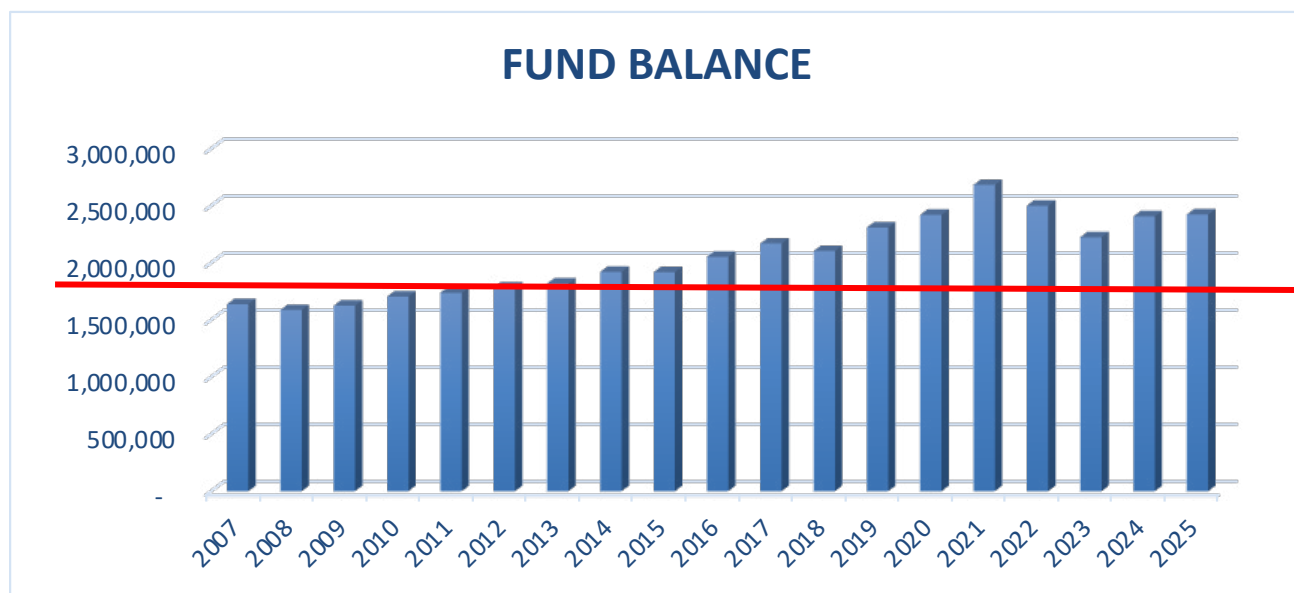
a chance to get built up again. The target amount to achieve was set at \$2.0 million.

The total balance in the Fund as of December 31, 2025, was \$2,423,040. The fund investments can be broken down as; 5.2% invested in Government bonds, 60.1% invested corporate bonds and bond funds, 30.2% in corporate stocks, 4.6% in short term deposits and cash.

The balance in the investment funds as of April 30, 2026, was \$2,454,378.

A graphical representation of the Fund history is presented below.

I move the acceptance of my report.



# CREDENTIALS REPORT

C. Rutledge, *Chair*  
M. Courtney, *Member*  
T. Wheeler, *Member*  
C. Wagner, *Member*  
P. Sweeny, *Member*  
P. Cook, *Member*  
T. Campbell, *Member*  
C. Horgan, *Member*  
B. MacMillan, *Member*  
P. Hillier, *Member*

COMMAND		24 AUGUST 2026		25 AUGUST 2026		26 AUGUST 2026		OBSERVERS
		ACCREDITED	PROXY	ACCREDITED	PROXY	ACCREDITED	PROXY	
BC/YUKON	725							
ALBERTA-NWT	589							
SASKATCHEWAN	363							
MANITOBA & NWO	373							
ONTARIO	1592							
QUEBEC	279							
NEW BRUNSWICK	177							
NOVA SCOTIA/NUNAVUT	342							
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	48							
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR	107							
DEC/PDP	21							
US ZONES	20							
EUROPE ZONE	8							
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4644</b>							

REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE ON  
**DOMINION CONVENTION  
 RESOLUTIONS**

B. Lawrence, *Chair*  
 S. MacKeown, *Vice-Chair*  
 R. Hayley, *Coordinator*

**STATISTICS**

The following table provides statistics on the number of resolutions submitted by Provincial Commands and by Dominion Command Committees for consideration by the delegates at Convention.

COMMANDS	CONCURRED AT PROVINCIAL CONVENTIONS	FROM BRANCHES THROUGH PROVINCIAL COMMANDS	DOMINION COMMAND COMMITTEES	TOTAL NUMBER OF RESOLUTIONS
BRITISH COLUMBIA/YUKON	3	5	-	8
ALBERTA-NWT	0	3	-	3
SASKATCHEWAN	1	2	-	3
MANITOBA & NWO	0	2	-	2
ONTARIO	0	0	-	0
QUEBEC	5	0	-	5
NEW BRUNSWICK	0	1	-	1
NOVA SCOTIA/NUNAVUT	2	3	-	5
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	0	0	-	0
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR	0	0	-	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>28</b>

The total number of resolutions to be considered is 28. For comparison purposes, in 2024 a total of 31 resolutions were presented to the delegates at Convention.

# INDEX TO RESOLUTIONS

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	PART I	PART II	PART III
	CONCURRED	PASSED BY PROVINCIAL CONVENTIONS NON-CONCURRED	NON-CONCURRED
COMMITTEE/SUBJECT	PAGE NO.	PAGE NO.	PAGE NO.
POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE	117	120	130
MEMBERSHIP		123	132
RITUAL AND AWARDS	117	123	133
CONSTITUTION AND LAWS		126	
VETERANS, SERVICE AND SENIORS			129
SPORTS			133
CANVET			136

## ABBREVIATIONS

In dealing with the resolutions it should be noted that each has an assigned code and number.

Those abbreviations for Commands such as ONT, NS/NU, etc. are well known. The number following the Command is simply a control number.

The /C following a resolution indicates that it was approved by a Provincial Convention. The procedure for bringing to the convention floor any non-concurred resolution is that a provincial caucus will decide which of their Command resolutions to bring to the floor and designate who will present the explanation.

Various standing or national committees have generated resolutions and the following is a list of the abbreviations used:

DEC	Dominion Executive Council
SEO	Senior Elected Officer
VSS	Veterans, Service and Seniors
P&R	Poppy and Remembrance
MBR	Membership
D&S	Defence and Security
R&A	Ritual and Awards
C&L	Constitution and Laws

## RESOLUTIONS

### PART I

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS ARE THOSE  
WHICH YOUR CONVENTION COMMITTEES  
RECOMMENDED FOR FAVOURABLE CONSIDERATION  
BY THIS 50TH DOMINION CONVENTION

#### LOYALTY RESOLUTION

22 AUGUST 2026

*May it please Your Majesty:*

*The members of The Royal Canadian Legion  
send greetings to His Majesty King Charles III  
and humbly desire to convey to His Majesty  
this expression of loyalty and allegiance.*

*Members will meet in celebration of our 50th  
Dominion Convention at Winnipeg, Manitoba  
during the period 22 -26 August 2026.*

*We remain profoundly indebted to Your gracious  
Majesty's service and leadership in guiding  
the Commonwealth of Nations and pray that  
Your Majesty may long be spared to continue  
to guide the destinies of these great nations.*

*I remain Your Majesty's humble  
and obedient servant.*

# POPPY *and* REMEMBRANCE

## 1. POPPY FUNDS PROVIDED TO GOVERNMENT FUNDED FACILITIES FOR MEDICAL APPLIANCES

ALTA-NWT 2

**WHEREAS** If Poppy Funds are continually used to fund hospital and care facilities, governments will continue to reduce their spending on them;

**WHEREAS** The Government has an obligation to provide appliances, furniture and equipment in hospitals and publicly funded care facilities;

**WHEREAS** The Government is relying more on donations and public funding for hospital and care facilities and not being fiscally responsible for funding them;

**WHEREAS** When a patient enters a medical facility for treatment, they are not asked if they are a Veteran, so there is no way to confirm if Veterans are using the appliances; and

**WHEREAS** The Poppy Manual states the basic purpose and obligation of Poppy Trust Funds are to assist Veterans as defined in subsection 101d of the General By-Laws and their families.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Section 403 ii c. Medical appliances be amended to read

“Up to 25 percent of the current balance such as but not limited to medical thermal imaging cameras and defibrillators which will assist in the care of Veterans within the community.”

## 2. POPPY FUNDS PROVIDED TO GOVERNMENT FUNDED HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS

ALTA-NWT 3

**WHEREAS** If Poppy Funds are continually used to fund hospital emergency departments, governments will continue to reduce their spending on them;

**WHEREAS** The Government has an obligation to provide appliances, furnishings and equipment in hospital emergency departments;

**WHEREAS** The Government is relying more on donations through hospital foundations and not being fiscally responsible for funding them;

**WHEREAS** When a patient enters a hospital emergency department for treatment, they are not asked if they are a Veteran, so there is no way to confirm if Veterans are admitted to the emergency department; and

**WHEREAS** The Poppy Manual states the basic purpose and obligation of Poppy Trust Funds are to assist Veterans as defined in subsection 101d of the General By-Laws and their families,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**

**THAT** Add to the Don't's in Section 501vii (not authorized) Community (c) donations for medical or non-medical equipment to Emergency Departments.

# RITUAL *and* AWARDS

## 3. INDIGENOUS ACCOUTREMENTS WITH LEGION DRESS SASK 2

**WHEREAS** The Royal Canadian Legion has been working on an EDI Strategy to acknowledge the many Indigenous Veterans of our nation and the perils that they have faced.

**WHEREAS** In efforts of reconciliation and to ensure this culture is no longer

forgotten about and that we recognize the importance of their contributions.

**WHEREAS** The RCMP and the Canadian Armed Forces have adopted the use of the Metis sash and other indigenous accoutrements.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** That the Royal Canadian Legion permit the wearing of indigenous accoutrements as it relates to the RCMP and CAF policies including the wearing of the Metis sash.

## RESOLUTIONS

### PART II

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS ARE THOSE PASSED BY PROVINCIAL CONVENTIONS IN WHICH YOUR COMMITTEES DO NOT CONCUR. ONLY THOSE CHOSEN BY PROVINCIAL CAUCUSES AT CONVENTION WILL GO BEFORE THE CONVENTION.

On some matters, a considerable number of resolutions were received. When non-concurrence was decided, one resolution was used and the origin of all resolutions provided in each case.

PROCEDURE FOR BRINGING TO THE CONVENTION FLOOR NON-CONCURRED RESOLUTIONS WHICH APPEAR IN THIS PART OF THE RESOLUTIONS REPORT. SECTION 925 OF THE GENERAL BY-LAWS REFERS

- a. In the event that any committee reporting to the Convention does not concur in or does not report on any resolution duly submitted for its consideration, any accredited delegate may, subject to the following conditions, request that such resolution emanating from within his own Command be presented to the Convention:
  - i. The request has the support of a majority vote of the caucus from that delegate's command, such majority support to be proved by a written certificate to that effect, signed by the President of the Command or the Chair of the caucus.
  - ii. The request to introduce such resolution has been submitted in writing, on a form provided by Dominion Command.
  - iii. The request shall be submitted to the Convention Chair not later than one hour prior to the end of the business session on the second business day of the convention, being 1300 hrs on Tuesday, 25 August 2026.
- b. These conditions having been completed, such delegate may present the resolution while resolutions dealing with the general topic with which the resolution is concerned are before the Convention.

# POPPY *and* REMEMBRANCE

## 201. YOUTH REMEMBRANCE CONTEST – JUNIOR VIDEO CATEGORY BC/Yukon 2/C

**WHEREAS** the Video category for the Youth and Remembrance Contest started in BC/ Yukon Command and included a Junior Category;

**WHEREAS** the National Youth and Remembrance Contest does not include a Junior Level Video Category;

**WHEREAS** the BC/Yukon Command Video Junior Category had several entries each year;

**WHEREAS** the Youth start early using various media including making videos; and

**WHEREAS** we should be encouraging our youth to pay homage to our heroes whenever we can.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Youth and Remembrance National Contest be changed to include a Junior Videos Category.

### COMMENT

The Poppy and Remembrance Committee recognizes the importance of encouraging youth participation in Remembrance activities and supporting opportunities for youth to express Remembrance through evolving forms of media.

However, the Committee notes that the National Video Category was only recently introduced and participation levels nationally have not yet demonstrated sufficient growth to support expansion of the category at this time. In 2024, 64 video entries were received out of more than 72,000 reported total contest entries, while in 2025, 62 video entries were

received out of more than 62,000 reported total entries. The Committee believes additional time is required to promote, evaluate, and grow the existing Video Category before consideration is given to expanding the program to include an additional age division.

The Committee further notes that the Legion National Foundation has expressed support for maintaining the current structure of the National Video Category while participation levels and long-term program development continue to be assessed. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

## 202. YOUTH REMEMBRANCE CONTEST – VIDEOS TIME LIMIT BC/Yukon 3/C

**WHEREAS** the Youth and Remembrance Contest Video Category is currently limited to videos less than 2 minutes; and

**WHEREAS** students entering are not professional and may need more than 2 minutes for their tributes.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the time limit be increased to 3 minutes.

### COMMENT

The Poppy and Remembrance Committee recognizes the importance of providing youth with opportunities to express Remembrance through video and digital media.

However, the Committee believes the current two-minute time limit remains appropriate for the National Video Category at this stage of the program's development. The existing limit encourages participants to present clear, focused, and meaningful content while also supporting consistency in judging and administration of the contest.

The Committee further notes that feedback received from educators and National Video

Category judges supported maintaining the current two-minute format, which encourages concise and meaningful presentations focused on the Remembrance message itself. The Legion National Foundation has also expressed support for maintaining the current format. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

**203. POPPY FUNDS FOR MEDICAL TRAINING AND RESEARCH**  
**NS/NU 1/C**

**WHEREAS** Currently, the Poppy Manual Section 403.ii, paras b and c read:

*b.* Medical Training and Medical Research: (prior Provincial Command approval is required). Up to 50 percent of the current balance, for medical training and medical research with a focus on Veteran support. To include funds for the training of personnel as identified and as approved to operate the Branch defibrillator.

*c.* Medical Appliances: (prior Provincial Command approval is required) Up to 50 percent of the current balance such as but not limited to, medical thermal imaging cameras and defibrillators which will assist in the care of Veterans within the community.

**WHEREAS** these have become a point of contention among the veteran community in that the reality is that these donations will rarely be seen by a single veteran. VAC already provides for Veterans wings and veteran medical care, therefore making these donations redundant. There are other organizations like (Hospital Foundations) that can and do provide benevolent support to hospitals, which are supposed to be Provincially funded. These donations are being made in a time where Provincial Health Authorities are restricting the definition of what a veteran is and denying modern Veterans' beds in Veterans' wings. This should not be the purpose of the Poppy Fund as represented in such a high percentage.

**WHEREAS** cost of living is on the rise and so is veteran poverty and homelessness in the province of Nova Scotia. Our benevolent fund is being tapped, while we throw tens and hundreds of thousands of dollars toward the general public by means of hospital donations. The words "for Veterans' are thrown in into the application for special use of Poppy Funds under these sub sections without substantiation and in most cases with the faint hope that a veteran may one day benefit from it.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that no more than 10% of the total Poppy Funds remaining in the month of October be used for

- b.* Medical training and Medical research; (prior Provincial Command approval is required) Up to 10% of the total Poppy Funds remaining in the month of October be used for medical training and medical research with a focus on Veteran support.
- c.* Medical appliances: (prior Provincial Command approval is required) up to 10% of the total Poppy Funds remaining in the month of October be used for but not limited to, medical thermal imaging cameras and defibrillator and/or its batteries for use in a branch.

The above addition would require a bump down in sub paras.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** these amendments would address the current need of our Veterans and align the Poppy Manual more precisely to our mandate.

**COMMENT**

The Poppy and Remembrance Committee recognizes the importance of ensuring that expenditures from the Poppy Trust Fund remain focused on supporting Veterans and their families in accordance with the intent and purpose of the Fund.

The Committee notes that the Poppy Manual already states that expenditures under the medical appliances category (403.iic) must assist in the care of Veterans. The Committee

further notes that Provincial Commands already have responsibility for ensuring requests approved under this category demonstrate a clear and direct benefit to Veterans and comply with the intent of the Poppy Trust Fund.

The Committee further notes that it has already concurred with Alberta-NWT Command Resolution #2, which reduces the allowable percentage for expenditures under the medical appliances category (403.iic) from 50 percent to 25 percent. The Committee believes this amendment appropriately addresses concerns regarding the use of Poppy Funds for medical equipment expenditures while maintaining flexibility to support legitimate Veteran-focused needs.

Further, the Committee believes medical research and training initiatives (403.iib) focused on Veteran support may provide broader long-term benefits to the Veteran community and should continue to be considered separately from medical appliance expenditures (403.iic). Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

#### 204. POPPY FUNDS TO PURCHASE CANADIAN FLAGS FOR GRAVES NS/NU 2/C

**WHEREAS** the use of Poppy Trust Funds is not permitted to purchase small Canadian Flags to mark the graves of Veterans throughout the Remembrance period;

**WHEREAS** placing Canada Flags on Veterans Graves is a visual mark of honour and respect we show our departed Veterans throughout the Remembrance period;

**WHEREAS** flags should be of a very good quality so they can be reused for several years, 6'x10', cloth flags on a stick are the ones that work best; and

**WHEREAS** flags should be placed one week before Remembrance Day and removed no later than one week after Remembrance Day to ensure they can be reused and not litter the cemetery.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that no more than \$2000.00 from the Poppy Trust Fund be used per year for new and replacement Canada Flags, (prior Provincial Command approval is required).

#### **COMMENT**

The Poppy and Remembrance Committee recognizes the meaningful intent of this resolution and acknowledges that the proposed use of reusable Canadian flags on Veterans' graves is intended as a visible mark of honour and Remembrance during the Remembrance period.

The Committee further acknowledges that the resolution attempts to address previous concerns related to cemetery maintenance, litter, and the timely removal of commemorative items following the Remembrance period.

However, the primary purpose and obligation of the Poppy Trust Fund is to provide assistance and support to Veterans and their families. While visual displays of Remembrance at cemeteries are important commemorative activities, the Committee does not believe the ongoing purchase and replacement of Canadian flags represents an appropriate use of Poppy Trust Funds.

The Committee also notes that cemetery regulations and requirements continue to vary across jurisdictions and individual cemeteries, which may create operational and compliance challenges for Branches.

In addition, some Branches may be able to obtain Canadian flags through alternative community sources, including community partnerships and local constituency offices of Members of Parliament. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

# MEMBERSHIP

## 205. MEMBERSHIP – CONTINUOUS YEARS OF SERVICE SASK 1/C

**WHEREAS** Members of the Legion earn ‘years of service’ based on continuous payment of Legion dues.

**WHEREAS** When members discontinue their membership at any time for any reason, they lose their eligibility for the Years of Service Pin.

**WHEREAS** This does not take into account the total years of service that a member actually contributed to the Legion. Taking a year off for many reasons including health, financial or otherwise, a member should still be recognized for their years of service. Many members feel their contributions are not recognized because they took time off.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** That the eligibility for length of service pin be determined by the number of years of service to the Legion and not continuous years of service.

### COMMENT

Recognition of members with non-continuous years of service may be better supported through other forms of acknowledgement through the local branch, while maintaining the Years of Service Pin based on continuous service to ensure consistency across the organization. Members also continue to have the option of the existing buy-back year process. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

# RITUAL *and* AWARDS

## 206. LEGION DRESS TO INCLUDE INDIGENOUS REGALIA BC-Yukon 1/C

**WHEREAS** Indigenous communities have a rich cultural heritage that includes traditional attire and ceremonial items that hold deep spiritual and cultural significance;

**WHEREAS** we promote inclusivity within the Legion, showing a commitment to acknowledging and valuing the diversity of the membership and thereby reflecting our recognition of Indigenous cultural practices as an integral part of the broader cultural tapestry;

**WHEREAS** the Legion’s public image would be strengthened by showing cultural awareness and sensitivity in its representation of diverse groups, setting a positive example for other organizations in embracing cultural diversity; and

**WHEREAS** we recognize the importance of ceremonial items in fostering a sense of belonging and pride for Indigenous members and ensuring that their cultural rights and practices are respected while they fulfill their roles within the Legion.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Legion amend its current Legion Dress code to allow Indigenous members to wear ceremonial items of cultural significance as part of their Legion Dress when representing the Legion at public functions and events. The items may include, but are not limited to, items such as feathers, beaded jewelry, clothing and other culturally appropriate ceremonial accessories, in accordance with the individual’s cultural practices.

### COMMENT

The Committee has already received a similar resolution addressing Indigenous Dress regalia

to be considered for inclusion in the RCL dress regulations. Therefore this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

**207. ADD THE KENTUCKY BOW TIE TO THE LEGION DRESS  
QUE 1/C**

**WHEREAS** The current dress code serves to honor the traditions and history of the Legion while fostering unity and pride among its members. The Kentucky bow tie, in the same blue and gold striped pattern as the current Legion tie, adds formality and distinction to ceremonial attire while respecting the established aesthetic of the Legion uniform;

**WHEREAS** The Royal Canadian Legion values inclusivity and diversity within its membership and strives to offer options that allow all members to feel comfortable and represented in their formal attire; and

**WHEREAS** Incorporating the Kentucky bow tie provides an opportunity for members to express themselves while maintaining the cohesive and professional appearance of the Legion uniform.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** 121 recommends the approval of the Kentucky bow tie, in the blue and gold striped pattern matching the current Legion tie, as an optional accessory to the official Legion dress code for appropriate occasions (including but not limited to formal ceremonies, parades, and events requiring dress uniforms), reflecting the Legion's commitment to inclusivity and ensuring all members can participate fully and proudly in ceremonies and events, and that upon approval at the Quebec Provincial Convention, this resolution be forwarded to the Dominion Convention for adoption at the national level.

**COMMENT**

While the Committee fully endorses and supports the principles of inclusivity and respect

for diversity, these values do not replace the expectation that Royal Canadian Legion members maintain a professional, contemporary, and appropriate standard of dress.

The Legion's dress standards are rooted in longstanding Canadian traditions of service, discipline, and public representation, reflecting the legacy of those who have served the nation. These standards are aligned with, and informed by, the current dress regulations of the Canadian Armed Forces, which continue to serve as the authoritative reference point. This alignment ensures consistency with modern military practices while preserving the dignity, decorum, and historical continuity that underpin the Legion's role in Canadian society.

Accordingly, Legion dress policy will continue to evolve in a manner that balances inclusivity with professionalism, maintaining a respectful connection to Canada's military heritage while meeting contemporary expectations. Therefore, the resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

**208. WEARING SERVICE RIBBONS ON THE LEGION JACKET  
QUE 2/C**

**WHEREAS** Section 101 of the Rewards and Protocol Manual authorizes the wearing of service ribbons on Legion informal service dress;

**WHEREAS** Section 103 authorizes the wearing of service ribbons on Legion summer uniform; and

**WHEREAS** Not allowing members to wear service ribbons on formal Legion dress is contrary to the principle of inclusion set out in the Legion's EDI declaration. Section 114 restricts the wearing of service ribbons on Legion blazers when service medals are not available. This policy does not reflect the wishes of our members and could have an alienating effect.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

Authorizing the wearing of service ribbons on Legion dress will meet the needs of our Veterans; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Section 101 of the Ritual, Awards and Protocol Manual be amended, where appropriate, to authorize the wearing of service ribbons on Legion dress.

**COMMENT**

Despite this matter having been reviewed previously, the Government of Canada Directorate of Honours and Awards confirmed that there are no instances in which service ribbons are awarded without the corresponding medals. In cases where a medal has been lost, misplaced, or damaged, replacements are readily available. Therefore, there is no valid reason not to possess and wear the appropriate medal with Legion dress. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

**209. WEARING LEGION GOLF POLO**

**QUE 3/C**

**WHEREAS** The Royal Canadian Legion offers in its Branch Catalogue the black and red golf polo for men and women;

**WHEREAS** Article 101 of The Royal Canadian Legion's Ritual, Awards and Protocol Manual specifies that the blue shirt is the only authorized attire as informal dress; and

**WHEREAS** The wearing of the Royal Canadian Legion black and red golf polo shirt is very popular among our members and is regularly worn during informal Royal Canadian Legion activities.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** Allowing the wearing of the Royal Canadian Legion black and red golf polo would be beneficial to all members; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** To amend Section 101 of The Royal Canadian Legion Ritual, Awards and Protocol Manual to include the wearing of the Royal Canadian Legion black and red golf polo during informal Legion activities.

**COMMENT**

The topic of adopting a more relaxed dress code for informal activities was introduced, discussed, and approved by Legion Command, including the authorization of the Legion blue shirt for this purpose. In accordance with this policy, the appropriate attire will be determined at the discretion of the convenor or the authority issuing the invitation, as outlined in RAP Section 103. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

**210. CREATION OF A BAR FOR LEGION RIDERS**

**QUE 4/C**

**WHEREAS** The Dominion Command Honors and Awards Committee has created bars of Recognition Bars for many presidents and members of various committees;

**WHEREAS** The Cavaliers of the Legion is an initiative put forward by The Royal Canadian Legion to offer its members the opportunity to help their community. And this, while taking full advantage of their love of motorcycle touring; and

**WHEREAS** Cavalier's members contribute to raising awareness of the Legion. Reinforce support Veterans and their families and encourage Canadians to participate in Community service and fundraising activities. By displaying their pride in being members Of the Legion's and to promote the Purposes and Objects and the Legion's Mission.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** The importance of recognizing the Cavaliers of The Royal Canadian Legion; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Dominion Command and the Honors and Awards Committee create a bar to recognize significant efforts, excellent work and service to the Branch.

**COMMENT**

Although the Committee acknowledges the positive objectives and potential value this initiative offer to local Branches, it is important to note that Legion Riders are not currently recognized as a formal component of Legion committees or executive structures. Rather, participation in Legion Riders is considered a personal, voluntary activity driven by individual interest. As such, it does not fall within the established framework of official Legion programs, and there is presently no Legion Past Medal or formal distinction associated with this activity. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

## CONSTITUTION *and* LAWS

**211. CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK**  
**QUE 5/C**

**WHEREAS** The Royal Canadian Legion does not have a national policy to conduct regular criminal record checks on officers and members who attain senior positions on Branch, District or Command Executive Committees or Boards of Directors;

**WHEREAS** The Royal Canadian Legion has a policy of conducting criminal record checks for volunteers who wish to serve on the Organizing Committee for the National Youth Track and Field Championships at the U-16 and U-18 levels; and

**WHEREAS** The Royal Canadian Legion, by virtue of its mandate, works with Canadian youth on a regular basis through the Cadet League of Canada, the Scouts, visits to schools

for the drawing and poster contest, the Poppy Campaign during Veterans' Week and youth activities in our communities.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** In order to protect Canadian youth from sexual misconduct or criminal offences on the part of any of our members, so that they may obtain all the security required during the activities of The Royal Canadian Legion. Activities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** The Royal Canadian Legion establish a national policy to always protect Canadian youth and to prevent any member who has committed such offences from holding senior executive or board positions.

**COMMENT**

Screening requirements for volunteers are specific to the activities or programs they are associated with. These may be internal requirements, as is the case with the National Youth Track and Field Championships, or external requirements, as is the case when working with external organizations such as Cadets and educational institutions. These external organizations dictate the screening requirements which may vary depending on the level of interaction. Where record checks are required for youth activities, the requirement is typically a vulnerable sector check which has varying issuing requirements based on the issuing police organization and nature of activity. In many instances, a vulnerable sector check will not be completed and issued unless a specific request is submitted from the organization conducting the particular event. In other words, appropriate screening requirements are already enforced where necessary.

Additionally, General By Law 202 outlines the national policy that no person who has been convicted of any serious criminal offence involving either violence or sexual misconduct

of any type shall be permitted to become or remain a member of the Legion. As a result, the General By Laws already contain the policy that members who have committed such offences are not permitted to hold executive positions. In fact, they are not allowed to be members at all. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred.

## RESOLUTIONS

### PART III

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS ARE THOSE RECEIVED AFTER PROVINCIAL CONVENTIONS IN WHICH YOUR COMMITTEES DID NOT CONCUR. SUITABLE COMMENTS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED GIVING THE REASONS.

On some matters, a considerable number of resolutions were received. When non-concurrence was decided, one resolution was used and the origin of all resolutions provided in each case.

#### PROCEDURE FOR BRINGING TO THE CONVENTION FLOOR NON-CONCURRED RESOLUTIONS WHICH APPEAR IN THIS PART OF THE RESOLUTIONS REPORT. SECTION 925 OF THE GENERAL BY-LAWS REFERS

- a.** In the event that any committee reporting to the Convention does not concur in or does not report on any resolution duly submitted for its considerations, any accredited delegate may, subject to the following conditions, request that such resolution emanating from within his own Command be presented to the Convention:
  - i. The request has the support of a majority vote of the caucus from that delegate's command, such majority support to be proved by a written certificate to that effect, signed by the President of the command or the Chair of the caucus.
  - ii. The request to introduce such resolution has been submitted in writing, on a form provided by Dominion Command.
  - iii. The request shall be submitted to the Convention Chair not later than one hour prior to the end of the business session on the second business day of the convention, being 1300 hrs on Tuesday 25 August 2026.
- b.** These conditions having been completed, such delegate may present the resolution while resolutions dealing with the general topic with which the resolution is concerned are before the Convention.

# VETERANS, SERVICE *and* SENIORS

## GENERAL

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### 301. FREE CHECKED LUGGAGE ON AIRLINES FOR RCMP SASK 3

**WHEREAS** The Royal Canadian Mounted Police are considered Veterans under Veterans Affairs Canada;

**WHEREAS** The Royal Canadian Mounted Police veterans are not afforded the same benefits with Canadian Airlines; and

**WHEREAS** The Canadian Military Veterans are offered free check-in luggage:

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** That Dominion Command petition the Canadian airline companies to expand their policies to include the members of The Royal Canadian Mounted Police for free luggage as they are also considered veterans.

#### COMMENT

There is one error above. Although Dominion Command's Defence and Security Committee has advocated for RCMP to be designated as veterans by Veterans Affairs Canada, the government has been resistant, stating they already support RCMP commemorative events.

The application of a free luggage policy does not fall under any Government mandate. Our advocacy is directed at various Government departments and public policy and not normally public entities.

The decision to offer free checked baggage rests with individual airlines. While there are more than 1,400 licensed air carriers in Canada, this figure includes specialized operators,

cargo airlines, and small charter services. The domestic market is primarily dominated by a small number of major carriers, including Air Canada, WestJet, Porter Airlines, Air Transat, and Flair Airlines.

This issue falls outside our mandate and coordinating policy changes on an airline-by-airline basis would be administratively burdensome. In addition, not all airlines currently provide free checked baggage, including for Canadian Armed Forces veterans. Each carrier also operates under its own legal, operational, and financial constraints. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred.

### 302. CAF MEMBER WHO SERVED IN AFGHANISTAN BE RECOGNIZED AS WAR VETERANS

NB 1

**WHEREAS** currently Legion Command does not recognize Canadian Veterans of both the Persian Gulf War (2001-2014) as "war veterans", despite Canada having sent over 4,000 personnel to the Gulf in combat roles and over 40,000 to Afghanistan, with 158 members losing their lives;

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

that all CAF members who served in the Afghanistan War, and the Persian Gulf War be recognized as "war veterans" by Dominion Command, and supported as such in their efforts to obtain enhanced benefits as "war veterans" from DND/VAC.

#### COMMENT

The National Security, Defence, and Veterans Affairs Senate Committee Bill S-246, "An Act respecting the recognition of wartime service" is currently progressing and is at the second reading.

The Bill acknowledges that the nature of conflict has changed significantly since the Korean War, and that many Canadian Armed Forces members have faced combat-like risks in

operations that were never formally classified as wartime service.

The intent of the Bill is to create a formal national framework with transparent criteria for assessing military operations conducted since 1953, for recognizing post-1953 Canadian military operations as “wartime service” when objective conditions justify that designation.

Recognition of this designation would reflect the realities faced by those who served in all conflicts since 1953 and not only those who served in Afghanistan. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred.

## POPPY *and* REMEMBRANCE

### 303. POPPY CAMPAIGN LENGTH

BC/Yukon 5

**WHEREAS** the current Poppy Campaign runs from the last Friday in October until November 11th, which in some years results in a very short campaign period; and,

**WHEREAS** a consistent campaign period from October 25th to November 11th would provide a standard 18-day campaign each year, ensuring sufficient time for tagging, awareness, and community engagement.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Poppy Campaign shall be held annually from October 25th to November 11th, regardless of the day of the week on which October 25th falls, to establish consistency and allow for effective planning and execution across all participating Royal Canadian Legion branches.

#### COMMENT

The Poppy and Remembrance Committee notes that the intent of this resolution has already been achieved through recent amendments to

the Poppy Manual establishing a standardized annual Poppy Campaign period from October 24 to November 11. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

### 304. INDIGENOUS WREATH

BC/YUKON 7

**WHEREAS** Reconciliation with First Nations is very important to our comrades, as well as many Canadians;

**WHEREAS** It is important to highlight our relationships and create more harmony in our joined communities;

**WHEREAS** We haven’t created many visual acknowledgements of our Indigenous comrades long-lived contributions to the betterment of our mutual societies;

**WHEREAS** In the spirit of honouring all veterans equally, we can create a culturally recognized visual acknowledgment of Indigenous contributions; and

**WHEREAS** An Indigenous style and tradition wreath has been placed in the military museum at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 232 (Texada Island; also known as sayayin) since 2023.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** In the spirit of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, a special modified wreath be created to honour and remember Indigenous Veterans, their families and children at our Remembrance Day (November 11th) and Indigenous Veterans Day (November 8) services. Once completed our wreath would have a place of honour in our military museum and be on permanent display for all to see.

#### COMMENT

The Poppy and Remembrance Committee recognizes and honours the service, sacrifices, and enduring contributions of Indigenous Veterans, their families, and communities. The

Committee also recognizes the importance of ensuring Indigenous Veterans are meaningfully honoured and represented during commemorative ceremonies across Canada.

The Committee notes that wreaths made available through the National Headquarters Supply Department were developed as national symbols of Remembrance intended to honour all Veterans who have served and sacrificed in service to Canada, including Indigenous Veterans.

The Committee further believes it would not be feasible or appropriate at the National level to introduce multiple variations of official wreaths through the Supply Department based on specific cultural, regional, or community groups.

As always, local Branches and communities remain welcome to include meaningful local traditions and commemorative practices in ceremonies and displays, provided they remain consistent with the Poppy Manual, the Ritual, Awards and Protocol Manual, and Poppy Trademark regulations. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

### 305. USE OF POPPY FUNDS

#### ALTA-NWT 1

**WHEREAS** The creation of the Poster and Literary contest was to perpetuate Remembrance and encourage respect for military service and heritage;

**WHEREAS** Canada has not fought a war within our borders since 1812, making the connection to our military heritage and Remembrance difficult to understand;

**WHEREAS** Most Canadians do not have a connection or know someone in the military to aid them in understanding the military;

**WHEREAS** We have many new Canadians that do not understand our military heritage

and important role they play locally, and internationally; and

**WHEREAS** Many Canadians do not understand the meaning of the Poppy as the symbol of Remembrance.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT A** new category be created in the Poppy Manual allowing for Poppy Funds to be used to create school programs aimed at teaching Canadian Military heritage; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Efforts be made to have a course at all post secondary institutions in Canada, on Canada and Canada's military heritage.

#### COMMENT

The Poppy and Remembrance Committee recognizes and supports the importance of educating Canadians, including youth and new Canadians, about Canada's military heritage, the meaning of the Poppy, and the importance of Remembrance.

However, the primary purpose and obligation of the Poppy Trust Fund is to provide assistance and support to Veterans and their families. While the Poppy Manual permits certain limited initiatives that promote Remembrance, Poppy Funds must remain focused on supporting Veterans and their families and ensuring sufficient resources remain available for those purposes.

The Committee notes that the Poppy Manual already supports Remembrance education through the National Youth Remembrance Contests. The Committee also continues to pursue opportunities to increase awareness of Canada's military heritage through partnerships and engagement with provincial ministries of education and other educational stakeholders. The Committee believes that expanding Poppy Fund expenditures into broader educational

programming, curriculum development, or academic initiatives would go beyond the intended scope and purpose of the Poppy Trust Fund. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

### 306. OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZE THE POPPY AS A SYMBOL OF VETERANS AND WAR DEAD

OSI 1

**WHEREAS** Nine Provinces and two Territories have the Poppy on their Veterans Licence Plate.

**WHEREAS** Many Provinces have a Poppy on their Veterans Memorial Highway Signs,

**WHEREAS** Dominion Command regularly uses the Poppy for Remembrance and Veterans articles on their social media posts. This was done several times during the 2025 Poppy Campaign on social media.

**WHEREAS** The Poppy store is selling a remembrance Pin, where they state “The We Remember Lapel Pin is a permanent reminder of the service and sacrifice of Canadian Veterans”.

**WHEREAS** much of the general public now associate the poppy with veterans.

**WHEREAS** school children now associate the poppy with veterans when they place poppies on veterans’ graves. for example, “No Stone Left Alone”

**WHEREAS** The official stance of Dominion Command is the poppy represents the War dead but unofficially they imply that it represents Veterans.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE RCL** officially recognize the Poppy as a symbol represents both veterans and war dead, and then develop a communication plan to inform all branches of the RCL on the official policy on this issue.

### COMMENT

The Poppy and Remembrance Committee notes that the Poppy originated as a symbol of Remembrance for those who fell in service, inspired by the sacrifice commemorated in the poem In Flanders Fields.

The Committee further notes that the General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion state:

“The Poppy is our emblem of supreme sacrifice and must forever hold an honoured place in our hearts and image immortalizing as it does our Remembrance and honouring of those who laid down their lives for ideals which they, we and all Canadians rightfully cherish.”

Through longstanding tradition, historical meaning, the General By-Laws, and the responsibility assigned to The Royal Canadian Legion through Acts of Parliament, the Legion has been entrusted to safeguard the Poppy as the sacred symbol of Remembrance.

The Committee believes that broadening the meaning of the Poppy beyond its established purpose as an emblem of supreme sacrifice and Remembrance risks diminishing its distinct significance as a symbol honouring those who laid down their lives in service to Canada and would be inconsistent with the Legion’s responsibility as guardian of the Poppy. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

## MEMBERSHIP

### 307. ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

MAN & NWO 2

**WHEREAS** terminology, customs and traditions change; and

**WHEREAS** the word ordinary is defined as normal, usual, common,

not special, lacks distinction, and suggests mediocre or inferior traits.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The Royal Canadian Legion membership category of Ordinary be changed to Veteran.

#### COMMENT

The term “Ordinary Member” has been part of the Legion since 1926, and retaining the term preserves the historical identity, traditions, and equality upon which the organization was founded. Replacing “Ordinary Member” with “Veteran Member” may unintentionally misrepresent the broader membership category, which recognizes eligible groups beyond Veterans. The Legion already recognizes and honours Veterans through established traditions, ceremonial practices, and authorized insignia outlined within the Ritual, Awards and Protocol Manual, including the authorized Veteran sew-on scroll. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

## SPORTS

### 308. ESTABLISH A DOMINION LADIES DARTS CHAMPIONSHIP BC/YUKON 4

**WHEREAS** The Royal Canadian Legion values the promotion of sportsmanship, camaraderie, and physical activity among its members through organized competition;

**WHEREAS** Ladies Darts are a highly popular and well-attended sport within the BC/Yukon Command, showing consistent growth and high levels of skill at the Branch, Zone and Provincial levels;

**WHEREAS** Currently, only Mixed Darts is recognized as a Dominion Command Championship, which leaves a significant portion of our female membership without the opportunity to compete at a national level in a ladies-only category; and

**WHEREAS** Establishing a national-level competition for Ladies Darts would further incentivize membership growth and retention among women across all Commands.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** That the BC/Yukon Command submit a resolution to Dominion Command to establish a Dominion Ladies Darts Championship as an official annual national sporting event; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** That the rules and regulations for this championship be modelled after the existing Provincial Mixed Darts criteria to ensure a seamless transition to national play.

#### COMMENT

Less than 50% of the provincial commands participate in Ladies Darts and therefore it does not meet the basic requirement to qualify for a national championship. Introducing an additional national championship at this time would result in an approximate 35% increase to the member sport budget. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

## RITUAL *and* AWARDS

### 309. LEGION DRESS SECTION 103 SUBSECTION I NS/NU 5

**WHEREAS** Legion Dress 103 subsection {i};

**WHEREAS** Plain white shirt and the official Legion long striped tie; and

**WHEREAS** Subsection {h} gives women comrades the choice to wear pants or skirt, subsection {i} does not provide an option.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** That blue and gold stripe scarves be designed by Dominion Command for female comrades {samples attached} and added to the store inventory as an option

to wearing the long striped tie, with direction from Dominion Command on how it is to be tied {neckerchief or ascot).

#### COMMENT

The committee fully supports the intent of the resolution and agrees that a review of Legion Dress under EDI should be conducted. However, it is outside the scope of the committee to set the specific dress items to be made available through the Legion supply store. In other words, the process for review of Legion Dress, with consideration being given to EDI, must first be established before the committee can set a policy for specific dress items. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred.

#### 310. VETERAN SCROLL – INFORMAL DRESS BC/YUKON 6

**WHEREAS** the mission of the Legion is to serve Veterans – including serving military and RCMP members and their families – to promote Remembrance, and to serve our communities and our country;

**WHEREAS** Legion informal dress consists of a blue shirt available exclusively through Legion Supply;

**WHEREAS** Legion Supply already produces and makes available for purchase a “Veteran Scroll” to be affixed below the Legion Crest on blazers;

**WHEREAS** the informal dress shirt bearing only the Legion Crest identifies the wearer solely as a Legion member;

**WHEREAS** at the 2024 Dominion Convention, the committee stated that singling out Veterans was unnecessary and could be considered discriminatory among members at informal events, noting that Veterans could instead be recognized by the wearing of undress service ribbons;

**WHEREAS** not all Veterans have received medals during their service; and

**WHEREAS** a Veteran is defined as any person who is serving or has honourably 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.

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

that the Legion, in fulfilling its mission to serve and recognize Veterans, authorize the wearing of the existing “Veteran Scroll” on the informal dress shirt.

#### COMMENT

The Committee has previously reviewed this matter. The “Blue Shirt” was established as an informal dress option to provide ease and convenience at more relaxed Legion functions.

DEC has already approved the wear of undress service ribbons on the “Blue Shirt” to signify that a member is or was a veteran. As an approved item already exists to indicate veteran status, the addition of a second such item is unnecessary and would be redundant. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

#### 311. QUOTA FOR AWARDING THE CADET MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE

MAN&NWO 1

**WHEREAS** it is recognized that members of the Canadian Cadet Movement support the Royal Canadian Legion in many endeavors, either at the local branch level or higher command functions;

**WHEREAS** the Royal Canadian Legion recognizes 1 cadet per cadet corps or Junior Canadian Ranger Patrol every

year with the Royal Canadian Legion Cadet Medal of Excellence; and

**WHEREAS** some cadet corps exceed 150 cadets and parade as Battalions or Wings.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the DEC thru its National Executive contact the Canadian Armed Forces and the National Cadet Movement Executive on the possibility to initiate discussions regarding a possible increase of its national support thru an increase in the number of Cadet Medal of Excellence given annually proportional to the size of specific Cadet corps.

#### **COMMENTS**

As outlined in the Ritual, Awards, and Protocol Manual, the Cadet Medal of Excellence is governed and administered in accordance with the Cadet Administrative and Training Orders Annex E 13-16. In other words, the awarding of the medal is based upon a recognized national standard established by the Canadian Armed Forces. The Royal Canadian Legion is simply the sponsor of the program.

It must also be noted that CATO Annex E 13-16 outlines that Regional Cadet Support Units have some flexibility in determining the selection criteria for the recipients of the medal. As such, the possibility of being flexible at the regional level may currently exist within the program structure.

Finally, Dominion Command regularly communicates with the Cadets and Junior Canadian Rangers Headquarters Group regarding several collaborative programs and initiatives, including honours and awards. In other words, these discussions are already taking place. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred.

#### **312. LEGION DRESS PARA 101**

##### **NS/NU 4**

**WHEREAS** General Bylaws Art II Para 201(b). The approved categories of membership are: Life, Ordinary, Associate, Affiliate, Affiliate Non Voting. All RCL Members should be proud of their membership category and identity;

**WHEREAS** Legion informal dress will consist of a blue shirt, available only through legion supply;

**WHEREAS** This blue shirt is embroidered with the legion crest which by itself identifies an ordinary member. Not all ordinary members are Veteran members;

**WHEREAS** A Legion name tag may be worn along with undress service ribbons on the blue shirt, undress service medals help identify Veteran members; and

**WHEREAS** Some Veteran members do not have Service Medals or undress service medals to wear to identify them as Veterans while wearing the blue shirt.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** The current “Veteran” sew on scroll tag, used on our formal Blue Blazer, to be worn on the blue shirt by all members who qualify as a Veteran as described in Section 101(d) of our GLB’s. The scroll tag to be sewn below the Legion Crest as per our Blue Blazer; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** The Legion Supply create a sew on scroll tag for sale similar to the “Veteran” scroll tag, to be used on the legion blue shirt for Life, Associate and Affiliate members.

#### **COMMENT**

The Committee has previously reviewed this matter. The “Blue Shirt” was introduced as an informal dress option to provide ease and convenience at more relaxed Legion functions. The Legion crest embroidered on the shirt does

not identify members by specific membership categories, such as Ordinary membership, but rather signifies membership in the Legion as a whole, regardless of background or classification.

The DEC has already approved the wear of undress service ribbons on the “Blue Shirt” to indicate that a member is or was a veteran. As an approved means of identifying veteran status already exists, the addition of a second item for this purpose is unnecessary and would be redundant. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

## CANVET

Legion Magazine is an independent, for-profit business, owned and operated by Canvet Publications Ltd. Canvet Publications Ltd. is fully independent from The Royal Canadian Legion and is governed by and independent Board of Directors. The Royal Canadian Legion has a contractual agreement with Canvet Publications Ltd. to provide a Legion Magazine subscription to all Legion members in good standing. As a result, Canvet Publications Ltd. (Legion Magazine) is not legally bound to The Royal Canadian Legion convention/resolution process and is providing this response as information to Legion Magazine subscribers.

### 313. LEGION MAGAZINE NS/NU 3

**WHEREAS** the Royal Canadian Legion is committed to honoring veterans and supporting its members through programs and services, funded in part by membership dues;

**WHEREAS** the *Legion Magazine*, published by Canvet Publications Ltd., is a valued publication that fosters communication and engagement among members;

**WHEREAS** the annual cost of *Legion Magazine* is a significant portion of the per

capita tax paid by Legion members, which impacts local branches’ financial capacity to sustain operations;

**WHEREAS** many members do not read or utilize the physical magazine, and numerous copies are discarded, contributing to waste; and

**WHEREAS** digital publishing is a cost-effective and environmentally sustainable alternative, offering members an accessible way to engage with the publication online while reducing costs associated with printing and mailing.

**AND WHEREAS** Not all branches or Commands are equally represented in the photo portion of the magazine. A digital copy would allow more photos to be added thereby celebrating the milestones of all branches equally.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Dominion Command implement and implement cost-cutting measures in the production and distribution of *Legion Magazine*, including transitioning to a primarily digital format with printed copies available only for members who request them;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** any savings from these measures be used to reduce the per capita tax rate, thereby alleviating financial pressures on local branches and supporting their sustainability; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** Dominion Command report to all branches on the findings and implementation plan for these cost-cutting measures, including an analysis of the potential impact on member engagement and branch finances.

#### **COMMENT:**

While cost cutting and modernization are important goals, transitioning *Legion Magazine* to a primarily digital format at this time poses significant financial and operational risks. The potential loss of grants,

reduced advertising revenue, and impact on staff and member engagement must be carefully weighed. A phased approach, with a commitment to re-evaluate in a few years, would better protect Canvet's financial stability and ensure that any changes support, not undermine the sustainability of local branches and Canvet Publications.

While the intent of the resolution to reduce costs and explore more sustainable publishing options is understandable, there are several significant considerations that must be addressed before moving toward a primarily digital model.

#### **PRINTING AND DISTRIBUTION REALITIES**

Canvet Publications Ltd. remains a driving force in the Canadian media sector for more than five decades. The history of Canada's military and wellbeing of our veterans have never been more important. Canvet tells those stories on the pages of *Legion Magazine*.

*Legion Magazine* remains one of the most widely recognized and valued publications associated with the Royal Canadian Legion. Its physical presence in homes, waiting rooms, and community spaces contributes to visibility and public awareness. The print edition continues to be popular among many long standing members, particularly those who prefer or rely on physical media. Reducing printed copies to an "on request only" basis risks diminishing the magazine's reach and weakening its role as a unifying national publication.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS BEYOND PRINTING COSTS**

The magazine's print circulation is tied to federal grants and advertising revenue. A significant drop in print numbers could result in the loss of these funds. Losing the grant alone would represent a major financial setback, one that digital savings may not be able to offset. Without a clear alternative revenue stream,

Canvet risks creating a larger financial problem than the one this resolution seeks to solve.

As well, the resolution focuses on cost savings but does not fully account for the broader financial structure surrounding the magazine. Canvet Publications employs staff whose salaries, depend on the continued viability of the digital or print operation. A rapid shift to just digital could jeopardize these jobs and create operation challenges.

#### **IMPACT ON SUBSCRIPTION PRICE**

If the magazine's current revenue structure is disrupted by a shift to digital only, the financial consequences could ultimately increase costs for the magazine rather than reduce them. Losing print based revenue, grants, or advertising support may result in a higher subscription price directly undermining the sustainability this resolution aims to protect.

#### **MEMBER ENGAGEMENT AND ACCESSIBILITY**

While digital publishing offers flexibility and the potential for expanded photo content, not all members have reliable access to digital platforms or the comfort level to engage with online publications. A sudden shift risks alienating members who rely on the printed magazine as their primary connection to national Legion activities.

#### **A MORE MEASURED APPROACH**

A gradual, evidence based transition is Canvet's approach. The free membership program with digital only subscription will provide real data on member uptake, cost savings, and engagement levels. Revisiting the issue in a few years once the digital magazine's performance, readership, and financial impact can be properly evaluated would allow Canvet to make an informed decision without jeopardizing current revenue streams or member engagement. Therefore, this resolution is non-concurred by the Committee.

# NOMINEES *for* ELECTED OFFICES

DOMINION PRESIDENT:

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DOMINION FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT:

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DOMINION VICE-PRESIDENTS:

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DOMINION TREASURER:

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DOMINION CHAIR:

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# ELECTED OFFICERS

DOMINION PRESIDENT:

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DOMINION FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT:

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DOMINION VICE-PRESIDENTS:

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DOMINION TREASURER:

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DOMINION CHAIR:

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## VOTING PROCEDURE – ELECTION *of* OFFICERS

1. Only accredited delegates may vote.
2. Each registered accredited delegate will have a vote. Proxy ballots will be assigned only to those entitled to them and as listed on their registration form and subsequently authenticated by the Credentials Committee.
3. Names of candidates will be posted in order of nomination.
4. The Chair will announce the upcoming election and the process.
5. The method of voting will be to mark the space beside the name of the candidate(s) you are voting for.
6. When balloting is for the election of a single officer, the candidate receiving the majority of the votes cast shall be elected. If no candidate receives a majority of the total votes cast on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be held, deleting the name of the candidate receiving the least number of votes on the first ballot. However, if the total of the votes received by the two with the lowest number of votes is less than the votes received by the candidate with the next lowest number of votes, the names of the two with the lowest number of votes shall be deleted from subsequent ballots.
7. When balloting is for the election of more than one officer, delegates may vote for up to, but not more than, the number of officers to be elected.
  - a. A delegate may not vote more than once on the ballot for any candidate.
  - b. The ballots shall be in a form approved by the Convention Committee.
  - c. Ballots not marked in conformity to this section shall not be counted.
  - d. The candidates receiving a majority of the ballots cast shall be elected.
  - e. If one or more but not all candidates receive a majority on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be held for the offices remaining unfilled.
  - f. Whenever on any ballot no candidate is elected, the name of the candidate who received the lowest number of votes shall be deleted from subsequent ballots, provided that:
    - i. if the total of the votes received by the two with the lowest number of votes is less than the votes received by the candidate with the next lowest number of votes, the names of the two with the lowest number of votes shall be deleted from subsequent ballots; and
    - ii. similarly, if the three candidates having the lowest number of votes do not have a total vote equal to that of the candidate having the next lowest number of votes, their names shall be deleted from subsequent ballots.





## 22 - 26 AUGUST 2026

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

BRANCH \_\_\_\_\_

COMMAND \_\_\_\_\_

### **LEGION SUPPLY SHOP & EXHIBITOR HOURS**

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**SATURDAY, AUGUST 22**

8:00AM - 5:00PM

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 23**

8:00AM - 5:00PM

**MONDAY, AUGUST 24**

8:00AM - 3:00PM

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 25**

8:00AM - 5:00PM

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26**

8:00AM - 1:00PM