

# DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

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.

**22 NOVEMBER 2025**



**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**22 NOVEMBER 2025**

ITEM 1:	OPENING / LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....	4
ITEM 2:	GRAND PRESIDENT'S REMARKS .....	4
ITEM 3:	DOMINION PRESIDENT'S REMARKS.....	4
ITEM 4:	INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS .....	4
ITEM 5:	ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS .....	4
ITEM 6:	MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PRESENTATION .....	4
ITEM 7:	APPROVAL OF MINUTES/ELECTRONIC DECISIONS .....	4
ITEM 8:	TREASURER'S REPORT/2025 BUDGET .....	4
ITEM 9:	SENIOR OFFICER'S REPORTS .....	5
ITEM 10:	NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT .....	5
ITEM 11:	COMMITTEE REPORTS .....	5
	VETERANS, SERVICE AND SENIORS.....	5
	POPPY & REMEMBRANCE .....	5
	MEMBERSHIP .....	6
	SPORTS.....	6
	RITUAL, AWARDS & PROTOCOL.....	6
	CONSTITUTION & LAWS .....	6
	RCEL.....	7
	DOMINION CONVENTION .....	7
	DEFENCE & SECURITY.....	7
	VETERANS CONSULTATION ASSEMBLY .....	7
	GOING FORWARD .....	7
	EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY (EDI) .....	7
	CENTENARY .....	8
	PAY.....	8
ITEM 12:	CANVET PUBLICATIONS LTD.....	8
ITEM 13:	LEGION NATIONAL FOUNDATION .....	8
ITEM 14:	CORRESPONDENCE.....	8
ITEM 15:	REQUESTS FOR SUPPORT.....	8
ITEM 16:	MEETINGS AND INVITATIONS.....	8
ITEM 17:	OTHER/NEW BUSINESS .....	8
ITEM 18:	ADJOURNMENT.....	9

# DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

## 22 NOVEMBER 2025

### **ATTENDEES:**

Berkley Lawrence	-	Dominion President
Sharon McKeown	-	Dominion First Vice President
Valerie MacGregor	-	Dominion Vice President
Trevor Jenvenne	-	Dominion Vice President
Jack MacIsaac	-	Dominion Vice President
Bill Chafe	-	Dominion Chair
Jill Carleton	-	Dominion Treasurer
Bruce Julian	-	Immediate Past President
Larry Murray	-	Dominion Grand President
Bob Underhill	-	BC/YT Command President
Dave Velichko	-	AB-NT Command President
Roberta Taylor	-	SK Command President
Robert Cutbush	-	MB & NWO Command President
Lynn McClellan	-	ON Command President
Luc Fortier	-	QC Command President
Harold Defazio	-	NB Command President
George Della-Valle	-	NS/NU Command President
David Doucette	-	PE Command President
Janis Boone	-	NL Command President
Danny Redden	-	TVS Special Section President
Blaine Kiley	-	Chair R & A Committee
Dave Gordon	-	Chair C & L Committee
Andrea Siew	-	Chair Defence & Security
Craig Hood	-	OSI President

### **STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:**

Randy Hayley	-	National Executive Director
Carolyn Hughes	-	Director Veterans Services
Lia Taha Cheng	-	Director Poppy & Remembrance
Tara Diamond	-	Director Supply
Oksana Gorelova	-	Director Financial Services
Jason Duprau	-	General Manager Canvet
Amanda Black	-	Manager, Member Services
Kelly Therien	-	Executive Assistant
Jody Ryan	-	Executive Assistant

### **ABSENT:**

Dion Edmonds	-	Director Marketing & Communications
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# DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

## 22 NOVEMBER 2025

### **ANNEXES:**

Annex A	-	Grand President's Remarks
Annex B	-	Administrative Arrangements
Annex C	-	2025 Budget/Dominion Treasurer's Report
Annex D	-	Senior Officer's Reports
Annex E	-	National Executive Director's Report
Annex F	-	Veterans, Service & Seniors Committee Report
Annex G	-	Poppy & Remembrance Committee Report
Annex H	-	Membership Committee Report
Annex I	-	Sports Committee Report
Annex J	-	Ritual & Awards Committee Report
Annex K	-	Constitution & Laws Committee Report
Annex L	-	RCEL Committee Report
Annex M	-	Dominion Convention Committee Report
Annex N	-	Defence & Security Committee Report
Annex O	-	Veterans Consultation Assembly Report
Annex P	-	Going Forward Committee Report
Annex Q	-	EDI Committee Report
Annex R	-	Centenary Committee Report
Annex S	-	Canvet Publications Ltd.
Annex T	-	Legion National Foundation
Annex U	-	Correspondence
Annex V	-	Requests for Support
Annex W	-	Meetings and Invitation



# DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

## 22 NOVEMBER 2025

**ITEM 1: OPENING / LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The meeting of the Dominion Executive Council opened at 0830 hours on Saturday, 22 November 2025.

**ITEM 2: GRAND PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

The Grand President's remarks are at Annex A.

**ITEM 3: DOMINION PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

Welcomed ten new Provincial Presidents and OSI President. Reminder it is your DEC to bring your concerns and problems to the table. Bring report back to your Provincial Command.

**ITEM 4: INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS**

The Dominion Grand President and the Dominion President installed the newly elected Provincial Presidents and the OSI President.

**ITEM 5: ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS**

The National Executive Director reviewed the administrative arrangements for the meeting. Presented as an information item only, at Annex B.

**ITEM 6: MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PRESENTATION**

The Honourable Jill McKnight, Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence will join us via Zoom for a presentation.

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**ITEM 7: APPROVAL OF MINUTES/ELECTRONIC DECISIONS**

The DEC meetings last held on 26-27 April 2025. The minutes were distributed electronically.

**MOTION:** That the DEC minutes of 26-27 April 2025 be approved.

**CARRIED**

**ITEM 8: TREASURER'S REPORT/2025 BUDGET**

The Dominion Treasurer presented the 2025 Budget, at Annex C.

**MOTION:** That a drawdown of \$100,000 from the Centennial Fund, with allocation to the Track and Field Program for 2026, be approved.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** That the approved DEC recommendation from April 2023: that \$250,000 be authorized from the Dominion Command Centennial Fund to support the Legion's hosting of the 2025 RCEL Triennial Conference - be amended to: That \$250,000 be authorized from the Dominion Command RCEL Fund to support the Legion's hosting of the 2025 RCEL Triennial Conference.

**CARRIED**

# DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

## 22 NOVEMBER 2025

**MOTION:** That the approved DEC recommendation from November 2024: that \$650,000 be authorized from Dominion Investments to support the centenary free membership offer - be amended to: That \$650,000 be authorized from the Centennial Fund to support the centenary free membership offer subject to the terms stated in Article XIII 1302, b. of the General By-Laws and any funding not eligible from the Centennial Fund be funded through General Dominion Investments.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** That the 2026 budget be accepted.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** That the Treasurer report be approved.

**CARRIED**

The requirements of the annual AGM were met with the presentation of the 2024 Audited Financial Numbers and the approval of Deloitte as the Auditors for 2025.

**ITEM 9: SENIOR OFFICER'S REPORTS**  
Information Item only at Annex D.

**ITEM 10: NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
The National Executive Director presented his report, at Annex E.

**ITEM 11: COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
**VETERANS, SERVICE AND SENIORS**  
The Veterans, Service and Seniors Committee report was presented, attached at Annex F.

### **POPPY & REMEMBRANCE**

The Poppy & Remembrance Committee report was presented, attached at Annex G.

**MOTION** That section 815a(ii)3 be reverted to its previous wording: "a watermark on walls of recognition or any placement that could have text written across the Poppy image."

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** That the Veteran Support Partnership Program funding request of \$94,788 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund for the Mood Disorders Society of Canada's Advancing Veteran Communities 2 project be approved for 2026, contingent upon the receipt and review of the final report for Advancing Veteran Communities 1.

**CARRIED**

# **DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES**

## **22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**MOTION:** That the Veteran Support Partnership Program funding request of \$30,800 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund for Canadian Adaptive Snowsports, Shoulder 2 Shoulder, Injured Veterans and RCMP Ski Retreat be approved for 2026.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** That the funding request of \$175,000 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund for marketing the Poppy Campaign be approved for 2026.

**CARRIED**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

The Membership Committee report was presented, attached at Annex H.

### **SPORTS**

The Sports Committee report was presented, attached at Annex I.

### **RITUAL, AWARDS & PROTOCOL**

The Ritual, Awards & Protocol Committee report was presented, attached at Annex J.

**MOTION:** That any relationship and/or consideration of Life Membership, in any form (Dates or Citation) be discontinued for consideration, drafting and submissions of any Royal Canadian Legion Major Awards Application.

**DEFEATED**

### **CONSTITUTION & LAWS**

The Constitution & Laws Committee report was presented, attached at Annex K.

**MOTION:** That GBL Section 301.m. be added to read:

m. 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.

**CARRIED**

# DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

## 22 NOVEMBER 2025

**MOTION:** That GBL Section 137.e. be amended 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.*

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**MOTION:** That GBL Section 401.c. be amended to read:

One representative from each Special Section, the Tuberculous Veterans' Section and **the BSO Legion OSI**, for a total of two representatives.

**CARRIED**

### **RCEL**

The RCEL Committee report was presented, attached at Annex L.

### **DOMINION CONVENTION**

The Dominion Convention Committee report was presented, attached at Annex M.

**MOTION:** It is recommended that the 2026 Dominion Convention registration fees be established at \$120.00 per delegate and \$80.00 per observer.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION:** It is recommended that the 2032 Dominion Convention be held in Edmonton, Alberta.

**CARRIED**

### **DEFENCE & SECURITY**

The Defence & Security Committee report was presented, attached at Annex N.

### **VETERANS CONSULTATION ASSEMBLY**

The Veterans Consultation Assembly report was presented, attached at Annex O.

### **GOING FORWARD**

The Going Forward Committee report was presented, attached at Annex P.

### **EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY (EDI)**

The EDI Committee report was presented, attached at Annex Q.

**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**MOTION:** The Dominion Executive Council (DEC) approve the proposed partnership with EMPOWERED, a recognized training organization in Canada specializing in equality, diversity, and inclusion education, to develop and support EDI training within The Legion.

**CARRIED**

**CENTENARY**

The Centenary Committee report was presented, attached at Annex R.

**PAY**

The Pay Committee report was presented as an in-camera discussion.

**ITEM 12: CANVET PUBLICATIONS LTD.**

Canvet Publications Ltd. report was presented as information only, attached at Annex S.

**ITEM 13: LEGION NATIONAL FOUNDATION**

Legion National Foundation report was presented as information only, attached at Annex T.

**ITEM 14: CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence is attached as Annex U.

**ITEM 15: REQUESTS FOR SUPPORT**

One request for support attached as Annex V.

**MOTION:** That the Legion provide \$10k from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund in support of the 2025 Canadian Battlefields Foundation educational Tour.

**CARRIED**

**ITEM 16: MEETINGS AND INVITATIONS**

The Meetings and Invitations list is attached at Annex W.

**ITEM 17: OTHER/NEW BUSINESS**

Berkley Lawrence gave an update on AVIVA. Steven Clark will testify at a court proceeding in February 2026.

Randy Hayley put forth a recommendation.

**MOTION:** If Dominion Command is in a surplus situation for 2025 to invite Provincial Executive Directors for EDI training up to \$30,000.00 .

**CARRIED**

**DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**22 NOVEMBER 2025**

Dave Velichko asked for contact information of DEC.

Randy Hayley reminded new members of DEC to sign and hand in Code of Ethics.

**ITEM 18: ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting of the Dominion Executive Council was adjourned at 1550 hours.

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Dominion Chair



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National Executive Director

## GRAND PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS TO DEC, 22 NOVEMBER, 2025

THANK YOU COMRADE CHAIR.....GOOD MORNING COMRADES

I WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN BY EXPRESSING MY PERSONAL CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE NEW PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES TO THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, BOTH ON YOUR ELECTIONS AS COMMAND PRESIDENTS AND YOUR INSTALLATION AS MEMBERS OF DEC.

I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE LEGION AND THAT YOU EACH BRING SIGNIFICANT EXPERIENCE, WISDOM AND INSIGHT TO THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP COUNCIL OF THIS GREAT NATIONAL INSTITUTION AS IT APPROACHES A CENTURY OF SERVICE.

I VERY MUCH LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING TO KNOW YOU BETTER AND TO WORKING WITH YOU.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXPRESS MY PERSONAL THANKS AND A BIG BRAVO ZULU TO YOUR PREDECESSORS. IT WAS A PRIVILEGE AND A PLEASURE TO WORK WITH THEM.

THANKS TO A LOT OF DEDICATED EFFORT BY ALL MEMBERS OF DEC AND MANY, MANY OTHER LEGIONNAIRES ACROSS CANADA, GOOD PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS IN A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT AREAS AND THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION HAS CONTINUED TO MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES, FOR REMEMBRANCE AND FOR COMMUNITIES FROM COAST TO COAST.

HOWEVER, WE ARE CURRENTLY LIVING IN A CHALLENGING TIME AND ACTIVE PERSONAL ENGAGEMENT, OPEN TRANSPARENT LEADERSHIP AND STRONG COLLABORATIVE TEAMWORK BY ALL OF US WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE THAT WE MAINTAIN MOMENTUM AND THAT THE LEGION CONTINUES TO MAKE ITS ESSENTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO CANADA AND CANADIANS DURING THESE TROUBLED TIMES AND WELL BEYOND THE UPCOMING 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY.

SINCE WE LAST MET IN APRIL I HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF REPRESENTING COMRADE BERKLEY AT A NUMBER OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS INCLUDING CEREMONIES MARKING THE 80<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR TWO AND A VERY MOVING CELEBRATION OF THE 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER ATTENDED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL AT THE NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL DURING WHICH THE LEGION RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE RECOGNITION AND PRAISE FOR ITS ESSENTIAL LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THIS HISTORIC AND EXTREMELY IMPORTANT ENDEAVOUR.

ANOTHER HIGHLIGHT DURING THIS PERIOD WAS PARTICIPATING WITH COMRADE BERKLEY AND THE SENIOR ELECTED OFFICERS IN HOSTING THE VERY SUCCESSFUL 35<sup>TH</sup> CONFERENCE OF THE ROYAL COMMONWEALTH EX-SERVICES LEAGUE IN OTTAWA FROM 27 JUNE TO 2 JULY.

IN A SUBSEQUENT LETTER, THE GRAND PRESIDENT OF THE RCEL FIELD MARSHALL LORD DAVID RICHARDS THANKED THE LEGION FOR ITS TREMENDOUS SUPPORT IN ENABLING A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE. HE ALSO STATED THAT THE "RCL SET A VERY HIGH BAR AND DELIVERED A TRULY MEMORABLE EXPERIENCE FOR ALL THE DELEGATES".

I WOULD SIMPLY ADD A RICHLY DESERVED BRAVO ZULU TO COMRADE RANDY, COMRADE STEVE AND A NUMBER OF OTHER INVOLVED LEGION HOUSE STAFF WHO DESERVE MUCH OF THE CREDIT FOR THE OUTSTANDING ARRANGEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THIS IMPORTANT GATHERING OF THE RCEL.

PARTICIPATING IN THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF MILITARY AND VETERANS HEALTH RESEARCH OR CIMVHR FORUM IN OTTAWA FROM 19 TO 22 OCTOBER WITH COMRADES BERKLEY, RANDY, CAROLINE AND CHARLS GENDRON WAS ANOTHER HIGHLIGHT.

THIS MAJOR EVENT, WHICH THE LEGION HAS SUPPORTED SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 2010, WAS ATTENDED BY OVER 700 RESEARCHERS AND UNDERLINED THE DIVERSITY AND CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE REMARKABLE RESEARCH BEING CONDUCTED IN OVER 45 CIMVHR MEMBER UNIVERSITIES TODAY AND HOW IMPORTANT THE RESULTS ARE TO THE CARE AND WELL BEING OF SERVING MEMBERS OF THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES AS WELL AS TO VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

IT IS ALSO VERY EVIDENT THAT THE CONTINUING SUPPORT OF THE LEGION IS CRITICAL TO CIMVHR AND IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

IN THAT REGARD, COMRADE BERKLEY AWARDED THE LEGION'S SECOND PHD SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDIES RELATED TO VETERANS HEALTHCARE AND, IN MY ROLE AS A DIRECTOR OF THE LEGION NATIONAL FOUNDATION, I AWARDED THE SECOND LNF MASTERS DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP, FOLLOWING EIGHT PREVIOUS MASTERS SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED BY THE LEGION.

ANOTHER MEMORABLE EVENT WAS THE DOMINION PRESIDENT'S PRESENTATION OF THE FIRST POPPY TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL ON 20 OCTOBER AT RIDEAU HALL.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL AND HER HUSBAND ONCE AGAIN DID A GREAT JOB OF MAKING THIS CEREMONY AND THE RECEPTION THAT FOLLOWED VERY SPECIAL AND VERY ENJOYABLE FOR ALL THE VETERANS AND OTHER GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE.

THE MANY VETERANS WEEK EVENTS IN OTTAWA THIS YEAR WERE A BIG SUCCESS AND, DESPITE COLD WEATHER AND SNOW, CULMINATED IN AN OUTSTANDING AND WELL ATTENDED NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY AT THE WAR MEMORIAL ON 11 NOVEMBER.



THIS WAS A SUPERB TEAM EFFORT, IMPRESSIVELY ORGANIZED AND LED BY DOMINION COMMAND WITH TERRIFIC SUPPORT FROM THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES, LOCAL LEGION VOLUNTEERS AND VARIOUS POLICE AND OTHER KEY PARTNERS.

SPECIAL THANKS AND A BIG BRAVO ZULU TO COMRADES RANDY HAYLEY, STEVEN VAN MUYEN, NUJMA BOND, CHARLS GENDRON AND LIA TAHA-CHEN FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP AND PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN PARTICULARLY KEY ROLES IN SUPPORT OF THE CEREMONY, THE SILVER CROSS MOTHER AND THE YOUTH AND CADET DELEGATION.

THANKS TO AN INSPIRED CHOICE BY THE LEGION, CANADA WAS ALSO BLESSED TO HAVE A WONDERFUL HIGHLY DEDICATED WOMAN, NANCY PAYNE, AS SILVER CROSS MOTHER, ABLY SUPPORTED BY HER HUSBAND, DAVE, A VETERAN HIMSELF WITH 30 YEARS SERVICE IN THE INFANTRY.

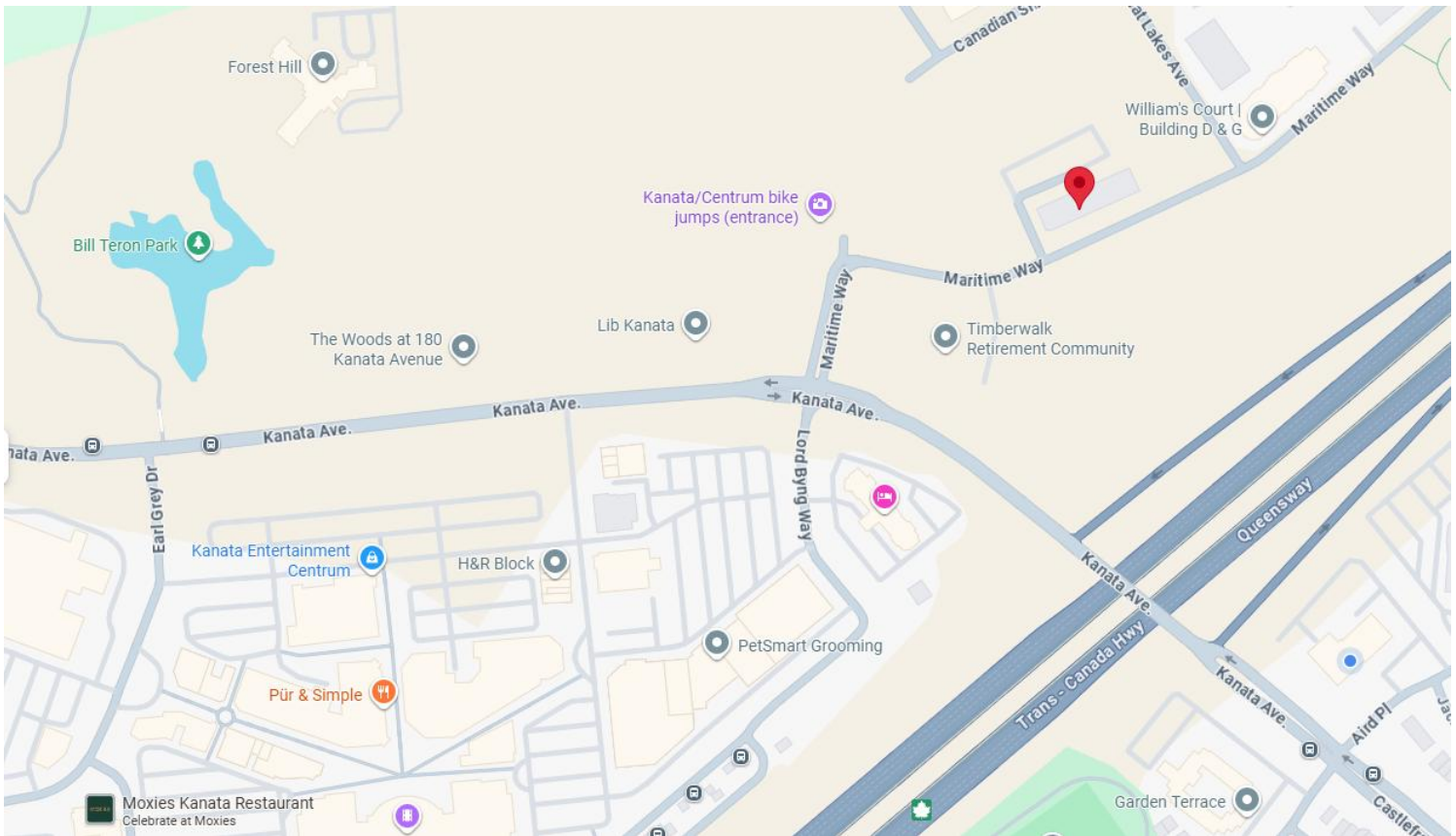
I BELIEVE THAT NANCY LEFT A LASTING IMPRESSION WITH ALL WHO MET HER OR WHO EXPERIENCED HER COMMENTARY IN THE MEDIA.

IT WAS ALSO EVIDENT FROM THE MEDIA COVERAGE THAT, AS ALWAYS, THERE WERE MANY OTHER MEMORABLE AND MOVING REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONIES ACROSS CANADA THIS YEAR AND I WOULD BE REMISS IF I DID NOT ALSO COMMEND AND THANK ALL PROVINCIAL COMMAND DEC MEMBERS FOR THE ESSENTIAL LEADERSHIP ROLE THAT YOU AND YOUR COMMANDS PLAYED IN THE PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF THESE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT REMEMBRANCE EVENTS FROM COAST TO COAST THIS YEAR.

THAT CONCLUDES MY REMARKS. THANKS VERY MUCH COMRADES.

## ITEM 5: ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

- a. Schedule – Saturday 22 November 2025
  - i. 0830 hours – DEC convenes
  - ii. 1200 hours – Lunch at Legion House (Call of the Chair)
  - iii. 1255 hours – DEC convenes
  - iv. 1700 hours – DEC adjourns (Call of the Chair)
- b. Meals. Lunch will be provided by ByTown Catering. Members' per diem claim will be adjusted by \$10.
- c. Local Map. A map of the local area is attached for your convenience.
- d. Hotel Reservations. Your reservation has been made according to the DEC and Committee meeting schedule. If you intend to check out earlier, please advise the hotel as soon as possible. Please take note that DEC members are responsible to pay their hotel bill at check out and then claim on their expense claim forms.
- e. Reports. **Only committee recommendations for DEC discussion and decision are to be verbally presented.** All other items in committee reports are for information and will not be read out loud during the meeting. All meeting material is provided electronically and will not be reproduced in paper format.
- f. Smoking. Ottawa City By-Laws do not permit smoking in any office building including bars and restaurants. However, the Director Corporate Services will provide one of the smokers with a door pass to enable smokers to use the rear entrance to permit smoking outside during the break periods. Smoking is only permitted at the rear of the building.
- g. Dress. Legion informal blue dress shirt (exception: those involved in the Installation Ceremony).



## Centrum Area

- TownePlace Suites by Marriott – 1251 Maritime Way
- Numerous Restaurants
- Shopping Facilities
- Movie Theatre – Kanata Centrum Shopping Centre, 801 Kanata Avenue
- Grocery Store – Kanata Centrum Shopping Centre, 200 Earl Grey Drive
- LCBO – Signature Centre, 499 Terry Fox Drive
- Beer store – Signature Centre, 499 Terry Fox Drive, Unit 5

## **SEO/BUDGET FINANCE MEETING**

**22 NOVEMBER 2025**

### **SUBJECT: 2025 BUDGET – DOMINION TREASURER**

#### **I. OVERVIEW**

The 2026 budget has been balanced at a break-even point of \$10,526. As of October 28, 2025, Net Income stands at \$771,241, which is in positive position. However as per historical patterns, around 90% of revenue is typically collected mid-year. It is important to note that expenses may not yet reflect all planned expenditures for the year, which can distort current projections.

#### **II. REVENUES**

##### **Membership Revenue**

The 2026 Membership Fee Revenue is projected at \$7,706,662, representing an increase of \$1,358,424 or (21.4%) over the 2025 budget of \$6,348,238. This increase is driven by a full year of the 2025 per capita increase and projected growth in paid membership recognizing a one-time revenue adjustment related to the Centenary Initiative.

As of August 2025, membership performance supports a positive outlook: 257,100 paid members have been processed year-to-date, marking a 1.3% increase compared to the same time last year. This includes 30,600 new or reinstated members, and 226,600 renewals, which reflects an 84% renewal rate. These figures suggest stable member engagement and a healthy base from which 2026 growth projections are built.

In addition, the 2026 projection includes \$650,000 tied to the Centenary Initiative, approved by the DEC on November 23, 2024. Under this initiative, all new members joining in 2026 will receive a one-year complimentary membership, with no fees or per capita tax collected at any level of the organization. Although these memberships are free to participants, the Dominion Command associated cost will be fully covered by Legion through a one-time allocation from existing investments. This amount is recognized as revenue in the 2026 general fund to reflect the value of services provided. Funds will be disbursed quarterly as needed, based on the actual number of new members who take advantage of the offer. The initiative is expected to generate \$563,000 in new revenue by 2030, with full return on investment by 2028.

## **Investment Income**

In 2025, financial markets experienced renewed volatility, shaped by persistent inflation concerns, geopolitical instability, and a cautious attitude from central banks. The Bank of Canada maintained elevated interest rates throughout the year, keeping borrowing costs high. While this created challenges for growth-oriented sectors, it provided some relief to fixed-income investors by stabilizing yields. The Canadian stock market (TSX) recorded modest gains, closing the year up approximately 4 to 6 percent, primarily supported by strong performance in the energy and financial sectors. In contrast, global equity markets, including the U.S., ended the year with mixed results due to uneven economic recovery and currency fluctuations. Fixed income markets showed signs of recovery, offering better returns compared to the previous year. This environment benefited the Legion's conservative investment portfolio, which emphasizes capital preservation and long-term income through a balanced mix of dividend-paying equities and quality fixed income instruments.

While the broader market environment remained uncertain, the portfolio maintained solid performance. Investment income for 2025 totaled below prior year levels, and income for 2026 is projected at \$510,000, reflecting a 5.6 percent decrease from 2025. The Legion continues to adhere to a low-risk investment strategy focused on safeguarding assets while generating consistent returns to support future operations and programs.

Note: Investment revenues earned in the operating budget are retained in the investment fund and not transferred to the General Fund bank account at year end. This strategy provides a greater rate of return. Cash only withdrawn as needed to cover operating expenses or reserve - related expenses, maximizing investments income.

## **INVESTMENT RESERVES**

As a snapshot taken at October 31,2025, the investments by account were:

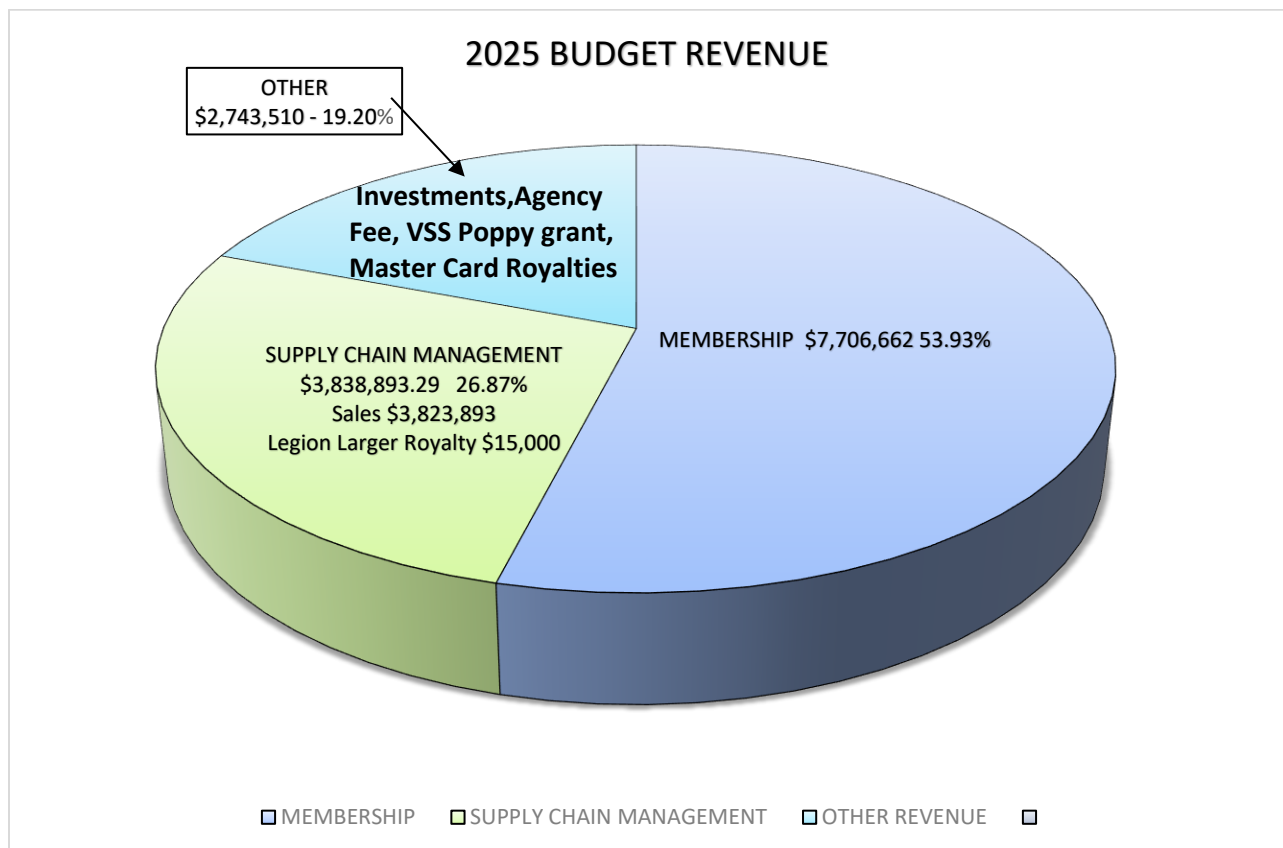
General Fund	\$19,557,828
Poppy Fund	\$ 7,385,730
Centennial Fund	\$ 2,409,549
RCEL Fund	\$ 1,551,029

## Supply Revenue

Supply Chain Management revenue is budgeted at \$3,838,893 for 2026, representing an increase of \$105,198 (2.8%) over the 2025 budget of \$3,733,695.

This modest increase reflects expectations of stable merchandise demand with a slight growth, potentially influenced by increased membership engagement and visibility during the 2026 Centenary year. The Legion continues to work on improving its product offerings and making supply chain operations more efficient, while maintaining its current operating model.

With your approval, The Poppy Grant to Veterans Services has been set at 95% of budget and Service admin @ 100%  
Marketing and communications – Section @ 18%  
Marketing, Advertising, Promotion @ 18%  
Finance – Accounting fees @20%



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

- Royalties - Member benefits program
- Administrative fees
- Building rental
- Investment Income
- Estate bequests
- Other corporate contributions

**III. EXPENSES**

The 2026 expense budget reflects a strategic focus with a 13.4% increase over 2025, aligning with planned growth and enhanced program delivery and the impact of a full year of the 2025 per capita tax increase (Legion Magazine). Significant investments are being made in key areas such as Membership, Supply, IT Services, Committees, EDI, Convention and Marketing to support increased member engagement and organizational visibility, particularly in light of upcoming initiatives planned for Legion the Legion's Centenary year.

At the same time, with reductions in Financial Services and Employer Pension Contributions helping slightly to offset overall spending increases. The balance between rising costs in operational and program areas and targeted expense control highlights the Legion's commitment to managing resources effectively while expanding its impact.

Expenses are projected at \$14,572,345 for 2026, an increase of 13.4% from 2025.

**a) Notable reductions:**

- Employer Pension Contribution: down 5.0%
- Financial Services: down 12.4%

**b) Increases observed:**

- Corporate Services: slight increase of 0.4%
- Veterans Services: up 2.7%
- Membership: up 6.6%
- Supply Chain Management: up 9.2%
- Information Technology: up 10.4%
- Legion House operations: up 19.2%
- Marketing, Advertising, Promotion: up 20.5%
- Committees: up 22.1%
- Legion Magazine Subscriptions: up 32.8%

The grant for the Legion National Youth Track & Field Meet should be renewed at \$100,000 for 2026, pending necessary approvals. Please note that the chosen location

will contribute to overall costs for both this year and 2026. Expenses for 2026 will benefit slightly from increased Recoveries within the Track & Field budget.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

The budget details are contained in Annex A for information and discussion.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That a drawdown of \$100,000 from the Centennial Fund, allocation to the Track and Field Program for 2026, be approved.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the approved DEC recommendation from April 2023: *that \$250,000 be authorized from the Dominion Command Centennial Fund to support the Legion's hosting of the 2025 RCEL Centennial Conference - be amended to: That \$250,000 be authorized from the Dominion Command RCEL Fund to support the Legion's hosting of the 2025 RCEL Triennial Conference.*

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the approved DEC recommendation from November 2024: *that \$650,000 be authorized from Dominion Investments to support the centenary free membership offer - be amended to: That \$650,000 be authorized from the Centennial Fund to support the centenary free membership offer subject to the terms stated in Article XIII 1302, b. of the General By-Laws and any funding not eligible from the Centennial Fund be funded through General Dominion Investments.*

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the 2026 budget be accepted

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Treasurer report be approved

Attachments: Audited Financial Statements 2024 and proposed Budget 2026.





THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-  
DOMINION COMMAND  
GENERAL FUNDS

Revenue and Expense Accounts

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026		BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET		\$	%
REVENUE								
Membership Fee Revenue	6,212,649	6,162,096	5,830,148	6,348,238	7,706,662	*NOTE 1	1,358,424	21.4%
Canvet								
- Agency Fee & Support	400,000	200,000	400,000	400,000	440,000		40,000	10.0%
Investment Income	480,652	219,694	554,585	540,000	510,000		-30,000	-5.6%
Veterans Services Poppy Fund Grant	1,152,415	623,851	1,152,415	1,247,702	1,281,407		33,705	2.7%
Supply Chain Management	3,388,448	1,344,885	3,515,000	3,733,695	3,838,893		105,198	2.8%
Legion House								
- Tenants	87,920	42,770	97,920	97,920	104,784		6,864	7.0%
- Internal	326,000	163,000	326,000	326,000	326,000		0	0.0%
Miscellaneous								
- Master Card	177,817	0	104,000	0	0		0	0.0%
Corporate Donations	32,000	43,748	200,000	10,000	10,000		0	0.0%
Member Benefits Program - royalties	245,183	101,999	335,000	155,000	280,125		125,125	80.7%
- Other	96,547	36,567	0	0	85,000		85,000	0.0%
Estate Bequest	151,223	34,440	0	0	0			
TOTAL REVENUE	12,750,854	8,973,050	12,515,068	12,858,555	14,582,871		1,724,316	13.4%
EXPENSE								
Legion Magazine Subscriptions	2,765,468	2,701,594	2,596,564	2,802,525	3,721,897		919,372	32.8%
Corporate Services	995,869	468,899	923,549	968,289	973,439		5,150	0.5%
Information Technology	520,176	232,021	709,762	559,594	618,212		58,618	10.5%
Membership	871,252	379,904	937,378	861,626	919,103		57,477	6.7%
Marketing & Communications	389,296	191,155	380,133	369,740	379,633		9,893	2.7%
Marketing, Advertising, Promotion	958,250	547,057	1,002,936	963,254	1,160,731		197,477	20.5%
Financial Services	452,373	156,932	266,446	410,944	360,493		-50,451	-12.3%
Veterans Services	1,140,978	611,273	1,204,543	1,301,117	1,336,660		35,543	2.7%
Supply Chain Management	2,204,807	1,030,605	2,342,453	2,640,096	2,883,850		243,754	9.2%
Committees	818,618	197,725	781,958	803,932	983,250		179,318	22.3%
Other Program Expenses	266,031	21,608	100,100	124,600	132,600		8,000	6.4%
Amortization	99,984	49,262	66,708	65,000	75,000		10,000	15.4%
Employer Pension Contribution	485,315	261,440	611,100	568,045	540,166		-27,879	-4.9%
Legion House	402,622	356,053	492,616	408,833	487,312		78,479	19.2%
TOTAL EXPENSE	12,371,039	7,205,528	12,416,246	12,847,595	14,572,345		1,724,750	13.4%
	379,815	1,767,522	98,822	10,960	10,526	-	434	-4.0%

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 Investment Fund 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.

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

**Corporate Services**

EXPENSE	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
Salaries	844,179	421,534	840,005	859,617	849,841	-9,776	-1.14%
Retirement Allowance	16,799	8,431	16,473	16,858	16,647	-211	-1.25%
Other Benefits	105,724	48,867	70,771	74,814	82,951	8,137	10.88%
Temporary & Contract Staff	264	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>966,966</b>	<b>478,832</b>	<b>927,249</b>	<b>951,289</b>	<b>949,439</b>	<b>-1,850</b>	<b>-0.19%</b>
Office Expense General	17,336	6,926	20,000	19,000	21,000	2,000	10.53%
Office Supplies	44,795	16,277	40,000	36,000	36,000	0	0.00%
Staff Travel	2,098	116	800	1,000	8,000	7,000	700.00%
Insurance	27,005	9,554	20,000	45,000	35,000	-10,000	-22.22%
Rent (CR to Building)	108,000	54,000	108,000	108,000	108,000	0	0.00%
Staff Recruitment	4,039	2,503	2,000	2,500	2,500	0	0.00%
Computer Network Support	3,500	1,750	3,500	3,500	3,500	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous	12,378	3,611	6,000	6,000	10,000	4,000	66.67%
Training	4,690	330	6,000	6,000	10,000	4,000	66.67%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>1,190,807</b>	<b>573,899</b>	<b>1,133,549</b>	<b>1,178,289</b>	<b>1,183,439</b>	<b>5,150</b>	<b>0.44%</b>
Less: charged to:							
Membership Administrative Support	14,954	7,500	15,000	15,000	15,000	0	0.00%
Marketing and Communications	15,000	7,500	15,000	15,000	15,000	0	0.00%
Veterans Services	30,000	15,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	0	0.00%
Poppy Fund	149,985	75,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	0	0.00%
	209,939	105,000	210,000	210,000	210,000	0	0.00%
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>980,868</b>	<b>468,899</b>	<b>923,549</b>	<b>968,289</b>	<b>973,439</b>	<b>5,150</b>	<b>0.53%</b>

# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECTION

EXPENSE						BUDGET VARIANCE	
	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	\$	%
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET		
Salaries	186,726	96,448	177,149	197,069	211,006	13,937	7.07%
Retirement Allowance	3,721	1,929	3,466	3,858	4,137	279	7.23%
Other Benefits	23,145	13,650	23,147	23,867	24,569	702	2.94%
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>213,592</b>	<b>112,027</b>	<b>203,762</b>	<b>224,794</b>	<b>239,712</b>	<b>14,918</b>	<b>6.64%</b>
Office Expense General	3,600	-38	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0.00%
Office Supplies	6	0	0	500	200	-300	-60.00%
Rent (CR to Building)	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous	186	53	0	300	300	0	0.00%
<b>Network &amp; PC</b>							
Donation APP for Poppy and Remembrance					50,000	50,000	0.00% <b>New item</b>
- Upgrade of IT System	16,517	2,785	215,000	0	0	0	0.00%
- Maintenance Contracts/Leases	143,504	104,422	118,000	160,000	160,000	0	0.00%
- Programming & Support	168,475	25,666	179,000	173,000	173,000	0	0.00%
- Supplies & Other	5,980	2,132	10,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.00%
- Website & Internet connectivity & support	5,317	3,474	19,000	26,000	20,000	-6,000	-23.08%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>567,177</b>	<b>255,521</b>	<b>756,762</b>	<b>606,594</b>	<b>665,212</b>	<b>58,618</b>	<b>9.66%</b>
Less: charged to:							
Corporate Services	3,500	1,750	3,500	3,500	3,500	0	0.00%
Finance	7,500	3,750	7,500	7,500	7,500	0	0.00%
Membership	7,500	3,750	7,500	7,500	7,500	0	0.00%
Marketing	2,500	1,250	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0.00%
Veterans Services	4,500	2,250	4,500	4,500	4,500	0	0.00%
Supply	7,000	3,500	7,000	7,000	7,000	0	0.00%
Canvet	5,000	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.00%
IT	2,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0.00%
LNF	2,500	1,250	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0.00%
P&R Division	5,000	2,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.00%
	47,000	23,500	47,000	47,000	47,000	0	0.00%
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>520,177</b>	<b>232,021</b>	<b>709,762</b>	<b>559,594</b>	<b>618,212</b>	<b>58,618</b>	<b>10.48%</b>

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

**Membership Section**

	<u>Jun</u>					<b>BUDGET VARIANCE</b>	
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>		
<b>REVENUE</b>							
Agency Fee	400,000	200,000	400,000	400,000	440,000	40,000	10.00%
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>440,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>10.00%</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>							
Salaries	455,678	226,712	540,729	479,763	506,486	26,723	5.57%
Retirement Allowance	9,083	4,534	10,546	9,303	9,838	535	5.75%
Other Benefits	50,997	27,195	61,503	56,960	61,179	4,219	7.41%
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>515,758</b>	<b>258,441</b>	<b>612,778</b>	<b>546,026</b>	<b>577,503</b>	<b>31,477</b>	<b>5.76%</b>
Office Expense General -							
Postage&Phone	76,467	31,381	58,500	61,000	61,000	0	0.00%
Office Supplies	3,547	923	6,100	6,100	6,100	0	0.00%
Rent (CR to Building)	54,000	27,000	54,000	54,000	54,000	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous	1,700	3,567	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0.00%
Computer Network Support	7,500	3,750	7,500	7,500	7,500	0	0.00%
Administrative Support	15,000	7,500	15,000	15,000	15,000	0	0.00%
							110.53
Permanent membership cards	40,219	6,946	38,000	19,000	40,000	21,000	%
Membership cards, forms and paper	5,355	3,194	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.00%
Membership Pack out	39,367	0	37,500	40,000	40,000	0	0.00%
Credit Card Processing Fees	112,340	37,200	100,000	105,000	110,000	5,000	4.76%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>871,253</b>	<b>379,902</b>	<b>937,378</b>	<b>861,626</b>	<b>919,103</b>	<b>57,477</b>	<b>6.67%</b>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>471,253</b>	<b>179,902</b>	<b>537,378</b>	<b>461,626</b>	<b>479,103</b>	<b>17,477</b>	<b>3.79%</b>

Ordering of 50,000 plastic  
cards

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

**Marketing Section**

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
<b>EXPENSE</b>							
Salaries	368,419	188,487	360,332	376,460	387,936	11,476	3.05%
Retirement Allowance	7,339	3,770	7,091	7,404	7,634	230	3.11%
Other Benefits	32,168	22,078	30,446	32,938	33,497	559	1.70%
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>407,926</b>	<b>214,335</b>	<b>397,869</b>	<b>416,802</b>	<b>429,067</b>	<b>12,265</b>	<b>2.94%</b>
Office Expense General	3,749	1,617	3,300	3,300	3,300	0	0.00%
Office Supplies	0	141	400	400	200	-200	-50.00%
Staff Travel	303	162	400	400	400	0	0.00%
Rent (CR to Building)	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous	1,655	1,731	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0.00%
Computer Network Support	2,500	1,250	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0.00%
Administrative Support	15,000	7,500	15,000	15,000	15,000	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>441,133</b>	<b>231,736</b>	<b>431,969</b>	<b>450,902</b>	<b>462,967</b>	<b>12,065</b>	<b>2.68%</b>
Less: Poppy Fund Chargeback 18%	51,836	40,581	51,836	81,162	83,334	2,172	2.68%
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>389,297</b>	<b>191,155</b>	<b>380,133</b>	<b>369,740</b>	<b>379,633</b>	<b>9,893</b>	<b>2.68%</b>

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND  
GENERAL FUNDS

Marketing

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
<b><u>Media - Print</u></b>							
Canvet Ads	23,274	7,739	24,000	24,000	40,000	16,000	66.67%
<b><u>Media - Video &amp; Photography</u></b>							
Promotional Videos & Photography	0	58	0	25,000	25,000	0	0.00%
<b><u>Media - Internet</u></b>							
Legion.ca website admin	159,420	91,515	125,000	125,000	150,000	25,000	20.00%
<b><u>Media - Public Relations &amp; Events</u></b>							
Media Coverage & P.R. (T &F)	10,342	1,017	10,000	10,000	25,000	15,000	150.00%
CAF Support	113,255	1,733	128,250	128,250	128,250	0	0.00%
<b><u>Programs and Campaigns</u></b>							
Centenary Social Media Campaign					250,000	250,000	
							New Item
Free Membership for CF retirees	31,950	0	55,000	55,000	0	-55,000	100.00%
Non Renewal Mailers	136,229	76,434	100,000	100,000	100,000	0	0.00%
MemberPerks	28,250	14,125	28,250	28,250	31,075	2,825	10.00%
Telesales	4,520	2,260	15,000	15,000	5,000	-10,000	-66.67%
Canvet Design Program	1,482	1,864	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.00%
Promotions and Donations	53,337	166,131	70,000	70,000	70,000	0	0.00%
Social Media Campaign	232,937	98,101	225,000	225,000	225,000	0	0.00%
Online Banner Campaign	73,996	34,313	55,000	55,000	55,000	0	0.00%
Member/Branch Enewsletters	49,720	29,832	75,000	75,000	75,000	0	0.00%
Social Media - Agency	87,355	65,306	85,000	90,000	94,500	4,500	5.00%
							5% increase as this is cost associated with replacement of staffer for social media - increasing in line with cost associated with a hire
Travel	2,586	0	7,500	7,500	0	-7,500	100.00%
<b><u>Other Printed Material</u></b>							
Branch Collateral Marketing materials	27,317	4,780	40,000	40,000	40,000	0	0.00%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>1,035,970</b>	<b>595,208</b>	<b>1,048,000</b>	<b>1,078,000</b>	<b>1,318,825</b>	<b>240,825</b>	22.34%
Less: Poppy Fund Chargeback 18%	125,760	97,020	125,760	194,040	237,389	43,349	22.34%
<b>Net Expense</b>	<b>910,210</b>	<b>498,188</b>	<b>922,240</b>	<b>883,960</b>	<b>1,081,437</b>	<b>197,477</b>	22.34%

PUBLIC RELATIONS Section

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
<b><u>Section</u></b>							
Travel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Per Diem	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
							-
Office Expense General	0	0	500	500	0	-500	100.00%
							-
Office Supplies	0	49	100	100	0	-100	100.00%
							-
Miscellaneous	0	0	100	100	0	-100	100.00%
							-
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>700</b>		<b>-700</b>	100.00%
<b><u>PR SECTION External</u></b>							
Media Monitoring	29,413	20,133	40,000	40,000	40,000	0	0.00%
Specialist Consulting	3,200	0	3,500	3,500	3,500	0	0.00%
Partnership/Event PR Support	17,722	36,687	40,000	40,000	40,000	0	0.00%
<b><u>Training/Liaison</u></b>							
- Per Diem	1,419	0	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0.00%
- Travel	7,290	704	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.00%
- PR Training	0	0	0	5,000	5,000	0	0.00%
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>59,044</b>	<b>57,524</b>	<b>91,000</b>	<b>96,000</b>	<b>96,000</b>	<b>0</b>	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>59,044</b>	<b>57,572</b>	<b>91,700</b>	<b>96,700</b>	<b>96,700</b>	<b>0</b>	0.00%
Less: Poppy Fund Chargeback/Grant 18%	-11,004	-8,703	-11,004	-17,406	-17,406	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL SECTION</b>	<b>48,040</b>	<b>48,869</b>	<b>80,696</b>	<b>79,294</b>	<b>79,294</b>	<b>0</b>	0.00%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>958,250</b>	<b>547,057</b>	<b>1,002,936</b>	<b>963,254</b>	<b>1,160,731</b>	<b>197,477</b>	20.50%

Two extra ads to support the marketing commitment to Ford for national contest

increased due to increased # of emails deployed as well as training needed for new CRM version of ClickDimensions (email deployment tool)

increased to cover the cost of games ambassador which has been funded last two years from marketing allocation - if we are to continue this it is best budgeted in this GL

New Item

New agreement signed by NED on March 2025

Media plus Advertising - 2025 Hockey Night Media Campaign

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

**Financial Services**

EXPENSE	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
Salaries	480,334	298,483	413,425	616,670	643,506	26,836	4.35%
Retirement Allowance	9,615	5,970	8,000	12,083	12,620	537	4.44%
Other Benefits	51,853	34,044	45,698	58,854	62,229	3,375	5.73%
Contract	61,271		109,354			0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>603,073</b>	<b>338,497</b>	<b>576,477</b>	<b>687,607</b>	<b>718,355</b>	<b>30,748</b>	<b>4.47%</b>
Office Expense General	4,672	4,241	6,500	6,500	5,000	-1,500	-23.08%
Office Supplies	1,194	1,068	2,000	1,700	1,700	0	0.00%
Staff Travel	0	11	100	100	100	0	0.00%
Audit Fees	130,808	43,250	65,000	95,000	100,000	5,000	5.26%
Rent (CR to Building)	29,000	14,500	29,000	29,000	29,000	0	0.00%
Computer Network Support	7,500	3,750	7,500	7,500	7,500	0	0.00%
ERP Upgrade	92,284			100,000	0	-100,000	-100.00%
Miscellaneous	5,406	1,323	7,500	7,500	7,500	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>873,937</b>	<b>406,640</b>	<b>694,077</b>	<b>934,907</b>	<b>869,155</b>	<b>-65,752</b>	<b>-7.03%</b>
Less: charged to:							
Supply	63,340	34,472	69,408	93,491	86,916	-6,576	-7.03%
Veterans Services - 10%	69,408	46,746	69,408	93,491	86,916	-6,576	-7.03%
Poppy Services - 20%	138,815	93,491	138,815	186,981	173,831	-13,150	-7.03%
National Legion Foundation	40,000	20,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	0	0.00%
Canvet	110,000	55,000	110,000	110,000	121,000	11,000	10.00%
	421,563	249,709	427,631	523,963	508,662	-15,301	-2.92%
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>452,374</b>	<b>156,931</b>	<b>266,446</b>	<b>410,944</b>	<b>360,493</b>	<b>-50,451</b>	<b>-12.28%</b>

as per new  
agreement

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

**Veterans Services**

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
REVENUE							
Poppy Fund Grant	1,152,415	623,851	1,152,415	1,247,702	1,281,407	33,705	2.70%
EXPENSE							
Salaries	877,660	453,250	942,060	969,303	994,889	25,586	2.64%
Retirement Allowance	17,515	9,065	18,496	19,052	19,564	512	2.69%
Other Benefits	78,842	53,729	81,996	79,948	90,591	10,643	13.31%
TOTAL PERSONNEL	974,017	516,044	1,042,552	1,068,303	1,105,044	36,741	3.44%
Office Expense General	6,924	4,135	10,500	8,500	8,500	0	0.00%
Office Supplies	3,053	2,061	5,000	3,000	3,000	0	0.00%
Staff Travel	4,651	2,077	4,000	5,000	10,000	5,000	100.00%
Rent ( Cr to Building)	45,000	22,500	45,000	45,000	45,000	0	0.00%
Service Officers Conference	0	0	0	42,000	42,000	0	0.00%
Advocacy and Representation	290	0	500	700	700	0	0.00%
Administrative Support	30,000	15,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	0	0.00%
Computer Network Support	4,500	2,250	4,500	4,500	4,500	0	0.00%
Finance Dept Fees/Chargeback 10%	69,408	46,746	60,991	93,114	86,916	-6,199	-6.66%
Miscellaneous	3,136	461	1,500	1,000	1,000	0	0.00%
TOTAL EXPENSE	1,140,979	611,274	1,204,543	1,301,117	1,336,660	35,543	2.73%

Travel to commands out west in 2026.

SOPD 2026



THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND  
GENERAL FUNDS

Supply Chain Management

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
<b>REVENUE</b>							
Sales of Supplies	3,370,074	1,342,723	3,500,000	3,718,695	3,838,893	120,198	3.23%
Less Cost of Goods	1,398,171	628,077	1,505,000	1,550,000	1,685,724	135,724	8.76%
<b>GROSS MARGIN</b>	1,971,903	714,646	1,995,000	2,168,695	2,153,169	-15,526	-0.72%
Legion Lager Royalty	-18,374	-2,162	-15,000	-15,000	-15,000	0	0.00%
Provincial Commands @ 5.0% of Gross Margin	99,388	0	100,500	100,500	106,908	6,408	6.38%
<b>EXPENSE</b>							
Salaries	624,660	298,778	599,733	616,359	649,377	33,018	5.36%
Retirement Allowance	11,989	5,976	11,649	11,993	12,654	661	5.51%
Other Benefits	75,608	37,554	57,141	69,698	75,099	5,401	7.75%
Temporary & Contract Staff	43,077	0	13,860	5,000	10,000	5,000	100.00%
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	755,334	342,308	682,383	703,050	747,130	44,080	6.27%
Web Store Development					100,000		
Office Expense General	6,275	2,490	207,000	6,500	7,500	1,000	15.38%
Office Supplies	4,409	2,369	2,500	1,500	2,000	500	33.33%
Freight /Express/Postage	57,679	35,378	200,000	200,000	200,000	0	0.00%
Staff Travel	0	899	1,000	500	1,000	500	100.00%
Insurance	4,152	1,483	2,500	3,500	4,500	1,000	28.57%
Rent (CR to Building)	60,000	30,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	0	0.00%
Web Store - connectivity	18,543	9,534	18,000	16,000	20,000	4,000	25.00%
Advertising/Catalogue Distribution	70,904	28,247	90,000	70,000	49,000	-21,000	-30.00%
Wrapping Material	63,513	35,119	70,000	70,000	75,000	5,000	7.14%
Finance/Administration Support	63,340	34,472	0	93,491	86,916	-6,576	-7.03%
Computer Network Support	7,000	3,500	7,500	7,000	7,000	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous	3,528	452	3,500	3,500	3,500	0	0.00%
<b>EXPENSE TOTAL</b>	1,214,065	526,251	1,444,883	1,335,541	1,470,454	134,913	10.10%
Less: Poppy Fund Chargeback	-407,430	-123,723	-407,430	-247,445	-272,328	-24,883	10.06%
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	806,635	402,528	1,037,453	1,088,096	1,198,126	110,030	10.11%
<b>GAIN OR (LOSS)</b>	1,146,894	309,956	942,547	1,065,599	940,043	-125,556	-11.78%

Increased slightly due to rising cost of goods (tariffs, materials etc.)  
Even if sales rise, the input costs rise faster, pushing COS up disproportionately

New  
Item  
15% increase with increased cost

RNR as ex for 2 people.

Additional expenses to get the store ready for centenary  
Catalog online cost for catalog \$15,000 shipping \$6000  
supplier cost increased 10-15% - was negotiated it down to 5%

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

**Other Program Expenses**

	<u>Jun</u>					<b>BUDGET</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>	
	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>%</b>
RCEL							
Conference	4,629	99	0	0	0	0	0.00%
SCOWP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
RCEL TOTAL	4,629	99	0	0	0	0	0.00%
<u>OTHER</u>							
Request for Support	0	0	15,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.00%
Annual General Meeting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Legion Representation on Local Boards	63	0	100	100	100	0	0.00%
Legal & Other	231,817	12,881	60,000	92,500	92,500	0	0.00%
Translation	29,522	8,628	25,000	22,000	30,000	8,000	36.36%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>266,031</b>	<b>21,608</b>	<b>100,100</b>	<b>124,600</b>	<b>132,600</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>6.42%</b>

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

**Legion House**

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
<b>REVENUE</b>							
Rent - Tenants	97,920	47,770	97,920	97,920	104,784	6,864	7.01%
Rent - charged to Departments							
- Corporate Servies	108,000	54,000	108,000	108,000	108,000	0	0.00%
- Membership	54,000	27,000	54,000	54,000	54,000	0	0.00%
- Marketing	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.00%
- Veterans Services	45,000	22,500	45,000	45,000	45,000	0	0.00%
- Supply Dept	60,000	30,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	0	0.00%
- Finance	29,000	14,500	29,000	29,000	29,000	0	0.00%
- IT Section	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>413,920</b>	<b>205,770</b>	<b>413,920</b>	<b>413,920</b>	<b>420,784</b>	<b>6,864</b>	<b>1.66%</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>							
Salaries	33,365	16,484	32,969	35,054	36,076	1,022	2.92%
Retirement Allowance	666	330	641	659	680	21	3.19%
Other Benefits	5,823	2,862	5,073	5,400	5,656	256	4.74%
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>	<b>39,854</b>	<b>19,676</b>	<b>38,683</b>	<b>41,113</b>	<b>42,412</b>	<b>1,299</b>	<b>3.16%</b>
Elevator Maintenance	5,892	2,395	6,000	6,120	6,300	180	2.94%
A/C, Electrical, Plumbing	56,080	10,026	42,000	43,600	43,600	0	0.00%
Interior & Exterior	102,013	52,637	90,000	92,000	92,000	0	0.00%
Cleaning Contract & Supplies	56,690	26,544	54,733	60,000	60,000	0	0.00%
Fuel	11,497	9,308	20,000	20,000	20,000	0	0.00%
Light & Power	43,465	22,642	62,000	60,000	60,000	0	0.00%
Water and Sewage	9,314	5,100	7,000	9,000	9,000	0	0.00%
Taxes	66,011	67,748	66,200	67,000	69,000	2,000	2.99%
Insurance	11,781	4,208	6,000	10,000	10,000	0	0.00%
Reserve Fund	0	135,600	100,000	0	75,000	75,000	0.00%
Other	26	170	0	0	0	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>402,623</b>	<b>356,054</b>	<b>492,616</b>	<b>408,833</b>	<b>487,312</b>	<b>78,479</b>	<b>19.20%</b>

2.9% increase based on City of Ottawa  
budgets  
Service increase of prices

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND  
GENERAL FUNDS

Committees & Elected Officers Expense

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
<b>COMMITTEES</b>							
Veterans, Service and Seniors	12,581	16,931	16,850	25,950	20,950	-5,000	-19.27%
Membership	5,706	4,896	3,000	4,000	4,000	0	0.00%
RCEL	0	0	400	400	400	0	0.00%
Sports	295,403	-32,959	354,438	388,212	361,600	-26,612	-6.86%
Ritual & Awards	0	1,195	540	1,620	1,650	30	1.85%
Convention Committee	9,439	0	10,500	7,000	10,500	3,500	50.00%
Constitution & Laws	324	758	1,350	850	850	0	0.00%
Defence & Security	25,365	5,242	12,730	15,500	17,500	2,000	12.90%
Veterans Consultation	723	0	1,200	1,450	1,450	0	0.00%
Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (FOF) Going Forward	0	0	0	5,500	75,000	69,500	1263.64%
Poppy & Remembrance	5,706	4,896	3,000	4,000	27,250	0	0.00%
						23,250	581.25%
<b>COMMITTEE TOTAL</b>	<b>355,247</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>404,758</b>	<b>455,232</b>	<b>521,900</b>	<b>66,668</b>	<b>14.64%</b>
Elected Officers	66,820	29,853	85,500	111,500	55,500	-56,000	-50.22%
DEC/Senior Elected Officers	179,799	94,020	92,200	87,200	93,600	6,400	7.34%
Dominion Convention	216,752	72,893	199,500	150,000	205,000	55,000	36.67%
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>463,371</b>	<b>196,766</b>	<b>377,200</b>	<b>348,700</b>	<b>354,100</b>	<b>5,400</b>	<b>1.55%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>818,618</b>	<b>197,725</b>	<b>781,958</b>	<b>803,932</b>	<b>876,000</b>	<b>72,068</b>	<b>8.96%</b>
Poppy & Remembrance Centenary Committee	19,906	191	20,300	27,150	27,250	100	0.37%
	18,797		0	0	80,000	80,000	0.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,703</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>20,300</b>	<b>27,150</b>	<b>107,250</b>	<b>80,100</b>	<b>295.03%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>857,321</b>	<b>197,916</b>	<b>802,258</b>	<b>831,082</b>	<b>983,250</b>	<b>152,168</b>	<b>18.31%</b>

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGIOIN-DOMINION COMMAND

Veterans, Service & Seniors

COMMITTEE	Jun					BUDGET VARIANCE		Location - Ottawa
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2026			
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%	
Travel	380	326	200	300	300	0	0.00%	
Per Diem	0	0	0	2,500	2,000	-500	20.00%	
CIMVHR Forum	11,656	16,057	15,000	20,000	15,000	-5,000	25.00%	
Office Expense General	415	7	650	650	650	0	0.00%	
Office Supplies	0	147	500	500	500	0	0.00%	
Business Transformation Initiatives	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
Homeless Veterans Summit	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
Miscellaneous	130	394	500	2,000	2,500	500	25.00%	
TOTAL	12,581	16,931	16,850	25,950	20,950	-5,000	19.27%	

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND

Poppy & Remembrance Committee

	Jun					BUDGET VARIANCE	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2026	\$	%
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET		
<b>COMMITTEE</b>							
Travel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Per Diem	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Office Expense General	75	29	0	0	100	100	0.00%
Office Supplies	47	7	0	5,000	4,800	-200	-4.00%
Miscellaneous	0	0	500	500	500	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>5,500</b>	<b>5,400</b>	<b>-100</b>	<b>-1.82%</b>
<b>NATIONAL CEREMONIES</b>							
Travel	3,913	0	5,500	5,500	5,500	0	0.00%
Per Diem	11,600	0	8,500	9,500	10,500	1,000	10.53%
Office Expense General	356	0	500	550	400	-150	-27.27%
Office Supplies	0	0	600	600	600	0	0.00%
Colour Party Activities							
Meeting, Planning	0	0	500	500	200	-300	-60.00%
St. John's Ambulance	0	0	500	500	500	0	0.00%
Ceremonies Operations	3,915	64	3,700	4,500	4,150	-350	-7.78%
<b>TOTAL National Ceremonies</b>	<b>19,784</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>19,800</b>	<b>21,650</b>	<b>21,850</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>0.92%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,906</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>20,300</b>	<b>27,150</b>	<b>27,250</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.37%</b>
Remembrance Reception	12,758	0	12,600	14,700	14,700	0	0.00%
P&W & Other Commerative							
Items	46,598	0	0	68,000	68,000	0	0.00%
Silver Cross Mother	9,693	0	6,700	8,700	8,700	0	0.00%
Cadet of the Year	23,691	0	17,000	25,000	25,000	0	0.00%
Total - Poppy Fund	92,740	0	36,300	116,400	116,400	0	0.00%
<b>Total - General Fund</b>	<b>19,906</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>20,300</b>	<b>27,150</b>	<b>27,250</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.37%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>112,646</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>56,600</b>	<b>143,550</b>	<b>143,650</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.07%</b>

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
<b><u>COMMITTEE</u></b>							
Travel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Per Diem	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Office Expense General	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Office Supplies	1,243	0	400	400	400	0	0
Miscellaneous	0	0	100	100	100	0	0
Sub Total	1,243	0	500	500	500	0	0
<b><u>PRINTING &amp; STATIONERY</u></b>							
Membership Forms	2,797	3,418	1,000	2,000	2,000	0	0
Early Bird Stickers	1,666	1,478	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0
Sub Total	4,463	4,896	2,500	3,500	3,500	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,706</b>	<b>4,896</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND

RCEL COMMITTEE

	Jun					BUDGET	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2026	VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
Committee							
Expenses	0	0	400	400	400	0	0
Total	0	0	400	400	400	0	0



THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND							
SPORTS COMMITTEE							
	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
<b>COMMITTEE</b>							
Travel	137	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.00%
Per Diem	516	2,977	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.00%
<b>T &amp; F - LAC</b>							
- Spring Site Visit	8,938	4,695	10,500	10,500	10,500	0	0.00%
- Fall Site Visit	0	0	0	5,000	0	-5,000	-100.00%
Office Expense General	300	217	1,100	500	500	0	0.00%
Office Supplies	59	0	500	500	500	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous	0	282	1,565	1,300	1,300	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL COMMITTEE</b>	<b>9,950</b>	<b>8,171</b>	<b>15,665</b>	<b>19,800</b>	<b>14,800</b>	<b>-5,000</b>	<b>-25.25%</b>
<b>DARTS</b>							
Travel							
- Participants	21,653	21,116	25,200	24,000	24,000	0	0.00%
- Committee	2,394	1,785	2,640	2,500	2,500	0	0.00%
Awards & Prizes-participants	1,184	0	1,430	1,500	1,500	0	0.00%
Advance to Host Branch	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0.00%
Ground Transportation	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL DARTS</b>	<b>28,531</b>	<b>26,201</b>	<b>32,570</b>	<b>31,300</b>	<b>31,300</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>CRIBBAGE</b>							
Travel							
- Participants	22,344	18,773	25,200	20,000	22,000	2,000	10.00%
- Committee	1,398	1,246	2,200	2,000	2,500	500	25.00%
Awards & Prizes	1,184	2,042	1,430	1,000	1,500	500	50.00%
Advance to Host Branch	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0.00%
Ground Transportation	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL CRIBBAGE</b>	<b>28,226</b>	<b>25,361</b>	<b>32,130</b>	<b>26,300</b>	<b>29,300</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>11.41%</b>
<b>EIGHT BALL</b>							
Travel							
- Participants	18,147	21,980	25,200	22,000	22,000	0	0.00%
- Committee	1,674	1,162	2,310	2,000	2,000	0	0.00%
Awards & Prizes	1,184	943	1,430	1,000	1,500	500	50.00%
Advance to Host Branch	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	0.00%
Ground Transportation	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL EIGHT BALL</b>	<b>24,305</b>	<b>27,385</b>	<b>32,240</b>	<b>28,300</b>	<b>28,800</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>1.77%</b>
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS SPORTS</b>	<b>91,012</b>	<b>87,118</b>	<b>112,605</b>	<b>105,700</b>	<b>104,200</b>	<b>-1,500</b>	<b>-1.42%</b>
<b>TOTAL T &amp; F</b>	<b>204,391</b>	<b>-120,078</b>	<b>241,833</b>	<b>282,512</b>	<b>257,400</b>	<b>-25,112</b>	<b>-8.89%</b>
<b>TOTAL SPORTS &amp; COMMITTEE</b>	<b>295,403</b>	<b>-32,960</b>	<b>354,438</b>	<b>388,212</b>	<b>361,600</b>	<b>-26,612</b>	<b>-6.86%</b>

The Fall site visit is only every 2 years and does not happen in 2026

2026 - Alberta

2026 - Windsor, NS  
2025 Eight ball was in NB, budgeting based on travel to the east coast from this event  
Expenses will be higher as we expect needing to bring someone into NS to be the DC rep  
Based on costs this year, awards are divided by the 3 member sport events and they did not match/ add up in 2025

2026 -Winnipeg

As with cribbage and award costs in 2025

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND

NATIONAL TRACK & FIELD							
	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
Transportation	271,797	0	216,000	270,000	265,000	-5,000	-1.85%
Accommodations, Meals	243,879	0	234,433	241,112	250,000	8,888	3.69%
Committee - Travel	10,347	0	6,500	6,500	6,500	0	0.00%
Committee - Per Diem	10,532	0	18,000	18,000	18,000	0	0.00%
Local Committee	0	0	0	1,000	1,000	0	0.00%
Kits / Supplies / Medals	24,672	16,081	22,400	22,400	22,400	0	0.00%
Buses	4,883	0	17,500	17,500	17,500	0	0.00%
Honoraria	0	0	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0.00%
Reception	1,316	0	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0.00%
Athletic Facilities	0	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.00%
Equipment / Mtg Rooms	0	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.00%
Clinicians	0	0	500	500	500	0	0.00%
Officials	1,316	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0.00%
Freight & Express	1,663	0	2,000	1,000	2,000	1,000	100.00%
Miscellaneous	920	100	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>571,325</b>	<b>16,181</b>	<b>526,833</b>	<b>587,512</b>	<b>592,400</b>	<b>4,888</b>	<b>0.83%</b>
Less Prov Cmd Portion	-162,235	-4,980	-130,000	-150,000	-150,000	0	0.00%
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>409,090</b>	<b>11,201</b>	<b>396,833</b>	<b>437,512</b>	<b>442,400</b>	<b>4,888</b>	<b>1.12%</b>
<b>RECOVERIES</b>							
Registration - Non Legion Athletes	-58,299	-978	-30,000	-30,000	-45,000	-15,000	50.00%
Sponsorships	-40,300	-30,300	-20,000	-20,000	-30,000	-10,000	50.00%
Grant-VAC	-6,100	0	-5,000	-5,000	-10,000	-5,000	100.00%
Centennial Fund	-100,000	-100,000	-100,000	-100,000	-100,000	0	0.00%
<b>Total Recoveries</b>	<b>-204,699</b>	<b>-131,278</b>	<b>-155,000</b>	<b>-155,000</b>	<b>-185,000</b>	<b>-30,000</b>	<b>19.35%</b>
<b>NET EXPENSE</b>	<b>204,391</b>	<b>-120,078</b>	<b>241,833</b>	<b>282,512</b>	<b>257,400</b>	<b>-25,112</b>	<b>-8.89%</b>

Based on Bid Package Pricing for Food & Accommodations

We will have a lot more items being shipped to Regina as it is the first year the event is held there

Based on 2024 registration but with the Regina market we feel like will be most accurate  
It was 40k in 2024 and 2025 but there is no guarantee it will return, we have had 3 years so increasing it in the budget

THE ROYAL CANADAIN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND

RITUAL & AWARDS

	Jun					BUDGET VARIANCE	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2026		
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
Travel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Per Diem	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Office Expense General	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Office Supplies	0	0	270	120	150	30	25.00%
Publications							
RAP Manual Amendments & Translation	0	1,195	0	1,500	1,500	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,195</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>1,620</b>	<b>1,650</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1.85%</b>

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND

CONSTITUTIONS & LAWS COMMITTEE

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
Travel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Per Diem	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Office Expense General	133	184	350	350	350	0	0.00%
Office Supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
<u>Publications</u>							
- Revision to On-Line Manuals	191	574	1,000	500	500	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>1,350</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND

DEFENCE & SECURITY COMMITTEE

	Jun					BUDGET	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2026	VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
Travel	2,264	60	200	400	400	0	0.00%
Per Diem	811	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Office Expense General	155	19	50	100	100	0	0.00%
Office Supplies	52	218	480	500	500	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous	1,197	2,345	0	1,000	1,000	0	0.00%
Annual Vimy Award & AGM	12,000	0	6,000	8,000	8,000	0	0.00%
Conference of Defence							
Association Fee & CIC Fee	1,350	350	4,000	4,000	4,000	0	0.00%
RCMP Benevolent Fund Gala					2,000		
Comradeship Awards	7,535	2,250	2,000	1,500	1,500	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>25,364</b>	<b>5,242</b>	<b>12,730</b>	<b>15,500</b>	<b>17,500</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>12.90%</b>

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
Travel	0	0	0	0		0	0.00%
Per Diem	0	0	0	0		0	0.00%
Office Expense							
General	0	0	0	0		0	0.00%
Office Supplies	0	0	0	0		0	0.00%
Resources/Workshops	0	0	0	5,500	75,000	69,500	1263.64%
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0		0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,500</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>69,500</b>	<b>1263.64%</b>

Implementation of National Training Program

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND

VETERANS CONSULTATION

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
Travel	0	0	200	200	200	0	0.00%
Per Diem	0	0	250	250	250	0	0.00%
Office Expense General	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Office Supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous	723	0	750	1,000	1,000	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND

(FOF) Going Forward Committee

	2024		Jun		2024		2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
			2025							
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET			\$	%
Travel	0	0	0	500	500	500			0	0.00%
Per Diem	0	0	0	250	250	250			0	0.00%
Office Expense General	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0.00%
Office Supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0.00%
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0.00%
TOTAL	0	0	0	750	750	750			0	0.00%



THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND

ELECTED OFFICERS & DOMINION PRESIDENT

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
<b>ELECTED OFFICERS:</b>							
Travel	0	0	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	0.00%
Per Diem	0	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0.00%
Office Expense General	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous	3,740	0	500	500	500	0	0.00%
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>3,740</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>DOMINION PRESIDENT:</b>							
Travel	18,040	2,185	45,000	48,500	30,000	-18,500	-38.14%
Per Diem	17,325	3,128	25,000	27,500	10,000	-17,500	-63.64%
Hospitality	21,116	3,639	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.00%
Office Expense General	1,869	487	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous	4,730	4,325	5,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.00%
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>63,080</b>	<b>13,764</b>	<b>82,500</b>	<b>88,500</b>	<b>52,500</b>	<b>-36,000</b>	<b>-40.68%</b>
<b>PROVINCIAL CONVENTIONS:</b>							
Travel	0	7,903	0	14,000	0	-14,000	100.00%
Per Diem	0	8,187	0	6,000	0	-6,000	100.00%
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16,090</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-20,000</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>66,820</b>	<b>29,854</b>	<b>85,500</b>	<b>111,500</b>	<b>55,500</b>	<b>-56,000</b>	<b>-50.22%</b>

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
<b>D.E.C. MEETINGS:</b>							
Travel	68,498	26,422	35,000	40,000	45,000	5,000	12.50%
Per Diem	87,779	53,145	45,000	35,000	35,000	0	0.00%
Office Expense General	0	0	100	100	100	0	0.00%
Office Supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous	12,026	13,890	8,000	8,000	8,000	0	0.00%
<b>SUB-TOTAL D.E.C. MEETINGS</b>	<b>168,303</b>	<b>93,457</b>	<b>88,100</b>	<b>83,100</b>	<b>88,100</b>	5,000	6.02%
<b>SENIOR ELECTED OFFICERS MEETINGS:</b>							
Travel	8,130	0	6,000	6,000	8,000	2,000	33.33%
Per Diem	9,138	0	4,000	4,000	4,000	0	0.00%
Office Expense General	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Office Supplies	0	147	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous	227	416	100	100	100	0	0.00%
	17,495	563	10,100	10,100	12,100	2,000	19.80%
LESS:							
Canvet Board and Shareholders Meetings	-6,000	-6,000	-6,000	-6,000	-6,600	-600	10.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>179,799</b>	<b>88,020</b>	<b>92,200</b>	<b>87,200</b>	<b>93,600</b>	<b>6,400</b>	<b>7.34%</b>

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND

Dominion Convention

	2024	Jun 2025	2024	2025	2026	BUDGET VARIANCE		
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%	
DEC								
Travel	31,848	-542	25,000	0	30,000	5,000	20.00%	Based on 2024 costs and inflation
Per Diem	68,428	129	65,000	0	65,000	0	0.00%	
Staff								
Travel	34,720	0	25,000	0	30,000	5,000	20.00%	Flying to Winnipeg so costs should be less than 2024
Per Diem	69,416	0	65,000	0	65,000	0	0.00%	
Past President								
Travel	5,669	0	7,500	0	7,500	0	0.00%	
Per Diem	8,332	0	15,000	0	10,000	-5,000	33.33%	
DC Zone Commanders								
Travel	0	0	5,000	0	5,000	0	0.00%	
Per Diem	0	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	0.00%	
Other								
Travel	2,802	0	5,000	0	5,000	0	0.00%	
Per Diem	2,375	0	0	0	2,000	2,000	-	
Printing & Design/Convention reports	10,847		27,000		12,000	-15,000	55.56%	
Translation & Interpretation	0	0	1,000	0	1,000	0	0.00%	
Postage/Freight	15,070	0	35,000	0	15,000	-20,000	57.14%	
Social Activities								
President Reception	14,392	0	5,000	0	5,000	0	0.00%	
Other	2,271	0	0	0	2,000	2,000	-	
Convention Centre	84,555	0	60,000	0	100,000	40,000	66.67%	Based on contract with RBC Convention Centre Banquet and other 100th related operational costs.
Convention Operation	188,280	0	200,000	0	242,000	42,000	21.00%	
Transportation	8,403	0	0	0	10,000	10,000	-	
Ceremonies	1,089	0	1,000	0	1,000	0	0.00%	
Local Arrangements Committee	2,380	0	0	0	6,000	6,000	0.00%	Based on actual costs of LAC. 3000 is not close to enough to cover costs for LAC
	550,876	-413	547,500	0	619,500	72,000	13.15%	
Booth Revenue	-51,866	0	-50,000	0	-50,000	0	0.00%	
Delegate Fees	-51,697	0	-75,000	0	-75,000	0	0	
SUB-TOTAL	447,313	-413	422,500	0	494,500	72,000	0	
Provision	-200,000	75,000	-200,000	150,000	-250,000	-50,000	33.33%	
SUB TOTAL	247,313	72,892	269,500	150,000	244,500	-25,000	16.67%	
Recoveries Supply Revenue	-40,000	0	-70,000	0	-50,000	20,000	0.00%	
Total	207,313	72,892	199,500	150,000	194,500	-5,000	-3.33%	
COMMITTEE (FROM 15A)	9,439	0	10,500	7,000	10,500	0	0.00%	
TOTAL CONVENTION AND COMMITTEE	216,752	72,892	210,000	157,000	205,000	-5,000	-3.18%	

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION-DOMINION COMMAND

Convention Committee

	Jun					BUDGET	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2026	VARIANCE	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	\$	%
Travel	4,666	0	8,000	5,000	8,000	3,000	60.00%
Per Diem	4,060	0	2,500	2,000	2,500	500	25.00%
Office Expense							
General	2	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Office Supplies	710	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Miscellaneous	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,438</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,500</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>10,500</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>50.00%</b>

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# Financial statements of The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command

December 31, 2024

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Independent Auditor's Report	1-2
Statement of financial position	3
Statement of changes in Fund balances	4
Statement of operations – General Fund	5
Statement of operations – Externally Restricted Funds	6
Statement of cash flows	7
Notes to the financial statements	8-17

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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, 2024, and the statements of changes in Fund balances, of operations – General Fund, of 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, 2024, 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.

The logo for Deloitte LLP, featuring the word "Deloitte" in a stylized script font followed by "LLP" in a clean, sans-serif font.

Chartered Professional Accountants  
Licensed Public Accountants  
April 28, 2025



# The Royal Canadian Legion – Dominion Command

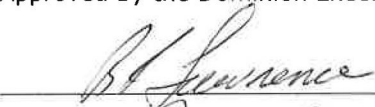
## Statement of financial position


As at December 31, 2024

	Notes	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>Assets</b>			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		<b>2,989,244</b>	3,281,660
Accounts receivable	3	<b>3,400,596</b>	1,830,121
Due from The Legion National Foundation	8	<b>387,932</b>	354,823
Due from Canvet Publications Ltd.	8	<b>63,079</b>	200,374
Inventory			
General		<b>2,282,803</b>	2,182,145
Poppy promotional material		<b>176,155</b>	259,819
Prepaid expenses		<b>290,590</b>	361,348
Prepaid subscriptions		<b>1,784,017</b>	1,858,110
		<b>11,374,416</b>	10,328,400
Marketable investments	4	<b>29,435,817</b>	28,189,578
Capital assets	5	<b>4,311,422</b>	4,308,331
		<b>45,121,655</b>	42,826,309
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	6	<b>1,131,813</b>	1,437,156
Revenue collected in advance - current		<b>3,822,385</b>	3,609,838
		<b>4,954,198</b>	5,046,994
Revenue collected in advance - non-current		<b>377,103</b>	587,747
Retirement obligation	7	<b>542,700</b>	513,600
		<b>5,874,001</b>	6,148,341
Commitments	10		
<b>Fund balances</b>			
Unrestricted		<b>6,265,938</b>	5,684,152
Internally Restricted Funds		<b>20,051,472</b>	18,596,401
Externally Restricted Funds		<b>12,930,244</b>	12,397,415
		<b>39,247,654</b>	36,677,968
		<b>45,121,655</b>	42,826,309

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, 2024

		Balance – Beginning of year \$	Net revenue (expense) for the year \$	Remeasurements and other items \$	Transfers from (to) \$	Balance – End of year \$
Notes						
<b>Unrestricted</b>		<b>5,684,152</b>	<b>(654,755)</b>	<b>(12,800)</b>	<b>1,249,341</b>	<b>6,265,938</b>
<b>Internally Restricted Funds</b>						
Invested in capital assets		4,308,331	(196,268)	—	199,359	4,311,422
Other internally restricted	9	3,531,510	—	—	(200,000)	3,331,510
Investment Fund		10,756,560	1,748,265	—	(96,285)	12,408,540
Total Internally Restricted Funds		18,596,401	1,551,997	—	(96,926)	20,051,472
		24,280,553	897,242	(12,800)	1,152,415	26,317,410
<b>Externally Restricted Funds</b>						
Poppy Trust Fund		8,705,619	1,200,239	—	(1,152,415)	8,753,443
Centennial Fund		2,217,642	275,533	—	—	2,493,175
RCEL Fund		1,383,497	209,472	—	—	1,592,969
Benevolent Fund		90,657	—	—	—	90,657
Total Externally Restricted Funds		12,397,415	1,685,244	—	(1,152,415)	12,930,244
		36,677,968	2,582,486	(12,800)	—	39,247,654

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, 2024

	Notes	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Membership fee revenue		6,212,649	5,911,738
Supply sales		3,370,074	3,596,185
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		151,223	250,613
Royalties – member benefits program		245,183	229,664
Other membership revenues (donations)		32,000	32,000
Mastercard royalties		177,817	85,367
Royalties – Legion Lager		18,374	15,038
Other revenue	8	31,947	149,705
		<b>10,847,187</b>	<b>10,878,230</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Corporate services		1,373,184	1,410,539
Building		402,622	383,593
Committees		1,198,844	821,149
Marketing, advertising and promotion	8	949,385	908,030
Financial services		533,373	401,753
Investment management fees		107,585	99,557
Information technology		510,176	455,607
Legion Magazine – subscriptions	8	2,765,468	2,639,612
Marketing and communications		379,296	357,191
Member services		817,252	779,064
Other program expenses		269,866	197,163
Veterans services		1,095,978	1,064,015
Supply chain management			
Operation		746,636	858,111
Cost of sales		1,398,171	1,476,514
Amortization			
Furniture and equipment and computers		50,232	14,649
Building		146,036	146,036
		<b>12,744,104</b>	<b>12,012,583</b>
Net revenue (expense) before undernoted		<b>(1,896,917)</b>	<b>(1,134,353)</b>
Other revenue		457,657	672,133
<b>Investment revenue</b>			
Net changes in fair value of marketable investments	4	1,748,265	940,116
Dividends		108,914	113,419
Interest		479,323	363,337
		<b>2,794,159</b>	<b>2,089,005</b>
<b>Net revenue (expense) for the year</b>		<b>897,242</b>	<b>954,652</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, 2024

	Poppy Trust Fund \$	Centennial Fund \$	RCEL Fund \$	2024 Total \$	2023 Total \$
Notes					
<b>Revenue</b>					
Donations	849,259	—	246,503	1,095,762	779,126
Poppies and wreaths	3,029,191	—	—	3,029,191	2,816,344
Promotional aids	654,553	8	—	654,561	538,345
Other	26,096	—	21,729	47,825	—
	<b>4,559,099</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>268,232</b>	<b>4,827,339</b>	<b>4,133,815</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Advertising and promotional materials	12,729	—	—	12,729	275,588
Poppies and wreaths	1,549,249	—	—	1,549,249	1,443,196
Promotional aids	317,577	—	—	317,577	272,862
Trademark defence	33,086	—	—	33,086	72,639
Freight	507,263	—	—	507,263	412,557
General	138,227	—	—	138,227	22,195
Investment Management Fees	45,923	12,738	5,980	64,641	96,830
Support					
Supply department	407,430	—	—	407,430	317,939
Administration department	150,000	—	—	150,000	150,000
Marketing	177,596	—	—	177,596	177,833
Finance	138,815	—	—	138,815	143,504
Public relations	11,004	—	—	11,004	14,424
Operation Santa Claus and Canada Day	104,082	—	—	104,082	99,642
National Remembrance Ceremony	92,740	—	—	92,740	99,029
Marketing and promotion	180,492	—	—	180,492	39,383
Grants	132,500	—	—	132,500	411,500
Caribbean liaison	—	—	—	—	8,806
Poppy department	366,072	—	—	366,072	383,719
RCEL Ottawa	—	7,507	—	7,507	—
Donation expense	—	—	4,000	4,000	447,247
Benevolent support and assistance	68,550	—	190,246	258,796	462,128
	<b>4,433,335</b>	<b>20,245</b>	<b>200,226</b>	<b>4,653,806</b>	<b>5,351,021</b>
Net revenue (expense) before undernoted	<b>125,764</b>	<b>(20,237)</b>	<b>68,006</b>	<b>173,533</b>	<b>(1,217,206)</b>
<b>Investment revenue</b>					
Net changes in fair value of marketable investments	783,081	220,908	95,486	1,099,475	624,468
Interest	226,493	58,681	40,569	325,743	267,476
Dividends	64,901	16,181	5,411	86,493	98,006
	<b>1,074,475</b>	<b>295,770</b>	<b>141,466</b>	<b>1,511,711</b>	<b>989,950</b>
<b>Net (expense) revenue for the year</b>	<b>1,200,239</b>	<b>275,533</b>	<b>209,472</b>	<b>1,685,244</b>	<b>(227,256)</b>

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, 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Net revenue (expense) for the year	2,582,486	727,396
Items not affecting cash		
Amortization	196,268	160,685
Unrealized losses (gains) on marketable investments	(2,664,806)	(1,705,583)
Realized gains on sales of marketable investments	(202,338)	140,999
Provision for retirement Allowance	(12,800)	5,500
Contributions to pension plan		
Provision for retirement obligation	29,100	(21,900)
<b>Changes in non-cash working capital items</b>		
Accounts receivable	(1,570,475)	817,357
Due from The Legion National Foundation	(33,109)	(8,641)
Due from Canvet Publications Ltd.	137,295	(164,660)
Inventory		
General	(100,658)	(366,072)
Poppy promotional material	83,664	(57,274)
Prepaid expense	70,758	158,835
Prepaid subscriptions	74,093	(32,764)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(305,343)	(771,387)
Revenue collected in advance	1,903	(126,235)
COVID-19 relief payable to branches	—	(105,226)
	<b>(1,713,962)</b>	<b>(1,348,970)</b>
<b>Investing activities</b>		
Proceeds on sale of marketable investments	5,511,016	2,683,183
Purchase of marketable investments	(3,890,111)	(1,978,396)
Purchase of capital assets	(199,359)	(11,756)
	<b>1,421,546</b>	<b>693,031</b>
Net change in cash and cash equivalents during the year	<b>(292,416)</b>	<b>(655,939)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	<b>3,281,660</b>	<b>3,937,599</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of year</b>	<b>2,989,244</b>	<b>3,281,660</b>

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

**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 an 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 were meant as an account for the setting aside and use of reserves as and when needed. The Dominion Command makes discretionary transfers to and from these funds as and when needed.

*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.

## **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 Company 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.



## **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.

### 3. Accounts receivable

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Commands, branches and members		
Unrestricted	<b>2,196,084</b>	854,271
Poppy Trust Fund	<b>1,173,093</b>	932,159
Other		
Unrestricted	<b>7,110</b>	16,128
Poppy Trust Fund		
Accrued interest	<b>24,309</b>	27,563
	<b>3,400,596</b>	1,830,121

### 4. Marketable investments

	<b>2024</b>		<b>2023</b>
	<b>Fair value</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Fair value</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
General Fund	<b>17,801,186</b>	<b>14,583,716</b>	16,641,132
<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>17,801,186</b>	<b>14,583,716</b>	16,641,132
Poppy Trust Fund	<b>8,233,965</b>	<b>6,902,989</b>	8,430,999
Centennial Fund	<b>2,320,058</b>	<b>1,942,570</b>	2,150,050
RCEL Fund	<b>1,080,608</b>	<b>915,266</b>	967,397
<b>Externally restricted</b>	<b>11,634,631</b>	<b>9,760,825</b>	11,548,446
	<b>29,435,817</b>	<b>24,344,541</b>	28,189,578

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

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Realized changes in fair value of marketable investments		
Investment Fund	<b>76,175</b>	(74,990)
Externally Restricted Funds	<b>106,759</b>	(66,009)
	<b>182,934</b>	(140,999)
Unrealized changes in fair value of marketable investments		
Investment Fund	<b>1,672,090</b>	1,015,107
Externally Restricted Funds	<b>992,716</b>	690,476
	<b>2,664,806</b>	1,705,583

#### 4. Marketable investments (continued)

Marketable investments comprise:

	Fair value \$	2024 Cost \$	Fair value \$	2023 Cost \$
Government and government guaranteed bonds	2,882,734	2,943,659	3,040,648	3,200,081
Corporate bonds and pooled bond funds	12,569,589	12,694,915	12,386,565	12,953,372
Corporate stocks and pooled equity funds	13,983,494	8,705,967	12,762,365	9,609,654
	<b>29,435,817</b>	<b>24,344,541</b>	<b>28,189,578</b>	<b>25,763,107</b>

Government and government guaranteed bonds bear interest at fixed rates ranging from 1.25% to 3.75% and mature between 2025 and 2030 (1.25% to 3.75% and mature between 2024 and 2030 in 2023).

Corporate bonds bear interest at fixed rates ranging from 2.2% to 6.5% and mature between 2026 and 2030 (2.3% to 6.4% and mature between 2026 and 2030 in 2023). 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 \$	2024 Net \$	2023 Net \$
Land	950,220	—	950,220	950,220
Building	5,857,585	2,665,157	3,192,428	3,338,464
Furniture and equipment	108,297	102,281	6,016	7,301
Computers	236,852	74,094	162,758	11,890
Supply equipment	—	—	—	456
	<b>7,152,954</b>	<b>2,841,532</b>	<b>4,311,422</b>	<b>4,308,331</b>

Cost and accumulated amortization amounted to \$6,989,975 and \$2,681,644 respectively, as at December 31, 2023.

#### 6. Government remittances

Government remittances (GST/HST payable) of \$7,097 (\$21,383 in 2023) are included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

## 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, 2024, a reconciliation of the funded status of benefit plans to the amounts recorded to in the financial statements is as follows:

	Retirement obligation \$	2024 Pension plan \$	Retirement obligation \$	2023 Pension plan \$
Fair value of plan assets	—	(35,814,500)	—	(34,521,100)
Defined benefit obligation	(542,700)	39,507,400	(513,600)	35,999,800
Funded status – surplus (deficit)	(542,700)	3,692,900	(513,600)	1,478,700
Less: Valuation allowance	—	(3,692,900)	—	(1,478,700)
Pension liability (retirement obligation)	(542,700)	—	(513,600)	—

## 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:

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Legion Magazine – subscriptions current year	2,548,396	2,479,668
Marketing, advertising and promotion	59,785	60,989

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

### *Canvet (continued)*

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

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
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. Dominion command does not control the Foundation and therefore does not consolidate its results.

During the year ended December 31, 2024, Dominion Command provided services and paid expenses on behalf the Foundation amounting to \$380,328 (\$142,640 in 2023). 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.

## **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:

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Building	<b>275,638</b>	275,638
RCEL Conference	<b>36,513</b>	36,513
Convention	<b>105,000</b>	305,000
Membership fee	<b>2,914,359</b>	2,914,359
	<b>3,331,510</b>	3,531,510

## 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:

	\$
2025	1,070,100
2026	946,017
2027	913,708
2028	13,708
2029	—
	<u>2,943,533</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:

	2024 \$	2023 \$
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 \$407,430 (\$317,939 in 2023) 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.

## **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, 2024, 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>2024 CAD</b>	2023 CAD
Cash and cash equivalents	<b>78,394</b>	55,245
Marketable investments	<b>4,741,470</b>	4,089,009
	<b>4,819,864</b>	4,144,253

### *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.

## President's report to DEC Nov 2025

Let me start with a warm welcome to the new members of DEC, for those who are here for the first time, please feel free to speak your mind, this is your DEC and your opinions on the welfare of the RCL is the reason we are here. I hope you have a successful term on the DEC and wish you all the best.

Well it has been a very busy time, since we last met in April of this year.

May – I attended the Alberta/Northwest Territories Convention held in Stony Plain AB. I delivered the RCEL and the Centenary presentations. The elections were conducted by Immediate Past President John Mahon, and I conducted the installation of the new executive. I enjoyed the conference, although the facility was approx. 45-minute walk from the hotel, but the Provincial Vice President drove me back and forth for all events. I visited the local branch for a steak dinner and was impressed that the volunteers who served the dinner were parents from the cadet unit which is sponsored by the Branch.

I next attended the Ontario Convention, held in London, ON. It was a great location as it was held within the convention hotel. The convention ran smoothly, and I conducted the installation of the new executive. I delivered the RCEL presentation and called for donations. There were several interesting guest speakers.

Next, I flew to Harrowgate, England for the Royal British Legion Conference (RBL), which has a membership of approx. 170,000. Although the air travel was tiring and resulted in a 2-hour drive from Manchester to Harrowgate, the conference was held in a co-located theatre next to the hotel. The conference was mostly reports and an open afternoon of member questions from the floor. Unfortunately, I was not given the opportunity to speak to the conference. We did attend a great performance by the local police band at a very old and decorative theatre, close by. After the conference, we again had to make the 2-hour drive to Manchester to fly to Aberdeen, Scotland.

My final trip of the month was to Banchory, Scotland for the Royal British Legion Scotland for their annual conference, held at a local Scottish Legion. The unfortunate situation here was that the hotel was a 25-minute bus ride (provided by the RBLS) each way to the conference site. This conference was much smaller than the RBL, with only approx. 80 delegates attending. The membership in the Scottish legion is declining very fast and they are at about 25,000 members. The conference was nicely run, and they treated us extremely well. I did address this conference and received many questions after my presentation. Also many spoke to Randy about our increase in membership. One member asked for more information about our Military Veterans Wellness program with the police in Canada.



After the conference, Sarah and I spent 5 days walking around Edinburgh, as city I have always wanted to visit, mainly due to the connection with the Royal Newfoundland Regiment and Edinburgh castle.

In June, after the federal election, I had a zoom meeting of introduction with the newly appointed Minister of Veterans Affairs Jill McKnight. (she is the fourth Minister of Veterans Affairs, since I was elected Dominion President, hopefully she stays for a long time) It was a pleasant meeting with me, Randy, Nujma and Carolyn joining in the meeting. We explained the legion's concerns with the lack of response to four letters that we sent to her department that have gone unanswered. We further explained some of our concerns with the treatment of veterans in general and our concerns in other areas. I invited her to come to our DEC meeting and a few days later we were informed by a staff member that she had many questions for them. So we are hopeful that she will come to our meetings.

Also, in June I attended the Annual Ceremonial Review of 2959 Army Cadet Corp in Pasadena, NL. This trip was a personal one, as Aaron Reid the RSM of the Corp was the top Army Cadet for 2024 whom I met in Ottawa during the annual Remembrance Ceremony. It was a great pleasure not only to attend and address the cadets/staff/parents, but also to present Aaron with the King Charles III Coronation medal.

From 28 June to 3 July, I attended the Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League (RCEL) Convention in Ottawa. This convention was an eye-opening event for me, and all the Senior Elected Officers (SEOs). We learned all about the RCEL and its responsibilities to Commonwealth countries worldwide. We heard of the problems some representatives have in delivering services to veterans/widows in some African countries and about the possible the end of the RCEL in the future. We were amazed at the level of respect that the Royal Canadian Legion has within the RCEL and appreciated the warm words of thanks from our representatives in the Caribbean.

A huge thank you to Randy Hayley, Steven Van Muyan and all the HQ staff who took care of all the arrangements for the conference. The convention was not only meetings for the delegates, but also a Remembrance Ceremony at the National War Memorial, attendance at a second Remembrance Ceremony (arranged by another organization), all meals and accommodation at the hotel, transportation arrangements for all the delegates and special visits to the Senate, the War Museum and the British High Commission. An outstanding effort my all.

From 6<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> August, I attended the 47<sup>th</sup> Legion National Track and Field events in Calgary, AB. I was very impressed not only with the level of the athletes that took part, but also with the level of professionalism from the officiating staff. Their concern for every

event was amazing, and they made this a real first-class event. Of course, the level of volunteerism from the local legion and from member of the Calgary Athletic society was also outstanding.

In August, I was invited to attend the American Legion Convention in Tampa Bay, FL. I decided that due to the political situation in the USA and with the recent cuts to Veterans and their families, not to attend in person. I had a video message produced at Legion house (arranged by Nujma Bond) and hopefully it will be shown at the convention.

Because I did not attend the American Legion convention, I attended the Newfoundland and Labrador Command Convention (as the Immediate Past President of NL Command) held in Goose Bay, Labrador, at no expense to Dominion Command. This convention was a great time. The legion business was as usual with reports and discussions, but the evening events hosted by the members of Branch 51 Goose Bay were great times, these, mostly ladies, know how to have a great time, and all who attended said they would love to come back to Branch 51 again.

Also in August we received the sad news of the passing of Comrade Mark Barham, Past Command Treasurer. Also, in August we received the news about the passing of Kelly Smith, from PIB. Kelly was a great friend to the Legion and supported many of the Provincial and Dominion Conventions.

As, what seems to have become a normal item, using the powers of the Dominion President, under By-Law article 418, I directed the revocation of the charter of Branch 117, QC Command. This came at the request of the Command President, stating that after many years of attempting to save the branch, it was ultimately decided to close the Branch.

Also, using the same authority, I had to terminate the membership of a person from Lindsay Branch 67, from ON Command, due to past criminal records, which only recently came to the attention of ON Command.

And again, In September at the request of AB/NWT Command, I removed the charter of the AB/NWT Command LA.

In September, I attended meetings of the SEO, the Pay Committee, the Pension Committee, Canvat and RCEL committee.

With the upcoming 2025 Poppy Campaign, we produced a video message for the TD Bank. This message was thanking them for their contribution to last year's campaign and to encourage them to continue to offer poppies at all of their branches.

On Oct 10<sup>th</sup>, I approved the expulsion of a member of NS/NU Command for theft from the legion.

## **Dominion 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Report**

### **BC/Yukon Provincial Convention June 6 to 9, 2025**

The 2025 Convention of BC/Yukon Command was held in Kamloops, BC, with 28 observers, 225 Delegates carrying 327 Proxies. Observers included Comrades Ernie Tester, President MB/NWO Command, Ontario Command President Lynn McLellan and Pamela Sweeny Executive Director, Ontario Command.

Upon arrival late afternoon on Thursday June 5, I took a self-tour of the conference centre in an unsuccessful search for Executive Director Michelle Courtney, or President Craig Thomson, chatting with several Comrades along the way. At dinner Comrade MaryAnn Misfeldt recognized and came to say hello. Comrade MaryAnn introduced her daughter Valerie, attending her first BC/Yukon Convention, guaranteed not to be her last!

Travel weary, I retired to the 'upgraded' suite with jacuzzi, a bonus enjoyed before relaxing with a nightcap on the balcony overlooking the lush gardens of the tropical atrium with stone paths, pools, hot tub and gatherings of Legionnaires on patios.

Friday from 9 AM to 3:30 PM, with lunch break between 11:30 and 1 PM, there were 14 Workshops offered in 4 sessions. Participant feedback was positive. The Article III session confirmed BC/Yukon Command, too, has personality, temperament issues, as the rest of the country, though not as many as Ontario!

At 4:30, parade participants bused to City Hall for the 'Freedom of the City' ceremony. The Deputy Mayor granted the Legion the right to parade. Following, Members marched, in 37 degree heat to the cenotaph for wreath laying. Thank goodness for the gentle breeze. Arriving back at the Convention Centre, we went right into opening ceremonies. Recognizing the 81<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of D-Day, the convention was declared officially open. All were invited to the President's Reception following, sponsored by the Vendors in attendance, with a cash bar, and a variety of finger foods.

At business sessions, Delegates were seated at round tables by Zone. Comrades Ernie, Lynn, Pamela and I shared a Guests table.

Following the benediction and announcements by LAC Chair Brenda Thomson, Comrade Craig gave his President's report and introduced guests. I was invited to bring greetings and an update from Dominion Command, then to conduct the election for Command President. The nominees were President Craig Thomson, who declined "in the tradition of BC Command", and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Bob Underhill was acclaimed. Next was the election of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, with four standing, two ballots elected serving Chair Gary Peters.

The election of two Vice-Presidents with 10 standing, 7 ballots followed, exhausting my repertoire of jokes, Comrade Karen Kuzek was re-elected, and Comrade Dwight Grieve, elected.

Comrade Glenn Hodge was elected Treasurer and Comrade Brenda Thomson elected Chair. The electronic voting process, though costly at \$10,000, is certainly money well spent!

A contentious issue was the need for a per capita increase of \$4. Comrade Hodge motioned it be in \$2 installments, in January 2026 and 2027. The vote by green card too close to decide, a standing vote was called. The result was 106 for the motion, 120 against, total 226, one more vote than the credentials report of 225. Impact VX was able to remove the proxies and take a Delegate vote. A test run worked, the vote was called, the motion to increase per capita defeated. On Sunday, a motion was made from the floor to revisit the issue, as more information was needed. It was discussed at length with a few amendments proposed. The assistance of Comptroller Emily and power point presentations justifying the increase were both well done. Eventually, the original motion carried!

I requested a copy of a power point on Branch Operations presented by Staff member Darryn Langstaff, which may be of value to other Commands.

Keynote speaker was Veterans' Ombud Nishika Jardine, providing an upbeat, down to earth informative talk on the role of her office.

A motion by Poppy chair Comrade Hodge to increase the Special Levie on Poppy Funds to 8% was discussed and carried, relatively quickly!

Of interest, was a recommendation to amend the current Legion Dress code to allow Indigenous members to wear ceremonial items of significance on Legion uniform when representing Legion at public events received support. Receiving support the recommendation will go to Dominion Convention 2026.

Under Youth Ed, a collection from the floor raised \$3130 for the BC/Yukon Track & Field program.

A high point was presentation by Honourary President Dave Sinclair, of MSM, to his Co-Chair of Veterans House, a very emotional Terri Orser received a deserved standing ovation.

Sunday morning, following the RCEL report, a collection taken brought in \$861 in cash, \$8000 in cheques, and \$26,000 in promises, a total of \$34,861.00 to be forwarded via BC/Yukon HQ.

Our guest group was surprised without a call for General & New Business, to be asked for closing comments. All thanked BC/Yukon Command for the gifts, hospitality, and comradeship, sharing though different we are all here for our Veterans, wishing everyone safe travels home.

A recess was called to re-organize for the installation of 18 Zone Commanders, followed by the Senior Elected Officers, and comments from the newly installed President Bob, after which I thanked Staff and the LAC Team for a well organized weekend, Delegates for their participation in the process, and turned the gavel over to the newly installed Chair, Comrade Brenda Thomson for closing ceremonies, ending the convention.

Comrades Ernie, wife Charlyn and I joined Comrade Val and husband Glen for dinner, following which we exchanged our goodbyes and retired, ending an enjoyable few days with our BC Comrades.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon McKeown

Dominion Command 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President

## **Report from the 'In-Canada' Delegation of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of The Netherlands and commemoration of Victory in Europe**

May 5, 2025, representing Dominion Command, I arrived at the Radisson Bleu Hotel on the waterfront in downtown Toronto. In addition to VAC Staff, the Delegation consisted of 25\*, including VAC Assoc. Deputy Minister Christine McDowell, Veterans Ombud Colonel (Ret'd) Nishika Jardine, four history students (2 York Univ./ 2 U of T), 2 serving RCMP, 10 Reps from Veterans Organizations, and most importantly, 3 WWII Veterans, with caregivers.

The eldest Veteran was Percival Smith (Merchant Navy) a 101 year 360 day old Legion Member, Past Zone Commander from British Columbia. Percy always neat as a pin, proudly walked unassisted, as often as caregiver Josh, allowed. Second was Jack Boeki, of Etobicoke, a Dutch Immigrant, slight in stature, who at 19 joined the US Army, to later serve with US Army Intelligence. Jack was days short of his 101<sup>st</sup> birthday, with a quick wit, a twinkle in his eye, and feet that danced to the music from his chair, wheeled by his lovely daughter Anna-Lea Boeki. Last, the youngest of the trio, was Fraser McKee, a Navy Veteran from Toronto. It was Fraser, who at the Hockey Hall of Fame left his son Ross, and went MIA for 15 minutes, in search of the elusive Stanley Cup, much to the chagrin of VAC team!

Upon arrival, a familiar face was spotted amid a group of total strangers. Comrade Evelyn Kelly was Aide du Camp for LG Elizabeth Dodswell. As well, Evelyn is a Past President of Branch 165 Fort York in Toronto.

VAC had a busy four-day agenda with a full, time sensitive itinerary. First item following check in, was to Toronto's City Hall for the Welcome Blessing Smudging Ceremony at the Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre Spirit Garden, returning to the hotel at 8:30 PM.

Day two, was Sunnybrook's Veterans Centre, a visit with residents and wreath laying ceremony. Returning to the hotel for lunch, then off to the elevated gardens of CIBC Square for a Boots of Remembrance Ceremony. A Welcome Dinner was held that evening in the hotel.

Day three, Crestwood Preparatory College in North York students were delighted to do a Q&A with the senior Veterans, chatting too with others. Next stop was Little Canada, an amazing 3-D imaging tourist attraction. If anyone visits there, a 'little' me in Legion uniform is at Union Station in Toronto. Then off to the Ontario Veterans Memorial, Queens Park, for wreath laying, followed by a gala dinner at the Royal Canadian Military Institute. Upon entering the room, I was delighted to again see some unexpected familiar faces.

Day four, was an early departure to Coronation Park, near the CNE, for a televised wreath laying ceremony at the Victory-Peace Monument. Again, seeing Legionnaires from Toronto

and even Milton! From there to a tour of the Hockey Hall of Fame. After finding Fraser, we were guests of the Consulate of the Netherlands reception in the 48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders Mess at the Moss Park Armouries. Here we previewed an emotionally charged documentary of interviews with survivors of the Nazi occupation. Too, WWII US Army Veteran Jack Boeki shared his incredible story of survival from the Nazis, his reason for joining the US Army.

Back at the hotel, after a buffet dinner, we were off to the signature event at Canada Lands Square at the foot of the CN Tower. It was chilly, thank goodness CLS had provided souvenir blankets to all seated guests. Hundreds of people stood about the square. The celebration included musical entertainment with speeches from dignitaries, officials, and an impressive virtual fireworks display. Indigenous Veterans Rep Wendy Jocko, of Golden Lake First Nations, was the principal speaker. However, Veterans Ombud Nishika Jardine asked last minute to address the gathering was amazing, speaking from the heart, sharing how as leaving for her last tour of Kandahar, she answered her 5 year old son, when he asked, 'Mommy do you have to go?' Never, have I witnessed hundreds of people simultaneously reach for a hankie, or the comfort of another. Emotionally drained, I realized that over the week our group of strangers had become friends, as one Rep who had challenged me earlier about the validity of 'Ladies' Auxiliary grabbed me into a bear hug.

Thank you, Comrade Berkley for the assignment of this once in a lifetime opportunity.

Delegates:

VAC. Assoc. Deputy Minister – Christine McDowell  
Veterans Ombuds – Colonel (Ret'd) Nishika Jardine  
Percival Smith/Joshua Sabando  
Jack Boeki/Anna-Lea Boeki  
Fraser McKee/Ross McKee  
York Univ – Lia Karokis & Alexandra Martin  
University of TO – Spencer Holmes & Bronwen Marston (Virginia, USA)  
Rainbow Veterans of Canada – Kathryn Foss  
Indigenous Veterans – Wendy Jocko  
ANAVETS – Colin Hourie  
National Council of Veterans Assoc. Canada – Evelyn Anne Kelly  
Aboriginal Veterans Autochtones – Denis Gravel, Lucie Pacaud (spouse)  
Manitoba Metis Federation – Cpl (Ret'd) Shawn Nault  
Metis National Council – MWO (Ret'd) Floyd Powder  
CAF CJOC Commemorations Team Lead/Advisor - Lt(N) Oliver Corona-Puente  
CAF CJOC RSM/DSM – MWO Alan Clark  
Eagle Staff Carrier – RCMP Sgt Tanya Segers  
OIC IPS-OPS – RCMP Insp. Eric Sheppard  
RCL Dominion Command – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Sharon McKeown





June 12, 2025

Mrs. Sharon McKeown  
162 Commercial Street  
Milton ON L9T 2J2

Dear Mrs. McKeown:

I want to thank you sincerely for your participation in the domestic delegation commemorating the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary, in May 2025, of the Liberation of the Netherlands and Victory in Europe Day.

The Liberation of the Netherlands stands as a profoundly significant chapter in both Canadian and global history. The ceremonies and events you attended and took part in offered powerful reminders of the heroic accomplishments and immense sacrifices of the 175,000 Canadians and Newfoundlanders who played a crucial role in the liberation and the Allied victory in Europe that followed.

This milestone anniversary was a deeply moving one, and it was a privilege to stand beside our treasured Second World War Veterans. The presence of modern-day Veterans, Indigenous Veterans and youth was important and meaningful, fostering intercultural and intergenerational connections and reinforcing our ongoing commitment to honouring the legacy of all who served.

The Royal Canadian Legion's continued support of our cherished Veterans remains invaluable to our shared commemorative goals. I commend the determined work of your organization to ensure the stories of our Second World War Veterans continue to be shared, keeping their legacy alive for future generations.

Again, thank you for your vital role in this historic occasion as part of the Government of Canada's official delegation. Please accept my sincere gratitude for everything you do to support our country's Veterans and their families. I extend my very best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Christine McDowell  
Associate Deputy Minister



**Premier of Ontario - Premier ministre de l'Ontario**

May 5, 2025

### **A MESSAGE FROM PREMIER DOUG FORD**

I want to thank you all for joining the Government of Canada's delegation and welcome you to Ontario. In the 80 years since the end of the Second World War and the liberation of the Netherlands by Canadian and Allied troops, the bond between Canada and the Netherlands has only grown stronger. Our vibrant Dutch Canadian community here in Ontario has contributed immensely to that bond — including by helping to preserve the memory of the liberation and the sacrifices that were made.

I want to especially acknowledge our veterans, including our remaining Second World War veterans. As the events of the war pass out of living memory, it is more important than ever to learn from them and pass on the memory of their service to the next generation.

Here in Canada and in the Netherlands, we enjoy peace and prosperity because of the sacrifices made 80 years ago by these brave men and women. Let us never forget.

I hope you enjoy your time here in Ontario, and may God bless you all.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Ford".

**Doug Ford**  
**Premier**



Premier of Ontario - Premier ministre de l'Ontario

Le 5 mai, 2025

### **UN MESSAGE DU PREMIER MINISTRE DOUG FORD**

Je tiens à vous remercier tous d'avoir rejoint la délégation du gouvernement du Canada et à vous souhaiter la bienvenue en Ontario. Depuis la fin de la Seconde Guerre mondiale et la libération des Pays-Bas par les troupes canadiennes et alliées, il y a 80 ans, les liens entre le Canada et les Pays-Bas n'ont cessé de se renforcer. Ici en Ontario, notre dynamique communauté néerlandaise canadienne a grandement contribué à ces liens, notamment en aidant à préserver la mémoire de la libération et des sacrifices qui ont été faits.

Je tiens à remercier tout particulièrement nos anciens combattants, y compris les derniers qui subsistent de la Seconde Guerre mondiale. Alors que les événements de la guerre s'éloignent de la mémoire vivante, il est plus crucial que jamais de tirer des leçons de leur expérience et de transmettre la mémoire de leur service à la prochaine génération.

Ici, au Canada comme aux Pays-Bas, nous jouissons de la paix et de la prospérité grâce aux sacrifices faits il y a 80 ans par ces hommes et femmes courageux. Ne les oublions jamais.

J'espère que vous apprécierez votre séjour en Ontario, et que Dieu vous bénisse tous.

Merci,

**Le premier ministre,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Doug Ford".

**Doug Ford**

**Addendum to DEC report from First Vice-President.**



**The RCEL Conference** held in Ottawa at the Chateau Laurier, over the Canada Day weekend, was a once in a lifetime experience!

**Congratulations to all involved.**

Everything from registration to the last dinner, was so well organized, that if something went wrong, only the Legion Team knew about it! Bill and I wish to thank those responsible for the decision to hold the conference in Ottawa and for inviting all SEOs and spouses to

attend and participate. The entire experience from start to finish was amazing. Each SEO shared the same wonderful experiences, with one exception, I was the only guest to whom Lord Richards sang Happy Birthday, accompanied by Lady Caroline, Major General Mitchell, RCEL Council Toby, and our own Vice-Admiral Larry!

**Thank you to Comrade Berkley** for the opportunity to represent him at the **Warriors' Day Parade**. When I was ON Command President, leading our troops and giving the salute at WDP was an honour, which I doubted could be surpassed. UNTIL, invited by the WDP President, to return the salute from Legion contingents as they marched in the company of two remarkable WWII Veterans, **RCAF Lt-General Richard Rohmer and RCN Commander**

**Another thanks Comrade Berkley** for the exercise gain walking all over downtown Toronto to collect the Certificate of Recognition from Metropolitan Toronto Police for the support Dominion Command provided to the **M Veterans Wellness Program**. Presented by TPS Board Chair Shelly Carroll, pictured with a police superintendent and a local MP.

With THANKS for these memories.



## Vice President's Report to DEC – November 2025

I had the pleasure of representing the Royal Canadian Legion at the International Commemoration of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of the Netherlands, May 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in the Netherlands.

The Canadian delegation included 21 World War II Veterans who ranged in age from 97 to 105 years; their caregivers; selected members of the Canadian Armed Forces; a medical team from Saint Mary's Hospital; Veterans Affairs Canada staff support team and the stakeholder's group which included the Royal Canadian Legion; Army, Navy Airforce Veterans; Indigenous Veterans Association; Rainbow Veterans of Canada; and the National Council of Veterans Associations in Canada.

We were joined in the Netherlands, by additional CAF and RCMP representatives including the RCMP Pipe Band and dance team; Minister of Veterans Affairs Elisabeth Briere; and Deputy Minister Paul Ledwell.

We left Toronto for Amsterdam on the evening of April 30 with a touching tribute to our Veterans from the flight crew and an unbelievable response from the 500+ passengers on the flight. We arrived on May 1<sup>st</sup> to a hero's welcome, a water cannon salute on the tarmac prior to getting to the gate where our Veterans were treated to an incredible welcome from the Dutch people. The close bond between Canada and the Netherlands and the appreciation of the sacrifice of over 7,600 who gave their lives in the Liberation was evident throughout the entire week.

We had a full schedule for the week which included the follow events:

- **Opening of Canada House Pavilion:** May 2, 2025
- **Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery:** Commemorative Ceremony on May 2, 2025, with a Government of Canada delegation.
- **Apeldoorn Liberation Parade:** May 3, 2025, attended by the Dutch Royal Family.
- **Holten Canadian War Cemetery:** Commemorative Ceremony on May 4, 2025, attended by the Governor General.
- **Wageningen National Commemoration:** Ceremony and Parade on May 5, 2025, marking the 80th anniversary of German surrender.

- **Beinen, Germany Commemoration:** Ceremony and Parade on May 6, 2025, honouring the members of North Nova Scotia Highlanders Regiment who died during the Battle of Bienen, March 25, 1945.

Additionally, we had the pleasure of meeting the Governor General Mary Simon and her husband, as well as the Canadian Ambassador to the Netherlands Hugh Adsett and his wife at a luncheon hosted by Royal Canadian Legion Branch 005. Following the luncheon one of our WWII Veterans from Vancouver Island donated his personal collection of Indigenous artifacts to the Branch to be included in their "Canada Room" collection. This Branch is very active and were instrumental in organizing the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative events.

It was an emotional week and sad to say goodbye to the 21 WWII Veterans when we returned to Toronto. Having said that, it was truly an honour to have been part of this once in a lifetime commemoration and I thank the Dominion President for the opportunity.

May 12, 2025, I attended the OSI Special Section Convention and elections which coincided with the Ontario Provincial Convention. The OSI convention was a hybrid format with OSI members who were at the Ontario Convention attending in person and all other voting members attending by virtual link. The election was successfully completed. The elected officers are President, Comrade Craig Hood; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Comrade Andre Boudreau; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Comrade Jeremy Dobson; Chairperson, Comrade Crystal Cook and Secretary, Comrade James LeRoy. They are joined by Past President, Comrade Darren Reid and Treasurer, Comrade Mark Kennedy. It was a pleasure to assist the OSI Section with their elections and I wish them much success in their term of office.

I also attended the Ontario Provincial Convention on behalf of the BC/Yukon Command President, and I commend the organizers on a successful convention.

May 17-19, 2025, I attended the Quebec Provincial Convention in Quebec City. Outgoing President Tom Irvine praised committee efforts, highlighting increased membership and leadership improvements. Over 600 new members joined this term, and two new branches were created, one branch was suspended pending review. He also emphasized the need to address "stolen valour" cases, noting that most incidents involved people in leadership roles. Preserving the Legion's integrity is a priority. The Constitution and Laws committee reported there were few member disputes, with only one complaint in the past year. The Poppy Chair reminded members to follow guidelines



and submit reports on time, as public trust depends on transparency. We learned that Quebec Command is financially healthy, and the delegates supported a motion that Branches will contribute 5% of gross poppy sales to the Command to strengthen support for the service bureau.

Our National report and the Centenary PowerPoint presentation were very well received. The messaging aligning well with the direction Quebec Command is taking on Membership, and delegates were clearly engaged with details of our upcoming Centenary.

Elections took place with the following officers elected for the ensuing term. President, Comrade Luc Fortier; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Comrade Terrance Deslage; Vice Presidents, Comrades Yves Boucher, Sandra Morissette and Ron Kappert; Chairperson, Comrade Susan Donnelly; and Treasurer, Comrade Norman Shelton.

I had the pleasure of presenting several Past Officer awards, medals and bars to deserving members. Outgoing President Irvine received a standing ovation upon receiving his Past Provincial President lapel pin and there were many thanks to him for his commitment to Quebec Command and the Royal Canadian Legion. Incoming President Fortier promised that under his leadership every voice will be heard, every branch supported and he gave the delegates his commitment to full transparency. He encouraged members to focus on those who serve and to empower volunteers.

On other items, I attended the BC/Yukon Command Convention June 5-9, 2025. It was a pleasure to welcome 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Comrade Sharon McKeown to British Columbia. As Immediate Past President this was my last Provincial Convention. It was gratifying to see how successful the Command has become.

It was an honour and a privilege to attend the RCEL Conference in Ottawa June 27- July 2, 2025. The conference was a wonderful opportunity to meet and welcome delegates from around the world. This was an opportunity to learn and widen our horizons in regard to the wonderful work being done by the RCEL. I very much look forward to working together to ensure this amazing work continues in the years to come.

Respectfully submitted, Valerie MacGregor

## DEC REPORT Oct 2025

Over the past number of months, I attended 3 Provincial conventions including my own. The PEI convention was held in May and unfortunately due to circumstances Comrade Trevor could not attend. I installed a full slate of officers and Comrade Dave Doucette as President. Wellington, the host branch did a fabulous job and is to be commended.

I attended the NFLD and Lab convention in Goose Bay Aug 23 – 27. Incoming President Janis Boone was elected and installed along with a full slate of officers. The host legion is to be commended as the food and evening events were outstanding. Thanks for the great hosting job. A convention I will never forget.

The NB convention was held 19 – 21 Sep. I installed Comrade Harold Defasio along with a full slate of Officers. The host Legion was a great venue. All staff and volunteers are to be commended on a job well done.

I attended the RCEL conference in Ottawa this past June. This was an outstanding event of which I was proud to be a part of. The Legion House staff are to be commended on a job well done. World class planning and implementation was well received by all Commonwealth countries in attendance.

### Membership:

As of Oct 2025 there is over 263,00 paid members 1.2% higher then last year. Auto renewal has started and will continue thru December. Free membership launches Jan 05 and continues thru Dec 18 2026.

Many thanks to Amanda and her team. They have met all challenges thrown at them this past year and expect different challenges with the free membership initiative coming up.



A couple of membership items brought to my attention which can be discussed.

1. Bylaw 206 which outlines the membership categories does not require proof of service. (definition of a veteran) This may be implied but should it be stated?
2. Should we look at rewards for reinstated members that have let their membership lapse for a number of years. This could be worthwhile.

There is no update for Western US branches.

J.L. MacIsaac  
Vice President  
Dominion Command  
Royal Canadian Legion

Between September 26th and 29th I attended the 52nd biannual convention of the Royal Canadian Legion Saskatchewan Command in Saskatoon Saskatchewan hosted by the Nutana Branch.

Registration commenced on September 26th and a Cenotaph Ceremony was held on September 27th followed by the opening ceremonies which was held at HMCS Unicorn a short distance away dignitaries in attendance included the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan Bernadette McIntyre the Deputy Mayor of Saskatoon the Local MLA and various other participants.

As a tradition resolution #1 reaffirmed the commands loyalty to His Majesty the King Charles the Third.

Business sessions began on September 28th and continued into the mid afternoon of September 29th. In total 130 Legionnaires attended. Reports were read resolutions were discussed and the business of the 52nd bi annual convention was handled with decorum and integrity.

Elections were held for the executive council positions with the following results:

President: Roberta Taylor

Provincial Past President: Carol Pederson

1st Vice President Nathan Hofmeister

Vice Presidents: Raymond Coderre and Wayne Goldsworthy

Provincial chairman Darrell Webster

I would like to thank the Saskatchewan Command for allowing me to attend their convention. As always the members the Legion in Saskatchewan were most welcoming and I enjoyed myself immensely during the convention.

I would like to congratulate all of the members of the new executive and commend the members of Saskatchewan for their good grace and comradeship.

Respectfully submitted:

Trevor L. Jenvenne

## **Report of Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command 57<sup>th</sup> Convention**

Dominion Command President, Comrade Berkley; Comrades of DEC and Comrades, this is my report on the proceedings of the NS/Nunavut Command 57<sup>th</sup> Convention which was held in Antigonish, NS from May 17 to May 19 of this year. Let me begin by telling you that our friends and Comrades in NS Command welcomed and cared for Laurie and I with friendship, Comradeship and open arms that were second to none, from the point of our arrival until the time of our departure. I also wish to thank Comrade Berkley for allowing me to represent Dominion Command at the 57th NS/Nunavut Command Convention. Being from Dartmouth originally, it is always nice to go home and re-kindle fond memories.

The Convention got off to a very unfortunate beginning as Comrade Don McCumber, NS/Nunavut Command President, had suffered a stroke only days before the convention was scheduled to start, was hospitalized and unable to attend the convention. I can tell you that NS/Nunavut Command did not miss a step, as under the direction and leadership of Comrade George Della Valle, NS/Nunavut Command First VP and Comrade Valerie Mitchell-Veinotte, NS/Nunavut Command ED, they all pulled together. The Command council continued to work as a unified team and the Convention went off without a hitch and one of the convention high lights was when Comrade Don joined us via Zoom on the final day of the convention from his hospital bed. His Zoom presence was both emotional and powerful and was very well received by all delegates.

Prior to the start of the convention the Command conducted four training sessions and all were very well attended. I will high-light two of the sessions. First the C&L Committee member and Command Chair, Comrade Tom Young made a fantastic presentation on the changes that were made to Article III that now allows for arbitration on the identified lesser offenses. This training session was of great value to all in attendance and was very well received. The second session that I wish to highlight was given by Comrade Marion Fryday-Cook and she updated the members on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary planning and the activities and events being worked on by the Dominion Command Centenary Committee. Again this presentation was very well received with many positive comments and all positive feedback. Many of the Comrades in attendance were discussing their attendance at the 2026 Dominion Convention.

I had the pleasure and honour of conducting the NS/Nunavut Command nominations, elections and installations for the 2025-2027 term and the results are identified below:

President – Comrade George Della Valle – acclaimed from 1<sup>st</sup> VP

1<sup>st</sup> VP – Comrade Harry Jackson – acclaimed from 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Comrade Joanne Geddes – elected and was a prior District Commander

Treasurer – Comrade Conrad Gilbert – acclaimed and was previous Treasurer

Chair – Comrade Ron Langevin – acclaimed and was a previous Zone Commander

Comrade Don McCumber is now the Immediate Past President

The Convention decided upon a number of resolutions with good debate both for and against most of the resolutions. One resolution that was hotly debated and sometimes became emotional was titled “Prominent Display of the Poppy on the Nova Scotia License Plates”. It was proposed to have the Poppy prominently displayed along with the Canadian Flag on the Nova Scotia Veterans License Plates. Again, after much debate, this resolution was defeated and the Poppy will not be added to the Nova Scotia Veterans License Plates. The many committee reports were very well done with most reports being high-lighted but some were read in their entirety.

The final credential report showed the following totals:

Delegates – 142

Proxies - 115

Total Votes – 257

Guests - 4

Observers - 29

My presentation to the convention contained much of the information provided by Legion House and a number of items that I included in the presentation. Based on the response, I had to assume that it was well received and contained a number of items that generated many one on one discussions for the remainder of the convention. I probably should not mention the fact that I won the Sunday 50/50 draw, but I did donate half of my winnings to the Veterans Outreach Program.

Comrades, although Comrade Don McCumber was missed, the convention went extremely well thanks to the Convention Committee but also due to the time, work and efforts put in by many members of the host Branch, Antigonish Br. 59 Arras. Without these loyal volunteers and very dedicated Legion members, the convention may not have been the huge success that it was.

To Comrade George Della Valle, Laurie and I sincerely thank you for your friendship, your hospitality and your Comradeship that you offered to us throughout the convention and during our entire visit to Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Chafe

Dominion Chair

The Royal Canadian Legion

## **Event Attendance Report** Bruce Julian-Immediate Past President

### **Dominion Executive Council** (NOVEMBER 20-24, 2024)

Attended DEC along with various committee meetings along with other scheduled duties and activities.

### **Dominion Executive Council** (April 21-26, 2025)

Attended DEC along with various committee meetings along with Board of Directors meetings of Canvet and the Legion National Foundation...left DEC early because of a previous family commitment

### **Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Command Convention** (June 12-16, 2025)

I had the distinct honour and pleasure of attending the 51<sup>st</sup> Convention of Man/NWO Command. I was fortunate to arrive a few days early (at my own expense) and visited a number of local Winnipeg and rural Branches...it is always a wonderful experience to meet our dedicated Legion members on their "home turf"...it gives them a chance to show off their branches and the hard work and commitment they have put in on behalf of our veterans and their communities. The "convention weekend" began with a parade and remembrance service at Winnipeg's iconic Brookside Cemetery. This cemetery has more than 10,000 burials of veterans of both World Wars along with other CF Members...it is a **MUST SEE** for anyone who is in the Winnipeg area or happens to be attending next year's Dominion Convention

The convention itself was hosted by Charleswood Branch and held at the Birchwood Inn and Conference Centre. It was well organized, well attended and well run. Reports were received, resolutions were proposed, debated and voted on and elections were held. For information there were 118 registered delegates, holding 219 proxies

The election results are as listed—

<b>Command President</b>	<b>Robert Cutbush</b>	<b>Port Arthur Br.</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</b>	<b>Gail Conrad Davey</b>	<b>Lac Du Bonnet Br.</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Wayne Baker</b>	<b>Kenora Br.</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Chris Flood</b>	<b>Carberry Br.</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Jason Lava</b>	<b>Kenora Br.</b>
<b>Honourary Treasurer</b>	<b>Tanya Bishop</b>	<b>Transcona Br.</b>
<b>Chair</b>	<b>Trevor Jenvenne</b>	<b>Lac Du Bonnet Br.</b>
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	<b>Roland Fisette</b>	<b>St. James Br.</b>

**(Man/NWO convention continued)**

During a break in the ongoing convention proceedings, it was my distinct honour to present to three distinguished, long serving, dedicated comrades The Royal Canadian Legions highest awards.

<b>The Meritorious Service Medal</b>	Robert Cutbush
<b>The Palm Leaf to the Meritorious Service Medal</b>	Richard Bennett
	Roland Fisette

Congratulations to these comrades for this recognition of their many years of dedicated service to the Royal Canadian Legion our members and their communities. **Well done all.**



After the close of the business session, installations for all the newly elected Command Senior Officers and for the previously elected District Commanders were performed with the appropriate pomp and ceremony.

In closing, an excellent convention in both the conducting of all necessary business and the after sessions comradeship and hospitality...From both Darlene and myself, **THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES**

**Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League Conference** (June 7<sup>th</sup>-July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025)

Attended the RCEL Conference hosted by the Royal Canadian Legion in Ottawa

**Senior Elected Officers Budget and finance meetings** (September 10-14, 2025)

Attended various finance committee and budget meetings

ITEM 10: NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

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**1. Overview:**

We congratulate and welcome all newly elected Provincial Presidents to Legion House and we look forward to working with you over the next couple of years. Since our last DEC meeting, we proudly organized four significant events and in doing so were highly recognized both nationally and internationally as leaders in remembrance, commemoration, and Veteran support. The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier commemoration ceremony in May, the hosting of the 35th RCEL Conference in July, the record setting National Youth Track and Field Championships in August, and the National Remembrance Day Ceremony in November were all successfully executed over the past 6 months. A tremendous effort from numerous Legion House staff members contributed to the success of these events.

Moving forward, we enter one of the busiest times on record for Legion House staff as we approach our centenary with a strategic plan built to ensure celebration, education and growth.

From a business perspective, Our Supply and Merchandising Department continues to show year-over-year revenue growth aided by our partnership with Amazon. Membership also continues to show year-over-year growth, as we eagerly await the launch of our free membership offer in 2026.

Veterans Services continues to experience a growing demand for our support services to assist Veterans while preparing for a growing CAF in the years to come.

We will continue to rely on our professional Marketing and Comms team in promoting our centenary while educating Canadians on the outstanding work being done throughout our organization.

Modernization and collaboration have placed us in a position to efficiently launch major initiatives for our upcoming centenary and continued modernization and data collection will remain at the forefront as we strategically evolve all aspects of our business model for a stronger future.

Our centenary is now upon us, and we are prepared and excited about this once-in-a-century opportunity!

## 2. National Headquarters Staffing

Category	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Permanent	35	42	45	42	43	46
Long Term Contract	7	4	4	2	1	0
Short Term Contract	0	3	1	0	0	0
Temp/Casual	1	0	0	0	2	2
Total Legion House	43	49	50	44	46	48

### Notes:

#### a. Permanent personnel:

- Vacancies:  
(1) Poppy & Remembrance

#### b. New Personnel:

- Emily Gentes: Corporate Services
- Mariana Souza: Financial Services
- Kristin Colpitts: Member Services
- Richard Coltart: Veterans Services

#### c. Retirements:

- Nicole Thomas
- Dean Young

#### d. Recognitions:

- Mike Walji celebrated 40 years of service at Legion House on October 01, 2025 and was recognized by the Mayor of Ottawa when the Mayor visited Legion House in mid October.

## Significant Work Anniversaries in 2025

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Anniversary</u>
Dion Edmonds	8 Sep. 2015	10 years
Randy Hayley	8 Sep. 2015	10 years
Shelby Sutherland	14 Sep. 2015	10 years
Melissa Griffin	21 Sep. 2015	10 years
Jordan Strathearn	23 Nov. 2015	10 years
Tiffany Patterson	13 Oct. 2015	10 years
Karen Taylor Lopez	1 Jul. 2010	15 years
Moobin (Mike) Walji	1 Oct. 1985	40 years

- e. **Christmas Leave Period.** Legion House will close for the Christmas / New Year's period on Wednesday, 24 December 2025 and reopen for business on Monday, 05 January 2026.

3. **Legal**

No new updates to report. There are currently 3 individual cases we have been named in at the Dominion level.

4. **Legion House**

## **LEGION HOUSE MAINTENANCE UPDATE**

- a. Legion House Maintenance Plan, 2026-2028. The Legion House Maintenance Plan has been updated to include projected maintenance needs for 2026 through 2028. The plan is reviewed and monitored on an ongoing basis, recognizing that the building has reached a stage in its lifecycle where increased repairs are expected. This update incorporates both outstanding anticipated expenses and newly identified costs.
- b. Legion House Project List. The list below outlines maintenance projects that have been completed, or are in progress, since the last DEC meeting.

TITLE	DESCRIPTION	PREVENTATIVE (PLANNED) OR CORRECTIVE	COST/ESTIMATE	STATUS
Air Conditioning Unit Replacement	All items surrounding the Air Conditioning Unit Replacement and summary that remained in April 2025 is completed.	Planned	\$156,230.17+	Completed
Air Conditioning Unit Replacement	Extra funding was required to get the coils installed; however, this cost was less than having to take the doors apart, remove a wall, and fix those structural damages that would have occurred.	Corrective	\$12,430.00	Completed
Roof Repair	Roof repair around the old AC unit being removed,	Planned	\$6215	Completed
Interior Repairs	Door repairs – hinges on multiple doors Plumbing – boiler room build up in drain	Corrective	\$548.05 \$480.25	Completed Completed

Exterior Repairs	Catch basin cleanout (annual); includes clean out and disposal fee	Planned	\$3,665.81	Completed
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*Note: Preventative/Planned projects include those that have been identified in the Legion House Maintenance Plan and have been allocated funds OR are preventative in nature due to a corrective maintenance occurrence.*

TITLE	DESCRIPTION	COST/ESTIMATE	STATUS
Backflow Prevention Program	<p>The City of Ottawa is conducting a review of our buildings (and surrounding buildings) backflow prevention systems. A survey has been completed, and we are waiting for a report from the city.</p> <p>*UPDATE – The City of Ottawa has experienced delays in administering this project. However, it is still planned and therefore we must continue to expect future expenses for this project. There are other planned expenses we are hoping to save on, while performing them at the same time as this project, including the high-pressure release valve (pressure reducing valves to be installed).</p>	\$10,000 +	Waiting for report from City of Ottawa
Electrical Panels	The electrical panels should be inspected and retorqued where required. This should be done while the office is closed; suggested during the Christmas break.	\$6,000	2025
Legion House Light Up Sign	Numerous lights are out requiring replacement	TBC	2025
Flagpole Rope Replacement	This is done every 3 years	\$75.00	2026
Parking Lot Line Painting	This is done every 3-4 years	\$3,500	2026
Front Door Accessibility	The door accessibility is outdated and does not fully close properly all the time. Operations are being monitored, and replacement will eventually be required.	\$5,000	2026 - 2028
Johnson Controls Metasys	It is a program controlling the operations of the building. It is reaching its life expectancy and will need to be updated eventually	\$14,000 - \$18,000+	2028

## 5. Supply and Merchandising

### a. Sales at the end of October 2025 are:

Sales as of Oct 31, 2025					
	2022	2023	2024	2025	
JANUARY	\$84,406.45	\$128,218.01	\$152,780.57	\$204,162.42	34%
FEBRUARY	\$99,299.60	\$147,935.97	\$148,231.99	\$188,481.90	27%
MARCH	\$169,073.14	\$227,715.07	\$157,056.35	\$258,847.21	65%
APRIL	\$164,223.14	\$195,650.46	\$241,885.64	\$236,258.79	-2%
MAY	\$194,899.36	\$229,400.72	\$245,681.45	\$253,920.24	3%
JUNE	\$193,236.83	\$217,031.46	\$209,525.24	\$212,465.30	1%
JULY	\$122,392.90	\$123,548.45	\$149,572.78	\$167,161.43	12%
AUGUST	\$152,550.21	\$220,693.15	\$173,802.69	\$141,564.64	-19%
SEPTEMBER	\$317,162.05	\$364,945.40	\$354,298.43	\$379,662.75	7%
OCTOBER	\$596,039.25	\$860,098.27	\$770,970.17	\$773,080.96	0%
JAN-OCT 2025	<b>\$2,093,282.93</b>	\$2,715,236.96	\$2,603,805.31	<b>\$2,815,605.64</b>	<b>8.13%</b>
NOVEMBER	\$574,155.62	\$740,888.69	\$534,375.95		
DECEMBER	\$160,152.41	\$157,245.28	\$241,477.80		
Total Year	<b>\$2,827,590.96</b>	<b>\$3,501,939.28</b>	<b>\$3,591,459.39</b>		

### b. Year to date Update:

#### Branch

- 2024 (Jan-Oct): 7,741 orders generating \$ 1,522,235.71
- 2025 (Jan-Oct): 7,831 orders generating \$1,656,407.54 (+8%)

#### Member (including Poppystore orders)

- 2024 (Jan-Oct): 3,350 orders generating \$201,525.57
- 2025 (Jan-Oct): 3,033 orders generating \$217,742.04(+7%)

#### Poppystore (excluding Member orders) & Wholesale

- 2024 (Jan-Oct): 17,504 orders generating \$922,275.58
- 2025 (Jan-Oct): 15,336 orders generating \$909,879.44 (-1%)

- Supply has worked diligently to expand our product mix and strengthen inventory levels on Amazon, generating over \$200,000 in revenue since the start of the Poppy Campaign.
- Numerous new products are being introduced in November and throughout our Centenary year, including (but not limited to) the 100th anniversary medal, calendar, puzzle, pin, apparel, pen, ornament, and additional commemorative items.

- e. Supply continues to promote the Poppystore through e-flyers, ads in Legion Magazine, along with the assistance of Marketing & Communications to promote through social media.

## **6. Marketing and Communications**

The Marketing and Communications team continues to deliver on all initiatives outlined in the annual plan, strategically leveraging our marketing channels and PR tools to strengthen membership growth, drive supply & merchandise sales, and enhance the Legion's public profile.

Direct mail and email renewal campaigns remain key drivers of membership engagement, contributing to year-over-year growth. Member email open and click rates continue to outperform sector benchmarks, underscoring the effectiveness of our targeted approach.

Our social media and broadcast strategies continue to elevate awareness and revenue. Paid campaigns are generating strong results—particularly in support of membership acquisition and Poppy Store sales—while television and Radio PSAs reinforce the Legion's brand visibility.

On the communications front, the team supports leadership and departments with consistent messaging, proactive media relations, and advocacy initiatives that protect and advance the Legion's reputation.

In addition to these ongoing efforts, the team has developed and is executing the Marketing and PR Plan for the Legion's 100th Anniversary. This milestone initiative aligns national, regional, and local efforts to maximize awareness, participation, and pride as we celebrate a century of service.

## **7. IT**

- a. Infrastructure Refresh: Following the successful completion of our infrastructure modernization in 2024, our focus has shifted to optimizing system performance and ensuring long-term reliability.
- b. Digital Transformation and System Modernization: The migration and upgrade of our Membership system to cloud-based platforms were completed at the end of July. While a few issues are still being addressed, the overall transition has been very successful.
- c. Centenary Support and Development: We are currently working on centenary-related updates including implementing updates to the Membership systems to accommodate the upcoming free membership year and revising the Membership Portal enrollment pages to reflect these changes.
- d. Finance ERP. The Finance ERP assessment has been temporarily paused as we prioritize ensuring all systems and processes are ready for the centennial launch.

## **8.. RCEL Conference**

The 35<sup>th</sup> RCEL Conference was held 28 June – 02 July 2025 in Ottawa at the Chateau Laurier Hotel and it was a major success. We hosted 36 Commonwealth countries throughout the Caribbean, Africa, Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Approximately 100 delegates attended including our SEO's and the Conference included an address by the Governor General who was representing King Charles III. It was a highly informative conference highlighting the work being done to support pre-independence Commonwealth Veterans throughout the world. As a founding member of this 104-year-old organization, The Royal Canadian Legion was proud to host while showing off our organization and Canada's capital city.

## **9. Centenary Taskforce**

In early January 2025 we formed an internal Legion House Centenary Task Force Team comprised of numerous staff members who are charged with implementing the ideas presented from the Centenary Committee. This Taskforce continues to meet bi-weekly and is responsible for the rollout of the numerous campaigns and projects surrounding our Centenary. Strategic execution is already underway with communications to branches regarding the centenary logo and free membership offer. Member and general public communication are imminent as we begin our once-in-a-lifetime campaign to educate, celebrate and grow.

## **10. Amazon Update**

We have once again successfully received an extension of the 2024 pilot program until October 2026. This partnership continues to have positive potential for Supply and Merchandising as well as Poppy and Remembrance as combined we have raised over \$625k this year of new revenue (Supply and Poppy) with no costs while extending our reach for Poppy distribution and merchandise sales.



**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
VETERANS, SERVICE AND SENIORS COMMITTEE TO THE  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**File: 65-1**

**B. Lawrence - Chair  
S. McKewon - Vice-Chair  
L. Murray - Ex-Officio  
B. Chafe - Member  
C. Pedersen - Member  
D. Gordon - Homeless Advisor  
G. O'Dair - Seniors Advisor  
C. Hood - BSO Legion OSI Special Section  
C. Hughes - Coordinator  
A. Pasha - Assistant Coordinator**

**DATE OF LAST MEETING(S): 17 March 2025  
DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBD**

**ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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There are no action items

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

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**1. ADVOCACY**

Comrade Berkely Lawrence has met with Minister of the Department of National Defence, the Minister of Veterans Affairs Canada and other officials since last DEC advocating on a number of issues for the well-being of still serving CAF and RCMP, veterans and their families. These include supporting reports from the Ombuds office and various ACVA Committee reports. With the rapid changeover of VAC Ministers, it has been challenging to gain momentum, and we are awaiting responses from the Government on letters that have been sent over the last couple of years.

**2. CAF TRANSITION CENTRES**

Comrade Carolyn Hughes is working on a new MOU with the Senior Advisor CAF-VAC Strategic Continuity, CAF Transition Group (TG) Headquarters.

Due to COVID shutdowns, staff changeovers, the workload with all releasing members being processed through the Transition Centres, and the organization changing from the Integrated Personnel Support Centres to the TCs, our connection has been informal and inconsistent across the country. The reengagement came about from the ACVA report on Transition.

<https://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/Committee/441/ACVA/Reports/RP13280611/acvarp16/acvarp16-e.pdf> where one of the recommendations was:

*That the Canadian Armed Forces sign a memorandum of understanding with the Royal Canadian Legion to enable Legion's service officers to be embedded within the transition centres.*

It is not necessary for the Legion to be embedded within the TCs but with a more formal MOU in place, Command Service Officers will be able to assist all members leaving service where transition services are provided by attending the TC near them periodically on a more formal basis.

### 3. **SERVICE OFFICER HANDBOOK AND SERVICE OFFICERS**

Veterans Services has begun to update the Service Officer Handbook for 2026. It will also include a more comprehensive dos and don'ts for Branch Service Officers. Given privacy concerns, it is necessary for all Service Officers at Branches, Provincial Commands and Dominion Command to understand their roles and responsibilities.

Comrade Carolyn continues to work with officials for a new VAC Business Process for Command Service Officers to follow in the future. She is diligent about maintaining privacy and is working on a few technical issues regarding scanning personal information securely. In the future Veterans Services across the country will save money in postage.

### 4. **CIMVHR**

Comrades Berkely Lawrence, Randy Hayley, Carolyn Hughes, and Charls Gendron attended the CIMVHR Forum from 20-22 October 2025. We were pleased to see the abundance of new research being presented.

Comrade Berkely Lawrence was pleased to award Ms. Kim Huynh from Queen's University, with this year's first Royal Canadian Legion Doctoral Scholarship. Her research topic ***Assessing the effects of non-concussive impacts on brain physiology in military personnel*** will contribute to research on repeated non-concussive head impacts from firearm recoil, potentially leading to neurological symptoms.

Comrade Carolyn Hughes was pleased to participate as a moderator for one of the research panels on Veteran Identity and Social Support.

### 5. **HOMELESS VETERANS**

It is very disappointing that we are not receiving Quarterly Reports for the Homeless Veterans program from all Commands and thus are unable to provide an accurate report to DEC and to various outside organizations, that we meet with on a continual

basis. Second Quarter reports were received from Alberta/NWT, Ontario, Newfoundland/Labrador and Saskatchewan. Third Quarter reports have been received from Alberta/NWT, Ontario and Saskatchewan.

We are also updating the Action Plan, and it will be released ASAP.

Veterans House Canada has construction well under way with the new building in Edmonton. Discussions are also under way with Toronto, Victoria and Halifax

## 6. **SENIORS**

Comrade George O'Dair would like to see progress reports from the other Commands. He has a list of 106 items of interest in seniors and health matters occurring or planned in Ontario. He is preparing an update for the VSS meeting in December.

## **CONCLUSION**

This is my report, and I move for its adoption.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE TO THE  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**File: 35-1**

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
S. Sutherland	-	A/Coordinator

**DATE OF LAST MEETING: 27 October 2025**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: March 2026 (Committee of the Whole meeting)**

**ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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**1. PROPOSED POPPY MANUAL AMENDMENT – SECTION 815A**

At the previous Poppy and Remembrance Committee meeting, an amendment was approved to separate the clause “any placement that could have text written across the Poppy image” from section 815a(ii)3 (Memorials) and add it below section 815a(i) (General Use).

Upon further review, it was determined that this change requires additional evaluation. Therefore, the intent of the following amendment is to revert section 815a(ii)3 to its previous wording:

**RECOMMENDATION:** That section 815a(ii)3 be reverted to its previous wording: “a watermark on walls of recognition or any placement that could have text written across the Poppy image.”

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

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**1. STRATEGIC DIRECTION**

The Committee will continue to advance initiatives that modernize and expand the Poppy Campaign and Remembrance activities while preserving their traditional significance. Priorities include increasing the accessibility and visibility of the Poppy

Campaign through new platforms and donation methods, expanding partnerships to amplify the message of Remembrance across Canada, and enhancing data collection and reporting to improve transparency and impact. Efforts will also focus on strengthening communication with Branches to ensure consistency and efficiency in Campaign delivery. The Committee will place greater emphasis on fostering year-round Remembrance and will explore innovative approaches to engage younger Canadians and diverse communities, ensuring that Remembrance remains meaningful and enduring for future generations.

I move approval of this report.

**ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE TO THE  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**File: 35-1**

<b>S. McKeown</b>	<b>- Chair</b>
<b>D. Moore</b>	<b>- Vice Chair</b>
<b>J. MacIsaac</b>	<b>- Member</b>
<b>D. Doucette</b>	<b>- Member</b>
<b>C. Thomson</b>	<b>- Member</b>
<b>D. Velichko</b>	<b>- Member</b>
<b>L. Fortier</b>	<b>- Member</b>
<b>L. Taha Cheng</b>	<b>- Coordinator</b>
<b>S. Sutherland</b>	<b>- A/Coordinator</b>

**ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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**1. REQUEST FOR FUNDING – MOOD DISORDERS SOCIETY OF CANADA –  
ADVANCING VETERAN COMMUNITIES 2**

Mood Disorders Society of Canada (MDSC) is dedicated to improving the quality of life of Canadians impacted by mental illness by providing education, support, and programs that promote long-term wellness. MDSC is seeking continued support for a national initiative that provides Veterans and their family members with peer support training, mental health education, and access to additional wellness programming.

The Advancing Veteran Communities 2 initiative builds on MDSC's existing Veteran-focused services and will provide three streams of engagement designed to reduce isolation, strengthen peer connections, and improve overall mental wellness.

MDSC has requested \$94,788 to deliver the Advancing Veteran Communities 2 project.

MDSC is currently delivering Advancing Veteran Communities 1, which received DEC approval in April 2025 for the period May 1, 2025, to April 30, 2026, at a total cost of \$93,056. To date, one of the four planned peer support workshops has been completed, and the final report is expected in April 2026.

Although Year 1 activities are ongoing, MDSC has submitted a Year 2 application to ensure continuity of services. Both the Veterans, Service and Seniors (VSS) Committee and the Poppy and Remembrance Committee acknowledged the overlap in timing but found the application strong. Both committees recommend approval, contingent upon the receipt of the final report for Advancing Veteran Communities 1.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Veteran Support Partnership Program funding request of \$94,788 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund for the Mood Disorders Society of Canada's Advancing Veteran Communities 2 project be approved for 2026, contingent upon the receipt and review of the final report for Advancing Veteran Communities 1.

## **2. REQUEST FOR FUNDING – CANADIAN ADAPTIVE SNOWSPORTS – SHOULDER**

### **2 SHOULDER – INJURED VETERANS AND RCMP SKI RETREAT**

Canadian Adaptive Snowsports (CADS) works to eliminate barriers for people with disabilities so they may experience the joy and freedom of snowsports in an inclusive and respected environment.

CADS is requesting support for its Shoulder 2 Shoulder Ski Retreat, which helps injured Veterans, RCMP members, and their caregivers return to a pre-injury sport or learn a new lifelong activity in a supported and low-stress environment. The four-day retreat pairs each participant with a certified adaptive ski instructor who provides tailored instruction throughout the program. The retreat is heavily subsidized to reduce financial barriers, covering most travel and on-site costs for attendees. Beyond skiing, the program creates opportunities for participants to connect with peers who share similar experiences.

The application was reviewed by the VSS Committee who advised the Poppy and Remembrance Committee that they supported this funding request. The Poppy and Remembrance Committee concurred with this recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Veteran Support Partnership Program funding request of \$30,800 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund for Canadian Adaptive Snowsports, Shoulder 2 Shoulder, Injured Veterans and RCMP Ski Retreat be approved for 2026.

## **3. REQUEST FOR FUNDS – MARKETING THE POPPY CAMPAIGN 2025**

As part of the 2026 Marketing Plan, the Marketing Department will once again actively promote the Poppy Campaign through a series of social media and online initiatives. The initiatives planned for October and November 2026 are outlined below:

- Social media paid advertisements (X/Facebook): \$100,000
- Paid media buy (Connected TV) which will air our TV advertisement on streaming sites such as Corus, Bell Media, Bloomberg, CBC Gem, and others to encourage observance of the moment of silence and participation in local ceremonies on November 11: \$75,000

The Poppy and Remembrance Committee is in support of this request.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the funding request of \$175,000 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund for marketing the Poppy Campaign be approved for 2026.



**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE TO THE  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**File: 23:1**

Jack MacIsaac	-	<b>Chair</b>
Rosalind Larose	-	<b>Vice Chair</b>
Don McCumber	-	<b>Member</b>
Lynn McLellan	-	<b>Member</b>
Rob Cutbush	-	<b>Member</b>
Roberta Taylor	-	<b>Member</b>
Danny Redden		<b>TVS</b>
Amanda Black	-	<b>Coordinator</b>
Randy Hayley	-	<b>A/Coordinator</b>

**DATE OF LAST MEETING: October 1, 2025**  
**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBD**

**ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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The committee has no action items at this time.

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

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**1. Membership Overview**

- Current membership stands at 264,500, representing a 1% increase over the same time last year.
- New memberships total 35,700, compared to 40,500 at this time last year — reflecting continued strong interest in joining the Legion following last year's exceptional growth.
- 229,000 renewals have been processed to date, marking 85% of last year's renewal total and demonstrating solid year-over-year retention.
- Auto-renewals: Approximately 46,000 memberships are being processed between October and mid-December 2025 for the 2026 renewal year.
- In October, renewal reminders were emailed and mailed to a total of 237,246 members (100,246 emails and 137,000 mailers) as part of the 2026 renewal campaign.

**2. Communications with Branches**

- Branches have been reminded to regularly monitor their legion.ca email accounts for important updates on portal processing, membership initiatives, and all key communications related to the Centenary year and activities continuing through 2026.

### **3. Per Capita Tax (PCT) Provincial Increases – Effective January 1, 2026**

- British Columbia: Increase of \$4.00 over two years — \$2.00 effective January 2026 and an additional \$2.00 effective January 2027.
- Ontario: Increase of \$4.00 effective January 1, 2026.
- Manitoba: Increase of \$3.00 effective January 1, 2026.

Note: Updated PCT rates will be posted to the Membership Portal on January 5, 2026.

### **4. 2026 Centenary Year – Free Membership Campaign**

Administrative FAQs were distributed to all branches on October 14, 2025, by mail and email. Branch feedback has been very positive.

I move approval of this report.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
SPORTS COMMITTEE TO THE  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 November-2025**

**File: 42-2**

<b>Trevor Jenvenne</b>	-	<b>Chair</b>
<b>Keith Andrews</b>	-	<b>Vice Chair</b>
<b>Bob Underhill</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>Harold Defazio</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>Serge Thibaudeau</b>	-	<b>Technical Advisor</b>
<b>Emily Gentès</b>	-	<b>Coordinator</b>
<b>Kelly Therien</b>	-	<b>A/Coordinator</b>

**DATE OF LAST MEETING:** October 20, 2025

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** December 2025

**ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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The Sports Committee currently has no action items for DEC decision.

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

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**2. LEGION NATIONAL YOUTH TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**2025 Legion Nationals**

The 2025 Legion Nationals were held in Calgary, Alberta, from August 6 - 12, with competition taking place from August 8 -10. A detailed summary of the event can be found at the end of this report. Overall, post-event surveys and after-action reports confirmed the event's resounding success. For the first time in its history, the competition surpassed 1,000 entries and welcomed its first Para athletics competitor.

Mike Trauner returned as the event's Ambassador, once again inspiring participants by sharing his journey through the Canadian Armed Forces and his accomplishments as a Para athlete. The event proudly showcased the values of the Royal Canadian Legion, connecting with Canadian youth through the power of sport and the creation of meaningful, memorable experiences.

**2026 Legion Nationals**

The 2026 Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships will be held in Regina, Saskatchewan from August 5 - 11, 2026 (August 7 - 9 competition dates). The first site visit took place at the end of October 2025.

## **2028 & 2029 Legion Nationals**

The Sports committee hosted a bid process in the Spring / Summer of 2025. With a lot of interest in the Spring, only one bid was submitted to meet the August timeline. This bid will be included in the overall bid comparison; however, the bidding was reopened targeting a new timeline at the end of November. This timeline is pending feedback and interest at the Sports Hosting Conference the Sports Coordinator will be attending.

### **3. DOMINION MEMBER SPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The Sports Committee has distributed the host instructions for all 2026 Dominion Sports Championships with most of the planning and action from the hosts to commence in January 2026.

#### **2026 Dominion Member Sports**

Cribbage: April 24-27  
Branch 08-119  
Windsor, NS

Darts: May 1-4  
Branch 02-015  
Cochrane, AB

Eight Ball: May 22-25  
Branch 04-043  
Winnipeg, MB

#### **2027 Dominion Member Sports**

Bids to host Dominion Member Sports Championships in 2027 were obtained in August 2025 and the Sports Committee is assessing those with the final selections to take place in December 2025.

### **4. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

The Sports Committee has a meeting planned in late November 2025 to maintain close liaison with the Provincial Command sports representatives. Having the meeting at this time, following the fall site visit in Regina for Legion Nationals, will allow for open communication and feedback as we look back on 2025 and ahead to 2026.

I move approval of this report.

## **2025 LEGION NATIONAL YOUTH TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **Post Championship Report**

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The 47<sup>th</sup> 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 80<sup>th</sup> 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 include:

- 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 medalist 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, along side 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.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
RITUAL AND AWARD COMMITTEE TO THE  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**File: 51-2**

Blaine Kiley	-	Chair
Mary-Ann Latimer	-	Vice Chair
Ernie tester	-	Member
Gerald Budden	-	Member
Antonin Chevalier	-	Member
Charls Gendron	-	Coordinator

**DATE OF LAST MEETING: 30 October 2025**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBC**

**ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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**1. ELIMINATION OF LIFE MEMBERSHIP REFERENCE FROM RITUAL AND AWARD MANUAL**

**DISCUSSION:** Life Membership is no longer categorized as a Legion Award but a membership category, which is granted, not awarded, at the discretion of a Branch Executive and approval by their Provincial Command. The R&A Committee members are of the opinion that no references to Life Membership should be made in the Ritual and Award Manual and the Major award application process.

MOTION. That any relationship and/or consideration of Life Membership, in any form (Dates or Citation) be discontinued for consideration, drafting and submissions of any Royal Canadian Legion Major Awards Application.

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

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**2. MAJOR AWARD SUBMISSION**

During this reporting period, the committee reviewed 41 award submissions.

**4. GENERAL**

I would ask a voting member to move approval of this report. (This line is for Constitution & Laws, Defence and Security and Ritual & Awards Committee)

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

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
CONSTITUTION AND LAWS COMMITTEE TO THE  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 November 2025**

**File: 17-2**

D. Gordon	-	Chair
D. Eaton	-	Vice Chair
G. Della Valle	-	Member
B. Chafe	-	Member
C. Thomson	-	Member
M. Simmons	-	Member
S. Van Muyen	-	Coordinator
T. Backer	-	A/Coordinator

**DATE OF LAST MEETING: 23 October 2025**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBD**

**ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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**1. ARTICLE III DEFINITION OF VALID**

The committee has determined that there is a requirement to include a definition of *valid* when it comes to the Article III process outlined in the General By-Laws. The definition will provide clarification on what is meant with the term *valid* is used in the General By-Laws when discussing a properly lodged complaint under the Article III process.

The addition to the General By-Laws would be in Section 301. Definitions.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That GBL Section 301.m. be added to read:

*m. 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.*



## **2. SPECIAL SECTION BY-LAWS**

DEC had previously approved the naming of the “OSI Special Section” to the “BSO Legion OSI” in April 2017. However, the name change had never been updated in the General By-Laws. This was discovered during the review of the updated BSO Legion OSI By-Laws. Therefore, the following recommendations are provided for approval

*137.e. The Operational Stress Injuries (OSI) section 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.*

**RECOMMENDATION:** That GBL Section 137.e. be amended to read:

*The Operational Stress Injuries (OSI) section, **otherwise known as the BSO Legion OSI Special Section**, 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.*

Additionally, the committee discussed amending GBL 401.c. which currently reads:

*401.c. One representative from each Special Section, the Tuberculous Veterans’ Section and the Operational Stress Injuries Section, for a total of two representatives.*

**RECOMMENDATION:** That GBL Section 401.c. be amended to read:

*One representative from each Special Section, the Tuberculous Veterans’ Section and **the BSO Legion OSI Special Section**, for a total of two representatives.*

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

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### **3. PROVINCIAL COMMAND BY-LAW AMENDMENTS**

During this reporting period, the committee reviewed and approved all amendments to the PEI Provincial Command General By-Laws. The committee is currently reviewing the BSO Legion OSI By-laws.

#### **4. GENERAL**

The Committee continues to review and respond to Constitution and Laws questions by email and telephone as necessary.

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

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
RCEL COMMITTEE TO  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**File: 26-2-4**

<b>B. Lawrence</b>	-	<b>Chair</b>
<b>B. Julian</b>	-	<b>Vice Chair</b>
<b>S. McKeown</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>J. MacIsaac</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>V. MacGregor</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>T. Jenvenne</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>J. Carleton</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>B. Chafe</b>	-	<b>Member</b>
<b>R. Hayley</b>	-	<b>Coordinator</b>
<b>C. Racine</b>	-	<b>A/Coordinator</b>

**DATE OF LAST MEETING: 12 September 2025**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 20 November 2025**

**ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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1. The committee will bring forward a funding envelope recommendation for approval for the individuals assistance grants, administration grants, poppy materials and support to islands who will be hosting a Legion cruise visit. The overall budget forecast for 2026 is \$190,000 which is slightly lower than the 2025 budget forecast which was \$210,000.

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

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2. The distribution of benevolent payments to veterans and widows will continue with direct support to Antigua, Bahamas, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. This entails support to 24 beneficiaries, partial support to beneficiaries in Jamaica and support towards Curphey Home in Jamaica.

3. Following the 2025 RCEL Conference held in Ottawa earlier this year, discussions are ongoing regarding the continuation of the RCEL mandate beyond 2027. The funding provided by the Department for International Development (DFID) is scheduled for review in 2027, at which point DFID will decide whether RCEL will continue to receive its annual funding allocation in support of pre-independence veterans and widows.

As established in 1966, our commitment to the pre-independence Veterans and widows from the Caribbean will continue if there is a need. However, we are unable to speculate as to the number of years support to these veterans and widows will be required and as to whether our support will revert to extending assistance to all

countries in the Caribbean as it was pre-2020.

**4.** Site visits were conducted in Jamaica and the Bahamas in 2023. At that time, a visit was also conducted to Curphey Home. The visit confirmed our funds were being distributed accordingly. Bruce Julian and Steven Clark also got to see firsthand the significance our assistance has on the daily lives and needs of the beneficiaries.

**5.** The next President's Cruise will take place from 23 February to 4 March 2026. Ports included on this cruise are St. Maarten, Antigua, St. Lucia, Barbados, Dominica, and St. Kitts. To raise awareness and continue our commitment to Remembrance, official visits and wreath laying ceremonies will be organized and coordinated. As in previous Legion cruise visits, excursions will include a laying of the wreath ceremony on the islands, visits to Veteran cemeteries, luncheons and where possible receptions with Governors General and government officials. These visits provide a global appreciation of the Caribbean countries' participation in WWII as well as help raise the awareness for continued Remembrance for all who served under the Commonwealth. It also provides an opportunity for camaraderie to be developed and cultivated between our Canadian Veterans and the remaining pre-independence Veterans on the islands.

As usual, if any unforeseen requests or emergencies arise requiring a committee decision which would fall outside of the approved budget from November 2025, we will communicate accordingly to inform the committee members and to address the cases as they arise.

I move the approval of this report.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
CONVENTION COMMITTEE TO  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**File: 19-1**

**B. Lawrence - Chair**  
**S. McKeown - Member**  
**B. Chafe - Member**  
**S. Van Muyen - Committee Coordinator**  
**T. Backer - Assistant Coordinator**  
**R. Hayley - Ex Officio**

**ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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**1. 2026 DOMINION CONVENTION**

The 2026 Dominion Convention will include the celebration of our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This will include a special banquet dinner for all delegates on the Saturday evening. The costs to each delegate to attend the banquet dinner will be included in the registration fee. Therefore, registration fees will be increased to help cover a small portion of each registrant's meal costs.

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the 2026 Dominion Convention registration fees be established at \$120.00 per delegate and \$80.00 per observer.

**2. 2032 DOMINION CONVENTION**

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is recommended that the 2032 Dominion Convention be held in Edmonton, Alberta.

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

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**2026 DOMINION CONVENTION**

The 2026 Convention is scheduled for 22 – 26 August 2026 in Winnipeg, MB. Contractual agreements have been finalized, and the second pre-convention site visit took place in September 2025. With 2026 being our Centenary year, the 2026 Convention will include connections to our 100-year anniversary throughout the event.

For the 2026 Convention, and as was the case for the 2024 Convention, electronic delegate registration will be implemented for all attending delegates. As well, electronic

delegate voting will be implemented for the elected officials voting process. Finally, the Pre-convention Book will be issued only in an electronic format.

### **2028 DOMINION CONVENTION**

The 2028 Convention is scheduled for 17 – 24 August 2028 in Saskatoon, SK. Contractual agreements have been finalized.

### **2030 DOMINION CONVENTION**

The 2030 Convention is scheduled for 16 – 21 August 2030 in London, ON. Initial contractual agreements have been finalized.

### **2032 DOMINION CONVENTION**

The 2032 Convention is scheduled for 20 – 25 August 2032 in Edmonton, AB. Contracts are currently being negotiated.

I move acceptance of my report.

**ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
CONVENTION COMMITTEE TO  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**File: 19-1**

**1. 2026 DOMINION CONVENTION NOMINATION PROCESS**

The Dominion Convention Committee and The Royal Canadian Legion National Headquarters develop and maintain convention election procedures for upcoming conventions. These convention procedures outline the processes used to implement convention governance policies outlined in the General By-Laws Article 9.

The convention procedures include a section on the nomination process that will be followed. Historically, this has included accepting nominations from the floor during the respective convention. The exception to this process was during the 2021 virtual convention where nominations were submitted prior to convention and shared with delegates through electronic lines of communication (website, email, etc). Implementing a pre-convention nomination process presented several advantages including, but not limited to:

- A. Greater level of transparency and information for voting delegates.
- B. Increased ability for voters to make an informed vote.
- C. Increased opportunity for nominees to demonstrate their suitability for the position.
- D. Leverages technology to enhance the effectiveness of the nomination / voting process.

Given the advantages with conducting nominations prior to a convention, the convention committee will be implementing a similar process for the 2026 Dominion Convention. Nominations for elections will be requested in advance of the convention and details of the nomination process will be outlined in the convention call. Additionally, the Dominion Convention Committee will ensure convention election procedures are updated to include nomination procedures during any exceptional circumstances which may occur.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
DEFENCE AND SECURITY COMMITTEE TO THE  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**File: 82-27**

Andrea Siew	-	Chair
Brendan Heffernan	-	Vice Chair
Brian Sauvé	-	Member
Mindy Pearson	-	Member
Jeff McGowen	-	Member
Richard Coltart	-	Committee Coordinator

**DATE OF LAST MEETING: 27 August 2025**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 3 December 2025**

**ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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1. There are no action items for decision.

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

**2. GENERAL**

The federal budget will be announced on 4 November 2025 which will impact the CAF and RCMP including defence and security policy, procurement, operational commitments, and the health and safety of personnel.

**3. ADVOCACY**

Since our last report the Government announced the improvement of the Cadet Training Allowance.

There have been no updates to the Legion's other advocacy issues including:

- Requirement for a Canadian Public Safety Broadband Network
- ACVA – Experience of Women Veterans – Government Response
- RCMP Definition of Veteran for Commemoration Purposes
- National Women Veterans Monument

**4. SPONSORSHIP**

The Legion has sponsored of the Women in Defence and Security Breakfast which will be held on 12 March 2026.



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

## **Speaking Notes for Meeting Minutes**

### **Budget 2025 – Key Impacts on Defence and Security**

As noted in my report, Budget 2025 was tabled on 4 November. Chair, I would like to highlight the key points related to the budget and its impact on Defence and Security.

#### **Overall Defence Investment**

- Budget 2025 announces an additional \$81.8 billion over five years to rearm and modernize the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF). This represents the largest national defence investment in generations. (By comparison, last year's budget announced \$8.1 billion over five years and \$73 billion over twenty years.)
- While this marks substantial progress, the budget provides only a broad outline of how funds will be allocated. It lacks detailed timelines and costing associated with achieving NATO's 2% of GDP defence-spending target.
- Most new funding is directed toward strengthening the CAF through:
  - Recruitment and training
  - Salary enhancements
  - Equipment procurement
  - Infrastructure renewal
  - Cyber-defence capabilities
  - A redesigned procurement process
- However, there is no itemized plan, particularly for major capital acquisitions such as submarines. This leaves uncertainty regarding the pace at which these investments will improve operational readiness.

#### **CAF Recruitment, Retention, and Quality of Life**

- Budget 2025 includes significant investments to rebuild the CAF and improve quality of life for serving members.
- This includes the largest compensation increase since the early 2000s, ranging between 8% and 20%, along with several other compensation initiatives.
- These measures have the potential to improve morale, living conditions, and overall readiness—if implemented effectively.
- However, these investments must translate into immediate and tangible improvements in members' daily lives, including:
  - Safe, affordable housing
  - Family supports
  - Accessible health care

These concerns also apply to RCMP personnel, who continue to face heavy workloads, staffing shortages, and psychological stress.

## **RCMP Investments**

- Budget 2025 proposes \$1.7 billion over four years (starting in 2026–27) to enhance the RCMP's capacity to combat transnational organized crime, financial crime, and money laundering.
- The funding will support the hiring of 1,000 additional personnel and includes an increase to the RCMP Cadet Training Allowance to \$1,000 per week.
- These measures can improve recruitment and retention, but frontline mental health supports and family services also require strengthened attention.

## **Impact on Veterans**

### **Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC)**

- Budget 2025 maintains core funding for VAC, with over 90% of departmental spending continuing to directly support Veterans and their families through legislated programs.
- No cuts were made to their core programs supporting Veterans and their families.
- However, the Committee is concerned about the planned reduction in temporary staff hired to address disability-benefit backlogs.
  - If these roles are not replaced with permanent staffing or effective digital processing tools, the backlog may worsen, undoing recent progress.

## **Indexing and Pension Considerations**

- Budget 2025 references efforts to “align pension benefits with the Consumer Price Index (CPI).”
- The Committee will monitor this closely to ensure CAF, RCMP, and federal retiree pensions remain fully indexed to inflation with no erosion of earned benefits.
- The budget also proposes legislative amendments to the RCMP's internal disability pension, shifting its escalation formula solely to CPI as of January 2027.
  - This is separate from VAC Disability Pensions administered under the Pension Act and the Veterans Well-being Act.

## **NATO 2% Commitment and Structural Transfers**

- Canada is expected to achieve NATO's 2% of GDP defence-spending target this year .
- To help close the remaining gap, the government is leveraging structural transfers, not solely new spending.

Key budget measures include:

- Transfer of the Canadian Coast Guard to the Department of National Defence (DND) to better align maritime domain awareness with defence priorities.
- Reallocation of Transport Canada aviation services and aircraft to DND/CAF oversight.

By incorporating these non-traditional defence assets into the defence budget, Canada can count existing expenditures toward NATO-eligible spending.

This strategy:

- Accelerates progress toward the 2% target
- Integrates maritime and air capabilities into surveillance and sovereignty patrols, and contributes to its NATO burden-sharing, while minimizing reliance on large, immediate capital acquisitions.

Budget 2025 also commits to working toward NATO's 5% of GDP target by 2035.

## **Additional Activities of Note**

### **1. ACVA Study on Veteran Suicide Prevention**

- The Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs (ACVA) is currently conducting a study on suicide prevention among Veterans.
- A significant number of family members affected by tragic losses have come forward.
- Their testimony has been heart-wrenching and highlights:
  - Major gaps in mental-health supports for family members in their own right who are impacted by service conditions
  - The need for comprehensive, family-inclusive mental health services

### **2. National Defence Committee Study on Bill C-11**

- The Standing Committee on National Defence is studying Bill C-11, which would require all CAF sexual misconduct offences to be sent to civilian courts as criminal offences.
- This recommendation dates back to:
  - 2015 Deschamps Report, and
  - 2021 Arbour Report

Some of the key concerns include:

- The bill does not account for offences occurring outside Canada or at sea, leaving a jurisdictional gap.
- No new resources have been allocated to help civilian courts manage the increased caseload.

- Civilian criminal justice challenges persist in prosecuting sexual assault cases—highlighted in a recent report from the Ombudsman for Victims of Crime.
- The legislation effectively removes victim choice and victims may not come forward

To illustrate this point:

- Since the 2021 Arbour recommendation, 242 cases have been referred to civilian police.
- However, 308 cases were not transferred, largely because:
  - Victims preferred to remain within the military justice system, or
  - Victims did not wish to pursue a criminal investigation at the time of reporting.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
VETERANS CONSULTATION ASSEMBLY  
TO THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**File: 10-2**

<b>L. Murray</b>	<b>- Chair</b>
<b>B. Lawrence</b>	<b>- Vice Chair</b>
<b>R. Hayley</b>	<b>- Coordinator</b>
<b>C. Hughes</b>	<b>- Assistant Coordinator</b>

**DATE OF LAST MEETING(S): 18 October 2025**  
**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Fall 2026 (TBD)**

**ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION**

No action items for decision.

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

On 18 October 2025, Comrades Larry Murray and Berkley Lawrence hosted the annual Veterans Consultation Assembly (VCA) at Legion House. This annual forum brought together representatives from 13 Veterans organizations.

The Assembly received informative presentations from the Veterans Ombud, Veterans Services Director, Carolyn Hughes, and CIMVHR who presented just days before their National Forum in Ottawa. In addition, a round table discussion focussed on a variety of Veteran-centric topics and areas of primary importance to the Veteran community. There was consensus by the VCA for the following priorities for government action, in summary:

- **Responding to the Oct 10, 2025, Government response to the ACVA report regarding the Persian Gulf War**
- **Establishment of a National Women Veterans Monument**
- **Recognition of RCMP Veterans for Commemoration Purposes:**

A joint signed letter will be sent to the Minister of Veterans Affairs summarizing the points above. In addition, a request for a follow up to the VCA 2024 recommendations will be made.

The Committee plans to meet again in the Fall of 2026.

I ask a voting member of DEC to move this report.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
GOING FORWARD COMMITTEE TO THE  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**File: 10-1-1**

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

**DATE OF LAST MEETING: 27 July 2022**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBC**

**ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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No action items for decision.

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

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This Committee will meet as required.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION (EDI) COMMITTEE  
COMMITTEE TO THE  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

**22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**File:32**

Valerie MacGregor	-	<b>Chair</b>
Marg Emery	-	<b>Vice Chair</b>
Bill Chafe	-	<b>Member</b>
Larry Murray	-	<b>Member</b>
Marion Fryday-Cook	-	<b>Member</b>
Andrea Siew	-	<b>Member</b>
Eric Poissant	-	<b>Coordinator</b>
Martin Ouellette	-	<b>A/Coordinator</b>

**DATE OF LAST MEETING: 8 October 2025**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBC**

**ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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**1. Recommendation for EDI Training Provider**

The EDI Committee recommends that the Dominion Executive Council (DEC) approve a proposal to partner with EMPOWERED, a Canadian recognized training provider specializing in Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion education.

**The training program will:**

- Deliver tailored EDI training for Legion leadership.
- Offer accessible and engaging EDI training Video to all Legion members.
- Include ongoing support and resources to assist with implementation across all levels of the organization.

This initiative represents a critical step in advancing a more inclusive, respectful, and equitable environment within The Royal Canadian Legion.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Dominion Executive Council (DEC) approve the proposed partnership with EMPOWERED, a recognized training organization in Canada specializing in equality, diversity, and inclusion education, to develop and support EDI training within The Legion.



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

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### **2. Support EDI Training Delivery**

Facilitate and oversee the delivery of two-tiered EDI training programs—one for leadership and one for all members—throughout the Legion organization.

### **3. Strategy for National EDI Policy Implementation**

Develop and roll out a comprehensive strategy to implement the National EDI Policy at the Provincial, District/Zone, and Branch levels, in coordination with Provincial EDI Representatives.

### **4. Action Priorities Review**

Review and reassess the Committee's current action priorities to ensure alignment with evolving needs and strategic direction. (Work in progress).

### **5. Enhance Internal Communications and Resources**

Promote updated EDI content, resources, and educational materials through The Legion Portal, ensuring wide access to current information across all levels of the organization.

I move that the Dominion Executive Council approve this report and the proposed recommendation regarding EDI training.

Respectfully submitted,



Valerie MacGregor  
Chair, EDI Committee  
Dominion Command

## ANNEX BRIEFING NOTE

TO: Dominion Executive Council (DEC)

FROM: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee

DATE: 22 November 2025

SUBJECT: Approval of Selected Contractor for EDI Training

### Background

The Operation Harmony Committee was established in 2021, with the mandate to incorporate Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) within The Royal Canadian Legion (RCL).

Since that time the following key milestones have been achieved:

1. EDI Organizational Assessment Report (November 2022)  
Completed by StrategyCorp to evaluate EDI status and opportunities across the organization.
2. RCL EDI Strategic Plan (2023–2028)  
A roadmap to guide RCL in embedding EDI values at all levels, enhancing the experiences of members, employees, volunteers, and families.
3. Establishment of the EDI Committee (December 2023), with the mandate to implement strategic EDI objectives.
4. RCL EDI Action Plan

Prioritized strategic goals, including: (below only priorities One)

- Establishing EDI governance structures at Dominion, Command, Zone/District, and Branch levels. (EDI Point of contact at command level completed)
- Developing and delivering EDI training tailored for leadership and membership. (On going)
- Funding initial training through DEC-approved budget (effective 2026). (Ongoing)
- Introduce land acknowledgments, observance calendars, and inclusive language guides. (Completed)
- Developing Legion-specific EDI statements and training content. (Completed)

### Purpose

This note seeks DEC approval to proceed with Empowered as the selected EDI training provider. The goal is to begin leadership training and launch a membership-wide educational video to improve EDI literacy across the organization.

### Contractor Selection Process

A detailed Request for Proposal (RFP) was developed by the EDI Committee and

finalized in May 2025. It was distributed to five Canadian EDI firms to request comprehensive training proposals, including:

- Leadership training (virtual and in-person)
- A membership-wide video module
- Rollout support and evaluation mechanisms

Deadline for submissions: July 15, 2025

Submissions received from:

- Empowered
- Femininity
- Canadian Equality Consulting

(Note: Egale and StrategyCorp withdrew, citing limited capacity to meet the Legion's training requirements.)

### Evaluation Summary

#### 1. Canadian Equality Consulting

- Newer firm, less experience in large-scale volunteer organizations.
- Proposed webinars instead of video format for member training (less user-friendly).
- Complex Q&A session design.
- Estimated cost: \$44,850

#### 2. Femininity

- Strong team and rollout support.
- Participation tracking included.
- Higher cost overall.
- Estimated cost: \$67,000

#### 3. Empowered (Recommended)

- Most experienced vendor, with strong background in EDI training for mission-based, volunteer-driven organizations (e.g., The Salvation Army Canada).
- Proposed clear, modular training:
  - Leadership: In-person and virtual workshops.
  - Membership: 30-minute professional-grade learning video.
  - Follow-up: Virtual Q&A sessions, engagement tracking, and final reporting.
  - Cost-effective and tailored to Legion needs.
- Estimated cost: \$45,500

### Why Empowered is Recommended

- Proven track record in delivering accessible and impactful training in volunteer contexts.
- Content delivery is flexible: in-person, virtual, and asynchronous.
- Video content will be professionally produced for high engagement.
- Training is interactive yet respectful of volunteers' time.

- Comprehensive evaluation tools to measure participation, feedback, and outcomes.
- Supports rollout, communications, and IT logistics.

Breakdown of Cost (Total: \$45,500)

In-Person Leadership Training	2 sessions	\$14,000
Virtual Leadership Training	4 sessions	\$24,000
Learning Moment Video (Members)	Professionally produced, 30 mins	\$5,000
Virtual Q&A Platform	2 sessions	\$2,500

Implementation Timeline (Upon DEC Approval)

Dec 2025 – Feb 2026	Discovery phase: stakeholder engagement and content design
March 2026	Pilot delivery and refinements
April 2026	Leadership training session at DEC (in person)
June 2026	Possible Leadership training session Virtual
May 2026	Rollout of Learning Moment video to members
Aug 2026	Convention –Possibility workshop/training session EDI training for members
Dec 2026	Final evaluation and reporting

Recommendation

That the Dominion Executive Council approve Empowered as the official EDI training provider for the RCL.

This decision enables the organization to move forward with a credible, engaging, and scalable EDI program—aligned with the Strategic Plan and supporting the cultural evolution of the Legion.

Prepared by:



Valerie MacGregor  
EDI Committee Chair  
The Royal Canadian Legion

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND  
CENTENARY COMMITTEE TO THE  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 NOVEMBER 2025**

**File: 48-20**

Valerie MacGregor	-	Chair
Marion Fryday-Cook	-	Vice-Chair
Craig Thompson	-	BC-YK Representative
Deb Bolduc	-	AB-NWT Representative
Carol Pederson	-	SK Representative
Gail Conrad Davey	-	MB-NWO Representative
Sharon McKeown	-	ON Representative
Jean St-Laurent	-	QC Representative
Thea McEvoy	-	NB Representative
Calvin Smith	-	NL Representative
Kandys Merola	-	TVS Representative
Crystal Cook	-	OSI Representative
Larry Murray	-	Ex-Officio
Berkley Lawrence	-	Ex-Officio
Randy Hayley	-	Ex-Officio
Nujma Bond	-	Ex-Officio
Ty Backer	-	Committee Coordinator
Jody Ryan	-	Assistant Coordinator

**DATE OF LAST MEETING: 9 October 2025**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBD end of November 2025**

**ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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No action items for decision.

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

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The Centenary Committee continues to work with the Dominion Command Task Force in planning upcoming centenary initiatives for 2026. The Dominion Command Task Force has spent the last months finalizing and preparing for the launch of the Centenary campaign.

The Centenary Committee continues to meet regularly to discuss project updates, share information, and support the planning of RCL 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary initiatives.

I move approval of this report.

**ITEM 12: CANVET PUBLICATIONS LTD.**

**REPORT OF CANVET PUBLICATIONS LTD. TO  
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
22 NOVEMBER 2025**

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

**DATE OF LAST MEETING(S): 26-27 April 2025**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: April 2026**

**INTRODUCTION**

In 2025, Canvet had a solid year. The publishing industry remains stable and the outlook for 2026 remains positive.

**SUBSIDY REVENUE**

In 2025, the Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) for *Legion Magazine* and *Canada's Ultimate Story (CUS)* totaled \$752,283, a 17% decrease over 2024.

The Department of Heritage requires all publications to apply annually and Canvet is hopeful the latest application is 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 veteran's issues. Publishing dozens of articles, including: **VICTORY!** After five grinding years, Second World War would soon be over around the globe (May/June); **SPECIAL FORCE** *Canada forms what will eventually be known as the 25th Canadian Infantry Brigade Group to serve in the Korean War* (July/August); **ONE WOMEN'S WAR** *Canadian journalist Gladys Arnold was the only Canadian correspondent in France at the outbreak of the Second World War* (September/October); **CHRISTMAS AT WAR** *Canadians experienced a range of yuletides during the Second World War* (November/December).

Future articles in 2026 includes stories on: **FRICTION IN THE GULF** *The Persian Gulf War is an important chapter in Canada's military history* (January/February); **OCCUPYING ICELAND** *The little-known episode in Canadian military history* (March/April); **THE SPARK** *Fern Blodgett was a young Canadian and the first woman to serve as a wireless radio operator* (May/June); **OPERATION APOLLO** *Following the 9/11 terror attacks in the U.S.* (September/October).

For the 2026 CUS special issue series we will publish **Canadian Heroes And The Victoria Cross** (Winter); **Canada And The Cold War** (Spring); **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.

### **WWW.LEGIONMAGAZINE.COM AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

In 2025, legionmagazine.com will have more than 3 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 210,000 names to date. Canvet continues to produce videos in the Military Milestones series with more coming this year.

### **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 exclusive advertising rates, so they reach an exclusive market as an endorsed partner.

### **AWARDS**

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

Gold in the Best Photo Journalism category for *The Fortress* by Stephen J. Thorne  
<https://legionmagazine.com/the-fortress/>

Silver in the Best Blog Column/Videocast/Podcast category for the column *Frontlines* by Stephen J. Thorne  
<https://legionmagazine.com/category/defence-today/journal/>

Canvet's award total to date now stands at 42.

## **CONCLUSION**

This report is for information only.



## ITEM 13: LEGION NATIONAL FOUNDATION

### VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>T. Irvine</b>	-	<b>Chair</b>
<b>B. Julian</b>	-	<b>Vice- Chair</b>
<b>L. Murray</b>	-	<b>Director</b>
<b>A Siew</b>	-	<b>Director</b>
<b>B. Burnham</b>	-	<b>Director</b>
<b>L. Mercier</b>	-	<b>Director</b>
<b>R. Hayley</b>	-	<b>National Executive Director</b>
<b>S. Van Muyen</b>	-	<b>National Coordinator</b>
<b>C. Ngarachu</b>	-	<b>Director Development</b>

### GENERAL

This report is provided for the information of the Dominion Executive Council. The Foundation's Board of Directors last met on 28 October 2025.

### FUNDRAISING

The Legion National Foundation continues to gather support and raise funds through a variety of channels. This includes contributions from institutional partners, foundations, and corporations. Both one-time and recurring donations remain robust, with regular appeals and updates provided to donors to highlight the impact of their generosity. The Foundation was pleased to receive a bequest gift, a generous donation left by a donor, marking another milestone in the Foundation's growth. A securities gift was also received, reflecting the diversity of giving to the Foundation.

The Pilgrimage Program expanded with the introduction of a new Highlight Tour, which ran its inaugural event from 17–24 May. This 8-day journey took 15 participants to France and Belgium to honour the Fallen and deepen understanding of Canada's contributions in both World Wars. Participants covered their own expenses as a self-funded journey. The tour included a \$4,000 donation, which contributed to the Foundation's general funds. The tour is scheduled to run again in May 2026.

In September, the Foundation proudly welcomed Canvet Publications as a National Tier Sponsor of the National Youth Remembrance Contests, marking a historic milestone for the organization. Their support covers all national-level operating costs and promotes the contests through Canvet's publications, increasing awareness and participation across Canada. As a trusted voice in the military community, Canvet has long preserved and celebrated the nation's military heritage. This partnership strengthens youth engagement in understanding and honouring Canada's military past and present.

The Digital Poppy, the Foundation's signature campaign, is off to a strong start. Running over a short 12-day period, the campaign leverages support from individual donors, corporate partners, sponsors, and leadership gifts to maximize impact.

Promotion includes three strategic e-blasts to donors throughout the campaign, complemented by targeted digital ads on Facebook, Instagram, and for the first time, LinkedIn, engaging a broad and professional audience.

### **DISBURSEMENTS**

Board-approved disbursements include a \$20,000 donation to Ottawa City Inner Ministries in support of their Veteran outreach program and a \$15,000 donation to the Veterans Farm Project in Nova Scotia, dedicated to women Veterans.

The Legion National Foundation Board of Directors will convene next in December 2025 to review fundraising results and assess the year's progress.

This report is presented for the information of the Dominion Executive Council.

## ITEM 14: CORRESPONDENCE

### **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Ottawa, Ontario May 28, 2025**

The following are the speaking notes of our Grand President, Comrade Larry Murray and past Dominion Secretary, Comrade Duane Daly, during the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Ceremony held in Ottawa at the National War Memorial on May 28, 2025.

#### **Grand President Remarks**

Good morning. *Bonjour*. I am honoured and grateful to be here on behalf of The Royal Canadian Legion at this historic ceremony and it is a great privilege to have Her Excellency, Governor-General Mary Simon attend and speak to us this morning.

It is fitting because 25 years ago, it was the Governor-General of that time, Adrienne Clarkson, who has joined us again, and who spoke so eloquently at the dedication of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, on May 28, 2000.

It is also terrific to see representatives from many organizations whose dedication and professionalism played a central role in successfully achieving this historic milestone a quarter century ago.

Members of the Canadian Armed Forces, public officials from the federal government, the city of Ottawa and the National Capital Commission all did an amazing job.

At the time, I was Deputy Minister of Veterans Affairs, and I recall the selfless efforts and the superb teamwork by all involved. ***À l'époque, j'étais sous-ministre des Anciens Combattants, et je me souviens des efforts altruistes et de l'excellent travail d'équipe de tous les participants.***

I also remember the pride, enthusiasm and growing excitement of everyone as the date of the Dedication Ceremony approached.

Leading the charge, was The Royal Canadian Legion. Its Dominion President at the time was the late Chuck Murphy and Former Dominion Secretary, Brigadier-General

(Ret'd) Duane Daly, who will tell us the backstory next. Both Chuck and Duane spent countless hours providing leadership and rallying people and partners.

Unfortunately, Chuck did not live to see how significant this memorial has become, as he passed away just before the dedication ceremony. However he did see his dream realized through his participation in the Repatriation Ceremony at the Vimy Memorial and the ceremonial lying in state of the remains in the Hall of Honour on return from France.

I know that he would be delighted, as we all are, to know that since that day 25 years ago, countless people regularly stop here to pause and to remember. Busloads of young soldiers... groups of students... families and solitary individuals come here to reflect and to show their gratitude.

At the end of Canada's National Remembrance Day Ceremony, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier has also become a focal point. ***À la fin de la cérémonie nationale du jour du Souvenir au Canada, la Tombe du Soldat inconnu est également devenue un point central.***

It is then that people step forward to remove their Poppy and place it on this tomb.

A tomb covered in red poppies that reflects remembrance and gratitude for our Fallen, and that also symbolizes all of Canada's Unknown Soldiers ... those whose bodies were buried but never identified, or who have no known grave.

We will Remember Them. ***Nous Nous Souviendrons D'eux.***

## Past Dominion Secretary Remarks

25 years ago we brought our soldier home – here to his final resting place.

This was the culmination of a determined effort by members of The Royal Canadian Legion, who with the collaboration of Veterans Affairs and others, made it a reality. But, it was not an easy process. It's important to understand the Tomb's history and just how committed our Veterans were to making this happen.

Following the Great war and years thereafter, the Legion had pressured the Government to repatriate an Unknown soldier. But these requests were turned down on the basis that the British Tomb of the Unknown Warrior had already been established on behalf of the full Empire & Commonwealth. Even the dedication of the Australian Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in 1993 did little to change the government's decision.

Finally in 1996, accepting the reality of the situation, the Legion remained undaunted and decided to take on the task of repatriating an Unknown Soldier itself. Committing significant financial resources, the Dominion President and Executive were resolved to establish his Tomb in Ottawa as a Year 2000 Millennial, Remembrance project.

Recognizing that The Legion was determined to implement such a project, Veterans Affairs indicated it would support the program in any way possible within its financial constraints. A public survey was commissioned and the result indicated overwhelming support throughout Canada for the Legion and the proposed Tomb project.

Even so, as the project got underway the Legion continued to face challenges as to the overall cost and design requirements. **BUT THEN, THE MAGIC HAPPENED.** With the Legion up front to coordinate and manage the TOMB project, and now with evident public support across the Nation, the situation rapidly changed. Although there was still no specific government project or funding, a few individual Ministers believed in its objective, and government budgetary approval was finally given. The financial uncertainty was now resolved. Most specifically, Public Works agreed to prepare the War Memorial site, and to actually build the Tomb itself. And the Canadian Forces welcomed the opportunity to provide troops and leadership for ceremonial support and further ensured that an aircraft would be made available to fly our soldier home from France.

And so it went. By early 2000 the remedial work at the War Memorial was completed and the tomb itself was crafted using the Legion's design template based on the altar at VIMY. We were well on our way.

The Canadian Agency of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission oversaw the recovery of our soldier from the Cabaret Rouge Cemetery outside of Vimy and the RCAF, with Veteran Affairs assistance, brought him home. Lorne Kelly of Kelly's funeral Home received our Soldier at the aircraft in Ottawa with solemn dignity and respect, and cared for him till the lying in State. The Funeral Service Association of Canada donated

the Soldier's coffin.

After the lying in state at Parliament, the Ceremonial parade was formed on 28 May, and the RCMP, with mounted horse and a vintage gun carriage, escorted our soldier from Parliament to this very spot for his final farewell. And who could ever forget the eulogy and blessing offered by Her Excellency, former Governor General, Adrienne Clarkson, as our Soldier was laid to rest. Her memorable words resonated through the hearts of Veterans and their families across the nation.

Today the Legion remains indebted to all those in Government who worked behind the scene with the Legion to fully establish this Tomb of Our Unknown Soldier on behalf of all Canadians. We particularly wish to thank Veterans Affairs Canada for organizing this important commemoration a quarter of a century later.

And so, today, encased in Granite, and under the secure cover of his Helmet and Sword, our soldier lies in peace. His Tomb will forever stand as the focus of Remembrance for all those who have gone before us, for all those who serve today, and for all those who may be called upon to hold the line again in the future. As long as this War Memorial stands, as long as our beautiful country remains strong and free, and as long as Canadians never forget, our Soldier and the Legion's Legacy of Remembrance will endure forever.

**Long may he rest. We will Remember him.**

Duane Daly  
Past Dominion Secretary  
Project Director- Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Project



May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Comrade Berkley Lawrence  
Dominion President, The Royal Canadian Legion  
The Royal Canadian Legion National Headquarters  
86 Aird Place  
Ottawa, ON K2L 0A1

Dear Comrade Lawrence;

The Navy League of Canada held its 130<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting in April providing an important opportunity to gather and engage with our national representatives from across Canada to reflect on our achievements, confirm our priorities and future goals, and meet with partners and key stakeholders dedicated to supporting Canada's youth. As the National President, I am pleased to report to you that it was a productive gathering and reconfirmation that our volunteers and Cadet members continue to demonstrate their enduring commitment to Canada and their communities. We take great pride in our roles with the Navy League Cadet and Sea Cadet programs to facilitate the development of Canada's future leaders and creating "oceans of opportunity" for these young people.

During the meeting, several members were elected to the Executive Committee. The new structure of our organization is as follows:

National President	Jennifer Bennett
National Past President	Ron Buck
National 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Luc Cassivi
National Treasurer	Joe Lund
National Vice President – Sea Cadets	Julie Hillsden
National Vice President – NL Cadets	John Philips
National Vice President – Maritime Affairs	Louise Mercier
National Vice President – Division Presidents	Pamela Smith McBride
Representative	(President, Ontario Division)

**Director(s)-at-Large :**

Brett Anderson – Vancouver Island  
Michael Barton – Ontario  
Mark Doram – Edmonton  
Richard Edwards – Newfoundland and Labrador

I am pleased to report that the Navy League of Canada's new Board of Directors resolved to continue its support of the Royal Canadian Navy, the Canadian Coast Guard, and the Royal Canadian Legion to further uphold Canada's needs as a maritime nation.

**NATIONAL OFFICE || BUREAU NATIONAL**

We remain sincerely grateful for the continued support of our partners in the Royal Canadian Legion. The partnership with the Royal Canadian Legion spans all levels of the organization, at the community level, the provincial and national levels. Our continued partnership is vital to the success of the Sea Cadet and Navy League Cadet programs, and we are confident that our collaboration will enhance the goals and work of each of our organizations locally and nationally.

During the AGM, we had the pleasure of hearing from Ms. Cynthia Ngarachu about the wonderful work that is being done by the Legion National Foundation, and we look forward to exploring further partnership opportunities. We also appreciate the National Legion Cadet program that allows cadets and JCRs to participate in the National Remembrance Day events.

Whether its with the local Royal Canadian Legion Branch commitment to our Sea Cadet and Navy League Cadet Corps or National programs like the Foundation, the work and support that you provide to our cadets and the Navy League of Canada is truly appreciated and ensures we can provide the best possible program to our cadets.

On behalf of all members of the Navy League of Canada, thank you for your generous support. I look forward to continuing our strong and productive partnership as we work together in service of our Cadets.

Yours truly,



Jennifer Bennett, CMM, CD  
National President  
[jbennett@navyleague.ca](mailto:jbennett@navyleague.ca)



Canadian Forces Provost Marshal  
2200 Walkley Road  
Ottawa ON K1A 0K2



Grande Prévôt des Forces canadiennes  
2200, chemin Walkley  
Ottawa (Ontario) K1A 0K2

24 June 2025

Mr. Bruce Julian  
Dominion President  
Royal Canadian Legion

Subject: Letter of Appreciation – Military Police 85th Anniversary Gala

Dear Mr. Julian,

On behalf of the Canadian Forces Military Police Group, I wish to extend our sincere appreciation to Royal Canadian Legion for your generous sponsorship of the 85th Anniversary Gala held at the Canadian War Museum on 14 June 2025.

Your contribution played a key role in the success of this milestone event, allowing us to honour the legacy of the Military Police Branch while fostering camaraderie among serving members, veterans, international allies, and key stakeholders. Your support also directly helped us raise \$3,100 in support of the Military Police Fund for Blind Children.

It was a true celebration of service, heritage, and community—and your organization's partnership made it possible.

Please accept our genuine thanks and appreciation for your valued support. We would be pleased to recommend Royal Canadian Legion as a committed and community-minded sponsor for future engagement opportunities.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "V. Hanrahan", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Vanessa Hanrahan  
Brigadier General



June 26, 2025

Ms. Valerie MacGregor  
5423 Hemlock Street  
Powell River BC V8A 0T7

Dear Ms. MacGregor:

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks for your participation in the international delegation commemorating the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Liberation of the Netherlands and Victory in Europe Day in May.

This was an important trip overseas to recognize the 175,000 Canadians and Newfoundlanders who served and remember the 7,600 who made the ultimate sacrifice in securing the Liberation of the Netherlands and the Allied victory in Europe at the end of the Second World War. Today, the people of Canada and the Netherlands live in countries that are strong and free thanks to those who served selflessly to defend peace and liberty.

Our Canadian delegation was deeply moved as we visited the very places where these brave individuals once stood and the cemeteries where so many from across our country now rest. It was profoundly touching for us all to witness the enduring gratitude and affection shown to our Veterans by the Dutch people, even after 80 years, during the commemorative events.

The Royal Canadian Legion's continued support of our cherished Veterans remains invaluable to our shared commemorative goals. I commend the determined work of your organization to ensure the stories of our Second World War Veterans continue to be shared, keeping their legacy alive for future generations.

Again, thank you for your contribution to this historic occasion as part of the Government of Canada's official delegation. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

Paul Ledwell  
Deputy Minister



## Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League

'helping Commonwealth veterans who fought for our freedom'

### Patron

His Majesty King Charles III

### Grand President

General The Lord Richards of Herstmonceux GCB CBE DSO DL

### Deputy Grand President

Major General Mitch Mitchell CB MBE

**From: Major General Mitch Mitchell CB MBE**  
**Deputy Grand President**

Mr Berkley Lawrence  
Dominion President  
C/O The Royal Canadian Legion National Headquarters  
86 Aird Place  
Ottawa  
Ontario  
K2L 0A1

By Email: BLawrence@legion.ca

9<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Dear Berkley,

I write on behalf of the Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League to thank you, Randy Hayley and your excellent team at The Royal Canadian Legion for the tremendous support you all provided to facilitate, fund and deliver a successful Conference for RCEL in Ottawa. I know how much thought, planning and hard work is involved to deliver a successful Conference and this was evident throughout in all the arrangements.

As our hosts, RCL have set a very high bar and delivered a truly memorable experience for all the delegates. The Château Laurier was a splendid setting to base the Conference, and we were privileged to hold our Remembrance Service at the National War Memorial amongst other highlights including the Battle of Beaumont-Hamel ceremony, the visits to the Canadian War Museum and the Senate of Canada, and of course the participation of Her Excellency The Governor General.

I will write separately to thank Randy and ask that he pass on our thanks to the wider RCL team who helped to organise and support the smooth running of the Conference. Thank you again, Berkley, for the immense contribution that RCL played in making our Conference in Ottawa so memorable and successful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mitch Mitchell', with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.



# Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League

'helping Commonwealth veterans who fought for our freedom'

## Patron

His Majesty King Charles III

## Grand President

Field Marshal The Lord Richards of Herstmonceux GCB CBE DSO DL

## Deputy Grand President

Major General Mitch Mitchell CB MBE

**From: Field Marshal The Lord Richards of Herstmonceux GCB CBE DSO DL**  
**Grand President**

Vice-Admiral Lawrence Murray CM CMM CD  
Grand President of The Royal Canadian Legion  
C/O The Royal Canadian Legion National Headquarters  
86 Aird Place  
Ottawa  
Ontario  
K2L 0A1

9<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Dear Larry,

I write on behalf of the Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League to thank you, Berkley Lawrence, Randy Hayley and your excellent team at The Royal Canadian Legion for the tremendous support you all have provided to facilitate, fund and deliver a successful Conference for RCEL in Ottawa. I know how much thought, planning and hard work is involved to deliver a successful Conference and this was evident throughout in all the arrangements.

As our hosts, RCL have set a very high bar and delivered a truly memorable experience for all the delegates. The Château Laurier was a splendid setting to base the Conference, and we were privileged to hold our Remembrance Service at the National War Memorial amongst other highlights including the Battle of Beaumont-Hamel ceremony, the visits to the Canadian War Museum and the Senate of Canada, and of course the participation of Her Excellency The Governor General.

The Deputy Grand President, Mitch Mitchell will write separately to thank Berkley and Randy and ask that they pass on our thanks to the wider RCL team who helped to organise our visit. Thank you again, Larry, for the immense contribution that RCL played in making our Conference in Ottawa so memorable and successful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dick Richards', written over a white background.

Field Marshal The Lord Richards of Herstmonceux GCB CBE DSO DL  
**Grand President**



Military Nurses Association of Canada – Ottawa Unit  
c/o Gisèle Fontaine, President  
1030 Terranova Drive  
Orleans ON, K1C 5M5

18 July 2025

National Executive Director  
Royal Canadian Legion Dominion Command  
86 Aird Place  
Ottawa, ON K2L 0A1

SUBJECT: NURSING SISTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA NAME CHANGE

Dear Mr. Hayley,

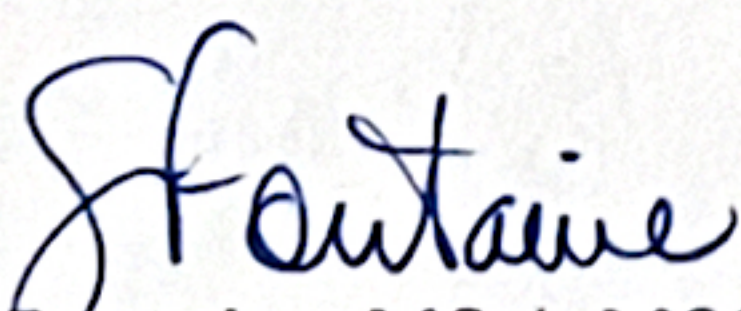
After a rich and dynamic 105 years as the Nursing Sister's Association of Canada, I have the privilege of informing you that the name of our Association has changed to the "**Military Nurses Association of Canada**" (MNAC), by special resolution at our 29 May 2025 Annual General Meeting, taking effect on 1 July 2025. In French: "**Association des infirmières et infirmiers militaires du Canada**" (AIIMC).

Our Nursing Sisters have earned our deepest respect, we are grateful for the wonderful association they created in the aftermath of the First World War and for sustaining it for 105 years. That said, associations need to evolve and reflect their membership. The former name spoke of an era that is long past, it needed to be inclusive of male nurses and both Nursing Sisters and Nursing Officers (the latter being the name of the military nursing occupation since 1967), and better reflect who we are as military nurses. This change was long overdue.

We therefore respectfully request you inform your team of this change, and that any future events or wreath laying involving our organization be done under the new name. Also note that since the disbandment of the Association's National Executive in the early 2000s, our Ottawa Unit has taken on much of the National level representation by default of being located in Ottawa, and having the largest membership. Note that at the moment the only other existing Units are Halifax and Toronto, but there is movement afoot to re-establish a few others. As such I remain Point of Contact for MNAC/AIIMC as President of the Ottawa Unit.

Respectfully,

Gisèle



Gisèle Fontaine MSTJ, MSC, CD, RN, CHE  
Colonel (À la retraite / Retired)  
Présidente / President  
613-798-6061





Veterans Affairs  
Canada

Deputy Minister

P.O. Box 7700  
Charlottetown, P.E.I.  
C1A 8M9

Anciens Combattants  
Canada

Sous-ministre

C.P. 7700  
Charlottetown (Î.-P.-É.)  
C1A 8M9

7 August 2025

Berkley Lawrence  
Dominion President  
The Royal Canadian Legion  
86 Aird Place  
Ottawa, ON K2L 0A1

Dear Mr. Lawrence,

Thank you for your correspondence requesting a review, and ultimately a revision, of the current eligibility policy for awarding Second World War medals to a recipients' next of kin. In particular, you referenced Squadron Leader Chevrier, a Second World War Veteran who served in the Royal Canadian Air Force and the Royal Air Force and a request that his service medals be provided to his current next of kin.

I first take this opportunity to respectfully acknowledge Squadron Leader Chevrier's service in the Royal Canadian Air Force and the Royal Air Force, as well as his ultimate sacrifice during the Battle of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, in the Second World War. Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) recognizes the contributions of all those who served and will continue to do its utmost to ensure that their selfless dedication is remembered for generations to come.

The Canadian Honours System recognizes honours and awards as a recognition meant for the recipient. VAC respects this and, for replacement medals, adheres to the established list of official next-of-kin enshrined in the King's Regulations. This matches official next-of-kin lists held by the Canadian Armed Forces for and by other jurisdictions. VAC has no plans to amend the policy to expand the official next of kin list to include extended family members; however, we will continue to review the policy. VAC remains deeply connected to the importance of the Canadian Honours System and will therefore continue to adhere to the guidelines therein.

While I appreciate that this is not the response you had hoped for, it in no way diminishes the Government of Canada's sincere appreciation for the service and ultimate sacrifice of Squadron Leader Joseph Armand Jacques Chevrier.

Sincerely,

Paul Ledwell  
Deputy Minister

Canada 



PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A2

August 7, 2025

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

Thank you for your letter regarding the rapidly deteriorating humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

Humanitarian aid in Gaza is severely restricted and humanitarian needs have reached an unprecedented level. Due to ongoing restrictions imposed by the Israeli government, humanitarian partners face severe challenges in delivering life-saving food and medical assistance despite the scale of need. This obstruction of aid is a violation of international humanitarian law and must end immediately.

Canada is intensifying our efforts with international partners to ensure that aid moves forward at the necessary scale. On August 4, 2025, the Canadian Armed Forces conducted an airdrop into Gaza, consisting of 21,600 pounds of life-saving humanitarian aid. Improving the humanitarian conditions of Palestinians requires a dramatic scale-up of humanitarian assistance. Much more aid is needed, and our government will continue to take all necessary action to ensure it is delivered to Palestinians in Gaza who desperately need it.

Canada will be a constructive partner in building a just, meaningful, and lasting peace in the region, and a future that respects the dignity, security, and aspirations of all Palestinians and Israelis.

Thank you for your commitment to strive for peace and goodwill among all nations. I look forward to our continued partnership as we advance this work together.

Please accept my warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Mr. Berkley Lawrence  
Dominion President  
The Royal Canadian Legion

## **ITEM 15: REQUESTS FOR SUPPORT**

### **Canadian Battlefields Foundation**

Founded in 1992, the Canadian Battlefields Foundation (CBF) is an educational foundation that undertakes programmes to commemorate and promote public awareness of Canada's role in the First and Second World Wars. This is achieved through its battlefields study tours, educational activities, and commemorative events. Each year, 12 university students at the graduate or undergraduate levels earn the opportunity to participate in a life-broadening experience to discover firsthand the role Canadians played in the battlefields of France and Belgium during the World Wars. The Legion has traditionally contributed financial assistance from Poppy Trust Funds to fund the participation of one university student in the CBF programme. Funding began back in 2006 with \$10k being provided.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Legion provide \$10k from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund in support of the 2025 Canadian Battlefields Foundation educational Tour.



**ITEM 16: MEETINGS AND INVITATIONS**

**DOMINION COMMAND MEETINGS AND INVITATION LIST**

**2025**

17 Oct.	Mayor Sutcliffe visit to Legion House
18 Oct.	Veterans Consultation Assembly Meeting, Legion House
20 Oct.	First Poppy Presentation, Rideau Hall, Lawrence, Murray
20-22 Oct.	CIMVHR, Ottawa, ON, Berkley Lawrence
3-11 Nov.	Remembrance Period, Ottawa, ON, Berkley Lawrence
4 Nov.	Candlelight Tribute, Canadian War Museum, Lawrence
5 Nov.	Commemorative Street Naming, Ottawa City Hall, Lawrence
5 Nov.	Vimy Gala, Canadian War Museum, Lawrence, Murray
9 Nov.	Carleton Place Br.#192, Carleton Place, Lawrence
11 Nov.	National Remembrance Day Ceremony, Ottawa, Lawrence
21 Nov.	Dominion President Christmas Luncheon, Ottawa, Legion House
22 Nov.	DEC, Ottawa, ON DEC Members

**2026**

22 Feb. – 6 Mar.	Dominion President's Cruise, Lawrence
25-26 Apr.	DEC, Ottawa, ON DEC Members
17 Jul.	100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Royal Canadian Legion
5-11 Aug.	Legion National T&F, Regina, SK,
22-26 Aug.	50 <sup>th</sup> Dominion Convention, Winnipeg, MB,