

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 AUGUST 2026



DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

22 August 2026

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DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

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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
Larry Murray	-	Dominion Grand President
Bruce Julian	-	Immediate Past 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 1 st Vice-President
Janis Boone	-	NL Command President
Danny Redden	-	TVS Special Section President
Craig Hood	-	OSI Special Section President
Blaine Kiley	-	Chair R & A Committee
Dave Gordon	-	Chair C & L Committee
Andrea Siew	-	Chair D & S Committee
Dave Flannigan	-	Past Dominion President
Tom Eagles	-	Past Dominion President
Jack Frost	-	Past Dominion President
Allan Parks	-	Past Dominion President
Tom Irvine	-	Past Dominion President

Absent

Jill Carleton	-	Dominion Treasurer
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STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Randy Hayley	-	National Executive Director
Steven Van Muyen	-	Director Corporate Service and Strategic Planning
Kelly Therien	-	Executive Assistant

ANNEXES:

Annex A	-	Grand President's Remarks
Annex B	-	Administrative Arrangements
Annex C	-	Veterans, Service & Seniors Committee Report
Annex D	-	Poppy & Remembrance Committee Report
Annex E	-	Membership Committee Report
Annex F	-	Sports Committee Report
Annex G	-	Ritual & Awards Committee Report
Annex H	-	Constitution & Laws Committee Report
Annex I	-	RCEL Committee Report
Annex J	-	Defence & Security Committee Report
Annex K	-	Dominion Convention Committee Report
Annex L	-	Veterans Consultation Assembly Report
Annex M	-	Going Forward Committee Report
Annex N	-	EDI Committee Report
Annex O	-	Centenary Committee Report
Annex P	-	Canvet Publications Ltd.
Annex Q	-	Dominion Convention Appointments
Annex R	-	Medals and Bars
Annex S	-	Meetings & Invitation

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

22 August 2026

ITEM 1: LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT / OPENING RITUAL

The meeting of the Dominion Executive Council opened at 0900 hours on Saturday, 22 August 2026.

ITEM 2: DOMINION PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

It has been a very busy two years for me. All the Provincial Presidents changed for me, so 20 Provincial Presidents over the two years. I have travelled all over. I will miss the people around the table. I am looking forward to this convention. It is the first time to convention for almost 50% of the delegates.

ITEM 3: GRAND PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The Grand President's remarks are at Annex A.

ITEM 4: APPROVAL OF MINUTES / ELECTRONIC DECISIONS

DEC last met on 25-26 April 2026. The minutes were distributed electronically.

MOTION: THAT the DEC minutes of 25-26 April 2026 be approved.

CARRIED

ITEM 5: ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

The administrative arrangements were presented as information only, at Annex B.

ITEM 6: NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The National Executive Director gave a verbal report to include an update on the Centenary strategic plan results to date, the CAF Indigenous Poppy, and Legion HQ staffing.

ITEM 7: COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. The Veterans Services and Seniors Committee

The Veterans, Service and Seniors Committee report was presented, attached at Annex C.

b. The Poppy and Remembrance Committee

The Poppy & Remembrance Committee report was presented, attached an Annex D.

MOTION: That \$2,000 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund be approved through the Veteran Support Partnership Program for Hero Lodge for 2026.

CARRIED

DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

22 August 2026

MOTION: That the Veteran Support Partnership Program funding request of \$50,000 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund for Strongest Families Institute, From Service to Strength, be approved for 2026.

CARRIED

- c. Membership Committee
The Membership Committee report was presented, attached at Annex E.
- d. Sports Committee
The Sports Committee report was presented, attached at Annex F.
- e. Ritual and Awards Committee
The Ritual and Awards Committee report was presented, attached at Annex G.
- f. Constitution and Laws Committee
The Constitution and Laws Committee report was presented, attached at Annex H.
- g. RCEL Committee
The RCEL Committee report was presented, attached at Annex I.
- h. Defence and Security Committee
The Defence and Security report was presented attached at Annex J.

MOTION: that the Royal Canadian Legion call upon the Government to implement all 16 recommendations of the ACVA report, *Suicide Prevention Among Canadian Veterans*, in full and without delay.
The Legion further calls on the Government to publish a comprehensive implementation plan that includes clear timelines, measurable performance indicators, and accountability mechanisms to ensure the recommendations are effectively carried out.
To promote transparency and accountability, The Legion also urge the responsible Ministers to report publicly to ACVA on implementation progress within six months of the Government's formal response to the report, and again within twelve months thereafter.

CARRIED

- i. Dominion Convention Committee
The Dominion Convention Committee was presented, attached at Annex K.
- j. Veterans Consultation Assembly
The Veterans Consultation report was presented, attached at Annex L.
- k. Going Forward Committee
The Going Forward report was presented, attached at Annex M.
- l. Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Report
The Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) report was presented, attached at Annex N.
- m. Centenary Committee
The Centenary report was presented, attached at Annex O.

ITEM 8: CANVET PUBLICATIONS

Canvet Publications report attached at Annex P.

ITEM 9: DOMINION CONVENTION APPOINTMENTS

Dominion Convention appointments attached at Annex Q.

ITEM 10: DOMINION CONVENTION – LATE RESOLUTIONS

EMERGING THREATS IN THE DEFENCE AND SECURITY ENVIRONMENT, WITH A FOCUS ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND ROBOTICS

Defence & Security 1

WHEREAS Canada currently lacks a detailed defence strategy pertaining to new and emerging threats from AI and robotics;

WHEREAS the incredible speed at which AI and robotics threats are permeating our current society putting our country, military, and national security organizations at risk;

WHEREAS Canada requires an immediate defensive posture detecting and countering AI and robotics threats;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Royal Canadian Legion call upon the Government of Canada to develop and officially release a comprehensive National Strategy **specific** to AI and robotics threats by the end of 2026 that:

- 1. Outlines and anticipates all present and emerging defence and security threats related to AI and Robotics;

2. Proactively considers personnel and resources needed to deal with these emerging threats within the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF);
3. Ensures all CAF and national security organizations receive the required equipment and ongoing training related to detecting and countering these emerging threats.

MOTION: THAT the late resolution to be approved for consideration at Dominion Convention.

WITHDRAWN

ITEM 11: MEDALS AND BARS

The Medals and Bars that were presented at the DEC meeting is attached at Annex R.

ITEM 12: MEETING AND INVITATIONS

The Meetings and Invitations list is attached at Annex S.

ITEM 13: OTHER BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE

Bruce Julian gave appreciation to be part of the DEC as he now becomes a Past Dominion President.

Harold Defazio let DEC know that New Brunswick has implemented a presentation to people turning 100 in 2026.

Janis Boone talked about delegate vs observer registration and the approval process for observers to attend convention.

Luc Fortier signed agreement with every RBC in Quebec to have a Poppy box in every RBC branch.

Danny Redden attended the National Track & Field and complimented the people who organized it.

ITEM 14: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Dominion Executive Council was adjourned at 10:33 am.

Dominion Chair



National Executive Director

GRAND PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS FOR PRE-CONVENTION DEC, 22 AUGUST, 2026

THANK YOU, COMRADE CHAIR.

GOOD MORNING, COMRADES. IT IS TERRIFIC TO BE WITH YOU HERE IN WINNIPEG FOR THIS HISTORIC DOMINION CONVENTION OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION..

IT IS ALSO A PRIVILEGE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS IMPORTANT PRE-CONVENTION DEC MEETING .

I WILL KEEP MY COMMENTS BRIEF THIS MORNING AND RESTRICT MYSELF TO SOME WELL DESERVED THANK YOUS.

SINCE THIS IS COMRADE BERKLEY'S FINAL DEC AS DOMINION PRESIDENT, I DID WANT TO EXPRESS MY PERSONAL THANKS TO HIM AS WELL AS A HUGE BRAVO ZULU FOR HIS STRONG, VALUES BASED LEADERSHIP, SELFLESS DEDICATION AND OUTSTANDING EFFORTS "AT THE HELM" OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION FOR THE PAST TWO BUSY AND SOMETIMES CHALLENGING YEARS.

I HOPE THAT AS YOU CONCLUDE YOUR TERM AS DOMINION PRESIDENT, YOU DO SO WITH A GREAT DEAL OF PRIDE AND A REAL SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT.

YOU HAVE SET AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE FOR ALL IN THE WAY YOU LED 'FROM THE FRONT' AND ALWAYS DEALT WITH TOUGH ISSUES HEAD ON, IN A FAIR AND TIMELY MANNER AND WITH CLARITY AND INTEGRITY.

DURING "YOUR WATCH" YOU HAVE MADE A HUGE DIFFERENCE FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES AND ENSURED VITALITY AND GROWTH IN THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION AS THIS AMAZING NATIONAL INSTITUTION CELEBRATES ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY.

SPECIAL THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND FRIENDSHIP, BERKLEY. IT HAS BEEN AN HONOUR TO WORK WITH YOU. IT HAS ALSO BEEN FUN!

SIMILARLY, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY DEEP APPRECIATION AND A BIG BRAVO ZULU TO ALL MEMBERS OF DEC THROUGHOUT THE PAST TWO YEARS.

YOU ARE HIGHLY DEDICATED AND VERY SPECIAL PEOPLE AND HAVE BEEN A PARTICULARLY STRONG LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR THE LEGION HEADING INTO ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY. IT HAS BEEN A REAL PRIVILEGE TO WORK WITH YOU AND, IN THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMAND PRESIDENTS, WITH YOUR PREDESSORS LAST YEAR AS WELL.

THE SUPERB SUPPORT PROVIDED BY COMRADE RANDY AND THE TREMENDOUS STAFF AT LEGION HOUSE HAS ALSO BEEN ESSENTIAL TO THE SUCCESS ACHIEVED AND IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

BRAVO ZULU AND THANKS VERY MUCH TO YOU AND YOUR STELLAR TEAM, RANDY.

I VERY MUCH LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING TO WORK WITH MANY OF YOU FOLLOWING THE CONVENTION BUT I WOULD LIKE TO SAY A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO COMRADE BRUCE WHO IS LEAVING DEC AT THIS CONVENTION.

ALTHOUGH I WILL HAVE THE GREAT GOOD FORTUNE TO CONTINUE TO WORK WITH BRUCE IN HIS LEADERSHIP ROLE WITH THE LEGION NATIONAL FOUNDATION, I DID WANT TO PASS ON A HUGE BRAVO ZULU AS WELL AS MY PERSONAL CONGRATULATIONS AND SINCERE GRATITUDE TO YOU FOR YOUR KIND FRIENDSHIP AND FOR ALL THAT YOU DONE AT THIS TABLE AND MANY OTHER LEGION TABLES FOR SO LONG, INCLUDING FOURTEEN OF MY SIXTEEN YEARS AS GRAND PRESIDENT.

THAT CONCLUDES MY OPENING REMARKS.

THANKS VERY MUCH, COMRADES AND HAVE A WONDERFUL 100TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

- a. 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.
- b. Dress. Legion informal dress shirt.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND
VETERANS SERVICES AND SENIORS COMMITTEE TO
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
22 AUGUST 2026**

File:65-1

Berkley Lawrence	-	Chair
Sharon McKeown	-	Deputy Chair
Larry Murray	-	Ex-Officio
Bill Chafe	-	Member
Carol Pedersen	-	Member
George O'Dair	-	Seniors Advisor
Dave Gordon	-	Homeless Veterans Advisor
Craig Hood	-	OSI Special Section
Carolyn Hughes	-	Coordinator
Alexa Pasha	-	Assistant Coordinator
Lia Taha Cheng	-	Observer

DATE OF LAST MEETING: 16 June 2026

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBD

ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION

No action items for consideration.

THE WAY AHEAD: COMMITTEE PLANS / GOALS

The Committee remains dedicated to providing advocacy, support, and compassionate assistance to all veterans, serving members of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), and their families. For simplicity, the term *veteran* throughout this report includes all of these individuals.

Our priority areas continue to include legislation and regulations affecting the programs and services available to those we serve, mental health, homelessness among veterans, and the well-being of families and seniors.

We continue to consult with and advocate to senior officials of Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC), the CAF, the RCMP, the Bureau of Pension Advocates (BPA), the Office of the Veterans Ombud (OVO), the Veterans Review and Appeal Board (VRAB), and other veterans' organizations to advance these priorities. We remain committed to reviewing the policies and programs of the CAF, RCMP, VAC, BPA, OVO, and VRAB to ensure they protect the interests of veterans and their families, while advocating for enhanced benefits and programs where needed.

The Committee continues to monitor the recommendations contained in the House of Commons Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs (ACVA) reports *Invisible No More: The Experience of Women Veterans* and *Suicide Prevention Among Canadian Veterans*. We continue to call upon the Government of Canada to implement all of these recommendations without delay. The Director of Veterans Services testified before ACVA on behalf of The Royal Canadian Legion, and as of the date of this report, no response has been received to the Legion's November 2024 letter. The second anniversary of the release of the report on women veterans has now passed without meaningful progress.

One recommendation of *Invisible No More* was the establishment of a Women Veterans Council. The Legion participated in its development; however, since its membership was selected, the Council has been largely ineffective leading to five CAF women veterans resigned from the Council in January 2026 after serving for only one year. The Legion subsequently wrote to the Minister of Veterans Affairs expressing concerns regarding the Council's effectiveness, transparency, and accountability. Although the Minister responded in February indicating her commitment to renewing the Council, there has been no indication that the five vacant positions will be filled.

The Committee continues to advocate for the elimination of the "Marriage After 60" clause, as recommended by ACVA. As there has been no indication of government action for several years, this issue was again raised at the Veterans Consultation Assembly in November 2025. To date, no response has been received.

The Committee remains steadfast in its commitment to strengthening and streamlining a national Veterans Services network with clearly defined roles, responsibilities, and national guidelines for Branch, Provincial Command, and Dominion Command Service Officers. This will help ensure that veterans and their families receive consistent, high-quality support regardless of where they seek assistance from The Royal Canadian Legion.

This work is particularly important as we implement the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the CAF Transition Group. The MOU, attached to this report, enables Provincial Command Service Officers to attend Transition Centres and units across Canada to provide in-person assistance with VAC benefits to CAF members releasing from military service. Although implementation is still in its early stages, we continue to monitor the program to ensure all releasing members receive the same level of support regardless of where they reside.

The Committee is also increasingly concerned about organizations advertising services to assist veterans with disability claims and other applications to VAC. Many of these organizations charge veterans a percentage of any lump-sum disability award received or require veterans to transfer their medical care to affiliated clinics. In addition, many will not assist RCMP veterans because they are not eligible for lump-sum disability awards. While these practices are not illegal, the Committee believes it is unethical to

profit from veterans who may be unaware that security-cleared Legion Provincial Command and Dominion Command Service Officers, together with VAC staff, provide these professional services at no cost. We encourage all Branches to decline requests from such organizations to advertise or promote their services within Legion facilities.

To maintain our commitment to serving veterans and their families, all levels of The Royal Canadian Legion must continue to perform their responsibilities in accordance with all applicable government and legal requirements governing privacy, confidentiality, and information security. Compliance with these requirements is mandated under our Memorandum of Understanding with Veterans Affairs Canada. Without adherence to these standards, our ability to provide the high level of professional assistance our veterans and their families deserve would be significantly compromised.

I move approval of this report.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND
POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE TO
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
22 AUGUST 2026**

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
T. Backer	- A/Coordinator
C. Hughes	- Advisor

DATE OF LAST MEETING: 23 July 2026

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Fall 2026

ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION

1. REQUEST FOR FUNDING – HERO LODGE

Hero Lodge requested \$5,000 through the Veteran Support Partnership Program to support two project components: \$2,000 for the rental of VHF safety radios used during Veteran fishing excursions and \$3,000 toward the construction of a permanent wooden shower/bathroom structure at the lodge. The application states that the radios are essential for maintaining communication with participants on Great Slave Lake, while the proposed structure would improve the comfort and hygiene of participants.

The Veterans, Service and Seniors (VSS) Committee reviewed the application and recommended approving \$2,000 for the VHF radio rental costs only. The Committee noted that construction expenditures are identified as ineligible expenses under the Veteran Support Partnership Program guidelines and therefore did not recommend funding the proposed shower/bathroom structure.

The Poppy and Remembrance Committee concurred with the recommendation of the VSS Committee.

RECOMMENDATION: That \$2,000 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund be approved through the Veteran Support Partnership Program for Hero Lodge for 2026.

2. REQUEST FOR FUNDING – STRONGEST FAMILIES INSTITUTE

Strongest Families Institute has requested \$50,000 through the Veteran Support Partnership Program to support its From Service to Strength initiative, which provides distance-based mental health services for Veterans and their families. The funding would support direct client services for approximately 40–45 Veteran family referrals, as well as outreach, engagement, and training activities. Services are delivered through telephone and secure online coaching, providing timely, evidence-based support for mental health, parenting, child behaviour, and family well-being.

The VSS Committee reviewed the application and recommended approving the funding request, noting that the program provides accessible mental health support to Veterans and their families across Canada and aligns with the objectives of the Veteran Support Partnership Program.

The Poppy and Remembrance Committee concurred with the recommendation of the VSS Committee.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Veteran Support Partnership Program funding request of \$50,000 from the Dominion Command Poppy Trust Fund for Strongest Families Institute, From Service to Strength, be approved for 2026.

THE WAY AHEAD: COMMITTEE PLANS / GOALS

1. 2026 POPPY CAMPAIGN

The 2026 National Poppy Campaign will mark the first year under the standardized campaign dates of 24 October to 11 November. This change, approved by DEC in April 2026 following consultation with Provincial Commands, establishes a consistent national campaign period each year and replaces the previous practice of beginning on the last Friday in October.

The First Poppy Ceremony will take place on 21 October 2026 at Rideau Hall in Ottawa.

I move approval of this report.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE TO
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
22 AUGUST 2026**

File: 23:1

Jack MacIsaac - **Chair**
Rosalind Larose - **Vice Chair**
Don McCumber - **Member**
Lynn McClellan - **Member**
Rob Cutbush - **Member**
Roberta Taylor - **Member**
Danny Redden - **Member**
Amanda Black - **Coordinator**
Randy Hayley - **A/Coordinator**

DATE OF LAST MEETING: April 1, 2026

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBD

ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION

There are no action items at this time.

THE WAY AHEAD: COMMITTEE PLANS / GOALS

1. Centenary Membership Snapshot as of July 10, 2026

- A record number of new members have already joined taking advantage of our Free Centenary Membership offer 104,703 new members have signed up.
- Total membership stands at 330,104 up 30% % yr/yr.
- Renewals are currently at 224,951 - 82% have renewed.
- 99% of new members continue to join local branches directly

2. Communication with Branches

- Branches have been reminded to monitor @legion.ca email accounts for important Centenary updates throughout the Centenary year to stay informed on activities throughout 2026

GENERAL

I move approval of this report.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND
SPORTS COMMITTEE TO
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
22 AUGUST 2026**

File: 42-2

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

DATE OF LAST MEETING: February 5, 2026

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: July 30, 2026

ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION

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

THE WAY AHEAD: COMMITTEE PLANS / GOALS

The Sports Committee continues to maintain close liaison with Provincial Command sports representatives, and organizes, manages, and executes all National sports programs.

I move approval of this report.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND
RITUAL, AWARDS AND PROTOCOL COMMITTEE TO
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
22 AUGUST 2026**

File: 51-1

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

DATE OF LAST MEETING: 27 May 2026

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBD

ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION

There are no action items at this time.

THE WAY AHEAD: COMMITTEE PLANS / GOALS

The Ritual Award and Protocol Committee for the months of June, July, and August will monitor requirements and only meet if necessary. Monthly Zoom meetings will resume in September. Major award applications (MSM, MSA, Palm Leaf) received during this period will continue to be reviewed each month and the submitting Command will be notified of approval decision.

The Ritual, Award and Protocol committee conducts a zoom meeting each month. During the meeting all new business, command enquiries, and DEC direction, are discussed as agenda items and the commands informed of any changes . The Committee is committed to provide timely response to enquiries, keep DEC and Provincial Command updated on all changes associated to Ritual, Award and Protocol via Branch dispatch and communiques, review all major award applications monthly, and to keep the Ritual, Award and Protocol manual up to-date as changes occur.

Award submissions since last report of June 2026 for Convention:

COMMAND	MSM	Palm to MSM	MSA	Palm to MSA
Alberta-NWT	2	2		1
BC/Yukon				
Man & NW Ont				
New Brunswick				1
NL & Labrador	2	2		
NS/ Nunavut				

Ontario	2			
PEI				
Quebec				
Saskatchewan				
Intl USA Zone				

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

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND
CONSTITUTION AND LAWS COMMITTEE TO
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
22 AUGUST 2026**

File: 17:2

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

DATE OF LAST MEETING: 7 April 2026

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBD

ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION

There are no action items for decision.

THE WAY AHEAD: COMMITTEE PLANS / GOALS

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

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

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND
RCEL COMMITTEE TO
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
22 AUGUST 2026**

File: 26-2-4

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

DATE OF LAST MEETING: 23 April 2026

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 25 September 2026

ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION

There are no action items at this time.

THE WAY AHEAD: COMMITTEE PLANS / GOALS

In recent years, the number of beneficiaries to whom we provide direct support to in Antigua, the Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago has declined steadily due to the aging demographic of those we serve. From 2024 to August 2026, the number of beneficiaries decreased from 28 to 21.

We also continue to provide poppy materials to all Commonwealth Caribbean countries, enabling them to conduct their annual Poppy Campaigns and raise funds in support of their own veterans and veteran-focused initiatives.

We expect to have greater clarity regarding the future need for our support to beneficiaries during the first quarter of 2027. At that time, Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League (RCEL) UK will learn whether funding from the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) will continue their support to the remaining Caribbean countries. Should that funding be reduced, modified, or discontinued, RCEL UK may need to reassess its support model and could seek additional assistance from us to provide direct support to beneficiaries throughout the Caribbean.

At present, the total number of beneficiaries supported across the Caribbean region is

just under 100. If we are called upon to assume responsibility for supporting all

beneficiaries, it is estimated that our annual direct support costs could increase from approximately \$115,000 to an amount that will be determined based on the level of need at that time.

Given that the FCDO currently provides a significant portion of the funding, it is difficult to accurately forecast the potential financial requirement.

With the fund currently valued at more than \$1 million, combined with the continued generosity of donations received each year, we are confident that there would be sufficient resources to provide direct support for beneficiaries until all pre-independence veterans and widows have passed away.

As additional information becomes available from RCEL UK, the Committee will be kept informed and will be asked to review and discuss any proposals for expanded assistance.

I move adoption of this report.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND
DEFENCE AND SECURITY COMMITTEE TO THE
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
24 AUGUST 2024**

File: 82-27

A. Siew	- Chair
B. Heffernan	- Vice Chair
M. Pearson	- Member
G. Jensen	- Member
National Police Federation	- Member
R. Coltart	- Coordinator
C. Hughes	- VSS Committee Chair

DATE OF LAST MEETING: 15 June 2026

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 22 September 2026

ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION

There is one item for decision.

Suicide Prevention Among Canadian Veterans – Call on the Government to Implement the Recommendations of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs (ACVA)

Introduction

In April 2026 the House of Commons Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs (ACVA) released its report on *Suicide Prevention Among Canadian Veterans*. The report is the result of a comprehensive parliamentary study launched in September 2025 that included testimony from more than 54 witnesses and written submissions from experts, Veterans, stakeholders, and family members. Its findings and 16 recommendations highlight the urgent need for coordinated national action to reduce suicide among Canada's CAF members and Veterans and improve access to timely, effective mental health care and support.

The Report highlighted that suicide among Canada's CAF members or Veterans remains a significant public health concern. Behind every statistic is a Veteran whose service to Canada has ended in tragedy, leaving families, friends, and communities to bear the lasting impact. The transition from military to civilian life, operational stress injuries, and other service-related experiences continue to place many CAF members and Veterans at increased risk.

Evidence presented to the Committee indicated that approximately one Regular Force Veteran dies by suicide every nine days, representing an estimated 50 to 60 Veteran

suicides each year. The report also found that Veterans experience higher suicide rates than the comparable Canadian population. While male Veterans continue to account for the majority of deaths by suicide, women Veterans face a significantly higher risk than women in the general population. Witnesses highlighted the unique challenges experienced by many women Veterans, including military sexual trauma, harassment, discrimination, and gender-based violence, all of which can contribute to depression, post-traumatic stress injuries, social isolation, and an elevated risk of suicide.

The Committee also identified significant gaps in the collection and analysis of data, particularly relating to Reserve Force Veterans, limiting the Government's ability to fully understand the prevalence and causes of suicide across the Veteran population and to develop evidence-based prevention strategies.

In response, the Committee issued 16 comprehensive recommendations that provide a roadmap to strengthen suicide prevention efforts, improve coordination between the CAF and VAC, enhance transition services, expand access to mental health care, improve data collection and research, and strengthen support for Veterans and their families.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Royal Canadian Legion call upon the Government to implement all 16 recommendations of the ACVA report, *Suicide Prevention Among Canadian Veterans*, in full and without delay.

The Legion further calls on the Government to publish a comprehensive implementation plan that includes clear timelines, measurable performance indicators, and accountability mechanisms to ensure the recommendations are effectively carried out.

To promote transparency and accountability, The Legion also urge the responsible Ministers to report publicly to ACVA on implementation progress within six months of the Government's formal response to the report, and again within twelve months thereafter.

OVERVIEW

Over the past six months, the CAF has undertaken an ambitious agenda focused on modernization, force regeneration, support to personnel, operational readiness and culture change. These efforts are intended to ensure the CAF remains a capable and effective military, able to safeguard Canada's sovereignty while meeting its domestic and international commitments alongside our allies.

Notably, it was announced in April that Canada met its NATO 2% of GDP commitment and now the focus is on meeting 3.5% of GDP by 2035.

Lastly, the Government announced the selection of the German manufacture Thyssen Krupp Marine Systems (TKMS) as the preferred supplier to enter negotiations for the Canadian Patrol Submarine Project (CPSP) to procure up to 12 Type 212CD conventional submarines. The Type 212CD design combines AIP technology with battery-electric propulsion, enabling extended submerged endurance while maintaining ultra-low acoustic and magnetic signatures. Optimized for operations in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Arctic, the platform provides enhanced undersea surveillance and combat capabilities, as well as interoperability with NATO allies. The acquisition represents a significant modernization of Canada's undersea warfare capability, strengthening the Navy's capacity to conduct sustained, covert operations in support of Canada's maritime defence, sovereignty, and allied commitments.

If contracts are awarded for all 12 submarines, the CPSP would become the largest defence procurement in Canadian history.

THE WAY AHEAD: COMMITTEE ADVOCACY/ PLANS / GOALS

ADVOCACY ACTIONS

D&S Committee is monitoring the following current advocacy issues:

- RCMP Definition of a Veteran for Commemoration Purposes
- National Women Veterans Monument
- CAF Sexual Misconduct - Bill C11 – Military Justice System Modernization
- ACVA – Experience of Women Veterans Report – *Invisible no More*
- CFSA/RCMPSA Marriage After 60 Clause
- CAF Bronze Service Pin
- Women Veterans Council
- The Requirement for a Renewed National Security Strategy
- Victoria Cross
- Bill S246 – *An Act Respecting the Recognition of Wartime Service*

The following are new advocacy issues that the Committee has identified:

Emerging Threats – The Committee has submitted to Convention a resolution on emerging threats. This resolution calls on the Government to develop and publicly release a comprehensive National Strategy on artificial intelligence (AI) and robotic threats by the end of 2026.

Canadian Airborne Capability – The D&S Committee is reviewing a recent proposal from the Canadian Airborne Forces Association which calls for a renewed CAF airborne deployable capability for the defence of Canada, specifically in the Arctic.

Gaza Cemetery Destruction – Recent reporting on the destruction of the Gaza War Cemetery, including the section where Canadian peacekeepers are buried, is deeply concerning and highlights the importance of preserving the final resting places of those who served our country. This section of the cemetery contains the graves of 22 Canadian peacekeepers who died while serving with the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF), between 1956 and 1967.

The Legion has engaged with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to better understand the situation and explore available options for restoring and protecting the site once conditions permit. VAC should also be actively examining what support or actions may be available. Once more information is available, The Legion should advise its members and the public through social media that it is actively engaged on this issue and possible options for commemoration.

RCMP – The Requirement For Reform to the Public Safety Procurement Strategy - The National Police Federation (NPF) is calling on the Government to modernize the RCMP's procurement system, stating that the current federal process is too slow and bureaucratic to meet the operational needs of frontline policing. According to the NPF, lengthy procurement delays have left RCMP members using outdated equipment, increased costs to taxpayers, and created unnecessary risks to officer and public safety. The NPF is urging the Government to adopt a dedicated public safety procurement model, similar to the new defence procurement approach, that prioritizes accountability, efficiency, and timely delivery of critical equipment. The D&S Committee is reviewing the NPF's proposed recommendation.

Mobilization – The CAF is examining options to establish a CAF mobilization capability. This emerging mobilization force capability is intended to strengthen Canada's ability to rapidly expand military capacity in response to a major crisis or sustained operational demand, complementing the Regular and Reserve Force structure. While still in the early stages of design, the concept envisions a scalable system that could generate additional trained personnel by drawing on a broader national pool—including former members of the CAF, cadet instructors, and potentially other qualified volunteers—organized and supported through readiness frameworks, training, and infrastructure. This initiative reflects a shift toward ensuring Canada can more quickly surge personnel and capabilities in response to heightened defence and security demands, both at home and abroad.

CFB Gagetown Agent Orange and Chemical Exposure - Questions are being raised again about chemical usage at CFB Gagetown – Agent Orange in the 1960s and the use of forever chemicals. A petition was submitted to Parliament in early June to re-open the Parliamentary Standing Committee on National Defence study on environmental chemical use at all CAF bases, calling into question

the studies conducted by the Government in 2005-2007 and a renewed call for additional compensation to families in Gagetown.

In 2007, the Government created a one-time, tax-free ex-gratia payment of \$20,000 for eligible individuals who:

- were at, worked at, or lived near Gagetown during the 1966–67 testing period, and
- had a qualifying illness associated with Agent Orange exposure.

Veterans can also pursue disability benefits, but VAC requires evidence of actual exposure and a recognized medical condition linked to Agent Orange. Simply being present at Gagetown during the test dates is not automatically considered proof of harmful exposure. The Committee will continue to monitor in coordination with the VSS Committee.

SPONSORSHIP ACTIVITIES

Indigenous Youth Programs - The Committee continues to support the CAF and RCMP Indigenous Youth Programs by recognizing the top candidate of each program with a plaque.

CAF and RCMP Comradeship Awards – The Committee continues to provide a Royal Canadian Legion Comradeship Award to the top student at each CAF and RCMP recruit training course.

CDA VIMY Gala – The Gala is scheduled for 4 November 2026 and the Legion is a confirmed Silver sponsor.

CAF Nijmegen March – The Committee has confirmed that the CAF Nijmegen March is being discontinued.

MEETINGS AND ENGAGEMENT

Women Veterans Forum 9-10 June – The Committee Chair attended virtually. The forum was very similar to previous events and was light on specific VAC progress related to women's health needs such as Entitlement Eligibility Guidelines, programs and services, as the focus remained on transition. There was also no discussion on the renewal of the Women Veterans Council.

Conference of Defence Association(CDA) – The Committee continues to represent The Legion as a member Association in the CDA. Of note, Brigadier-General D.C. (Craig) Hilton (Retired) has replaced Lieutenant General (Retired) Guy Thibault as CDA President.

CDA Security Conference – The Conference will be held 10-11 March 2027 at the

Westin Hotel in Ottawa.

CONCLUSION

This is my report and I ask a voting member of DEC to move its adoption.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND
DOMINION CONVENTION COMMITTEE TO
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
24 AUGUST 2024**

File: 19-1

**B. Lawrence - Chair
S. McKeown - Member
B. Chafe - Member
S. Van Muyen - Coordinator
J. Ryan - Assistant Coordinator
R. Hayley - Ex Officio**

GENERAL

The 50th Dominion Convention will be a historic event as we mark the Legion's 100th anniversary where it all began in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The paragraphs that follow are a synopsis of planned activities and associated events for this convention. Additionally, we are extremely fortunate to have an extraordinary, inspiring LAC team to help deliver our 50th Dominion Convention. .

CONVENTION RESOURCES & MODERNIZATION

Similar to our 2024 Dominion Convention, we continue to modernize operations and deliver electronic resources, including:

- Pre-Convention nomination process and Candidates for Office webpage.
- Online delegate voting for Senior Elected Officer positions.
- A Convention App
- Electronic registration for both delegates and observers
- Online advance payment of all attendees
- A digital Convention Committee Reports and Resolution Book
- Online programs for the Commemorative Ceremony

CENTENARY

The 50th Dominion Convention is an opportunity to celebrate The Royal Canadian Legion's centenary. This year's theme, A Century of Service. Honouring the Past, Shaping the Future, recognizes this historic moment.

Centenary Banquet: A Centenary Banquet is scheduled for the evening of Saturday 22 August 2026 at the RBC Convention Centre to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Legion. Details include:

- **Location:** RBC Convention Centre – Hall C
- **Date:** Saturday, 22 August 2026
- **Doors Open / Pre-Reception:** 1730 – 1845 hours

- **Check In:** Please show your delegate or banquet accreditation upon arrival
- **Food Allergies:** Guests with food allergies are asked to check in with Convention staff at the banquet entrance.
- **Banquet Dinner:** 1900 – 2200 hours
- **Dress:** Legion Dress, Association Dress, or Business Attire. No decorations.
- **Seating:** General seating is not assigned. Guests are welcome to choose their seats at any open table upon arrival. Some tables may be reserved.
- **Head Table:** Guests seated at the head table will be piped into position at 1855.

REGISTRATION FEES AND EXHIBITORS

The registration fees are \$120.00 for delegates and \$80.00 for observers. DEC members who are not accredited branch delegates shall be accredited delegates to Dominion Convention, with the registration fee paid by Dominion Command; DEC members registered as branch delegates will not have their registration fee reimbursed by Dominion Command.

DEC members must check in at the welcome desk in the RBCCC. This provides access to voting through the Dominion Convention App. Accreditations will be provided at the time of check in.

At the time of this report there were 912 registered delegates and 32 observers. With guest speakers and invited guests, we are expecting 1,100 attendees!

In addition, we will have 40+ Exhibitor Booths which will include Dominion Command Departments, Provincial Command booths and a wide range of other participants including our Member Benefit Partners, CIMVHR, VAC, CAF TG, Wounded Warriors, and Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Convention Welcoming Desk Check-In timings are:

- a. Saturday, 22 August: 0730 to 1600 hours.
- b. Sunday, 23 August: 0800 to 1100 hours.

CONVENTION DAILY PROCEDURES

A copy of the Daily Procedures will be distributed at the DEC meeting.

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS TO CONVENTION

We continue to ask that Committee Chairs not read their report as each report is included in the Committee Reports and Resolutions book that was delivered electronically to all branches and convention delegates in July.

Each Committee Chair has a maximum of 20 minutes to present their verbal report,

respond to questions and present and vote on any resolutions. As a result, the verbal

report itself should be no more than 5 minutes and is not to repeat or summarize any items already included in the printed report; rather, it is to highlight the areas of importance and look at the way ahead for the committee, where it needs to focus attention to move the organization forward, such as upcoming issues or projected areas of concern, work that needs to be done with government or other partners, or potential initiatives.

Each committee budget is printed in the Committee Reports and Resolutions book for review by delegates, however, these budgets will not be approved until the full financial report is presented for adoption.

MEETINGS AND CEREMONIAL EVENTS

Saturday, 22 August

0900 hours Pre-Convention DEC Meeting, Charleswood Room, Delta Hotel
Past Dominion Presidents have observer status at this meeting.

Sunday, 23 August

0930 hours Marshaling for the Parade and Commemorative Ceremony, with
form up at the Manitoba Legislature Building. Parade steps off at
1000 hours, arriving at Winnipeg Cenotaph at approx. 1020 hours.

1020 hours The Order of Service for the Commemorative Ceremony is as
follows:

- a. Parade halts in place – Parade Commander, Mark Time, Halt & Inward turn;
- b. Arrival of the Guest of Honour Lt Gov of MB;
- c. Salute as appropriate – Parade Commander;
- d. The National Anthem
- e. Last Post – Colours steady, also all Legion Banners to dip;
- f. Silence (2 minutes);
- g. Lament – Piper;

- h. Rouse – All Legion Banners to be raised;
- i. Act of Remembrance
 - i. Dominion President Comrade Berkley Lawrence (English)
 - ii. Grand President Comrade Larry Murray (French)
 - iii. Dominion Vice-President Trevor Jenvenne (Indigenous)
- j. Parade Stands at Ease - Parade Commander;
- k. Invocation - Colonel Lisa Pacarynuk
- l. Placing of Wreaths:
 - i. Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba the Honourable Anita Neville
Assisted by Aide-de Camp;
 - ii. Silver Cross Mother, Debbie Sullivan
Assisted by Charls Gendron;
 - iii. Veterans Affairs Canada, Minister of Veterans Affairs
Assisted by Sharon McKeown Dominion First Vice President;
 - iv. Canadian Armed Forces, BGen Serge Ménard
Assisted by CWO Stephane Gaudreau
 - v. Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Assistant Commissioner Scott McMurchy
Assisted by Comrade Trevor Jenvenne Dominion Vice President;
 - vi. Government of MB, David Pankratz Special Envoy for Military Affairs
Assisted by Comrade Valerie MacGregor Dominion Vice President;
 - vii. City of Winnipeg – His Worship Scott Gillingham, Mayor
Assisted by Comrade Bill Chafe, Dominion Chair
 - viii. The Royal Canadian Legion, Berkley Lawrence, Dominion President -
Assisted by Comrade Jack MacIsaac Dominion Vice President
 - ix. MB NWO Command, Comrade Robert Cutbush, President -
Assisted by Comrade Rick Bennett, Winnipeg LAC Chairman.
- m. The HMCS Chippawa Naval Reserve Band will play;

- n. Benediction – Rev;
- o. The Royal Anthem - The HMCS Chippawa Naval Reserve Band

- 1045 hours The commemorative ceremony concluded, the parade will continue past the reviewing stand which will be located on the steps of the Legislature Building. The parade will be dismissed past the reviewing stand at approx. 1100 hours, doors to the convention floor will open at 1100 hours.
- 1130-1245 hours Pre-Opening Ceremony VIP Reception, Pan-Am Room, RBCCC for DEC members, spouses, and special guests.
- 1145-1245 hours Opening Ceremony Entertainment Prelude.
- 1245 hours VIP Reception guests will be lined up, led onto the Convention Floor, and seated for the commencement of the ceremony.
- 1300 hours Opening Ceremony, to conclude at approx. 1430 hours. Invited guests will be escorted from the convention floor with SEOs and Past Dominion Presidents taking their designated places at the tables on stage. The Sunday business session will include:
- Procedures Report
 - Chair's Remarks
 - Grand President's Report
 - Dominion President's Report
 - Confirmation of Nominations for Dominion President

Wednesday, 28 August

- 1230 hours (TBC) Installation ceremony

Thursday, 29 August

- 0800 hours Official SEO Photographs, Charleswood Room, Delta Hotel
- 0900 hours Post-convention SEO meeting, Charleswood Room, Delta Hotel
- 1000 hours Post-convention DEC meeting, Charleswood Room, Delta Hotel
- 1130 hours Post-convention Canvet Board meeting, Charleswood Room, Delta Hotel

SOCIAL EVENTS

Please take note of the following social events:

- a. Centenary Banquet. As described in this report.
- b. Pre-Opening Ceremony VIP Reception. Sunday, 23 August in the Pan-Am Room RBCCC starting at 1130 am.
- c. Evening Entertainment. Hosted by local branches.

CONVENTION VIP GUEST COORDINATOR

The Convention VIP Guest Coordinator is Kelly Therien and Jody Ryan will be assisting. Guests must check in at the welcome desk starting on Saturday morning.

INVITED GUESTS

The following invited guests have accepted our invitation at time of this report:

- a. International Guests
 - Mr. Philip Astor, Grandson of Field Marshal Earl Haig
 - Mr. Mark Atkinson, Director General, The Royal British Legion
 - Ms. Nina Villa, The Royal British Legion
 - Mrs. Libby Watkins, The Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League
 - Mr. David Thompson, The Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League
 - Mr. Dan Wiley, National Commander, The American Legion
 - Mr. Daniel Ludwig, Past National Commander, The American Legion
 - Mr. Doug Hensley, The American Legion
 - Dr. Claire Armstrong, Chief Executive, Legion Scotland
- b. Dominion Past Presidents
 - Comrade Dave and Vera Flannigan
 - Comrade Mary Ann Misfeldt
 - Comrade Tom Eagles and Cheryl Giberson
 - Comrade Jack and Lynn Frost
 - Comrade Allan and Janice Parks
 - Comrade Tom Irvine and Paulette Cook
- c. Canadian Fraternal Organizations
 - Mr. Al Dunham, Dominion President, ANAVETS
- d. Dominion Command Zone Commanders
 - Comrade Ronald Davidson, Western Zone USA Commander
 - Comrade Bryan Schindel, Eastern Zone USA Commander

e. Veterans Affairs Canada

- Hon. Jill McKnight, Minister of Veterans Affairs
- Nancy Gardiner, Deputy Minister, Veterans Affairs Canada
- Richard Thibault, Deputy Chair, Veterans Review & Appeal Board

f. Veterans Agencies

- Col (Ret'd) Nishika Jardine, Veterans Ombudsperson
- LCol (Ret'd) Jamie Morse, Ombudsperson
- Ms. Caitlin Bailey, Area Director for Canada and Americas Area, Commonwealth War Graves Commission
- Ms. Michelle Foley, Professional Services Manager, Commonwealth War Graves Commission

g. Municipal/Provincial/Federal Government Organizations

- Hon Anita R. Neville, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba
- Mr. David Pankratz, Province of Manitoba, Special Envoy for Military Affairs
- His Worship Scott Gillingham, Mayor of Winnipeg

h. Cadet Leagues

- RAdm Jennifer Bennett, CMM, CD, President, Navy League of Canada
- Mr. Robert Gill, National Executive Director, The Army Cadet League of Canada
- Mr. Pierre Forues, Executive Director, The Air Cadet League of Canada

i. Special Guests

- Mrs. Debra Sullivan, SCM 2021
- Mr. Len Van Roon, Second World War Veteran, Dieppe
- BGen Serge Ménard, Comd CAF TG
- CWO Stephane Gaudreau, FCWO CAF TG
- Mr. Scott McMurchy, Assistant Commissioner, RCMP
- Mr. Roland Fisette, 2026 Winnipeg Convention LAC Co-Chair
- Mr. Rick Bennett, 2026 Winnipeg Convention LAC Co-Chair
- BGen (ret'd) Alan Mulawyshyn, Veterans House Canada
- Mr. John Goheen, Pilgrimage Guide
- Mr. Ray McInnis, Chronic Pain Centre of Excellence for Canadian Veterans
- Ms. Susy Faria, Chronic Pain Centre of Excellence for Canadian Veterans
- Mr. Bruce Burnham, PIB Insurance & LNF
- Mr. Mike Bonner, Bank of Montreal
- Mr. Brent Wignes, 2028 Saskatoon Convention LAC Chair

TRAVEL EXPENSES AND PER DIEM

DEC members are to complete the Travel Expense Form and submit electronically after Convention. Hotel rooms are charged against Dominion Command's master account. Members are responsible for any incidental expenses charged to their room.

CONVENTION APPOINTMENTS

The following members are appointed to the noted positions:

Presiding Officer	Comrade Bruce Julian
Returning Officer/Chief Scrutineer	Comrade Dave Flannigan
Installing Officer	Grand President Larry Murray
Convention Appeals Committee	Comrade Tom Eagles and All Past Dominion Presidents

FUTURE CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

The following is a list of activities regarding future conventions:

- a. 2028 Convention: Saskatoon, Sask.
- b. 2030 Convention: London, ON
- c. 2032 Convention: Edmonton. AB

I move the acceptance of my report.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND
VETERANS CONSULTATION ASSEMBLY
TO THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
22 AUGUST 2026**

File: 10-2

L. Murray	- Chair
B. Lawrence	- Vice Chair
R. Hayley	- Coordinator
C. Hughes	- Assistant Coordinator

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

ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION

The committee has no action items at this time.

THE WAY AHEAD: COMMITTEE PLANS / GOALS

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

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

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND
GOING FORWARD COMMITTEE TO THE
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
22 AUGUST 2026**

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: 15 January 2026

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBC

ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION

There are no action items for decision at this time.

THE WAY AHEAD: COMMITTEE PLANS / GOALS

I move acceptance of my report.

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND
EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION (EDI) COMMITTEE TO THE
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
22 AUGUST 2026**

File:32

Valerie MacGregor	-	Chair
Bill Chafe	-	Member
Larry Murray	-	Member
Marion Fryday-Cook	-	Member
Andrea Siew	-	Member
Eric Poissant	-	Coordinator
Martin Ouellette	-	A/Coordinator

DATE OF LAST MEETING: 16 June 2026

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TBC

ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION

There are no action items for decision.

THE WAY AHEAD: COMMITTEE PLANS / GOALS

- a. The EDI Committee will turn their focus to the coordination of development and rollout efforts to support the Empowered EDI Awareness Program across the entire Legion Organization, for 2026-27.
- b. Action Priorities Review
Review and reassess the Committee's current action priorities to ensure alignment with evolving needs and strategic direction. (Work in progress).
- c. 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.
- d. 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.

Motion

I move that the Dominion Executive Council approve this report as circulated.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Valerie MacGregor
Chair, EDI Committee
Dominion Command

**REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND
CENTENARY COMMITTEE TO
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
22 AUGUST 2026**

File: 48-20

Valerie MacGregor	- Chair
Marion Fryday-Cook	- Vice-Chair / NS-NU Representative
Craig Thompson	- BC-YK Representative
Deb Bolduc	- AB-NWT Representative
Carol Pedersen	- 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: 5 February 2026

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: August 2026

ACTION ITEMS FOR DECISION

No action items for consideration.

THE WAY AHEAD: COMMITTEE PLANS / GOALS

The Committee's goal going forward is to continue to evolve and support the remaining major initiatives while also making sure to attain their respective timelines.

I move approval of this report.

ITEM 8: CANVET PUBLICATIONS

**REPORT OF CANVET PUBLICATIONS LTD. TO
DOMINION EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
22 AUGUST 2026**

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

INTRODUCTION

In 2025, Canvet had a solid year and ended the year with a modest surplus. 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 \$805,522, a 12% decrease over 2024.

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

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

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

DIGITAL FORMAT

This year, Canvet launched a digital version of *Legion Magazine*. Readers now have the choice between a traditional printed copy, or a digital version of the magazine. Existing readers that would like to switch to digital, need only to call the magazine to make the switch.

Some of the benefits of switching to digital include immediate access to each new issue, full access to the magazine archives, and an optimized reading experience on a phone, tablet,

or desktop, with the ability to increase text size for greater readability. Readers can also take advantage of direct links to websites, online stores, promotions, and contact

information, creating a more engaging and user-friendly experience.

CONCLUSION

This report is provided for informational purposes only.

INTRODUCTION

This report is for information only.

ITEM 9: DOMINION CONVENTION APPOINTMENTS

DEC is requested to approve the following Dominion Convention appointments:

Presiding Officer	Bruce Julian
Returning Officer/Chief Scrutineer	Dave Flannigan
Installing Officer	Larry Murray
Convention Appeals Committee Presidents	Tom Eagles and All Past Dominion Presidents

<u>Name</u>	<u>Medal</u>	<u>Bar</u>	<u>Due</u>
Berkley Lawrence	Past President Pin		Aug. 2026
	Past President Medal		Aug. 2026
		VSS	Aug. 2026
		Dominion Convention	Aug. 2026
		RCEL	Aug. 2026
		Veterans Consultation	Aug. 2026
Sharon McKeown		1 st Vice President	Aug. 2026
		Poppy & Remembrance	Aug. 2026
		RCEL	Aug. 2026
		VSS	Aug. 2026
		Dominion Convention	Aug. 2026
Valerie MacGregor		VP	Aug. 2026
		RCEL	Aug. 2026
Jack MacIsaac		VP	Aug. 2026
		Poppy & Remembrance	Aug. 2026
		RCEL	Aug. 2026
		Membership	Aug. 2026
Trevor Jenvenne		VP	Aug. 2026
		Sports	Aug. 2026
		RCEL	Aug. 2026
Bill Chafe		RCEL	Aug. 2026
Jill Carleton		RCEL	Aug. 2026
Robert Cutbush		Membership	Aug. 2026
Harold Defazio		Sports	Aug. 2026
George Della Valle		C&L	Aug. 2026
David Doucette		Poppy & Remembrance	Aug. 2026
Luc Fortier		Poppy & Remembrance	Aug. 2026
Craig Hood	OSI Past Officer	Dominion	Aug. 2026
		Councillor	Aug. 2026
		VSS	Aug. 2026

Lynn McLellan		Membership	Aug. 2026
Name	Medal	Bar	Due
Danny Redden	TVS Past Officer	Dominion	Aug. 2026
		Councillor	Aug. 2026
		TVS	Aug. 2026
		Membership	Aug. 2026
Roberta Taylor		Membership	Aug. 2026
Craig Thomson	Past Officer	Dominion	Aug. 2024
		Councillor	Aug. 2024
		C&L	Aug. 2024
		Poppy & Remembrance	Aug. 2026
Bob Underhill		Sports	Aug. 2026
David Velchinko		Poppy & Remembrance	Aug. 2026
Gerald Budden		Ritual & Awards	Aug. 2026
Don McCumber		Membership	Aug. 2026
George O'Dair		C&L	Aug. 2026
Carol Pedersen		VSS	Aug. 2026
Ernie Tester		Ritual & Awards	Aug. 2026

ITEM 13: MEETINGS AND INVITATIONS

2026

24-29 Jul.	Seoul International Veterans Forum, Seoul, South Korea, Lawrence
31 Jul.	Glengarry Highland Games, Maxville, ON, Murray
5-11 Aug.	Legion National T&F, Regina, SK,
15 Aug.	Hong Kong Memorial, Ottawa, Hong Kong Memorial, Murray
22-26 Aug.	50 th Dominion Convention, Winnipeg, MB,
20-23 Sep.	ANAVETS National Convention, Vernon, BC Underhill
25-27 Sep.	SEO/Budget Meeting, Ottawa, ON Legion House
3 Oct.	Polish Combatants' Association 80 th Anniversary, Edmonton, AB Velichko
21 Oct.	First Poppy Presentation at Rideau Hall
24 Oct.	Launch of Poppy Campaign
2-12 Nov.	Remembrance Period
27 Nov.	Dominion President Reception, Ottawa, ON Legion House
28 Nov.	DEC, Ottawa, ON Legion House
24 Dec. 2026 – 1 Jan. 2027	Legion House closure, Ottawa