



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COMMAND

**50th BIENNIAL
CONVENTION REPORT**

AT THE

**DOUBLETREE BY HILTON
LONDON, ON**

MAY 13th – 16th, 2017

ZONE A6, LONDON, ON

“Times and conditions change so rapidly that we must keep our aim constantly focused on the future.”

Walt Disney

ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COMMAND PAST PRESIDENTS

*1926	J. A. Gunn
*1928	C. H. Ackerman
*1930	J. K. Mackay
*1931	F. J. Picking
*1932	J. Ferry
*1937	H. R. Alley
*1939	W. Ben Allen
*1940	T. Magladery
*1945	E. R. Burgess
*1947	E. S. Evans
*1949	G. M. Fitzgerald
*1951	T.A.M. Hulse
*1953	G. H. Tolley
*1955	H. J. Harvey
*1957	F. T. O'Brecht
*1959	H. F. Eaton
*1961	C. G. Wood
*1963	A. H. Adams
*1965	W. G. Wakefield
*1967	R. D. McChesney
*1969	D. McDonald
*1971	D. Wilson
*1973	R. E. Jeffries
*1975	D. Capperauld
*1977	J. C. Forbes
*1978	W. Tanner
*1978	R. A. Collins
*1981	L. Keen
*1983	J. B. Tyndall
*1985	J. W. Smith
*1987	J. Kobolak
*1989	H. Tudhope
*1991	R. Paterson
*1993	L. Hollingshead
*1995	F. Bilotta
1997	R. Scriven
1999	J. Frost
*2001	J. Alger
2003	E. Kish
2005	G. Moore
2007	G. O'Dair
2009	W.E. Pigeau
2011	A. Paquette
2013	B. Julian

* *Denotes Deceased*

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NOTES

**50th BIENNIAL CONVENTION
LONDON, ONTARIO
MAY 13TH – MAY 16TH, 2017**

A G E N D A

- Saturday, May 13th**
- Registration 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Grand Ballroom
 - Sat. 3:00 p.m. Parade Commander with District Parade Commanders – Grand Ballroom.
 - Sat. 3:00 p.m. - Provincial Chairman with District Commanders and District Whips and Assistant District Whips - Grand Ballroom
 - Sat. 3:00 p.m. – Convention Elections Chairman and Scrutineers – Grand Ballroom
 - Social Activities – Br. 317, Br. 533, Br. 501
- Sunday, May 14th**
- Registration 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. - Grand Ballroom
 - Sun. 11:00 a.m. - Wreath Laying Ceremony – Victoria Park located at Dufferin Ave and Wellington Street
 - Sun. 11:30 a.m. - Parade will form up at Dufferin & Wellington heading to Double Tree by Hilton.
 - Sun. 1:00 p.m. - Opening Ceremony - Grand Ballroom
 - Opening Ceremony concludes
 - Musical interlude while stage is being reset for Convention
 - Sun. 2:00 p.m. - Invocation
 - Call to Order
 - Procedure Report
 - Introduction of Platform guests
 - Provincial President's Report
 - Constitution and Laws Report
 - Resolutions – Constitution and Laws
 - Final Credential Report
 - Nomination for All Offices
 - Honourary Treasurer's Report
 - Ways and Means Report

- Resolutions – Ways and Means
- Elections
- Keynote Speaker: **Natacha Dupuis**
Invictus Games Co-Captain for Team Canada
- Homeless Veterans Report
- Honours and Awards Committee Report
- Resolutions – Honours and Awards
- District Caucus Meetings

Sun. 7:00 p.m.

- Social Activities – Br. 533

Monday, May 15th

Mon 8:00 a.m.

- Invocation - Grand Ballroom
- Elections
- Veterans Services/Seniors Reports
- Resolutions - Veterans Services/Seniors
- Address: Thomas D. Irvine CD,
1st Vice-President, Dominion Command

Mon. 1:00 p.m.

- Collection for RCEL
- Membership Committee Report
- Resolutions - Membership
- Poppy Committee Report
- Resolutions – Poppy
- Sports Report
- Resolutions – Sports
- Public Relations Committee Report
- Resolutions - Public Relations
- Youth Education Committee Report
- Resolutions - Youth Education
- Ontario Correspondent’s Report
- Resolutions – Ontario Correspondent
- **NON-CONCURRED RESOLUTIONS TO CHAIRMAN**
- Bursary Committee Report
- Resolutions – Bursary
- Resolutions Committee Report
- The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Provincial Command
Branches and Ladies’ Auxiliaries, Charitable Foundation
Report

- Address: Mrs. Kim Adams
Provincial President,
Ladies' Auxiliary to Ontario Provincial Command
 - Local Announcements
- Mon. 7:00 p.m.
- Social Activities - Host Br. 533, Br. 501

Tuesday, May 16th

- 8:00 a.m.
- Invocation
 - Elections
 - Executive Director Report
 - Provincial Property Committee Report
 - PIB Insurance – Kelly Smith
 - Military Service Recognition Program Report
 - Cadet Liaison Report
 - Website Coordinator Report
 - Resolutions – Website Coordinator
 - Track & Field Report
 - Resolution – Track & Field
 - Site of the 2019 convention
 - Bids for the 2021 convention
 - General Business
 - Installation of Officers
 - Local Announcements
 - Closing Ceremonies

- *The Immediate Past President and the Senior Officers of Ontario Command will be asked to present a brief report of their activities during the past two year term as time permits.*
- *The admin meeting will begin 1 hour after closing ceremonies.*
- *Items on the Agenda could be subject to change.*

SENIOR ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Brian Weaver	Cobourg
Immediate Past President	Bruce Julian	Beachville
1st Vice President	Sharon McKeown	Milton
Vice President	Garry Pond	Carleton Place
Vice President	Derek Moore	Mount Forest
Vice President	Ken Sorrenti	Kemptville
Honourary Treasurer	Don Hubbs	Burlington
Chairman	Bill Chafe	Sarnia
Vice Chairman	Ron Goebel	Carleton Place

DISTRICT 'A'

District Commander	Ron Crown	Grand Bend
Deputy District Commander	Brian Harris	London
Zone Commander A.1	Mike Glovasky	Tecumseh
Zone Commander A.2	Bill Robertson	Leamington
Zone Commander A.3	Irene Williams	Chatham
Zone Commander A.4	Lynn Mathieson	Sarnia
Zone Commander A.5	Tom Gregson	Strathroy
Zone Commander A.6	Ross Seip	London
Zone Commander A.7	Nancy Miller	West Lorne

DISTRICT 'B'

District Commander	John "Wes" Kutasienski	Acton
Deputy District Commander	Henry (Hank) Nikitzuk	Welland
Deputy District Commander	Jack Porter	Brampton
Zone Commander B.1	Don Biggs	Waterford
Zone Commander B.2	Mona Eichmann	Tavistock
Zone Commander B.5	Diane Condon	Niagara Falls
Zone Commander B.6	John Murphy	Dundas
Zone Commander B.7	Kim Reinhart	Mississauga

DISTRICT 'C'

District Commander	Patty Sargent-Gibson	Owen Sound
Deputy District Commander	Lynn McClellan	Elora

Zone Commander C.1	Eric Ross	Brussels
Zone Commander C.2	Sandy Pember	Elmira
Zone Commander C.3	John Dalley	Moorefield
Zone Commander C.4	Sheila James	Meaford

DISTRICT 'D'

District Commander	Karen Moore	Toronto
Deputy District Commander	Shelley Sing	Mississauga
Deputy District Commander	Joyce Geddes	Oshawa
Zone Commander D.1	Vic Sing	Mississauga
Zone Commander D.3	Walter Vaughan	Toronto
Zone Commander D.5	Wayne Powell	Toronto

DISTRICT 'E'

District Commander	Bob Ladouceur	Victoria Harbour
Deputy District Commander	Pam Davidson	Gravenhurst
Zone Commander E.2	Crystal Cook	Keswick
Zone Commander E.3	Catherine M. Connelly	Orangeville
Zone Commander E.4	Debbie Knott	Clarksburg
Zone Commander E.5	Shirley Ruttan	Bracebridge

DISTRICT 'F'

District Commander	Robert "Buck" Buchanan	Wellington
Deputy District Commander	Don Ramsey	Port Hope
Zone Commander F.1	Lorraine Duncan	Newcastle
Zone Commander F.2	Gary Newman	Trenton
Zone Commander F.3	Lynn Deering	Marmora
Zone Commander F.4	Belinda Wilson	Fenelon Falls
Zone Commander F.5	Mary Dunne	Trenton

DISTRICT 'G'

District Commander	Stan Halliday	Pembroke
Deputy District Commander	Dave Cormier	Almonte
Deputy District Commander	Blaine Kiley	Orleans

Zone Commander G.1
Zone Commander G.2
Zone Commander G.3
Zone Commander G.4
Zone Commander G.5
Zone Commander G.6
Zone Commander G.7

Terry Shelley
Don Bain
Anne Dutcher
Ken Heagle
Joel Vansnick
George Wood
Wayne Bennett

Tamworth
Brockville
Brockville
Cornwall
Nepean
Carleton Place
Cobden

DISTRICT 'H'

District Commander
Deputy District Commander
Deputy District Commander
Zone Commander H.2
Zone Commander H.3
Zone Commander H.4

Peter Miller
Steve Frech
Tom Hywarren
Ken Faubert
Art Buisson
John Lewis

Sault Ste.Marie
Richards Landing
Elliot Lake
North Bay
Britt
Bruce Mines

DISTRICT 'K'

District Commander
Deputy District Commander
Zone Commander K.1
Zone Commander K.2
Zone Commander K.3
Zone Commander K.4

Thomas Garnett
Ron Drouin
Marianne Sowinski
Roy Wilde
Ross Libby
Carolann Danielski

Hearst
Timmins
New Liskeard
Larder Lake
South Porcupine
Kapuskasing

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Bursary
Charitable Foundation
Constitution and Laws
Honours and Awards
Membership

Brian Smith
Marg Emery
Bruce McKittrick
John Grosvenor
Garry Pond

Paisley
Corunna
Nepean
Chatham
Carleton Place

Ontario Correspondent & Website Coordinator	Mary Ann Goheen	Gravenhurst
Poppy	Ken Sorrenti	Kemptville
Public Relations	Carolyn McCaul	Golden Lake
Resolutions	Sharon McKeown	Milton
Sports	Vic Newey	Komoka
Track & Field	John Crook	Mississauga
Veterans Services/Legion Seniors	Greg Oakes	Elora
Veterans Services/Legion Seniors Vice	Aubrey Callan	Mountain
Youth Education	Derek Moore	Mount Forest
Padre	Michael Wellwood	Aylmer

SPECIALTY COMMITTEES

Newsletter	Roy Eaton	Little Current
Property Committee	Bruce Julian	Beachville
Homeless Veterans Chairman	Bruce Julian	Beachville
Homeless Veterans 1st Vice President	Sharon McKeown	Milton
Cadet/Legion Liaison	Sharon McKeown	Milton
Military Service Recognition Book	Ron Goebel	Carleton Place

ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COMMAND

LAST POST

It is with regret, I record the names of the past officers of our Command, of which we are aware, who have passed on since the last Roll Call at Niagara Falls. Please stand in memory of our fallen Comrades.

Lloyd Behnke	Past District G Commander
Dave Roe	District A Sports Officer
Eva Videto	Past Zone D2 Commander
Moe Rowson	Past Deputy District G Commander
Don Critchley	Past District K Commander
Dave Brown	Past Zone G3 Commander, District G Chairman
Louis Deschamp	Zone A Commander, CF Director District A
Al Harris	VP Ontario Command, Past District E Commander
Betty Crawford	Past Zone C3 Commander
Walter Dukes	Past Honorary Treasurer Ont. Com., Past Dist. C
Commander	
Fred Gilson	Past Deputy District D Commander, Past President Br. 527
Marilyn Patterson	District H Sports Officer, Past Zone H4 Commander
Eric Smart	Past District C Poppy, Past Zone C2 Commander
Linda Cote	Past District K Commander
Sheila Harris	Past District D Commander
Charles Belzile	Past Dominion Grand President
Ed Hitchinson	Past District G Commander
Joe Kelly	Past Zone F4 Commander, Past District Poppy Chairman

PROVINCIAL PRESIDENTS REPORT

Comrade Chairman, Dominion 1st. Vice President Tom, Members of our Provincial Ladies' Auxiliary, my fellow Command Officers, Distinguished Guests, Comrades at the Head table and my Comrades all. Welcome to our 50th. Biennial Convention here in beautiful London Ontario.

Comrades, I am totally amazed as to how fast this two-year term serving as your Provincial President is quickly drawing to a close. Niagara Falls seems so distant but it's like we were just there, our 49th. Provincial Convention, deliberating, and electing a new slate of Officers for the ensuing term. These past two years have been very busy yet very satisfying to know that we have strived to uphold our oath to serve you and our Veterans to the best of our ability. Comrades, it certainly has been an honor and a privilege to serve all of you as your Command President and one that I will never forget.

Comrades, putting pen to paper to summarize what has transpired over the past two years is extremely difficult to say the least. This past term in Office has not all been a bed of roses. We saw a change in the office structure with the retirement of our Executive Director, Comrade Dave Gordon, moved Comrade Pam Sweeny up for his replacement and then hired Comrade Juanita Kemp as the new Assistant Executive Director. Also, we hired Comrade Lisa Dinsmore to replace Comrade Tammy Taylor who moved to Ottawa into the Service Bureau Office. All three of these comrades are very knowledgeable and capable and I know that we can rely upon all of them to do the very best for all of you.

With that being said I want to say thank you to all of our staff. Those that are at work behind the front counter at the office. The day to day operations, the committee work, a lot of them going that extra mile to get the job done. They are family. They really deserve a big round of applause for all that they do for you.

Comrades to start off, our Homeless Veterans Program has not slowed down but has grown into a huge program requiring the constant attention from our staff to maintain the daily influx of homeless cases. Our tireless 'shopaholic' Jen sees that they are all outfitted with the proper apartment kits and anything needed to ease them into a whole change of venue for them being off the streets. At the time of printing this report we are still assisting many clients, permanently housing homeless veterans and their families and we have spent well over \$1.5 million dollars thanks to your generous monetary contributions. We took possession of the 10 Pan Am Games apartment units from the Fred Victor Society. Many thanks to your Ladies Auxiliaries who graciously donated over \$45,000 to outfit them all with new furniture. We are still awaiting the start of the 16 unit Veterans housing complex in Rock Cliff area in Ottawa. I'm sure that Comrade Bruce Julian will expand on all of these initiatives and our new Homeless Veterans Dental Program during his report.

Comrades, over the past three years our "Military Service Recognition Book" has really progressed well with the production of our 3rd. edition with an influx of more and more submissions being sent in constantly. It has turned into a very lucrative and successful program. Many thanks to our three Co-ordinators Carolyn Mc Caul, Mary-Ann Goheen and Ron Goebel for a job well done. Comrade Ron will fill you in with more details during his report.

As your Command President, I had the unenviable task of removing a Branch President through an Article 111, place several B.O.M's and installed many Branch Financial Advisors into branches just get them back on the straight and narrow anticipating a financial recovery. As well hopefully, branches will have learned from their mistakes and bad practises so that your Ontario Command President elect will have a smooth transition into office and an easier two years at the helm.

Also in this past term we had to place one committee in abeyance and removed a committee chairman as those committees were not being utilized to their full potential. Not a pleasurable task but one that had to be done.

Comrades, more and more branches that have held large memberships and huge buildings are finally realizing that in their best interest for survival; amalgamation was the best way to go; selling off of one building and moving into the others, consolidating their finances, paying off of debts, bolstering memberships and making a profit.

Also your Provincial Revitalization Committee was put on hold to have a better look on how it can restructured into getting more bang for your buck. Before too long we will have an effective 'getting back to basics' training for all branches. More on that to come next term.

Comrades, I chose a quote that I saw in Florida last year as the theme for this convention;

“Times and conditions change so rapidly that we must keep our aim constantly focused on the future.” True words by the late Walt Disney. Branches must constantly look to their future for survival by increasing their membership, by taking a hard line and being shrewd in financial matters, educating your members to move them up the ranks to take an active role in executive matters. Branches must find innovative ways to keep the front doors opens, bills paid and the collection hounds away from the back door. What was great years ago just won't work in todays' scheme of things. Now with thanks to our AGO quite a few branches have tried the 'new' Catch the Ace game and are reporting great success.

Comrades, as stated on the front cover, years ago it was **THEIR LEGION** – now today it is **OUR LEGION** – and tomorrow it will be **YOUR LEGION**. Comrades, get involved, take an active part in your branch. Comrades you have to make your Legion branch work for you.

Comrades, I would be remiss if I didn't thank all of your Provincial Committee Chairmen for their exceptional leadership, input and tenacity that brought out the very best in their various committee people. I am very proud of all of you for a job well done during your term. Thank you.

My 1st. Vice President, Comrade Sharon and my fellow elected officers; Vice Presidents Ken, Derek and Garry; Treasurer Don, Chairman Bill and Vice Chairman Ron, all of you have done a tremendous service to your command; one that I am truly grateful. Your dedication and support

over the past term has not gone unnoticed. Many of you will seek higher positions and I can only offer you the best of luck in your aspirations.

Debbie and I would like to say a big THANK YOU to all of those branches, zones and districts that have made us both feel right at home whenever and wherever our travels have taken us. Your kind and generous hospitality shown to Debbie and I has been second to none. We will take with us lasting and precious memories from all of our travels. Thank you Debbie for being there by my side, through thick and thin, for being my sounding board, for putting me in my place at times and keeping me on the straight and narrow. You are and always will be my rock.

To Pam, Juanita and Dave who is just a phone call away, thank you for all of your support, leadership, guidance and un-paralleled expertise. You are truly invaluable to your Legion.

Comrades, now that my term as your Provincial President has come to a close and as I look back, I can honestly say that it has been a great term. I only have you, my fellow comrades to keep this organization vibrate and relevant in today's society always moving forward. Your dedication and service to our Veterans, our communities, country and fellow man has kept this Legion, your Legion in the forefront today and for many years to come.

Now with the Dominion Convention being held in Winnipeg in late August of 2018, I will let my name stand for the position of Vice-President if so nominated.

Thank you everyone for a great convention, safe travels home and God Bless.

This is my report and I so move.

Brian Weaver

Provincial President 2015 – 2017

VETERANS SERVICE REPORT

Comrade President Brian, Command Officers, Comrades All

For several years at our conventions we have passed resolutions asking the government to create a photo-identification card for recognition and access for veterans. The ombudsman, veterans and their families have asked for an ID card for benefits. It would hardly cost anything compared to the promises that appeared in the Prime Minister's mandate letter. Yet the government refuses. If the government cannot provide this simple inexpensive gesture of dignity, then there is little chance any of the other promises will actually materialize. They will continue to disrespect veterans. If you don't remind them of their promises they will turn their back. Our motto is "Lest we forget". Theirs is not; so remind them constantly.

One year into its mandate and our government has completed two out of its twenty-three promises. It has partially addressed a third. At this glacial pace we can expect more disappointment and more suicides from the veteran community.

Veterans Affairs provides an array of services from 1-800 crisis hotlines to education funding and mental-health treatment. The department started new clinics for operational stress injury in major centres in 2007. They have slowly spread across the country and are operated by provincial health authorities.

Insurance companies, contractors, service groups, the provincial health ministries and social services provide many front-line services. The system can be intimidating for veterans to navigate. This patchwork of many cloths has to be rewoven into a sturdy canvas that shelters all veterans. It has to become user friendly and welcoming to all veterans. The war in Afghanistan was the longest combat deployment in Canadian history. Over 40,000 veterans served there. It was the largest action since the Korean War. By next year over 20,000 of those who deployed will have left the CF and become the responsibility of VAC. It was a very dangerous deployment and much more stressful for soldiers and families than previous deployments. While the experts prepared for casualties they did not anticipate the demands on Canada's mental-health care system. VAC must do more to prevent suicides and shorten waiting lists for mental health care.

Since the government began its mandate it promised to work with the Minister of National Defence to reduce complexity, overhaul service delivery, and strengthen partnerships between Veterans Affairs and National Defence. We are still waiting. The Legion has helped Veterans who have become homeless when they left the Canadian Forces and had to wait 10 months for their benefits to come in. Retiring from the CF is not a seamless transition. Some have taken their own lives waiting for provincial medical appointments for mental health appointments. That should not happen in a country like ours but it still does.

The second promise in the mandate letter was to re-establish lifelong pensions as an option for our injured veterans, and increase the value of the disability award, while ensuring that every injured veteran has access to financial advice and support so that they can determine the form of compensation that works best for them and their families. While there have been some improvements to the amount there has been no action on lifelong pensions. None. The government is appealing the court of appeal decision to the Supreme Court that awarded class action veterans from the war in Afghanistan benefits similar to veterans prior to the new Veterans charter. They are doing the opposite of what they promised. Who trusts those who say one thing while doing the exact opposite?

The government did keep its promise to provide injured veterans with 90 percent of their pre-release salary, and index this benefit so that it keeps pace with inflation.

Veterans Affairs promised to deliver a higher standard of service and care, and ensure that a "one veteran, one standard" approach is upheld. That has not happened. VAC counselors give lectures and their power point presentations are full of language that divides veterans and separates them. Still waiting.

The government did re-open one out of nine Veterans Affairs service offices recently closed. They only have eight more to go to keep their promise. At one per year it is going to take a while. They have not fully implemented all of the Auditor General's recommendations on enhancing mental health service delivery to veterans. There are huge shortfalls. There are lengthy waits.

The government has announced two new centres of excellence in veterans' care, including one with a specialization in mental health, post-traumatic stress disorder and related issues for both veterans and first responders. A lot more work needs to be done to fulfill this promise. So far we have only had an announcement.

The government promised to Expand access to the Permanent Impairment Allowance to better support veterans who have had their career options limited by a service-related illness or injury. It remains to be seen if their new program that just started in April renamed, the Career Impact Allowance will actually do that. I hope so.

There have been some improvements to the Last Post Fund to ensure that all veterans receive a dignified burial.

Increase the veteran survivor's pension amount from 50 percent to 70 percent was a big promise made that has not been kept as of the writing of this report nor has the promise to eliminate the "marriage after 60" claw back clause, so that surviving spouses of veterans receive appropriate pension and health benefits. They have not kept the promise to end the time limit for surviving spouses to apply for vocational rehabilitation and assistance services. It would not cost much compared to their other promises. Considering just more than 53,000 "survivors" currently collect pensions and approximately 3,000 sadly pass away each year, time is of the essence.

The wait goes on and on as we wait for a new Veterans Education Benefit that will provide full support for the costs of up to four years of college, university, or technical education for Canadian Forces veterans after completion of service. When will they Improve career and vocational assistance for veterans through ensuring that job opportunities for returning veterans are included in Community Benefits Agreements for new federally-funded infrastructure projects. Veterans are still waiting for the government to provide greater education, counseling, and training for families who are providing care and support to veterans living with physical and/or mental health issues as a result of their service.

So what does all this mean? It means injured veterans are in the process of receiving income-loss payments increased from 75 to 90 per cent of military salary. Also, the annual cap at two per cent has been removed, allowing the annual income to keep pace with the consumer price index. As for the partially fulfilled promises: the first of nine VAC district offices has opened with a lengthy timetable for the remaining eight. It means 2.2 out of 23. Big fail in the first year. Lets hope there is an improvement.

This is was an easy report to write. I am using all the words the government used in their mandate letter and I am throwing it back in their faces. If this were your performance report at work you would be looking for another job.

Don't be satisfied. Call your MP and tell them to hurry up. The veterans can't wait forever.

This is my report and in conjunction with the Vice Chair for Seniors after he reads his report, I move my report.

Yours in Comradeship

Greg Oakes

Chair

Veterans Service and Seniors Committee

SENIORS REPORT

Comrade Chairman, President Weaver, Honoured Head Table Guests, my Comrades all, good afternoon.

The past two years have been an interesting and learning experience. I have participated in meetings, in person or by teleconference, with the Ontario Senior's Secretariat Liaison Committee (OSSLC). These meetings usually entailed the discussion of Government plans, promises and results, some of which will be mentioned herein.

The Ontario Energy Board brought in some changes that will provide some financial relief to low-income seniors. This program is income based but does provide some relief.

The debt retirement charge was discontinued in January 2016 – a relief to all customers.

Early in 2016 the Government attempted to raise the cost of drugs for seniors but after a resounding push back from seniors groups and like-minded organizations/agencies it was quickly rescinded.

In 2016 the Government launched a “Shingles Vaccination” program targeting some 700,00 seniors aged 65 – 70 years of age at little or no cost to seniors, income based. Although it is known that shingles strike many people between the ages of 50 – 80 what about those seniors?

The OSSLC has been successful in having the MOT Minister present a bill to legislate a quicker turnaround of licence retesting after a senior has failed a driver’s test. Six months is too long to wait to be retested. Many of our seniors rely heavily on the ability to drive their vehicle to conduct their daily business and affairs.

The province, to its credit has implemented some good programs for seniors but more can and should be done.

It would seem that seniors, after a lifetime of contributing to the welfare of our Province and the country are now becoming a target for government cutbacks, seniors who have contributed so much to this great Province of ours and yes also to this great country. Why target them now?

In many communities there are well established seniors clubs in operation making it difficult for Legions to establish such clubs. The Legion can participate though by offering their facilities for meetings, sports events, games, provide volunteers for outings, transportation to hospitals, doctors appointments and shopping trips, volunteer drivers for meals-on-wheels programs, open doors for foot and health clinics, the list goes on.

The Legion has the volunteers and expertise to offer and many of our veterans are also seniors. We can offer our help and assistance to these organizations but if they don’t accept it at least we, as good community citizens will have offered.

The Council on Aging Ottawa has approached the Legion proposing that we take a seat on the committee. The committee if approved will be known as The Social Inclusion Committee. This offer is still under consideration and I attended the first meeting, after the submission of this report, to determine the feasibility of joining this committee. What will it entail, who will be responsible, who will represent the Legion and at what level, Command or District before a decision is made.

Before closing I would like to offer Comrade President Weaver a heartfelt thank you, thank you for the faith and trust you put in me for this appointment and I hope I didn’t disappoint you. To the incoming President and Elected Officers – Good Luck Ahead.

This concludes my report and I move for its adoption.

Aubrey Callan
Vice Chairman

CONSTITUTION AND LAWS REPORT

Comrade Chairman, Comrade President, Head Table Guests, Ladies' Auxiliary, Comrades All.

It is my pleasure to submit the report of the Constitution & Laws Committee and I want to thank the Provincial President, Comrade Weaver, for the appointment as the Chairman of the Constitution and Laws Committee.

A number of Amendments have been made to the General By-Laws during the course of the past two years and such changes, once approved by Dominion Command, have been incorporated into the present edition of the General By-Laws of The Ontario Provincial Command as Amended to January 2017.

Complaints and Appeals continue at about the same rate as in past years with the greater percentage of same revolving around frivolous matters and personality conflicts. However, there is still reservation on the part of some Branches to properly pursue those Members suspected of criminal behaviour respecting theft and/or fraud. Command remains committed to supporting a zero tolerance in these situations and provides support and guidance to victimized Branches. However any action, whether criminal prosecution and/or Article III of The General By-Laws, against these perpetrators must be initiated by a Member with sufficient knowledge to support any allegation.

The submission of Branch Regulations has significantly increased during this term with the

intervention, guidance, and support from a majority of District and Zone Commanders. A number of Zone Commanders have made a commitment to have all their Branches complete this process and they are applauded for their efforts in assisting with the realization by many Branches of the issuance of a Certificates of Review. I would be remiss if I did not also commend those Branch Members that have worked tirelessly and persevered during the Term to advance and craft their Branch Regulations.

There are still Districts with Branches that have failed to submit Branch Regulations as required under Sections 902. (1) and 903. (1) of the General By-Laws of the Ontario Provincial Command and thus have made no attempt at crafting Branch Regulations. The total number of Branches sits at ten (10) at the time of this writing with seven (7) in District 'K', two (2) in District 'B', and one (1) in District 'G'. The delinquent Branches are as follows:

54 194 227 293 305 318 351 384 386 605

The Committee recognizes that that there are still Branches that for one reason or another continue to struggle in the processing of their Branch Regulations. One reason appears to be the failure to reference the **GUIDELINES FOR BRANCH REGULATIONS** and the **Command General By-Laws** while completing their Branch Regulations. This failure results in erroneous entries and issues respecting procedural non-compliance. This is a fluid process and these documents should be referenced whenever crafting any Branch Regulation.

The other reason respects the confusion by some Branches regarding what edition of the Form to use in either the continuance towards the issuance of a **CERTIFICATE OF REVIEW** or the processing of Amendments. When a Branch is presenting a Notice of Motion with a Form 1 or Form 3 for approval, the tabling date is the key respecting the Form edition available at that time which are then used throughout that particular process. The copies of the Forms submitted for Certification from this process must be the actual copies of the Forms used during the process. Do not transfer the information to a newer edition of the Form prior to submission unless requested to do so by the Committee after initial submission.

There have been suggestions to make the process simpler. However, the Committee is of the opinion that the failure to read and follow directions is the main reason for problems experienced by Branches and thus changing the system does not address or assist those Members who have either not digested the directions or have chosen to disregard them. There has also been a suggestion to create a Default Set of Branch Regulations. To do this would eliminate the autonomy presently available to Branches in deciding the matters covered by the Branch Regulations and in the Committee's opinion would be a step backwards.

I want to thank the Command staff, namely Dave, Pamela, Juanita, Lisa, and Tammy for their assistance, patience and support during the past two years. A good working relationship has always existed and it makes the job that much easier.

Finally, I want to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to the other two Members of the C & L Committee. They are both the most dedicated and energetic Members and make my job a lot easier. To these members, Comrade Aubrey Callan of Branch 212 – Kemptville and Comrade Roy Moffatt of Branch 95 – Smiths Falls, I thank them for the countless hours they have spent over the years reviewing Branch Regulation submissions and consider them to embody the highest of qualities associated with true Legionnaires.

This concludes my report and I move for its adoption.

Bruce N. McKittrick

Chairman

Constitution and Laws Committee

HONOURARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Comrade Chairman Comrade President

Members of the Ladies Auxiliary Comrades all

I am pleased to report that Command finances are still in good condition. Last year, we had a surplus of \$24,308 and for this year we are forecasting a surplus of \$39,080. Don't try and compare these figures with the auditors as we do a couple of things that they don't agree with. In none convention years we set aside \$125,000 to be used in the year that we have 2 conventions, they don't like this but we find that this gives us a better control of our finances. For example next year we will not show the surplus that I mentioned due the cost of 2 conventions but internally we will have the money available for this expense.

Come to the end our ability to find ways of finding ways to increase our revenue, break open tickets, service recognition book and my favorite veterans license plates if we could convince all of these veterans to join the Legion our membership would increase by nearly 50,000. has started this

Since we don't have any more ways to increase revenue the new finance committee will have to find ways to cut expenses. This will be a difficult task but I am sure it can be done, your current committee has started this task.

This is my report and I move its adoption.

Don Hubbs

WAYS AND MEANS REPORT

Comrade Chairman, Comrade President, Honoured Guests, Members of the Ladies Auxiliary, Comrades:

The General By-Laws of Ontario Command require the Committee on Ways and Means to meet and examine the financial condition of the Command and recommend the per capita to be assessed.

The committee met and reviewed the audited statement of the operations and the various funds including the service bureau for the year ending May 31, 2016. It was recommended that the auditor's report and financial statement for the year ending May 31, 2016 be accepted.

And I so move.

The committee has reviewed the budget estimates for the general fund and the service bureau for the year ending May 31, 2017 and the actual costs to date and recommends that the budget estimates be approved as presented.

And I so move.

The committee has considered the per-capita required by our command over the next two year term and recommends that there be no per-capita increase.

And I so move.

It is recommended that the firm of Crowe Soberman LLP be appointed as auditors for the period commencing with June 1, 2017 and continuing until May 31, 2018.

And I so move.

The members of your Ways and Means Committee are:

- The Senior Elected Officers
- The Immediate Past President
- The nine District Commanders
- The Executive Director
- The Assistant Executive Director

And I as well as you should thank them all.

This is my report and I move its adoption.

Don Hubbs

Honourary Treasurer

**FINAL CREDENTIAL REPORT –
SUNDAY, MAY 14th, 2017**

ACCREDITED DELEGATES	
PROXY VOTES	
TOTAL VOTING STRENGTH	
OBSERVERS	
GUESTS	
TOTAL REGISTRATION	

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Comrade Chairman, Comrade President, Head Table, Guests & Comrades all.

I want to start my report by thanking Comrade Brian for appointing me Chairman of our membership Committee. I'm also very happy to report that Ontario Command finally has a Membership representative on the Dominion Committee and congratulations to Comrade Sharon on this appointment. Membership is a subject that should be of concern to each and every one of us Comrades for many, many reasons. Remember that the more members we have, the more political clout we have with levels of governments. So our numbers directly affect the welfare of our veterans!

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to deal with all Comrades at the Branch, Zone and District levels during this term. Our committee has had a very busy time and I would personally like to thank all these members for a job very well done. At this time, I would like to introduce them to you as follows:

District A - Comrade Caroline Mayo
District B - Comrade Jim Chesterfield
District C - Comrade Lynn McClellan
District D - Comrade June Hayes
District E - Comrade Crystal Cook
District F - Comrade Ted Whan
District G - Comrade Blaine Kiley
District H - Comrade Steve Frech
District K - Comrade Helene St-Pierre

There is some very encouraging news with our Membership numbers. The current 2016 year-end Membership for our Command stands at 104,526 members or 97.89% of last year's total. This is better than expected and our losses have been lower than we have seen in many years however, it means we are still down a total of 2,251 Comrades from last year.

I have included some interesting statistics below from the Dominion Command December 2016

reports that I thought you as members, might like to know.

We have 122 Branches in Ontario Command at, or over, 100% of last year's membership numbers. We have 6 Zones that incredibly made this mark as well, Zones A2, A5, E3, G2, G3 & G5. Bravo Zulu indeed! Unfortunately we have 13 Branches that have less than 85% of their last year's total. Ontario Command is home to more than 1/3 of all Royal Canadian Legion members

As you know, Dominion Command through DEC had decided to discontinue Membership Achievement and Early Bird awards. Ontario Command has decided to continue to recognize our Branches who attained appropriate Membership numbers in each category by way of a congratulatory letter to each Branch. All these awards have been sent through your District Commanders and should have been presented at District or Zone events held this spring. Congratulations to all!

Latest update on the new on-line membership system is.. that it is still behind schedule. This is due to some system problems that required much more work to correct than was previously foreseen. The roll-out should now, be out to the test Branches for final evaluation. Hopefully the portal to the system will be ready for our busy fall membership drive.

Dominion Command is still encouraging all Legion members to submit e-mail addresses and their telephone numbers with their membership renewal. This can also be done on-line by the member on the web site <http://www.legion.ca/members/change-of-address/> or by e-mailing membership@legion.ca. This is to help with overall communications and of course help with the distribution and mailing of Legion Magazine. It will not be used for any other reasons.

Again it has been my privilege to serve as your membership chairman over the past two years and it is an opportunity that both my wife Linda and I have really enjoyed. I would like to thank Comrade's Dave Gordon, Pam Sweeny, Juanita Kemp and all the staff at Ontario Command for outstanding support and assistance over this term. I would also like to thank my fantastic wife Linda for everything she does to help me. I do not thank her enough! Thank you Comrades and I wish you a safe trip home.

Membership Matters!

I move that this report be accepted as read

**Garry Pond
Vice President Ontario Command
Provincial Membership Committee Chairman**

POPPY REPORT

Comrade Chairman, Comrade President Brian, Head Table, Guests, Comrades All.

I first would like to thank Comrade Brian for appointing me to this most important Chair for a second term. This term, we had five new District Poppy Chairmen and we all worked well together.

Unfortunately, we still have a number of Branches that are misusing Poppy Funds, not submitting Special Use Forms and not completing the Branch Status Report on the Poppy Trust Fund in a timely manner. This, in some cases, has resulted in Branches having to pay back the Poppy Fund from their General Account which in some cases cannot be done.

It is important to reiterate that Poppy Funds collected are Public Funds which are held in trust and each Branch is responsible to distribute and report on the Funds as authorized by Article XI of the General By-Laws.

During the 2014-2016 Dominion Term of Office, then Dominion Poppy and Remembrance Committee Chairman, Ed Pigeau, established a Poppy Communication Network consisting of the Dominion Poppy and Remembrance Committee and all of the Provincial Poppy Chairmen. All meetings were held by teleconference. A total of six meetings were conducted. It was an excellent platform to discuss Poppy issues across all Provinces.

One of the outcomes of the Committee was the revised Poppy Manual. It is available on the Dominion website or it can be purchased from Ontario Command for \$3.00.

During the past two years, there were some problems with supplies but all were rectified with the supplier.

All forms, including the Breakdown Sheet, Special Use Form and the Branch Status Report, have been reviewed and updated where possible. The Breakdown Sheet is currently under further review and all forms are available on line on the Ontario Command website under Forms & Manuals.

With the new Ontario Command Staff now in place, it was decided to review the various processes in place with regards to Poppy. The first item reviewed is the approval of Special Use Expenditures including clarification of what information is required in order to approve an Expenditure.

The first item implemented is a new e-mail address for Special Use of Poppy Fund Requests Forms, poppyspecialuse@on.legion.ca. It is felt that the dedicated e-mail address will help speed up the process for e-mailed forms. It is also important to note that when a SUF is returned via e-mail to the Branch, the Branch MUST acknowledge receipt by a return e-mail, otherwise the SUF will be “NULL AND VOID”. This will avoid confusion in the future as to whether a form was approved or not.

Secondly, as mentioned, we wanted to clarify what is required for Special Use Expenditures. We chose Sec 403. ii. b. Medical Training and Medical Research. The procedure that was implemented was sent to all PEC members, District Poppy Chairmen and Zone Commanders who were to distribute to their Branches. If you did not receive it, please contact Lisa Dinsmore at Ontario Command and she will send it to you.

This is an ongoing process and more will be developed in the future.

As the outgoing Provincial Poppy Chairman, I find it necessary to comment on the status of the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder-Service Dogs. Work continues on developing a National Standard for Service Dogs and PTSD. Until such a standard is in place, Ontario Command will continue with the moratorium implemented after the Dominion Convention in Edmonton. We feel it is important that we protect both the Veteran and the Service Dog.

Given this stance, a Legion member did some research on his own, last October and found the following. He contacted the research group in VAC and they indicated that they were currently pairing 25 Veterans with dogs as a pilot project with the University of Laval and that some findings from this study were soon to be made available. He also found out that the research team including VAC, DND and a National Standards Group were also looking at the models and standards of the National Service Dogs of Canada. With this research and the pilot study, hopefully, standards will be developed and implemented sooner than later to further help our Veterans with PTSD and be able to donate Poppy Funds towards obtaining Service Dogs for them.

At this time, I would like to recognize the District Poppy Chairmen and the excellent work and input they have made during the last two years. Please stand if you are in attendance. District A Laura Nicholls, District B Sharon Anderson, District C Robert Grey, District D Wayne Powell, District E Frank Beasley, District F Joyce Nickerson, District G Ray Gilroy, District H Tom Hywarren and District K Bill Pigeon. Thank you very much.

In closing, I want to thank Dave Gordon for his input prior to his retirement and Tammy Taylor before she assumed her new position in Ottawa. Also, thank you to Pamela Sweeny, Juanita Kemp, Tamy Shearer and Lisa Dinsmore for your invaluable input.

I move the adoption of my report.

Ken Sorrenti
Provincial Poppy Chairman

HOMELESS VETERANS REPORT

Our Homeless Veterans initiative continues to grow in scope and numbers. As of the end of February we have assisted 486 homeless or near homeless and actually housed 271. Some think homelessness is a “big city” problem, nothing could be further from the truth, for this assistance has occurred in 111 communities across our command and to date Ontario Command through the generous support of our Ladies Auxiliary, branches members and outside contributors have spent over \$1,550,000.00 in support of this program. Comrades the Royal Canadian Legion takes a “backseat” to no one in our commitment to serve our veterans in need.

We continue to support our house on Parliament Street that houses 10 Veterans in a communal setting and have taken over logistical support at the Bathurst Street location, which houses 20 Veterans in a “shared apartment style” environment. We also have an MOU with the “Fred Victor Society” for the use of 10 units in the former Pan Am Games Athletes Village, some of these units are multi-room suitable for families. These 10 units were completely furnished by the Ladies Auxiliary, at a cost of \$45,000.

We also eagerly anticipate the start of construction of “Veterans House” a 16 unit project in the Rock Cliff area of Ottawa. This is a joint project between Ontario Command, Multifaith Housing District ‘G’ and others

As previously noted our Ladies Auxiliary have been working hand in hand with us, providing apartment start up kits, toques, mittens, scarves, toiletries, blankets, pillows and the list goes on. Their participation in this program has been invaluable.

The Dental Program for Homeless Veterans developed in conjunction with “George Brown College” has been a resounding success. There were some growing pains, but after tailoring this initiative to better suit our veterans preferences and needs such as fewer intake questions, obtaining a dental surgeon and two dentists to perform extractions and to conduct follow-up examinations and streamlining the “billing procedure” everything is proceeding much smoother now. A similar MOU has been finalized with “Algonquin College” to provide dental services to Homeless Veterans in Eastern Ontario.

Our Homeless Veterans Program continues to be an outstanding success because of you, our members and our auxiliaries who have gotten behind this initiative from the beginning. Without your incredible support and the generosity of our members, branches, auxiliaries, zones and districts, we could never have accomplished the amazing results that we have achieved.

Comrades without the dedication of our staff, Pam and Juanita assisted by our “super shopper and bargain hunter” Jen, who have worked endless hours fulfilling the needs of these neglected and forgotten veterans, we would still be only scratching the surface of this national disgrace. They deserve our gratitude and thanks. **Well done to everyone involved.**

Respectfully submitted
Bruce Julian,
Chairman Homeless Veterans Committee

SPORTS REPORT

The 2016 Sports program this year was somewhat of a challenge, everything worked out well in the end. There were several new events introduced at Provincial, we rewarded for our effort, considering the amount of time we had to get them organized from Zone, District & Provincial. With the introduction of “Washer Toss, this event proved to be a great addition as participation was far better than we had estimated and a good money maker for the branches. “Ladies Golf” was the same, it showed we needed to change the golf course situation to accommodate the increase of participation. Ladies Horseshoes team event was put off until 2017 as there was a Canadian Women’s Tournament being held on the same day as the legion. We did have a singles event and if that was any indication this also will be a good addition.

Horseshoes held in Hawkesbury was played in a parking lot, and we had a lot of complaints regarding this, changes have been made to alter this event at the Sports Meeting in September. All other events satisfactory, congratulations to all that made them a success.

As requested at the Dominion Convention. I had contact with several of the other commands regarding making Dominion Sports a self-supporting program as we have in Ontario. Most were interested in how we do it here and the suggestions from myself about our ideas. Dominion got a copy of all communications I had made. Dominion said they appreciated the work done and they would take it over from there. So, it remains to be seen what happens.

At our Sports Meeting, the motion was put on the table to discontinue 5-Pin Bowling. We have districts dropping out of the sport due to cost and the rising expenses. It was voted that we take the event out of the 2017 program.

Golf. We are going to try going back to the old system of two (2) courses, one (1) for regulars and one (1) for Seniors and Ladies. This will also enable us to increase the amount of entries from each district.

Horseshoes. A motion made to end the playing of this event out on parking lots for safety reasons also the heat factor it creates on the player.

Washer Toss. There were changes to the playing rules that will be included in the 2017 Sports Manual.

A special thanks to all District Sports Officers for the work accomplished throughout the year. It is not an easy position and the challenges are many. **Joe Walsh A, Norm Lacasse B, Anne McCallum C, Vic Sing D, Nancy Briscoe E, Jim Corbett F, Ken Johnson G, The late Marilyn Patterson H, and Karl Ozols K. With Karl moving to Toronto he has now been replace by Dave Hack for 2017. Ken Faubert will be the replacement for Marilyn Dist. H.**

I would like to thank Comrade Brian for this assignment, each year it has gotten more challenging with the entry of new events.

Vic Newey, Provincial Sports Chairman

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

Comrade Chairman, Head Table Guests, Ladies Auxiliary, Comrades All:

As always it is busy with Public Relations and it has been an honour and pleasure serving you as Provincial Chairman of this committee and I thank our President Comrade Brian Weaver for this opportunity. Here is some of what has taken place over the last 2 years....

Provincial Poster and Literary: The Poems and Essays were applied to pdf files and were used on our Provincial Website. Photos were taken of the winning Posters and were also used on the Provincial Website and some were used with the Military Service Recognition Book program. The photos on the front cover of each of our 3 volumes and also the yearly posters are provincial winners for those years.

Provincial Track and Field Championships: These are covered with all photos of athletes in action and medal presentations and were forwarded to appropriate District T&F and PRO chairmen for their use. They are also sent to Comrade Mary Ann Goheen which she submits a couple photos from each meet to the Legion Magazine and also uploads to the Provincial Website.

Over the last two years our sponsor for this youth program, Programmed Insurance Brokers presented us with cheques of \$20,700.00 for each 2015 and 2016; we continue to thank them for their support!

Legion Week this year will be held during September 17-23, 2017 and for next year September 16-22, 2018.

The **Scrapbook/Bulletin contest**, this is on our plate at this time of year, remember that it is available for entry by both the Branches and the Ladies Auxiliaries. All information was forwarded to the Branches; for those branches that misplaced the package of material and it didn't make it to the editors, all forms are available for printing on the Provincial website (www.on.legion.ca) in the Members Area Section under Forms and Manuals.

As always the deadline to have all your entries into your **own** District Public Relations Chairman is June 15th.

Two years ago we opened the Bulletin Category to include Electronic Bulletins. This means you can enter your bulletins in to only one of the Bulletin Categories – Bulletin (Hard Copy) or the Electronic Section, you can't enter your bulletins into both categories. During the last two years we had 2 entries each year in the Electronic Section. Comrades I encourage your branch to enter the Electronic Bulletin Category for those branches that do not send their bulletins to members by Canada Post, but instead post their bulletins to their Website or send them electronically to their members. Comrades, Good Luck in this year's competition!

We conducted a **Branch Survey** this past year to gather information to update our **Fact Sheet**, which our branches can use to promote the Legion within Ontario Command. At the time of writing this report we only had a participation of 66.4% of our branches. We had hopes that we could have had at least the same participation as with the last survey four years ago which was 92%. So our Fact Sheet couldn't be as accurate as we hoped it would be.

The Fact Sheet is now available; you can contact your District PRO and they will be happy to email it to you. Copies were available at our PR Booth.

Comrades, please use this Fact Sheet to promote the great work that you our members and branches do in support of many of our programs.

Our **Media Kit** is regularly updated when new information is available and can be obtained from our provincial website. When we have an event and there is media attending, we now provide them with a Media Kit Folder. This Folder contains the Media Kit (available from the website), the Booklet “Thank You for Wearing a Poppy” (available free of charge from Ontario Command), and flyers and brochures on many of our programs etc. that are available free of charge from either Ontario Command or Dominion Command. We also include a Membership Application in hopes that the reporter would like to join the Legion. All this information is displayed attractively in one folder and presented to the reporter.

As with other Provincial Conventions our committee has been busy covering this convention with photos and video, they will be used to produce a DVD. During this convention prepaid orders of \$20/DVD are being received at the Public Relations Booths or please see myself. My husband John will be glad to help you out also. Following the convention orders can also be placed through Ontario Command Office.

In closing, and I say this in many of my reports...what is Public Relations? Public Relations is to communicate, this doesn't just mean to communicate with the media; it also means to communicate with each other. Many times there is a gap in the communication lines and this is not good. Before we can let the public know what is taking place within the Royal Canadian Legion; we must first communicate within each of our committees and positions held and this means at all levels of Command.

Comrades, it has been said in the past, **“Keep those communication lines open”**; please do so and also use what is at your fingertips to promote this great organization of ours!

I'd like to acknowledge my committee:

Provincial Vice President Representative – Comrade Garry Pond

Ontario Correspondent – Comrade Mary Ann Goheen

District A PRO – Comrade Marg Sharpe

District B PRO – Comrade Pat Thompson

District C PRO – Comrade Brenda Funston

District D PRO – Comrade Chin Tam

District E PRO – Comrade Judi Giovanetti

District F PRO – Comrade Heather Shier

District G PRO – Comrade Terry O'Hearn

District H PRO – Comrade Roy Eaton

District K PRO – Comrade Helene St. Pierre

And last but defiantly not least, our Provincial Ladies Auxiliary PRO Comrade Debbie Olmstead (2015-2016) and Comrade Sharon Crown (2016-2017).

I would like to thank everyone at Command office for all their help and guidance, it is always a pleasure to work with each and everyone one of them.

And last, but definitely not least, I thank my husband John for all his help. For those of you that do not know John, he is always by my side at every event I attend, taking pictures, video

or just hauling the gear. He also helps Command in the resale usually selling jackets or shirts. So when we go to an event John is just as busy as me. John you make not only my job much easier but you always help our resale staff and WE thank you!

This is my report, respectfully submitted and I move its adoption.

Carolyn McCaul, Provincial Public Relations Chairman

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Good day Comrades; I started my term in June 2015 by contacting the Honours and Awards secretary, Gord Carpenter, to ask how he had his system set up at the Command office. Mike Atkinson, the previous H&A Chairman, had left me a few valuable tips and ideas that would come in handy and I wanted to find out if there were any ways I could do things a little different to help speed up the process. After a lengthy discussion with Gord I began setting up my computer and files to coincide with his way of doing thing's. I had my two H&A Committee members chosen and finally I was ready for the first month's applications.

Eighteen applications arrived the end of May and after the committee had reviewed and commented on each one we accepted fifteen and declined three. The three declined were for reasons we would see all through our term and they were; (a) the person making out the application did not read the H&A guidelines. They did not answer all the questions nor did they supply all pertinent information needed to complete the application successfully, (b) the dates and times of the nominee's outstanding achievements were usually poor at best, or non existent, (c) the signatures required on the documents were either omitted or they were signed by the wrong person, and (d) the applications were what we call "stale dated", we would not accept an application if we received it six months or more after the date of the meeting that the member was nominated by his/her branch.

These are the four main reasons for refusal that the committee came up against when processing the applications through the term. There were other reasons for refusal but most of them were due to grammatical errors, wrong award applied for, the two signatures required on the citation and application did not match, and so on. These lesser infractions were only seen sporadically through the months but still needed to be corrected before the committee would accept the application. As the term progressed the errors became less and less and hopefully this decline in errors. will carry on into the next term. In short, I would estimate about 80% of the refusals were due to the way the application was improperly prepared, not because the nominated member was not entitled to the award.

Dominion Command H&A had switched most of their files over to be processed electronically during the fall of 2015 and challenged all other committees to do the same. We took on that challenge and after some trial and error we were able to successfully update our files electronically also. Thank you to all the Branches for accepting the change over so quickly.

The following are the number of applications received as of the writing of this report in February 2017. This list includes the resubmittals of previously declined applications. The total number of submissions is 282, here is the breakdown:

	<u>APPROVED</u>	<u>DECLINED</u>
Life	162	31

MSM	16	15
Palm Leaf	11	14
LA MSA	2	1
LA Palm Leaf	0	0
Media	10	1
Friendship	19	0

Comrades, the past two years have been informative to say the least and I have looked forward to every month's arrival of the applications. I have enjoyed carrying out this task for you, the member's of Ontario Provincial Command and I would like to thank the following for all their help and guidance. Starting at the top - Comrade President Brian Weaver for appointing me as Provincial Honours and Awards Chairman. The two of us are from the same District, I have known Brian for some years now and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavours. Next, Vice President Comrade Gary Pond who oversees our H&A Committee at the executive level, Dave, Pam, Juanita, as well as Gord Carpenter our committee secretary all at Command office, and last but certainly not least Brian Harris and Joanne Shields my two trusted committee members that came out one Saturday a month to review all the applications with me.

Congratulations to all those that received awards, it shows that your branch appreciates all the hard work you do for the Legion, Veterans, and your community.

As I have stated before in this report, I have enjoyed this chairmanship immensely, met a few more Legionnaires that I had not known before, and I would wish all those running for office for the next term the best of luck. "Lest We Forget"

Comrade Chairman this is my report respectfully submitted.

John Grosvenor,
Honours & Awards
Committee Chairman.

LADIES' AUXILIARY REPORT

It's a pleasure to be here and to be able to present to you a report on the Ladies' Auxiliary and their activities over the past two years.

Since we left the last Provincial Convention of the Legion in 2015, the Ladies' Auxiliary and Command Officer of Ontario have been very busy. Our officers have been attending annual L.A. zone conventions, special events, including a number of 90th Anniversary celebrations, amalgamation celebrations as well as Legion District conventions. Many of them have been learning experiences for some of us as well rewarding.

In September 2016, we held our Biennial Provincial Convention in Petawawa, at which President Brian Weaver and Comrades Pam Sweeny and Juanita Kemp were also in attendance. At this convention, a new slate of Provincial Officers was elected and the results are as follows: President – Kim Adams, 1st Vice President – Debbie Olmstead, 2nd Vice President – Kathy Moggy, 3rd Vice President – Sharon Crown and Chairman – Kathey Putman. Our Immediate Past President – Debra Stanton. The newly elected President, 1st Vice and Secretary/Treasurer attended the PEC meeting in Aurora this past November, along with representing the auxiliary on the Charitable Foundation. All our officers were present for the joint SEO meeting in December in Aurora with Legion Command officers. It is always a productive and informative meeting with good results.

Not all our workings, in the past two years, have been as rewarding. Although we try our hardest to work closely with Auxiliaries, that are having issues, we sometime cannot resolve them all. At that expense, it more too often ends in closures. We make sure those members get direction on transferring to other auxiliaries, of their choice and within close proximity, to their old one, so they can remain with the organization. Sadly, we have lost some auxiliaries over the last two years, and unfortunately it is looking grim for a few others. We have had over 200 life members pass away since our own Provincial Convention in 2014 to 2016, so we are really feeling the decline in membership, hence the need to continue our support to the remaining auxiliaries, or we will be short lived. Some auxiliaries have worked extremely hard to gain new members and have had great success. We also had an auxiliary able to reform last year. Immediate Past President, Debra Stanton had the honour of presenting Mallorytown with their new charter, as she was at the time L. A. Provincial President. President Brian Weaver was also in attendance for this honour. This year we seen an amalgamation take place, with Branch 643 L. A. being presented with their new charter and I would like to thank 1st Vice President for taking my place and doing the honour. So, there are some good results still to be had.

We are still on board with the Leave the Streets Behind program, with receiving many generous donations, from the auxiliaries across Ontario, we only need to be asked and we can start to utilize these funds. Whether it is the startup kits or furnishings for a new facility, we are ready to work right along with the Legion to continue this very worthwhile and rewarding project.

Our contributions to the Charitable Foundation and the Bursary Fund are ongoing, as well as the continued support to our youth's Track & Field program. All we ask in return for this support is

to be allowed to continue to have representation on these committees and acknowledgement of what we have contributed to these programs.

Any branch that has an auxiliary knows how helpful we can be.... at times differences can stand in the way, but overall, they are there to support OUR VETERANS, the branches, as well as the youth and seniors, (present the financial statement for the past year). These totals go to show just how generous the Ladies' Auxiliaries continue to be. **THIS IS WHERE WE WANT TO BE**, in partnership with our branches, to keep this organization vibrant and be supportive to the aims and objects of the Legion, for many more years to come. This needs to be our focal point....
Lest We Forget

In closing, I would like to say thank you for the continued support we receive from the Branches as well as Command, whenever, we require and request... and thank you for the invite to work along with you. May everyone have a safe trip back home, keep the comradery active.... until we meet again.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Adams – President, Ladies' Auxiliary Ont. Prov. Command

BURSARY REPORT

Comrade Chairman – Bill Chafe, President - Brian Weaver, head table, honoured guests and my comrades all.

I thank President Brian Weaver for the honour of chairing this very important committee. Last year 2015 – 16 Academic years, your District Bursary Committees awarded 525 bursaries for a total of \$262,500.00 to needy students throughout the Province to help finance their post secondary education.

I am very proud of the accomplishments that this committee has attained through this term.

- We introduced the French application form, yes, you can now download the application in French from the Command website and we have had applications in French processed.
- We increased the Bursary Award from \$500.00 to \$750.00 for the 2017-18 year. Hopefully this decision will increase the number of applications submitted. Please keep in mind that this increase and any additional costs will be funded entirely by the Ontario Charitable Foundation and not your general membership dues.
- Your District bursary chairs now have business like information cards with the bursary criteria and contact information to hand out, along with our posters and the tri-folders.
- To reduce our postage and mailing expenses, we are asking you to please use the Ontario Command Website to assess the latest application forms.
- Ontario Command Bursary now its own E-Mail bursary@on.legion.ca , so if the student applicant cannot contact our secretary Comrade Jen Leclair by telephone during office hours, they can use the E-Mail.
- We have also made contact with some Colleges and Universities campuses trying to promote our program with our literature, having varying results.
- Comrades, I have heard many complaints about the paperwork that we (your bursary committee) require of the applicant. Please remember comrades, that this program is primarily funded by your Poppy Trust Funds. We take this responsibility very seriously that is why we require the information.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my committee members of the Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command Branches and Ladies Auxiliary Bursary Committee: Derek Moore (Vice President), Marg Emery (CF President), Jen Leclair (Committee Secretary), Gayle Brown (District A), Jackie Ralston (District B), Don Young (District C), Verna Burness (District D), Pam Davidson (District E), Sandra Beatty (District F), Reta Behm (District G), Alex Lammie (District H), Dianne R. Denault (District K) and we welcome our new Ladies Auxiliary member, Comrade Kathy Moggy, second Vice President, Ontario Command Ladies Auxiliary. I would be remiss if I did not thank Comrades Pam Sweeny (Executive Director), Juanita Kemp (Assistant Executive Director) and all of the Ontario Command staff for their valuable guidance and assistance through this term.

This is my report and I move its adoption.

Brian Smith

Provincial Bursary Chair

RESOLUTIONS REPORT

Comrade Chairman, Comrade President Brian, Dominion 1st Vice-President Comrade Tom, Platform Guests, Ladies Auxiliary, Comrades All:

Within our organization, it takes resolution to effect most change. During this past term, a total of fifty-one submissions were received by Ontario Command. Each was reviewed by the relevant

Provincial Standing Committees, for comment, prior to being considered and voted on by the Provincial Executive Council (PEC).

PEC reviewed and voted on 21 resolutions, 10 in 2015 and 11 in 2016. The remaining thirty were received following our November PEC, prior to the January 15, 2017 deadline. They, too, were reviewed by applicable committees.

Resolutions are included in the Appendix of the Convention Proceedings Booklet.

The resolutions relating to a specific standing committee will be addressed immediately following the presentation of the committee's report.

Of the fifty-one submissions, twenty-five were concurred and 16 non-concurred. Ten submissions related to procedural issues, not requiring resolution to be addressed. To bring back any non-concurred resolution review the explanation provided in the Part II – Appendix of the convention proceedings booklet.

Thank you to all committee members for your input in addressing the resolutions considered by your committee and the committee chairmen for your leadership in the process. As well, thank you to command staff for the administrative support provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon McKeown
Provincial Resolutions Chairman

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION ONTARIO COMMAND
BRANCHES AND LADIES' AUXILIARIES
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION REPORT**

Comrade Chairman, Comrade President, Head Table Dignitaries, Ladies Auxiliary, Ladies and Gentlemen, My Comrades All,

First, my thanks to Comrade President Brian Weaver for re-appointing me to this position. It has been an honour to be a part of the Charitable Foundation and serve with our dedicated committee members both Legionnaires and Ladies Auxiliary.

A reminder that the CF's full title is The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command Branches and Ladies' Auxiliaries Charitable Foundation so we both work together as partners for this Foundation. Together between the medical equipment and bursaries, this arm of Ontario Command awards almost \$1 million dollars each year to organizations and students across the province. I never cease to be amazed by this fact!

It was a goal at the beginning of my first term to ensure that we did our very best to make all levels of Ontario Command totally informed as to how the Charitable Foundation works. I have continued on this path so each time the opportunity arose to communicate through newsletter reports, PEC reports and committee level reports, there is always a component of the report to continue to inform. I hope that these communications helped our members better understand the Foundation and how it works.

Detailed information relative to the Charitable Foundation can be found at www.on.legion.ca on the front page. Under that tab you will find everything you need to know about applying for a grant and a listing of approved grants for the last five years. We now have a job description for CF Directors and Chairs and this document too can be found on the website under Member Resources. You will also find information in the Ontario Command Officers' Manual on pages 55 to 57 so please take the time to be informed. We hope the new job description will be a part of the revised Manual.

A reminder that CF is a registered charity and as such must conform to certain Canada Revenue Agency rules and regulations. So there are rules as to who we can donate to and how that happens. We also have to consider that a good portion of the funds we receive are from Poppy so we also must conform to the allowable uses of poppy funds. For these reasons, not all applications are considered.

Once approvals have been decided by Committee in November, the applicants are notified and advised to submit their purchase order. They have until the end of May in the following year to do so. Once the P.O. is received and approved the cheque is sent to the local Legion branch with a covering letter. A letter is also sent to the main contact for the applicant, with a copy to the Foundation President, District Director, and District Commander to advise them of the approval. Please remember that when your branch makes arrangements for the cheque presentation on behalf of the Charitable Foundation that you always include the Ladies Auxiliary representative and you all wear your uniforms. Try to secure a photo with the local newspaper and be sure to send a copy of that photo to our Ontario Correspondent Mary Ann Goheen for publishing in the Legion Magazine.

Annual budgets for CF are calculated by what is donated in that year plus interest earned, from that we minus any expenses and 20% of the interest earned (which goes to back into the capital funds) and that leaves the net funds available for the year. Reminder letters are still very

important to the financial success of the Foundation. These letters to Branches, Ladies Auxiliaries and other levels of Legion act as a gentle reminder that we still need your support! Any support you give the Foundation is greatly appreciated.

There are several accounts under the umbrella of the Charitable Foundation, one of which is the Veterans Comfort Fund. The funds are set up this way so that charitable receipts can be issued for donations. Since the Charitable Foundation administers the Joe Sweeney Fund (Homeless Veterans Fund), some changes were made at the CF Finance Committee Meeting in June. The finance committee was advised by staff that \$700,000.00 was sitting in the Veterans Comfort Fund. Money from this Fund has never been invested since Ontario Command took over the account from Sunnybrook back in 2005. It was recommended that a portion of the money be invested in a GIC so the Fund may generate additional revenue. Two motions were made, one to allow the Finance Committee to invest \$200,000.00 of the money in the Veterans Comfort Fund into GICs, and each time the fund reaches more than \$500,000 the additional will also be invested in GICs and secondly, that the signing officers of the Charitable Foundation be the same signing authorities for the Veterans Comfort Fund, namely: Charitable Foundation President, Charitable Foundation Immediate Past President, Ontario Command 1st Vice-President, Honourary Treasurer, Executive Director, Assistant Executive Director and the Foundation Secretary. You should also know that there was a significant donation made to the Joe Sweeney Fund / Homeless Veterans Funds but the donor asked that the donation be allocated to a special account which is now the George Brown Dental Program for Homeless Veterans. Command Staff agreed and we will make an official motion at our Finance Meeting in June for the record but wanted Legion members and LA members to be fully aware of the inner workings of the Charitable Foundation. It seemed appropriate to share this information with you at convention and make you aware that all official steps are being taken at all times to ensure these funds are administered in strict Canada Revenue Agency guidelines. As I have stated in many reports, transparency is a very high priority to the members of your CF committee.

We have a diverse Foundation committee with expertise in various occupations. They are a dedicated group who take very seriously their responsibility of caring for the Foundation. Senior Elected Officers from both Legion and LA sit on this committee which again confirms how serious Command is about ensuring this committee is focussed and conscientious. The following persons make up your Charitable Foundation committee and I would ask they stand and be recognized. Kindly hold your applause until all are introduced. Comrade Don Young, Immediate Past Foundation President; Comrade Brian Weaver, Provincial President; Comrade Sharon McKeown, Provincial 1st Vice-President; Comrade Don Hubbs, Honourary Treasurer; Comrade Kim Adams, L.A. Provincial President; Comrade Debbie Olmstead, L.A. Provincial 1st Vice-President; Comrade Brian Smith, Provincial Bursary Committee Chairman; Comrade Doreen Chester, District "A" Director; Comrade Ted Scott District "B" Director; Comrade Larry Bailey, District "C" Director; Comrade Pat Burford, District "D" Director; Comrade Rick Preston, District "E" Director; Comrade Greg Kobold, District "F" Director; Comrade Dan Bush, District "G" Director; Comrade Ed Pigeau, District "H" Director; Comrade Marianne Sowinski, District "K" Director; Comrade Pam Sweeny, Executive Director; Comrade Juanita Kemp, Assistant Executive Director and Comrade Aida Kostuck, Foundation Secretary. It is so very exciting to be a part of this exceptional program.

As always thanks to the branches, zones and districts for their generous donations. Special thanks to the Ladies Auxiliaries not only for their donations but for their leadership at committee level and being great partners. Without all of you there would be no Charitable Foundation.

Finally I would like to thank the staff at Ontario Command. Pam and Juanita, who sit on the committee for their guidance, Sue Kaizer who keeps all our finances in order and especially Aida Kostuck our committee Secretary for her ongoing support and eager enthusiasm dealing with the applications and the committee. They all do a great job. We will miss Dave Gordon as our advisor but we know we can still count on him at any time for his expertise and guidance on any issue.

On a personal note, thank you so much to all my comrades who provided support in the loss of my husband Gerry. Your kind words and caring saw me through when I struggled most. I am blessed to be a part of our Legion family and know I can count on any one of you at any time.

Best wishes for a wonderful, enjoyable and healthy summer filled with family and fun. Let's remember to share what we do with others when we can and don't be afraid to "Blow your own Horn" when it comes to the great work the Legion does for so many especially our Veterans. Take care and God bless.

This is my report, respectfully submitted, and I move for its adoption

Marg Emery, President,
The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command Branches and Ladies' Auxiliaries Charitable Foundation

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COMMAND BRANCHES AND
LADIES' AUXILIARIES**

CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Terms of Reference

1. Operation of the Ontario Command Service Bureau
2. Veterans Welfare
3. Programs for Aging Veterans
4. Medical Research
5. Medical Equipment
6. Bursaries
7. Other purposes of a charitable or benevolent nature, as approved from time to time by the Board of Directors.

Revised November 17th, 2001

GUIDELINES FOR THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COMMAND BRANCHES AND LADIES' AUXILIARIES CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Submissions for grants to The Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Provincial Command Branches and Ladies' Auxiliaries' Charitable Foundation, must include the following:

1. The name and address of the applicable grant recipient (organization, charity, etc.). Include the main contact for the request plus the location or the actual site where the fund will be appropriated.
2. The Registered Charity number (if applicable).
3. A list of the names of the Board of Directors.
4. The amount of capital funds requested, excluding taxes, shipping and specific purpose for same.

5. A detailed budget showing how the grant is to be expended.
6. **Twenty-one copies of the submission are required on official letterhead including 21 copies of the financial statements. Include the financial statements pertaining only to the institution applying for the grant. If your organization is governed by a municipality or foundation, send only the part of the financial statements that applies to your department. Fire Departments may provide a List of Revenue & Expenses for the year to complete the submission.**
7. **SUBMISSIONS MUST BE COLLATED. DO NOT SEND 21 COPIES IN INDIVIDUAL BUNDLES. FAXED OR EMAILED COPIES ARE NOT ACCEPTED.**
8. Endorsement of the submission by two authorized signing officers of the organization.
9. Endorsement from the authorized signing officer of the Recipient of the Grant (facility) i.e. Foundation/Hospital. An endorsement from the Municipal Clerk is required, if the submission originates from the town fire department.
10. Submissions must be completed on 8.5 x 11 sized paper.
11. Grant recipients must provide a current Purchase Order. The Purchase Order must be dated between the year the submission is received and May 31st of the following year after its approval. Fire departments may provide a bill or an invoice in lieu of Purchase Order to receive the grant.
12. Successful recipients may be awarded a grant for two consecutive years and then are required to abstain for one year before another submission can be made.

Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered.

Please be precise and accurate in your submission and eliminate all unnecessary paperwork such as kit covers, glossy portfolios and spiral bindings. **The submission must be received** at the address provided below no later than the **LAST FRIDAY OF APRIL**

Secretary, The Royal Canadian Legion,
Ontario Provincial Command Branches and
Ladies' Auxiliaries Charitable Foundation
89 Industrial Parkway North
Aurora, ON L4G 4C4, Tel: 905-841-7999

Revised: January 2017

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Provincial Property Committee continues to be extremely busy as many branches look to their primary asset, their property holdings as a way to remain, or become financially sustainable for the long term, also a great many of our branch buildings are reaching the age where major repairs, renovations and upgrades are needed. Some branches are also contemplating downsizing, being unable to financially justify larger expensive to operate buildings with their declining membership base.

All of the above situations along with the committee's jurisdiction over the approval of all mortgages, loans, lines of credit, leases or lease renewals and "short term emergency loans" make this committee's workload heavy, ongoing and extremely important.

At this time I would like to thank our committee members, provincial president Brian Weaver, comrades Sharon McKeown, Ken Sorrenti, Derek Moore and Gary Pond who are ably assisted by our Executive and Assistant Executive Directors along with Command staff. Also comrade Dave Gordon remained a member of the committee after his retirement from Ontario Command, his accumulated knowledge is greatly appreciated. We also retain the consulting services of "property and housing specialist" Dave MacDonald whose input has been invaluable.

When dealing with property or financing, branches need to follow the procedures and processes outlined in the Officers Manual, those procedures are there to insure a branches membership is informed and is in support of any project or financial initiative undertaken and that a branch has done its due diligence and that any project is viable and sustainable. Following our procedures can be the difference between long term success or slowly sinking beneath a mountain of debt or indifference.

Branches who may be contemplating "property development", be forewarned, this cannot be an "immediate" solution to financial problems but must be part of a long term plan.

Branch officers **be forewarned** never sign anything before your due diligence is done, all legal ramification understood and Ontario Command has given you the authority to do so. Those who do sign agreements that do not have that authority can be held both legally and financially responsible for doing so.

Any plan for property development or change in ownership status must be accompanied by a viable business plan, simply surviving off the hard work and dedication of past generations of legion members is not acceptable. That is where the Provincial Property Committee should be able to help; we have access to legal, financial and structural experts that can review and comment on any proposals. We have also had the experience and contacts with developers that various branches have successfully used and we can make this information available upon request or facilitate meetings between the appropriate parties.

Done correctly, development of branch property can go a long way into insuring a branches financial viability for future generations of branch members. The opposite could also be true, done incorrectly it could be the first step on that slippery slope to unsustainability or worse.

Comrade Chairman, this is my report and I so move.

Bruce Julian
Provincial Property Committee Chairman

YOUTH EDUCATION REPORT

Comrade Chairman, Comrade President, Ladies Auxiliary and Comrades All.

I would once again like to thank Comrade President, Brian Weaver, for this appointment I have thoroughly enjoyed these past two years in this very worthwhile position.

I have had the pleasure of chairing two Annual June Youth Ed Meetings along with, in my opinion, the most dedicated and passionate group of District Chairman you could ever wish for. Plenty of discussion, which was sometimes heated, and many ideas were brought forth by the committee members at each of those two meetings.

At the time of writing this report we are again in the midst of our Poster-Poem and Literary Contest. I would have liked to have given you some figures on numbers of entries received this year but unfortunately I am unable to do that right at this time. Glancing over the poster entries the workmanship looks like it's up to the usual high standard we have received in previous years. I will probably be presenting an addendum at the end of this report. The same with the Video Contest I am unable to present any entry numbers at this time. The Video Contest is still in its infancy but again the quality of the entries received is quite remarkable. We continue to make changes to the rules and regulations as we go and gain much needed valuable experience in the process.

At last year's Youth Ed Meeting we had the luxury of some guest presenters who offered us a very unique idea and opportunity. Legion member, Comrade John Burns his wife Rochelle Burns PhD., and Bob McTaggart who also happens to be the Chairman of the 4th. Canadian Mounted Rifles Association.

As part of honouring soldiers who fought at Vimy, which of course is the 100th. Anniversary this year, the 4th. Canadian Mounted Rifles Association is reaching out, with the Legions assistance, to all Legion Branches across Canada, and schools across Canada[grades 7,8,9, & 10] to help them with this historic remembrance via **FREE** World War 1 materials. Starting late February of 2017 with the assistance of our Ontario Legion Branch Youth Ed Chairman almost 3000 replica boxes will be sent out. These will contain replica artifacts related to the First World War in addition there will be 24 sets of correspondence between a fictitious soldier and his sweetheart back in Canada and the soldiers grandson who comes across the correspondence. The letters will tell the personal side of the WW1 story, with the emphasis on Vimy, and what it meant/means to

Canada as a nation. These boxes will be delivered **FREE OF CHARGE** to the locations of our choice by the 4th. CMRA. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 4th. CMRA for providing this opportunity to our students and to us, enhancing our own Poster/Poem and Literary Contest. It is hoped that a cover page and a link to their web-site will be showing up on the Ontario Legion web-page very soon which will provide further learning tools for students, and teachers alike to use as they see fit.

It is hoped by the summer we will have a Youth Education Power Point Presentation available on the Ontario web-site for all those new, or experienced, Youth Ed Chairman to be able to use for their Branch/Zone/District presentations. I have to thank comrade Barb Wakeford, Zone C-3 Youth Ed Chair for putting it all together for us, good job and thank you very much for a job well done. I also hope we will have Terms of Reference available for the District and Provincial Youth Ed Chairman to use when hosting the Provincial Public Speaking Contest. There has been a little confusion in the past as to what the respective chairman's responsibilities are, it is hoped that these will make their life a lot easier in the future and clear up some of the confusion.

In closing once again I would like to thank Aida Kostuck for all of her valuable help, I would have been lost without her. Also a huge thank you to the nine District Youth Education Chairman. If you are here please stand: Dist. A Craig Chartier – Dist. B Mona Eichmann – Dist. C John Lowe – Dist. D, not forgetting the late Sheila Harris, she will always be in our memory, a true Legionnaire. – Dist. E Kate Palmer – Dist. F Ena Newman – Dist. G Tyrone Seeley – Dist. H Steve Larocque and finally Dist. K Louise Plamondon. It has been a real pleasure working with you all, keep-up the good work.

This is my report and I move its adoption.

Derek Moore
Ontario Command
Prov. Youth Education Chairman.

ONTARIO CORRESPONDENT REPORT

Comrade Chairman, President Brian, Head Table, Guests, Members of the Ladies Auxiliary, Comrades All

How can I describe the support Branches and Ladies Auxiliaries, Districts/Zones, Provincial Sports and other levels that submitted photos that appeared in the past fiscal two years (May/June 2015—March/April 2017 issues) in Legion Magazine –just one word ‘**OUTSTANDING**’. In terms of number of photos that have appeared in the ‘Volunteering in the Community’ section of the magazine (not including H&A page photos) with total number of 586. Below is a chart noting number of submissions published in the time frame noted (May 2015-March 2017) in the ‘community section’ by Districts etc.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	K	OC	ChFdn	LA	News
Total	24	116	107	39	42	69	89	47	11	19	6	17	Br-36
													LA- 7

Further to the above chart, we had 67 names for Branch Life memberships, and 5 names for LA Life membership published. The Honour and Awards pages-- Palm Leaf—7; MSM—12; MSA—0, Long Service Awards—14 in 60 years (Br.-12, LA-2); 15 in 65 years (Br.-13, LA-2); 41 in 70 years (all Branch vets); **A combined total (community & H&A pages) of 674 photos.**

I do note an improvement in the LA submissions and am very pleased with the improvement in District K submissions. I compliment the District K pro on her efforts to get ‘K’ in the magazine as well as her own branch (Hearst). Keep up the good work! I’ve received some submissions from branches that had never submitted to the magazine previously--- Matachewan, Capreol, Kearney, and Lambeth as examples. Success breeds more submissions. Encourage your branches to read the Guideline reference book published by Legion Magazine or view on their website www.legionmagazine.com under the ‘Contribute’ section.

With the January 2016 issue, Legion Magazine brought in some changes to the font size, changes to layout of the Community photo section for Commands. Following a deluge of complaints from Ontario members, the editorial staff reconsidered the change, and moved to an easier format for the reader. Evidence that there is strength in numbers when voicing opposition and the opinion of our Command is valued.

Although we still accept glossies the majority are digital submissions emailed to the correspondent as an attachment which then is uploaded to the system. The larger the jpeg file size is (MB) the more clarity and better quality the photo result. Rejection of a submission ranges from out of focus, too much or too little exposure, flash-back from photos taken in front of mirrors or glass display cases or lighting, photo jpeg file too small or subject content. The editor sometimes gives approval to publish only to be informed by the art department that the

photo just doesn't meet photo quality standards for publishing. The art department has the final say as to whether a photo gets published.

Our Ladies Auxiliaries are an integral component to any branch providing support in various ways mainly financial. Unfortunately photos of financial donation presentations to the branch are not accepted by the magazine as it is part of the LA mandate to support the branch in this manner, the information does go into the magazine as a 'news item'. However, this type of photo can be displayed on our command website and is good promotion for the LA. Each Auxiliary can submit up to 2 qualifying photos and 2 'news items' per issue of the Legion Magazine---sadly too many do not seem to either be aware of this or lack interest or personnel to take on the responsibility of promoting the auxiliary good deeds in the community.

The Wainfleet Branch had an article in the July/August 2015 on the building of a new cenotaph. An All Command Correspondents meeting at Legion House took place March 20, 2016. Unable to attend as I was out of the country, I sent a report for the round table discussion and such is noted in the minutes of that meeting—a copy of the minutes was emailed to all of District Public Relations chairmen for reference.

My final advice for branches and Ladies Auxiliaries is if they don't understand the guidelines or tech specs for digitals to contact me and I will do everything possible to assist them to achieve success. I always contact the submitting branch/auxiliary/zone when the photo submission has been approved and copy my reply as well to the respective District PRO for their reports to their District Conventions.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank President Weaver for his confidence in me to carry out the duties of this appointment. To the Branches and Ladies Auxiliaries, your submissions have made this a very enjoyable two year term—even the few that were rejected!! Thank you for your support. You were all a part of putting Ontario Command front and centre in the National magazine available to members nationwide, on newsstands and the magazine website for the public to view. Keep up the good work.

This is my report and I move its adoption.

Mary Ann Goheen

Ontario Correspondent

MILITARY SERVICE RECOGNITION BOOK REPORT

Comrade Chairman, President Brian, Head Table Guests, Members of our Ladies Auxiliary, Comrades All.

In just a couple more weeks, we will have completed the first four years of our Military Service Recognition Book Program. And I believe that you will all agree that our books of Remembrance and of our Veterans within the Province of Ontario, has been a tremendous success.

This success has been through the cooperative efforts of our Branches, our Zones, our Districts and our Command. And we thank each and every one of you for your support, cooperation and understanding. A special thank you to our two coordinators, Carolyn McCaul and Mary Ann Goheen for all their dedication and commitment in reviewing and processing all of our submissions.

We have now published three volumes of our book with our fourth volume to be published and printed in September of this year. Each book has been larger than the last, with our volume #3 being the largest book that our publisher Fenety Marketing has ever published. It contained a total of 516 pages compared to Volume #1 with 336 pages and volume #2 with 400 pages.

Since the introduction of our program at our Provincial Convention in Kingston in 2013, our program has also been most profitable for our Command. As of the end of 2016, our Command has realised a total net profit of \$466,232.70. This is money that we as a Command would not have had if we had not agreed to move forward with our program four short years ago.

All funds that are raised through our program are done so through our publisher, Fenety Marketing through their advertising sales efforts and donations received through their telemarketing efforts. The majority of the funds that they raise are utilized towards the administration costs involved for the production, printing and distribution of our books.

The proceeds that we receive each year through this program assist and support many of our important Legion initiatives and programs within our Command. These initiatives and programs in turn assist our over 400 branches so that they remain a viable partner in their communities. These include our Youth Education programs, our Track and Field program, our Sports program, and other important Legion programs that in turn assist our Branches.

For the past two years now, we have also supplied Branches with a tool to assist them in building membership. This has been through the printing and distribution of complimentary "Thank You for Wearing Your Poppy" brochures to all of our Branches. The proceeds received through this program have also eliminated the need for any Provincial per capita tax increase for Branches over the past three years.

In year #1 of our program we received our annual guaranteed amount of \$125,000.00. In year #2 we received \$144,451.79, and in year #3 we received a total net profit in the amount of \$154,052.41. As of the end of 2016, we had received a total net profit of \$42,728.50 for this the 4th year of our program. This compares to only \$24,522.49 that we had received during the same

time frame for year #3 of our program. So I feel that we shouldn't have any problem in surpassing last year's total profit of \$154,052.41 during year #4 of our program.

The total expenses incurred for our program as of the end of 2016 were in the amount of \$119,163.35. This total is comprised of \$99,372.07 for the printing and distribution of our Thanks for Wearing Your Poppy complimentary brochures for our Branches, \$7,281.20 for a Revitalization Committee Meeting held in November of 2014, \$8,250.78 in Committee and postage expenses, and \$4,259.30 which was our share of the cost in publishing an additional 80 pages in Volume #3 of our book.

In regards to the submissions received for our books, we realize that this is somewhat of a sore spot with some Branches. Especially those who had sent in submissions for year #2 and year #3 of our program that still have not been published. We apologize for this, but due to the number of submissions that we received in the first year of our program, 1863 to be exact, it took our first three books to utilize all of these year #1 submissions. Our plan is that our Volume #4 will have all of our 880 year #2 submissions published in this book. We will then work on the 313 submissions received in year #3 and those 74 received so far in this our fourth year for our Volume #5 book.

We realize the frustrations from Branches, but we also have to realize that the make-up of our books are based on 50% advertising and 50% of submissions. So the number of submission that we can publish in our books are all geared to the number of advertising pages that our publisher, Fenety Marketing can sell. And the number of submissions received over the past two years has also been dwindling. So we do ask that Branches place a renewed effort in seeking out submissions from Veterans and their families so that they can be placed in our future Military Service Recognition Books. Submissions received will be on a first come, first served basis in regards to when they get published in our books. So it is important that Branches continue to promote our program and obtain submissions from our Veterans and their families within Ontario Command.

Hopefully, all Branches have, and will, make good use of the quantity of books that they receive each year by having them distributed to local schools, libraries, municipal buildings, museums, military bases and through their own Branches. These are excellent books of Remembrance, and will certainly do no good sitting on a shelf or in a cupboard within the Branch.

Comrades, please remember that our books are all about Remembrance and to showcase the stories and pictures of our Veterans. It is therefore our responsibility to work in the best interests of our Veterans by obtaining submissions on an ongoing basis, so that we include as many Ontario Veterans as possible in our books for many years to come.

I believe that you will all agree that to date our program has been most successful. Please continue to make it that way by having all of our Branches involved in this very worthwhile project. This is my report and I so move its adoption.

Ron Goebel, Chairman
Military Service Recognition Book Program

CADET LIAISON REPORT

Comrade Chairman, Dominion 1st Vice-President Comrade Tom, Honourary Grand President Comrade Jack, Provincial President Comrade Brian, Provincial Padre Comrade Mike, Platform Guests, Ladies Auxiliary President Comrade Kim, All LA Senior Officers and LA members present, Comrades All,

As Provincial Cadet Liaison, I attended some educational, some enlightening, some entertaining, and a couple of totally boring seminars and workshops. I represented Ontario Command at the Annual General Meetings of each of the three groups.

The first exposure, I had to Cadet Annual General Meetings, was subbing for Comrade Brian in April 2015, at the Army AGM. What a great experience! Aside from winning a free night at the Delta Hotel in one of their raffles, I was acknowledged as Legion Liaison several times, welcomed at the Friday evening meet and greet by a number of Legion members, invited to sit in on the numerous workshops at no charge, plus, Bill and I were head table guests at the banquet. Following dinner, I was afforded the opportunity to address the gathering. It was a pleasure to thank those present for the improved relationship with the Army Cadet League, Ontario Command has experienced since the Accord of 2009. I encouraged continuation of open communication and congratulated them on the role they perform in developing better Canadians. The Army had set the bar high!

The Annual General Meetings with the Air and Navy Leagues followed and were a totally different experience. At the first Air AGM, I paid for meals, though not for workshops. Along with Comrade Harry McCabe, 1st Vice-President of the Army Cadets, Bill and I were introduced at the Friday dinner. Harry and I were acknowledged again at the Saturday luncheon, though neither one of us were invited to speak. At Saturday's banquet, had our assigned seats been placed any closer to the exit we'd have been out in the hall! However, there is a good side, because of this arrangement, I was fortunate to meet Comrade Ayman of Branch 614 and Comrade Sam of Branch 145, two very interesting Legionnaires.

The Navy League AGM was worse. Nothing was included, including, an introduction! As said, there is always a good side. We were without assigned seats at their Saturday banquet, though fortunately were invited to sit with a lovely group of dedicated Navy League officers and parents, from the Barrie area, who couldn't say enough good things about their sponsoring Legion Branch, and I won a door prize!

As Officers, when attending a function, we submit a brief report of the event. Ontario Command had been invited to send a representative to these meetings, and as major sponsors, the Senior Officers agreed our presence should be recognized, to be ignored or not appropriately acknowledged is an insult to our organization. At the next opportunity, I addressed this concern with each President. Both groups, for different reasons, had experienced an upheaval in their administrations each apologized for the insult, agreeing it would not happen again. Comrades, I am pleased to report, it has not, and am confident it will not be repeated.

In high school, I had tried to join the Army cadets, but, girls were not allowed, until the '70s! As a cadet 'wanna be', you can't imagine the thrill it was for my first invitation as 1st Vice-President to be to inspect 'Canada's Finest' the 900+ cadets assembled on parade square at Blackdown Training Camp, Base Borden, on Sponsor Appreciation Day.

Over the years working with the different groups on Legion events, each summer I'd hear the officers speak of going to Blackdown training camp, without picking up on it being a cadet training camp. When invited to attend, I did a little research. Anticipating a training camp to consist primarily of sports and physical fitness, it was amazing to learn of the number and variety of life skills training courses available.

It was a privilege to briefly address this group, this past two years, to thank them on your behalf for the help they give us in our annual Poppy Campaign, and other events in between, and to invite them to join our ranks, when the time is right. Hopefully, the promised First Year Free for retiring cadets will be available by June. It was an honour to salute the 900 or so cadets in their march past. I was honoured to return the salute as the group of proud young men and women so smartly marched by.

Sponsor Appreciation Days have been held for the past five years. Last year, was an especially proud moment, for me, to thank the record 50 plus Legionnaires, who stood in full uniform, in the sweltering heat of July 31st long weekend, to demonstrate their support of the cadet movement, to these fine young people, their leaders and sponsors.

Comrades, remember the Accord signed by all Cadet Leagues with the Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command, in May 2011 at Sault Ste. Marie. A document committing each group "to liaise and work co-operatively and in mutual support, within the policies and regulations of each organization, to assist in the promotion, development, and sponsorship of Cadet Corps and Squadrons, with the Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command Branches, so that our young Canadian men and women may grow in character, accept responsible citizenship, develop the personal physical fitness necessary to achieve their greatest potential and learn about Canadian Military history through exposure to the purposes and objects of the Royal Canadian Legion."

It has been a pleasure, as a Legionnaire, to have served our Command this past term as Provincial Cadet Liaison, thank you, Comrade Brian for the opportunity of representing our Command in this capacity. Though, as a mom and grandmother, I have to admit, the greatest challenge was to not hug these amazing, inspirational kids!

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon McKeown

WEBSITE COORDINATOR REPORT

Comrade Chairman, President Brian, Head Table, Guests, Members of the Ladies Auxiliary, Comrades All

Comrades, since my last Convention report we welcomed Lisa Dinsmore to the Command staff and the website committee. One of Lisa's duties involves the updating of the website with respect to forms/manuals/ home page/etc. One of the additions made in the past 2 year term has been to the Bursary program with the on-line 'click/fill/print' application form and the

committee reports positive results. We also upload winning entries of our Remembrance Literary and Poster contests.

Our Military Service Recognition information and a 'click/ fill/print' submission form can be accessed from the home page-- Following publication of our annual book of recognition, a digital version is added to the list of previous books, available for viewing on line.

I'm happy to report that our 'Shopping-Resale' section of the website is now complete.

A reminder that any changes to email or website links or other pertinent information for Branches/Zones or Districts can be sent directly to Ontario Command or myself in an expedient manner.

One of my duties involves the Photo Gallery. Relying on the photography from our provincial PRO for dominion convention photos, warriors' day, Track and Field meets, I am always grateful for the very detailed information provided by Comrade Mc Caul, accompanying the track and field photos. In the middle of proofing our latest Military Service Recognition Book I received the summer T&F dvd with 182 photos and 25 pages of event/winner information. I know that it takes hours and hours of work to compile. Thank you Carolyn.

Photos sent by Branches that do not meet the requirements for Legion Magazine, such as LA donations to branches, group photos of long service awards, presentations of Life Membership, for examples, are uploaded to the various 'albums' within the Photo Gallery. At the time of writing this report in excess of 250 photos were uploaded to the various 'albums' in the photo gallery during the past term.

In conclusion, thank you President Brian for having confidence in me for this assignment and I wish you the best in your future endeavours.

This concludes my report and I move its adoption.

Mary Ann Goheen
Website Coordinator

TRACK AND FIELD REPORT

Comrade Chairman, Comrade President, Guests, Comrades all.

First, I would like to thank Comrade President Brian Weaver for giving me the opportunity to act as your Provincial Track and Field Chairman it has been eye opening experience and very rewarding.

Second but most important the Athletes, District Chairs and I would like to express extreme thanks and gratitude to the Ladies Auxiliary for providing every year the Team Ontario Outfits.

They make us look outstanding and the outfit selections are always sought after by other provinces at the end of the meet.

Third, I would like to thank Comrade Juanita Kemp and Pam Sweeny for their guidance over the last 2 years.

Thanks to you all.

Activities

Indoor Meet York University Jan 20 2016

On the 19th Jan in our Committee meeting the emphasis was on getting the Provincial meets back to basics, by this I mean the events are for the athletes not the coaches and the clubs. A lot of discussion was had around this and a joint decision was to start at the Summer meet.

The meet itself started the following morning and for a change, no snow. We had 417 athletes entered, however we had a greater number of scratches this year 71 in the past have been around 15-20.

Outdoor Meet Timmins July 8-9 2016

On 8-9 July District K Hosted the Provincial meet in Timmins. We had approx. 360 athletes attend on an overcast/rainy weekend, and from that number we select 40 Athletes to attend Nationals as Team Ontario. I would like to thank Comrade Vital Shank for hosting a well-organized meet things ran well and the back to basics approached was a big influence on this. At our meeting after the Track meet we were informed we would be losing 2 of our District Chairs Comrade Vital Shank (District K) and Comrade Jim Reid (District E). Also since then we heard that Comrade Barry Young (District G) has moved to Saskatchewan, we will miss these Comrades and thank them for the years they have dedicated to Track & Field. I look forward to meeting and working with their replacements.

National Championships Aug 3-9 2016

The National meet this year was held in Sainte Therese Que for the second time, we were hoping that some lessons had been learnt from last year and yes they were, very little to complain about this year. We fielded a 39-strong balanced team between age groups, sexes, and events. This year we had a completely new group of Chaperones led by Comrade Lynn Deering from District F. Considering they were all new they did a great job in fulfilling their roles and responsibilities to the extent of praise give to me from the head chaperones from Dominion Command.

Our results in Ste. Therese they are as follows we won 45 medals 20 Gold, 18 Silver and 5 Bronze, 6 medals more than last year, well done Team O. The team broke Meet records and equaled some as well, a great effort by all.

The Team 'O' outstanding athletes were

Female: Mackenzie Pierre-Webster District F competing in Midget 100m & 200m

Male: Kenny Shirarath District C competing in Youth Long Jump & Triple Jump

PEC Nov 2017

At the PEC in November it was decided that the Indoor meet would be cancelled moving forward as it truly was not a Provincial meet with some Districts unable to attend because of weather or late scheduling. The late scheduling was the trigger that brought this to a head. We are beholden to Toronto Track & Field Centre for the dates and the last few years it has been getting increasingly difficult to get the dates we want and then only at the last minute will they will give us a date. This makes it difficult to arrange across the Districts.

However, with this change comes opportunity that being the possibility to extend the Summer meet or for the Districts to send more athletes, and have what are now additional travel costs now covered by Provincial Command rather than Districts. I must point out that at the time of writing this report **NO DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE** on these changes.

Future Track Meets

Summer Track meet Windsor July 14th & 15th 2017 at the University of Windsor

National Track Meet Brandon MB 9th-15th Aug 2017

Review and improvements

Provincial meet documentation

It has been a long time since that documentation has been reviewed and with the on sought of technology we felt the documentation need to reflect this. Suggested improvements for the documentation to be ratified at our Committee meeting in Jan at the Indoor meet.

Officers Manual

Again, as with the documentation above we are reviewing what is currently in the Officers manual in hopes of bringing it up to date.

Ontario Team Staff Manual

Again, as with the documentation above we are reviewing what is currently in the Staff manual in hopes of bringing it up to date.

Cost Savings

In the interest of cost savings as with all programs we the committee are considering ways that we can reduce costs for the program going forward, once these have been identified and considered we will bring them to the PEC for consideration.

In closing the athletes of the province and I would like to thank PIB you the legion members for the support given to them throughout the Provincial and National Track & Field meets.

I would like to ask my committee to stand and be recognized if present.

District A	Comrade Chris Vachon	District F	Comrade Manny Raspberry
District B	Comrade Kiryn Crook	District G	Comrade Dan Bush
District C	Comrade Crystal Taylor	District H	Comrade Chris Peters
District D	Comrade Wayne Hayes	District K	Comrade Bobby-Jean Dacosta

District E Temp Stand in Comrade Jim Reid

This is my report and I move its adoptions

John Crook

Chairman

Track & Field Committee

RESOLUTION OF LOYALTY

THE DELEGATES OF THIS, THE 50TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION OF THE ONTARIO COMMAND OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, ASSEMBLED IN LONDON, ONTARIO, MAY 13, 2017, SOLEMNLY AFFIRM OUR LOYALTY TO HER MAJESTY, QUEEN ELIZABETH II, AND OUR UNSTINTING SERVICE ON BEHALF OF THE DOMINION AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS.

IT IS OUR EARNEST PRAYER THAT HER GRACIOUS MAJESTY MAY CONTINUE TO GUIDE THE DESTINIES OF THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS AND CANADA.

NOTES

**DELEGATES VOTE TO THE RESOLUTION ON ALL RESOLUTIONS IN EITHER PART,
IRRESPECTIVE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE.**

**RESOLUTIONS WITH SIMILAR INTENT HAVE BEEN COMBINED OR ONE RESOLUTION HAS
BEEN USED AND THE ORIGIN OF ALL RESOLUTIONS ARE SHOWN.**

PART I

**THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS ARE THOSE WHICH YOUR CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS
COMMITTEE HAVE RECOMMENDED FOR FAVOURABLE CONSIDERATION BY THIS
CONVENTION**

CONSTITUTION AND LAWS

#1. PROVINCIAL COMMAND ⁽⁹⁾

WHEREAS the General By-Laws of the Ontario Provincial Command, By-Law 702(4), presently allows for a maximum of two district conventions annually, at Command expense, provided at least one district convention is held each year;

AND WHEREAS membership and attendance at District Conventions is declining;

AND WHEREAS Branches can no longer afford the expense of sending delegates to multiple conventions;

AND WHEREAS few members are trained to take on leadership roles and few branches have done succession planning;

AND WHEREAS it is imperative to the survival of Legion Branches that our leaders are properly trained to understand the fundamentals of branch management;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that effective June 1 2017, Ontario Command cover the cost of one District Convention and two District Council Meetings annually; and, further to encourage more comprehensive training, that Ontario Command cover reasonable out of pocket expenses incurred to facilitate training seminars and workshops, at the District and/or Zone level, as deemed necessary, to prepare our members for leadership and management roles, going forward.

(Tabled as Amended to the Provincial Convention floor)

VSS COMMITTEE

#2. VSS Committee ⁽³¹⁾

WHEREAS many Canadian Forces members do not exhibit outward signs of PTSD while active and in uniform;

AND WHEREAS some of those members on transitioning unto civilian life will likely exhibit signs of PTSD due in some instances to a lack of camaraderie and/or loss of direction;

AND WHEREAS the Veterans Transition Network has already proven to be beneficial to veterans;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the VTN program be provided to serving members prior to transitioning to civilian life;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the VTN program be provided to any serving members who wish to participate in same.

(Tabled by PAC to the Provincial Convention floor)

YOUTH EDUCATION

#3. PROVINCIAL YOUTH EDUCATION COMMITTEE ⁽⁸⁾

WHEREAS at Branch, Zone, District and Provincial Levels, a monetary prize and certificate are always provided to the first, second and third place winners of the Poster, Poem and Essay competitions;

AND WHEREAS at Dominion Command, a monetary prize and certificate are provided to the first and second place and only a certificate is provided to the honourable mention of the Poster, Poem and Essay competitions;

THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED that Dominion Command provides not only certificate but also monetary prize to the honourable mention of the Poster, Poem and Essay competitions;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Dominion Command change the honourable mention category to read third place to align with the other levels of the Poster and Literary competitions.

This resolution was concurred by PEC.

CARRIED

PART II – APPENDIX

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS ARE THOSE IN WHICH YOUR CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE DID NOT CONCUR AND THE REASON FOR THE NON-CONCURRENCE IS SHOWN ON THE COMMENTS SECTION.

SIMILAR RESOLUTIONS WITH THE SAME INTENT HAVE BEEN COMBINED OR ONE RESOLUTION HAS BEEN USED AND THE ORIGIN OF ALL RESOLUTIONS HAS BEEN SHOWN.

The procedure for presenting non-concurred resolutions to the convention floor is noted below:

If a resolution has been placed in the Appendix in Part II by the Resolutions Committee, any accredited delegate may request that such resolution (emanating from within his/her own district be presented to the convention, subject to the conditions noted as follows:

- (a) The request has the support of the majority vote of the caucus from that delegate's district, written certificate to that effect, signed by the District Commander or the chairman of the caucus.
- (b) The request to introduce such resolution has been submitted in writing on a form provided by Ontario Command
- (c) The request shall be submitted to the Convention Chairman not later than 12 noon on the second day of the convention.

These conditions, having been met, the delegate may present the resolution when resolutions dealing with the same general category are placed before the convention. These resolutions do not need convention approval to be presented.

Late resolutions will not be accepted by the Chairman and only those emergency resolutions dealing with matters that require immediate action and which cannot be dealt with by the Administrative Committee, a Provincial Standing Committee or Provincial Executive Council, shall be considered.

SPORTS

#101. Branch 211 DISTRICT H ⁽²⁾

WHEREAS 9 ball pool is only played up to the district level

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that 9 ball pool played at the provincial level.

This resolution was non-concurred by the Sports Committee.

DEFEATED

#102. Branch 133 DISTRICT F ⁽⁶⁾

WHEREAS the privilege of any Branch that may host a District darts event is a major aid in generating much needed revenue for that Branch;
AND WHEREAS many teams travel a great distance to be able to attend and compete and pay for their own accommodations;
AND WHEREAS many of these teams have been greatly disappointed to find they have only been able to play 4 games then find they are ultimately finished for the day;
AND WHEREAS further the Round Robin for these competitors was completed before the Refreshment area was open or lunch was available;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Round Robin format be changed to allow 2 games per team and or 2 pools instead of 4 thusly allowing those teams to play 8 or 9 games prior to finals thereby creating more revenue for that Branch and having members stay in said Branch longer for support of that Branch.

This resolution was non-concurred by the Sports Committee.

DEFEATED

#103. Branch 77 DISTRICT F ⁽⁷⁾

WHEREAS the Provincial Sports Manual, in describing the rules for Darts and Mixed Darts, states a requirement of a player at Teams, Doubles, or Singles to “double in” and “double out”;
AND WHEREAS the Provincial Sports Manual, in describing the rules for Seniors Darts states a requirement for a player at Teams, Doubles or Singles to “straight in” and “double out”;
AND WHEREAS the world dart federation rules, for the major world tournaments, with a very few exceptions, require a player to “straight in” and “double out”;
FUTHERMORE a change to the format would give all players an even footing at the start, with the onus being on the first player to finish on the exact double;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Royal Canadian Legion adopt the format of “straight in” and “double out” for all Dart tournaments, including Darts, Mixed Darts and Seniors Darts.

This resolution was non-concurred by the Sports Committee.

DEFEATED

MEMBERSHIP

#104. Branch 297 DISTRICT G ⁽⁹⁻¹⁵⁾

WHEREAS Dominion Command requires branches to make per-capita payments for life

memberships based on the age in one amount, and most branches are waiting till the member is older before applying for life membership due to cost;
WHEREAS most branches would like to honour younger members with a life membership based on the work and volunteering in the branch and community;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Dominion Command policy be changed to allow branches to set-up a payment method that would help branches pay for life memberships, by paying the dues amount over a five (5) year period of equal amount till the total amount is paid, not hurting command in anyway and helping branches to reward more life memberships to deserving young members.

This resolution was non-concurred by the Membership Committee.

DEFEATED

RITUAL & INSIGNIA

#105. Branch 530 DISTRICT C ⁽³⁻¹⁵⁾

WHEREAS the original Royal Canadian Legion blazer crest design was worn by Military Veterans
AND WHEREAS the crest has the word Associate added to the bottom to identify them as Associates;
AND WHEREAS fraternal, non-affiliate and affiliate etc. have been added;
AND WHEREAS non Military members are wearing that original crest;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Command produce a blazer crest, with the word Veteran below, to identify those wearing them as Veterans.

This resolution was non-concurred by the Honours and Awards Committee.

DEFEATED

#106. Branch 333 DISTRICT C ⁽⁴⁾

WHEREAS The “Ritual, Awards, and Protocol Manual” states that “it is normal practice that when consideration is being given to recommending a person for an MSM, that the normal progression for major awards has been followed and that the person has previously received a Life Membership;
AND WHEREAS There is no requirement in the National Honours and Awards system for a member to receive a lesser honour prior to receiving a higher honour;
AND WHEREAS The Legion Honours and Awards system was designed to emulate the same concept as the National Honours and Awards system;

AND WHEREAS Branches are reluctant to award a Life Membership to a deserving member due to financial constraints caused by a decline in membership numbers and increased costs;

AND WHEREAS deserving members are unable to receive the higher honour of the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) because they have not received a Life Membership. As such, these member are not receiving the proper recognition they deserve from the Legion for their exemplary leadership, outstanding efforts, and selflessness simply because a Branch cannot afford to pay for a Life Membership;

AND WHEREAS Branch morale and welfare is driven down due of the lack of formal recognition for Member's efforts;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the requirement for "normal progression" to receive a Life Membership prior to receiving the MSM is removed from the "Ritual, Awards and Protocol Manual."

This resolution was non-concurred by the Honours and Awards Committee.

DEFEATED

CONSTITUTION AND LAWS

#107. Branch 616 DISTRICT G ⁽³⁾

WHEREAS the value of a dollar has decreased significantly since the inception of the By-laws;

AND WHEREAS the present By-laws restricts the Branch Executive Committee's ability to conduct its financial obligation;

AND WHEREAS the present By-law increases banking charges;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that section 1207, Article XII of the General By-laws for Branches of the Ontario Provincial Command be changed to read:

(All accounts payable by the Branch in excess of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) shall only be paid by cheque. Branch regulations may provide a lower amount).

NON CONCURRED

This resolution was non-concurred by the C&L Committee.

DEFEATED

#108. Branch 238 DISTRICT F ⁽⁵⁾

WHEREAS Provincial By-Law 1207 stats all accounts payable by the Branch in excess of One Hundred (\$100.00) shall only be paid by cheque;

AND WHEREAS Provincial By-Law 1206 states all cheques must be signed by any tow of the Branch signing officers, not related by blood, marriage or common-law relationship;

AND WHEREAS the costs attached to printing and mailing of cheques are escalating;

AND WHEREAS the fee charged by banking institutions for the processing of cheque payments increases regularly;
AND WHEREAS Canadian banking institutions are encouraging clients to make use of available options and alternatives to cheque payments;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Branches of Ontario Command may choose to pay recurring accounts by pre-authorized payment, provided the authorization supplied by the vendor or service provider is completed and signed by two signing Officers of the Branch, the use of pre-authorized payment for each individual service provider is approved by the membership, said approval recorded in the minutes of the General Meeting, and that the maximum limit on the account for any such pre-authorized payment be set at \$1000.00.

This resolution was non-concurred by the C&L Committee.

DEFEATED

#109. Branch 286 DISTRICT D ⁽¹⁰⁾

WHEREAS Zone Command holds meetings to approve Zone business
AND WHEREAS Zone Command provides Financial Reports and Budgets for Committee at said meetings;
AND WHEREAS Zone Council are to approve said Financial Reports and or budgets;
AND WHEREAS Zone Council do not receive the Financial Reports until the day of the meetings;
AND WHEREAS Zone Council does not have sufficient time to review these reports before Approval
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Zone Command provide a copy of Financial Reports that are to be approved by council members via email 7 days before the meeting.

This resolution was non-concurred by the C & L Committee.

DEFEATED

#110. Branch 234 DISTRICT C ⁽¹²⁾

WHEREAS the PROCEDURE for filing a complaint against a member under Article III of the General By-Laws requires the enclosed payment of a complaint filing fee in the amount of \$100.00 payable to the Branch or Command with which the complaint is filed;
AND WHEREAS 304(b)(iv) also states the complainant will have the \$100.00 returned in all but one circumstance. That circumstance is where there is a final disposition at the hearing (after all appeals, if any, are heard) and at that hearing the entire complaint is completely dismissed. Then and only then will the \$100.00 filing fee be forfeited;
AND WHEREAS the Branch is required to pay all expenses of the Hearing Committee;
AND WHEREAS the number of complaints has not been reduced as a result of the \$100.00 filing fee;
AND WHEREAS the majority of complaints should be resolved through mediation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Section 304(b)(iv) be amended to read: enclose payment of a non-refundable complaint filing fee in the amount of \$100.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Section 306 MEDIATION (a) and (b) be deleted and apply a new section 306(a) to read:

306(a) Upon lodging of a complaint at any level, the President of the respective Branch or Command will appoint a mediator or a mediation team for this purpose.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all remaining paragraphs under 306 be renumbered accordingly.

This resolution was non-concurred by the C&L Committee.

DEFEATED

HONOURS AND AWARDS

#111. Branch 134 DISTRICT C (2-15)

WHEREAS those members who have been awarded an MSM

AND WHEREAS, an additional award of a Palm Leaf can be given for continuous service to their community;

AND FURTHER WHEREAS the recipient of a Branch Life Membership who continues to work and serve at his/her branch with distinction instead of participating in volunteer work outside of his/her branch for whatever reason;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a similar award be struck for a Life Membership recipient that recognizes his/her continuous service to his/her branch.

This resolution was non-concurred by the H&A Committee.

DEFEATED

#112. Branch 641 DISTRICT G (8-15)

WHEREAS section 129 of the Ritual, Awards and Protocol Manual refers only to each Cadet Corps/Squadron; and

WHEREAS both the Cadet Corps/Squadron and Junior Canadian Rangers are both Government of Canada youth programs (12 to 18 years of age) funded by the Department of National Defence, the Canadian Armed Forces and community organizations;

WHEREAS members of the Junior Canadian Rangers and Cadet Corps/Squadron are under the leadership of members of the Canadian Armed Forces and the Junior Canadian Rangers receive no recognition for their individual endeavours;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the awarding of the Royal Canadian Legion Cadet Medal of Excellence be amended to include the awarding of the medal to our Junior Canadian Rangers based on the same criteria as the Cadet Corps/Squadron.

This resolution was non-concurred by the H&A Committee.

DEFEATED

POPPY

#113. Branch 638 DISTRICT G (10-15)

WHEREAS the standard financial fiscal year for Legion business is 1 June to 31 May;
WHEREAS the current fiscal year for the poppy finances is from 1 Oct to 30 Sept;
WHEREAS the budgeting of the poppy finances is established after each poppy campaign which has no effect on a fiscal year change;
WHEREAS all branches are required to have a Financial Review completed within 90 days of the end of the Fiscal year;
WHEREAS the Financial Review Committee (FRC) is not able to review the Poppy Fund in conjunction with other Branch financial activities;
WHEREAS currently poppies, wreaths and promotional material are purchased in one fiscal year and maybe paid for during two different fiscal years;
WHEREAS invoices for the aforementioned purchases are received and paid during two different fiscal years;
WHEREAS the present poppy finance reporting system does not give a true figure on campaign expenses; and
WHEREAS the spending/distribution of monies collected are distributed over two fiscal year periods;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Account Fiscal Year be changed to coincide with the Royal Canadian Legion standard fiscal year of the Legion business 1 June to 31 May.

This resolution was non-concurred by the Poppy Committee.

DEFEATED

#114. Branch 79 DISTRICT B (11)

WHEREAS the Royal Canadian Legion has recognized a need under Section 402(m) to allow for expenditures of Poppy Funds for certain accessibility modifications to branch doors and bathrooms and lifting devices;
WHEREAS the existing allowances do not recognize accessibility difficulties for seniors and veterans in reaching the doorway;
AND WHEREAS law for branches requires it to provide disabled parking spaces with proper markings;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Section 402(m) be amended to include installation, repair and maintenance of disabled parking spaces.

This resolution was non-concurred by the Poppy Committee.

DEFEATED

YOUTH EDUCATION

#115. Branch 183 DISTRICT C (1-15)

WHEREAS the current regulations for the literacy contest stat that, “Entries will be marked on the basis of originality of thought, expression, presentation, grammar, spelling and Canadian content;

AND WHEREAS, it is implied through this statement that entries may not be copied or reproduced in part or in whole;

AND WHEREAS, the “originality of thought” may be misinterpreted or considered as only one out of six criteria;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the regulations of the literacy contest are written to include a specific statement not allowing the copying, reproducing or plagiarizing of previously published works either in whole or in part.

This resolution was non-concurred by the Youth Education Committee.

DEFEATED

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS PROCEDURES

NOMINATIONS:

1. Nominations for all offices will be declared open by the Election Chairman, “I, your Election Chairman, do declare nominations open for the offices of President, First Vice-President, three Vice-Presidents, Honourary Treasurer, Chairman and Vice-Chairman”. Nominations will be made from the floor. At the appropriate time, nominations for each office will be specifically requested.
2. The names of the candidates shall be posted in order of nomination and they shall not be given the opportunity to state their intention until the final nominations have been called immediately prior to the election.
3. The Chairman, prior to balloting for each office and having called three times for further nominations, will declare nominations closed.
4. Following the closing of nominations for each office, the Nomination Officer will read the list of nominees from the top down and the bottom up. During the reading from bottom up, each nominee will declare his intention, following which, balloting may begin.
5. It should be noted only one office may be dealt with at a time since defeated candidates for the office of President and First Vice-President are automatically nominated for the office of Vice-President.

This procedure is applicable to the position of Chairman, whereby, a defeated candidate is automatically nominated for the office of Vice-Chairman.

ELECTIONS:

1. Ballots will be issued to all delegates at the time of registration and the final credential report presented to the convention immediately prior to the election being called.
2. Candidates for each office will be introduced to the convention prior to balloting.
3. Immediately prior to the casting of ballots for each office, the doors will be tiled to ensure no one is permitted to enter or leave the convention hall until all ballots have been collected.
4. It is recommended that District Commanders each appoint four scrutineers to assist in the collection and the counting of the ballots and that they be observers who are registered as such and members in good standing. If a sufficient number of registered observers cannot be located, registered accredited delegates may be used and they must be permitted to vote before the general collection of ballots begins.
5. Ballots are to be placed in a common pool, mixed and distributed to the scrutineers to be counted. The count will be tabulated by the Chief Scrutineer and he will report the results of the ballot to the Election Chairman who will advise the convention.

Following completion of the ballot count, only the Chief Scrutineer will re-enter the convention hall to submit his report. When the report has been submitted to the convention, the other scrutineers will then re-enter the convention hall.

6. When the balloting is for the election of a single officer, the candidate receiving the majority of the votes cast shall be elected.
7. If no candidate receives a majority of the total votes cast on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be held, deleting the name of the candidate receiving the least number of votes on the first ballot.
8. When balloting is for the election of three vice-presidents, delegates may vote for up to, but not more than, the number of officers to be elected.
9. A person may not vote more than once on the ballot for any candidate.
10. The ballots shall be in a form approved by the Ontario Command.
11. Ballots not marked in conformity to this section shall not be counted.
12. The candidates receiving a majority of the ballots cast shall be elected.
13. If one or more but not all candidates receive a majority of the total votes cast on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be held for the remaining unfilled offices. The name(s) of the

successful candidate(s) only shall be removed from the names posted on the nomination board and all other names shall remain on the board for the next ballot vote.

14. Whenever on any ballot no candidate is elected, the name of the candidate who received the lowest number of votes shall be deleted from subsequent ballots, provided that:
 - (i) if the total of the votes received by the two with the lowest number of votes is less than the votes received by the candidate with the next lowest number of votes, the names of the two with the lowest number of votes shall be deleted from subsequent ballots: and
 - (ii) similarly, if the three candidates having the lowest number of votes do not have a total vote equal to that of the candidate having the next lowest number of votes, their names shall be deleted from subsequent ballots.

15. When there are four candidates remaining for the position of Vice-President, the name of the candidate receiving the fewest number of votes shall be dropped and the other three candidates shall be elected, even if a majority vote is not received.

16. If the results of a particular ballot are not announced by the normal closing hour of that session, the session shall continue until the results are announced and that office is filled. It is the responsibility of the Convention Chairman to determine if sufficient time remains for the completion of an election to a particular office, prior to the ballots being called.

SPOILED BALLOTS

Jones
Jones
Jones

1

J
O N
E S

#2

Jones
Smith

Bottom Portion torn off

#3

A spoiled ballot can be attributed to the following:

1. Using the same name three times. (see ballot # 1). Please note a name can be used only once on a ballot.
2. Using one name and marking the name on all three ballots. (see ballot # 2)
3. Tearing off the bottom portion of the ballot. (see ballot # 3)
4. Writing name(s) across a perforation.
5. Not identifying a nominee by using the full name or first initial when two candidates have the same surname.

VALID BALLOTS

Smith

Smith
Jones

Smith
Jones
Hancock

NOMINEES FOR ELECTED OFFICES

Provincial President			
Provincial 1 st Vice-President			
Provincial Vice-Presidents			
Provincial Hon. Treasurer			
Provincial Chairman			
Provincial Vice-Chairman			

ELECTED OFFICERS

Provincial President	
Provincial 1 st Vice-President	
Provincial Vice-Presidents	

Provincial Hon. Treasurer	
Provincial Chairman	
Provincial Vice-Chairman	

CONVENTION PROCEDURE

The convention procedure for business sessions will be as follows:

The Colours will be marched on at the opening of the convention and will not be retired until the business of the convention has been completed. When the Colours have been deposited, the convention will be considered to be in session.

Delegates shall sit in the allotted space for each district.

The District Commanders will be in charge of their respective Districts and be responsible for the actions of their delegates in convention.

The District Commanders will appoint a Whip and Assistant Whip who will act in the absence of the Whip, and their roles and responsibilities have been identified under the Duties of the Whip section of the Convention Manual.

The Chair will not recognize any delegate not brought to his attention by the Whip or the Assistant Whip. Officers and platform guests are to request use of microphone through Chairman or Vice-Chairman.

When the Whip or District Commander of any District advises the Chair that a representative of the minority vote in caucus wishes to speak on the subject, the Chair will recognize the minority vote representative.

The business sessions of the convention will commence at a time established by the Chairman and confirmed by the convention and any change will require a majority vote of the delegates.

The Chairmen of Committees, submitting reports to the convention, will be available at the time stated in the Procedure Report which has been confirmed by convention.

The order of business shall be approved by convention at the Opening Sessions on the Monday morning. The Chairman will ask for approval to deviate from the order of business, and if approved by the convention floor, will do so when and if required.

The Chairman will consider any request from a District Commander to delay reporting to the convention, on any subject which he feels should be first discussed in caucus.

Notice of Motions from one convention to the next shall be discussed before the report of the committee, under whose jurisdiction the subject matter would be included.

To save the time of the convention, the Chairman suggests:

1. District Commanders discuss, in caucus, resolutions or reports which may be contentious, in order to reduce discussion time in convention and to inform their district delegates of the intent and purpose of any resolution or report which is not self-explanatory.
2. When an amendment to the amendment is carried, the main resolution shall be submitted, as amended by the amendment to the amendment, for confirmation.
3. When an amendment is carried, the main resolution as amended, will be submitted again to the convention, for approval or otherwise.
4. If a poll vote is requested, it shall not be debatable and the request shall be immediately submitted to the convention for consideration.
5. A motion to refer a specific resolution to committee shall mean, to the specific committee appointed following the convention.
6. The question on a resolution when it is put to the convention, shall be on the adoption of the resolution; the recommendation of the Resolution Committee to the contrary notwithstanding.
7. When the previous question is confirmed by two-thirds majority vote it shall mean an immediate vote.
8. A motion for the previous question, when seconded, shall not be debatable.
9. Resolutions which are not included in reports contained in the proceedings of this convention and which recommend By-law amendments, shall be considered as a Notice of Motion to the next Provincial Convention.
10. Proxy votes shall only be utilized when a ballot vote has been approved and for the purposes of election.

11. The Chair requests permission to deal with non-contentious matters as circumstances permit. This is requested to enable the elimination of waiting time between business and to dispense with matters which do not seriously affect the business of the convention.
12. When the Chair's ruling is challenged, the Chair shall call a vote to determine if the majority of the delegates supports the challenge to this ruling. If the majority supports the challenge, business will revert to the previous question and it shall be re-submitted to a vote. If the majority does not support the challenge, the previous question will not be reconsidered and business will proceed.
13. The Chair recommends the following procedure:
 - (a) POINT OF ORDER (Yellow Card) - to be used when a delegate wishes to direct the Chair to some matter which he or she considers out of order.
 - (b) POINT OF PRIVILEGE (Red Card) - to be used when Chair is directed to some conduct or item not in the best interest of the convention.
 - (c) POINT OF INFORMATION (Blue Card) - to obtain clarification or additional information on matters before the Chair or, of interest to the delegates.
 - (d) Motion to adjourn, not debatable.
 - (e) Previous question - used to bring about an immediate vote, not debatable.
 - (f) Speakers representing Governmental Departments addressing the convention, shall not be subjected to questions other than those of general information but, speakers if necessary, shall be requested to be available at the end of the session to discuss individual questions of any delegate desiring information.

CONVENTION WHIP - DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The prime purpose of the whip and/or assistant whip is to maintain control and discipline amongst the delegates of their District during Convention sessions.
2. To assist the Provincial Chairman to enforce proper parliamentary procedure during the business sessions and carry out the directions of the chair as and when called upon to do so.
3. To ensure that only the properly registered voting delegates are seated in the designated District area and to ensure the delegates maintain adequate security of their convention kits.
4. To assist in the counting of votes when there is a challenged vote.
5. To ensure that a whip or assistant whip is on duty and available at all the time while the convention is in session, who is familiar with convention procedure, rules and regulations and ensures that delegates abide by them.
6. The whip is responsible for ensuring that delegates receive copies of reports, bulletins, directives and other material distributed during the convention.
7. To make themselves available for a meeting of whips called by the Chairman and to check on the accommodation for caucus meetings for their District maintaining liaison with the Convention Chairman with respect to such meetings.
8. To control speakers at the microphone, obtaining recognition from the Chair first, wait their turn, then clearly introduce the speaker indicating at the same time the matter upon which they wish to speak.
9. To use good judgment in allowing a delegate to interrupt proceedings on points of order or privilege and to ensure the delegates do not discuss their personal problems on the floor.
10. When a delegate wishes to present a motion, the whip must first obtain a written copy of it on the form provided and hand it to the Chairman.
11. Announcements and amendments to resolutions are to be written out on the forms provided and handed by the whip to the Chairman.