ROAD TO RECOVERY

A RUCK 2 REMEMBER EVENT
IN THE BEGINNING...

The first annual Road To Recovery event took place on July 20th, 2014. Volunteers from multiple walks of life came from all over to partake in a ruck that took place over a distance of 303 kilometers and a span of seven days. These volunteers rucked 158 bricks from Hamilton, Ontario, where the organization was founded, to the Legion Hall in Parry Sound, Ontario. Each brick was engraved with the name of a Canadian soldier killed in Afghanistan. This ruck was used to create awareness and support for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and to raise funds to build a retreat in Parry Sound for PTSD. This event was titled as Road To Recovery, which was the first event hosted by Ruck To Remember.
FUNDRAISING SUCCESS!

In partnership with some excellent sponsors including:

We were able to raise $23,885.84 which was donated in good faith to help build a veterans retreat. Additionally the bricks now reside at the Parry Sound legion hall where they will be built into a monument to those that paid the ultimate price during the Global War on Terror.
The second annual Road To Recovery event covered 2km for every Military and First Responder that we had lost the year before. That amounted to 165km and took us from Barrie To Parry Sound.

In 2015 we established a partnership with the Royal Canadian Legion with proceeds from our event going to “Operation Leave the Streets Behind”, a charity that is managed by the Legion that aims to assist Military and Police veterans that are facing or currently experiencing Homelessness.
FUNDRAISING SUCCESS!

In a number of ways the 2nd annual event was a reimagining of the first year, we developed new partners and relationships and changed the format to invite only for participants to ensure we were getting people with the right attitude and the physical ability to complete the arduous event. While it was a smaller event it was still successful.

We were able to raise $9,539.77 for Operation: Leave the Streets Behind
The 3rd annual “Road to Recovery” event once again covered 2km for every Veteran and first responder that we lost the year before for a total of 158km over the course of 4 days. We began our ruck march in Hamilton and navigated around the golden horseshoe stopping at legion halls in Smithville, Niagara Falls, Port Colborne and finishing in Dunnville.

Once again, all proceeds from the event went towards “Operation: Leave The Streets Behind” a Legion run charity that assists veterans facing or presently experiencing homelessness.
FUNDRAISING SUCCESS!

Going into year 3 we brought a lot of lessons learned with us from the previous year. We focused more heavily on driving people to the Legion Halls where we were staying each night and made those events at each of the three overnight stays a fundraising opportunity as a result, we had a record setting year.

We were able to raise $25,076 for Operation: Leave the Streets Behind.
ROAD TO RECOVERY 4: CELEBRATING CANADA

This coming year, in 2017, Ruck To Remember will be hosting the 4th annual Road To Recovery event and we’d like to do something special given it will be our nation's 150th Birthday.

To honor that we would like to have this year’s Ruck March begin at Garrison Petawawa, and cover some 150km over 4 days ending at the Royal Canadian Legions Branch 638 in Kanata.

The event itself would be open to CF personnel, there is no charge for participating but participants must provide their own gear and all participants are encouraged to help raise funds. Unlike in previous years we will also arrange for shorter distances to be participated in as the Cadet Corps’ have expressed interest in participating as have some older veterans within the legion.

We’re hoping this year will be our biggest yet as we celebrate our nation and if you’re reading this we hope you’ll consider assisting in what is becoming a humbling annual event to honour our heroes.
DETAILS

When: 14th – 17th September, 2017 (Tentative)

Distance: 150km minimum over 4 days (40km/day)

Where: We will be beginning our Ruck out front of the Petawawa Legion and proceed to the legion hall in Cobden (Br.550) on day 1. On day 2 we’ll go from Cobden to Br.148 in Renfrew. On day 3 we will step off from Renfrew and finish at Br.174 in Arnprior, ON and on day 4 we will conclude in Kanata at Branch 638.

Kit: Each participant is expected to carry in his ruck everything (s)he will need over the course of 4 days including food while on the road, water, and change of clothes. As a matter of tradition we wear Red on the Friday of the ruck. We recommend bringing a change of footwear, and foot care kits. Full packing list is available upon request.

Food: The Legion is generous in feeding us each night at their legion halls so dinner will be provided.
OPERATION: LEAVE THE STREETS BEHIND

In 2012, the Legion established a national homeless Veterans program, “Leave the Streets Behind”, based on the groundbreaking work of Ontario Command. The program’s mission is to reach out to homeless Veterans, or near homeless Veterans, by providing immediate financial assistance and support when and where needed. It also connects them with the appropriate social and community services to establish a long-term solution to meet their needs.

Money raised for Road to Recovery is donated to the Joe Sweeney Fund, a charitable fund that was started to ensure veterans have suitable housing and support services. Tax receipts are issued for all personal donations.