

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COMMAND

Homeless Veterans Program Assists over 500 Veterans in Ontario

AURORA, ONTARIO - The Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command's Homeless Veterans program "Operation Leave the Streets Behind" has assisted over 500 Veterans in 114 communities across Ontario. The number of Veterans requiring assistance is a growing concern and The Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command is working tirelessly to stop it.

"No one knew at the beginning of this program how many Veterans were Homeless in Ontario and for that matter across Canada" says Dave Gordon, Chairman of the Homeless Veterans Program. "This outreach program assists Veterans with items such as first and last months' rent, utilities, food vouchers, apartment start up items, bus tickets, dental needs and so much more.

The program, since existence in late 2009, has housed 285 Veterans. The overall assistance provided to Veterans, in excess of \$1.5 million, could not have happened without the generous donations made to "Operation Leave the Streets Behind" and "The Joe Sweeney Fund" by Legion Branches, the Ladies Auxiliary and outside organizations.

For further information on our Homeless Veterans Program, please contact Dave Gordon, The Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command Homeless Veterans Program Chairman or Juanita Kemp, Assistant Executive Director at the Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command Office (905) 841-7999.