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PRESS RELEASE

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LETTER FROM THE PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT, GARRY POND TO 395 BRANCHES OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION IN ONTARIO

As the situation with COVID-19 progresses, it is clear that many Branches are extremely worried about their long-term survival within their communities throughout this crisis.

Dominion Command has made the decision to release \$3,000,000.00 from Legion National Reserves to provide Branches with Emergency Funds in two tranches. The initial tranche is approximately \$1,340,000.00. For the Ontario Command portion of these funds, Provincial Command Senior Elected Officers and HQ staff are working together with your District and Zone Commanders in fulfilling the recommendations based on assessments of where this money should be allotted.

Furthermore, Ontario Command has made an unprecedented decision to REFUND to all Branches in our Command the Provincial portion of the Per Capita tax for membership year 2019. **This will amount to a further \$1,051,831.00 to assist our Branches.**

These funds are meant to assist the Branch with EMERGENCY OPERATIONAL ISSUES as you work through the challenges to keep your doors open and be able to continue our great work when authorities allow.

Despite the current challenges you have faced with COVID-19, we thank you for all the assistance you are still providing Veterans, their families and your respective communities.

Stay safe, stay well.

Garry Pond
Provincial President