

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BR. 148

30 Raglan Street South. Renfrew, Ontario
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<http://www.renfrewlegionbr148.ca>

LEST WE FORGET

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JUNE 2022 BRANCH BULLETIN

Legion Mission Statement

Our mission is to serve Veterans, including serving Military and RCMP members and their families, to promote Remembrance, and to serve our communities and our country.

MEETINGS:

Branch 148 Executive Meeting	2nd Monday of each Month	7:00 p.m.
Ladies Auxiliary Br 148 Meeting	3rd Tuesday of each Month	7:00 p.m.
Branch General Meeting	4 th Wednesday of each Month	7:00 p.m.

The Branch does not have General Meetings during the months of July, August, and December.

UPCOMING DATES

LOUNGE SUMMER HOURS: The Lounge will be changing the Friday hours for the summer, effective Friday, June 3, to 12pm to 9pm – stop by and enjoy a break on the deck!

Mixed Doubles Dart Tournament
Portion of proceeds to Homeless Veterans
Saturday, June 11, 2022 – limited to 32 teams - \$30 per team
Please call Sheila Riopelle (613-433-5470)
or Laura Warren (613-717-3959 or 613-432-5862) to register

NEW! Bingo has returned to the Renfrew Legion!
June – first Wednesday of the Month (June 1)
July, August, September – First Friday of the Month (July 8, Aug.5, Sept. 2)
\$2,300 in prizes – doors open at 5pm

Tuesdays	Foot Care Clinic, twice a month
Saturdays	Weekly entertainment and Meal - please check our Facebook page or our website, listen to Valley Heritage Radio Coming Events, or call the Branch for more information

MESSAGE FROM OUTGOING PRESIDENT GREG WALBECK: I would like to thank the Executive for all their help and hanging in there for this extra-long term of office. Greatly appreciated.

To Jessica for all her help through these last couple of years, greatly appreciated. Thanks.
 Fran and her crew of volunteers for all their hard work to help us keep afloat through those tough times. Thanks. And all the people that donated food or cash.

Comrade Debbie and all her work keeping the people informed on everything that was going on in and around the Branch. Thanks.

Comrade Laura for her help with my dart tournaments. Thanks.

Rob, Bruce, Tena, Cheryl for all the drives I needed and the help and support. Thanks.

The Ladies Auxiliary for all their support and help through these tough times. Thanks, greatly appreciated.

Comrade Richard and Doug Buzzell for all the work done in the kitchen and stove. Thanks.

Looking forward to working with the new Executive. Wish everyone a safe and happy summer and watch for upcoming barbecues.

Greg Walbeck

MESSAGE FROM NEW PRESIDENT BRUCE FERGUSON: Greetings from your new President (as of June 1, 2022). I thank all of you who came out to our April 27 General/Election meeting to nominate and elect your new Executive Committee for 2022/23. Since 2005 when I was first asked to become a member and subsequently became chaplain of Branch 148, I have become fully involved with the total concept of the Legion that we advocate for the care and benefits for all who served Canada, especially in Renfrew and surrounding area, regardless of when or where they served. I served as Sgt-at-Arms for several years, First-Vice for three years, and Poppy Chair for three years. Therefore, I promise that I will endeavour to the best of my ability to involve myself and the various committees to continue this concept. My first initiative is to ensure that we achieve total transparency. That means that whenever a call is made to the Branch, it will be referred to the proper committee(s) and acted upon immediately. I will ask the Branch Service Officer as well as the Legion Chaplain to contact each and every Veteran in Renfrew and area at least once every two months to ensure that they and their families are being looked after. I thank all the members of the Executive Committee who have accepted the position as chair of their various committees and wish them well.

2022/23 looks to be a rebirth of activities and meetings now that the restrictions that were placed on us have been relaxed. Please take the opportunity this year to involve yourself in the activities of your Legion especially those of you who have just been welcomed into our Branch. Make yourself available when asked to do something. It doesn't take much time out of your busy schedule to keep the Legion going and to help our veterans and those of our community. Our Veterans in Renfrew County need the Legion and therefore the Legion needs you. The function of the Royal Canadian Legion is not onerous. It just needs a few minutes of your time. Please reach out and contact the office if you would like to assist in any way at the Branch.

In closing, I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank Comrade Greg and all the incredible volunteers of the Legion for their countless hours of hard work, over the past number of years. Your devotion and dedication to this great organization is truly remarkable. The leadership you have shown at all levels clearly demonstrates that we are strongest when we work together towards a common goal. I personally thank each of you for your valuable contributions.

To You in Comradeship, President-elect Bruce Ferguson

ATTENTION NEW MEMBERS! Would you like to become more involved in the Branch, but not sure who to ask or where to look? We are always looking for volunteers, for summer barbecues, assisting on selling tickets, clean-up/odd jobs around the Branch, or perhaps as a Committee member. Please leave your name and number with the office, either by email or by calling 613-432-6450. Many Hands Make Light Work!

FROM THE OFFICE: The office is now open from 8am to 4pm Monday to Wednesday and Friday. There is now a locked mailbox by the auditorium doors that is checked daily.

LAST POST: Our Deepest sympathy is expressed to the families of Ladies Auxiliary Member Ann Hisko, WWII Veteran Capt. James H Barger, CD, Associate Member Olga Llewelyn, and Past President, Ladies Auxiliary and Past President, Renfrew Silver Senior Irene Rosebrugh. If you hear of a member passing away, please contact the office and let the Secretary know so that we can be sure to include them in the next bulletin.

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will Remember Them."

If anyone knows of any local Senior veterans who are not Legion members please let the office know.

GREETINGS TO OUR HOUSEBOUND MEMBERS: A warm hello to all of our members who are unable to visit the Branch:

<u>Bonnechere Manor:</u>	Louise Snow, Elwood Stafford	<u>Mirimichi Lodge:</u>	Cecil Code
<u>Renfrew Victoria Hospital:</u>	Ruth Purdie		
<u>Island View Retirement:</u>	Bernadette Lacourse	<u>Arnprior Villa:</u>	Ben Kane

If you know of someone who should be included, please contact the office and let the Secretary know so that we can be sure to include them in the next bulletin.

PROPERTY. The property is in good shape. We are still waiting for parts in the kitchen.

Richard Fitzsimmons, Property Co-Chair

WAYS & MEANS: This will be my last report for Ways & Means. I wish to thank all who helped me over the years and your help is appreciated.

Richard Fitzsimmons, Ways & Means

YOUTH EDUCATION: Renfrew Branch will be presenting Legion Citizenship Awards to deserving students at Our Lady of Fatima School and Central Public School.

Ella Box

FINANCE/2ND VICE-PRESIDENT: June 1 is the start of a new year for our Legion. I am pleased to announce that I've been elected as 2nd Vice President for 2022/23 and will remain as Finance Chair for another year. The budget for 2021-2022 was showing a huge loss but with some Government grants and being able to be open we will end up close to breaking even. Hopefully this year will be a good year for the Legion with new members coming in with some new ideas for fundraising. I wish everyone a safe and healthy summer.

Tena Miller, Finance Chair

MEMBERSHIP: I would like to take this time to welcome all new members once again to our Legion. As we have some new events coming up, if you would like to assist by volunteering some of your time, please contact Jessica at the office (613-432-6450), or myself at 613-281-2729. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Robert Marsh, Membership Chair

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: I would like to take this opportunity to put out a call for any persons with full uniform, and if willing to be part of the color party for D-Day, please contact me at 613-281-2729, it would be greatly appreciated. ***Robert Marsh, Sergeant at Arms***

SCOUTS: Our Group Treasurer spoke with the Scouts Canada Camp Coordinator, to confirm that we are keeping the camp account separate from our group account and that we already had a camp committee. Scouts Canada requires that we need to click on the camp committee if we wish to be on the group. All camp committee members need to have WHIMS and 1st aid. To open the camp, we need to have a short- and long-term business plan, and we still need to go through Scouts Canada to book the camp, but we can set the price and if we would like to open it up to non-youth groups. As a group we voted on taking this summer to do all repairs so in the fall hoping we can start renting again. With the cabins needing a lot of work, we are looking for groups who would like to sponsor a cabin a year for renovations. As a group we would like to thank everyone for their understanding and support while we worked through some issues.

Yours in Scouting, Renfrew Group Commissioner Susan Fleming

LADIES AUXILIARY: Our June meeting is on the 28th and we will then break for the summer. If needed, I will call an Executive meeting. On September 10 we will be going to our Provincial Convention in Kingston. The September meeting will be on September 27, 2022.

2022/23 Executive:	President:	Rose LaFont
	1st Vice:	Cathy Buzzell
	2nd Vice:	Sheila Riopelle
	Secretary Treasurer:	Susan Fleming
	Sports:	Laura Warren
	Sgt- at-Arms:	Tena Miller
	Added Executive:	Lois Murphy, Cheryl Fraser, Liz Wright

Our Zone sports is starting back up with Euchre in August. If you want to play, you need to get your meetings and functions in. There are functions coming up starting with a dinner on May 30. Celebration of Life June 13. I will have papers posted in on the back of the kitchen door.

Rose LaFont, LA President

SPORTS: Just a reminder of the upcoming dart tournament for Homeless Veterans on June 11, 2022 – this is a mixed doubles tournament. Information will be coming out for the Dave Palfreyman Golf Tournament soon – keep an eye out for postings. No further information as of yet on Zone sports events, other than they are holding Zone Golf, Horseshoes, Washer Toss and I will pass along the information when I receive it. ***Greg Walbeck, Sports***

ENTERTAINMENT: Our entertainment is doing well. We are once again serving weekly meals during Saturday entertainment. Many thanks to everyone who has come to the Branch on a Saturday evening to enjoy great entertainment. Please watch our Facebook page, our website or listen to Valley Heritage Radio Coming Events for upcoming events. ***Fran Godin, Entertainment***

RENFREW LEGION SENIORS DARTS: The Renfrew Legion Seniors have taken the summer off and will be returning to the Branch in September.

BURSARY: Applications for Renfrew Branch Bursaries will be available online through the local High School Guidance Office. Branch 148 of the Royal Canadian Legion grants bursaries of \$1,000.00 to qualifying student's graduating from Grade 12 who NEED financial support. Applications must be completed in full to be considered. To be eligible for a branch bursary a student must:

Be accepted in an institution offering post-secondary training. (University/College)

- Canadian and Commonwealth War Veterans: children and grandchildren
- Ordinary members (veterans) of Legion Branch 148, their children and grandchildren.
- Students must be graduating from Renfrew Collegiate or St Joseph's High School

Deadline for applications is **June 10, 2022**.

Ella Box, Bursary Chair

BRANCH ELECTIONS: At the April 27 General Meeting, the following members were elected and installed as the 2022-2023 Executive:

President	Bruce Ferguson		
1 st Vice-President	Greg Walbeck		
2 nd Vice-President	Tena Miller		
3 rd Vice-President	Robert Marsh		
Added Executive	Rose LaFont	Diana Seeley	Debbie McDermid
	Kelly Berger	Joanie McNulty	Ron Kilby
Past President	Cheryl Babcock-McMahon		

Debbie McDermid, Nominating Committee Chair

VETERAN'S SERVICES – HIGHLIGHTS OF CONVENTION FROM SENIORS/SERVICE OFFICER CURLEY ANDREWS (Zone Convention, March 13, 2022, Deep River):

- there is a new form out for homeless veterans, changed to include the RCMP regimental number. Veterans Affairs is poised to lose hundreds of staff. They need more staff to fix the backlog. This proved to be not more than a band aid. Disability claims are now two years behind.

- Ontario is making life more affordable this tax season with tax credits for working seniors and families. For more information call 1-647-294-6166 or email Emily.hogeveen@ontario.ca. Ontario is taking further action to protect long term care and retirement homes. Veteran's caregivers may see much needed help on the horizon.

-benefits regulations have created two classes of veterans: Before April 1, 2006 the benefits are under the Pension Act; those approved after come under the New Veterans Charter/Veterans Wellbeing Act.

- new mental health is priority for veterans. CAMFT- Canadian Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. Senior veterans and all other seniors are having troubles on food safety so I have put in your package for how long a period of time you can keep food in the fridge and storage freezer times.

- our Public Service Health Care Plan is paid by Sun Life. This will change in July 2023. Your positive enrolment information will be transferred to Canada Life prior to July 1, 2023. Remember until June 30, 2023 to continue to send your claims and request to Sun Life.

- reminder there is a new website called "Let's Talk Veterans". Terms of reference for Branch Service Officers and guide book 2021.

- procedures to be followed in the event of the death of a Canadian Forces pensioner or survivor.

PATRICIA ROYLE VISIT: Patricia Royle (Provincial Service Officer) will be commencing her visits to various branches in the area the week of June 20. If you wish to speak to Patricia, please contact the office (613-432-6450) or Comrade Bill McLeod (613-649-2973) to set up an appointment.

REPORT OF SPRING 2022 DISTRICT G CONVENTION: The Spring Convention was held at Branch 297 in Cornwall, on April 22, 23, 24, and attended by Comrades Carmen & Ella Box and Rob Marsh. District Commander Ken Heagle welcomed 103 accredited delegates, 9 observers, and 4 guests, for total of 116. Ontario Provincial President Gary Pond was our guest speaker. Some highlights: Personality conflicts/issues is the biggest complaint in Ontario. Veteran License Plates must be approved at Ontario Command. Submissions needed for the Military Recognition Book. A resolution was presented by Br. 406 Barry's Bay in regard to an increase in annual meal allowance for veterans from \$25.00 to \$30.00. The District Sports Chair encouraged Branches to return to holding sporting events. He reminded the Zone to send out District Sports Posters out to Branches as they may have members who wish to participate. There was a very informative seminar on "Leadership & Development" presented by Comrade Rob Fernell Chair of District L & D. Topics discussed were leadership, training, how to better provide information throughout the Branch, and how to effectively report at meetings. Roundtable discussion was about "Finding Volunteers". District officers gave reports, and throughout these reports many Branches made donations to the various Legion programs for a total of approx. \$200,000.00. Elections took place, with Ken Heagle elected District Commander, and Ty Seeley elected 1st Deputy Commander and Don Swerdfager as 2nd District Commander. Upcoming Dates of Note: Service Officer/Poppy workshop Seminar will be held the first weekend in October in Smiths Falls. Legion Week is September 18 to 24, 2022. Notice of Motion: to hold two conventions per year, voted in favour by delegates. Fall Convention will be hosted by Gananoque, or Br. 560 Kingston. Spring Convention will be in Pembroke on April 14, 15, 16, 2023.

Submitted by Ella Box

CONSTITUTION & LAWS & RESOLUTIONS: Comrade Derek Moore was elected Ontario Provincial Command President, at the recent Provincial Convention held in North Bay. Several resolutions were debated at the convention; we will receive more information on these at a later date. Amendments to Ontario Branch By-Laws over the last three years were ratified at the convention.

Ella Box

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Please keep our June calendar handy for information, and feel free to review our Facebook page (Royal Canadian Legion Br. 148 Renfrew) or our website (www.renfrewlegionbr148.ca) for current information.

Debbie McDermid, PRO

June 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Hall: Club 51, 1pm Hall: Bingo, 7pm, main hall	2	3 Weekly Meat Draw in Lounge, 3:15 New! Lounge Summer Hours Friday, 12-9	4 MIRACLE AT DUNKIRK (1940) Entertainment: BlackJack, 4- 8pm, Lounge Hall: Stag & Doe, 8pm
5 CANADIAN ARMED FORCES DAY	6 NORMANDY INVASION (D-DAY) (1944) D-Day Wreath Laying at Cenotaph, 11am	7 Hall: Foot Clinic	8 Hall: Club 51, 1pm	9	10 Weekly Meat Draw in Lounge, 3:15 Lounge Summer Hours Friday, 12- 9 Hall Reserved	11 Hall: Homeless Veteran's Dart Tournament Entertainment: Debenhams, 4- 8pm, Lounge
12	13 Hall: Celebration of Life Executive, 7pm	14 WORLD BLOOD DONOR DAY Hall: Foot Clinic	15 Hall: Retirement Party	16	17 Weekly Meat Draw in Lounge, 3:15 Lounge Summer Hours Friday, 12- 9	18 Hall: Gold Buying Event Entertainment: Country Reflections, 4- 8pm, Lounge
19 FATHER'S DAY	20	21 NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY Hall: Blood Donor Clinic	22 Hall: Club 51, 1pm General Meeting, 7pm (final until September)	23	24 Weekly Meat Draw in Lounge, 3:15 Lounge Summer Hours Friday, 12- 9 Hall: Birthday Party	25 Hall Rented: Celebration of Life Entertainment: Unwound, 4-8pm, Lounge
26	27 CANADIAN MULTICULTURALISM DAY	28 Hall: Foot Clinic LA Meeting, 7pm	29 Hall: Club 51, 1pm	30		