

CASE STATEMENT

THE PROJECTS: The Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 176 Forest is undertaking a significant plan to complete repairs and several upgrades of the Branch's facility located in Forest. The current plan, Building Refurbishment and Upgrading 2024 includes: (1) repairs and remediation of the north exterior masonry wall; (2) refinishing (painting) of most interior public spaces; (3) refurbishing of the wood sports floor; (4) flooring replacements; and (5) upgrading of all interior lighting to energy efficient lighting systems.

These projects will be a facelift and refurbishment for a facility that has served the community since 1977. As members of the Forest Legion have done for the past, we must continue to improve and enhance this unique facility for the benefit of our entire community. The current campaign goal is \$250,000.

These improvements will continue to offer a facility that is usable, safe and welcoming, effective, efficient and aesthetically pleasing. The Forest Legion is considered by people to be "a special place" in our community and we believe these needed enhancements will continue to bring people to our Legion facility for years to come.

Our facility is more than just a simple building. Operated by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 176 Forest, it holds a unique and special place in the community. It is a place of remembrance with space and activities designed to remember those that have given their lives for us. It is a people place that provides opportunities throughout the year for families and people of all ages, sexual and ethnic orientation for professional and personal activities. It is a social gathering place that hosts meetings for various organizations and sports groups, wedding and celebration of life receptions, family gatherings, shuffleboard, cornhole, horseshoe, card and dart clubs, special breakfasts, and dinners. It is an educational place that hosts organizations that provide support to seniors, special interest groups such as Probus including guest speakers. It has been designated as an Evacuation Centre by Lambton Shores in the case of a declared emergency. It is a community place that brings people together.

With the completion of our plan, our facility will be positioned to move confidently into the future by offering an updated space that will be available through the Forest Legion to the entire community. The projects will ensure our building meets the expectations of all who might use it as well as public health, safety and accessibility expectations.

RATIONALE FOR THE NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS:

- general enhancements to meet public expectations of the facility.
 - ensure public health, safety and accessibility requirements.
 - meet ever increasing demand for facility use and rentals for a wide variety of events and groups.
 - increased energy efficiency; and
 - provide opportunities for youth training and education.
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