

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION KINGSWAY BRANCH #175
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY 28 MARCH 2023

The President opened the meeting by ritual at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was chaired by Comrade L MacIntosh

ROLL CALL:

Present: Comrades R. Torrie, Ferguson, Etmanski, R. Wills, C. Wills, J. Hyshka, Fecteau, Walsh, Deugau, Criss, Finch, Nelson

Excused: Comrade Sean Danyi (hospital) Morrill (sick), Hyshka (personal), Wiebe

Absent:

Guests:

LAST POST

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Age</u> | <u>Deceased</u> | <u>Service (if applicable)</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Wayne Garritty | 84 years | 16/March/2023 | |

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA:

Motion: to accept the agenda were made by Comrade E MacIntosh
Seconded by Comrade K. Earles

CARRIED

Motion: To adopt the minutes was made by Comrade E MacIntosh
Seconded by Comrade D Claggett

CARRIED

PRESENTATION:

Comrade Ron Charlet – 45 year pin

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING DATING 28 FEBRUARY 2023

Motion: To accept the minutes was made by Comrade Foote
Seconded by Comrade O'Brien

CARRIED

Errors or Omissions: None

Business Arising: None

Motion: To adopt the minutes was made by Comrade Simon
Seconded by Comrade King

CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURER: Comrade R. Wills

Financial Committee:

The 2022 Audit review is underway don't expect a report until early May 2023
We are still low on fund and have to control our spending over the next few months.

Motion: that we employ Jamie Araujo of Ellis Group LLP to complete our 2022 Year End Audit for an amount not to exceed \$9,000.00 00 including GST

Seconded by Comrade Fecteau

CARRIED

BMO Business Proposal

We can have as many accounts as we need at no cost

The mortgage balance \$1,520,000 will be transferred to BMO at Prime +1.27 = 7.97% Monthly payment of \$5066.67 + interest. Currently we are paying \$10,151 and an interest of \$4,698.51.

We are trying to get it amortized for 25 years, which will lower the payments. We can pay down the principle at any time with no fee.

The \$80,000 Operating Demand Loan interest at 6.7 + 0.29 = 7.99%. Currently it is 6.7 + 0.5 = 7.2%.

We can have two company credit cards for a total balance of \$25,000.

Cost of moving to BMO

Application Fee \$2,350.00

Paying of both the Branch & BMO legal fees approx. \$4,000.00. This cost can be covered by the first month's saving on our mortgage.

We have found a Lawyer willing to handle our legal requirements at a reduced rate.

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade Lalonde

CARRIED

Motion: Comrade R Wills motion that Kingsway Branch 175 move their banking from Servus Credit Union to BMO effective 1 May 2023.

Seconded by Comrade Lalonde

CARRIED

Kitchen Report

I have completed the new pricing for the canteen. The prices will go up Apr 3.

WAYS & MEANS: Comrade Criss

Family Attraction Pass for West Edmonton Mall has been cancelled and patrons who has bought tickets as agreed to switch the money to our new current raffle. Our new current raffle is a \$500.00 gift card for either Safeway, Sobeys, Save- On Foods, or Walmart. So far I am happy to say sales are going well.

I submitted a New Horizons Grant for \$25,000.00 and an CIP grant for \$30,000. Waiting for confirmation on both. The New Horizons Grant is geared more towards a new POS system and some small network upgrades with what is left over. The CIP grant is going for the new speaker and sound system for the banquet rooms while the CIP grant will be to redo the sound system in both banquet rooms. The CIOG grant now also has come due and is working on it.

We had 198 people at the Music bingo on 25 March, great turn out and great fun.

The next Music bingo's are scheduled for

April 29th 80's Version 3

May 27th 80's Version 4

June 17th all era's

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade S Charlet

CARRIED

MEMBERSHIP: Comrade C. Wills reported that we have 1359 members in good standing.

| <u>Ordinary</u> | <u>Associate</u> | <u>Affiliate</u> | <u>Life Members</u> |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 504 | 486 | 342 | 27 |

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade Simon

CARRIED

NEW MEMBERS: Comrade C. Wills – 16 New Applications 1 Transfer 2 Reinstatement

| <u>Ordinary</u> | <u>Associate</u> | <u>Affiliate</u> |
|-----------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Roth, Melvin | Grande, Michelle | Pryor, Kenneth |
| Hooks, Terry | Kollesavich, Francesca | |
| Taylor, Cheryl | McCormack, Wilfred | |
| Wood, Brian | Alm, Gregory | |
| Thomas, Shane | Thomas, Ann Denise | |
| Zanger, Helmut | Hemmings, Tanya | |
| | Gaigneur, James | |
| | Alexander, Leona | |
| | Ferguson, Derric | |

Transfer:

| <u>Ordinary</u> | <u>Associate</u> | <u>Affiliate</u> |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | Hindle, Paula | |
| | Nanaimo, BC Br 256 | |

REINSTATE

Ordinary

Associate

Affiliate

Jordon, John Milton

Troppmann, Lloyd

For a total of 19

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade Lawrence

CARRIED

PUBLICITY: Comrade R Wills reported

The website was updated today and we have had 5,200 hits the past 30 days. The upcoming event now have an Eventbrite link on the poster for easier ticket purchases. Carol Simon is keeping busy getting the Apr newsletter ready to send out next week.

A concern was raised that the website is not being updated on regular bases. Comrade R. Wills will address the issues with Comrade Morrell.

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade P Earles

CARRIED

SPORTS: Comrade Nelson had no report.

MOTION: to amend (Sports criteria)

1: All participants will initially pay their own accommodations. IF YOU QUALIFY you will be reimbursed as follows.

Para la to now read.

Kingsway Legion will cover accommodation expenses for up to two nights and fuel expenses for one vehicle round trip with receipts for Command Sports. You must have been a member in good standing of Kingsway Legion Branch 175 for a minimum of a full calendar year.

Any exceptions to above will be reviewed by Sports rep. the decision will be final.

(b) upon return from event, participants will submit their receipts for reimbursement to sports officer for approval.

(c) The branch does not pay for the following,

i SPARES

ii SPOUSES

2: If the District or Alberta/NWT Command sport is being held at a distance of 150 Km or less from Kingsway branch and you wish to stay overnight it will be at your own expense.

EXCEPTIONS will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Seconded by Comrade K Earles

CARRIED

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Comrade W. Hyshka reported

Snow removal, garbage and cigarette butts

Reinforced stage extension

Assisted where needed

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade O'Brien

CARRIED

HISTORIAN: Comrade Deugau

Ladies Auxiliary's 75th Anniversary in May. I will be setting up a display to honor the Ladies.

Comrade Criss and Comrade R. Wills reminded that displays should be put up to honor the U.N 75th Anniversary and the R.C.M.P 150th.

Addendum – if anyone would like to volunteer help in setting up these displays.

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade Gwilliam

CARRIED

SICK & VISTING: Comrade C. Wills

Let us all please remember that Comrade Sean Danyi (our chairman) is very ill and in the hospital. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family.

ENTERTAINMENT & SPECIAL EVENTS: Comrade J. Hyshka

Upcoming dates and bands are as follows:

March 31/April 1 – Steppin Out

April 8 – Trick Ryder

April 14/15 – Trick Ryder

April 21/22 – Dean Henry

April 28/29 – Trick Ryder

Our Viva Drag Vegas was a very successful event and our profit was \$3,636.74. Thank you to all the volunteers 😊. Upcoming special events are as follows:

2nd Annual Ukrainian Dinner

Sunday, April 30, 2023

Cost \$25.00

Reserved seating Only

Tickets on sale until Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Edmonton Eats & Kingsway Legion Present
Cooking Around the Globe – Destination Morocco and Libya
May 6, 2023
Tickets: \$25.00
Doors open at 5:00 pm
The adventure and dinner start at 5:30 pm

Alan Jackson & Friends
Friday, May 12, 2023
Dinner and Show - \$55.00
Show only: \$30.00
Doors open at 5:00
Dinner from 5:30 to 6:30
Show at 7:00

Mother's Day Special High Tea
Sunday, May 14, 2023
2 sittings 12:00 pm and 2:00 pm
\$25.00 per guest

Upcoming Events

A Tribute to the King
Featuring Bruce Stewart as Elvis
More details to come

I so move my report
Seconded by Comrade K Earles

CARRIED

POPPY: Comrade Finch reported
ABNWT Command issued an updated directive & form for Veteran financial assistance, highlight is the increase per incident from \$350 → \$600 per assist from branch resources. I attended GEPF monthly meeting & it was agreed to update the “Terms of Reference (ToR)” with a sense of urgency to include this new directive within the “ToR” & too also ensure local branch’s Petty cash Poppy Funds for emergency assistance increase from \$1000 to \$1500. Kingsway & Norwood Legion presidents are overseeing the creation of new ToR & Kingsway Legion Poppy Chair is managing & sharing out created document for edits & comments. With the Kingsway Service Officer on leave I stood in for assistance inquiries. I issued (upon Executive approval) \$300 in grocery cards for one individual (who was directed to us via Command Service Officer for emergency assistance while they work on this individual’s claim), coordinated assistance with “VETS Canada.org” for the assistance of another who required more immediate emergency housing assist (which was successful). I also assisted 2 veterans with contact information for the Command Service Officer to have disability pension claims updated or revisited.

I so move my report
Seconded by Comrade Charlet

CARRIED

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT: Comrade Walsh

Completed four requests for assistance from the Poppy Fund, including two requests for grocery and two for assistance with rent and utilities bills. Total of \$600.00 in Grocery Cards distributed.

Provided assistance to two veterans in completing documentation for disability pensions, both individuals were also referred to command service officer for follow-up. I would like to thank Comrade Finch for covering for me while I was on holidays.

I so move my report
Seconded by Comrade P Earles

CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS & BYLAWS: Comrade Ferguson – No report

The Command Bylaws have been updated and are online under AB/NWT.ca/publications

HONOURS & AWARDS: Comrade Fecteau

Once again, I'm reminding you, the membership, that there are a number of members that deserve recognition for their many volunteer hours within the Branch that deserve recognition. Yet unfortunately, no one has put forward any names or type of award to be considered.

If you know of a person or persons who deserve recognition, please submit their name and a small writeup of their volunteer work.

Motion: Kingsway Legion Branch 175 submit a request to AB/NWT Command for a Media Award to 100.3 FM the Bear, for their assistance in helping us raise \$85,000.

Comrade Fecteau – I am nominating Comrade Carol Wills for a Life membership. As you know she has been the Executive secretary for the last several years, she does all the baking that is required to support this Branch. She spends hours and days working in many different jobs within this Legion, I have seen her work 7 days a week for a month at a time. Comrade Carol is also our Membership Chairman.

I so move my report
Seconded by Comrade R Charlet

CARRIED

Motion: I so move that Comrade Carol Wills' name be submitted to AB/NWT Command for a Life Membership

Seconded by Comrade J Hyshka

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE: Comrade C. Wills advised the membership that Edmonton did not submit any Poppy Posters or Poems. She will post the Command Level Winners 2022-2023 Poster Competition ALBERTA-NWT on the notice board for those that would like to read who the winners are.

CADET LIAISON OFFICER: Presented by Comrade Fecteau

I was invited to the 504 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadrons Chintzy parade held on Wednesday March 22nd.

This is when the senior cadets receive their challenge coining. The parade was well attended by family and guests

There was also two senior cadets leaving the squadron as this is mandatory when they reach the age of nineteen, no matter what time of the year.

It is complementary to have these cadets take the reviewing stand to be honored by a squadron march past.

The Squadron is doing very well strength wise and looking forward to their annual review.

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend our other units due to other business.

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade R Charlet

CARRIED

SGT-AT-ARMS: Comrade Etmanski

I have received a request from Canterbury Court to reserve the Color Party for Tuesday Nov 7th. On Saturday April 1st, we have a funeral here and I am asking for maximum participation .

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade Simon

CARRIED

LADIES AUXILIARY: Comrade K. Earles

The Ladies Auxiliary has their Easter Raffle, bake sale and craft sale, ham and turkey and 50/50 on Saturday April 1st. The bake and craft sale starts at 11:00 AM. If you have baking or crafts to donate please bring between 10:00 AM and 11:00 AM. For the ham and turkey meat raffle tickets go on sale at 1:00 PM as usual. We will be having a champagne breakfast bonus prize. The Easter Raffle draws will take place right after the 50/50 draw. Thank you for supporting our raffle, sales and meat draws.

The Ladies Auxiliary will continue with our "Button Bingo's". We will continue the second Saturday of the months from September to May inclusive. Our next two are April 8th and May 13th.

We are celebrating our 75th anniversary this year. Look for our display in the foyer in April! Thank you to the Legion for the display opportunity.

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade S Charlet

CARRIED

LEST WE FORGET: Comrade V. Torrie

The Lest We Forget Concert Committee met at Kingsway Legion on March 2, 2023. This meeting was treated like the December year end meeting, since the previous meetings were canceled.

Bank balance as of January 31, 2023 is \$7,896.34. The balance owing on the 2022 concert was \$2,939.00 and a cheque was issued and delivered to CMS. We were also asking CMS for the breakdown on the types of tickets that were sold.

A discussion was held on last years concert and where to hold the next concert. We are looking into other venues.

Our Chairman and the Ways & Means representative are stepping down and elections will be held in April. A special thank you to all who volunteered during the event and especially to the two ladies from the Gibbon's L.A.

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade P Earles

CARRIED

KIPNESS CENTRE No report

VETERAN'S VILLA No report

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Comrade Torrie

Veterans Ombud Colonel (Ret'd) Nishika Jardine came to the Kingsway Legion on March 1st, for a town hall meeting and gave an opportunity for her and her office to hear the "concerns of Veterans and their families face to face" enabling them "to better serve them". She said "I want to hear directly from them and their experiences with Veteran Affairs Canada (VAC): what works and what needs improvement as they access available programs and benefits".

The Office of the Veterans Ombud reviews complaints and challenges the policies and decisions of VAC where they find individual or systemic unfairness.

Remember to use our Legion's Service Officer, the Legion's Command Service Officers as well as the Ombud's office, to help with filling in forms or answer any questions you may have regarding your VAC account.

Please read the veterans Bill of rights posted on the hallway wall. And if you know of a Veteran who may need help contact our Service Officer.

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade R Charlet

CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Parking – a member asked if the Legion was going to repaint the parking lines
We are looking at this unfortunately, money is an issue at this time.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD & WELFARE OF KINGSWAYS BRANCH # 175

From Comrade Dan Doyle – Edmonton Police Service (Ret'd)

A couple of things I would like to mention, this is not official because the Chief's Office never asked me to speak on this but a couple of people did.

The things that the Kingsway Legion did on behalf of the EPS that they were very impressed with include:

1. Lowering the flags – It is well known that the Legion is a Federal organization not Provincial nor Municipal. However, being two doors down from the Northeast Division, they were very grateful to see the Legion's flags come down during the time that we were dealing with our issues.
2. The Legion allowed everyone to park here yesterday. At least 50% of the people were not from the Northeast division they were people who lived near by, and we were all told do not take your vehicle down to the Legislature as you will not be able to park. But the Legion jumped up and said "park your cars here and all the buses left from Northeast division to take us down to the Legislature and bring us back here. Which was awesome and everyone really appreciated this.
3. One of the most important things was the Legion was open, it was open to the public, open to the membership after the funeral ceremonies. It took longer than we thought as we had a lot more people show up to march, so took longer to get into Rogers Place, so in turn the funerals last longer. From our point of view we wanted to come back from there to here as soon as we could (Debbie & I) as is our home turf, as in volunteering and coming in as regulars here. We wanted to come back in our dress uniforms and spend our time here, unfortunately we had a lot of people from out of town police officers that we used to know in Edmonton moved into other departments, they had come into town and they wanted to see us. By the time we came back there were very few of you left here. But the ones we did speak with some retired people, they were very grateful to the Legion once again for once again opening your doors and hearts to us. Thank you very much.

RCMP Mess Dinner

We had the RCMP reach out to us, they want to have a formal Mess dinner for 200 people. We may have to rent some tables, get lots of volunteers and we need to give them a quote. We have reached out to them and asked what they are looking for i.e beef dinner or chicken dinner so we can give them a quote.

Comrade S. Charlet suggested that we reach out to the Cadet for food servers.

50/50

Winning number 148242 Amount \$85.00

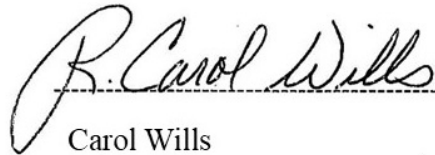
Winner Claude Lalonde

Motion: To adjourn was made by Comrade E MacIntosh
The President closed the meeting by ritual.

The meeting adjourned at 9 P.M



Robert "Mac" Torrie
President
Kingsway Legion Branch #175



Carol Wills
Executive Secretary
Kingsway Legion Branch #175