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Governor General Mary Simon presented The Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers to Br. 43 Oshawa Sgt.-at-Arms Stewart (Stu) Jarvis at Rideau Hall, Sussex Dr. Ottawa Thurs. April 23/26 11a.m. Stewart retired from the Royal

GREAT THINGS HAPPENING AT YOUR LOCAL LEGION

Canadian Mounted Police in 1986. Stu has been volunteering with service providers and groups connected to the organizations he worked for throughout his career. Stu is involved with supporting veterans and many community events. The Royal Canadian Legion is essential for supporting Canadian veterans, promoting remembrance, and serving communities nationwide. With over 1,350 branches, they advocate for veteran benefits, provide financial aid, assist with PTSD, and manage the Poppy

Campaign to honour military sacrifices. Founded in 1925, the Legion is Canada's largest veteran-based community service organization. Key areas of importance include:

Support for Veterans & Families: The Legion ensures veterans get necessary benefits from Veterans Affairs Canada, provides financial assistance, helps with mental health services, and works to get homeless veterans off the streets.

Promoting Remembrance: Through the

annual Poppy Campaign and managing Remembrance Day services, the Legion ensures the sacrifices of Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP members are not forgotten.

Community Support: Legion branches serve as community hubs, providing spaces for gathering and funding local initiatives, such as youth sports programs, seniors' services, and local charities.

Advocacy: They act as a strong voice for modern-day veterans, lobbying the government for better support

systems and addressing the needs of newer generations of veterans.

With nearly 260,000 members, the organization connects military history to local community life, keeping the tradition of service and patriotism alive.

The Maple Ridge Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion was established by Charter in 1927. It has grown to be the largest and most successful branch in Canada with over 2000 members,

two buildings and assets of over \$50 million dollars.

Funding to fulfill our mission is provided through a number of sources, including: Membership dues are determined at the Branch level and help support Branch operations. Dues are typically between \$50-\$70 per member per year.

Legion membership is open to any Canadian citizen or citizen of an Allied nation who is 18 years of age or older.

Major Milestone on G7's First Small Modular Reactor

CLARINGTON – As part of its plan to protect Ontario and build a more competitive, resilient and self-reliant economy, the Ontario government reached a major construction milestone on the G7's first Small Modular Reactor (SMR). Today, at the CNA2026 Conference, Minister Stephen Lecce announced that a 2.1-million-pound Basemat module for the Unit 1 SMR was lifted and installed at the Darlington New Nuclear Project site. This precision lift, the equivalent of lifting more than three Airbus A380 airliners, was executed by one of the world's largest crawler cranes, lowering the material within millimetre precision and represents the first foundation of a new nuclear reactor to be built in Ontario in over 30 years. Once complete, the Darlington New Nuclear Project's four SMRs will produce 1,200 megawatts (MW) of electricity, enough to power 1.2 million homes. "Ontario is building the Western World's first Small Modular Reactor — creating 18,000 good-paying jobs," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines. "Ontario just executed with great precision the first foundation of a new nuclear reactor in Ontario in over 30 years. This is a major achievement as the world turns to Ontario to refurbish and build large scale nuclear on-time and on-budget. For the first time,

Ontario has secured over 100 Ontario-based businesses to help build the components for SMRs, infusing over \$500 million into Ontario's economy. Our government is deeply committed to building more in Canada, which is why we are proud to invest at least 80 per cent of every dollar in the Canadian supply chain." In addition, the government is announcing that more than 100 Canadian companies have signed onto the SMR supply chain. Building on the more than 80 northern and rural Ontario companies that have already signed agreements with Ontario Power Generation and its partners to deliver this first-of-its-kind project, sixteen new Ontario-based companies, and six companies from Quebec and Alberta have joined the supply chain to support the SMR builds. Recently awarded contracts include:

Walters Group, based in Hamilton, has been awarded a \$44.5 million contract for structural steel.

Marmon Industrial Water, based in Toronto, has been awarded a \$17.8 million contract for a condensate purification package.

Tractel, based in Scarborough, has been awarded a \$9.9 million contract for the reactor building weather enclosure.

Hooper Welding, based in Oakville, has been awarded an \$8.8 million contract for sampling and collection

tanks. The construction, operation and maintenance of the four units will add \$38.5 billion to Canada's GDP over the next 65 years. The government has worked with Ontario Power Generation to ensure that 80 per cent of project spending goes to Ontario companies and that construction and operations will protect Ontario workers and jobs by sustaining an estimated 3,800 highly-skilled, good-paying jobs for the next 65 years.

"With the foundation of the first Small Modular Reactor at the Darlington New Nuclear Project in place, we are now able to begin building up, with the project team now advancing construction on the reactor building's structure, internal systems and components," said Nicolle Butcher, OPG President and CEO. "This was a milestone months in the making, requiring significant attention to detail and safety, as well as the hard work of dedicated trades and project partners from across Ontario." Within Canada, the Ontario government and OPG are collaborating with power companies in Alberta, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Yukon and Nova Scotia as they work towards the potential deployment of SMRs in their jurisdictions. Around the world, the government has helped secure job-creating agreements that deploy made-in-Ontario components to build SMRs

for the world.

SMRs play a central role in Energy for Generations, the government's first-ever integrated energy plan to ensure Ontario has the reliable, affordable power it needs to power new homes and drive economic growth. The government's integrated approach and record investments in energy infrastructure are also providing the certainty needed for Indigenous communities, municipalities, businesses and industry partners to invest confidently in Ontario's future. With a clear path forward, the plan is not only meeting the demands of today, but it is protecting jobs, supporting workers and powering economic growth for generations to come.

"This milestone at the Darlington New Nuclear Site marks a new chapter for Ontario's energy future. The successful installation of the SMR basemat not only reflects world-class engineering and precision, but also signals our commitment to reliable, clean power that will support over a million homes. With a growing made-in-Ontario supply chain and strong local partnerships, this project is helping to drive economic growth, create skilled jobs, and position our province as a global leader in innovative nuclear technology."

- Todd McCarthy MPP for Durham



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