

Comrades,

I feel honoured to be granted the privilege to serve as President for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of what I believe is one of the most successful Branches in Alberta.

Kingsway Branch # 175 continues to welcome all Veterans and their dependants ensuring all Veterans are aware of programs and supports available to them through The Royal Canadian Legion. Remembering that, we have also opened our doors and welcome anyone who shares the values of The Royal Canadian Legion.

A member is a member is a member and is welcome here. We are no longer an "old boys club" If we wish to remain open we must make all members feel not only welcome but proud to be part of our great organization.

I would like to thank all members of the past executive for all their hard work and countless hours they have put in over the year. Carol Simon & Vicky Torrie.

I welcome those Legion Members that have stepped forward and picked up the torch and offered to serve as members of this year's executive. I look forward to working with you in ensuring our member's welfare are looked after.

In the 35 years of volunteering I have learned that the only way to make changes it to do it from within. So, get involved, come to meetings, share your ideas, participate in the various activities or events run by your Legion.

Last year, we enhanced our organizational structure to better align with our members' needs and capitalize on our strengths while developing new opportunities. We will continue to implement plans to increase the level of service to our members while trying to keep costs to a minimum.

We will continue to support the Veterans Villa, Kipnes Centre, 504 (Blatchford Field) Air Cadet Sqn RCACS, 180 (Field 20th Fld Regt RCA) RCACC, #55 CB Hill Navy League Cadet Corps, and 1809 RCACC (Loyal Edmonton Regiment).

Within every branch of this great organization, volunteers are the backbone of success. We owe a debt of gratitude to all the volunteers, too numerous to name here who give of their time in so many ways to ensure that their Legion remains solvent. Without the gift of time donated by our volunteers the cost of operations could financially cripple our branch.

Kingsway Legion Branch #175, like all legions, have a Not-For-Profit status. As such, we are still subject to AGLC regulations on use of lottery funds. Our operating cost include licensing costs, entertainment taxes, provincial & municipal taxes, federal taxes including CPP, EI, and WCB payments. In addition, building maintenance costs at our branch amounts to over \$1,3000 a month. Without the gift of time donated the cost of operations could financially cripple our branch.

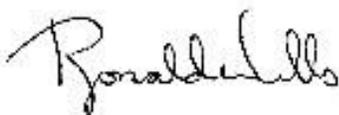
The Ladies Auxiliary are an integral part any legion and we are lucky to have our dedicated members. Through their support we are able to upgrade much needed equipment or pay down our mortgage.

We have recently started emailing a monthly newsletter. If you are not getting it could be one of two reasons; we don't have your email address on file or you are not in good standing. Please update your records with the front desk. This coupled with our website you should be up to date on what's happening in and around the Legion.

I wish to express my sincere and heartfelt thanks and look forward to another successful year as your president.

Support your Legion and join us for fun and camaraderie.

Yours in Comradeship,



Ron Wills, CD  
President  
Kingsway Legion

