

**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION KINGSWAY BRANCH #175**  
**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING**  
**TUESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2021**

The President opened the meeting by ritual at 6:45 p.m. Comrade MacIntosh chaired the meeting.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Comrades Fecteau, Kuervers, Ferguson, R. Wills, C. Wills, Deugau, R. Torrie, Earles, Criss, Etmanski, Biddscombe, Rayfield, Werner, Forner, Wiebe, MacIntosh

**Excused:**

**Absent:**

**Guests:** Comrade V. Torrie, K. Earles

**LAST POST**

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>AGE</u></b>	<b><u>DECEASED</u></b>	<b><u>SERVICE</u></b>
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**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA:**

Motion to accept the agenda was made by Comrade Kuervers.  
Seconded by Comrade Deugau

**CARRIED**

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING DATED: 19 JANUARY 2021**

**Motion:** To accept the minutes was made by Comrade Earles  
Seconded by Comrade Kuervers

**CARRIED**

**ERRORS OR OMISSIONS:** None

**BUSINESS ARISING:** None

**Motion:** To adopt the minutes was made by Comrade Ferguson  
Seconded by Comrade Rayfield

**CARRIED**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FINANCIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:** Comrade Kuervers  
Legion Finance Committee Notes:

Attended:

Steve Kuervers (Chair)  
Gary Forner (Treasurer)  
Ron Wills (Member)

Record of Discussion:

1. Meeting was open at 1300 on 13 Feb 2021.
2. Chair discussed current finances, in an open forum, discussing mortgage payments, the current bills and funding benefits being applied for. We also discussed the Bookkeepers and Branch Manager's recommendations regarding the building and mortgage.
3. Treasurer did not have a finance report to present as the Bookkeeper was on leave due to his wife giving birth.
4. New Business.
  - a. Budget. With the rapidly changing business environment, it was decided to defer the budget until we stabilize into a routine. This should be confirmed at the executive as the following motion:
  - b. Sub-entity tax. We discussed the potential need to ask the LA and the Sports leagues for funding, in an extreme emergency. It was agreed that this would be deferred to occur only as a last resort, and as a deliberate decision by the Executive.
  - c. Mortgage extension. We discussed the possibility of renegotiating the mortgage for a 35-year term, to drop the price of the monthly payments. The potential risk and extreme impact on our long-term interest payments were factors we discussed. The committee unanimously confirmed that we should defer any mortgage renegotiations until finances required a revisit. After a discussion about a specific review date, it was decided to not set a review date on this topic.
  - d. Comrade Vicki Torrie has provided a fundraising check against the principal of the mortgage.
  - e. Longer term mortgage payment plan. As we move forward, the committee agreed that once our finances stabilize and we are back into routine revenue generating activities, we would look at standardizing the mortgage payment to being a consistent amount, without the reduction in principle owed each month. This would pay down the mortgage quicker as each month the extra funds would go against the principal, reducing the number of years until the mortgage was paid off. Essentially, it would be a monthly version of the 'principal payment' fundraising that is done by V. Torrie.

6. Next meeting: 13 March 2021 at 1300 at the Branch.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade R. Torrie

**CARRIED**

**Motion:** "I move, as finance committee chair, that Kingsway Legion defer the creation of a budget until such time as the finance committee feels that a written budget will be useful in the changing financial environment, or until a budget is required for fiduciary or regulatory purposes."

Seconded by Comrade R. Torrie

**CARRIED**

**TREASURER:** Comrade Forner No Report

**WAYS AND MEANS:** Comrade Criss

On January 16, 2021 Submitted for the CIOG grant for approximately \$4,573.61. So far to date, other grants still on hold, but as 2 grants became open now hoping others will follow soon.

The online 50/50 as of this afternoon is at \$ 2,820 with plus the \$1,500 for from Mazatlán bringing the total so far to \$4,320 with 6 days left.

The new online 50/50 is up and going the link is <https://rafflebox.ca/raffle/rclegion175> easy steps to follow just click the link and fill in the blanks. Next online raffle will take place starting on April 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>st</sup> with draw date of Saturday May 8, 2021. Want to thank everyone for the support of the raffles while we struggle through the covid-19 era.

So far, no word on bingo dates. We did our first virtual bingo on January 30, 2021. We supplied 3 people and was a good turn out online. Once Bingos open, we will be looking again for more volunteers. Please contact me Steve Criss at 780 278 1263 or by email at [steve.criss@kingswaylegion.ca](mailto:steve.criss@kingswaylegion.ca) I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade R. Wills

**CARRIED**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Comrade C. Wills reported that we have 865 members

Ordinary	Associate	Affiliate	Life Members
369	269	175	25

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade Ferguson

**CARRIED**

**NEW MEMBERS:** New Applications          Transfers          Reinstatement

Ordinary

Associate

Affiliate

YOUNG, Diana

**TRANSFERS**

Ordinary

Associate

Affiliate

**REINSTATEMENTS**

Ordinary

Associate

Affiliate

For a total of 1

Motion: Comrade Wills moves that we accept these individuals for processing into our Branch.

Seconded by Comrade Rayfield

**CARRIED**

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade Earles

**CARRIED**

**New Members Who Signed a Declaration:** None

**PUBLICITY:** Comrade Wills reported Website had 393 visitors this month and was last updated 14 Feb.

I am currently working on the March Newsletter; if you want something add I must have it by this Sat Feb 20th.

Stan Hawkins will be looking after our Facebook account.

Goggle My Business we had 286 visitors and a rating of 4.5 out of a possible 5. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Earles

**CARRIED**

**SPORTS:** Comrade Ferguson reported: Sports are still not being played due to COVID 19. The Meat Draws have started up again and we ask that everyone check the sheet to see when it is their turn to do the Meat Draw. Those who didn't do their turn due to the Branch closure will do them starting in September 2021.

If anyone has seen the keys for the Pool Tables please let Florence Werner, Branch Manager know immediately. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Etmanski

**CARRIED**

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:** Comrade R. Torrie

The main parking lot was cleared prior to the re-opening of the Branch. There was a refrigerator

fluid leak with the beer cooler in the canteen, which was found and repaired (on the roof). The cooler in the kitchen required repairs as well. The thermostat set points were replaced in the three porch heaters.

A reminder that it behoves" ALL" members and guests to mind their step when entering or leaving the Branch, as well as in the parking lot after a new snowfall, due to the fact that there may be ice or packed snow underneath (This is Edmonton in the winter). I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Earles

**CARRIED**

**HISTORIAN:** Comrade Deugau reported: We are still trying to put together the Loyal Edmonton Regiment display.

In the near future I would like to do a display on the RCMP during war. Comrade Kuervers has contacts for us. I also would like to do a display on the #2 Construction Battalion.

This week the widow of a member donated some military historical books to us. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Ferguson

**CARRIED**

**SICK AND VISITING:** Comrade Wiebe No Report

**ENTERTAINMENT & SPECIAL EVENTS:** Comrade Rayfield

I have been in personal contact with every band that I will be booking in the future for the Friday and Saturday evening dances.

Because of an anticipated reduction of paid patrons for the first couple of months after we re-open with live music & dancing, I've negotiated with them to perform for \$600, a \$200 reduction of the usual \$800, for their first scheduled weekend. One of the bands has offered to play for \$400 as opposed to the \$800.

I have met with Comrade Criss to formulate a plan to procure commercial grade portable staging by means of a financial grant. This staging is designed to be stored using only 4" of space per section and made with durable lightweight materials providing for maximum loads. I've gone straight to the manufacturer, Wenger, and received a quote for the manufacture & direct shipment of the items. The quote for four 4'x8'x4' sections each with 5 removable 16" or 32" legs, including S & H and GST is \$5200. I will add that since our last meeting, a member stepped forward and stated that he would be willing to cover the materials cost of \$675 for having two sections being manufactured by Bernie Joly. This offer however, does not alleviate the issue of cramped storage.

I have met with the band leader of Steppin' Out, previously the Drake house band, and conferred with friends that are regulars at revolving jam sessions on a weekly basis in different towns in & around the greater Edmonton area. There is a standard protocol amongst all of them, the cover charge is always \$10, which includes a light lunch, ie. A bowl of chili & bun or a sandwich, and a small square or cookies and coffee. The only jam that I'm aware of that charges less is the Monday night jams at Fiddler's Roost which charges \$5 but has a concession for food orders. The Drake Hotel dances/jams were free of a cover charge as they had a larger bar sale and an attached restaurant for food sales. So, in my mind, to be competitive for our Sunday dances/jams,

We have four options;

- 1) Charge nothing and rely on bar & food sales, as per the Drake Hotel.
- 2) Charge \$10 with a light lunch included, as per most other jams.
- 3) Charge \$5 and have the kitchen open, as per Fiddler's Roost & our Thursday jams.
- 4) Charge as per our Friday & Saturday dances, \$5 for members, \$10 for non-members, with open kitchen.

My proposal would be to select either option 3 or 4.

These Sunday events would be more of a dance, as the band decides which musicians they will invite to the stage, as opposed to them signing up to play.

Secondly, is the question of how often we should hold the Sunday jams, weekly, semi-monthly, or monthly. For the sake of consistency, weekly would be best, as patrons would not be in question of when they are being held. Or another choice would be to just forget the whole idea of Sunday dances.

I am still awaiting confirmation from the band that I've offered a booking for this coming New Year's Eve.

I'm giving consideration to alternate bands in case my offer is rejected. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade

**CARRIED**

**POPPY:** Presented by Comrade Biddscombe No Report

**POPPY DIRECTOR REPORT:** Comrade Wills

**YTD 2020**

Veterans or their Dependents: \$17,686.37 / 23 Clients

Donation: \$0.00

Bursaries: \$4,000 / four Students

Current Balance: \$ 1,133,376.00

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Forner

**CARRIED**

**Motions:**

That we approve 175-20-016 for \$75.00 of Poppy Funds to cover Emergency Funds for a client.

That we approve 175-20-017 \$320.00 of Poppy Funds to \$300.00 Food Vouchers & \$20 bus tickets

That we approve 175-20-018 \$157.49 of Poppy Funds misc. Office Expenses.

That we approve 175-20-019 \$61.04 of Poppy Funds misc. Office Expenses (Pitney Bowes).

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Earles

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTIONS & BYLAWS:** Comrade Ferguson

The new draft By-Laws have been updated. We are unable to send the By-Laws to Command because it has to go as a Notice of Motion before the General Membership at a General Meeting and voted on in 30 days at the next General Meeting. Due to COVID 19 we are unable to hold a General Meeting so the By-Laws will have to wait until we can have a General Meeting.

The House Rules have been completed. I will be making a motion to adopt these updated House Rules.

I would like to thank my team of Steve Kuervers, Ron Charlet and LeRoy MacIntosh for their assistance in getting these Bylaws and House Rules completed. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Kuervers

**CARRIED**

**HONOURS & AWARDS:** Comrade Fecteau No Report

**Motions:**

That the Branch put forward Comrade Ron Wills' name for Life Membership.

Seconded by Comrade Earles

**CARRIED**

That the Branch put forward Comrade Vicki Torrie's name for Life Membership.

Seconded by Comrade Ferguson

**CARRIED**

That the Branch put forward Comrade Robert Torrie's name for the Meritorious Service Medal

Seconded by Comrade Kuervers

**CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Comrade C. Wills No Report

**CADET LIAISON OFFICER:** Comrade Criss No Report

**SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT:** Comrade Earles I have completed one referral to the Command Service Officer. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Fecteau

**CARRIED**

**SGT-AT-ARMS:** Comrade Etmanski No Report

**MANAGER'S REPORT:** Comrade Werner

AGLC has now changed their policy for serving liquor we can now open the bar at 9:00 am if we want to.

I have sent in an application for an exception of property taxes. It needed to be put in by Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> for this year. We will see where this gets us.

Debra with our debit machines has let me know that we can get out of EVO because our three-year term is up. She has let me know of a new company that she is working for. The cost of new debit machines would be \$134.95 plus gst per month with no other fees. I told her we have not had income for six out of the 12 months last year, but I would bring this to the meeting.

We still need to get Sprouse Fire to replace some Emergency lights and some alarm repairs at a cost of \$520.00 but we still have not been able to pay for the inspection they did in Nov. 2020 that cost is approx. \$700.00.

We have a company who would like to give us a quote on lawn maintenance and shrub

trimming. I know we cannot afford it, but do we have people in place to do this work for us?

Janja is planning on having the Farmers market for Easter and Mother's Day, however she wants the market on the Saturday instead of the Sunday. The outdoor market will be starting on June 6, 2021.

Comrade Torrie moved the report.

Seconded by Comrade Kuervers

**CARRIED**

**LADIES AUXILIARY:** Comrade K. Earles

With some Covid-19 restrictions lifted we have resumed our Saturday Meat Raffles and 50/50 draws February 13, 2021. The Ladies Auxiliary Executive have chosen to postpone deciding on whether to hold an Easter Raffle as done annually. With little traffic at the Legion and Covid-19 restricting personal contacts it was felt our ticket sales would be too low at this time. We will keep you posted on further plans on this.

On behalf of the Ladies Auxiliary, I would like to say thank you to Bill Fecteau, Carol Wills, Ron Wills, Bill O'Brien and Flo Werner for keeping our doors open for membership payments and business inquiries during our recent shut down. We realize a lot of volunteer time went into making that happen. I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade Ferguson

**CARRIED**

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Comrade Fecteau

Finally, the restrictions have been lifted and we opened for business on the 8<sup>th</sup> of February.

Despite the weather we had a few members come in for a coffee and a snack. Once the weather returns to normal, we expect that number will increase.

The restriction we currently have is no Entertainment or League Sports. All other procedures remain in place including social distancing and having to sign in. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Forner

**CARRIED**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Comrade Keurvers –

- a) Taxes - City taxes remain a problem at the Executive level, not at the committee level.
- b) Rent subsidies - paperwork filed requesting Federal Rent Subsidies for about \$30K, Treasurer has been contacted by CRA by voice message, but link up has not occurred yet.
- c) Mortgage - we are in the final 20 years of the mortgage. Payments are approximately 8800 per month (it drops slightly each month). The mortgage sits about \$1,730,000.
- d) GRC role over and renewal. This was completed automatically.
- e) Wage subsidies continue until summer.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Comrade Wills – Kingsway Legion will be celebrating it's 75 Anniversary this year; we should form a committee to help plan a 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party. We need suggestions of what the Legion should do, eg: dinner & dance...

**COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD & WELFARE OF KINGSWAYS BRANCH # 175**

Comrade Vicki Torrie presented the Kingsway Legion with a cheque for \$16,650.00 to be used towards the mortgage of the Branch. Kingsway Legion is extremely grateful for the time and effort to Comrade Torrie has made towards this effort.

Comrade C. Wills – each executive member is responsible to email written reports to secretary. If no reports given your verbal report will not be entered in the Executive minutes.

Comrade Ferguson after lengthy discussion the Executive has decided to ensure that all funds raised during Meat Draw events be deposited in the meat draw account. Leagues/Clubs participating in the meat draws will receive a donation from the Branch. The size of the donation if any will depend on the financial status of the Branch at the time.

**Motion:** To adjourn was made by Comrade Ferguson

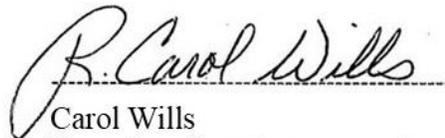
The President closed the meeting by ritual.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Next Meeting: 23 March, 2021 at 7:00 pm



Wm Bill Fecteau  
President  
Kingsway Legion Branch # 175



Carol Wills  
Executive Secretary  
Kingsway Legion Branch # 175