

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION KINGSWAY BRANCH #175
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING
TUESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2023

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

The meeting was chaired by Comrade Torrie

ROLL CALL:

Present: Comrades R. Torrie, Ferguson, Etmanski, R. Wills, J. Hyshka, W. Hyshka, Criss, Fecteau, Deugau, Finch, Nelson, Wiebe, Morrill, Hazen

Excused: Comrade Criss (working) , Danyi (working) , C. Wills (sick), Walsh (Prior engagement), Werner

Absent:

Guests:

LAST POST

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Deceased</u>	<u>Service (if applicable)</u>
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MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA:

Motion to accept the agenda were made by Comrade Weibe
Seconded by Comrade Deugau

CARRIED

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING DATING 30 OCTOBER 2023

Motion: To accept the minutes was made by Comrade J Hyshka
Seconded by Comrade Nelson

CARRIED

Errors or Omissions: Wrong day should be Monday. Add Deugau to roll call as excused.

Business Arising: None

Motion: To adopt the minutes was made by Comrade Etmanski
Seconded by Comrade J. Hyshka

CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURER: Comrade R. Wills

Finance Report as the October end month is not completed so we have no had a Committee meeting.

All accounts have been closed at the Servus Credit Union with the exception of the Cash Account which we have to keep over until we cash in our GICs. The GIS's currently stand at: 26 Jan \$33,180 & 2 Feb \$7,848. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade W Hyshka

CARRIED

WAYS & MEANS: Comrade Criss

Stil waiting on CFEP results, was told would here back this month.

Next Bingo at Kensington is November 29th and then December 4th, December 21st, January 2nd and January 5th. Dates in January are confirmed and set so will need volunteers for both days that week. We are still looking for volunteers for Dec 4 & 21. There is a new person looking after call volunteers for Kensington Bingo, Sheena Laniuk 780.399.0727

Next Musical bingo is on December 15th. This one is an Movie and TV show theme. Next one will be on January kicking off with the 80s. We are trying a Marathon Bingo on February 24th. We are running bingos from open to close more information to come.

If you know of anyone or a company that can donate prizes or any other fundraising ideas, please contact Steve Criss at 780 278 1233 or at steve.criss@kingswaylegion.ca I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Deugau

CARRIED

MEMBERSHIP: Comrade R. Wills reported that we have 1330 members in good standing.

Ordinary	Associate	Affiliate	Life Members
549	442	328	27

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Fecteau

CARRIED

NEW MEMBERS: No Report

PUBLICITY: Comrade Hazen

Carol submitted a report: I will be in later this week, hopefully to update their revolving TV's and prepare the newsletter be sent out on the 29th of November.

Anyone who wants to post a poster in the letter or on TV please submit as ADF and / or JPEG. I have been getting compliments on the newsletter which makes me happy. I will do this letter for December and January. She's hoping that you guys will approve that she wants to do one newsletter for two months. Yeah. So please submit all activities in January by or before the general meeting of November on her behalf. Thank you. I so move the report.

Seconded by Comrade Finch

CARRIED

SPORTS: Comrade Nelson

Legion Dart and Crib teams have been excused from District playoff due to medical reason. We forwarded this info the District Commander and no one will be penalized as a result.

A Legion Pool 8 Ball was happening on Nov 18 of which we had four players from Kingsway that were a no show. As a result, they will not be able to attend any Area or District events for the 2024 -2025 season.

Kingsway has two teams attending the District Darts this weekend. A team is off to the Euchre Playoffs this weekend as well.

Comrade Nelson reports that the donation from the pool players was increased since the new notice was posted last month.

The widow of a recently passed pool player want to donate three new sets of pool balls. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade

CARRIED

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Comrade W. Hyshka - No Report

Note: We are looking into using Carl's as our snow removal company again this year

HISTORIAN: Comrade Deugau

Not much to report. I am working on the two displays for next year. The RCAF and The Battle of the Atlantic. No matter the outcome of the election. It will take time to do it well. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Etmanski

CARRIED

SICK & VISTING: Comrade Wiebe

I have officiated, tomorrow what will be three services for veterans since our last meeting. I have visited the one person in the Royal Alex for while, Vicki. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Nelson

CARRIED

Mac stated that he was there when Bob showed up, and it was greatly appreciated by him at that time, Vicki was still very sick.

ENTERTAINMENT & SPECIAL EVENTS: Comrade J. Hyshka

There will be no Dances planed on December 29 & 30. Our upcoming event is this Friday and it's depth of heels Drag Show, our New Year's Gala is Tickets are on sale. The advance tickets for the lower price ends on December the 1st, so get your tickets. There's a poster on the website and on the Entertainment Board and the tickets are available at the office.

Upcoming dates and bands are as follows:

November 24/25 – Dean Henry

December 1/2 – CC & High Ryder
December 8/9 – Dean Henry
December 15/16 – Sweetwater
December 22/23 – Daybreaker
December 29/30 – NO DANCE
December 31 – Euphoria Band

UPCOMING EVENTS

Deck the Heels Drag Show
Friday, November 24, 2023
Doors – 5:30 pm
Dinner – 6:00 pm
Show – 7:30 pm
Dinner & Show - \$55.00
Show only - \$25.00

New Year's Eve Gala
Euphoria Band
Tickets went on sale October 15
Advanced sales to December 1
\$70 for Legion Members
\$75 for Non-Members
December 2 – 27 Sales
\$75.00 for Legion Members
\$80.00 for Non-Members
Tickets on sale until December 27
Poster is on the website and on the Entertainment Board
Tickets available at the office

I will be doing a Widynowski's Sausage Christmas fundraiser. Deadline for orders is November 27, 2023. Forms are at the front desk.

I have started decorating for Christmas.
I so move my report
Seconded by Comrade Simons

CARRIED

POPPY: Comrade Finch

With the Remembrance Day ceremony & associated activities with this event occurring, it was agreed to suspend the monthly meeting of the GEPF Poppy Committee.

Many individuals work year-round in preparation for the Branch's annual Poppy campaign fund raising event, September does bring in a heightened awareness of the upcoming event while October & the beginning days of November bring in a fury of activity. As the day of Remembrance has passed, to witness the energy & effort of so many, our Branch volunteers & employees all working together above & beyond to ensure a successful campaign & ceremony, it is a truly humbling experience. With some minor product inventory issues, (we sold out of the popular black center pins & had to wait to receive more & did so & had replenished stock back

out in the malls & hospitals within a couple days) product availability & donations went well for the supply on hand. Many volunteers signed up for multiple roles & positions & worked long hours, responded to requests to fill in positions on short notice & were from all walks of life within the Kingsway Branch (darts, cards, pool players & employees etc.).

There are so many individual efforts, I am hesitant to name those in fear of failing to mention another, their individual contributions are & continue to be impressive. I do not have a completed & compiled number for volunteer positions & hours as money sorting & counting are still ongoing, those efforts excluded, initial numbers are 250 volunteer shifts for a total of 1685 hrs. With such efforts, it was equally surprising & disappointing that the Branch was not able to fulfill all the available volunteer positions (driving, deliveries or standing watch/shift in the mall etc.).

I present some initial financial information with respect to the fund-raising campaign, keeping in mind this is very preliminary in nature.

Donations up to Nov 11, 2023, which would mainly be malls and the hospitals
\$23,254.12 (keep this number in mind, I will be using this for reference later)
Donations from Nov 12-16, 2023, which is mainly schools and business routes
\$43,794.43

Total not including Tag Day
\$67,048.55

Tag Day
\$4,369.23

Hockey games (which is Greater Edmonton Poppy Fund & includes "Heritage classic ~\$2,100.00")
\$12,989.48

Tap machines (no breakdown for Kingsway yet) all Greater Edmonton Poppy Fund
\$15,102.00

As a point of reference 2022 tap was \$12,336.00 & I personally believe the devices themselves are part of the issue for lack of easy adoption & future widespread acceptance (i.e., power up issues, servicing between deployments etc.).

I would be remiss to not mention my personal belief of the financial consequences in the lack of volunteers for this year's campaign.

Personnel in malls & hospitals is 62 shifts for a total of 289hrs & we divide that by 23,254.12 = \$80.46 per hour of fundraising (give or take).

In those 4 malls, 3/4 suffered at least one day of "zero representation", Londonderry had one day where only 1/6 of shifts were filled & Commerce Place this year, 6 of 8 days were left with "zero representation". This equates to 58 shifts & 248hrs of "zero representation" & if we use our generic "fundraising per hour" number of \$80.46 x 248 lost hrs. of representation this = \$19,955 (lets call that \$20K) of "money left on the fundraising table".

I personally called on friends & acquaintances to fill many gaps, I had a couple of retired EPS officers deliver & pick up not one BUT two Business routes & personal family members

contributed, none of whom are members of a Legion.

There is certainly opportunity to improve volunteer participation & messaging to all Branch members that even sitting in a mall or driving someone to a mall will certainly contribute to the overall goals of the fund-raising campaign, we do need their participation, it does matter.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Wiebe

CARRIED

We talked about getting some of the sports leagues to give up playing for one week and assist with the Poppy Campaign.

Motion: 175-23-027 Client Assist E-Vote approved \$400.00

Seconded by Comrade Weibe

CARRIED

Motion: 175-23-028 Client Assist E-Vote approved \$400.00

Seconded by Comrade J. Hyshka

CARRIED

Motion: 175-23-029 Client Assist E-Vote approved \$600.00

Seconded by Comrade Morrill

CARRIED

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT: Comrade Walsh (presented by Comrade Finch)

I have completed 3 requests for Poppy Fund assistance. Referred one veteran to Command Service Officer for additional follow-up. Provided advice to 2 individuals looking for direction on how to connect with Veterans Affairs Canada and the Kipnes Centre. Referred one veteran to an organization called Support Our Troops who provided financial assistance with the move of their furniture and effects(F&E). I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Fecteau

CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS & BYLAWS: Comrade Ferguson

On November October 19th I sent the bylaws to Calgary, heard nothing. Then they had the fire still nothing. On the 9th of November I sent an e-mail down to Judy. She informed me that they never received the bylaws. On the 19th I had resent them down to them. As of today, I have nothing. So I sent an e-mail to her today and told her that our meeting is next week. I'll keep an eye out to see if we have to sent them back for any updates again. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade R. Wills

CARRIED

HONOURS & AWARDS: Comrade Fecteau

I have a request for a Certificate of Merit for Jackie Hyshka which I will take action as soon as possible.

I have not received any word from AB/NWT for an MSM for one of our members.

Did a follow up with our District Commander and he is working on it. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Deugau

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE: Comrade C. Wills

Two Letter were read out. The first for Nurse Next Door home care services advertising their

services.

The other was from the City of Edmonton that they will be working the expanding the road during Spring through the Fall of 2024 in front/ behind our place.

CADET LIAISON REPORTS: Comrade Fecteau

504 Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron will be having their Commanding Officers Parade on Wednesday the 23rd of November at 7pm.

CB Hill Navy League will be holding their Branch inspection on Friday the 24th at 7pm
180 Royal Canadian Army Canadian Cadet Corps meet on Thursday evenings at 7 pm. I am unable to attend their parades due to other commitments.

570 Royal Canadian Air Cadets also meet on Thursday evenings which conflicts with 180 army cadets.

I have a problem with 1809 Army Cadets as I have a problem contacting them. I will attempt to visit them at my first opportunity. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Wiebe

CARRIED

SGT-AT-ARMS: Comrade Etmanski

I'd like to thank everybody in the color party and the honor guard for all the help and support throughout Remembrance Week. We had nine different color party events that we attended and did also for help setting up and volunteering for Remembrance Day for here at 8:00 in the morning setting up and then still at 4 tearing everything down.

So kudos to everybody that were involved with that.

We have a funeral tomorrow afternoon for a veteran at Evergreen. At 2:00. Your honor guard will consist of Bill F, Brenda, Terry, Blondie, Chuck and myself. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Wiebe

CARRIED

MANAGER'S REPORT: Comrade Werner – No Report

OLD BUSINESS:

Volunteers: Just to clarify on the volunteer discussion we have at the last Executive Meeting.

“ALL” volunteers’ requests will go through Norma Yerex. In the event Norma is not available, Rick Etmanski will be the contact. Let her know the amount you need and see with get them for your event.

NEW BUSINESS:

City Dart League: Comrade Etmanski has been contacted by City Darts about coming back to Kingsway. Apparently, the place they are using now has been sold and they need a new location come the new year. Rick is going to follow up with them and see if we can get them to move here. They would have to follow our guidelines and rules if they do.

Water Bottle Labels: Comrade R. Wills has been looking into purchasing Kingsway Legion’s own water bottles. It could help promote the Branch as well as assisting in the control of clients

bringing in their own bottles. Currently we are purchasing water from Costco at a cost of \$0.14 ea. We would have to purchase our bottles from Sysco at cost of \$0.51 per bottle (including our new label). Our month sales average 480 bottle, this we mean a reduction of revenues of approximately \$130.00 monthly.

The cost of the labels will be \$1075.87 for 10,000. That works out to \$0.11 each. Purchasing 10,000 is the optimal price. In addition, the \$450 artwork fee has been waived. Sysco will work our surplus until we require them, at no cost. 10,000 labels will last us about two years.

Motion: Comrade Wills motioned that Kingsway Legion purchase 10,000 labels at a cost of \$1075.87 +gst for our own Water Bottle Labels.

Seconded by J Hyshka

CARRIED

Offering Space for Veterans Emergency Services: Comrade Finch stated that Veteran Emergency Services is looking for a place to conduct business with Veterans in need. Currently Charlene is working from home but requires a safe place for veterans to come once a week for interviews and pick up gift cards.

It is the believe that Assisting Veteran Emergency Services & Charlene is part of our mandate in assisting veterans that Kingsway Legion will provide space as required to them at no cost.

Brett and or Mike will liaison with Charlene and keep us updated.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD & WELFARE OF KINGSWAYS BRANCH # 175

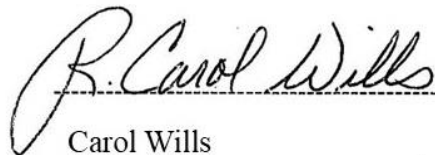
No comments

Motion: To adjourn was made by Comrade w. Hyshka
The President closed the meeting by ritual.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M



Robert "Mac" Torrie
President
Kingsway Legion Branch #175



Carol Wills
Executive Secretary
Kingsway Legion Branch #175