

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

The President opened the meeting by ritual at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance: Members Guests

The meeting was chaired by Comrade Danyi

ROLL CALL:

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

Excused: Comrade Wiebe, Vicki Torrie (hospital)

Absent: Comrade Morrill

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 Fecteau
Seconded by Comrade Ferguson

CARRIED

1ST CALL FOR NOMINATION OF 1ST VICE PRESIDENT TOOK PLACE
Rick Etmanski

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING DATING 30 OCTOBER 2023

Motion: To accept the minutes was made by Comrade Danyi
Seconded by Comrade MacIntosh

CARRIED

Errors or Omissions: None

Business Arising:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURER: Comrade R. Wills

There was no meeting of the Financial Committee as I just received the financial statements this afternoon.

On Friday November 24 we received the final cheque from the lawyers for \$455. That means that all the mortgage paperwork has been completed.

Servus

All accounts have been closed with the exception of the cash account which has \$1,296.30 remaining. We have to keep this account open until we cash in our GICs which currently stand at: \$41,028.09 plus interest which we can cash in 26 Jan \$33,180 & 2 Feb \$7,848.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade E. MacIntosh

CARRIED

Motion: I motion that we cash in our Term 3 GIC for \$7,848.09 when it matures and deposit the funds into the BMO General Account

Seconded by Comrade Simon

CARRIED

Motion: I motion that we cash in our Term 9 GIC for \$33,180.00 when it matures and deposit the funds into the BMO General Account

Seconded by Comrade Leben

CARRIED

WAYS & MEANS: Comrade Criss

Still 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.

Next Musical Bingo is on December 15th. This one is a Movie and TV show theme. Next one will be in 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.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade K. Earles

CARRIED

MEMBERSHIP: Comrade C. Wills reported that we have 1326 members in good standing.

Ordinary
529

Associate
442

Affiliate
328

Life Members
27

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Charlet

CARRIED

NEW MEMBERS: Comrade C. Wills – 6 New Applications 5 Transfer Reinstatement

Ordinary

McDonald, Dwayne
Schiller, Paul
York, Richard

Associate

Brownfield, Betty
Turner, Sue Lynn
Sand, Eleanor

Affiliate

Transfer:

Ordinary

Comeau, Bruce
Br 15 Dominion

Associate

Baumhour, Gail
Stony Plain Br 256

Affiliate

Comeau, Marilyn
Br 15 Dominion

Monaghan, Frank
Br 15 Dominion

Lee, Robert
Knudtson Br 173

REINSTATE

Ordinary

Associate

Affiliate

For a total of 11

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade MacIntosh

CARRIED

2ND & 3RD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF 1ST VICE PRESIDENT TOOK PLACE

There were no new nominations.

Motion: Comrade E. MacIntosh nomination to cease.

Seconded by Comrade W. Hyshka

Rick Etmanski – Accepted the position of 1st Vice President.

PUBLICITY: Comrade Simon/Henzen

I have updated the revolving TVs and prepare the newsletter be sent out on the 2nd of December.

Anyone who wants to post a poster in the letter or on TV please submit as a PDF 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. 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 O'Brien

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 in Westlock. No one

advanced to Command.

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. Sports is going reasonably well, unfortunately, crib has been cancelled due to illness.

Four teams attended the Euchre Playoffs last weekend as well, and we have one team that advanced to Command level. Congratulations to Dave Benard and Jeff Biddiscombe.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Gwilliam

CARRIED

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Comrade W. Hyshka

No report as I have been doing the Greater Edmonton Poppy Fund deposit. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade N. Danyi

CARRIED

1ST CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF 2ND VICE PRESIDENT TOOK PLACE

Carol Wills.

Wes Hyshka

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 T. Biddiscombe

CARRIED

1ST CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF SECRETARY TOOK PLACE

Carol Wills

Jackie Hyshka

Trese Biddiscombe

Leeann Leaburn

SICK & VISTING: Comrade Wiebe No report

ENTERTAINMENT & SPECIAL EVENTS: Comrade J. Hyshka

There will be no Dances planed on December 29 & 30. Our upcoming event is this Friday and its depth of heels Drag Show, our New Year's Gala 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.

The Ukrainian meat orders are closed as of today (Nov 28) please see Jackie Hyshka if you want to order. The Drag Show went very well, and they presented Kingsway Legion with a community award.

Comrade Hyshka presented the financial report on the Johnny Cash and Elvis Events that took place over the summer. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Leaburn

CARRIED

2ND & 3RD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF 2ND VICE PRESIDENT TOOK PLACE

Wes Hyshka – accepted.

Carol Wills - declined.

Doug Christensen – declined.

Comrade MacIntosh moved nominations cease.

Seconded by Comrade Lalonde

Wes Hyshka – Accepted the position of 2nd Vice President.

POPPY: Comrade Finch reported

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 of 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

(let's 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 O'Brien

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

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade O'Brien

CARRIED

2ND & 3RD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF SECRETARY TOOK PLACE

Carol Wills - accepted

Doreen MacIntosh – accepted.

Trese Biddiscombe – declined

Leeann Leaburn – declined.

Jackie Hyshka – declined.

Comrade L. MacIntosh moved nominations cease.

Seconded by Comrade Leben

After a vote Carol Wills – won the position of Secretary.

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT: Comrade Walsh

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 W. Hyshka

CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS & BYLAWS: Comrade Ferguson

On 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. On Thursday 23 Nov, I received them back with recommended changes in sections we did submit for changes.

Whoever takes over bylaw will have to complete our requests. I so move my report.
Seconded by Comrade L. MacIntosh

CARRIED

HONOURS & AWARDS: Comrade Fecteau

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 have one presentation to Jackie Hyshka – Certificate of Merit.
I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade P. Earles

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE: Comrade C. Wills No report

CADET LIAISON OFFICER: Presented by Comrade Fecteau

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

CB Hill Navy League held their Branch inspection on Friday the 24th at 7pm

180 Royal Canadian Army Canadian Cadet Corps meet on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm. I am unable to attend their parades on Tuesday's 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.

Addendum – I attended the 504 Squadron Commanding Officers parade on Wednesday Nov 22nd. During the parade, three Cadets were aged out and were presented with certificates of service.

A new Cadet Warrant Officer was promoted to Chief Warrant Officer and a ceremony was carried out exchanging the sword of command, after which a march past was carried out to honor, the outgoing of the aging out Cadets.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Charlet

CARRIED

SGT-AT-ARMS: Comrade Etmanski

Thanks to all Colour Party and Honour Guard members for their assistance during Remembrance Week & Day. We had 9 engagements during the week for the Colour Party and two funerals during the month.

Also, thanks to all those who help set up and volunteered on Remembrance Day. I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Zech

CARRIE

LADIES AUXILIARY: Comrade K. Earles

November saw our elections with a few changes. Sharon Clemens is the Ladies Auxiliary Treasurer. Jan Langston has joined our LA executive as a member-at-large.

December 16th as previously mentioned is our raffle and ham and turkey meat raffles. Winners of the raffle will be in the January newsletter. Good luck!!! After Dec 16th we will have no meat raffles and 50/50's on Saturdays until January 6th, 2024. I thank all members for your

support throughout the year for meat raffles and ticket raffles.

Once again, this year we are donating Christmas gifts for all 120 residents at the Kipnes Centre. Our elves are out busy getting donations and purchasing items. If you find you have some leftover new Christmas cards, we would love the donation to go in next years Christmas gifts to the Kipnes residents. Used Christmas cards are also collected to be recycled into gift bags for the Kipnes.

Speaking of the Kipnes you may see in the December newsletter a picture of two of our members Lorraine and Marlen standing in front of collages. These ladies spent hours putting the pictures of the veterans together for Remembrance Day. A lot of work but a wonderful tribute to those who served.

There is no "Button Bingo" in December, but we will be back calling out the numbers on January 13th. Donations for prizes are welcome.

From our Ladies Auxiliary

Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year!

I have 3 presentations.

\$500.00 to the Poppy Fund

\$10,000 to Kingsway Legion

\$1000 to Kingsway Remembrance Day

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Biddiscombe

CARRIED

1ST CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE POSITIONS (5)

Jackie Hyshka

Brett Finch

Natalie Danyi

Doug Rayfield

Kathy Deugau

Trese Biddiscombe

Carol Simon

Donna MacIntosh

Dorren MacIntosh

LEST WE FORGET: Comrade V. Torrie No report.

KIPNESS CENTRE No report

VETERAN'S VILLA No report

2ND & 3RD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE POSITION

Kim Earles

Motion: Comrade MacIntosh motioned that nominations move and cease.

Seconded by R. Wills

CARRIED

Jackie Hyshka – accept

Dorren MacIntosh – accept

Natalie Danyi - accept.

Doug Rayfield – accept

Kathy Deugau – accept

Trese Biddiscombe - decline.

Carol Simon – accept

Donna MacIntosh – decline

Kim Earles – decline.

Brett Finch – decline

After a vote the following members have been accepted as members of the Executive Committee.

Jackie Hyshka
Kathy Deugau
Carol Simon
Natalie Danyi
Donna MacIntosh

The following members are on their 2nd year as of the Executive Committee.

Mike Walsh
Steve Criss
Sean Danyi
Judy Morrill

Motion: Comrade L MacIntosh motioned to destroy all voting ballots.

Seconded by Comrade R. Wills

CARRIED

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Comrade Torrie

Installations will take place on December 12th at 7:00 pm in the Wildrose room.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Gwilliam

CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Thursday Jamboree – Comrade O'Brien

The attendance as shown in the Treasurer report, has been proven that only when the Fiddler's are playing do we get good attendance. Therefore, I am proposing that at of Jan 1st 2024, the Jamboree will be held every 2nd Thursday only (1st & 3rd Thursday of the month).

Seconded by Comrade Leaburn

CARRIED

Kitchen Support – Comrade Wills recognized Trese Biddiscombe and Linda Spark for helping make cookies for all the upcoming event at the Branch. "**Thank You**"

Flowers for Comrade V. Torrie – Comrade Criss

Motion: That the Branch spend \$100.00 on flowers for Comrade V. Torrie in hospital.

Seconded by Comrade Walsh

CARRIED

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD & WELFARE OF KINGSWAYS BRANCH # 175

Remembrance Day Volunteers - Norma Yerex thanked all the volunteers for their outstanding support and for volunteering to assist on Remembrance Day.

Blankets & Pillows for First-Aid Emergencies – Gail Simons Ask if we could obtain some blankets & pillows. We had two incidents this month where we could of used them. **The Branch will have them by next week.**

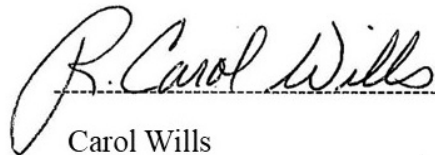
50/50 # 513488 Winner: Brett Finch
Amount: \$80.00

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

The meeting adjourned at 21:15 P.M



Robert "Mac" Torrie
President
Kingsway Legion Branch #175



Carol Wills
Executive Secretary
Kingsway Legion Branch #175