

**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION KINGSWAY BRANCH #175**  
**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025**

I'd like to acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional meeting grounds, gathering place, and traveling route to the Cree, Saulteaux (So-toe), Blackfoot, Métis, Dene (De-nay) and Nakota Sioux (Sue). We acknowledge the many First Nations, Métis and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.

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

Attendance: 45 Members   2 Guests

The meeting was chaired by Comrade R. Etmanski

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Comrades, R. Etmanski, C. Wills, J. Hazen, J. Hyshka, S. Danyi, N. Danyi, Simon, Luce, O'Brien, MacIntosh, Walsh, W. Hyshka, and Foote

**Excused:** Torrie, Wiebe, Criss, Deugau

**Absent:**

**Guests:**

**LAST POST**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Age</u></b>	<b><u>Deceased</u></b>	<b><u>Service (if applicable)</u></b>
Edith Norma Leben		passed 24 Nov 2024	Air Force
William Cocburn	82	passed 05 Dec 2024	AV
Cpl (Ret'd) Alex Di Blasio	44	passed 07 Dec 2024	Army
Sgt (Ret'd) John Barlett	63	passed 12 Dec 2024	Army
Tom Bennie	63	passed 26 Dec 2024	

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW EXECUTIVE:**

Rick Etmanski – President  
Sean Danyi - Chairman  
Carol Wills – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice  
Janet Hazen – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice  
Jackie Hyshka – Secretary  
Donna MacIntosh- Treasurer  
Janet Hazen – Ways & Means  
Carol Wills – Membership

Carol Simon and Janet Hazen - Public Relations  
Mac Torrie – Building and Grounds  
Wes Hyshka - Sports  
Mac Torrie – Past President  
Sean Danyi and Rick Etmanski – Historian  
Bob Wiebe - Sick & Visiting  
Bob Wiebe - Chaplin  
Joe Luce - Entertainment and Special Events  
Natalie Danyi – Finance Chair  
Donna MacIntosh/Sean Danyi – Poppy  
Mike Walsh – Service Officer  
Mac Torrie – Honours and Awards  
Steve Criss – Cadet Liaison  
Lionel Foote – Sgt-At-Arms  
Flo Werner – Branch Manager  
Bill O’Brien – Executive Member  
Cathy Deugau – Executive Member

### **MOTION TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA:**

**Motion:** to accept the agenda were made by Comrade Walsh  
New Business

6(a) will be moved to 3(b)

4 (h), (j), (o), (q), (t), (u) and (v) will be taken off

Comrade C. Lalonde spoke about a notification he received about Command issuing a change to the way we put forward complaints

Seconded by Comrade Leben as amended

**CARRIED**

### **PRESENTATIONS:**

Brian Carlson – 40-year pin

Ben Dart – 50-year pin

Wayne Coffin – 50-year pin (absent)

### **MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING DATING 26 NOVEMBER 2024**

**Motion:** To accept the minutes was made by Comrade L. MacIntosh

Errors

and

Omissions

Page 6

Under Publicity correct spelling of Comrade Hazen’s name.

Seconded by Comrade Lawrence as amended

**CARRIED**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**TREASURER:** Comrade D MacIntosh

This is my first report as Treasurer. I don't have access to everything yet. We are working on that.

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's report for the Kingsway Legion. As we approach the close of our fiscal 2024 year, I would like to share a summary of our financial position based on preliminary numbers.

**1. Fiscal 2024 Preliminary Review**

- The preliminary numbers for our fiscal 2024 year have been reviewed. We will discuss these findings in greater detail with the finance committee during our scheduled meeting this Saturday.

**2. Net Loss Overview**

- Preliminary figures indicate a net loss of \$172,000.00 for the year. This loss was primarily covered by cash on hand and AGLC funds, ensuring our operations remained funded. Once depreciation is fully accounted for, this result will put us on par with our fiscal 2023 performance.

**3. SG&A and Revenue Trends**

- Selling, General, and Administrative (SG&A) expenses have increased by almost \$400,000.00 year over year (YoY), largely due to depreciation not yet being factored into the 2024 numbers.
- Revenue for 2024 saw a decline of approximately \$60,000.00 compared to the previous year

**4. Balance Sheet Adjustments**

- The balance sheet still requires adjustments to align with our 2023 external financial statements. These corrections will be addressed in collaboration with Debbie as we finalize the 2024 year-end review.

**5. Caution Regarding Preliminary Numbers**

Please note that these figures are preliminary and subject to further review and adjustments. Finalized numbers will be presented once the year-end process is complete.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade N. Danyi

**CARRIED**

Comrade N. Danyi addressed the general membership reminding us that we did not have a Treasurer elected in our November elections and that after a lot of search Comrade D. MacIntosh volunteered was appointed for the position for a one-year term. It is an incredibly big role to step into and I hope everyone in this room appreciates what she has done coming into such a big space

here, to be able to help us when we did not have an elected Treasurer. Before you make any comments, please keep that in mind. I know she is here most days, working on this all day.

## **FINANCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT: Comrade N. Danyi**

We had our first official Finance Meeting this past Saturday with the new Executive. Everyone is welcome. We have our meetings usually every third Saturday at 10:00 am. Our focus along with regular upkeep and update of the Financial Statements was to finish the budget – which we did.

The finance committee met in late December in a special meeting to review the preliminary 2025 budget. The below is a summary of the current draft status of the budget.

<b>Revenue</b>	<b>Submitted Budgets</b>	<b>Fiscal 2023 (actual)</b>
Regular Events	\$ 87,020.00	\$ -
Special Events	\$ 97,500.00	\$ 124,674.00
Rentals	\$ 125,200.00	\$ 114,697.00
Membership & Regalia	\$ 99,000.00	\$ 60,403.00
Donation		\$ 31,644.00
Canteen	\$ 743,000.00	\$ 863,552.00
AGLC	\$ 199,200.00	\$ 83,699.00
Grant Revenue	\$ 138,000.00	\$ -
Other		\$ 60,729.00
<b>Total Sources of Cash</b>	<b>\$ 1,488,920.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,339,398.00</b>
Costs of Goods Sold (Canteen)	\$ 210,262.50	\$ 359,160.00
Costs of Goods Sold (Membership & Regalia)	\$ 50,900.00	\$ 25,855.00
SG&A	\$ 72,491.00	\$ 148,333.00
Building	\$ 493,790.00	\$ 192,481.00
Wages & Employee Benefits	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 459,948.00
Mortgage Payment & Interest	\$ 216,000.00	\$ 135,372.00
Regular & Special Functions	\$ 108,347.00	\$ 35,881.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 1,651,790.50</b>	<b>\$ 1,357,030.00</b>
<b>Net Cash Position</b>	<b>-\$ 162,870.50</b>	<b>-\$ 17,632.00</b>

Please note that an additional \$163K needs to be cut from the budget in order to balance. The chairperson of the financial committee asks for guidance from the executive on where they would like to see the funds cut from. Current department expense lines sit as the following:

Membership \$57,500  
 Historian \$200  
 Sports \$2,800

Entertainment \$105,537  
Ways and Means (including AGLC items) \$72,491  
General Operations (excluding payroll and building) \$122,725  
Payroll \$500,000  
Building (Outside of Maintenance and Repairs) \$495,590  
Maintenance and Repairs \$214,200  
Canteen \$210,216

We are in 2025 Year of Community which was a Finance Committee initiative and Ron made us beautiful posters for us.

In reviewing the financials over the last year, it has become apparent, with only 3% of our budget going back into our community, that in working to survive we have neglected to meet our mandate to be active members in our community. We cannot expect the community to come together and invest in us, we do not invest in them.

Objective: To become an active visible force within the community outside of the Legion walls. To show our community that we are force for positive change and put actions behind our words. To earn the investment from our members and community, by first being active in the spaces where we live and work.

Goal: 5,000 hours and \$5,000 back to our community

Plan:

We will ask members to report their volunteer hours (outside the Legion) and we will track them as a whole. There will be a box with slips at the front or they can email [Insert email here]. This amount will be totaled and updated monthly and reported.

Program will run from Nov 1, 2024, to Dec 31, 2025

Volunteering must be outside of the Legion and auxiliary organizations. It will be on the honour system. Members are encouraged to wear Legion regalia (Uniforms, Shirts, Hats and Pins) as a visual reminder of our presence in the community.

Comrade S. Danyi has an Instagram page and as of today we have 567.51 hours completed and \$1,450.61 donated to registered charities within our community. Just from people reporting what they were already doing. There is a sheet up front there and I encourage you to write down your volunteer hours and what you have done. It will be on the honour system so your name and hours. For the donations, I am asking for copies of your tax receipts.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Simon

**CARRIED**

## WAYS & MEANS: Comrade Hazen

I have requested sponsorship from EPCOR for \$5000 and from Labatt's for funding or prizes for our Canada Day Celebration. I have received some positive feedback from Labatt's and still waiting to hear from EPCOR. I attended a 3 hour ZOOM information seminar with the CIP Operating Grant Program. I will continue to research the possibility of applying for government grants and other sponsorships through Canadian Corporate Companies. I have attended two Entertainment Committee Meetings and two Financial Committee Meeting. I have continued to update the website, Facebook and promote all upcoming events.

The Raffle Committee and the board agreed on proceeding with a 50/50 Raffle for \$50,000. This option will have the least amount of risk and the operational fees will be at a minimum. The raffle would run for an entire year.

## ACTION ITEM

Overhead costs for an in-house Raffle:

- \$50,000 registration fees AGLC = \$150
- **\$100,000 registration fees AGLC = \$500**
- Tickets would be sold manually
- Printing costs would be done internally approximate cost \$100
- Advertising Fees **Optional**, but highly recommended \$2000.00
- Maximum cost approximately = **\$2600 Profit \$47,400 if all tickets are sold**
- See attached break down on amount of Tickets and Prices.

General Tickets Location

### Licence Entry Wizard Ticket Information

Colour	Units	Price	Quantity	Extended Value
Black	1	for \$ 10.00	5000	\$50,000.00
Purple	3	for \$ 25.00	6000	\$50,000.00
	0	for \$ 0.00	0	\$0.00
	0	for \$ 0.00	0	\$0.00
	0	for \$ 0.00	0	\$0.00

Example:

Red	1	\$2.00	500	\$1,000.00
White	3	\$5.00	300	\$500.00

Total Amount: **\$100,000.00**

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PREVIOUS NEXT

Our committee would like to recruit a large team of volunteers, these folks would work all the legion events, the Farmers Market and would also go out into the community selling tickets at e.g. Elks games, trade shows, major festivals in the city throughout the year. This will be a great opportunity to promote membership at the Kingsway Legion. If you wish to help with this project, please let our committee know, this is going to be a big fundraiser to keep the Kingsway Legion open.

The committee and Board are requesting approval from the membership to move forward with the raffle and for the funding for expenses of \$2600.00.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade T. Biddiscombe

**CARRIED**

**MOTION by:** Comrade J. Hazen: We requesting approval from the membership to go forward with the raffle and we are asking for funding of up to \$2,600.00.

**Seconded by:** Comrade N. Danyi

**CARRIED**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Comrade C. Wills reported as of January 21, 2025 we have 1271 members for 2024 and 2025 in good standing.

Ordinary	Associate	Affiliate	Life Members
480	477	290	24

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade B. Charlet

**CARRIED**

**NEW MEMBERS:** Comrade C. Wills

18 New Applications 13 Transfer Reinstatement

### New Members

Ordinary	Associate	Affiliate
Allen, Allen Nigel	Maron, Phillip	Adams, Fern
Friesen, Deborah	Popp, Cheryl	Juhlin, Julie
Frey, Jenifer	Popp, Gregory	Megley, Olivia
	Schatrowski, Margaret	Johnstone, Ron
	Taylor, Faye E.	
	Tucci, Tony	
	McLeod, Ilene	
	Johansson, Jami	
	Burns, Darrell	
	Regan, Kieran	
	Leary, Patricia	

**Transfer**

Ordinary	Associate	Affiliate
McMorran, Cameron New Westminster BC Br 02	Wilson, Terry Dominion 015	Barbazuk, Rick Norwood Br 178
Bard, Robert Dominion 015	London, Amy Lee Dominion 015	
Nipshank, Rosemary Dominion 015	Johnson, Jessie Ryley Br 192	
	Dmytruk, Gerald Norwood Br 178	
	Laboucane, Norman Dominion Br 015	
	Ringma, LeAnn Fort Saskatchewan Br 27	
	Wasylynchuk, Joseph Norwood Br 178	
	Bowering, Paul Malahat Br 134	
	Gardner, Dale Dominion 015	

**Reinstatements** - None

For a total of 31

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Fecteau

**CARRIED**

**PUBLIC RELATIONS:** Comrade Simon/Hanzen

The January and February newsletters will be sent out within the next two weeks as I am having issues with my BCC emails. Ron is working on getting it fixed. January newsletter went out today. All the new information will be out by February 1. I am also trying very hard to get the posters out as fast as I can.

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade Leben

**CARRIED**

**SPORTS:** Comrade W. Hyshka

I am working on a money raiser for the darts. A roll of cork board costs \$40 a roll. You need a roll and a half to do a board. My plan is to get foam backers to protect the areas which is primarily damaged but to get the money to do this my plan is to get sponsors for the boards. I have talked to Flo and Rick about this. The boards close to the window would be \$250 and the middle boards would be \$300 as they are used the most. The sponsor would in essence be purchasing the new



backing. We would place their logo, phone number or whatever they wanted for one year. I will be working with Entertainment and Ways & Means in order to not overlap and who I could possibly reach out to. Any person/company can sponsor a board.

February 21 and 22, 2025 we are hosting Command 8 ball pairs. I have talked to Flo. We have cancelled Friday night shuffleboard and Friday and Saturday pool. I have talked to Ron about the menu and we are good. Only three districts have reported in.

I have received a note from Friday night shuffleboard and it says: I was wondering if you would be okay for Friday night shuffleboard to pay a \$5.00 coverage charge instead of the \$10.00 as we like to stay and play cards afterwards.

Executive is in agreement with this proposal. We would need a list of who plays shuffleboard on Fridays and the people at the front door would have to mark them off when they pay for the \$5.00.

I want to congratulate the Euchre team of Carol Simon and Phil O'Quinn for placing third at Command Euchre this month.

I so move my report  
Seconded by Comrade Hazen

**CARRIED**

**BUILDING & GROUNDS:** Comrade Torrie

No report

**HISTORIAN:** Comrade Etmanski/S. Danyi

## **OUR VETERAN STORY**

Sergeant Léo Major is a famous Canadian soldier who fought with the Régiment de la Chaudière in WWII and the 22e in Korea. Meta Culpa. He is known for single-handedly liberating the Dutch city of Zwolle from the Nazis in 1945.

Major first landed in Europe on Juno Beach as part of Operation Overlord. On D-Day he managed to capture a half-track by himself along with radios and encryption codes.

In a matter of days, he had a run in with the SS in which he killed an entire patrol of Nazis but not before losing his eye to a phosphorus grenade.

He continued to fight insisting he only required one eye to sight his rifle.

During the battle of the Scheldt in the Netherlands, Major tricked a German officer into believing Zwolle was surrounded.

He threw grenades, fired his rifle, and set the Gestapo headquarters on fire. He was able to capture 93 Nazis after killing seven and injuring several others, including in hand-to-hand combat, thus

showing just how effective it is to punch a Nazi in the face.

Major is the only Canadian to win the Distinguished Conduct Medal in two separate wars and only one of six, I believe, in the entire Commonwealth.

Major passed away in Montréal, Quebec in 2008, where he had been a farmer.

He was nicknamed "Quebec's Rambo"

He was the subject of a documentary, a feature film, and a biography. He was honored as a saviour of the Dutch town of Zwolle.

In the business part of things, we started to remove the Air Force display and give back the items to the individuals that put them in there and within the next week or so we will be looking at our next display as to what to put in. If anyone has any ideas, please let us know.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade R. Charlet

**CARRIED**

**SICK & VISTING:** Comrade Wiebe

No report

**ENTERTAINMENT & SPECIAL EVENTS:** Comrade Luce

This past month that I have been involved with the Entertainment Committee we have had one good Bingo. We had 170 people show up to our Music Bingo. Our profit for that was like \$1742.55. So, we are obviously going to keep doing the Music Bingo. It was amazing to see the people all dressed up in the 80s attire. Coming up we have the CCR tribute band and the Murder Mystery in February. We need to build up the ticket numbers. We have approximately 65 for CCR and I believe the same for the Murder Mystery. We have Superbowl Sunday event and a Valentine's dinner special. We are also having a St. Patrick's Day dinner special. We are having a Perogy Dinner on April 5 in the Maple Leaf Room with the band that weekend, The Sparkling Tones. All events are posted on the website, on Facebook and in our KWL Entertainment Newsletter.

The bands for the canteen. This has been interesting. Basically, over the past couple of weeks I have been dealing with a lot of negativity. They feel I am taking away their social time. I have addressed a few people by email letting them know that we have to make a change and that they are not losing the bands its that they are just not going to be there every week. It is going to be something new every week. We need some variety. We are asking them for patience and go with the flow and give it a try.

So, the goal is, with everyone's support, I am going to continue to go on. It is going to take a little while for change to happen.

Our committee has had two meetings. In our meetings we have gone over a business plan, a sponsorship plan to send out to people and this week we started to send out sponsorship requests to businesses. I have started with two businesses this week. We will have to work with everyone

I would like address our volunteers and staff and I would like our President and two Vices also involved in that so that we can get on the same page so we get this transition a positive outlook on our roles here to create a fun, happening place and not a negative happening place.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade Foote

**CARRIED**

**WEEKLY DANCES:** Comrade O'Brien

January 1 we increased our fee to \$10.00. We now have a Jam every Thursday night.

I try to get people to come and celebrate their birthday, anniversary on a Thursday night. I offer a dance floor, live music, ample parking, \$10 admission for everybody. You bring in an extra 10 – 20 guests, half of them will eat, you are looking at an additional \$200 - \$300. The people who are putting on the birthday hopefully they bring enough cake for everyone. Carol reminded Bill that she does birthday cakes.

I so move my report

Seconded by Comrade E. MacIntosh

**CARRIED**

**POPPY:** Comrade D. MacIntosh

Still working on totals for 2024 Poppy Fund. \$100.00 gold coin was assessed this week and it was sold. Funds are still outstanding from Strathcona. This matter has been resolved by Command and we are to expect funds. We should have our new Executive in place in February as Norwood has completed their elections.

We are now requesting proof of service and proof of enrolment when applying for a bursary. This was actually always a requirement. In the event of no proof of service we will assess on a case-by-case basis.

We should have the entire new Executive in place for February meeting. Norwood's elections are tonight.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade T. Biddiscombe

**CARRIED**

**SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT:** Comrade Walsh

I have completed seven requests for poppy fund assistance, completed two legion claim forms, which were forwarded to the Command Service Officer for additional follow-up, referred one veteran to the Branch padre for additional guidance and provided advice to three individuals pertaining to completion of documentation for Veterans Affairs.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade R. Wills

**CARRIED**

**HONOURS & AWARDS:** Comrade Torrie

No report

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Comrade J. Hyshka

Email from Donna Ganzon, Communications Coordinator/Admin Assistant, AB/NWT Command congratulating us on our Elections. They are looking for pictures from the election.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade L. MacIntosh

**CARRIED**

**CADET LIAISON OFFICER:** Comrade Criss

No report

**SGT-AT-ARMS:** Comrade L. Foote

I am pleased to announce that there were no and are no requests for Honour Guard Services scheduled for the month of Jan 2025.

**LADIES AUXILIARY:** Madam B. Charlet

Wednesday, January 22, 2025 - I joined the Legion Honour Guard, President Etmanski, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice C. Wills at the Kipnes Centre where Jim Stewart was presented his 55 year pin. It was a surprise and there were many in attendance from the centre/

Thursday, January 23, 2025 – Back to the Kipnes Centre to volunteer at the monthly birthday party that the Ladies Auxiliary sponsors. There was cake and entertainment. Joined by Marilyn Pytel and Sharon Clemens of the LA.

Our weekly meat draws are doing well. Thank you to Mary Good and all our many volunteers.

I so move my report.

Seconded by Comrade N. Danyi

**CARRIED**

**LEST WE FORGET:** Comrade R. Torrie

No report

**KIPNESS CENTRE:** Comrade P. Earles

No report

**VETERAN'S VILLA:** Comrade P. Earles

No report

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Comrade R. Etmanski

Thank you to everyone to showed up tonight and hopefully over the next year support the newly elected Executive Committee that we have.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Garage Sale** – Comrade T. Biddiscombe

So, I had mentioned at our last meeting that we were going to have a garage sale. We have finalized a date and it is May 22 – 26, 2025. Drop off will be the morning of May 22. So, if you are cleaning out your closets or spring cleaning or things you no longer use, we would love to have them but not until May 22.

Glassware – dishes, glasses, china, etc

Kitchenware – small appliances, curtains, bedspreads

Small furniture items – end tables

**NO PERSONAL CLOTHING**

Everything must be clean and dusted

Our goal is to have at least 100 households or families to donate. That is what we would advertise as a draw in.

Anything not sold will be donated to other charities. When you donate items, you will be signing something that says – yes I donated and if it does not get sold the Legion will donate to other charities.

### **Volunteer Coordinator – Comrade Etmanski**

There is going to be a new Volunteer Coordinator will be Carol Simon. Any requirements for volunteers will go through her.

We wish to thank Norma for all her hard work and dedication over these past years as the Volunteer Coordinator.

### **Volunteer Agreement – Comrade Etmanski**

Going forward, anyone who is volunteering will be signing a Volunteer Agreement, which outlines rules, dress, duties and responsibilities for the volunteer.

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

Comrade N. Yerex - I would like to know why the Legion did a 50/50 at a private function? Comrade Luce stated that it was not his doing but is something we usually do a music bingos and the volunteers just did it. Someone at the function took it upon themselves to do it. It was for our Legion volunteers which Norma and Bill paid for. I applauded you guys for doing that. If it was my fault for allowing that to happen, I will take it and I apologize for doing that.

Comrade Gail Simons - I would like to thank Bill for putting that on for the volunteers. That should have been the time for the Executive to say to Norma, Norma don't worry about getting any volunteers, the Executive will take over. She was not at her best and she asked me to get them. Maybe the Executive should honour the volunteers a bit. We get a bottle of water.

Comrade D. MacIntosh – Please take into account that your Executive are all volunteers as well. We invest many hours here. So, to say that the Executive should step up and volunteer more. The Executive volunteers plenty. I spend a lot of hours here.

Chairman S. Danyi – Has there been an email regarding Comrade Lalonde's comment. Do you have a copy of the email.

Comrade R. Wills – it is in the Dispatch and everyone gets it.

Chairman Danyi – Thank you Comrade Lalonde. We will review and ensure we are in line with Dominion's policies as we need to be.

50/50 # 950312      Winner: Carol Simon  
Amount: \$65.00

The next General Meeting will be on February 25, 2025

**Motion:** To adjourn was made by Comrade W. Hyshka

The President closed the meeting by ritual.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 P.M

 Rick Etmanski President Kingsway Branch #175	 Jackie Hyshka Executive Secretary Kingsway Branch #175
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