



# THE TORCH

Newsletter of Royal Canadian Legion Kingsway Branch # 175

Feb 2026 Edition

## BRANCH HOURS

Mon - 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm  
Tue - Wed 11:00 am - 11:00 pm  
Thu - Sat 11:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Sun - Closed

## BRANCH OFFICE

Mon - 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm  
Tue - Wed 11:00 am - 11:00 pm  
Thu - Sat 11:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Sun - Closed

## CANTEEN BAR

Mon - 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm  
Tue - 11:00 am - 11:00 pm  
Thu- Sat 11:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Sun - Closed

## KITCHEN

Mon - 5:00 pm—8:00 pm  
Tue - Wed 11:00 am - 8:00 pm  
Thu - Sat 11:00 am - 9:00 pm  
Sun - Closed

## Branch General Meetings

The next General Meeting will be on  
Tuesday, Feb 24, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Please attend the General Meetings and help to  
keep the Legion running.

Branch General Meetings take place on the last  
Tuesday of each month, from September to June  
(except for December), in the Maple Room,  
starting at 7:00 p.m.

## MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING

as of Jan 20, 2026

Affiliate	334
Associate	446
Life Members	25
Ordinary	435
Centenary	44
<b>Total</b>	<b>1284</b>



***They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning. We will remember them.***



## *Fallen Comrades*

It is with deep regret that we announce the following members have passed on since we last gathered together.

Name	Age	Date	Service
Leonard LaKorich	93	5 Dec 2025	
Delbert Regan	83	3 Dec 2025	

### **POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION BURSARY**

A Bursary is awarded to students who are Veterans, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, spouses or surviving spouses of Veterans; who are in need of financial assistance. Bursaries up to \$2,000 may be awarded at any stage of a college or university program.

Just download the application from: <https://kingswaylegion.ca/bursary-application-form>

Once completed, drop the application off at the Branch office or email it to:

[office@kingswaylegion.ca](mailto:office@kingswaylegion.ca)

## **OUR NEWEST MEMBERS**

Baker, Vel	Fitzpatrick, Celeste	Lavoie, Leona	Podburan, Angie
Bigstone, Nadya	Fournier, Norman	Lee Dean, Jennifer	Rellier, Claire
Bigstone, Sonny	Freidel, Garv	Lennon, Cindy	Rellier, Melissa
Bourdages, Kelly	Friedel, Lorraine	Lord, Vern	Rideout, Kim
Brige, Vickie	Good, Marv	Losty, Cherie	Rybicki, Garv David
Broyles, Bruce	Goy, Shannon	Macleod, Leslie	Schoffer, Bonnie
Bueckert, Charlotte	Goy, Terry	Maheux, Lianne	Schreiner, Rick
Butler, Lauralee	Harris, Betty-Lou	Mazinakouskang, Kaylee	Shafer, Trudy
Cardinal, Joy	Henry, Dean	McClure, Jack	Sipe, Charmaine
Casavant., Brenda	Herd, Darren	McDonald, Logan	Sipe, Ken
Corbin, Wayne	Hildebrand, Frank	McGovern, Martin	Smok, Shelly
Dalziel, Fraser	Holowaty, Darlene	McWhirter, Barb	Stettner, Patricia
Dwyer, Anne	Hout, Christa	Melvin, Valerie	Teles, Wayne
Evans, Justin	Hutton, Kevin	Murphy, Norma	Thornton, Barb
Fairweather, Trevor	Ireland, David	Nouta, Joyce	Tran, Simon
Farhad, Shamii	Jarrett, Chris	Osburn, William	Webber, Gloria
Farrants, Ken	Johnson, Gerrv	Oszvtko, Peter	Zenari, Janice
Farrell, Mark	Keck, Terry	Perez, Juan	Zgrablic, Christina
Findlay, Danielle	Kirkpatrick, Phyliss	Piercey, Kevin	Zubick, John
Konoza, Christopher			

**Don't forget to say Hi! to our newest members**

## **WHAT'S YOUR IRRATIONAL FEAR?**

**Soceraphobia: is the fear of accidentally saying something offensive.**

A fear of offending others, especially in social or family settings.

## MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION



Suzette Brémault-Phillips of  
HiMarc (UofA)

is presented with a cheque for \$100,000 from the Greater Edmonton Poppy Fund. Making the presentation is (l to r) Jackie H. Secretary, Rick E Chairman, Suzette Brémault-Phillips of HiMarc and Robert Torrie Branch Rep.

HiMarc is a collaborative initiative and provincial hub led by the U of A that aims to, develop, evaluate, and help implement solutions to improve the resilience, health and well-being of military members, Veterans, PSP (public safety personnel) and their families.



President Rick Etmanski receives a Cheque on behalf for the Branch for \$3,000 from Mary Good L.A. 1st Vice President Meat Draw  
In 2025 the L.A. donated just over \$40.000 in support of the Branch

## MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION



Sharon Charlet receives her 40 year  
Membership Pin and Certificate  
from President Rick Etmanski

President Rick Etmanski receives his 1st Vice President  
Bar for the Executive Committee Medal from  
Past President Robert Torrie



Janet Hazen receives her Public Relations Bar  
for the Executive Committee Medal from  
Past President Robert Torrie

## MEMBERSHIP RECOGNITION



President Rick Etmanski receives his 1st Vice Bar for the Executive Committee Medal from Past President Robert Torrie



Mike Walsh receives his 1Service Officer Bar for the Executive Committee Medal from Past President Robert Torrie



President Rick Etmanski receives his Past President Medal from "Mac" Torrie



Jackie Hyshka & Carol Wills place 9th at the Command Shuffleboard tournament Jan 23 –24 in Calgary

# Kingsway Legion Proudly Presents



**A CCR Tribute Band**

# Friday February 27, 2026

## Meal

*Baked Ham*

*Scalloped Potatoes*

*Vegetables*

*Desserts*

*Salads*

*Reserve Seating / Non-Refundable*

**Ticket available at**

**the Branch or**

**Eventbrite.ca**



*Doors Open 5:00 pm*

*Meal 5:30–6:30 pm*

*Show Starts at 7:00 pm*

*Dinner & Show*

**\$55.00 (+gst)**

*Show Only*

**– \$30.00 (+gst)**

**14339 50th Street Edmonton | 780.456.8654 | [www.kingswaylegion.ca](http://www.kingswaylegion.ca)**

## CENTENARY MERCHANDISE



Looking a gift for a Legion Member? Check these out!

Click on the image or go to:

<https://www.popystore.ca/legion-centenary>



For more information Click on the image

During The Royal Canadian Legion's Centenary in 2026, the Royal Canadian Mint honours an organization born from the sacrifices of Canada's earlier Veterans—those who answered the call in the First World War and paved the way for generations of service to come.



**Renew your Legion membership and qualify to WIN a Ford F-150!**

Add two more chances to win by shopping on the Legion's store and donating to the Poppy Fund!

 Renew Today  
[Legion.ca/winbig](https://Legion.ca/winbig)



Ford Dealers of Canada  
Official Partner of The Royal Canadian Legion



No purchase necessary. Terms and conditions apply.



**Working together to serve Canada's Veterans**



## A Special Offer from VIA Rail to Celebrate The Royal Canadian Legion's 100th Anniversary

Here's what you can enjoy as a Royal Canadian Legion member:

- ◆ 25% off the best available fares in Economy class across the VIA Rail network
- ◆ 25% off Berths in Sleeper Plus class on board The Canadian
- ◆ 10% off the best available fares in Business class on board the Corridor
- ◆ Bring up to 3 guests with you!

Booking and travel period: Jan 12 – Dec 31, 2026

**For more information click on the image**

### **POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION BURSARY**

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### **Upcoming Notable Dates**

14 Feb	Valentines Day
15 Feb	Nation Flag of Canada Day
28 Feb	Gulf War Ends
8 Mar	International Women's Day
12 Mar	Afghanistan Mission Ends
30 Mar	Battle of Moreuil Wood Commemoration

# Twilight Time

*A Tribute to The Platters  
& the Doo Wop Sound*

**Saturday  
March 14**

*Come and listen to many of  
The Platters Greatest Hits  
and other favorites from that era*



**Dinner & Show \$55.00 (+gst)  
Show Only \$30.00 (+gst)**

**Doors Open: 5:00 pm  
Dinner 5:30 pm  
Show 7:00 pm**

**Pick up your tickets  
at the front desk**

**or**

**Order on Eventbrite.ca  
\$33.28 to \$59.91**



**Menu**  
**Salsbury Steak**  
**Mashed Potatoes**  
**Toss Salad**  
**Marinated Salad**  
**Bun**  
**Dessert**

14339 50th Street Edmonton | [www.kingswaylegion.ca](http://www.kingswaylegion.ca) | 780.425.8654

## **JUNO ROOM WEEKEND ENTERTAINMENT**

**Here is a quick look at the upcoming entertainment events  
in the Juno Room for the month of February**

**Feb 6 & 7**

**Sparking Tones**



**Feb 13 & 14**

**Hickory Wind**



**Feb 20 & 21**

**Dean Henry**

**The Dean Henry Band**



**Feb 27 & 28**

**CC & High Ryder**





As of January 27, 2026  
we have raised:  
**\$42,825.00**

There is just over four months left before the big prize on the 50/50 Raffle which will be drawn (May 15, 2026).

With approximately **60%** of the tickets still available for purchase we need volunteers to help promote and sell raffle tickets at Legion events and other events throughout Edmonton, if you are interested in helping with this campaign, contact the office at

**780.425.8654**



Kingsway Legion invites dedicated individuals to join our vibrant volunteer teams. We're seeking enthusiastic individuals who want to make a difference while supporting Legion values.

Tuesdays 11:30 am - 2:00 pm

Wednesdays 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Thursdays 11:30 am - 2:00 pm

Fridays 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Saturdays 11:30 am - 2:00 pm

Saturdays 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Your assistance will be required for the delivery of food & cleaning of tables.

If you are available to work any of the above mentioned shifts please contact:

**Norma Yerex @ 780-478-7680**



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE LADIES AUXILIARY

The Ladies Auxiliary is happy to see so many of you out for our regular Saturday afternoon meat draw and 50/50. You make our Saturdays both fun and successful.

Mark Saturday, February 14 on your calendar as not only will we have our regular meat draw and 50/50 but it will be Free Fun Bingo Day as well. To celebrate Valentines Day we will have a surprise or two to mark the day.

The Ladies Auxiliary has had a number of books donated. Each Saturday we will bring out some books for you to adopt. We appreciate any donations you make.

Our December 13 bake sale, white elephant table, raffle, ham and turkey draw and 50/50 was a resounding success. Again, we thank you or your support. The Easter bake sale, raffle, white elephant table, ham and turkey draw and 50/50 will be held March 28, 2026. The meat draw will be for seven hams and six turkeys. The raffle features four prizes with the rust prize being a food basket values at over \$400.00 including a ham for Easter Dinner. Tickets will be on sale very soon and be available from the Ladies Auxiliary members and the front desk at two dollars a ticket. Watch for our posters. If you have any items suitable for our white elephant table please bring them in for us.

Through all your support the Ladies Auxiliary were overjoyed to donate over \$40,000.00 to our Legion in 2025.

### **The Wise Shopper:**

One Saturday afternoon the conversation at a table of Ladies Auxiliary members turned to discounts available when shopping in our City. Some were not aware of who or what was offered so I am going to share some of these with you over the next few months. It never hurts to ask and in this economy we can all love a discount.

- 1) Shoppers Drug Mart - 15 percent for seniors on all regular merchandise on Thursday.
- 2) For those with a CFONE card Michael's offers 15% on most items.



Kingsway Legion # 175  
Ladies Auxiliary

# Spring RAFFLE

## March 28, 2026



Prize #1 \$400 Food Hamper

(may not be as shown)



Prize #2 Queen Crocheted

Blanket (value \$300)



Prize #3 Assorted Gift Cards

(value \$250)

(cards may not be as shown)



Prize #4 Limited Edition

Blanket & Basket (value \$80)

Tickets available at the front desk or any LA member. Tickets: \$2.00 each

We will be holding our White Elephant Table & Bake Sale (11:00am-1:30 pm)  
Followed by the Easter Ham & Turkey draws (1 PM) and our 50/50 raffle

A man checked into a hotel. There was a computer in his room, so he decided to send an email to his wife. He accidentally typed the wrong email address, and without realising he sent the email to a widow who had just returned from her husband's funeral. The widow decided to check her inbox, expecting condolence messages from relatives and friends. After reading the first message she fainted. The son rushed into the room, found his mother on the floor and saw the computer screen which read:

\*\*To my loving wife, I know you are surprised to hear from me, they have computers here and we are allowed to send emails to loved ones. I've just checked in. How are you and the kids? The place is really nice but a bit too warm and I'm very lonely here. I have made necessary arrangement for your arrival tomorrow. Expecting you darling. I can't wait to see you."\*

## **LEGION BUDDY CHECK COFFEE**

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the Month

Veterans of the Canadian Armed Forces, RCMP and Allied Forces are welcome. You do not need to be a Legion member to attend.

Open to all Veterans. Your local legion is here supporting our area.

Come meet fellow Veterans in a safe, non-judgmental atmosphere of comradeship. There will be free coffee, tea and soft drinks.

For more information contact Louise Abdou at

[Edm175buddycheckcoffee@hotmail.com](mailto:Edm175buddycheckcoffee@hotmail.com)  
or call 780-868-8917



The Miller Crossing Farmers Market  
is closed

until February 8, 2026 for our  
Valentine's Craft Market

For updates on this event checkout our website:  
[millercrossingfm](http://millercrossingfm) or on Facebook  
[facebook.com/millercrossingfarmersmarket](http://facebook.com/millercrossingfarmersmarket)

## **CENTENARY AND 80<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENTS**

**Save the Date and  
Come Celebrate**

**Kingsway Legion's  
80th Anniversary**

**Saturday 13 June  
5:00 p.m. 2026**



**Tickets on Sale Soon  
Stay tune for more  
information**



*June 8-13  
Silent Auction*

*Branch Merchandise for  
Sale  
▪ Commemorative  
Coffee Mug  
▪ Golf Shirt*

*Friday July 17  
Commemorative Legion Flag Raising  
& Open House*

*July 1  
Special Canada Day  
Celebration*



# OP VETBUILD

**Operation VetBuild is a Royal Canadian Legion initiative run by the RCL's OSI Special Section (BSO Legion OSI). This is a peer to peer program by veterans, for veterans and includes RCMP and allied veterans. The objective is to help improve mental health through hobby and in this case, table top / miniature games, model building and board games 100% free to veteran's.**

***Will be held every 3rd Saturday of the month.***

***From 1pm -4pm***

## OP VETBUILD

**Contact: Anthony Seward  
[teutonicknights@shaw.ca](mailto:teutonicknights@shaw.ca)**

## TABLETOP

**Contact: James Morris  
[phgang02@hotmail.ca](mailto:phgang02@hotmail.ca)**

**Kingsway Legion Branch #175  
14339 50th Street, Edmonton, AB**

# Ladies' Auxiliary meat Draw

Every Saturday Afternoon  
Starting at 1:30



**Ticket on Sale 1:00 pm**

**Draw 1:30 pm**

**12 Regular &**

**1 Bonus Draw**

**Tickets \$1.00 each**



**50/50**

**Immediately Following The  
Meat Draw**

**10 Tickets For \$5.00**

**14339 50th Street NW, Edmonton | 780.425.8654 | <https://www.kingswaylegion.ca>**

## **“LADDERS AND LONGINGS” FOR 2026**

### **“MAKING SURE THE LADDER IS UP AGAINST THE RIGHT WALL!”**

By the time you get to read this we will be well into 2026, and “still going strong” on the New Year’s Resolutions we made?? Well maybe not all of them, but hopefully the more important ones, are still within our reach.

It goes without saying that most if not all of us are climbing some sort of ladder. To go higher in our achievements, or our successes? Or, maybe to get higher in our financial standings, or just security in that area.” The truth is that every ladder leads somewhere, but not every destination is one we planned on.”

So, Happy New Year again. January is one of those strange months, at least from my perspective. Things are supposed to feel new and fresh, but for many that is far from reality. It’s often, just more of the same old, same old. The Credit Card bills have been received, and outline in detail where our expenditures have gone. Our desires to change in many ways to make life better, have in some ways gone out the window. The truth may well be that some of the not so good parts of life we experienced in 2025 have followed us into this new year, and we stop and we take inventory about the plans we have made for this new year, and ask, what happened to them. We’ve climbed the ladder, only to realize that it looks like it’s against the wrong wall.

And we begin to think, this life I am living is not the life I thought I was going to live, “there has got to be more to life than this. My life does not feel complete.”

Maybe you are an avid golfer, or you follow golf. If you did you would have read or heard the story of a well-known Golfer, Scottie [Scheffler](#), the number one golfer in the world. Scottie is 29 years old, and has career earnings of 195 million dollars. In July of 2025 he holds a News Conference just before he went on to win another championship. He begins to give an answer which doesn’t seem polished, but almost more thinking out loud. Here is what he says: “quote:

**“it’s like why do I want to win this Golf Tournament so badly? Why do I want to win this open Championship so badly? I don’t know, because I win, its going to be awesome for two minutes. Playing Professional sports is a really weird thing to do. Just because we put in so much effort, we work so hard for something that is so fleeting. It really is. The feeling of winning just doesn’t last that long.” When I sit back at the end of the year and try to reflect on things like having that sense of accomplishment from winning the “Master’s Tournament,” from winning the PGA Championship, I have a deep sense of gratitude and appreciation for it, but it’s just hard to explain how it doesn’t. (he pauses here in his address, and the room became quiet) “it just doesn’t satisfy is how I would describe it. It’s an unsatisfying venture.”**

Now when someone aged 29 years says, after winning 195 million dollars, it doesn’t satisfy, well we offer to trade places with him or her, and give that a try. This is the life we want to live, and despite how good we want to look, and sometimes on “Face Book,” we actually do, we all make the statement, or at least think the thought, **“there has got to be more to life than this.”** With all the successes I may have experienced. With all the ladders I have climbed to get to where I thought I wanted to be, and now I wonder, **“was the ladder against the right wall?” Is there something more?”**

It seems that not only in modern times do some ask the question Scottie Scheffler asked, **“is there something more?”**

## **“LADDERS AND LONGINGS” FOR 2026**

### **“MAKING SURE THE LADDER IS UP AGAINST THE RIGHT WALL!” *CONT'D***

Way back in Old Testament times the wisest man ever to have lived. Solomon was the third King of Israel, following his father, David. By his own admission, he has accomplished everything he set his mind and heart to, and here is just a sample:

**Ecclesiastes 2:4-9 I undertook great projects: I built houses for myself and planted vineyards. I made gardens and parks and planted all kinds of fruit trees in them. I made reservoirs to water groves of flourishing trees. I bought male and female slaves and had other slaves who were born in my house. I also owned more herds and flocks than anyone in Jerusalem before me. I amassed silver and gold for myself, and the treasure of kings and provinces. I acquired male and female singers. I became greater by far than anyone in Jerusalem before me.**

**In all this my wisdom stayed with me.**

And here was his conclusion after all this:

**Ecclesiastes 1. “Meaningless! Meaningless!” says the Teacher.  
“Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless.”**

Then at the end of his life Solomon, after using 5579 words, he ends with this conclusion of what's really important in life.

**Ecclesiastes 12:13, Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter:  
Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind.**

Then Years later while He walked on this earth, Jesus had this to say about what is really important in your life and mine, to make sure we climb the right ladders.

In Matthew 6, Jesus teaches on a number of topics, including teaching His followers what we have come to know as; **The Lord’s Prayer**. He then follows his teaching with these words. (I would encourage you to read Matthew 6)

**Matthew 6:33-34, But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.  
Each day has enough trouble of its own.**

Then Jesus in a sense does what Solomon did. He wraps up His teachings with these words. Words which still stand as beacon for us all:

**Matthew 22:37- 38, Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment.  
And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself**

My Conclusion on the matter, as we make our way through 2026. Remember that God loves each and every one of us. He loved us enough to give us His Son Jesus to come and die for us. As we walk through 2026 can we give God a chance to direct our steps, to ensure that we pursue the things that really matter? Let me suggest that God offers a life to each of us that I cannot earn, nor can I do anything to warrant it. I want to invite you on a Spiritual Journey, and suggest there is more happening along this journey than I may even be aware of many times. God is here, all around us

Rev. R.D. (Bob) Wiebe  
Padre, RCL, Kingsway Branch

## **KINGSWAY LEGION LEAGUE SPORTS**



### **Darts**

Monday Nights 7 to 10 pm  
Tue & Thu Afternoons 1 to 3 pm



### **Cribbage**

Monday Nights 6:30 to 10 pm



### **Canasta**

Tue & Thu Afternoons 1 to 3 pm



### **Pool**

Tue & Thu 12 to 3 pm  
Sat Afternoons 12 to 3 pm



### **Euchre**

Wed Nights 7 to 10 pm



### **Shuffleboard**

Thu 6:30 to 10 pm  
Fri 7:00 to 10:30 pm



### **Mah Jongg**

Wed Afternoon 12:30 to 3:30

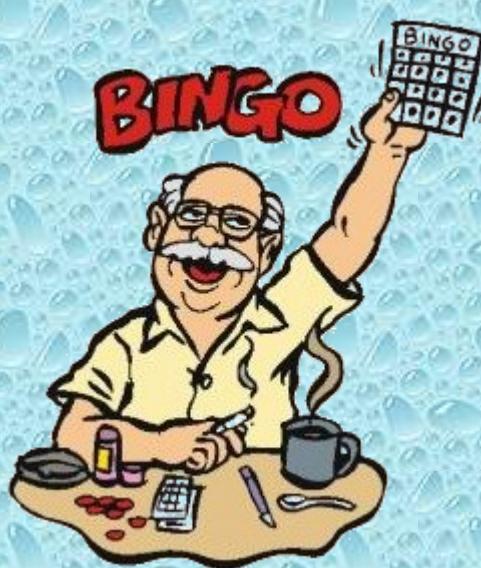
## KENSINGTON BINGO DATES

Below is the list of upcoming dates we are required to support.

Location: **12538 132 Ave NW, Edmonton**

Time: **10:30 – 4:00 pm**

- **Tuesday February 3**
- **Friday February 13**
- **Monday March 2**
- **Wednesday March 18**
- **Friday March 27**
- **Tuesday April 7**
- **Friday April 24**
- **Tuesday May 12**



Anyone wishing to volunteer please contact:

**Sharon (Blondie) or Ron Charlet at  
(780) 416-6102**

or leave a message at the Branch by calling **780-425-8654**

**Lunch Provided!**

## VETERAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

You do not have to be a member of the Legion to obtain support or assistance in receiving benefits or allowances from Veteran Affairs.

Contact any Legion Branch Service Office.

In addition, you can contact the Edmonton Service Bureau.

**#102 – 10471 – 178 Street NW  
Edmonton, AB T5S 1R5**

Phone: **(780) 448-4982**

Email: [info@abnwtlegion.com](mailto:info@abnwtlegion.com)

### Quote of the Month

“I am a Canadian, a free Canadian, free to speak without fear, free to worship in my own way, free to stand for what I think right, free to oppose what I believe wrong, or free to choose those who shall govern my country.

This heritage of freedom I pledge to uphold for myself and all mankind.”

John Diefenbaker  
13<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister of Canada  
June 21, 1957 – April 22, 1963

# **WE HAVE A WINNER!**

**In Fact We Have 10  
Every Wednesday Night**

**At Our Weekly Meat Draws**



**Ticket on Sale 6:00 pm  
Draw 6:30 pm  
10 Regular &  
1 Bonus Draw  
Tickets \$1.00 each**

**50/50**

**Immediately Following The  
Meat Draw  
10 Tickets For \$5.00**

**Legion** 

**Branch 175  
Edmonton**

**100**  
1926 · 2026  
