



THE TORCH

Newsletter of Royal Canadian Legion Kingsway Branch # 175

Jan 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, Jan 27, 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 Dec 16, 2025

Affiliate	253
Associate	448
Life Members	25
Ordinary	433
Total	1159



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
Dennis Adams	81	Dec 2025	
Ronald Falconer		Dec 26	

OUR NEWEST MEMBERS	
Michelle Drinkell	Trudy Dupre
Gerald Jackson	Gary Browning
Rita Choma	William Bayne
If you see our new members in the Legion please take a moment out and welcome them.	

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



Greater Edmonton Poppy

WHAT'S YOUR IRRATIONAL FEAR?

Somniphobia: is the fear of sleeping.

A fear of sleep, often related to nightmares or the fear of losing control while unconscious.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome Back

I would like to thank all members of the past executive for all their hard work and countless hours they have put in over the year. Without their dedication we wouldn't be as strong as we are.

It would be remised if a huge "**THANK YOU**" didn't go out to the many volunteers that help keeps the Branch going. Your efforts have saved the Branch countless dollars in operating fees.

In addition, the Ladies Auxiliary is an integral part any legion and we are lucky to have our dedicated Auxiliary members. Last year the Ladies Auxiliary donated over \$15,000 to the Branch. I ask that you continue to give them the support they deserve to meet their mission.

Kingsway Legion is proud to have a Zero Tolerance Harassment Policy in place. All Legion members and their guest should feel welcome. In the event you feel unsafe please let me or a member of the executive know. If you can't find an Executive Member you can contact the front desk.

We are continually working to keep the website up to date, and sending out a monthly newsletter, and updating the TVs regularly. Our hope is that you use these tools to keep abreast of what's happening at your Branch and to encourage you to "come on down".

The last note I would like to express is for you to get involved, come to meetings, share your ideas, participate in the various activities or events. Support your Legion and join us for fun and camaraderie.

Happy New Year Everyone



Richard Etmanski, President

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



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



Ford Dealers of Canada
Official Partner of The Royal Canadian Legion



No purchase necessary, terms and conditions apply.

THURSDAY NIGHT JAM ENTERTAINMENT FOR JANUARY

January 8

Hwy 45



January 29

CC & High Ryder





WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE LADIES AUXILIARY

Happy New Year!

We held a successful bake sale, White Elephant Table, ham & turkey draw 50/50 and raffle thanks to all your support through purchasing and donating items.

The winners of the raffle items are:



The grocery hamper valued at over \$400 was Kirk Oates



The various gift cards valued at \$250 was Ann Peters

The winner of the third prize of a cheese board gift basket valued at \$100 was Evelyn Kinasewich.

Unfortunately Evelyn was not present during the draw, so we have no picture of her receiving her prize.

On December 19th our Ladies went to the Kipnes Centre for Veterans and put together 120 gift bags to be given out Christmas morning. We also brought a box of Mandarin oranges and a large tin of cookies for each of the eight houses. The oranges were generously donated from Save-on-Foods again this year.

Our December 20th our Ladies Auxiliary held their Free Fun Bingo. We had a great attendance for it. People seemed to be enjoying themselves which is what it's all about. The next Free Fun Bingo is on January 10th.

Also on December 20th I put a Santa boot out at the meat raffle and asked people to put some ideas in for my 70 year old husband who could not come up with ideas. I wrapped the boot up and gave it to him Christmas morning. He had some good chuckles from your ideas thank you for submitting your thoughts.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE LADIES AUXILIARY

Members of the Ladies Auxiliary 2026 Executive were installed on Dec 7, 2025



Back Row: Kim Earles; President, Eldean Baskerville; Sgt-at-Arms, Mary Good; 1st Vice , Phyillis Moldowan ; 2nd Vice, Reba Baskerville; Executive Committee

Front Row: Gerry Britton; Secretary, Charlotte Bueckert; Membership, Sharon Clemens; Treasurer, Jan Langston; Ways & Means , Arlene Murray; Public Relations



President Rick Etmanski accepts 3 cheques totaling \$4,000, on behalf of the Branch from members of the L.A.

JUNO ROOM WEEKEND ENTERTAINMENT

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

Jan 2 & 3

Sparking Tone



Jan 16 & 17

Hickory Wind



Jan 30 & 31

CC & High Ryder



Jan 9 & 10

The Big Bang Boy



Jan 23 & 24

TBC



MILLER CROSSING FARMERS' MARKET

EDMONTON, AB



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 or on Facebook facebook.com/millercrossingfarmersmarket

Calling All Volunteers

There is just over five 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

As of Dec 27, 2025
we have raised just under:
\$39,500.00



Kingsway Legion



Volunteers

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



LEGION BUDDY CHECK COFFEE

A man visited his doctor, and the doctor checked him over before commenting, "It looks like you get a fair bit of exercise."

The man replied, "Oh yeah, in fact, just the other day I walked 5 miles over rugged terrain as I climbed over rocks and trees. I also waded along the edges of a lake, pushing my way through tall thistles, and even slid down sandy slopes while getting sand in my eyes."

The doctor was quite impressed. "Well, you are certainly a dedicated outdoor enthusiast."

The man replied, "Not really, doctor. I'm just a really bad golfer."

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

or call 780-868-8917

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>

“ANOTHER NEW YEAR!” BUT WHAT WILL BE NEW ABOUT IT?

As I was reflecting on what this article might look like as we enter 2026, I was reminded that so often our lives continue on much the same as we enter a new year. But then I remembered 26 years ago, as we entered a New Millennium, the year 2000. I was a pastor at a church in Brandon, Manitoba and at the same time serving as the Chaplain for the Brandon Police Service.

All of us remember the hype around the new Millennium; computers would fail, airplanes would crash, and the world was going to fall apart or maybe even end. As a Police Chaplain I did ride alongs with the officers on patrol, many of them during the evening shift. I wore the uniform of the B.P.S. with the words Police Chaplain on my Vest, which hopefully made up for the fact I did not carry a sidearm. The evening of December 31, 1999 and into 2000 I had numerous requests to accompany various officers in their patrol cars. As we neared midnight you could sense the tension as we attended calls, and some within the patrol vehicle as well. Conversation centered around, what might happen. As the Police Chaplain I prayed for all the officers in their vehicles and probably extra prayers for the vehicle I was in. Just before midnight the chatter on the radio all but stopped, and we waited as we drove the streets of Brandon. BUT nothing happened. The world didn't end, the computers kept on working and there were no explosions, there were no alien invasions, and the world didn't change a whole lot. A couple hours into the new millennium, the officer I was riding with, took me home. All was peaceful once again, and any fears dissipated.

Fear seems to be the opposite of fear, and peace is so critical to our well-being. We have just celebrated the birth of the Christ Child during Christmas Season, and so let's consider: **Isiah 9:6**

**For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders.
And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, PRINCE OF PEACE.**

From where I sit it seems to me that over the years our world has become more and more divided, we deal with more anxiety than ever, and serious division which runs deep. I think back at some of the General Meetings we have had recently, with emotions and sentiments running high. Social media often turns our beliefs into declarations instead of dialogue. Algorithms feed us what we already agree with, making us more opinionated and less open to listening. As a result, we grow proud, closed off, and quick to label others. Might I suggest that at the root of many of our disagreements is fear? I have had my share of times when I have been afraid in my RCMP Service. I have been involved in several “firearm incidents,” and that brings a real sense of fear. But, nothing like the story of the Shepherds, we read the story in **Luke 2:8-15**

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born

“ANOTHER NEW YEAR!” BUT WHAT WILL BE NEW ABOUT IT? *cont'd*

to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

I have a difficult time imagining what that scene must have looked like. Except for a few who drew the night shift, the rest were sound asleep, when suddenly “an Angel appears.” Then the sky is filled with multitudes or hosts of singing angels and blinding lights. “Afraid!” that might be an understatement. Nothing like this had ever happened to these shepherds. One translation of the Bible uses the word, “Terror Stricken.” All I can say is, I guess so, I would have been.

As we enter the new year, 2026, with many uncertainties we will need to face. Things like our health, will costs of food keep increasing and will I have enough income to counter that. We don’t have to spend much time thinking about uncertainties we face in 2026. I am quite sure it won’t be as dramatic as the turn of the Millennium in 2000. But we will face uncertainties. we can enter it with a sense of renewed hope. As I read the Christmas story, I am reminded that there is hope. Hope found in the birth of Jesus the Christ Child. And while it reminds us of Christmas, it also reminds us that Jesus’ coming to earth did not only entail Christmas. He came to set people free of the fear we often experience. And His words to us are still **“Fear Not.”**

We could ask the question as I look ahead into 2026 and the world around me, is there some fear attached to this outward looking? Fear of the unknown, fear of yet more price increases at the grocery store, fear of that diagnosis I may be waiting for. I know that for many of us in the line of work that we either are or were in, brings with it a sense of fear, that we will face or have faced.

Throughout the Scriptures there are some 82 **“Fear Not Statements.”** As 2025 draws to a close, and a New Year begins, with many unknowns, both individually and collectivity, be comforted by these words:

Isaiah 41:10,

So do not fear, for I am with you, do not be dismayed, for I am your God.

I will strengthen you and help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

And then the words of Jesus to His followers, and to us all: **Matthew 11:28-30**

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

May the **“Peace of Jesus”** surround each of you in this new year.

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

- **Friday January 30**
- **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

Quote of the Month

“It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop.”

Confucius



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**

TABLETOP

**Contact: James Morris
phgang02@hotmail.ca**

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

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
