



Royal Canadian Legion  **Port Elgin Branch 340**

Branch Line

May 2022

P.O. Box 359, 630 Green Street
Port Elgin, Ontario N0H 2C0 519-389-9917
Branch340@eastlink.ca www.Branch340.ca

Inside this issue you will find.... what is happening this month... Committee Reports.... general information and a wee bit of humor too. We welcome your articles and will be more than glad to insert them in future issues. Thanks to those who have submitted in the past. Anyone wishing to contribute to the Branch Line, please submit your articles to Branch340newsletter@gmail.com.

In this edition I have included the Annual Reports from your Executive Officers for the last year of service. Your Executive has been working diligently in ensuring the Branch business and day to day issues are being taken care of.

I am pleased to inform you that your Executive has a full slate of Officers for the coming term. I have included the election results and welcome to our new Executive.

Happy Mother's Day to all the lady figures in our lives. Enjoy your day! And a very happy Victoria Day too.

If you no longer wish to receive the Branch Line newsletter, please leave a message at
Branch340newsletter@gmail.com
Accessible formats are available upon request





Port Elgin Royal Canadian Legion Branch 340
 PO Box 359, 630 Green Street, Port Elgin ON N0H 2C0
 Phone: 519-389-9917 Fax: 226-453-3005
 branch340@eastlink.ca www.Branch340.ca



2019 – 2020 BRANCH 340 EXECUTIVE

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| President | Robert Harrison | bnrshow@eastlink.ca | 519-389-4806 |
| Immediate Past President | Dan Kelly | dankelly@bmts.com | 519-389-2352 |
| 1st Vice President | Alex Taylor | alex.taylor@bmts.com | 519-389-2616 |
| 2nd Vice President | Rhonda Harrison | bnrshow@eastlink.ca | 519-389-4806 |
| Secretary / Treasurer | Norma Dudgeon | branch340@eastlink.ca | 519-389-2876 |
| Chaplain | Rev. Chuck Beaton | cjbeaton5@gmail.com | 519-797-5586 |
| | | | |
| Executive | Mike Hobson | hobson@eastlink.ca | 519-386-6078 |
| | Tom Jacques | thjacques@bmts.com | 519-832-6837 |
| | Patty Kelly | gpkelly@bmts.com | 519-389-6057 |
| | Gord Kelly | gordonakelly1973@gmail.com | 519-389-6057 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| LA Liaison | Patty Kelly | gpkelly@bmts.com | 519-389-6057 |
| Bar Chair | Norma Dudgeon | branch340@eastlink.ca | 519-389-2876 |
| Bursary | Robert Harrison | bnrshow@eastlink.ca | 519-389-4806 |
| By-laws | Norma Dudgeon | branch340@eastlink.ca | 519-389-2876 |
| Charity | Rhonda Harrison | bnrshow@eastlink.ca | 519-389-4806 |
| Hall Rental | Norma Dudgeon | branch340@eastlink.ca | 519-389-2876 |
| Honours & Awards | Tom Jacques | thjacques@bmts.com | 519-832-6837 |
| Leadership Development | Robert Harrison | bnrshow@eastlink.ca | 519-389-4806 |
| Membership | Dan Kelly | dankelly@bmts.com | 519-389-2352 |
| Poppy | Alex Taylor | alex.taylor@bmts.com | 519-389-2616 |
| Property | Robert Harrison | bnrshow@eastlink.ca | 519-389-4806 |
| Public Relations | Rhonda Harrison | bnrshow@eastlink.ca | 519-389-4806 |
| Seniors | Mike Hobson | hobson@eastlink.ca | 519-386-6078 |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Mike Hobson | hobson@eastlink.ca | 519-386-6078 |
| Service Officer | Mike Hobson | hobson@eastlink.ca | 519-386-6078 |
| Sports | Gord Kelly | gordonakelly1973@gmail.com | 519-389-6057 |
| Veteran Services | Mike Hobson | hobson@eastlink.ca | 519-386-6078 |
| Ways & Means | Tom Jacques | thjacques@bmts.com | 519-832-6837 |
| Youth Education | Patty Kelly | branch340youthed@gmail.com | 519-389-6057 |
| Air Cadets Liaison | Elizabeth Eby | bizebys@gmail.com | 519-832-3133 |
| Nevada | Andrew Reinhart | andyreinhart@hotmail.com | 519-708-0553 |
| Track & Field | Robert Harrison | bnrshow@eastlink.ca | 519-389-4806 |
| | | | |
| | | | |





Port Elgin Royal Canadian Legion Branch 340
 PO Box 359, 630 Green Street, Port Elgin ON N0H 2C0
 Phone: 519-389-9917 Fax: 226-453-3005
 branch340@eastlink.ca www.Branch340.ca



| 2019-2020 LADIES AUXILIARY EXECUTIVE | |
|---|-----------------------|
| President | Diana Tripp |
| 1st Vice President | Anne Marie Kinsman |
| 2nd Vice President | Sharen Maas |
| Treasurer | Diana Tripp - Interim |
| Secretary | Vicky Taylor |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Anne Marie Kinsman |
| Sports Officer | Linda Virgo |
| | Sharen Maas |
| Executive | Elaine Esplen |
| | Linda Virgo |
| | Marilyn Noble |
| | Meryl Cramp |



President's Report



Spring is here and our annual elections have taken place. I am honoured to have been elected as your President for the coming year. I am very pleased to report that after being short Executive for the past few years we finally have a full slate of Executive Officers and I am looking forward to their fresh input for our Legion. Please see the new slate of Officers further in this bulletin.

I would like to give a sincere thank-you to our past Executive who signed up in 2019 for 1 year and have now served 3 years due to COVID-19. Our Branch is in very good shape thanks to their diligent support.

Work will be underway to do some much needed repairs to our building. The roof, we hope, will be repaired this summer and we are looking into a much needed electrical update. Now that the needed companies are back to work we can hopefully acquire the products needed for the repairs.

We will be getting Bingo and our Friday Night BBQ's in action soon. Volunteers will be needed so please consider signing up to help and by doing so you will be helping not only our veterans but our community. We have several local groups asking for our support once again; however,



as we have not been fundraising for the last 3 years our bank balance for Charity is very low right now and therefore we need your support.

If you have any ideas to help raise funds please do not hesitate to bring them forward.

It would be great if all our members and friends would stop in for some refreshments and meet some old friends and make some new ones.

President Robert Harrison
bnrshow@eastlink.ca



Hall Rentals



Now that the COVID restrictions are starting to be lifted, our main hall is once again available. Please note that our Legion is going with the Provincial mandate of eliminating the Vaccine Passport which was effective 1 March 2022. Masks are not mandatory but are of the person's discretion if they wish to wear one.

We can cater to meetings, anniversaries, birthdays and celebrations of life and/or funeral lunches.

Our hall rates vary for each occasion and Legion Bar Staff is provided by the Branch. The Ladies Auxiliary is available to cater to these events with a light menu.

Our facility includes a wheelchair accessible washroom with a baby change station and is conveniently located in the building for access by both males and females.

Please contact Norma Dudgeon at the Legion office where you can leave a message 519 832-2903 or email: branch340@eastlink.ca





Honours & Awards



Recognizing valued members for their contributions at our Legion is an important part of the Honours & Awards Chair.

When you nominate volunteer members, based on their efforts of ensuring our Branch functions continue, we build strong and continuous relationships, and we build a stronger Branch.

If you know anyone whom you feel should be shown appreciation, please contact me with this members particulars and confidentially the H&A Committee will evaluate the nomination.

Cde Tom Jacques
Honours & Awards Chair
thjacques@bmts.com



Photo courtesy Sandy Lindsay, Saugeen Times

Cde Norm Kaufman, Ordinary member, receives his pin for 60 years of service.

L-R - Cde Norm Kaufman, Tom Jacques, Honours & Awards Chair and President Robert Harrison



Cde Tom Jacques, Affiliate member receives his pin for 35 years of service (37 years)

L-R – Cde Norma Dudgeon and Tom Jacques



**I choked on a carrot
this afternoon and all I
could think about was
"I bet a donut wouldn't
have done this to me."**





Membership



If you have not renewed your 2022 membership please consider doing that.

You can make your payment:

1. On-line by going to legion.ca on the computer
2. Come into the Branch when we are open (3 – 8 p.m. Monday to Saturday)
3. Contact me at dankelly@bmts.com to make other arrangements.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the Branch sometime soon.

We will remember them

Cde Dan Kelly
Membership Chair
dankelly@bmts.com



Last Post



James Gostick

Associate

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,
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.



Eileen Marjorie Harford

*A Celebration of Life will be
held in the main hall
Saturday, May 28th at 2:00 pm*

All are welcome



Poppy



After another highly successful 2021 Poppy Campaign and in spite of the continued challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic, our Veterans' needs are a year around endeavour and this year's Poppy Campaign success will mean that more Funds are available to be used to address their most urgent needs such as homelessness. We appreciate any donations made throughout the year. Each year we have Veterans and projects that need assistance.

As always, if any member is aware of any veteran, whether a Legion member or not, who may need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mike Hobson, our Branch Service Officer who can contact the veteran directly to assess any support that may be required.

With a number of the limitations put on us due to the COVID-19 Pandemic now being lifted and life getting back to some semblance of normalcy, we will look forward to seeing you, our members and friends, at what events we are now able to offer over the upcoming months. In particular, our Friday evening get togethers, meat raffles and other social functions at the Legion will now allow us with increased social interaction as we continue to strive to assist and comfort our Veterans who have served us so well!

Lest We Forget!

In Comradeship,
Cde Alex Taylor
Poppy Chair
alex.taylor@bmts.com



1. *When one door closes and another door opens, you are probably in prison.*
2. *To me, "drink responsibly" means don't spill it.*
3. *Age 60 might be the new 40, but 9:00 pm is the new midnight.*
4. *It's the start of a brand new day, and I'm off like a herd of turtles.*
5. *The older I get, the earlier it gets late.*
6. *When I say, "The other day," I could be referring to any time between yesterday and 15 years ago.*
7. *I remember being able to get up without making sound effects.*
8. *I had my patience tested. I'm negative.*
9. *Remember, if you lose a sock in the dryer, it comes back as a Tupperware lid that doesn't fit any of your containers.*
10. *If you're sitting in public and a stranger takes the seat next to you, just stare straight ahead and say, "Did you bring the money?"*
11. *When you ask me what I am doing today, and I say "nothing," it does not mean I am free. It means I am doing nothing.*
12. *I finally got eight hours of sleep. It took me three days, but whatever.*
13. *I run like the winded.*
14. *I hate when a couple argues in public, and I missed the beginning and don't know whose side I'm on.*
15. *When someone asks what I did over the weekend, I squint and ask, "Why, what did you hear?"*
16. *When you do squats, are your knees supposed to sound like a goat chewing on an aluminum can stuffed with celery?*
17. *I don't mean to interrupt people. I just randomly remember things and get really excited.*
18. *When I ask for directions, please don't use words like "east."*
19. *Don't bother walking a mile in my shoes. That would be boring. Spend 30 seconds in my head. That'll freak you right out.*
20. *Sometimes, someone unexpected comes into your life out of nowhere, makes your heart race, and changes you forever. We call those people cops.*
21. *My luck is like a bald guy who just won a comb.*





Veteran Services




Port Elgin Legion Branch 340

IMPORTANT NOTICE

During this time of crisis any veteran that requires assistance including financial aid may contact the Port Elgin Legion Veterans Service Officer for assistance and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

Contact: Port Elgin Legion Branch 340
 Veteran Service Officer
 branch340@eastlink.ca
 519-832-2903

Your Royal Canadian Legion is committed to making a difference in the lives of Veterans and their families, providing essential services in our communities, and remembering the men and women who sacrificed for our country.



Ways & Means



The Executive has agreed to increase the price of the Meat Draw tickets effective May 14, 2022 due to the rising increase of meat products:

- **Regular draw \$3.00 per ticket/2 spins**
- **Hip of Beef ticket \$3.00 for 1 spin**
- **Door prize tickets remain at \$1.00**

We thank everyone for their continued support with these events and look forward to seeing you at the Branch

Cde Tom Jacques
 Honours & Awards Chair
 thjacques@bmts.com





Youth Education



The past three years on the Executive Committee in the position of Youth Education Chair has been a rewarding experience.

I would like to thank President Bob Harrison and the Executive Committee members for their support of the Youth Ed programme.

A special thank you to the Youth Ed project volunteers who are committed to the Youth Ed projects. They always showed up when called upon even during the pandemic years.

All the best and congratulations to the newly elected Executive Committee especially the future Youth Education Chair.

In Comradeship

Patty Kelly
Youth Education Chair
branch340youthed@gmail.com





Branch 340 Executive Officers Annual Reports – 2021-2022



Each year at the Annual General Meeting in April, your Executive Officers present their annual reports to update the membership of what has been happening in their respective committee positions. Your Executive Officers have been conscientious in their duty and working together to keep the Branch viable. They have been successful in ensuring that all Branch business, financial and otherwise, has been taken care of to the best of their ability during this stressful pandemic.

Please note the information provided in the reports was pertinent at the time of submission.

PRESIDENT REPORT – Robert Harrison

It's been a long and difficult 2 years at our Branch due to COVID-19. In spite of that our Executive has remained strong and kept our Branch in very good shape. We have done several renovations including finishing the siding at the front of the building; installed new security lights and cameras; and replaced a lot of lights with more energy efficient units. We also purchased new tables; an icemaker and new cash registers. A thank you to all the volunteers who helped to make these and many other smaller jobs happen to make our Legion great. We are also working on replacing the roof and having our electrical system upgraded.

We are in very good financial situation largely due a very generous donation from the late Comrade Bob Maas. His gift will help us aid our veterans and community for years to come.

We also need to thank the federal and provincial governments for their generous grants we received to help us during COVID-19.

As this is the end of term for this Executive I would like to thank them for their work during these trying times and to wish our new Executive best of luck in their new positions.

MEMBERSHIP – Dan Kelly

Another year of COVID tossing our lives around. Places opening then closing and then back opening again. It looks like we are moving on from the worse of it but we are not completely through yet. Many people are happy to be able to go around without masks but precaution should still be taken when around huge crowds.

Our Branch executive have been working to help maintain our facility and membership as well as keeping all our comrades informed of what is happening. Hope you are all well and staying safe. Many people have gotten their second and third booster shot and that has helped us get rid of this virus.

Membership has been strong this year thanks to our members paying the membership dues early and many new members wanting to join. Our membership status 2022 is as follows:



- New and Reinstated members – 10 members have joined our Branch in the past year
- Affiliate Voting Members – 69 of 77 members have paid their membership dues for 2022
- Associate Members – 237 of 255 members have paid their membership dues for 2022
- Life Members – 13 of 13 members have renewed their membership (it is automatic for Life members)
- Ordinary Members – 52 of 59 members have paid their membership dues for 2022
- Deceased Members – 10 members have passed away in the past year. Their support will not be forgotten. “We will remember them”
- Total to date – 369 of 406 members have paid their membership dues for 2022 with 37 members still outstanding that have not renewed their membership this year.

Letters have been sent out reminding people of their outstanding renewal however, some letters were returned back due to incorrect address. If you have changed your address in the past two years or have a P.O. Box number, please let us know of the change so we can keep our records up to date.

Online Activity:

People are now using the online services to enroll in or renew their membership in Branch 340. Four people have joined as well as 28 people have renewed their membership on line this year. This is a great addition that helps people that cannot get in to the Branch but still like to support our cause.

Thanks you all for your support and dedication to Branch 340. Hope to see you all soon.

Stay Safe and Healthy

POPPY – Alex Taylor

Financial report to date:

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Revenue: | \$ 40,139.49 | Expenses: | \$ 44,310.29 | Bank Balance: | \$ 36,953.28 |
| Donations: | \$ 35,000 | Investment: | \$ 20,044.28 | | |

With the continued challenges that the Covid-19 pandemic presented, Port Elgin Legion’s 2021 Poppy Campaign has successfully raised over \$39,951.17, close to matching our highly successful 2020 campaign. Through our Ad Mail Campaign, Port Elgin households and businesses have again donated \$11,403.52 alone to the Poppy Campaign, an 11% increase over 2020. Again, a campaign this large could not come off without the support of our dedicated Branch Member volunteers who stuffed Ad Mail Envelopes and Canvassed in the campaign at stores that had sufficient space to allow for Canvassers to properly social distance and the many Port Elgin businesses who again displayed 107 Poppy boxes collecting funds for this year’s Poppy Campaign. Our businesses and organizations even with the continued negative impact of Covid-19, sponsored 116 wreaths, another key to the success of this year’s Poppy Campaign.

Thank you to all those who purchased wreaths or made donations. Our Veterans rely on us and the Poppy Funds we raise to assist them in their time of need. This has allowed us to approve \$34,500.00 in donations to date.



The call for canvassing volunteers was again answered by a number of our dedicated members; significant funds was raised by our Canvassers distributing poppies in stores as well as the generous contributions to in store Poppy Boxes.

Heartfelt thanks go out to those Branch Members who volunteered over 310 hours of their valuable time this year to stuff Ad Mail Envelopes and/or Canvass:

| | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Carolyn Russell | Mike Howe | Mary Galliher | Elizabeth Eby | Scott Davidson |
| Dan Kelly | Laurie Laur | Glenna Snider | Janice Pepe | Shelley Hewson |
| Thelma Kennedy | Vicky Taylor | Mickey Kinsman | Rhonda Harrison | Bob Harrison |
| Shirley Jacklin | Wayne MacKinnon | Grant Virgo | George Jacklin | Shirley Alpaugh |
| Trish Frizzell | | | | |

Thanks to Air Cadet Canvassers, Sophie Penner, Cardin Penner, Ibrahim Shad, Daniel Griffin, Ethan Ronholm, Teagan Penner, Evan Clarke, Armeet Walia, Jaskaran Walia, Curtis Metcalf and Captain Rob Herborth

Ken and Evelyn Marin helped me to meet the Poppy Audit requirements for our 2020-2021 financial reports by reviewing the Poppy Trust Financial Records.

Thanks also to Shelley Hewson who helped distribute and pick up Poppy Boxes, count money and Thelma Kennedy for helping sign out canvassers and count money along with the other money counters, Randy Shultz, Jim Connan, Vicky Taylor, Glenna Snider, Larry Dudgeon, Dan Kelly, Jim Allen, Rhonda and Bob Harrison

As always, Norma’s support and advice was invaluable this year again to the Poppy Campaign and greatly appreciated! Most important is her dedication to R.C.L Branch #340 and this year’s Remembrance Day Ceremony!

A sincere THANK YOU to all those who volunteered their time this year!

LEST WE FORGET!

PUBLIC RELATIONS – Rhonda Harrison

My report is similar to my 2021 submission as we are all too familiar with COVID playing havoc with any Branch activities and the numerous closing and openings at the Branch.

At Branch 340 we have tried our best to accommodate our members and of course staying within provincial guidelines and the many protocols. We are now fully open, vaccine passports have been eliminated and mask wearing is optional.

It has been a very quiet year for functions again and hopefully this will soon be behind us and we can come again to some type of normalcy.

2021-2022 events which the Branch hosted and participated with:



- Branch Poster & Literary Competition was held and we did receive a good amount of submissions from the schools. The public speaking competition was cancelled to ensure the safety of everyone and hopefully will be held again next year.
- Christmas Raffle tickets were on sale with proceeds going towards youth programs in our community and the draw was held on December 18, 2021.
- Members of the Branch and Colour Party attended the Remembrance Day service at the Tolmie Presbyterian Church on Sunday, November 7th.
- Our Remembrance Day Cenotaph Service was attended by the public as per the COVID-19 guidelines. This was also live-streamed to the community. At the Branch, Honours & Awards were presented. Donations from the LA President were also awarded to the Branch and Cenotaph Fund.
- The Legion Colour Party led the Santa Claus Parade again this year.
- The Annual Christmas Toy Drive was another successful endeavour thanks in part to Meridian Credit Union and to our generous members.
- Branch 340 was host to the Zone C-4 Spring Convention on Sunday, March 20th and was nice to see our fellow members from the different Zones and District.
- At the time of writing this report Branch elections will be held and congratulations to the newly elected Executive members.

At present, the Branch is open to restricted hours and the Games Room is open for everyone to enjoy. The Friday Night Dance Club has resumed in the upstairs main hall.

We hope to have our regular events starting soon, again adhering to the Health Unit guidelines. This includes the weekly card groups, bingo, and Friday night dinners. The Meat Draws have continued and it is very nice to see everyone out and about.

Photos are forwarded to Mary Ann Goheen, Ontario Correspondent, for the Legion Magazine. Photos are submitted as the Branch continues with donations and other events but with the pandemic this was not feasible to arrange with the organizations.

I continue to produce the Branch Line bulletin each month.
Our Branch website is www.Branch340.ca

SENIORS / VETERANS' SERVICES / SGT AT ARMS – Mike Hobson

It has once again been a challenging year for everyone but especially for our Seniors and Veterans. Our members more at risk to the effects of COVID have been under a lot of stress and have been somewhat alone for years. Branch 340 has done a great job continuing to remain in touch with our members. I may hold the chair for Seniors, Veterans and Service Officer but it is the dedication of the entire executive to the wellbeing of our Seniors and Vets that is truly remarkable!

We honorably carried the Colours for members that have passed at several solemn occasions. I received reports of our members and executives constantly reaching out and when they are allowed, visiting the older membership in the community.



Under the exemplary leadership of Norma, we once again held the Remembrance Day ceremony live at the cenotaph and streaming online. The attendance at the cenotaph was a beautiful turnout from our community as well as the online presentation of the ceremony for those Seniors and Veterans that are unable to attend in person.

As an executive member I would like to recognize the efforts of the entire executive team that has persevered over the last 3 years and continued to support the Branch and community during a very difficult pandemic.

As a veteran I simply want to say thank you!

SPORTS – Gord Kelly

A sports comeback is starting to happen. In January 2022, our Branch hosted a Zone 8-Ball Tournament. I am pleased to announce the team of Craig Bell and Jim Fleming won the tournament. The team of Brad Davies and Mike Howe reached the semi-finals thus making both teams eligible for the District Tournament on April 30th in Hanover.

Watch the bulletin boards for notices as many more of the sports activities will finally be resuming.

YOUTH EDUCATION – Patty Kelly

I am pleased to report that the participation in the 2021/22 Remembrance Day Poster & Literary Competition exceeded our expectations. The students with the support of their teachers and family submitted over three hundred entries to the local competition hosted by Branch 340. As we all know these have been challenging academic years during the pandemic. These students and their schools kept this annual Remembrance Day activity a priority. They did not forget

Our local Remembrance Day Poster and Literary Competition would not be possible without resolute volunteers who did not hesitate to “mask up” while socially distancing to judge the entries. A big thank you to our volunteers.

The Public Speaking Contest has been on hold for the past two years.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the membership for entrusting me as a member of the Executive Committee. In joining the Executive Committee, one develops a better understanding and appreciation for the operation of our local Branch 340. My experience was rewarding working with all the loyal Directors of the Executive Committee under the strong leadership of our President Bob Harrison.

OPTIONAL COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS

BAR – Norma Dudgeon

The bar continues to run smoothly with our 4 efficient and reliable bartenders – Al Ellis, Don Dudgeon, Garry Winnitoy and Shelley Hewson; scheduling is to everyone’s liking and there



have been no problems; I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their continued support to our Branch as they do a lot of volunteer things behind the scenes.

BRANCH REGULATIONS – Norma Dudgeon

Our Branch regulations will be updated this year to comply with the Provincial changes that have occurred in the past.

CHARITY – Rhonda Harrison

The Charity Committee met to review the budget and annual donations.

2021-2022 Charity Budget is \$4,460 and includes annual donations of \$1,450. A budget of \$750 is set aside for miscellaneous charitable items.

These amounts have decreased considerably compared to last year but we haven't had any lottery revenue during this pandemic year. We only hope that once we are back to a more normal state of operations, we can carry on our donations and community support as in the past.

Due to the generous support of our Poppy Fund and the Ladies Auxiliary, our 2 local hospitals have received funding for a total of \$14,250; Saugeen Memorial Hospital - \$7,500 and Owen Sound GBRHS - \$6,750.

We also held our annual Christmas Raffle gift basket. Tickets were sold by Legion members and friends and with the support of the Saugeen Shores Minor Hockey League. Branch 340 sponsors the Peewee Legion B Team and with their help, we were able to donate \$900 to the team to help offset their expenses.

The Charity Committee also has background information regarding the Lamont Sports Park in which their Campaign Team are reaching out to ask for the Legion's support. Information is on file and will be brought forward for consideration when our financial matters are in a better state.

Background:

Again this year, our donations to eligible charities and the community are less because of COVID and the lack of being able to fundraise through our lottery accounts.

HALL RENTALS – Norma Dudgeon

For the last couple of years, hall rentals have been scarce because of COVID-19. Now that the Branch is back to a little bit of normal, we have been accepting rentals for meetings, retirements and celebrations of life.

Unfortunately, we cannot take bookings for groups who are requesting dinners as our ladies auxiliary don't have many members who can work in the kitchen anymore. Hopefully, they will get some new members who can help them out.



WAYS & MEANS / HONOURS & AWARDS – Tom Jacques

Meat raffles have been well attended and hopefully we can get bingo going at the start of summer.

Norma Dudgeon presented Tom Jacques with his 35 year service pin and commented on his many years of serving our Branch behind the scenes and for running the meat raffles.



Branch 340 Election – April 5, 2022



2022 - 2023 Election of Officers: Election Chair – Dan Kelly

Election results:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| President: | Robert Harrison | |
| 1 st Vice President: | Alex Taylor | |
| 2 nd Vice President: | Rhonda Harrison | |
| Executive: | Craig Bell | Gord Kelly |
| | Monica Carere | Tom Jacques |
| | Bernice Ribey | Trish Frizzell |

MOTION to destroy the ballots by Vicky Taylor / 2nd Ken Martin **CARRIED**

Thank you to the following members for their participation with the annual election

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Secretary: | Norma Dudgeon |
| Scribe: | Patty Kelly |
| Chief Scrutineer: | Ken Martin |
| Scrutineers: | Craig Bell / Jan Pepe / Evelyn Martin |
| Sgt at Arms: | Mike Hobson |
| Door Registration | Evelyn Martin |



Husband sat in his room
throwing darts (🎯) at his
wife's photo but not even a
single one hits the Target.

From another room wife
asks the husband :
"What are u doing?"

Husband : "MISSING YOU"





**Branch 340
Annual Donations – April 5, 2022**



| | |
|--|--|
| | |
| L-R: Amy McKinnon, Owen Sound Hospital Foundation and LA President Diana Tripp | L-R: Amy McKinnon, Owen Sound Hospital Foundation and Alex Taylor, Poppy Chair |

Amy McKinnon, Executive Director, Grey Bruce Health Services:

- The continued support of the Port Elgin Legion 340, the Poppy Fund, and the Ladies Auxiliary ensures Grey Bruce Health Services has the tools and equipment needed by front line health workers to provide quality care right here at home. This year your support will go towards the purchase of a new fleet of electrocardiograms (ECGs). The ECGs are used everywhere in healthcare including the whole spectrum of patients. We are grateful for the Legion’s support. Thank you Port Elgin Legion veterans and members for being a vital part of your community, you are making a difference.
- Amy MacKinnon, also received a cheque for \$300 for the Oncology unit from Rhonda Harrison, Charity Chair

Tracy Murray, Executive Director, Saugeen Memorial Hospital Foundation:

(Ms. McKinnon also accepts donations on behalf of the Saugeen Memorial Hospital Foundation)

- The Saugeen Memorial Hospital Foundation is tremendously grateful for the ongoing support provided by the Port Elgin Legion 340, the Poppy Fund, and the Ladies Auxiliary. Over the years this generous support has helped to fund a number of projects and equipment needs within the hospital which have helped to improve patient care. This year’s gift in support of the CT scanner will not only help patients in Saugeen Shores but will also provide more timely access to these services to people across Bruce County.





District C Spring Convention April 9 & 10, 2022



District C Legionnaires gathered at Goderich Branch 109 for the Spring Convention on April 9 & 10, 2022. It was a full agenda of reports and presentations for the 2 days. The Council and President's Meetings were held on Saturday morning. A short parade to the Goderich Memorial and back to the Branch for lunch and the afternoon presentations. Topics regarding Vital Imagery, OSI Program Update (Operational Stress Injury) and the Homeless Veterans Program were presented.

Lisa Thompson, MPP Huron-Bruce, spoke of freedom and what the situation in Ukraine represented to us. She said the Legion would be needed more than ever.

Ben Lobb, MP Huron-Bruce, spoke about the good work the Legion does and thanked all our volunteers.

The guest speaker for the Saturday Banquet was Cde Garry Pond, President, Ontario Command. Cde Garry talked about the challenges we had faced and told everyone the theme for next term was "Working Together". He was impressed by the camaraderie shown at the Convention and how we all helped each other.

The Sunday agenda consisted of the Business Session, Zone Commander Reports, Committee Reports, District Commander Reports, questions to the Provincial Officers and election for District C Commander.

Presentations and Branch donations were conducted on Sunday. Cde Dan Kelly, Branch 340, was presented with a Certificate for his years of service as District C Sports Officer Assistant. Cde Alex Taylor, Branch 340, presented donation cheques to Ontario Command for various programs and to District C Hospital Trust Fund.

Hepworth Shallow Lake Branch 586 received their Charter for the Branch and Ladies Auxiliary after their copy was destroyed in the fire. Branch 586 also received over \$2,000 from other Branches in our District and from Branches in District E for an overall total of approximately \$30,720.

Queens Platinum Jubilee Pins given out and \$257,300 given in donations - a record amount

District C Commander-Elect is Cde Dean Weir. His term of Office will be from 2022-2025. Cde Dennis Schmidt Zone Commander of C-1 was acclaimed as Deputy District C Commander for the term 2022-2025.

The Provincial Convention will be held in North Bay from May 14-17, 2022.

The term for the new Zone, District and Provincial Officers begins after close of Provincial Convention on May 17, 2022.



Hoof in It –Your Local Butcher

1199 Goderich St #A Port Elgin (519) 389-6328

Due to COVID-19 Hoof in It would like to offer Branch 340 members a 10% discount.



The following are national commemorative and notable days of relevance to The Royal Canadian Legion that raise awareness of an issue, commemorate a group or event, or celebrate something.

- May 1st Sunday Battle of the Atlantic (1945)
- May 1-7 National Youth Week
- May 3 John McCrae wrote 'In Flanders Fields' poem
- May 4-10 CMHA Mental Health Week
- May 4 Royal Canadian Navy founded (1910)
- May 5 Liberation of Netherlands (1945)
- May 8 VE Day (1945)
- May 8 Mother's Day
- May 15 International Day of Families
- May 19 Canadian Army founded (1855)
- May 21 National War Memorial unveiled (1939)
- May 23 Victoria Day
- May 25 Ypres (1915)
- May 8 Tomb of Unknown Soldier (2000)
- May 29 International Day of UN Peacekeepers
- May 31 End of South African (Boer) War (1902)
- May 30 US Memorial Day





Branch 340 Ladies Auxiliary



Hurray, Hurray the 1st of May, get out in your garden and play, play, play or should I say weed, weed, weed.

We have two Celebrations of Life scheduled for the month of May.

We had our Election scheduled in April but did not have a quorum so had to reschedule another meeting which was also held but again we were short people and did not have a quorum. So, what this means is that the existing executive will continue for this year. It is unfortunate that we do not have enough members coming out so that we could hold our election.

Our Zone Convention is being held in Lion's Head on Sunday, May 29th with registration beginning at 11AM and the Parade at 12:30PM. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. We can meet up at our back parking lot to ride share.

Interested in becoming a member, join us at our monthly meeting. We are in desperate need of new members. Our monthly meetings are every 2nd Tuesday of the month in the upstairs hall at 7:30PM. Thank you.

Next meeting is Tuesday, May 10th at 7:30 PM

Thank you everyone for your help and support and stay healthy.

Vicky Taylor
vicky.taylor@bmts.com



Murphy's Laws

1. In any field of endeavor, anything that can go wrong, will go wrong.
2. Left to themselves, things always go from bad to worse.
3. If there is a possibility of several things going wrong, the one that will go wrong, is the one that will cause the most damage.
4. Nature always sides with the hidden flaw.
5. If everything seems to be going well, you have obviously overlooked something.



Victoria Day, May 23, 2022

The May long weekend commonly referred to as May 2-4 will soon be here. The unofficial kick-off to the warm weather days with the opening of cottages and the campers returning to the parks. May 2-4 weekend is not as many believe to be in reference to a case of a popular beverage.

Actually, some of us will remember that the Monday of the May long weekend is known as Victoria Day. In 1845 during the reign of Queen Victoria's her birthday of May 24th was declared a holiday in Canada.

Queen Victoria was affectionately known in Canada as the Mother of Confederation. She supported with her royal influence the provinces forming the self-governing Dominion of Canada in 1867.

Upon the death of Queen Victoria in 1901 the Canadian government declared Victoria Day an official federal statutory holiday. This holiday will always be on the Monday prior to May 25th. Parades and community park picnics with evening fireworks were always popular on this weekend. To this day the reverberating bang of fireworks lighting up the sky still happens on this weekend.

Wishing you and your families a safe holiday weekend however it is known to you the May 2-4 Weekend or Victoria Day Weekend.

Reference: Cited from www.canada.ca www.officialholidays.com www.britannica.com





Upcoming Branch Events

Please support the Legion wherever you are



Branch 340

Meat Draw
 Sat. May 14 & 28
 4:00 pm

Everyone Welcome
 Please join us

Branch 340

Meat Draw
Ticket Price Increase
 effective May 14, 2022



Regular Ticket \$3.00 – 2 Spins
 Hip Of Beef Ticket \$3.00 – 1 Spin
 Door Prize Ticket \$1.00

LIVE MUSIC

Dan & Dillon Campbell

Saturday, May 21st
 Branch Club Room
3:30 pm – 6:00 pm






Make A Difference Volunteer



Bingo is one of our programs that our members and public enjoy; the monies derived support the many projects in our community and other charities such as the Cenotaph Park, Air Cadets, our local hospitals and the list goes on.

Volunteers are needed to help with the Wednesday night weekly Bingo. The following positions need to be covered: Coordinator, Callers, Floor Workers, Set-up and Take-down of tables and chairs. We really need your help and it doesn't have to be every Wednesday; could be 2 Wednesdays a month or whatever your schedule allows. If you can spare a few hours it would be very much appreciated.

Thank you for your consideration and together we can ensure this major fundraiser will continue and we can carry on supporting our community. Please contact me and we will find a spot for you on the team.

Bob Harrison, President
bnrshow@eastlink.ca
519-389-4806



Please consider helping with Branch events:

Bingo, Meat Draws, BBQ's, Poppy Campaign to name a few

Please leave your name with the Bar Steward or email at branch340@eastlink.ca and you will be contacted

We can't do it without you



**Royal Canadian Legion
Chatsworth Branch #464**

Friday Night Music Jams
2:00 – 5:00 pm



Friday Night Dinners
5:30 pm

Branch Phone: 519-794-2021
Call Thursday after 5:00 pm
Call Friday after 1:00 pm



Tara Br. #383 Events



Friday Night Supper
May 14th from 5:00 – 7:00 pm
Roast Beef Dinner, salads, dessert, tea and coffee
\$12.00



Blue Grass Music Entertainment
Sunday, May 15th starting at 1:00 pm



Jam Session
Thursday, May 19th starting at 2:00 pm



Sunday Breakfast
May 29th with proceeds to the Splash Pad
10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Adults \$12.00 / Child 4-8 \$6.00 / Under 4 is Free



Your support would be truly appreciated, as all monies raised are donated to our local charities





AIR CADETS 340 (Griffin) Squadron, Port Elgin



With the anticipation of May flowers now upon us, the #340 Griffin Air Cadet Squadron would like to extend warm greetings to our many Legion Branches, Executive, Members and Legion friends that have supported the Squadron in the past and continue to do so in the future.

The Cadets have been enjoying a month of in-person training. Fsgt Sophie Penner has been selected to compete in the Regional Effective Speaking competition (virtually). She won our local level of the competition.

A team of 5 cadets will shoot in Stage 2 of the Cadet Marksmanship competition this weekend. It will be a mail-in shoot vs an in-person event.

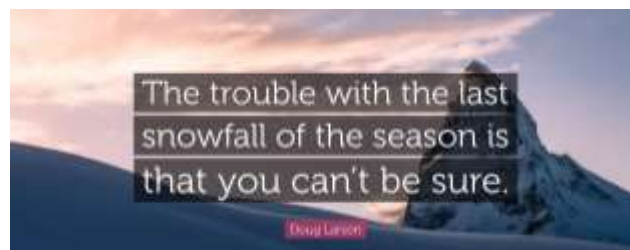
We have been invited to Air Cadet Activity Day on 8th of May. This is hosted by the Canadian School of Aerospace Engineering and Technology at CFB Borden. They have sports, school tours, and a possibility for flights in Griffin helicopters. Should be a day of fun (and hopefully sun).

The training year is quickly winding down and we are planning to have our annual ceremonial review in-person 28th May (alt date early June).

We're hoping the fall will see further pandemic restrictions removed allowing a return to a normal training year.

The #340 Griffin Air Cadet Squadron looks forward to its continued Legion collaboration, successes and a very hopeful path moving in a positive direction this Spring and Summer. The Squadron wishes everyone the brightest of days, good health and happiness.

Cde. Elizabeth Eby, Liaison
#340 RCACS
#519-832-3133 Home
bizebys@gmail.com





Commanders' Corner



Spring is a time of rebirth, re-growth and renewal when seeds germinate and new shoots emerge to join established plants. Their determination to succeed and put down new roots and their bright show of colours demonstrate that what was planted, sometimes years before, continues to grow and give everyone hope that life continues even after a dark winter.

So it is with our great organization, The Royal Canadian Legion. For decades there has been a constant undergrowth of strong, dedicated and resourceful legionnaires who have guided and led countless new members to continue the legacy and forge new and stronger roots as each season has passed. Today is no different as branches in our zone and throughout other zones and districts have elected new officers to continue the leadership of those before us.

Their willingness to take up office and ensure that succession planning will succeed is greatly appreciated and admired and their new ideas and fresh approaches will be welcomed as will they be as part of the leadership teams within our province. With renewed training and expert guidance new officers will be able to continue the work of those who, for the past three years, have gone over and above their duty to ensure continuation. The Legion will continue to grow.

As this term of officers comes to a close, I want to thank each and every one of them for doing their duty with steadfast dedication and selflessness. Without their strength and willingness to remain in office despite the many challenges of the last three years, there would be no chance of re-growth and continuation of roots. It has been an honour and privilege to serve with them and I wish all the new officers the very best for the future and the new cycle of renewal.

In Comradeship
Kathryn Eastwood
Zone C-4 Commander



PORT ELGIN LEGION HOSTS UKRAINE FUNDRAISER



We would like to take this opportunity to thank organizers, Leo & Liz Campbell and Norma Dudgeon, musicians and legion staff / volunteers for the successful fundraiser to the Red Cross – Ukraine Humanitarian Relief and hopefully, in some small way, our **\$3300** donation will help those in need.

A very special thank you to our community and the businesses who generously supported our fundraiser – Saugeen Shores has always been so supportive when someone is in need and we are so lucky to live in such a beautiful and caring community.
Port Elgin Legion

We heart fully thank the following for their support in this endeavour:

Businesses and Organizations:

- Ashanti
- Re:Mind Wellness
- Hoof in It
- Charlie Eddie Music
- Leo's B&B
- Pizza Delight



Additional generous contributors:

- Radical Emergence Gardening
- Outlaw Brewery
- Elk & Finch
- Southampton Olive Oil Company
- Offshore Bakery
- SouthPort Golf Course
- The Club at Westlinks
- Gord's Pro Shop
- Saffron's
- Cheeze Haus
- Millcreek Chocolate
- Canadian Tire
- Rabbit Dash
- The Queens Bar and Grill
- Boston Pizza
- Cathy's Flowers
- Well in Hand
- Jenn O'Reilly Photography
- M&Ms
- Greens on Green
- Pet Value
- Marsha Reany Beadworks





We Will Remember Then Lawerence Schell



Transcription from the Front Page of the Port Elgin Times Dec. 26, 1917.

GAVE HIS LIFE



Lawerence Schell, son of Mrs. George Schell, Aberdour, whose death was reported in the Times recently, died of spinal meningitis in the army hospital in England.

After having spent 13 months in France, Lawerence went to England on August 10th, 1917, having been transferred to the Flying Corps. It was a singular coincidence that just when Lawerence was being transferred to England, his brother, Captain Clifford Schell, was going to France and the two met and had a short time together. During the training for a Lieutenancy in the Flying Corps, Lawerence took sick, and finally, after a brave fight passed away after haven given his life to the service of his country. He will be remembered as one of the noble

throng of our country that heard the call for the defense of liberty and equality and who gave all he had – His Life.

For his bereaved mother and family survivors: sympathy is felt

Transcribed by G. William Streeter

Notes:

- 1) Aberdour was the original name of the hamlet of Turners. The two names were used for a number of years.*
- 2) Clifford Shell was seriously wounded on July 25, 1918 in France with bomb sounds to his arms and legs. He recovered and returned.*
- 3) We do not have a commemorative banner for Lawerence as no usable picture has been found.*

