



The Bullytin

Valley City Branch 36

The Royal Canadian Legion

February - 2022

Open House at Branch 36



Legion members enjoy conversation and light refreshments at the Branch 36 Open House held on the afternoon of Christmas Eve.



Phone: (905) 627-7221 Email: rcibr36@cogeco.net
<http://www.br36dundas.org>

President's Report

Comrades: Happy New Year.

That's it for the good news. As most of you are aware, we have shut down from Wednesday Jan. 5, to TENTATIVELY Wednesday Jan. 26.



Doug Rivers
President

If all goes well and we do re-open on Jan. 26, we will contact all groups involved regarding rescheduling.

During this shutdown, Perogy Nites will continue with take-out only on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Fridays of the month.

Hopefully this shut down will help in reducing the spread of the virus and we can look forward to some degree of normalcy in the future

Doug Rivers - President

Interesting Canadian History

Cartier Lands at Gaspé - 1535

Jacques Cartier is one of the first Europeans to enter the Gulf of the St. Lawrence River. In 1535, while on his second of three voyages, Cartier hears the Iroquoian word for village, kanata, and documents the name in his journal. The name Canada subsequently appears on the 1547 Harleian world map, indicating land north of the St. Lawrence.

Banting and Best Isolate Insulin - July 27, 1921

Frederick Banting and Charles Best at the University of Toronto first isolated insulin. The first diabetes patient was treated on 11 January 1922. Banting and J.J.R. Macleod received the Nobel Prize for their achievement.

Membership Report

Last year we had almost 600 paid members; however, this year despite the pandemic and shutdowns we are at this time (Dec.30th) close to 400 paid members.



Mike Alkerton
Membership
Chair

The Christmas season was normally a good time for the membership dept. but if you are re-newing you can do so online at <https://portal.legion.ca/renew> or mail a cheque to the Branch.

As soon as the current shutdown is lifted the Branch activities will resume and it will be nice to see old friends and acquaintances again.

So, you can still log on or send a cheque and keep the Dundas Legion the largest Branch in the Zone.

N.B. Dues are still \$55.00

As always, If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call me at 905-628-2822.

“Just Bring One”

Mike Alkerton - Membership Chair

Canadian Military Facts

In 2016, Canadian Brigadier Gen. Jennie Carignan, who enlisted in 1986, became the first-ever female combat general in the world.

Identifiable by their bright red sweatshirts and hats, the Canadian Rangers, a part of the Canadian Armed Forces Reserves, provide consistent military support in remote and hard-to-reach areas. These 5,000 volunteers are located through 200 of Canada's most-isolated northern and coastal communities.

Youth Education Report

The annual Remembrance Poster and Literary Contest had a modest number but an excellent level of essays, poems and posters submitted by local students.

A group of local Toastmasters provided expert assistance in judging the submissions and the branch's top selections were submitted to the Zone.

Earlier, it was my wish to stage an awards ceremony in March for our branch's winners but that is now obviously dependent on COVID rules. No matter what happens, though, the top three finishers for each of the 14 categories will at least receive their awards in some manner of a formal ceremony whether it be at our branch, in their homes, front yards or schools.

When it comes to Remembrance and the students, we'll make sure that we will recognize and honour both.

Tony Bratschitch - Youth Education Chair



**Tony
Bratschitch
Youth
Education
Chair**

To the membership

Please be reminded that 2021 dues are now due. You are no longer in good standing if your dues are not paid by January 31, 2022.

You can send a dues cheque for \$55.00 to the Branch by mail, or drop it in our mail box, or pay on line (go to Legion.ca web site and follow the guide for paying dues).

If you know someone who was in the armed forces or RCMP they can get 1 year membership "free". Go to Veteran Welcome program at Legion.ca.

Any questions call Mike @ 905-628-2822

Mike Alkerton - Membership Chair

Canteen Report

On New Years Eve we said farewell to Sue Logue after 15+ years of super service on the bar. We said farewell and not goodbye as we hope Sue will be able to return and help us out when needed. Thanks for everything Sue.

John Neissen has taken over Sue's duties and after his first day on the job we were shut down.

We also welcome Jessica Townson as one of our weekend bar staff, taking over from Peter Freeland. Jessica also worked only 1 day, then shutdown came.

A tough start for our new staff !!

I am pleased to note that effective Jan. 1, the minimum wage for alcohol servers has been increased to \$15.00/hour, putting them on par with the Provincial minimum wage. This to me has been long overdue.

Doug Rivers - Former Canteen Chair.



**Doug
Rivers
Canteen
Chair**

Sports Report

Hello Everyone

We successfully restarted our in-house sports in October with minimal difficulty once everyone got used to the new protocols.

In November, it was announced by Provincial Command that all competitive sports were being cancelled - this was followed by our District and Zone.

Unfortunately, as of writing this, things have been shut down again.

Hopefully this only temporary and we can resume enjoying getting out of the house and socializing.

Stay safe and Happy New Year

Stan Sklepowicz - Sports Chair



**Stan
Sklepowicz
Sports Chair**

Veterans Services Report

Comrades, as your Branch Service Officer I can best assist the Veterans of our branch by identifying those with unmet health needs and possible benefits from Veterans Affairs Canada(VAC) and all referrals are kept confidential.



Rick Valois
Veterans
Services Chair

To take the first step to your possible VAC benefits contact the Branch for an appointment.

Rick Valois - Veterans Services Chair

When the Pandemic is OVER

Banquet Hall Rental

The Banquet Hall will be available for rental.

For details call the office at (905) 627-7221.

The Wentworth Room downstairs is available at no charge for use on a first come basis and will accommodate from 5-65 people. It is used for memorial services, meetings, birthdays, retirement parties, and any other party you can think of. Just call the office to book the room (905) 627-7221.

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Colour Party Report

Happy New Year Everyone.

I would like to thank those who showed up to the 2021 Christmas Eve gathering at the Legion. Comrades told stories and toasted friendships at each table. Refreshments were inexpensive and smiles with laughter were free. It was a good way to get some relief from the stress of dealing with the Covid virus strains over the past two years and the uncharted waters of what is to come.



Greg Sherring
Colour Party
Commander

The Colour Party would like to thank all those in attendance for buying tickets to the two draws. The first draw was a bottle of wine, and the second draw was a commemorative book of Canadian coins. Thanks to Joan Alkerton for drawing the ticket number of the first winner and it was Dave Howlett. Dave Howlett drew the second winner and it was Ron Kowalchuk.

The Colour Party is always looking for members who would like to be a part of this award-winning group. The Colour Party not only parades on "D-Day" and "Remembrance Day", we have also been in arenas for the start of international hockey games, and at other Legions for competitive marches. We have also been requested by the Steel City Patriots football club to parade the Canadian and American flags when U.S. university football teams come to play games in Hamilton for at Tim Horton's Field.

Anyone interested in joining the Colour Party is welcome to come to the practices on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, in the upstairs hall of Br.36 Legion, or by contacting myself Greg Sherring at 905-385-5539 or e-mail at gregsherring@hotmail.com.

Greg Sherring - Colour Party Commander

My wife told me to stop impersonating a flamingo. I had to put my foot down.
Two fish are in a tank. One says, 'How do you drive this thing?'

Bursary Report

Very disappointing this year.

Provincial Command has a couple of hundred thousand dollars in Bursary money to give away, but this year I have handed out only about five Bursary forms.



Mike Alkerton
Bursary
Chair

Each award is \$750.00. Why very few apply I don't know. This year is very different. Maybe next year will be better.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call me at 905-628-2822.

Mike Alkerton – Bursary Chair

A horizontal advertisement for Kim Place Carpentry. The background is a light grey with a ruler-like pattern at the top and bottom. On the left is a logo with the letters 'KP' in white on an orange square background. To the right of the logo, 'Kim Place' is written in a cursive font, and 'CARPENTRY' is in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below the logo and text are three orange curved shapes containing the text 'HOME RENOVATIONS', 'SINCE 1981', and 'LICENSED CONTRACTOR'. At the bottom, there is a dark grey bar with white text: 'PHONE 905-520-4440' on the left, a crossed hammers icon in the center, and '1905 HWY #5 WEST TROY, ONTARIO, L0R 2B0' on the right.

A vertical advertisement for FRID & NAGY Collision Service Ltd. The background is white. At the top, 'FRID & NAGY' is in a large, bold, black font, followed by 'COLLISION SERVICE LTD.' in a smaller, bold, black font. Below this, '10% OFF ALL LABOUR' is in a very large, bold, black font. Underneath, '(10% discount does not apply to parts or insurance claims)' is in a smaller, black font. There are three car icons, each followed by a line of text: 'Specializing in Foreign and Domestic Cars', 'Free Estimates', and 'Complete Auto Body Repairs & Painting'. At the bottom, 'JOE PIERCEY' and 'JOE NAGY' are listed in bold, black font. Below their names is the address '347 Hatt Street, Dundas, Ontario L9H 2J2' and the phone/fax numbers 'Telephone: 905-627-4055 Fax: 905-627-9977'.

Poppy Fund Report

A very generous donation has been made in the name of: Herb Gallifent, Murray Floyd, Elizabeth Holk, Terry Holk, Frank Holk.

As of the Board of Directors meeting held 16th November, 2021, I am requesting the approval of the following expenditures:

Branch 36 (P.P.E.) - \$500.00
2865 Army Cadets - \$2,000.00
735 Air Cadets - \$2,000.00
Dundas Sea Cadets - \$2,000.00
Branch 36 (Storage) - \$350.00
Wentworth Lodge - \$2,000.00



Jim Byron
Poppy Fund
Chair

On December 14th Chris Slote and I delivered 160 poinsettias to Shalom Village, St. Joseph's Villa, Wentworth Lodge, Blackadar's, Meadowlands Retirement Community, Chartwell Willowgrove, Carrington Place, Meadows Long Term Care, Highgate Residence, Chartwell Georgian Retirement and Bertram Place Retirement Center.

Since there will not be a Veteran's Dinner we also delivered 50 booklets of 10 stamps to the 50 veterans in the same locations.

The current balance of the Poppy Fund as of November 30th, 2021 is \$79,266.67

James Byron - Poppy Fund Chairman - 905-578-2758



Judy Shepalo
Real Estate Specialist

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Honours and Awards Report

Comrades,

The current Provincial and Legion Covid regulations have closed our Branch activities at least for the balance of January.

Even when these "step two" regulations are recalled and we are allowed to reopen, we still have to wait until Branches are allowed to accept members up to 50% plus of rated room capacity - so we have to hold back on hosting our Honours & Awards Banquet.

We have the basic plan for the Banquet in place - and as soon as we are allowed, you will be notified.

We are as anxious as you are - we have 2 years of Service pins and other awards to award to you - and want to deliver.

Thank you for your patience.

Al Boyle - 3rd Vice President and Honours & Awards Chair



Al Boyle
Honours &
Awards
Chair

Banquet Hall Report

I am pleased to report that Barb Smith will be taking over the Banquet Hall and Wentworth room Bookings starting in the New Year, as well as the Canteen Chair. Thank you Barb, I really appreciate it.

For information and availability regarding rentals, please call 905-627-7221 or email rclbr36@cogeco.net and Barb will get back to you.

Remember that during the pandemic, certain restrictions regarding seating, capacity, and masking may apply.

Doug Rivers - President and Former Banquet Hall Chair



Doug
Rivers
Banquet Hall
Chair

Ladies Auxiliary Report

It is certainly during challenging times that I write my first Legion Bulletin report on behalf of the Ladies Auxiliary.



**Sue
Sklepowicz
Ladies
Auxiliary
President**

In September I became president of the Ladies Auxiliary when Deb Cooley stepped down from her role as President for the past six and a half years. Her commitment has been greatly appreciated by our membership.

As we continue to navigate through the ever-changing Covid rules we were able to get our Beef Night up and running again for Oct and Nov. Recent restrictions have meant the cancellation of our January night. I am ever optimistic that we will again be able to offer our dine in/take out event once again in February or as soon as protocols allow.

We were able to hold a redesigned Christmas Raffle that was held in conjunction with the Legion's Turkey Roll on Dec 3, 2021, which was a big success for both the Legion and the Ladies Auxiliary.

In December we were able to donate to the Salvation Army, sponsor a family for Christmas, as well as purchase Christmas presents for those residents of Blackadar Continuing Care Centre that are without any family.

Once restrictions lighten, we are planning to resume Progressive Euchre on the 4th Friday of the month following our Beef Night and are hoping to offer another Euchre opportunity during a week-day afternoon.

Yours in comradeship.

Sue Sklepowicz - President Branch 36 Ladies Auxiliary

By the time a man realizes that his father was right, he has a son who thinks he's wrong.

Branch 36 December Online 50/50 Draw Winner



Doug Rivers, Br.36 President and Peter Howard, Br.36 Ways & Means chair present \$1,145.00 cheque to December 50/50 online winner Karen Wood.

Circle of Life

Cremation and Burial Centre Inc.

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karin@circleoflifecbc.com

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Paul Wright Photography

pwright.photo

905-928-2087

paul@pwright.photo

Public Relations Report

The Covid pandemic has closed Branch 36 until 25th January. Hopefully the province will let us open after this date.

When we reopen members with email will be notified by our office, and events will also be posted on our sign outside Branch 36, and the website will reflect that we are open again.



**Peter Whittaker
Public Relations
Chair**

Peter Whittaker - Public Relations Chair

Ways and Means Report

Happy New Year and a big thank you to everyone that bought tickets for our monthly 50/50 draws, the six draws that we held have raised funds for our The Dundas Legion and will also enable us to help local community groups.



**Peter Howard
Ways and
Means Chair**

Going through the process of getting the license from the Alcohol and Gaming Commission, working with our 5050 draw provider, Canadian Bank Note, and actually operating the sales and draw process was certainly an eye opening experience and one which we can learn from should we decide to hold on-line fundraisers in the future

Peter Howard - Ways and Means Chair

Your Food Bank Contributions well received

Thank you for contributions to our Christmas Food Bank Drive. Your donations were given to the Dundas Salvation Army for distribution.

Your generosity shows that Branch 36 members assist their fellow citizens and it was greatly appreciated. Thank You.

Sick Report

October - 2021

1st - Kathy Howlett at St.Joe's
9th - Wayne Van Sickle at home
22nd - Herb Gallifent at Juravinski



**Stan Hicks
Sick and
Last Post
Chair**

November - 2021

9th - Bob Raynsford at St.Joe's
9th - Bev Westoby had surgery on hand - is
at home
16th - Pete Holroyd at Brantford General
17th - Bob Raynsford at home
27th - Maria Kobylinski cracked bone left arm is at home

December - 2021

3rd - Glen McMurray at hospital - cracked ribs
5th - Glen McMurray at home

Stan Hicks - Sick and Last Post Chair

Last Post

**Kathy Howlett - 15th October, 2021
Herb Gallifent - 27th October, 2021
Joe Walsh - 8th December, 2021
Jeff Witt - 6th December, 2021**

We Will Remember Them

**Note: "Thanks" to those Legion members who show up
and take part in Legion Services held for our Veteran
members who have passed.**

Entertainment Report

Hello Comrades

I hope everyone had a great holiday considering.

With the way things are with the new Omicron variant we unfortunately had to cancel our New Year's Eve dance.

It looks like things will be at a standstill for a while yet with anything to do with entertainment.

I'm keeping my fingers crossed that we will be able to have our St. Patrick's dance this year.

Until then I liked I'd like to wish everyone a Happy and healthy New Year

Barb Smith - Entertainment Chair



Barb Smith
Entertainment Chair

House Report

Thank you to those who came out for the fall cleanup of the parking lot, done in record time because of the number of volunteers. The trees were all trimmed and everything looks great! Thank you to Mike Schmit for providing lunch for the workers.



Gord Sharpe
House Chair

The lights in the parking lot have been replaced and upgraded, a much safer, brighter environment for patrons.

Other than day to day ongoing repairs and maintenance, that is all there is to report.

Gord Sharpe - Past President and House and Grounds Chair

When the Provincial Mandate allows the Branch to open after 25th January, we will attempt to get all in-house sports leagues active again, along with the activities listed below.

**President's Meat Draw - Every Saturday - 3-4pm
5 chances to win every week**

**Weekly Meat Draw - Every Saturday - 3-4pm
2 chances to win every week**

February 2022 Events

Tuesday - 8th - Branch 36 Colour Party Practice - 7:00pm

Tuesday - 8th - Ladies Auxiliary Meeting - 7:00pm

Friday - 11th - Fish Fry - 4:30-7:00pm

Tuesday - 15th - Br.36 Executive Meeting - 7:00pm

Friday - 25th - Beef on a Bun Night - 5:30-7:30pm

March 2022 Events

Tuesday - 8th - Branch 36 Colour Party Practice - 7:00pm

Tuesday - 8th - Ladies Auxiliary Meeting - 7:00pm

Friday - 11th - Fish Fry - 4:30-7:00pm

Tuesday - 15th - Bi-Annual General Meeting - 8:00pm

Friday - 25th - Beef on a Bun Night - 5:30-7:30pm

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Marv Turpin

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