



Royal Canadian Legion ☙ Port Elgin Branch 340

Branch Line

May 2021

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. These reports would have been presented at the annual General meeting in April, but due to the shut-down this was not the case this year. Your Executive have been working diligently in ensuring the Branch business and day to day issues are being taken care of.

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	
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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	Norma Dudgeon	Branch340@eastlink.ca	519-389-2876
Treasurer	Norma Dudgeon	Branch340@eastlink.ca	519-389-2876
Sergeant-at-Arms	Mike Hobson	hobson@eastlink.ca	519-386-6078
Sports Officer	Gord Kelly	gordonakelly1973@gmail.com	519-389-6057
Chaplain	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 Chairman	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	Don Dudgeon	Branch340@eastlink.ca	519-389-2876
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	gpkelly@bmts.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

	<p style="text-align: center;">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</p>	
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2019-2020 LADIES AUXILIARY EXECUTIVE	
President	Diana Tripp
Immediate Past President	Marg Esplen (Servant of God)
1st Vice President	Anne Marie Kinsman
2nd Vice President	Sharen Maas
Treasurer	Diane Mills
Secretary	Vicky Taylor
Sergeant-at-Arms	Anne Marie Kinsman
Sports Officer	Diane Mills
Executive	Meryl Cramp
	Linda Virgo



	Branch 340 Executive Officers Annual Reports	
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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. As the Branch is unable to hold any General Meetings as per Ontario Command COVID-19 protocols, I have included them in this bulletin for your convenience. 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 – Robert Harrison

Like all Legion Branches, 340 has had a very slow and costly 6 months with the resurgence of COVID-19 and having to close for the second time. During the shut-down however we have managed to complete a few renovations including resurfacing the bar tops; putting in new flooring in some areas and redoing the downstairs bathrooms. Our volunteers have done a great job.

We also assisted the Air Cadets financially to relocate their trailer as it was requested by the Bluewater District School Board to remove it from the high school after being there for over 10 years. It was relocated to the Southampton site and is being joined with the already present 3

trailers to form their new base. It is a little out of town but no other spot was available. We wish the Squadron the best in the future.

Branch 340 held a very successful Poster & Literary contest with over 100 entries. Our Public Speaking competition unfortunately was cancelled.

Remembrance Day was also very successful however very different than in past years. Our Church service was videotaped and then was live streamed to the public. Our Cenotaph Service was also live streamed and was very well received.

We held our annual Christmas Raffle and proceeds will be earmarked for our community youth programs. A successful Christmas Toy Drive with gifts for the children in our community was held.

The Ladies Auxiliary donated to our Cenotaph Fund and to the Branch. We thank our LA for their ongoing support.

The Branch also received support from the federal government and these funds will be used to offset expenses and to support our Veterans and our community.

We are open Monday to Saturday 3:00 – 7:00 pm and Friday from 3:00 – 8:00 pm and closed Sundays. At the time of writing this we will be having Meat Draws on Saturdays and safety protocols will be in place; a maximum of 50 in the Branch. This should help get us back on track and making money once again.

The Games Room is open to members only and they have been taking advantage of the time together.

We have held our Executive Meetings and all Branch business is up to date.

I certainly hope we will be back to normal soon, but only time will tell. I thank the Executive, our volunteers and members for their ongoing support during these difficult times.

POPPY – Alex Taylor

With the challenges the Covid-19 pandemic presented, Port Elgin Legion's 2020 Poppy Campaign, unexpectedly, was highly successful raising over \$41,300.00, over a 44% increase over 2019. Through our Ad Mail Campaign, Port Elgin households and businesses donated over \$10,500 alone to the Poppy Campaign. 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 at stores that had sufficient space to allow for Canvassers to properly social distance and the many Port Elgin businesses who displayed over 107 Poppy boxes collecting funds for this year's Poppy Campaign. Our businesses and organizations even with the negative impact of COVID -19 still sponsored 104 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.

As a result, 9 donations to date exceeding \$22,000 including a local Bursary have been approved by our Executive for Veterans and their families, one still subject to Ontario Command's approval. Current Poppy Trust Fund balance before the donations and bursary payments is \$54,540.16.

The call for canvassing volunteers was again answered by a number of our dedicated members. Due to the significant funds 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 250 hours of their valuable time this year to stuff Ad Mail Envelopes and/or Canvass:

Carolyn Russell	Mike Howe	Mary Galliher	Terry Mills	Scott Davidson
Dan Kelly	Laurie Laur	Glenna Snider	Janice Pepe	Shelley Hewson
Melinda Myette	Vicky Taylor	Mickey Kinsman	Rhonda Harrison	Bob Harrison
Shirley Jacklin	Wayne MacKinnon	Grant Virgo	George Jacklin	Shirley Alpaugh
	Thelma Kennedy			

Ken and Evelyn Martin helped me to meet the Poppy Audit requirements for our 2019-2020 financial reports by reviewing the Poppy Trust Financial Records.

Thanks also to Shelley Hewson who helped distribute and pick up Poppy Boxes and Thelma Kennedy for helping sign out canvassers and counting money with the other money counters, Randy Shultz, Jim Connan, Glenna Snider, Larry Dudgeon, Dan Kelly, and Shelley Hewson. Again, I would like to thank Don Dudgeon along with Blair and Brock Eby and Kirk Virtue for erecting and taking down respectively the Poppy Banner on the side of our building.

Norma's support and advice this year to the Poppy Campaign was again greatly appreciated! Most important is her dedication to the organization, in spite of the challenges Covid-19 presented, for this year's Private Remembrance Day Ceremony!

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

MEMBERSHIP – Dan Kelly

This year has just flown by due to the pandemic situation and the fact that our Branch was closed for a few months (March to July 2020 and December 2020 to February 2021). 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 while we work through getting our vaccines. I know of quite a few people that have either

gotten or are scheduled for their first shot. Thanks you all for helping us get rid of this virus and maybe get our lives back to some sort of normality.

Membership has been steady this year thanks to our members. Our membership status is as follows:

Membership Status 2021

New and Reinstated members – 14 members have joined our Branch in the past year

Affiliate Voting Members – 66 of 78 members have paid their membership dues for 2021

Associate Members – 219 of 250 members have paid their membership dues for 2021

Life Members – 13 of 13 members have renewed their membership (it is automatic for Life members)

Ordinary Members – 56 of 60 members have paid their membership dues for 2021

Deceased Members – 14 members have passed away in the past year. Their support will not be forgotten. **“We will remember them”**

Total to date – 354 of 401 members have paid their membership dues for 2021 with 47 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 please let us know of the change so we can keep our records up to date.

Unfortunately, we had 14 members pass away in the past two years. Their support will not be forgotten **“We will remember them”**.

Online activity

People are now using the online services to enroll in or renew their membership in Branch 340. 2 People have joined as well as 44 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

VETERANS SERVICES – Mike Hobson

This has been a very challenging year and due to COVID restrictions it has been very quiet. Just because it's quiet doesn't mean there aren't voices out there to listen for. I want to thank everyone who has reached out to our aging community and the few veterans that do stay in touch with us. Unfortunately on Remembrance Day, we were not able to look out over the grounds of the cenotaph at the incredible community of people here in Port Elgin. However, we were blessed with the support of David Baker and the entire group from the South Port Church. They very generously donated their time and use of their equipment to deliver our Remembrance Day ceremony to everyone. There were almost 800 views online and possibly

more if anyone shared it. COVID has been devastating for many residents and business around the world, but I am proud to say that our Branch 340 has remained strong and has continued its support to those that have depended on us in the past. Everyone take care of each other, stay healthy, and most importantly never forget.

We will remember them.

YOUTH EDUCATION – Patty Kelly

As we all know 2020-21 has been a challenging period for everyone. Working through this time with our President Bob Harrison and the Executive Committee has been a positive and most appreciated experience.

Unfortunately but wisely the Public Speaking Competition both locally and provincially were cancelled for the year of 2021. We were still able to hold the 2020 Annual Remembrance Poster and Literary Competition.

Kudos must be extended to the students who were enthusiastically willing to participate in the competition while receiving the support from their teachers and parents. A sincere thank you is extended to our volunteers who remained dedicated and committed to the program. Socially distancing and safety protocols were applied at every step of the competition.

A total of 155 entries were received of which forty-three (43) student entries were recognized and awarded with financial prizes. The schools that participated this year were the following: Bluewater District Board Remote School, Ecole Port Elgin Central School, Northport Elementary School, St. Joseph's School and Saugeen District Senior School.

In the Zone C-4 Remembrance Competition Branch 340 had four (4) entries placing. Two (2) of those entries received First Place with one in the Junior Colour Poster and the other in the Junior Black and White Poster Divisions. The First Place entries went on to the District C Competition with a Branch 340 entry placing Third in the Junior Colour Poster Division.

All together we got through this year and offered a meaningful Remembrance program to children and youth in our local school system. The Poster and Literary Competition is an act of Remembrance.

Lest We Forget

SERGEANT AT ARMS – Mike Hobson

We have not had many opportunities to display our Colours this year. The times we have, were in sad moments to honour the passing of comrades and during our virtual Remembrance Day ceremony. One thing doesn't change through it all. Our flags will always be at the ready to stand strong and represent the best in all of us. When this pandemic is over, our Colours will

still be here, they will fly, and they will be carried by an incredible group of people at Branch 340. These comrades march down that center line in some sad times and during some terrible weather, so thank you to the Port Elgin colour party.

HALL RENTALS – Norma Dudgeon

Our rentals have been non-existent this year due to COVID-19. We hope that when everything gets back to normal, our main hall will be back in full swing to accommodate birthday parties, anniversaries, meetings, funeral lunches / celebrations of life and weddings.

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 other than the pandemic glitch.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our bartenders for their continued support to our Branch as they do a lot of volunteer work behind the scenes. As we are still experiencing COVID, the bar hours have been shortened; we are open Monday thru Saturday from 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm / Fridays we stay open until 8:00 pm.

Eventually when the dart and pool leagues get started back, we will stay open longer. At this time, we can only allow 50 patrons in our clubroom due to the Provincial Health Guidelines; we have developed a Workplace Safety plan in accordance with the Health Department and have contact tracing when you come in to the clubroom – please sign the book with your name and phone number.

Practice social distancing / wash & sanitize your hands frequently and join us for some hospitality – it's been a long winter and it's nice to come to the Branch and see your buddies!

PUBLIC RELATIONS – Rhonda Harrison

As with the state of the COVID-19 affecting all Branches and our own lives in general we all wait for the time when we can be back together celebrating and enjoying each other's company.

At Branch 340 we have tried our best to accommodate our members and of course staying within provincial guidelines and the many protocols.

It has been a very quiet year for functions, etc., as I am sure we can all attest too. Hopefully this will soon be behind us and we can come again to some type of normalcy.

2020 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.

- Christmas Raffle tickets were on sale with proceeds going towards youth programs in our community and the draw was held on December 19, 2020.
- Our Poppy Campaign began on October 30th and the pinning of the first poppy was given to Cde Chris Kemp who served in the Korean War.
- Members of the Branch and Colour Party attended the Remembrance Day service at the Tolmie Presbyterian Church on November 5th to record our portion of the service which was to be made available to the community via live streaming.
- Our Remembrance Day Cenotaph Service was attended by persons 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 Annual Christmas Toy Drive was another successful endeavour thanks in part to Meridian Credit Union.
- 2 Meat Raffles were held and the upmost safety was considered for all members and staff.
- The Branch is presently open with limited hours and protocols are in place for members and guests.

At present the Branch is open to restricted hours and the Games Room is open to members only, with guidelines to be adhered to. The calendar for the monthly Meat Draws is now available with dates subject to change.

After COVID-19 when the Branch is open on a “normal” basis and regular hours we will continue with the weekly card groups, bingo, meat draws, barbecues and the Games Room will again be open to the Pool and Dart Leagues.

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

CHARITY – Rhonda Harrison

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

2020-2021 Charity Budget is \$10,050 and annual donations of \$4,600. A budget of \$1,000.00 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 \$13,000; Saugeen Memorial Hospital - \$7,000 and Owen Sound GBRHS - \$6,000.

Background:

Last year, our donations to eligible charities and the community were approximately \$27,000; this year, our projections are considerably less because of COVID and the lack of being able to fundraise through our lottery accounts.

PROPERTY REPORT – Don Dudgeon

Although our Branch is experiencing the pandemic like every other Legion, it was a good opportunity to upgrade some parts of the building – there is always something to do or fix and keeps me quite active and “young”.

This term, we have accomplished the following:

- A new AC/Heat pump was installed on the roof
- A new lift was put in to take the beer upstairs to the bar
- The back entrance received new flooring, carpet and stair treads
- The men’s washroom in the clubroom was upgraded with new self-flushing urinals, toilet, flooring, new lighting, mirror and fresh paint
- The ladies’ washroom in the clubroom received a new look with fresh paint and new flooring and new lighting
- New flooring was installed behind the clubroom bar / new hinges on the bar cooler doors
- The bar areas were sanded and re-varnished – thanks Bob Harrison
- The shuffleboard was sanded and re-varnished – thanks Marshal Dolbeck
- The Annex driveway was repaired

Before the end of my term, the following will be accomplished:

- Will have the back lot professionally swept and the parking lines painted
- Whirly Bird will be installed on the roof
- The siding at the front of the building – this will conclude the upgrade of the outside of the building
- Parging at the front of the building

Throughout this term, I have put in countless hours either fixing or upgrading the building and would like to thank Paul Dennison for painting where necessary and Nelson Bailey and Marshal Dolbeck for giving me a hand installing the flooring; It’s now time to relax a little and hope you enjoy our Branch





President's Report



Unfortunately, I have very little to report as we are closed again due to COVID-19. It sure will be great when we can put this whole pandemic behind us.

We did have a Meat Draw on Friday, April 2nd. It was a last minute decision to hold it on the Friday as the shutdown was going to take effect on Friday midnight. All the meat had been purchased and we did not want to freeze it. Tom managed to pull a rabbit out of his hat and got his team together to run the event. So a huge thank you to our volunteers and thanks to those who were there to support the Branch.

The Zone Spring Council meeting was held via Zoom on Sunday, April 18th. It was definitely a challenge and a new learning experience. There were over 20 participants and all current business was taken care of. A special thanks to Dan Kelly for guiding us through it.

The Branch Executive meeting will be held electronically this month, again due to the recent shut-down. It sure would be nice to open the Branch and get back to some normalcy. Until then be safe and have fun where you can.

President Robert (Bob) Harrison
bnrshow@eastlink.ca



Bursary Report



Bursary season is now over but will resume September 1, 2021 when we start our new year again.

This year we had a total of 296 applications across Ontario with District C leading the way with 58 submissions. Congratulations to all those successful applicants. See you in September.

Cde Robert Harrison
Bursary Chairman
bnrshow@eastlink.ca
519-389-4806

Don't start your day
with the broken
pieces of yesterday.
Every day is a fresh
start. Every day is a
new beginning. Every
morning we wake up
is the first day of the
rest of our life.



	Hall Rentals	
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NOTE: Hall rentals have been suspended until further notice.

Once this COVID-19 pandemic is over we look forward to you booking our facility for your future social events.

Special consideration is given to the fee schedule when renting to non-profit organizations.

Please contact Norma Dudgeon at the Legion phone number (519) 389-9917 or email: Branch340@eastlink.ca



I always take life with a grain of salt. And a slice of lemon. And a shot of tequila.



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 Chairman
thjacques@bmts.com



A man went to his dentist because he feels something wrong in his mouth.

The dentist examines him and says, "That new upper plate I put in for you six months ago is eroding. What have you been eating?"

The man replies, "All I can think of is that about four months ago my wife made some asparagus and put some stuff on it that was delicious... Hollandaise sauce. I loved it so much I now put it on everything – meat, toast, fish, vegetables, everything."

"Well," says the dentist, "that's probably the problem. Hollandaise sauce is made with lots of highly corrosive lemon juice. It's eaten away your upper plate. I'll make you a new plate, and this time use chrome."

"Why chrome?" asks the patient.

To which the dentist replies, "It's simple. Everyone knows that there's no plate like chrome for the Hollandaise!"



"It's Friday night. Time to be a hero and rescue some wine trapped in a bottle." —Anonymous



Membership



Membership has had a very strange this year. We have been closed more than we have been open this year but our membership remains strong. Many people paid early and took advantage of our early bird campaign. We have also been seeing more people using the online payment process (see legion.ca to pay on line if you want to use it).

In April, we received 2 membership renewals in person as well as 2 membership renewal through the online process.

Thanks you all for supporting Branch 340 by renewing you membership.
Hope to see you soon when we reopen.

Cde Dan Kelly
Membership Chairman
dankelly@bmts.com



Last Post



**Ken Ingrey
Reta Hough**

Ordinary / Korean Veteran
Life Member

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.

Those we love
don't go away,
they walk beside us
every day...
unseen, unheard,
but always near,
still loved,
still missed
and very dear.

A blonde walks into a doctor's office and says, "Doc, I'm horribly sick!"
The doctor looks at her and asks, "Flu?"
"No, I drove here."

	Poppy	
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After a highly successful 2020 Poppy Campaign and in spite of the 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. 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 the limitations put on us due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we will look forward to seeing you, our members and friends, at what limited events we are able to participate in over the upcoming months. In particular, our Friday evening get-togethers at the Legion when allowed provide us with some social inter action as we continue to strive to assist and comfort our Veterans who have served us so well! **Lest We Forget!**

Cde Alex Taylor
Poppy Chairman
Home -519-389-2616 or cell 519-385-0816
Email: alex.taylor@bmts.com





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.



Commander's Corner



National Secretaries Day on Wednesday April 28 2021 provided an ideal opportunity to thank and honour these custodians of the information and communication within a Branch, a Zone, a District as well as both provincially and nationally. They hold a very important and responsible position, are the first point of contact most times and the right hand people of those in charge.

The Branch Secretary is an Officer of the Branch and can be either elected or appointed. They are a voting member of the Executive Committee if unpaid. If paid they are not able to vote at an Executive Meeting but can vote as a member at a General Meeting. They are the scribe, the organizer and the co-ordinator of the Branch and attend all regular and special meetings and complete an accurate account of all business transacted. They prepare agendas for meetings, take notes and record all business in minutes that they then keep safe and perpetually stored.

They dutifully log and reply to all the correspondence and answer any questions from higher levels of the Legion. Working with the Membership Chair they keep an up to date membership list of all categories and keep the Branch profile current, passing along to the Provincial and Dominion Commands any changes to the Branch President or Secretary. They also provide the updated Branch Profiles to the Zone Secretary following Elections in which the Secretary has a significant role, remaining at the Head Table while all other officers are asked to leave.

The Branch Secretary plays a key role in the Complaints Procedure of Article III as outlined in the General By-Laws. They bring all complaints to immediate attention of the Branch President and acknowledge receipt to the complainant as either being properly lodged or not. They also serve a copy of the properly lodged complaint on the member against whom the complaint was lodged. In all instances they keep an accurate record of any proceedings involved.

Secretaries provide an essential service within the Legion at all levels and sometimes we forget to show them the appreciation they so rightly deserve. They are the custodians of the Branch or upper Legion levels and responsible for maintaining records of all the business conducted. If those records were not properly looked after then chaos could well take the place of order.

We owe them a debt of gratitude and I want to acknowledge all the Secretaries in our Zone for their contributions at this opportunistic time of celebration. Thank you for your dedication.

Yours in Comradeship
Kathryn Eastwood
Zone C-4 Commander



National Notable Dates May 2021

- 1st Sunday Battle of the Atlantic (1945)
- 1-7 National Youth Week
- 3 John McCrae wrote 'In Flanders Fields' poem
- 3-9 CMHA Mental Health Week
- 5 Liberation of Netherlands (1945)
- 8 VE Day (1945)
- 9 Mother's Day
- 15 International Day of Families
- 21 National War Memorial unveiled (1939)
- 24 Victoria Day
- 25 Ypres (1915)
- 28 Tomb of Unknown Soldier (2000)
- 29 International Day of UN Peacekeepers
- 31 End of South African (Boer) War (1902)
- 31 US Memorial Day



A blind man enters a Ladies Bar by mistake. He finds his way to a bar stool and orders a drink. After sitting there for a while, he yells to the bartender, "Hey, you wanna hear a blonde joke?" The bar immediately falls absolutely quiet.

In a very deep, husky voice, the woman next to him says, "Before you tell that joke, sir, you should know five things:

- 1 - The bartender is a blonde girl.
- 2 - The bouncer is a blonde gal.
- 3 - I'm a 6-foot tall, 200-pound blonde woman with a black belt in karate.
- 4 - The woman sitting next to me is blonde and is a professional weight lifter.
- 5 - The lady to your right is a blonde and is a professional wrestler.

Now think about it seriously, Mister. Do you still wanna tell that joke?"

The blind man thinks for a second, shakes his head, and declares, "Nah, not if I'm gonna have to explain it five times."



Business One-liners

- If it can be borrowed and it can be broken, you will borrow it and you will break it.
- If it doesn't work, expand it.
- If it happens, it must be possible.
- If it is good, they will stop making it.
- If it is worth doing, it is worth doing for money.
- If it is worth doing, it is worth over-doing.
- If it jams, force it. If it breaks, it needed replacing anyway.



Branch 340 Ladies Auxiliary



Happy Mothers' Day to all the Moms out there. Enjoy your day.😊

Well, it's been a crazy past month going from **GREEN** to **LOCKDOWN** overnight. I trust you are all well and safe and staying at home with the hope that we can end this thing sooner rather than later.

Since I've had lots of spare time of late I have been working on putting together a 3 ring binder of memberships and H & A milestones. All current members' membership forms are at the front of the binder in alphabetical order and inserted in a clear view sleeve. Included with your membership is a list of honors and awards for each member. For this list, I need your help as we don't have all of that information at our fingertips, so, I am asking you to please make that list for me and either email it to me or give me a call and I will update the H & A list for you so that we have a record of positions you have held, awards you have been given and years of service for future reference. Thank you so much.

Please stay healthy and one day we can look back on this and laugh. As a good friend of mine says "This too shall pass".

Cde Vicky Taylor

vicky.taylor@bmts.com



Last year, I replaced all the windows in my house with those expensive double pane energy efficient kind. But this week, I got a call from the contractor complaining that his work had been completed a whole year and I had yet to pay for them.

Boy, oh boy, did we go around! Just because I'm blonde doesn't mean that I am automatically stupid. So, I proceeded to tell him just what his fast-talking sales guy had told me last year. He said that in one year, the windows would pay for themselves. There was silence on the other end of the line, so I just hung up, and he hasn't called back. Guess he was embarrassed.

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.



Sam had proposed to young Lisa and was being interviewed by his prospective father-in-law. "Do you think you are earning enough to support a family?" the older man asked the suitor. "Yes, sir," replied Sam, "I am." "Well," said Lisa's father, "think carefully now. There are six of us."



**AIR CADETS
340 (Griffin) Squadron, Port Elgin**



Greetings from the #340 Griffin Air Cadet Squadron and Hooray, Hooray it's now May!

As previously announced by the Provincial Government the current Public Health restrictions means our Cadets have transitioned back to instructional classes via Zoom meetings on Tuesday evenings with Captain Herborth and the Officers. The Cadet Program is a dynamic, funded program for young Canadians aged 12-18 across the country. Whether it is Sea, Army or Air Cadets, being able to participate in the unique challenges and activities are experiences our youth can't explore anywhere else and these skills help our youth develop into adulthood.

The summer 2021 online qualification courses include Virtual Aviation, Virtual Aerospace, Virtual Airport Operations, Virtual Survival, Virtual Restricted Operator Certificate (Maritime), Virtual Pleasure Craft Operator Competency, Virtual Band, Virtual Pipes & Drums, Virtual Cadet Correspondence, Introduction to Fitness & Sports, Virtual Coaching, Virtual Instructional Techniques, Effective Communication and Cadet Cyber Training.



CAF - COMMAND TEAM UPDATE LETTER

Commodore Josee Kurtz

Commander, Cadets & Junior Canadian Rangers

"You may recall that earlier this year we communicated our intended plans for the upcoming summer 2021 activities. At that time, we were actively planning on offering a combination of some in-person activities - centered primarily on the generation of personnel and qualifications to fully re-activate the program (when the time is right) and to ensure its long-term sustainability, plus local daytime activities and virtual training courses. Although these plans are sound, their execution is based on a permissive COVID environment. While the national pandemic situation remains fluid and asymmetric across the provinces, territories, and our regions, we continue to hope that there will be an increased improvement over the coming months such that we will be able to revert to a complete in-person paradigm before too long. The safety and security of the youths who participate in our programs is always my top priority.

This, combined with our commitment to developing in youth the attributes of good citizenship and leadership, makes it clear to me that Canada's Cadet Program could not, in good faith, carry on with our planned overnight summer activities this year. This is why I made the decision to cancel all overnight in-person cadet training activities for the summer of 2021.

This was not an easy decision, nor was it made in isolation. The Canadian Armed Forces have always done everything they can to support our programs, from providing medical support, instructors, and facilities which allow us to deliver our top-quality summer training programs. The reality is that the Canadian Armed Forces remain focused on the mission to continue to

protect Canadians during this pandemic – including the delivery of the vaccine to their personnel and to Canadians, while executing its mandated operations at home and abroad.

In reaching the decision point, I want you to know that I have engaged in comprehensive consultation to ensure that I am taking a measured response to the challenges we face. But to deliver on this intent, I will require Cadets, COATS personnel, our volunteers, and key stakeholders - including League representatives, to continue to work together to help generate a 2021 Summer Cadet Program that is as engaged and as vibrant as the conditions permit, to include localized in-person daytime activities - where health measures permit, and virtual courses.

I understand that many of you will be disappointed with today's news. I certainly wish that we had been in a position to offer more. However, the safety and security not only of those involved in our programs, but of all Canadians, must be our top concern. I am confident in the strength and resilience of the people who not only support and lead this program, but participate in it.

Throughout the year, I have seen first-hand through my visits, the passion and commitment to the program, and the creativity and unique approaches to make the best of the unprecedented situation we are in. I am extremely proud of all Cadets and adult staff with how you have continued to lead the way.

Our role now is to continue to demonstrate leadership and citizenship in the face of adversity. I continue to be inspired every day by your passion which is key to our success, and I know that you are all up to the challenge.

"Stay safe. Stay healthy."

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.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cde. Elizabeth Eby, Liaison
#340 RCACS
#519 832 3133 Home
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An old man walks into a library and heads to the front desk for assistance. The librarian smiles at the old man and says, "How may I help you today, sir." The man says loudly, "I'll have a cheeseburger, french fries and a small soda, please." The librarian replies sternly, "Sir, this is the library." The old man shrugs and whispers, "I'll have a cheeseburger, french fries and a small soda, please."

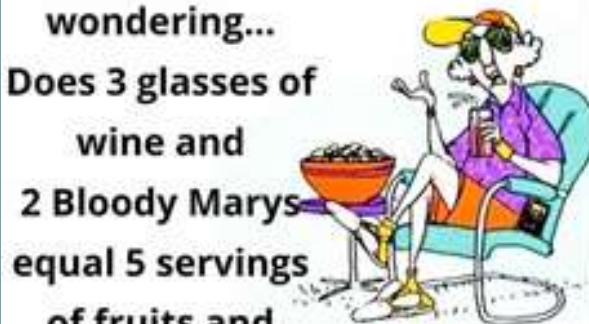


SANDY MILLER
CONTACT: sandybr464@yahoo.ca
PHONE: 519-379-5989

**MILLER'S
MEDAL MOUNTING**



**So, I was just
wondering...**
**Does 3 glasses of
wine and
2 Bloody Marys
equal 5 servings
of fruits and
vegetables?**



A guy walked into a doctor's office and the receptionist asked him what he had. He said, "shingles." So she took down his name, address, and medical insurance number and told him to have a seat.

Fifteen minutes later a nurse's aide came out and asked him what he had. He said, "shingles." So she took down his height, weight, a complete medical history and told him to wait in the examining room.

A half-hour later, a nurse came in and asked him what he had. He said, "shingles." She gave him a blood test, a blood pressure test, an electrocardiogram, told him to take off all his clothes and wait for the doctor.

An hour later the doctor came in and asked him what he had. He said, "shingles." The doctor said, "Where?" He said, "Outside in the truck. Where do you want them?"