




Royal Canadian Legion



Branch 625 Richmond



Legion  Canada's Largest Service Club

Foxy's Tales



March 2023



The Royal Canadian Legion Richmond, Branch 625
6430 Ottawa St West, Richmond Ontario K0A 2Z0
Phone 613-838-2644

Branch Executive Officers

President	Wendy Ryan	613-838-9696
Past President	Brian Goss	613-838-4269
First Vice President	John Villeneuve	613-838-2548
Secretary	Elizabeth Douville	613-838-6078
Treasurer	Pat McGrath	613-838-2652
Sgt-At-Arms	Boyd Dulmage	613-838-5055

Branch Executive Committee

Eric Booth
Joanne Heinbuch
Tom Louks
Bill Murphy

Branch Executive Meetings are the Third Thursday of each month.

Branch General Meetings are the fourth Friday in January, March, June, September and November at 11 am and the third Thursday of May at 8 pm.

Deadline to submit for the next bulletin is always the third Friday of March, June, September and the second Friday in December by 12 noon please

Send to wryan1955@hotmail.com or call me 613-838-9696

Branch Committee Chairs

Bar	Tom Louks	613-838-3244
Bursary	Elizabeth Douville	613-838-6078
Bulletin	Wendy Ryan	613-838-9696
Cenotaph	Tom Louks	613-838-3244
Coffee	John Villeneuve	613-838-2548
Exercise	Pat McGrath	613-838-2652
Euchre	Joyce Cook	613-838-8381
Hall Maintenance	John Villeneuve	613-838-2548
Hall Rentals	Tom Louks	613-838-3244
Honours & Awards	Pat Laninga	613-838-5055
Long Term Planning	Tom Louks & John Villeneuve	
Membership	Boyd Dulmage	613-838-5055
Memorial Boards	Tom Louks	613-838-3244
Poppy	Eric Booth	Poppyrcl625@gmail.com
Public Relations	Brian Goss	
Property	John Villeneuve	613-838-2548
Sports	Cathie & Tim Lytle	343-997-5985
Telephone	Wendy Ryan	613-838-9696
Veterans Service Officer	Brian Goss	613-838-4269
Website	Wendy Ryan	613-838-9696
Wellness checks	Joanne Heinbuch	613-838-2138
Youth	Elizabeth Douville	613-838-6078

Website is: www.richmondlegion.ca

Facebook: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 625

President's Message

Our annual elections will take place at the general meeting on Thursday May 18, 2023 at 8 pm - all executive officer positions as well as 6 executive member positions are filled each year, either by election or acclamation. At our Branch the executive meets the third Thursday of each month at 10:30 am and there is a real need to have some more members willing to step up into some of these roles.

All officers and committee chairs from the previous term are vacated as of May 31st and the newly elected or acclaimed officers take over as of June 1st. Committee chairs are appointed by the incoming President. Some committees are just one person. Most are active during specific times of the year.

Election information and a brief synopsis of our committees appears on the following pages so please take the time to read it. If anyone is interested in chairing/leading any of the committees please let me know by May 1st. If you don't want to chair a committee but want to help with one, that works too and would be great. If you would like to talk about any of the committees, let me know and we can have a chat!

There is an immediate need for someone to join the executive with the intention to take over as president in the next year or two- without a President the Richmond Legion will cease to exist!

We will be having our spring clean up at the Branch on Saturday, May 6th starting at 10 am. Every able bodied person is needed to help - students can earn some volunteer hours. Please bring your own bucket.

The summer barbeques will return on Friday, May 26th and more details will be sent in an email closer to that date. The menu will remain the same but prices are subject to change depending on market prices in May.

We will be marking our 50th anniversary this year on June 3, 2023 with an afternoon reception during which we will pass out the years of service pins and other honours & awards to our members. The afternoon will begin with a meet & greet at 2 pm, then a presentation or two around 2:30 pm, followed with the honours and awards and a lunch will be served. The dress code is gentlemen should wear their Legion or military uniforms or jacket & tie and the ladies dressy attire. Please note that this is not an open house and I thank everyone who replied to the two emails asking to confirm attendance.

I would also like to make mention of the recent loss of long time Legion supporter, reporter, veteran and Stittsville resident John Brummell. He and his late, best friend John Curry were staples in our community covering all of the local activities in the Stittsville News for 42 years.

Wendy Ryan

Last Post



Don Buck, November 21, 2022

A.A. McRae, December 19, 2022

Clara Baker, January 5, 2023

We Will Remember Them

BRANCH 625 RCL RICHMOND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

A call for nominations was issued at the March General Meeting held on 24 March 2023. Nominations will cease to be accepted fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual General Meeting held in May.

The following Offices are open to nominations:

President Vice President Secretary

Treasurer Sgt At Arms

Executive Committee (6 positions)

No member shall be nominated for a position as a Branch Officer unless they have agreed, personally or in writing, their willingness to accept such an office. If they are unable to attend the election, then they must accept the nomination in writing. Nomination sheets are available at the Branch on the bulletin board for those wishing to nominate others or themselves.

Branch Elections—Information

A call for nominations for Branch 625 Officers was issued on March 24, 2023 at the monthly Branch General Meeting. Nominations will be accepted by the Immediate Past President, Brian Goss, until May 4, 2023 two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting to be held on May 18, 2023. Based on the number of nominees, Branch Officers will then be elected or acclaimed for the 2023/2024 fiscal year.

It goes without saying that a Legion Branch cannot survive without the active participation of its members. Moreover, a Branch cannot exist without its core Officers: President, Secretary, Treasurer and an appointed Veteran Service Officer. To operate efficiently a Branch also needs an Executive Committee and various Chairpersons to head important and necessary committees.

Branch 625 needs you! You are encouraged to seek and propose candidates for nomination or to nominate yourself. We need new blood and new ideas. The branch cannot rely on its existing executive members to continuously recycle themselves. Many of them have consistently and repeatedly served the Branch for years. They could use a break. Listed below are the rules and procedures for Nominations for Branch 625 Officers.

A list of nominees for Branch Office shall be posted in the Branch at least seven (7) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

Candidates shall be elected or acclaimed to Branch Offices at the Annual General Meeting. Based on the number of nominations received for each position, the election process will be by acclamation (single nomination) or by ballot (multiple nominations).

The Branch President shall so inform the Zone Commander at least seven (7) days in advance of the Branch 625 Annual General Meeting to determine the type of election process required, acclamation or ballot.

Jack Lemyre

Committees in Brief

All incoming officers elected at the May meeting take office on June 1st and all committee chairs are vacated as of May 31st and have to be re-appointed by the President and approved at a general meeting.

According to the Officers Manual, the following Chairs shall be members of the Executive Committee and should attend the monthly executive meetings:

Legion Seniors, Membership, Poppy, Public Relations,
Sports, Leadership Development, Veterans Services, Youth Education

Committee dynamics and activities vary from Branch to Branch but here is very brief (heavy on the brief) description of ours:

President calls meetings, chairs meetings, appointments committee chairs, oversees the administration of the Branch.

Vice President fills in for the President at meetings when needed and gains experience with the intention of moving up into the Presidents position.

Secretary is mainly a recording secretary for the executive and general meetings but does receive correspondence via email from upper commands. Most emails go to the President or committee directly now.

Treasurer is responsible for ensuring fiscal responsibility is maintained, records are in good order and financial rules and guidelines for spending are kept, ensures bills/invoices are paid on time and money owing is received. Monthly reports are made at the Executive meetings and at any General meetings.

Sgt-At-Arms organizes and trains individuals to be part of our colour party; leads the Legion colour party in the local parades; maintains order at meetings; leads Legion services for funerals.

Bar - our bar is not open on a daily basis- it is open for specific Legion events and hall rentals if required. The bar manager maintains needed bar supplies, organizes the bar tenders (who need the Smart Serve course to serve) and oversees the bar income and expenses.

Bulletin is produced every 3 months a bulletin to provide updates and reports from various committees and notice of upcoming events etc. using reports provided by various chairs.

Bursary chair contacts the local high schools in January to remind of the availability of bursaries, gathers applications (due by March 31st) for requests for post secondary education funding, reviews and approves applications along with 2 or 3 other members and gets approval from the branch for those bursaries that are granted.

Hall Rental shows the hall to those interested in renting it, completes the hall rental contract, makes sure the renter is aware of the terms and conditions, confirms if a bar is wanted, and arranges for bar tending via bar manager, collects the rental fees, arranges access to the hall and co-ordinates with the hall maintenance crew. Keeps the Hall bookings calendar updated.

Membership collects annual dues, recruits members, notifies Command of deceased members, handles transfers in and out and keeps members lists up to date. Advises bulletin editor on any changes. This committee is most active during the renewal period (fall to February each year) and is done mostly on-line now.

Property is responsible for maintaining the Legion hall and grounds - not to actually do the maintenance but to make sure everything is in good repair and bring it to the attention of the executive when repairs, replacement and updates need to be made.

Continued on next page....

Continued from page 5...

Public Relations is getting word out about what is happening at our Branch. We currently have just 1 local paper, a Facebook page and a website. Notices can also be posted at local businesses.

Veterans Service Officer - the Legion assists any veteran, member or not, to make contact with various agencies that provide assistance and benefits to veterans. The Branch Service Officer usually sets up appointments with the Provincial Service Officer who usually connects the veteran with resources.

Sports: organizes and runs various sports at the Branch, Zone, Provincial levels if we have the competitors available. Friday night darts is currently the only sport we have.

Telephone is simply calling those 5 or 6 members who do not have email to keep them updated on events and activities.

Ways & Means organizes events to raise money to support our Branch. The summer barbeques is one part but you can organize any numbers of events and activities.

Youth is the liaison with the local schools to organize the annual Remembrance Contests for poetry, posters and prose competitions that are eligible for Branch, Zone, District, Provincial and Dominion competitions and is active mostly in the fall months.

Remembrance is what I think is the most important part of what we do. I consider all the areas that concentrate on honouring our veterans, past and present, to be under the Remembrance umbrella and at our Branch it consists of :

Cenotaph - ours is located in the Memorial Park located on the corner of Perth & McBean Streets and this person ensures the cenotaph is in good condition and that required maintenance is carried out. Note that is the cenotaph itself that is our responsibility, not the entire park.

Memorial Boards are located in the 5 local cemeteries and lists the location of the grave of any veteran buried in that cemetery. The boards are updated once a year prior to November 1st.

White Crosses -this tradition that was introduced to our branch by our veterans years ago when they built and placed a white cross on the grave of every veteran in the 6 local cemeteries for the fall Remembrance period. They are placed near the end of October and removed after November 11th. This usually takes at least 2 people per cemetery.

Poppy Committee organizes the annual Poppy Campaigns and the annual Remembrance services in Munster and Richmond. This committee has several members and a few parts to it that I will not go into here. We do need a new Poppy chair this year but the November 11th service will be taken care of by Eric Booth, so only someone to organize the Poppy Campaign - the collecting of donations - is needed. All the participants in this area will return so we just need someone to co-ordinate them.

One important note is that all committee activities and expenses must be approved by the executive.

Many of our committees are one man shows but are open to anyone who would like to help out. Many have periods of activity concentrated during a specific time of year. If you have little or no experience in the Legion, the best approach is to volunteer to help so you gain hands on experience. I have detailed notes on how each committee operates and what it entails. Please feel free to contact me via email (wryan1955@hotmail.com) phone (613-838-9696) or in person. We do need YOU to help keep the Richmond Legion viable.

*Wendy Ryan
President*



Membership Report

Our Branch membership currently sits at 105 members. As an interest to note, our membership 2 years ago stood at 121 members. We have had a few members transfer to other Branches, several have not renewed and sadly 7 members have passed away in the past 2 years.

We must all strive to do our best to bring in new members who would be willing to take on roles and preserve the existence of our Branch.



As always, new members can join by filling out a membership application or by visiting the legion.ca. If they are joining online be sure to let them know to select Richmond and District #625, as there are legions in Richmond, BC and Richmond, QC.

If anyone has any questions, concerns or comments in regards to membership they can contact me via e-mail at membership625@gmail.com

***Regards
Boyd Dulmage, CD***

SGT-AT-ARMS

On the 13th of January I conducted a Legion tribute for one of our fallen comrades, Clara Baker, at the United Church in Richmond. It was a snowy date but many brave souls were in attendance and a luncheon was held in the basement hall afterwards. Clara had served 4 years in the RCAF.

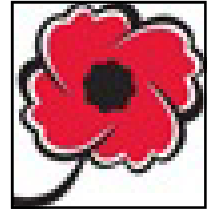
Legion tributes are available for any member of the Legion and you don't have to be a Veteran. Family members of Veterans who pass away can also request a Legion Tribute and they DO NOT have to be a member of the Legion. We are here to serve all Veterans and their families regardless of membership.

The first step in the process is for the family to contact the Branch President, who will forward all information to me and I will contact the family and clergy to make the necessary arrangements. The Legion tribute is performed as the last part of the service.

Boyd Dulmage, CD

Poppy Pictures

Poppy Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Chris King of King's YIG, Bill Cowley at the LCBO Richmond and Baljinder & Lovedeep Kaur of Tim Horton's for their support of the 2023 Poppy Campaign. (Pictured below)



Remembrance Contest Elementary School Branch winners from St Philip School (left) and Richmond Public School (below) with Youth Ed Chair Liz Douville.



Poppy Report

We have almost wrapped up the 2022 Poppy Campaign. All that is left to do is to write up a few cheques to provide funds to Veterans and their families.

Approved at the last General meeting was \$13,500.00, which is being directed towards: The Perley-Rideau Veterans Comfort Fund, post-secondary education Bursaries, Operation Service Dog, Veterans' House Canada - Ottawa , Snowy Owl Cadets, and the 2023 Youth Literary and Poster Contest.

Our fundraising for 2022 was down roughly \$3,000.00 from 2021, but thanks to our volunteers, local businesses and poppy box donations we were able to raise \$11,263.65. Out of this amount \$4,665.00 was donated by businesses, \$5,518.65 was raised by Poppy Boxes donations, and the rest were private donations and yard signs.

Again, I wish to thank the volunteers who helped make the 2022 Poppy Campaign and the Remembrance Day service successful.

Eric Booth

Youth Ed

Our schools and their students got back up to steam this year after difficult pandemic years. The Remembrance Contests had great participation this year.

We sent 10 first place entries on to the Zone Level of competition, which is made up of the 9 Ottawa branches.

Five of our students brought home Zone awards! St. Philip's School had a 3rd place in Primary Colour Poster. Richmond Public had a 2nd place in Junior Black & White Poster. South Carleton High School came through with 2 first places and a second! First in Intermediate Essay and Intermediate Black & White Poster. Great to see our grade 9's getting involved again. The 2nd place was a black & white poster in the Senior Category.

Now, First Place Zone winners go on to Division (Eastern Ontario).

And...we had a first place with Ava Troughton's grade 9 black & white poster making her Best in Branch this year.

Elizabeth Douville

On A Personal Note...

After the sudden and unexpected death of one of my sisters in August, 2022 and the difficulties involved in making final arrangements, I was reminded of the sudden loss of my dad many years ago and I decided that pre-planning my funeral would be the right thing to do.

Though it is not always a comfortable topic of conversation, I did learn a few things that I thought were worth sharing.

I think the most important reason to preplan is to relieve your family/executor of having to make emotional decisions under great distress and to make sure your wishes are known. As the young lady I dealt with said, quite often it is the kids who are making the arrangements and they all say she was the best mom, she deserves the best or he was the best dad he deserves the best and the end result is a very elaborate, expensive funeral that is often the last thing that the deceased wanted.

I contacted three local funeral homes this past fall to get prices for a basic cremation and burial package. The prices given were within a couple of hundred dollars of each other with the main difference being that one did not supply an urn -their cheapest was \$750; the second provided a plastic urn and the third a marble urn. So no big surprises there.

They all offer the same relocation service if you die within 50 to 100 km of home (distance varies depending on which company you chose) but they all offer "travel insurance" for about \$350 that covers repatriating from anywhere in the world. The company I dealt with said this can be added at any time.

They all offer a documents package for an addition fee so they will take care of all the needed government forms (applying for the government funding; cancelling SIN card etc) at an additional cost. This too can be added at any time.

When you pre-pay the money is invested with a company called Guaranteed Funeral Deposits which holds the pre-payment in trust until needed.

But shockingly enough, I found out that pre-payment does not mean paid and done! Apparently when it comes time to use their services if the current cost exceeds the current value of the pre-payment investment, some funeral homes will bill the estate for the difference. My provider does not do this. This is one topic that should be clarified for sure.

When I met with my pre-planner in person I had already spoken to the 2 different providers several times and emailed all 3 of them as well, so I had lots of information in writing and had time to ponder the options. Most importantly, I knew exactly what I wanted and there was no pressure to upgrade any single detail.

Apparently the prices increase in January every year and when I made my decision in late November and told her I could not be there before January 2023, I just completed one form via email and she guaranteed the price for me. I was fortunate to be able to deal with a very pleasant, professional, well informed and experienced young lady who made the experience much easier. She was an absolute delight!

Hopefully you have found this informative and helpful and not unsettling.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions that I might be able to help with.

Wendy Ryan

Donation to the War Museum

The painting pictured right hung in the Richmond Legion for many years after being donated by long time member and WWII vet, Shelley Spearman. We worried that this artifact might be misplaced or damaged and we agreed that it should be donated to the War Museum. Tom Louks spent many months arranging this and it is now in their catalogue. They decided not to try to restore it due to its age and will use lighting to bring out the dark areas. I have tried to lighten to make it more legible here.



The catalogue entry is below:

Artifact Number 20170451-001

Event 1914-1919 First World War **Date Made** 1917-1918 **Earliest** 1917/01/01 **Latest** 1918/12/31

Category communication artifacts

Sub-Category art **Classification** ART

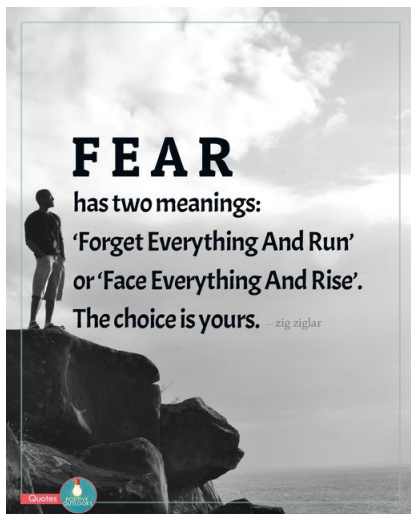
Department Art and Memorials

Collection Name Beaverbrook Collection of War Art Canadian War Museum **Inscription** (plaque/plaque) PRESENTED TO /RCL BRANCH 625 RICHMOND, ONTARIO/IN THE YEAR OF THE VETERAN/ BY: SHELDON E. SPEARMAN IN MEMORY OF HIS FATHER CAPT. H. SPEARMAN, V.S. CANADIAN FIELD ARTILLERY 1914-1918 (FRANCE)

Medium oil **Support** wood panel **Materials** not applicable

Service land **Service Component** Canadian Expeditionary Force

Branch Canadian Field Artillery Royal Canadian Army Veterinary Corps **Place Of Origin** North America – Canada



I'm a firm
believer that the truth will
always come out. You might
as well save yourself the
energy and just be honest
from the start.

Some of the biggest cases of
mistaken identity are among
intellectuals who have
trouble remembering that
they are not God.

The Origin of Certain Phrases

A SHOT OF WHISKEY' In the old west a .45 cartridge for a six-gun cost 12 cents, so did a glass of whiskey. If a cowhand was low on cash he would often give the bartender a cartridge in exchange for a drink. This became known as a "shot" of whiskey.

BUYING THE FARM This is synonymous with dying. During WW1 soldiers were given life insurance policies worth \$5,000. This was about the price of an average farm so if you died you "bought the farm" for your survivors.

PASSING THE BUCK / THE BUCK STOPS HERE Most men in the early west carried a jack knife made by the Buck knife company. When playing poker it was common to place one of these Buck knives in front of the dealer so that everyone knew who he was. When it was time for a new dealer the deck of cards and the knife were given to the new dealer. If this person didn't want to deal he would "pass the buck" to the next player. If that player accepted then "the buck stopped there".

SHIP STATE ROOMS Traveling by steamboat was considered the height of comfort. Passenger cabins on the boats were not numbered. Instead they were named after states. To this day cabins on ships are called staterooms.

CURFEW The word "curfew" comes from the French phrase "couvre-feu", which means "cover the fire". It was used to describe the time of blowing out all lamps and candles. It was later adopted into Middle English as "curfeu", which later became the modern "curfew". In the early American colonies homes had no real fireplaces so a fire was built in the center of the room. In order to make sure a fire did not get out of control during the night it was required that, by an agreed upon time, all fires would be covered with a clay pot called-a "curfew".

BARRELS OF OIL When the first oil wells were drilled they had made no provision for storing the liquid so they used water barrels. That is why, to this day, we speak of barrels of oil rather than gallons.

I was mugged by a thief last night
on my way home.

Pointing a knife at me ... He asked
me "your money or your life!"

I told him I am Married... so I have
no money and no life...

We hugged and cried together.

It was a beautiful moment...

Apart from being exhausted,
financially unstable,
nearing a mental breakdown
and being fat,
everything is great.
Thanks.

MY MIND IS
LIKE MY
INTERNET BROWSER
19 TABS OPEN
3 OF THEM
ARE FROZEN
& I HAVE NO IDEA
WHERE THE MUSIC
IS COMING FROM

SISTER MARY ANN'S GASOLINE

Sister Mary Ann, who worked for a home health agency, was out making her rounds visiting home bound patients when she ran out of gas. "As luck would have it, a Texaco Gasoline station was just a block away. She walked to the station to borrow a gas can and buy some gas. The attendant told her that the only gas can he owned had been loaned out, but she could wait until it was returned.

Since Sister Mary Ann was on the way to see a patient, she decided not to wait and walked back to her car. She looked for something in her car that she could fill with gas and spotted the bedpan she was taking to the patient. Always resourceful, Sister Mary Ann carried the bedpan to the station, filled it with gasoline, and carried the full bedpan back to her car. As she was pouring the gas into her tank, two Baptists watched from across the street.. One of them turned to the other and said,

If it starts, . . . I'm turning Catholic





Carol Brown	02-Apr
Terry Fish	02-Apr
Gerry Blair	06-Apr
Pam Kilabuk	09-Apr
Jack Lemyre	12-Apr
Pat Laninga	16-Apr
Bill Cook	20-Apr
Josiane Roberds	20-Apr
John Olsen	26-Apr
Sharon Murphy	27-Apr
Sylvain Carignan	28-Apr

Betty Brown	09-May
Bruce Munro	18-May
Joan Frost	22-May
Mavis Lewis	25-May
Gisele Moore	25-May
Don Hall	30-May

Justin Schmidt-Clever	02-Jun
Wendy Ryan	04-Jun
June Craig	07-Jun
Susan Grant	10-Jun
Josee Levesque	18-Jun
Johnny Villeneuve	18-Jun
Patricia McGrath	19-Jun
Keith Thurrott	30-Jun

Humour: A very old man got married to a 30 year old. He saw his doctor and asked what he could take to keep things rolling and interesting for her, the doc gave him some tablets and said, “Take one on Monday, skip Tuesday and Wednesday, take another tablet on Thursday, skip Friday, Saturday and Sunday.” The doctor bumped into the newly wed woman a few weeks later and asked how the aged husband was getting along. She said, “Oh the poor old soul died!” Doctor asked what on earth had happened and she replied, “I think it was all the skipping.”



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ACTIVITIES

Coffee: Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 10 am

Exercise: Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 9 am

Euchre: Fridays at 1 pm

Executive Meeting: Thursday, April 20, 2023 10:30 am

Branch Clean up: Saturday May 6, 2023 10 am.
(Students can earn their volunteer hours)

Executive Meeting: Thursday, May 8, 2023 7 pm

Annual Elections & General Meeting: Thursday, May 18, 2023 8 pm

Our Zone Commander will be at our Branch for the election so it would be nice to have a good turn out.
Please try to attend. If you have a Legion uniform please be sure to wear it.

50th Anniversary & Honours & Awards event Saturday June 3, 2023 2 pm
(note this is not an open house)

Friday Night Barbeques: May 26; June 9 & 23; July 7 & 21; August 4 & 18, September 1 & 15.
4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Pre-booking required-details to come.



If you move or change your email address, please let me know by emailing me at wryan1955@hotmail.com so I can keep my contact list up to date and keep you up to date with relevant information via email.

If you have not received an email from me for a few months, please contact me at wryan1955@hotmail.com so I can update your email address.



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Phone 613-838-2644

Website: www.richmondlegion.ca

