




Royal Canadian Legion



Branch 625 Richmond



Legion  Canada's Largest Service Club

Foxy's Tales



September 2025



The Royal Canadian Legion Richmond, Branch 625
6430 Ottawa St West, Box 625 Richmond Ontario K0A 2Z0
Phone 613-838-2644
Website: www.richmondlegion.ca

Branch Executive Officers

President Brian Goss
Past President Wendy Ryan
First Vice President Iain Clogg
Secretary-treasurer Pat McGrath
Sgt-At-Arms

Branch Executive Committee

Eric Booth
John Evans
Ray Huet
Tom Louks
Tom McKay
Louis Seward
Johnny Villeneuve

Branch Executive Meetings

are the Third Thursday of each month at 10:30 am.

Branch General Meetings

are the fourth Friday in January, March, June, September and November at 11 am and the third Thursday of May at 7 pm.

Website is: www.richmondlegion.ca

Facebook: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 625

Email: inforcl625@gmail.com

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

Branch Committee Chairs

Bar	Tom Louks
Branch Regulations	As needed
Bursary	Patricia Ham
Bulletin	Wendy Ryan
Cenotaph	Tom Louks
Coffee	John Villeneuve
Darts	Cathie Lytle
Euchre	Elizabeth Vickers
Hall Maintenance	John Villeneuve
Hall Rentals	Tom Louks
Honours & Awards	Past president ++
Long Term Planning	Tom Louks & John Villeneuve
Membership	Boyd Dulmage
Memorial Boards	Tom Louks
Poppy/Poppy Trust	John Evans
Public Relations	Brian Goss
Property	John Villeneuve
Seniors (including exercise)	Pat McGrath
Telephone	Wendy Ryan
Veterans Service Officer	Iain Clogg
Ways & Means	McGrath & Ryan
Website	Wendy Ryan
Wellness checks	Patricia Ham
Youth	

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President



After being out of the limelight for the past three years I forgot that I was required to submit a Presidents Report for our Bulletin. It brought me back to about twenty years ago when we published every month. I had a good friend in Ray Guay. Ray grew up in Quebec, spoke French and learned English, almost became a Priest and ended up an Editor for several newspapers across Canada. He used to criticize my submissions and asked a simple question after reviewing each one. I had Grade 13 English Composition and Literature, and he would say – who taught you how to write?? We lost Ray several years ago and now I have no one to help me so I am free to write as I please not as I should.

This is an end of summer report and along with normal activities our major accomplishment was our barbeques every two weeks. We averaged 96 per barbeque and made good money which allows us to continue our community donations. It will be mentioned in another report but congrats go out to our barbequers, food preparers, cooks, servers, clean up help and all else who stepped up.

Another accomplishment was our weekly card games which had 10-12 tables. Thankyou Elizabeth Vickers for stepping up after the loss of Carol Brown. Another strong revenue stream .

A big thankyou goes out to our committee members who attended meetings in between their summer holidays and oversaw their committees with skill. As for myself, following completing sponsorship with the Richmond Agricultural Fair, I along with our Vice President will attend the Heavy Horse competition and present a winning ribbon. Our Brand, identifying ourselves and our activities, will be placed on their website. This will help let residents know who we are.

Thanks go out to our members and guests who will also be leading the Parade. It is becoming difficult to find sufficient members to march a fair long distance.

Now we prepare for the Remembrance services and Poppy Drive. In December we will be setting up the Seniors Christmas Dinner. As you can see, we are not standing still. Please volunteer when committees approach you for help.

Brian Goss

Editor's note: I have edited his column for years but this time our President warned me not to change anything so I didn't!

Last Post

Heather Murphy
June 30 2025

We will Remember them...



Membership

It is getting to be that time of year to start renewing your membership for 2026, though you do have until 31 December 2025 to renew.

I have received all the renewal stickers.

For those who have set up auto-pay there is nothing for you to do and I will soon be mailing your renewal sticker to you unless you have chosen to receive it digitally.



Membership renewals are \$55 for the year.

You have a few options in paying:

- a. Drop off or mail a cheque
- b. Pay by cash
- c. Pay by e-transfer to treasurerrcl625@gmail.com. Please indicate membership dues on the e-transfer.

There is auto-deposit on this account

Please indicate legion membership and your name in the message box.

I will be setting up some dates in Mid October and November to be at the branch to accept membership renewals payments. Details to follow.

Regards
Boyd Dulmage, CD



The Legion colour party led the Richmond Fair Parade again this year. Thanks again to Barrhaven for helping out. Pictured above left to right Al Larrett, Barrhaven, Irwin McCaffrey, Richmond, Paul Leadston & Sue Elis, Barrhaven, Iain Clogg & Boyd Dulmage, Richmond.

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Ways & Means

The final 2025 barbeque was held on September 5th and it was sold out (actually over-sold) on the Tuesday before! We were sold out more than once as early as the Monday or Tuesday prior.

It takes a ton of work and superb organizational skills to make these barbeques work so there are many thank you's to pass out.

To Pat McGrath for organizing the kitchen helpers, dessert makers and clean up crew and to all the helpers: June Alford, Eileen Kavanagh, Marilyn Munro, Charlene Murphy, Sharon Murphy, Angie Power, Elizabeth Vickers, Alexis Milne, Marylou Thurrott, Wendy Virtue, Patricia Ham, Ian Clogg and Bill Murphy, thank you! Many of do double and triple duty by helping with the desserts & food prep, the serving, setting the tables and helping with the clean up each time.

Thanks to Tony McGrath & June Alford for manning the door & Sharon Murphy for tending the bar.

Thanks again to Pat McGrath for doing most of the shopping leaving Tom Louks to pick up the steaks.

Outside we had Brian Beyer, Will Frenken and Tom Louks on the barbeques with Tom McKay and Johnny Ville-neuve helping with running the entrees inside.

Thanks to all the euchre players for helping to set the tables along with the students helping us most weeks which was very appreciated.

On another note I want to thank our councillor David Brown for coming to the barbeques giving us all the chance to have a chat - hopefully we are not too negative in our inter-interactions. I also hope he won't be too upset if I remind everyone that all the development in Richmond was approved years before his time so don't blame him.

Again thanks to everyone for all their help with this important part of our fiscal planning- hope I didn't miss any names.

There is talk that we may have a monthly dinner/lunch over the winter - on a Sunday to start between 12 and 1 pm - exact time to be decided but something along the lines of the Christmas dinner so people can come for lunch after church. You will have to reserve your seat in advance much like the barbeques and there will be one main dish - lasagna or something. Details have to be worked out so keep any eye for email updates and information in the December bulletin.

Hope to see you at the November 11th open house and/or the Seniors' Christmas Dinner/Lunch in December.

Thanks again everyone!

Wendy Ryan



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Remembrance & Poppy



Approval for the donation to Veterans House Ottawa The Andy Carswell Building finally came through in August and a cheque was mailed out the very next day! Thanks to Kanata, Orleans, Montgomery Branches and our Branch, the entire “wish list” for the Andy Carswell Building was covered!

So the 2024 Poppy Campaign donated \$5000 to the Perley, \$5000 to the Andy Carswell Building and \$2000 to student bursaries. Four thousand was budgeted but we only had 2 applications.

Our incoming Poppy chair John Evans has been learning the ropes and we have started organizing and planning for the 2025 Poppy Campaign with 2 meetings held already. The business lists have been updated and re-organized to try to even them out - mind you Bob Leighton still has the longest list as usual! We will meet once more in October to pass out receipt books and answer any questions.

Thanks in advance to Bob Leighton, Kerry Cook, Kelly Mckenna, Marybette Riddell and Iain Clogg for volunteering to approach businesses for donations and thanks to Tom Louks for taking over all the counter boxes this year.

The white crosses will be placed in the local cemeteries by Johnny Villeneuve, Tom Louks, Will Frenken, Irwin McCafrey, John Evans, Tom Platt and Susan Gran - at least I assume they will since I have not confirmed it with them all yet!!

Tom Louks will make sure the memorial boards are up to date.

Eric Booth will be organizing the November 11th service, Boyd Dulmage will be organizing the parade and Pat McGrath will be organizing the food for the November 11th open house.

If you are able to help in any of these areas, please let me know– extra hands are always welcome.

Wendy Ryan

As part of our plan to try to get more recognition in the community, we sponsored the Heavy Horse Show at the Richmond Fair this year. Below are pictures of the winners receiving their ribbons from our president, Brian Goss..



First Place.



Second place above left. Third place above right.

Noah 2.0

In the year 2017, the Lord came unto Noah, who was now living in America and said:

"Once again, the earth has become wicked and over-populated, and I see the end of all flesh before me."

"Build another ark and save 2 of every living thing along with a few good humans." He gave Noah the blueprints, saying: "You have 6 months to build the ark before I will start the unending rain for 40 days and 40 nights."

Six months later, the Lord looked down and saw Noah weeping in his yard - but no ark. "Noah!," He roared, I'm about to start the rain! Where is the ark?" "Forgive me, Lord," begged Noah, "but things have changed. ""I needed a building permit." "I've been arguing with the boat inspector about the need for a sprinkler system."

"My neighbours claim that I've violated the neighbourhood by-laws by building the ark in my back yard and exceeding the height limitations. We had to go to the local Planning Committee for a decision."

"Then the local Council and the electric company demanded a shed load of money for the future costs of moving power lines and other overhead obstructions, to clear the passage for the ark's move to the sea. I told them that the sea would be coming to us, but they would hear none of it."

"Getting the wood was another problem. There's a ban on cutting local trees in order to save the Greater Spotted Barn Owl." "I tried to convince the environmentalists that I needed the wood to save the owls - but no go!"

"When I started gathering the animals the ASPCA took me to court. They insisted that I was confining wild animals against their will. They argued the accommodations were too restrictive and it was cruel and inhumane to put so many animals in a confined space."

"Then the Environmental Protection Agency ruled that I couldn't build the ark until they'd conducted an environmental impact study on your proposed flood." "I'm still trying to resolve a complaint with the Human Rights Commission on how many minorities I'm supposed to hire for my building crew."

"The Immigration Dept. is checking the visa status of most of the people who want to work."

"The trade unions say I can't use my sons. They insist I have to hire only Union workers with ark-building experience." "To make matters worse, the IRS seized all my assets, claiming I'm trying to leave the country illegally with endangered species."

"So, forgive me, Lord, but it would take at least 10 years for me to finish this ark." Suddenly the skies cleared, the sun began to shine, and a rainbow stretched across the sky.

Noah looked up in wonder and asked, "You mean you're not going to destroy the world?" ;

"No," said the Lord. "The Government beat me to it."

An armed thief entered a house mid-afternoon and found two people there. He tied up the woman and ordered the man at the point of his gun to hand over the family's jewelry and other valuables. The frightened man started sobbing, and said, "You can take anything you want, and even beat me up, but please, untie the rope and free her." "You must really love your wife!" "Not particularly, but she will be home shortly".

Political one-liners

The problem with political jokes is they get elected... *Henry Cate VII*

We hang the petty thieves and appoint the great thieves to public office ... *Aesop*

When I was a boy I was told that anybody could become President; I'm beginning to believe it ...

Clarence Darrow

Why pay money to have your family tree traced; go into politics and your opponents will do it for you ... *Author unknown*

A love letter to Canada from American Robert Arnold

There's a place where winter arrives like an uninvited house guest & it stays long enough to put away the dishes. A place where people survive the wrath of nature with nothing but a good pair of boots & a shrug. A place where decency is not dead. A place where a hand shake still means something. where national identity is stitched together not with arrogance or conquest but with quiet unflinching resolve. And that place dear friend is Canada.

If there is a refuge left in this world from the cruel absurdity of modern civilization it is there-tucked beneath the Northern lights wrapped in the hum of a snow plow at dawn and while other nations with their bellowing & bravado stagger through history in search of greatness, Canada has been quietly excellent all along, without the need for parades or messianic declarations of destiny. And it is a place built not on war but on negotiation, not on blind ideology but on the simple understanding that if you're going to survive in a land where winter tries to kill you every year you're going to have to get along with your neighbours.

So in 1867 in the most Canadian way possible she was officially born – not in the scream of musket fire, no divine proclamation no threat of annihilation, just a hand shake and a quiet understanding that they had something worth holding on to.

And Canada has this strange and radical idea that a country should take care of its citizens universal healthcare is not a debate but it's a given the idea that someone should go bankrupt because they had the audacity to get sick is as unthinkable as charging people for oxygen. And this is a country where workers still have rights – where the government does not actively wage war against unions. Where the minimum wage is not a cruel joke, it is a place that still understands the dignity of labour. It does not see the working class as an inconvenience but as the foundation upon which everything is built.

And Canada does not boast it does not beat its chest it does not need to because strength is not in the volume of one's voice but in the steadiness of one's character. Canada has weathered every storm, endured every hardship and not with bravado but with grit. It is a nation that sent soldiers to fight tyranny and not for Empire or glory but because it was the right thing to do.

It is a place where democracy is not just a performance but a practice. While American drowns in voter suppressions and political theatre, Canada quietly goes to the polls with the simple belief that voting should not be a battle but a right.

It is a country where people still say sorry when they bump into you. Where a stranger will help you push your car out of the snow before even asking your name. There is a humility there, a kindness that is not performative but instinctive.

It is a nation that understands that real strength is not in tearing others down but in lifting them up. And if there is a last bastion of decency a final whisper of what a nation can be when it is not consumed by greed and fear it is Canada. It is the soft glow of a hockey rink in the winter twilight, it is the laughter of friends over a Crown Royal. It is the unwavering belief that people deserve dignity that community matters, that kindness is not a weakness but the most powerful force of all.

And O Canada you beautiful stubborn snow-covered sanctuary of sanity may you never lose your way. May you never trade your quiet strength for the loud insanity of empire. And may you always be there just beyond the border, a reminder that a nation can be great without having to tell the world about it.

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Tom Platt	03-Oct
Judy MacKenzie	04-Oct
Debbie McSheffrey	13-Oct
Joyce Treboutat	13-Oct
Brian McSheffrey	15-Oct
Mary Jo	17-Oct
Tim Lytle	20-Oct
Oscar Clench	24-Oct
Joyce Clench	26-Oct
Victor Hepton	28-Oct
Bob Marler	29-Oct

Peter Moore	14-Nov
Kerry Lee Cook	19-Nov
Georgia Read	19-Nov
Sheri McQuade-Thoms	23-Nov
Earle Payne	26-Nov
Angie Power	29-Nov

Kay Lawless	05-Dec
Patrick Picard	05-Dec
Tom Louks	08-Dec
Jim Burns	09-Dec
Roberta Hurman	11-Dec
Mike Muldoon	11-Dec
Henry Mains	15-Dec
Shirley Reddick	15-Dec
John Evans	17-Dec
Anthony McGrath	22-Dec
William Murphy	23-Dec
Marina Leullier	24-Dec
Boyd Dulmage	25-Dec
Lynne Owen	25-Dec
Louis Seward	27-Dec

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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 meetings: the third Thursday of each month at 10:30 am

Friday Night Darts: October 17th, 2025 to March 27th, 2026. Starts at 7 pm.

General meetings: the fourth Friday of January, March, June, September & November at 11 am.

Annual General Meeting & elections: the third Thursday of May at 7 pm.

Friday Night Darts returns on Friday, October 17, 2025. Dues remain the same, \$125 for the season. Please pay via e-transfer using treasurerrecl625@gmail.com and note that it is for darts. That's all I know about darts right now. You can contact Cathie Lytle at 613-868-2489 for more information.

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.

“All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt.”

CHARLES M. SCHULZ



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