



Royal Canadian Legion Branch 61 Newsletter – February 2021

President's Report

The last newsletter gave us an idea of what would happen at that time. Since then, many things have changed. The dues were paid and many members donated the money and much more. For this, the Branch thanks each and every one who did so.

Unfortunately, it appears that many of the events we are used to hosting will not be able to take place. This of course puts a financial drain on our ability to do needed repairs and upkeep of our hall. However, we have been able to access some available Grants, we have received many donations from individuals and organizations and of course the food sales from our own Ways and



Means Committee and their many volunteers. The Ladies Auxiliary with their donation and volunteers have played a great part in keeping our Branch viable. Thank You ladies for your efforts.

Looking forward to the remainder of 2021, it appears that we will continue as we are

until the restrictions are changed or lifted. We hope that soon we will be able to have our regular General meetings so that all members will have a chance to participate in the running of our Branch. In the meantime, our Executive will be holding virtual meetings so that we may continue to keep the Branch operational. Any member who may have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to the Branch or myself. Remember, many of the committees are still continuing their work so if you have question or wish to volunteer, reach out to the applicable Chairperson.

We will continue to keep all Members updated about all things that affect our Branch.

Your President,
Cde Clint Kennedy CD

Executive 2021

President: *Cde Clinton Kennedy*

Past President: *Cde Lorraine Andrushuk*

1st Vice-President: *Cde Jim Stewart*

2nd Vice-President: *Cde Velma Darroux*

Acting Treasurer: *Cde Lorraine Andrushuk*

Secretary: *Cde Teresa Beauregard*

Service Officers: *Cde Jim Stewart & Cde Clinton Kennedy*

Sergeant-at-Arms: *Cde Jim Stewart*

Finance Chair: *Helen Frovich*

Entertainment, Ways & Means Co-Chairs:

Cde Lorraine Andrushuk, Cde Velma Darroux & Cde Peggy Kennedy

Newsletter Chair: *Cde Velma Darroux*

Memberships: *Cde Cindy Stewart*

Honours & Awards Chair: *Cde Stephen Troubridge*

Bar / Nevada Chair: *Cde Olga Mackay*

Maintenance Chair: *Cde Alain Beauregard*

Poppy Chair: *Cde Cindy Stewart, Cde Jim Stewart & Cde Clinton Kennedy*

Public Relations: *Cde Velma Darroux*

Website /IT Support: *Cde Chris Mulroy*

Sports Chairs: *Cde Olga McKay (Darts), Cde Cindy Stewart (Floor Curling), Cde Audrey Cook (Cribbage)*

Lotteries Chair: *Cde Lorraine Andrushuk*

Rentals Chair: *Cde Bev Gabarevic*

Sick & Visiting Chairs: *Cde Peggy Kennedy & Cde Clinton Kennedy*

Branch Chaplain: *Cde Beth McLean*

Ways and Means

Welcome to 2021! Although the Legion is not open to the public, we have been busy with our fundraising efforts just the same.

We had a pre-order/pick up Ukrainian Food Sale and a take home and heat Christmas Dinner Sale in December. Thank you to everyone that helped out with the success of these endeavors. A special "Thank You" to Jordan Andrushuk for all his help as the main cook for the Christmas Dinner (see more details and picks in separate article).

On behalf of the legion, our head cook Lorraine Andrushuk would like to thank Eva Sohan for preparing some of the food in her own home using her own supplies.

Lorraine would also like to thank all of the volunteers that came to her home to help make perogies, cabbage rolls, and perishky.

On behalf of the Ways and Means Committee, I would like to thank Lorraine for the immeasurable number of hours she puts in to making our food sales so successful!

We are having another pre-order/pick up Ukrainian Food Sale and a take home and heat Easter Dinner Sale in March (see *attached posters for details*). In addition to these, we are also having a pie sale with assorted sweet and savory pies (see *attached poster for details*).

If any residents of the Lodge or Villa are unable to pick up their orders, please let us know and we will deliver them.

Stay safe until we meet again!

Velma Darroux

Maintenance Report

The new 8 burner/double oven range has been installed, along with a new range hood vent. 250 folding padded chairs and 20 lightweight folding tables have also been purchased. The building inspections are being carried out every few days during our Branch shutdown as per the building insurance requirements.

Cde Alain Beauregard

Sick and Visiting Chair's Report:

It has been a very unique year in 2020. Hopefully it will be over soon and we can get together again at the Legion.

In November 2020, I delivered a fruit basket and a get-well card to Adam Kwaitek at his home in Winnipeg.

In December 2020, I mailed a sympathy card to Kevin Bochorka on the loss of his mother. I also delivered a fruit basket and a sympathy card to Evelyn Currie on the loss of her daughter.

I hope 2021 will be a better year and we will see each other soon. Till then stay healthy and safe.

Again, if anyone knows of a Veteran or Member who is ill at home or in hospital, please contact me at 204-642-8199 or the Branch office 204-389-2660

Cde. Peggy Kennedy

Ladies Auxiliary Report

Not much has changed since our last report in October. Our Executive was able to have one meeting with the proper self-distancing. Unfortunately we were unable to have the outdoor gathering we had hoped for.

Once things open up more, our phoning committee will be contacting everyone. In the meantime, our Ladies are assisting the Legion as needed.

Our Ladies helped package and deliver the pre-Christmas dinners. Thanks to our Ladies for baking cookies. Also, thanks to all those who delivered meals to our Veterans and residents of the Winnipeg Beach Lodge and Isfeld Villa. It was great teamwork from everyone.

We are doing what we can to help the Branch with making Ukrainian food that's for sale. We hope and pray that everyone is well. Looking forward to being together soon. Stay safe.

Joan Fenton

Poppy Report



Despite COVID, our Poppy campaign was very successful thanks to the generosity of the citizens of Winnipeg Beach, Village of Dunnottar and Komarno.

The money that is donated to this fund stays in our community and is ONLY used in service to our

veterans. We have 26 Veterans in our community that we know of. If you know a Veteran that we may not know of please have them contact us.

Jim and I also had the privilege of placing flags and poppies on graves of veterans in the 3 area community graveyards. If we knew the person was a vet or was identified with a military marker they were honored. If you know a deceased Veteran please contact the Legion. Please give the location of the grave, name and which of the 5 cemeteries it is located in.

We were also able to hold the Poster Contest for Remembrance Day with the Winnipeg Beach School and we received lots of great posters and poetry. Grades 1-8 participated.

Cindy Stewart

Membership Report

As our members are aware because of COVID and not being able to open except for approximately 8 weeks so it was voted by the Executive Board to pay for the 2021

memberships as long as the member was in good standing. We paid for approximately 118 memberships. Thank you to those that donated in lieu of membership it is appreciated. There are some members that have not picked up their sticker. You can phone and arrange a time to do this by calling the Legion. Please remember if you have moved or changes in your address, phone number or email please let us know.

With your membership you can log in to The Royal Canadian Legion-membership perks and see the many offers that are available with your membership. It is very easy to use once you create an account. There are lots of companies to choose from restaurants, fitness, paint and many more.

Cindy Stewart

The Royal Canadian Legion - National Headquarters

January 5th, 2021

The Royal Canadian Legion urges Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) to act swiftly to implement recommendations made by the House of Commons Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs (ACVA) to improve the backlog of disability benefit claims. With nearly 20,000 applications still in limbo, Veterans face continued frustration and despair, as many wait in dire need of the disability benefits and supports they need.

The ACVA report, *Clearing the Jam: Addressing the Backlog of Disability Benefit Claims at Veterans Affairs Canada*, presented Veterans Affairs Canada with [16 recommendations](#) to address the backlog. A number of measures, if adopted immediately, will go far in alleviating the unprocessed claims — measures such as hiring and retaining employees to process claims; improving transfer of medical records between CAF and VAC to expedite claims; automatic approval of applications for conditions attributed to service; plus automatic pre-approval for all other disability claims. Action on these recommendations, in addition to long term measures to address underlying issues that contribute to the backlog, are needed now.

In our advocacy role, the Legion brings forward issues that affect the wellbeing of Veterans, identifies challenges and presses for change to ensure that Veterans and their families receive the care and benefits they deserve. We were grateful for the opportunity to appear before ACVA to offer our input on the backlog. Canada's Veterans have been waiting too long for the disability benefits they need and rightly deserve. The recommendations to Veterans Affairs Canada are clear. The time for action is now.

If you or a Veteran you know needs assistance with a VAC disability benefit claim, the Legion can help. Contact a [Legion Command Service Officer](#) for more information.

REPORT LINK:

www.ourcommons.ca/Content/Committee/432/ACVA/Reports/RP11036287/acvarp04/acvarp04-e.pdf

Note: if anyone is interested in a pdf copy of this report and the link is not working, please email Stephen Troubridge at troubridgesj@gmail.com and request one.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Winnipeg Beach Legion would like to thank our Comrades, members of our community and those near and far for the unprecedented amount of personal donations received this Fall/Winter 2020/21. We gratefully acknowledge the following donors.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandie Williams • Clinton & Peggy Kennedy • Cindy & Jim Stewart • Walter Longley • Marlene & Terry Rooney • David Knight • Pat Green • Pam Salzbuger • Bob Abar • The Tomko family • Beth McLean • Caroline Ash • Paul Lamotte • Phyllis & Ernie Pawluk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter Andrushuk • Betty & Marcel Loewen • Lorraine Andrushuk • Beverly Bean & Dan Olafson • Ron White • Karen Proch • Judy & Dave Houston • Val & Boyd Cramble • David Young • Gwen Pilipow • Caroline & Sid Avis • Juris Snikeris • Audrey Cook & Peter Milankovic • Eva Sohan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruth Asher & Ralph Cottam • Olga MacIntyre Joan & Neil Fenton • Dorothy Anderson-Howard • Carol Baker & Helen Gouzecky • Ann & Ray Seidel • Kris & Jeff Haight • Russell Andrushuk • Plumbers & Pipefitters Local Union 254 Wpg, MB • Lakeside Seniors • Branch 61 Ladies Auxiliary • Keith & Rene Solinsky
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If we have missed your donation on this donor list please accept our apology. Please notify the Branch office so that we may acknowledge your personal donation in our next newsletter.

In support of our recent purchase of an 8 burner/double oven range, new range hood vent, new folding chairs and lightweight folding tables, the Province of Manitoba (Building Sustainable Communities) has awarded a grant to Branch 61 in the amount of \$10,929.00. A donation from the Noventis Credit Union has also been received in the amount of \$5,464.00 for these same Branch upgrades. We are very appreciative of the support received from the Province and Manitoba, and the continuous support we have received from the Noventis Credit Union.



Legion masks are now available at the branch office. They are sized in small (7"x 5") or large (7.5"x 5.5") @ \$10.00 per mask (no tax). Please notify the Legion office if you wish to purchase a Legion mask.

Cde Teresa Beauregard
Secretary

Finance Report

Bank Balances at end of December, 2020:

General Checking account - \$23,359.12

Surplus shares - \$381.16

Savings Total - \$31,061.85

Total General Accounts - \$54802.13

Chase the Joker - \$2208.11

Lotteries - \$468.83

VLT Total \$104.47

Total of all accounts at year end - \$ 57,835.40

All accounts have been done for the end of the year, and a working budget has been set up.

Due to the hard work of our many volunteers the Legion is still financially stable.

Thank You

Helen Frovich

This article was sent to The Express Weekly News by Velma Darroux on behalf of the Ways and Means Committee in early January!

Winnipeg Beach Legion Branch 61 gives back to the community

Although we have had to close our doors due to COVID-19, we still want to be active in our community. On December 18 & 19 the Winnipeg Beach Legion delivered 160 meals to Veterans, seniors in the Lodge and Isfeld Manor, and other shut-ins in and around the community. Meals were delivered by Legion members, Ladies Auxiliary, and the Winnipeg Beach Fire Department.



Meals were delivered by Legion members, Ladies Auxiliary, and the Winnipeg Beach Fire Department.



Jordan, our main cook, preparing the meals

These meals were made possible by donations from Legion members, Ladies Auxiliary and surrounding community members and friends.

Meals were prepared at the Legion by a small number of volunteers following COVID-19 guidelines under essential services. The baking was donated by the Ladies Auxiliary and Legion members.



The meal was a Turkey dinner with all the trimmings, meatballs, cabbage rolls and some homemade Christmas goodies for dessert!

For more information on what is happening at our legion check out our Facebook page (RLC: Winnipeg Beach Branch #061) or our website www.winnipegbeachlegion.ca



We look forward to seeing everyone when we open our doors again! The Executive, legion members, and Ladies Auxiliary of the Winnipeg Beach Legion Branch 61 would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Healthy 2021!



Relief for struggling Branches hit hard by pandemic.

OTTAWA, ON, 21 DECEMBER 2020 – Over half of The Royal Canadian Legion's 1380 Branches received close to half the support dollars available for transfer from a federal aid package today.

In total, just over \$7.2 million dollars distributed by the Legion's National Headquarters went to 701 Branches who recently applied for financial assistance provided through Veterans Affairs Canada. More funds will be disbursed in the coming weeks. Many locations have been struggling to keep up with operational costs in the aftermath of closures and cancelled events.

"I'm literally ecstatic to know that our Branches have now received desperately needed help," says Dominion President Thomas D. Irvine. "It's a relief to know they will be able to continue with their amazing work, without the burden of financial stress looming in the background," he says.

The Legion received \$14 million dollars out of a \$20 million dollar package earmarked for Veteran Organizations as part of Bill C-4, approved earlier this fall.

"The Legion's branches are some of our most important partners in supporting our Veterans, and in making sure that Canadians remember the sacrifices they've made," says The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence. "I'm proud that the Government of Canada is able to provide them with the funding they need to make it through the pandemic as we continue to work together on behalf of our Veterans and their families."

Branches are happy to turn a new corner with this welcome help.

Newsletter Report

Thank you to everyone for your submissions to the newsletter! If there is anything else you would like to see included, please let me know and I'll try my best to include it.

Cde. Velma Darroux

Where do poppy funds actually go?



Poppies are distributed and worn in Canada from the last Friday in October until the end of

Remembrance Day, November 11. The poppies are not sold; they are available free, though it is common practice to give a donation.

The funds raised by each legion branch — there are more than 1,400 across the country — are held by that branch in a trust, to be used to provide financial assistance and support to veterans, including those from the Canadian Armed Forces and the RCMP, and their families.

In response to COVID-19 and an increasingly cashless society, the legion this year is augmenting the traditional donor boxes with a pilot project that will see 250 "Pay Tribute" tap-and-pay boxes installed across the country. About three dozen are located in the Ottawa area, including at various grocery, department, building supply, beer and liquor stores.

Strict guidelines are in place regarding how funds raised by the poppy campaign may and may not be used, the details of which are in the legion's 58-page Poppy Manual. Funds, for example, cannot be used for the operational expenses of individual branches, nor can they go towards funeral expenses, public speaking events, the purchase of medals, as loans, or as general donations to charities or community events.

Read the full article at:

ottawacitizen.com/news/where-do-poppy-funds-actually-go

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #61

Winnipeg Beach

20 Hamilton Avenue, Box 576
Winnipeg Beach, MB R0C 3G0

Ph: 204-389-2660

www.winnipegbeachlegion.ca

Lest We Forget

While Elizabeth Broadbent (Baillargeon) was remembering of all the brave men and women who fought for our country and those who lost their lives, she decided to share these pictures of three of those brave men. Three brothers who went to war and only one returned. The sad thing is that both brothers Lieutenant Edmond Emile Baillargeon(left) and Flight Lieutenant Joseph Louis (middle) were both killed on the same day, August 17,1944. Elizabeth's father, Sergeant Lawrence Vincent Baillargeon returned home from the war and passed away July 15, 1994.

The three brothers actually lived on Hazel Avenue in Winnipeg Beach from 1927-1937 with their sister Mae and their mother and father.



WORKER'S SOLDIER SON DEAD, AND FLYING SON IS MISSING

With news reaching him that one son has died of wounds received in action and that a second is missing following air operations, Edmond Baillargeon, Ford plant worker of 425 Pitt Street West, today knows the tragic meaning that war can spell to the home front.

On August 20 Mr. Baillargeon received a wire from the R.C.A.F. Casualties officer in Ottawa informing him that his son, PO. Joseph Louis Baillargeon was missing following air operations overseas on August 17. On August 24 came a second wire, from the director of army records in Ottawa, stating his son, Lt Edmond Emile Baillargeon had died August 17 as a result of head wounds received in action.

Mr. Baillargeon's other son – Cpl. Lawrence Baillargeon, is with the Canadian Army in France.

Lawrence, 22, is the youngest son; Joseph is 24, and Edmond was 26. Lawrence went overseas in 1940 as a private with the Essex Scottish; Joseph went overseas in 1941, and Edmond went over in October, 1943, holding an officer's rank at the time.

All three boys were well known in Windsor, where Edmond and Joseph were both employed. Both were university graduates and Lawrence was about to enter university at the outbreak of war.

Lt. Edmond Baillargeon attended Assumption College and studied four years at the University of Saskatoon. He spent a brief period on the city hall staff. Sisters in the family are Mrs. Allen Chester of Winnipeg, whose husband is overseas; Mrs. John Wilk of Winnipeg, and Mrs. Roy English of Port Arthur.

Note: Edmond on the left and Joseph in the middle were both killed on the same day of 17 August 1944. Joseph was shot down over the Baltic Sea, his body never recovered. Edmond is buried in France. Lawrence on the right returned home and passed away on 15 July 1994. The Baillargeon Boys lived in Winnipeg Beach from 1927-1937 on Hazel Street with their sister Mae, and their mother and father. They were Free Press carrier boys in Winnipeg Beach.

Submitted by Liz (Baillargeon) Broadbent, the daughter of Lawrence.

Ukrainian Food



Sale



Due to COVID-19 our Legion remains closed and unable to have our regular fundraisers. We are having a **pre-order & pick-up sale** of your favorite Ukrainian foods!

We will have a **limited amount** of the following items available for sale:

Perogies (potato & cheddar): **\$5.00/dozen** (sold in bags of 5 dozen)

Cabbage rolls: **\$6.00/dozen**

Perishky: **\$7.00/dozen**

Food available for pick up now – just call and make arrangements

Final Pick up Day: Saturday, March 13, 2021

from 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Winnipeg Beach Legion

20 Hamilton Ave.

To order call or email:

Lorraine @ 204-389-3186 or 1-204-894-3701

Legion @ 204-389-2660 or rclbr61@mymts.net



Only \$15
per dinner!

Pre-ordered Pick up/ Take Home Easter Dinner

Baked Ham!
Easter Buns!

Due to COVID-19 the Legion remains closed so we are having a **pre-order & pick-up Easter Dinner!**

Dinner includes: Baked Ham, Scalloped potatoes, vegetables, pineapple meatballs, Easter bun, and Easter treats!

Pick up Day: Saturday, March 27, 2021
from 10:00 am – 12:30 pm
at the Winnipeg Beach Legion
20 Hamilton Ave.

For tickets call or email:

Lorraine @ 204-389-3186 or 1-204-894-3701

Legion @ 204-389-2660 or rclbr61@mymts.net

Velma @ 204-642-2840



Pies, Pies, and more Pies!



Wild
Blueberry
\$12

The Ladies Auxiliary are having a
pre-order & pick-up sale
of your favorite pies!

Apple

There will be a **limited quantity** of assorted of pies for sale
for \$10 each (unless otherwise posted)!

Cherry

Tarts are 6 for \$5

Butter
Tarts

Turkey
\$12

Deadline for orders: March 6, 2021
Pick up Day: Saturday, March 13, 2021
from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Winnipeg Beach Legion
20 Hamilton Ave.

Apple
Tarts

Wild
Saskatoon
\$12

Raisin

Pumpkin

Strawberry
Rhubarb

Lemon

To order call or email:

Eva @ 204-389-2758 or iesohan@icloud.com

Norah @ 204-389-6676 or ncbell@mymts.net

Joanne @ 204-367-8013 or jm.whyte@shaw.ca