Royal Canadian Legion Branch 61 Newsletter – October 2026

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President's Report

Thank you for the honor of making me your President three times.

With the help of all our wonderful volunteers we have made this Legion financially stable. We have earned the money by selling food, hosting events, the bar income, along with some donations. We are still awaiting a grant for this year.

Thanks to Al Beauregard for his many hours of hard work, the Legion has been totally upgraded with new coolers, televisions, computers, office equipment, a generator, lighting redone, kitchen upgraded to commercial, new cupboards, flooring, stoves, dishwasher, tables and chairs, and new commercial bathroom flooring. We have also purchased dart boards, freezers, pots and pans, commercial mixer, decorating supplies, barbeques and grills. Cde Al Beauregard has drywalled and painted all the walls. We also purchased cleaning equipment and many other things during the last ten years.

Velma makes us look good with her Honors and Awards and Remembrance Day programs, posters newsletters, tickets and ads. Thank you, Velma.

Helen Frovich has done all our accounting, helped at events, decorated them, and helped Gordon Frovich keep this place clean, they also run the canteen and do many other things.

Our election date had to be changed to November 22, 2026, to accommodate all the workers. We will be having it at 2 pm, with a lot of seniors who do not drive at night especially in the winter.

Come out and vote for your next executive then please support all their efforts to keep this Legion open.

Cde Lorraine Andrushuk

Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 61
Winnipeg Beach
20 Hamilton Avenue, Box 576
Winnipeg Beach, MB R0C 3G0
Ph: 204-389-2660 or rclbr61@gmail.com
www.winnipegbeachlegion.ca

Executive 2026

President: *Cde Lorraine Andrushuk*
Past President: *Cde Clinton Kennedy*
1st Vice-President: *Cde Velma Darroux*
2nd Vice-President: *Cde Don Sul*
Treasurer: *Cde Helen Frovich*
Secretary: *Beverly Self*
Service Officer: *Cde Greg Onofreychuk*
Sick & Visiting: *Cde Bev Self*
Sergeant-at-Arms: *Cde Marc Parent*
Finance Chair: *Cde Helen Frovich*
Entertainment, Ways & Means: *Cde Lorraine Andrushuk*
Newsletter & PR Chair: *Cde Velma Darroux*
Memberships: *Cde Cindy Stewart*
Honours & Awards Chair: *Cde Cindy Stewart*
Bar / Nevada Chair: *Cde Olga Mackay*
Maintenance Chair: *Cde Alain Beauregard*
Poppy Chair: *Cde Don Sul & Cde Lori Sul*
Website /IT Support: *Cde Chris Mulroy*
Sports Chairs: *Cde Olga McKay (Darts), Cde Cindy Stewart (Floor Curling), Cde Len Kisiloski (Cribbage)*
Lotteries Chair: *Cde Helen Frovich*
Rentals Chair: *Office*
Centennial Events Chair: *Lorraine Andrushuk*
Banner Chair: *Cde Bev Self*
Centennial Cookbook Chair: *Cde. Stephen Troubridge*
Branch Chaplain: *Cde Beth McLean*

Ways and Means

I want to thank all the wonderful volunteers, the Ladies Auxiliary, the Legion, and our community members who help keep our doors open.

The events chairperson and committee are devising plans for a very special year. Our Centennial Committee is working hard on the Centennial events, banners research, and hats for the school children for next year.

We did many events in 2026 including memorials, craft shows, pancake breakfasts, Fall Supper, catered dinners, Boardwalk Day lunch, and the Spring Tea. The Fashion Show was coordinated by Velma and her daughter Tamara who work with the models, and of course there is our kitchen and decorating staff. Greg Onofreychuk hosted the WWW social and the Town 50/50s.

We are now preparing for our Remembrance Day services at the school and at the Legion, Christmas Craft Sale, Christmas Tea, Lunch with Santa, and Christmas Dinner giveaways.

The children all get free hats and mitts purchased with the money we hope to earn with our Christmas Tea door ticket sales. Tickets are $10 and children under twelve are free.

There is a lot of work ahead of us this fall and hopefully we will all have some fun doing it.

Ways and Means Chair, Lorraine Andrushuk

Legion Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Recipient, Erin Martens

We wish you luck in your future endeavors!



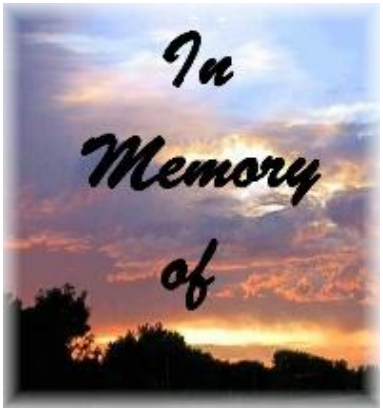
Sick and Visiting Chair's Report

We extend our sympathies to the families of our members that have passed away this year. We delivered a fruit basket to a member recuperating from a surgery and a fall supper and Thanksgiving supper to a member unable to attend the legion. Thankfully we have no other visits to report. The legion wishes everyone a safe and healthy winter.

Cde Bev Self

Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the following people:
Kris Haight – Barbeque
Lori Sul – Bench
Brad Black – Pictures and book



Cde Gabe Gaudreault
Cde Marg Dola
Cde Donna Moore
Cde Marlene Rooney
Cde George Heath

The devout cowboy lost his favorite Bible while he was mending fences out on the range. Three weeks later, a sheep walked up to him carrying the Bible in its mouth. The cowboy couldn't believe his eyes.

He took the precious book out of the sheep's mouth, raised his eyes heavenward and exclaimed, "It's a miracle!"

"Not really," said the sheep. "Your name is written inside the cover."

Fashion Show, April 2026

We held our 4th Annual Spring Fashion Show on April 27th. These are our wonderful models who give up their time to go to Red Apple and pick their outfits and then come and model them for us all to enjoy! Thank you to each and every one of you for making our Fashion Show a huge success each year.
We hope to see everyone in April 2027 for the 5th Annual Fashion Show!
P.S. If you want to model, please let me know!!

Cde Velma Darroux
1st Vice President & Fashion Show Coordinator



Sports Chair's Reports

Floor Curling



The Fall session of floor curling started on October 13th with 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. draws.

We will run until December 15 but there be no curling on December 8th.

If you would like to come and try it out, all are welcome for the 11 a.m. draw. We will take a break over the holidays and resume January 12, 2027.

Cde Cindy Stewart – Floor Curling

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Darts

The Legion is hosting Thursday night's fun. Darts play starts at 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. with an open bar and 50/50.



We will be hosting a fun dart tournament on November 28. Registration starts at 9:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome for our fun tournament.

Lunch will be available. We would like to thank all of our volunteers that help make Darts available all year round, especially Doug and Lisa Allard for running the winter Darts.

Cde Olga Mackay – Darts

Newsletter & Public Relations

Thank you everyone for your picture and submissions to the newsletter!

I appreciate the time and details that you include in your reports.

If there is anything else you would like to see included, please let me know and I'll try my best to include it.

We run a weekly ad in The Express Weekly Newspaper with upcoming events at the Legion. This ad will usually appear on page 5 and occasionally on page 7.

We also have our website (https://www.winnipegbeachlegion.ca/) that has upcoming events, current and past newsletters, the executive list and other important information. Please check it out!

Stay safe until we meet again!

Cde. Velma Darroux, 1st Vice President
PR & Newsletter Chairperson,

Best Boomer Jokes

How do boomers change a light bulb?
They don't – they just keep talking about how great the old one was.

What happens when a Karen and a boomer crash into each other? *KaBoom!*

WONDERFUL WINTER WEEKEND SOCIAL

The Legion will be hosting a Wonderful Winter Weekend Social on February 13, 2027

Stay tuned for more detail as they become available!

Ladies Auxiliary Report

We had another busy year. We had quite a few Celebrations of Life this year.

We helped the Legion with the Spring Tea, Fall Supper, Veterans gifts, Honours and Awards, and Volunteer Appreciation Celebration and making sandwiches.

Upcoming is the Remembrance Day Service, the Christmas Tea and Bake Sale, Winnipeg Beach School & Tiny Tots Lunch with Santa and the Christmas Dinner.

We work together with Legion members on perogy bees, and pie bees, making meatballs and many other things.

We have a great group of ladies and gentlemen who work well together and get things done!

Nadia Hanesiak, Ladies Auxiliary President
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Legion
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EVENTS for the remainder of 2026 (dates subject to change)

Remembrance Day Legion	Wed, 11 November
Christmas Tea & Bake Sale (Legion & LA)	Sat, 14 November
General Meeting & Elections	Sun, 22 November
Craft Sale	Sat, 05 December
Lunch With Santa (Wpg Beach School)	8 & 9 December
Christmas Dinner Pick Up	Sat, 19 December

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Request for Color Party Volunteers

To members of Legion Branch #61, Winnipeg Beach
I am asking the membership for volunteers for our Color Party. Typically, the color party has 3 events which we attend:

- Winnipeg Beach School
- Legion for Remembrance Day
- Boardwalk Days parade.

In between will be as required for funerals or other requested events. At present it has come to a point soon when the Legion would not be able to provide this function due to lack of people willing or able to participate.
It would greatly appreciated if some members could volunteer for this position. The more people, the better because of work schedules, medical reasons and other causes. I would have a pool in which to organize for scheduled events requiring a color party.
If interested, please submit your name to the Legion Branch.
Thank you for your membership.

Cde Marc Parent, Sgt-at Arms

Veteran's Banner Project



In honor of the Winnipeg Beach Legion Branch No. 61's deceased veterans, ar to commemorate our Legion's 100th Anniversary in 2028, we will be initiating a Veteran's Banner Project.

More information about this project as well as a Banner Application form will be forwarded by email to all members in January 2027 for anyone interested in participating.

The Legion is proud to sponsor this project at no cost to our members enrolled no later than December 31, 2027.

Cde Bev Self
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2027 Memberships

Win a Free Membership!



Just a reminder that the 2027 memberships are coming due.

If you renew before December 15, you will be entered into our branch's Early Bird Draw for a free 2028 Membership.

You also will get, through Dominion Command, a Ballot for a chance to win a new Ford F-150!



Legion Branch 61's 100th Anniversary



Winnipeg Beach Legion Branch 61 will be celebrating the **100th anniversary of the Branch in 2028**. A committee has been struck to help plan and coordinate the celebrations and related projects.

One of the committee's projects is to **gather and preserve information about the history of Branch No. 61**.

We are asking members, past and present, to share any **photos, stories, documents, memorabilia, or other materials** that are part of the history of Winnipeg Beach Legion Branch 61. If you have something you would like to contribute, please forward your submissions to:

Winnipeg Beach Legion Branch No. 61 rclbr61@gmail.com

Your contributions will help us preserve the history and memories of Branch 61 as we prepare to celebrate this important milestone.

Donations received from July to November 2026

We would like to thank the following people, businesses and organizations for their donations to our legion. We apologize if we have missed any donors. Please let us know if we have not acknowledged your donation to Branch 61 and we will include it in our next newsletter. Please support the businesses that support us. The list is in no specific order.

Businesses:

- Red Apple
- Shears of Glory, Gimli
- General Store Wpg Beach
- Deals for Dollars Gimli
- Lakeview Inn Resort Gimli
- Rona Gimli
- Tergesen's Gimli
- Chicken Chef Gimli
- Access Credit Union Gimli
- Pharmasave Gimli
- Home Hardware Wpg Bch
- Pizza Plate
- Ruby's Paradise
- Whytewold Emporium
- Georgetown Acres & Interlake Garden Centre
- the Breakwater Ice Cream & Coffee, Wpg. Beach

Organizations:

- Wpg Beach Legion Br. 61
- Ladies Auxiliary Br. 61
- Town of Winnipeg Beach
- Town of Winnipeg Beach Fire Department
- Lakeside Seniors

Individuals:

- Beth Berg
- Bev Gabarevic
- Tom Borsa
- Lorraine Andrushuk
- Russ Andrushuk
- Peter Andrushuk
- Robert Andrushuk
- Jordan Andrushuk
- Velma Darroux
- Bob Abar
- Graham Watson

Individuals:

- Jim & Cindy Stewart
- Olga Mackay
- Judy Catton
- Beverley Self
- Helen & Gord Frovich
- Cindy & Jim Stewart
- Laurie Russin
- Virginia (Sandie) Williams
- Doug & Connie Jonasson
- Angie Skoryk
- Beth McLean
- Vera Ginter
- Ziggy Trautwain
- Eleonor Nelson
- Peggy & Clinton Kennedy

Cribbage

Our Winnipeg Beach Legion Br.#61 hosts Crib Tournaments every 2nd Sunday unless there is a scheduled event. The dates are posted on FB and a variety of groups in neighbouring towns, as well as on our Legion's website.

Next dates are Nov.1st, 15th & 29th. There will be no Crib Tournaments in December.

Registration is $10.00 per person
Enter as a 2-person team
A spare will be provided if you do not have a partner
Prize money for 1st & 2nd place
Start time is 1:00 pm
50/50 draw and also a limited bar
Open to the public, all are welcome!

Group effort for celebration of life





Thanks again to our members and volunteers who help with funerals, Celebrations of Life and many other events.

We couldn't do it without you!



Royal Canadian Legion Black Center Poppy Pins Now Available
$2.00 Each (Does not include a poppy)
Please see the branch office to Purchase one.

Will You Remember Me?

They pinned a medal on me,
A new piece of steel,
And they asked me as I stood there,
"Tell us how it feels?"
You fought bravely for your country
You took pain for our tomorrow
We see a hero and a savior
But your face is lined with sorrow…"
And I said,
"Will you remember me?"
Will you remember all my mates
Who died amidst the horror
Of this shrapnel-shattered place?
Will you remember me
Long after I've ceased to feel,
Or will your memory of me end
With this shiny new piece of steel?"

The years have gone by swiftly,
But everyday I still mourn,
And I still can't stand the pain inside
When I hear the bugler's horn.
Children come to this place laughing
They silently hang their heads
When the bugler hauntingly plays his notes
In memory of the dead,
And I think,
"Will you remember me?"
Will you remember my brother Joe
Who died in the midst of giving air
To a man bleeding in the snow?
Will you remember me
Long after I've ceased to feel,
Or will your memory of me end
With this shiny new piece of steel?"

Now I am an old man, swaying in a wind
That cuts right through my clothing
To the pain I feel within
And I sorrow,
For soon my time will come
When I can no longer lay a wreath
Beneath this harsh November sun
And I cry,
"Will you remember me?"
Will you remember all the men
Who gladly gave their sacrifice
So we could live free again?
Will you remember me
Long after I've ceased to feel…"
And then the soldier passed away
Proudly holding his piece of steel.

And we remembered him,
As we stood there in the snow
We placed his body in the earth
And watched the sunset glow
And we promised him
That as long as we were free
We would return to visit him
And honour his memory.

Dale William Fedorchuk

Legion Member Recognized for Volunteering

International Women's Day was celebrated on March 8, and Legion member Velma Darroux was among several local women being honoured for a lifetime of volunteering by The Express Weekly News.

Velma was contacted by the Editor of the Newspaper at the end of April stating that her name was submitted by several people to be honoured this year.

If you would like to read the article, it can be found on the Express Weekly News archive page, March 5th edition on pages 22 & 24.

I would also like to recognize Velma and thank her for her service to our legion.

Congratulations Velma!

Cde Lorriane Andrushuk, President0


Royal Canadian
Legion
Winnipeg Beach Branch No. 61
Welcomes you to their...
Veterans, Honours and Awards, &
Volunteer Celebration
October 24, 2026
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

Special Recognition



Legionnaire of the Year Award

Cde Beverly Self received the **Legionnaire of the Year Award** at the Honours and Awards Dinner.



Lifetime Memberships

Clinton and Peggy Kennedy (Left) and Olga Mackay (Below) received their **Lifetime Memberships** at the Honours and Awards Dinner.



Legion
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RCL BR 61 EVENTS – 2027 – dates subject to change)

Dart Tournament	Sat Feb 06/2027
WWW SOCIAL	Sat Feb 13/2027
Dart Tournament	Sat April 17/2027
April Fashion Show	Sun April 25 /2027
Spring Tea	Sat May 08/2027
Craft Sale	Sat May 22/2027
Canada Day Pancake Breakfast	Thu July 01/2027
Board Walk Day Lunch	Sat July 17/2027
Pancake Breakfast	Sat Sep 04/2027
Fall Supper	Sat Sep 11/2027
Craft Sale	Sat Sep 18/2027
Ladies Auxiliary Event	Sat Oct 16/2027
Legion LA Honours and Awards Dinner	Sat Oct 23/2027
Fire Fighters Ball	Sat Nov 06/2027
School Remembrance Day	Wed Nov 10/2027
Legion Remembrance Day	Thu Nov 11/2027
Christmas Tea	Sat Nov 13/2027
Christmas Craft Sale	Sat Dec 04/2027
Christmas Lunch with Santa	Dec 7 & 8/2027?
Christmas Takeout Dinner	Sat Dec 18/2027



Legion

BRANCH 61
WINNIPEG BEACH

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Wednesday, 11 November 2026

*Please Be Seated By **10:30 A.M.***

Service Begins At 10:45 A.M.

Following the service, the Legion will provide a light lunch and refreshments.

All are welcome to attend.

Winnipeg Beach Legion &
Ladies Auxiliary

Christmas Tea and Bake Sale

featuring fancy sandwiches and dainties!

Saturday,



$10 Admission
(12 and under are free!)
Net proceeds to the Winnipeg Beach School Lunch with Santa!

Silent Auction

November 14, 2026
12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

20 Hamilton Avenue, Winnipeg Beach

For Information and/or tickets, please call:
Lorraine @ 204-894-3701
Legion @ 204-389-2660 or rclbr61@gmail.com

All Events are cash only

Winnipeg Beach Legion

20 Hamilton Street, Winnipeg Beach

Christmas Craft Sale



Saturday, December 5, 2026

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



Ukrainian Food, Baking, Vegetables, Honey, Various Crafts, Canteen and more!



For information or tables call Lorraine at 204-894-3701 or the Legion at 204-389-2660 and leave message.

All events are cash only!



Only $25 per dinner!

Pre-ordered Pick up/Take Home Christmas Dinner

Homemade Baking!

Please support our Christmas Dinner Initiative by purchasing dinner tickets.

This helps to offset the costs of the 175+ meals that we *deliver free of charge* to our veterans, all residents of the Lodge and Isfeld Manor and shut-ins in and around our community.

Your ***pre-order & paid pick-up turkey dinner*** comes with all the trimmings and some Christmas baking (donated by the Legion and L.A. members)!

Dinner includes Roast Turkey, stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, vegetables, cabbage rolls, meatballs, coleslaw, bun, condiments and homemade Christmas baking!

Pick up Day: Saturday, December 19th, 2026

from 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
at the Winnipeg Beach Legion
20 Hamilton Avenue

All tickets must be paid in advance by e-transfer! rclbr61@gmail.com

For tickets call or email:

Legion @ rclbr61@gmail.com or 204-389-2660
Lorraine @ 1-204-894-3701
Velma @ 204-642-2840





In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Fields.

John McCrae