

Vimy Memorial Bridge  
Photo Credit Debi Sereda



## The President's Message

Comrades:

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. I'm looking forward to re-connecting as people return from their summer vacations and cottages.

We have a busy fall schedule in store as we lead up to our Poppy Campaign and Remembrance Day. We are always seeking people to lend a hand in various capacities.

I'd like to thank our Executive Members Bert Boehme, Angel Guy, Dave Sereda, Joe Guitard and Michelle Guitard, who took time out of their summer to represent the Branch at the Dominion Convention in New Brunswick. Not as exciting, but a much shorter commute, Comrade Boehme and I represented the branch at the Zone Council Meeting on Sunday, September 8 which took place in Orleans.

The Ottawa Senators and Lepine Apartment have renewed their offer of honoring a Veteran at each of the 2024/25 season Senator's home game. We've had several members who were selected to attend, and they all said it was a great experience. Nominees must live within the District G area.

Nomination criteria:

1. ensure the Veteran is aware of being nominated
2. provide the name and the point of contact information of both the Veteran and the person submitting the nomination
3. provide a short biography which should include the following information:

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Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven, 3A-3500 Fallowfield Road, Ottawa K2J 4A7

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- years of service
- trade/classification
- deployments if applicable
- rank attained

Submit the nomination to me at [President@rcl641.ca](mailto:President@rcl641.ca).

I once again thank everyone for supporting our community by contributing to the Barrhaven Food Cupboard donations. We are looking at another RED Bag Campaign to start mid-September in order to further support our community.

“Lest we forget.”

[Lyle Brennan](#), CD, President

## Local Charitable Gaming Centres Have Raised Over \$500 Million for Ontario Charities

Each month for the last 10 years, members from Branch 641 have volunteered at the Bingoland on Slack Road. In return, these volunteers have helped to raise a whopping **\$556,230** for our branch to donate to our Veterans, youth and local organizations in our community who request our assistance. Our volunteers, led by Ed Schelenz, are Diane Craig, Caroline Boily, Danny and Monique Desmarais, Cathy Pearen and Mike McLinton and Mike Harrietha.

Many thanks to these volunteers for their ongoing support of Branch 641 and our Veterans, youth and our community.



“Supports RCL Branch 641 Barrhaven and our Veterans”



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## Robert (Bob) Rochford (1939-2024)

At the Queensway Carlton Hospital on Thursday, August 1st, 2024, Robert Rochford peacefully passed. He was the beloved husband of the late Ann-Louise Rochford and dear son of the late Daisy and Joseph Rochford. Robert had a successful career working with Service Canada. He was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 as well as the Charter Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus.

Condolences to Bob and Ann's family. They were very active members and volunteers of our branch.

## Royal Canadian Legion's Bursary Program

As part of the Legion's commitment to Veterans and their families, the Barrhaven Legion among other Legions, may grant bursaries through the Poppy Trust Fund to the children and great-grandchildren of Veterans who require financial assistance to pursue post-secondary education. These bursaries can make a difference for Veterans' and eligible family members and offers these students an opportunity to further their education goals. Bursaries may be granted at any stage of a college or university program.

Local branches, including Branch 641 and Provincial Command, develop their eligibility requirements, deadlines and application procedures. The Bursary Program runs from September 1 to October 31 of the current academic year. Applications can be hand delivered to the branch or sent by mail. More information is available on our website.

There is also the Ontario command level bursary students can apply for from September 1 to the last Friday in March for the current academic year. [More information is available here.](#)

Additionally, Allied Van Lines is pleased to offer qualifying Canadian students a chance to apply for their scholarship, which is intended for students across the areas of business, logistics and similar fields. Four qualified candidates will be selected to receive an award of \$1,000 each. Through the scholarship competition, Allied Van Lines will select four winners to receive an award of \$1,000 each after the scholarship deadline on December 15, 2024. For further information please go to their [website](#).

[Carol-Anne Marleau](#), Chair, Youth Education and Bursary

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## Earlybird Membership Renewal Campaign

Each year at this time, branches run an Earlybird Campaign to encourage members to renew for the new year. The campaign runs from September 1 to November 30.

Everyone who renews during this period has a chance to win a one-year extension to their membership. There will be three draws in the first week of December at our executive meeting.

Everyone who renews, either online or at the branch, will be entered into the draws.

All 2024 memberships expire at the end of December.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information on your Legion membership.

[Joe Guitard](#), Membership Chair



## Legion Seniors

The following information was taken from Legion Seniors Questionnaire and Yearly Report 2024

1. Number of retirement homes in our branch area: Eight
2. Breakdown of the number of retirement homes:
  - a. Federally funded retirement homes: 0
  - b. Provincially funded retirement homes: 0
  - c. Private retirement homes: 6
  - d. Nursing homes: 2
3. How many homes /residences are visited or contacted by the Seniors Officer, Veterans Service Officer or hospital visiting team(s): All eight
4. Describe what activities for seniors take place that are “branch sponsored” • bingo • Veterans’ Lunch • Christmas visit and gift drop-off
5. Which community services are available to seniors in the branch area? They can talk to our Seniors Officer, Veterans Officer or Community Specialist depending on their needs
6. What transportation (excluding taxi cabs) are available for seniors within the branch? • volunteer drivers, one or two have home-owned buses

[Richard Lyn](#), Seniors Chair

# 2024/2025 Branch 641 Executive Team

Position	Chair	Position	Chair
<b>President</b>	Lyle Brennan	<b>Hospitality/Entertainment</b>	Angele Guy
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Ed Schelenz	<b>Housing</b>	Dave Cole
<b>1st Vice President</b>	Bert Boehme	<b>Leadership and Development</b>	Bert Boehme
<b>2nd Vice President</b>	Angele Guy	<b>Legal Advisor</b>	Rod Vanier
<b>3rd Vice President</b>	Richard Lynn	<b>Legion Seniors</b>	Richard Lynn
<b>Chairman</b>	Dave Cole	<b>Long Range Planning</b>	Stephane Guy
<b>Treasurer</b>	Diane Craig	<b>Membership</b>	Joe Guitard
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Will Read	<b>Poppy</b>	Kevin Brown
<b>Secretary</b>	Pam Hall	<b>Poppy Trust Fund</b>	Bert Boehme
<b>Sergeant at Arms</b>	Paul Leadston	<b>Public Relations (Website, Newsletter)</b>	Debi Sereda
<b>Bar Officer</b>	Dave Cole	<b>Sports/Track and Field</b>	Michelle Guitard
<b>Cadets</b>	Robert MacNichol and Anne Cole	<b>Seniors</b>	Richard Lynn
<b>Community Liaison</b>	Dave Sereda	<b>Technology</b>	Kevin Brown
<b>Constitution and Laws</b>	Stephane Guy	<b>Veterans' Service Officer</b>	Anne Cole
<b>Finance Officer</b>	Bert Boehme	<b>Ways and Means</b>	Dave Sereda
<b>Grants and Assistance</b>	Richard Lynn	<b>Youth Education/Bursary</b>	Carol-Anne Marleau
<b>Honours and Awards</b>	Ed Schelenz		
Non-Executive			
<b>Bar Manager</b>	Diane Craig	<b>Golf Tournament</b>	Jennifer Read
<b>Bingo Team Co-ordinator</b>	Ed Schelenz	<b>Hall Rental</b>	Cathy Pearen
<b>Chaplain for Legion Tributes</b>	Reverend Margo Whittaker	<b>Hospital Visits Co-ordinator</b>	Louise Laflamme
<b>Cleaning the Capital</b>	Will and Jennifer Read	<b>Housing Assistant Housekeeping</b>	Tom Lamb Greg Grimes
<b>Finance Review Committee</b>	Joyce Barr, Lorette Ellis, Kim Krueger	<b>Nevada Trust Fund</b>	Kevin Brown
 Email: <a href="mailto:rcl641@bellnet.ca">rcl641@bellnet.ca</a> June 24, 2024 			

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# Branch 641 15th Annual Golf Tournament

Despite a delay thanks to the remnants of hurricane Debby, our rescheduled date of August 23 was sunny and gorgeous – a perfect day for a golf tournament. We apologise to players who were not able to reschedule and thank those who were happy to jump in and participate. This is our largest fundraiser of the year and we are so thankful to everyone for helping us raise close to \$10,000.

Thanks to our sponsors and players, tournament organizer Jennifer Read and our amazing team of volunteers for making this year's golf tournament another success. Here are some photos from the day.



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## Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven - 18th Annual Golf Tournament August 23, 2024

### Thank You to our Sponsors!

**Title Sponsor -- Moussa Group / Re/Max Hallmark Realty Group**

**Dinner Sponsor -- Dr. Kevin Rattray & Associates**

**Silver Sponsor - Player Gift Sponsor -- Kelly Funeral Homes & Capital Funeral Home & Cemetery by Arbor Memorial**

**Silver Sponsor - Wine Sponsors -- Purple Meadow Cannabis & RCL Branch 641 Barrhaven**

**Silver Sponsor - Golf Ball Sponsor -- Barrhaven Auto**

**Men's and Women's Closest to the Pin -- Fallowfield Pharmasave**

**Men's Longest Drive -- Barrhaven Auto    Women's Longest Drive -- Altered Spaces-Altered Lives**

**Putting Contest Sponsor -- RCL Branch 641 Barrhaven**

**Media Sponsor -- Branch Office Services**

#### Hole Sponsors

Barrhaven Auto  
Capital City Heating  
Checker Movers  
Councillor David Hill  
Councillor Wilson Lo  
Craig Painting  
David & Marion Rattray  
Dean Ryan Enterprises  
Drummonds Gas  
Fat Les's Chip Stand Barrhaven  
McDonough's YIG Barrhaven

MPP Lisa MacLeod  
Porto a Casa  
Purple Meadow Cannabis  
Raymond James  
Schooner Transport  
Stevenson Construction  
Switzer Carty  
The Brew Table  
Vanier Law

#### Gift Donors

5 Guys  
Atletico Ottawa  
Barrhaven Ford  
Barrhaven Pizza  
Beckwith Golf Course  
Big Rig Kitchen & Brewery  
Boston Pizza Barrhaven  
Branch 641  
Broadway Barrhaven  
Broadway Riverside South  
Cedarhill Golf and Country Club  
Chris Chartrand  
Cobs Bread Barrhaven  
Colonnade Pizza Barrhaven  
Garry & Carolyn Donahue  
Giovanni's  
Greenfield's  
Harwood Estates Vineyards & Winery  
Irish Hills Golf and Country Club  
Jennifer & Will Read

Kelsey's  
Kevin Haime Golf Centre  
Labatt Brewing Company  
Maverick's Donuts  
Mike & Cathy Casey  
Mr. Lube  
Mountain Creek Golf Course  
Ottawa Sports and Entertainment  
Pelee Island Winery  
Pinelope's  
Princess Auto  
Randy Allen & Sue Sorenson  
Shopper's Drug Mart  
Stonebridge Golf Club  
Switzer Carty  
The Royal Oak Barrhaven  
Triple Bogey  
Vitner's Cellar  
White Sands  
Whitewater Brewing Company  
Willy's Pizza



## Sports Update

Summer is a traditionally slow time for Legion Sports; however, this summer it was busy.

After hosting the Zone Washer Toss tournament in June, we had three members qualify for District. Results to be determined.

In July, we sent three teams to District Golf in Petawawa where we had one team qualify for Provincials in Listowel, Ontario on September 14, 2024: Mike Ahearn and Luke Helmky (pictured right) represented Branch 641 very well, finishing in **second place**. Congratulations!



On Saturday, September 14, we organized another inter-branch sporting event against Richmond Legion Branch 625 –this time it was golf (previous events were dart mini tournaments). The tournament was held at Riverbend Golf and Country Club. Twenty-four players signed up and Dave St Armand and Michelle Guitard took home the bragging rights. Thanks to Dave Sereda and his cousin Cathy Lytle from Branch 625 for initiating this inter-branch fun.

We'll post the new year sports calendar as soon as it's available.

[Michelle Guitard](#), Sports Chair

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# 2024 Poppy Campaign

The Royal Canadian Legion's 2024 annual **Poppy Campaign** runs from the last Friday in **October, this year from October 25 until November 11**. As always, Branch 641 is committed to supporting the national campaign through the considerable and generous efforts of the members of our branch and the Barrhaven community.

**Of most importance here at Branch 641, we need the support of ALL our members throughout the Poppy Campaign to volunteer with the following tasks:**

- **Place poppy boxes in local stores and business locations (traplines)**
- **Distribute poppies and display merchandise for sale at local stores – three-hour shifts**
- **Count cash donations at the branch**
- **Assist with the Veterans' Dinner (Saturday evening, November 2)**
- **Assist with Remembrance Day activities (John McCrae Secondary School)**
- **Participate in the Remembrance Day Ceremony**
- **March in the Remembrance Day Ceremony parade**

The sign-up sheets for the store shifts will be posted in the branch before the end of September. Please sign up for as many shifts as possible so that all available shifts are filled.

## Wreaths

The presentation of wreaths is an important part of the Remembrance Day Ceremony, and those individual and businesses who purchase one will be invited to come forward and lay their wreath during the ceremony at John McCrae Secondary School. If you would like to purchase a wreath for presentation at the Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 11, kindly reach out to me by November 1.

Thank you in advance for your support of this very important campaign that allows us to continue to support Veterans in need.

Kevin Brown, Poppy Chair  
Kevin.Brown@rcl641.ca



## Branch Fundraiser

On Sunday, September 22, our Ways and Means Committee (Michelle Guitard, Linda Laframboise, Nancy Rule, Sheila Sielatycki, Carol-Anne Marleau and Gary Cunningham, Mike Warren, and Paul Leadston and chaired by Dave Sereda), hosted this year's pig roast. Jeff Arcand cooked the pork roasts, and corn on the cob, Caesar salad, baked potatoes and delicious desserts were served by Andy and Cathie Moore from the Manotick Branch and Jennifer Brunelle. The baked beans (which got rave reviews!) were made by Mike Warren. (Missing from the photo are Mike Warren and Paul Leadston). Music for the event was



donated by Undelivered, who had everyone up and dancing the night away. Ninety-one tickets were sold within two days for this fundraiser and judging by all the smiles and laughter, everyone had a great time. See photos right and below from the evening. Thanks to the Ways and Means Committee, several of whom worked an 11-hour day to make this happen.

Watch for more fundraisers for the Land and Building Fund to come.



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## Let Us Know

When a comrade or family member passes away, it's important that you let our chaplain, Margo Whittaker, know. She can then put several things into motion such as advising the president and our executive, connecting with the family, arranging for colour parties and Legion services – all of which fulfill our role to each other as a Legion family. When comrades are ill or pass and we don't know, we can't support the member or their family in their time of need.

If a comrade becomes ill, please let our Hospital Visits Chair, Louise Laflamme, know so that she can contact them or the family and arrange a visit. Members love seeing a friendly face when they are sick, especially if they don't have many family members in town.

Reverend Margo Whittaker  
Chaplain  
[margo.l.whittaker@gmail.com](mailto:margo.l.whittaker@gmail.com)

Louise Laflamme  
Hospital Visits Chair  
[louisellaflamme1@bell.net](mailto:louisellaflamme1@bell.net)

## **“We Will Remember Them”**

### **Barrhaven Legion Memorial Bricks**

If you would like to be a part of the past, present and the future of the Barrhaven Legion, purchase a Memorial Brick. Your brick will be engraved with your name and it will be mounted on our Memorial Wall in Valour Hall.

Bricks are available in three denominations:

**Copper \$250**

**Silver \$500**

**Gold \$1,000**

Purchasing a Memorial Brick is also a great way to honour a family member or friend. For more information, please contact Debi Sereda by email at [Public.Relations@rcl641.ca](mailto:Public.Relations@rcl641.ca).

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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - CLEAN THE CAPITAL 2024**  
**SEPTEMBER 28, 2024 1000 – 1200 HRS**



I am looking for volunteers to help with the spring edition of Clean the Capital. This will be the 27<sup>th</sup> time our Branch has participated.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Legion. Alternatively, you can also e-mail me ([jen.read@rcl641.ca](mailto:jen.read@rcl641.ca)) if you are interested in participating.

I have set Saturday September, 28<sup>th</sup> from 1000 – 1200 hrs, as our primary date, with Saturday October 5<sup>th</sup> from 1000 – 1200 hrs as the rain date.

Please meet at the Branch no later than 0945 hrs to collect equipment and receive your collection assignment.

After the Clean-Up has been completed, there will be a free Domino's pizza lunch at the Branch for everyone.

Jennifer Read

# Executive and General Meeting Reports for September 2024

These documents are now available on our website. Please note these are shown as submitted so please excuse any typos.

Executive Meeting Report, [please click here](#).

General Meeting Report, [please click here](#).

## Barrhaven Legion 641 is on Facebook

Want to be a part of our private Facebook group? Just go to “Barrhaven Legion 641” on Facebook, send us a friend request, answer the two questions\* to tell us why you want to be a part of our private group, and join in the conversation.

\*If you don't answer the questions, your request won't be approved.

*This is a private, members-only group.*

## Reservations for Friday Night Dinners and Special Events

### Barrhaven Legion Branch 641

Dinner served from 6-7 p.m.

Members: \$25 Non-members \$30

For reservations, please contact Ken.

Phone 613-795-2127 or Email [reservation@rcl641.com](mailto:reservation@rcl641.com)

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## Red Bag Campaign

Once again, it's time to support the [Barrhaven Food Cupboard](#) through the **Red Bag Campaign**. Last year, almost a ton of food was raised by donations to Branch 641. This is truly “neighbours helping neighbours.”

How the **Red Bag Campaign** works. Red bags are available from Branch 641. Members and families can collect and fill their **Red Bag** with any of the following items:

- Canned vegetables
- Cereal
- Chilli
- Coffee
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Flour
- Granola bars
- Oatmeal
- Rice
- Spaghetti



**BARRHAVEN FOOD  
CUPBOARD**

**Red Bags** can be dropped off at the branch. Monetary donations to the Barrhaven Food Cupboard are also welcome. Please leave cheques or cash in an envelope inside the **Red Bag**. I collect the food and monetary donations each day and will maintain a tally, so we know final numbers. If you would like a receipt, please make sure to provide your contact information, including phone number, mailing and email addresses.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need more information about the **Red Bag Campaign**.

[Jennifer Read](#)



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## Remembrance Through Light

Starting on October 27, 117,000 poppies representing Fallen Canadian Veterans since the First World War will cascade virtually upon the Peace Tower at **Parliament Hill** and on the Senate building. The **Poppy Drop** will take place until November 11, from 6:30–9:30 pm ET.

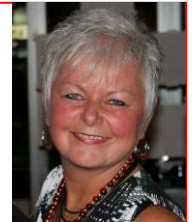
On November 5, 10, and 11, the display will extend to midnight. Virtual poppies will also cascade down the **National Art Centre's** "Kipnes Lantern" on November 11, from 7:00 am ET to midnight ET.

Starting on October 27 and running each night, two large screens on **Parliament Hill** will also show the [Virtual Wall of Honour](#), a silent video sharing the faces of Canadian Veterans who have passed, with photos submitted by people from across the country.



### Notes from the Editor

Debi Sereda



Like me, are you scratching your head and wondering, "Where did our summer go?" Well, after a spectacularly warm August and September, fall is here and so too is the return to more routine schedules and life after the busy summer months.

If you find you have some time on your hands, our team of volunteers is always looking for people to lighten the load. Many of our volunteers work very long hours and would be happy to have more hands to help them with hospitality, bartending, cleaning, our upcoming poppy campaign, participating in various committees and a myriad of other opportunities within the branch.

**Make sure to sign up at the branch for shifts at local stores to distribute poppies. The Poppy Campaign starts October 25.**

Enjoy your branch. Volunteer if you can. Stay safe.

[Debi Sereda](#), Newsletter Editor and Public Relations Officer