

The Advance

Royal Canadian Legion
Branch 641 Barrhaven



Vimy Memorial Bridge
Photo credit to The Wright Team

Volume 20
Issue 1
June 2024



The President's Message

Comrades:

As we start our new term, I'm excited and thankful to work with our new executive team. It's great to have a strong, experienced Executive Committee that also includes new members bringing their support to the mix. Speaking of which, to better support our branch,

we have established the Assistant Treasurer as well as Technology Officer positions.

Over the last year, we transitioned to corporate emails RCL641.ca, use of M365, established new distribution lists, established a common look and feel, as well as brought in Loop TV. We've been taking steps to embrace various services and technologies and will continue to do so to better collaborate among our volunteers and service to our members.

As we embark on our new term, I am confident that with the support of our membership and community at large, Branch 641 will continue to support our Veterans and related causes, including our seniors and youth within the community, while promoting Remembrance.

I am proud of Branch 641 for being a community, offering a safe and inclusive place to gather for fun and celebration. Our volunteers work hard to offer an environment that builds comradery, welcomes and supports all generations of Veterans and current serving members of the CAF and RCMP, their families and those who believe in supporting them. If you'd like to get more involved, don't be shy to ask any member of our executive team. You'd be surprised what we can accomplish together and how rewarding it can be.

"Lest we forget."

Lyle Brennan, CD, President

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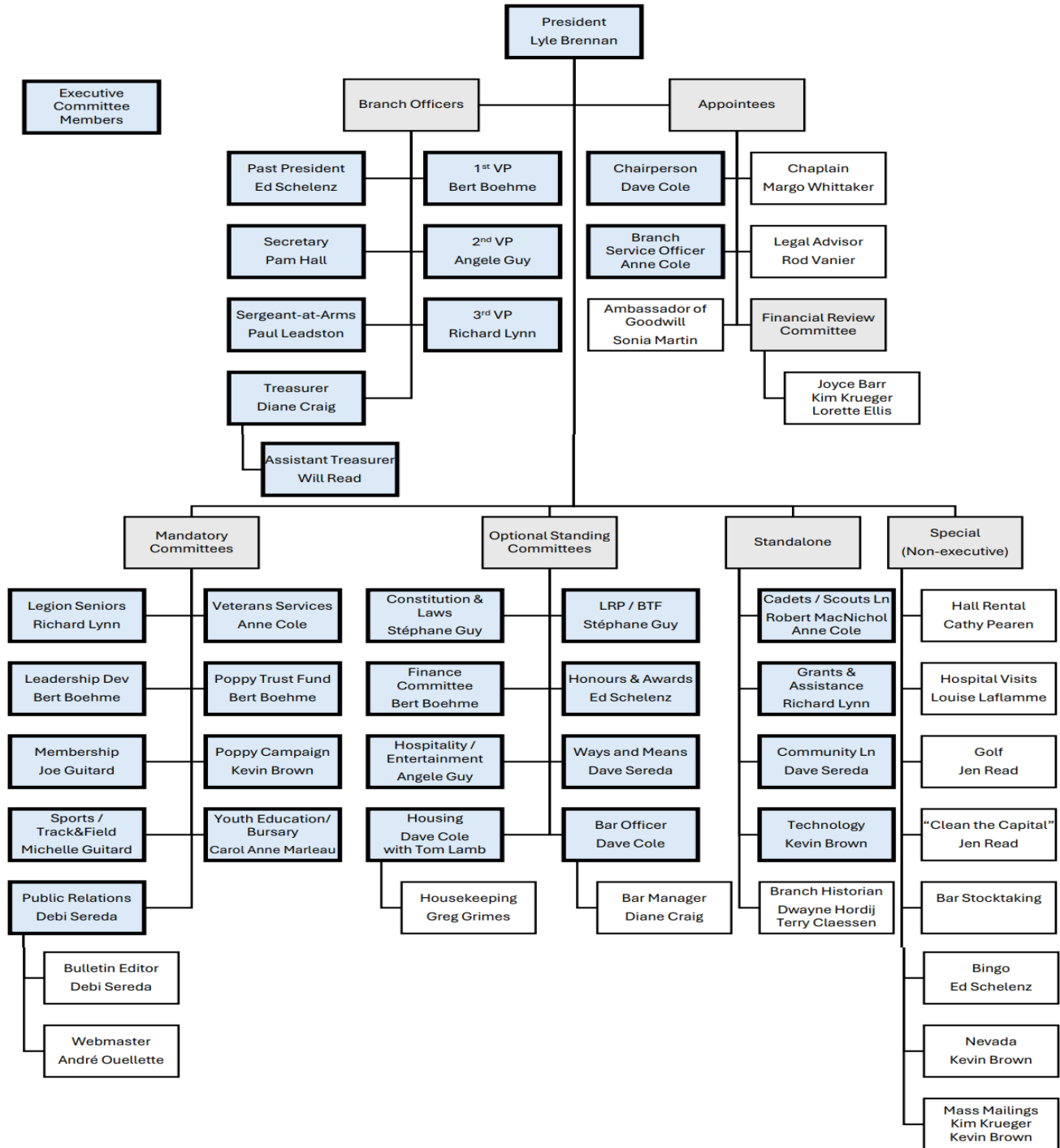
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Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven, 3A-3500 Fallowfield Road, Ottawa K2J 4A7

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**Branch 641 Barrhaven
2024-2025
Officers, Appointees, Appointments and volunteers***



*See Branch 641 Policies and Procedures Manual

2024/2025 Branch 641 Executive Team

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

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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

Louise Laflamme
Hospital Visits Chair
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 Debi.Sereda@rcl641.ca.

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Executive and General Meeting Reports for June 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 br641reservation@gmail.com

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Branch 641 in the Community

On June 13, Cadet Liaison Chair, Robert MacNichol, attended the 75th Annual Cadet Review of the [2332 Maj E.J.G. Holland VC Royal Canadian Army Cadets](#).

Bob presented the Legion Cadet Medal of Excellence and Certificate to WO Xander Thompson-Greiff, shown right.

Congratulations Xander!

On June 12, once again we hosted our popular Veterans' Lunch.



Pictured left, MPP Lisa MacLeod, flanked by Legion Seniors Chair Richard Lynn and First VP Bert Boehme, welcomed the Veterans, some of whom are pictured below.



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At the June 18 General Meeting, the following presentations were made to our members.



Left: Paul Leadston received his Past Officer Medal and Past Officer Bar for Sergeant at Arms.

Right: Jennifer Read received a Certificate of Appreciation



Left: Nina Guy received a Certificate of Appreciation



Left: Louise Laflamme received a Certificate of Appreciation.

Right: Joe Guitard was sworn in as our new Membership Chair by Zone Commander Stephane Guy, watched over by Sergeant at Arms Paul Leadston



Thank you to these and all our members and volunteers who make our branch the success it is.

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Branch 641 Sports Update

On June 22, Branch 641 had the honour of hosting the 2024 Zone Washer Toss tournament. The prep team of Terry Claessen and Caroline Boily was tasked with the last-minute production of the final two washer toss boxes needed for the tournament. Eight regulation-size boxes were produced thanks to this handy husband-and-wife team. Protective mats were sourced and purchased by Housing Officer Dave Cole and Sports Officer Michelle Guitard organized the teams and co-ordinated the event.

Valour Hall was transformed from our event space to a sports venue for the day. Angele Guy, Gail Provost and Joyce Barr prepped food for the day, offering a selection of delicious homecooked sandwiches, burgers, hot dogs and cookies. Our bartenders Nancy Rule and Cathy Pearen made sure everyone was kept hydrated.

What a fun day it was. While we didn't have a winner from Branch 641 in the singles, the duo of Jeff Benson and Terry Claessen took second place in doubles. Well done!



Going onto District in Carleton Place in July are Terry Claessen and Jeff Benson in doubles and Michelle Guitard in singles. Good luck everyone!



Thanks to everyone involved for making it such a great day at 641. The hospitality of our branch is always commented on by our guests and that makes us proud!

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Branch 641 Honours/Awards and Special Recognition (HA&SR) Committee

The HA&SR committee exists to identify fellow comrades or friends of our branch who are deserving of recognition or an award for services rendered. The committee for 2024 – 2025 consists of the following comrades: Past Presidents Stephane Guy, Dave Sereda, Bert Boehme, Ernie Hughes, Ed Schelenz and Ex- officio President Lyle Brennan.

The available list of Honours and Awards is as follows:

- Legion awards:
 - Certificate of Appreciation
 - Certificate of Merit
 - Branch Service Medal
 - Life Membership
 - MSM, Palm Leaf
 - Legion Friendship Award
 - Branch Special Legion Award Plaque
 - Media Award
 - Province of Ontario Honours – Order of Ontario
 - Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship
 - Province of Ontario Volunteers (Youths & Adults).
- Other awards:
 - Order of Ottawa
 - Meritorious Service Decoration (Civilian) – Medal, Cross
 - VAC Minister's Commendation
 - Polar Medal
 - Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers
 - King Charles III Coronation Medal



The committee encourages all comrades to identify and provide a recommendation to the HA&SR committee of persons or organizations they feel are deserving of our recognition. We ask that you look into the requirements for the award you are recommending and ensure that the member you are recommending meets those 18/20 requirements. If you need assistance researching an award, reach out to one of our committee members who will be happy to help out. Please provide any recommendation in writing. Point form is acceptable. More information on Honours and Awards can be found in the RCL, Ontario Command, Officer's Manual, Section D and The Ritual Awards & Protocol Manual Chapter 2.

Ed Schelenz, Honours and Awards Chair

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BARRHAVEN FOOD CUPBOARD

Please put your non-perishable, canned and packaged food donations in the donation box at the entrance to the Branch. It will be taken to the Barrhaven Food Cupboard as it fills up.

Items most desired by the Barrhaven Food Cupboard include:

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Canned vegetables (especially corn) | Cereal | Chili | Coffee | Cookies |
| Cooking Oil | Crackers | Feminine Hygiene Products | | Flour |
| Granola Bars | Oatmeal | Rice | Spaghetti | |

Baby food and diapers are also highly sought-after donations. Thank you for your generosity.

William and Jennifer Read

Join us at Barrhaven Legion to Celebrate Canada Day
No need to reserve, just drop by & enjoy!
Band: Heart & Soul Duo
From 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Grilled Cheese \$3.00
Hot Dog with condiments \$6.00
Hamburger with condiments \$7.00






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Miscalculation of Disability Pensions Class Action Settlement

Are you a current or former member of the Canadian Armed Forces or Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or their spouse, common-law partner, survivor, dependent or executor of their estate, who received disability benefits from Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) between 2003 and 2023? If so, you may be a Class Member and qualifiable for compensation from a class action settlement related to alleged miscalculations of disability pensions and benefits.

Class Members with an existing payment relationship with VAC will automatically receive the compensation for which they are qualifiable through the usual payment process. These Class Members do not have to submit a claim form to receive payment.

Class Members who do not have an existing payment relationship with VAC must submit a Claim Form or they will not receive compensation.

The deadline to submit a claim form is 19 March 2025.

[SUBMIT A CLAIM](#)

For more information, [please click here to go to the website.](#)

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Hall Rentals at Branch 641

Rental space is available on Saturdays and Sundays and some evenings for **WEDDINGS, RECEPTIONS, PARTIES, SHOWERS.**

Contact our hall rental agent, Cathy Pearen, at hallrental@rcl641.ca

Book early – our reasonable rates are very attractive!

For more information, [click here to go to our Hall Rental web page.](#)



"Supports RCL Branch 641 Barrhaven and our Veterans"



Notes from the Editor

Debi Sereda

June 1 was the first day for our new Executive. Take a minute to read the organization chart on page 2 and the executive chart on page 4 so you know who is leading our branch. And next time you have a chance, welcome these volunteers and thank them for their service.

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

Debi Sereda
Debi.Sereda@rcl641.ca



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