

Vimy Memorial Bridge
Photo Credit Debi Sereda



The President's Message

Comrades:

October is here and planning is well underway for our Poppy Campaign, the most important fundraising activity we undertake to enable support to our veterans and related causes. We will need volunteers to help with this, it's part of our membership, so please make sure to volunteer when the notice to members goes out. Sign up sheets have been posted on the bulletin board at the branch.

Thank you to Jennifer Read for organising the Red Bag Campaign for the Barrhaven Food Cupboard, culminating with the collection day at the branch on October 5, helping support our community members in need.

A reminder that the Lepine Apartment's Hero Ridge Program is underway. Please contact me if you are or know a deserving Veteran who could be recognised and attend an upcoming Ottawa Senators game in the box with nine friends. Email: me at President@rcl641.ca with the nomination, including their short biography for consideration.

Our branch is quite active and there are many events to enjoy which can be found on our branch calendar. We also have lots of opportunities to volunteer so please reach out to me or any of our executive to find out how you can help with your Legion. When you do stop by the branch, consider bringing a non-perishable food item for our local Barrhaven Food Cupboard "Lest we forget."

[Lyle Brennan](#), CD, President

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

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Last Post

We Will Remember Them



Michael Thomas McLaughlin (1951-2024)

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Michael at the age of 72. Michael passed away at the Civic Hospital surrounded by his loving family. Loving spouse of Margaret (Grace) for 45 years. Devoted father of Adam (Lynn) of London, ON and Ryan (Cindy) of Russell, ON. Cherished grandfather of Evan, Tyler and Marcus. Beloved brother of Paul (Lynn) of Orleans, ON. Mike was a volunteer at Branch 641 and well known to many. Our sincere condolences to Margaret and their family. [More . . .](#)



Garry Donoghue (1946-2024)

With a heavy heart, Carolyn announces that Garry passed away peacefully at the Queensway-Carleton Hospital on Sunday afternoon, October 20, 2024. Garry Kenneth Donoghue of Kanata was 78 years of age. Beloved husband and best friend of Carolyn (nee Bigras) for over 36 years. Loved brother of Bob Donoghue and Patricia Donoghue. Special brother-in-law of Greg Bigras (Valerie), Kevin Bigras (Josée) and Shelley Keays (Graydon). Loved son-in-law of Margaret (nee Schubrink) Bigras and the late Ernest Bigras. Predeceased by his parents, Douglas and Josephine "Jo" (nee O'Brien) Donoghue as well as his brother-in-law, Bruce Bigras. Loved and fondly remembered by his nieces, nephews, many cousins and friends. Our sincere condolences to Carolyn and their family. [More . . .](#)



Frank(lin) Power (1946-2024)

Frank C. Power was born on June 23, 1928, in Montréal, Quebec, to John Power and Annie Snart. He passed peacefully on October 20, 2024 at the age of 96. He achieved the rank of Warrant Officer in the Canadian Air Force and finished his career at Campeau Corporation.

Frank was predeceased by his wife, Catherine Mytz, who passed away in 1973, leaving him to raise their five children. He was predeceased by his eldest son, Franklin Peter John Power, who spent his adult life in the North, including Dawson Creek. Frank will be deeply missed by his other children: Joy (Rick Aldous), Robert (Marie-Hélène Larrue), Holly, and Timothy (Brenda Kalef). He cherished his many grandchildren and two great-grandchildren who all loved him as "Pa". [More . . .](#)



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Branch 641 Presents a Wreath at Ypres, France

On October 7, 2024, four members of our Colour Party, Sergeant at Arms Paul Leadston, Terry Claessen, Caroline Boily and Sue Ellis, attended the Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres where three members had the honour to lay a wreath on behalf of Branch 641, commemorating all those who were lost in the defence of Canada. Pictured right are Sue Ellis, Paul Leadston and Terry Claessen. Photo credit Caroline Boilly.

The following is an excerpt from a Facebook Post, shared with the permission of Terry Claessen. (Note, grab a tissue . . .)

"The Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres, Belgium [is] where some of the most brutal battles in Canadian history were fought. The first battle of Ypres was where the Canadians were gassed. Paschendale, the Battle of the Somme and Flanders and Col. John McCrae. The Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate takes place every night, seven days a week, to honour the sacrifice of all Commonwealth soldiers who lost their lives in this region of Belgium. There are more than 55,000 names and 7,000 Canadian names on the walls of the Gate who are missing in action. Bodies never recovered but never to be forgotten. This ceremony has taken place every night since 1927. On behalf of the Royal Canadian Legion my home Branch 641, Terry Claessen, Sue Ellis and I laid a wreath which I dedicated to all Canadians who lost their lives in the defence of Canada. I was also personally honoured to read the oath of remembrance after the Last Post was played. I have to say, being chosen for that reading – I've never felt so proud to be Canadian.

When the ceremony was over, we were literally swarmed by people wanting our pictures, thanking us as Canadians who made such an effort to be there. Children, students, Belgian citizens, all came forward sharing stories of loved ones lost. It was incredible. The thanks we received just because we were Canadian and the gratitude to our nation in both world wars was overwhelming. One Belgian man came to me and said, "War is on our doorstep once again. We need you to keep coming here and continue to help us remember. You don't realize just how much we appreciate your country."

We will remember them.





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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
 <p style="text-align: center;">Email: info@rcl641.ca June 24, 2024</p> 			

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Branch 641 Gives Back to Our Community

On October 7, 2024, Branch 641 presented The Perley Health Foundation with a cheque for \$20,000. Pictured right: Stephane Guy, Richard Lynn, 3rd VP and Legion Seniors, Angel Guy, 2nd VP, Bert Boehme, 1st VP, Michelle Proulx, Manager Therapeutic Recreation and Creative Arts, Delphine Haslé, Executive Director and Master Warrant Officer, Mrs. Gail Fugere, (Ret'd), MMM SSM CD.



On October 7, Barrhaven Legion President Lyle Brennan and 3rd VP Richard Lynn presented a cheque in the amount of \$5,000 to Community Engagement & Development Co-ordinator, Saweena Seth of Interval House of Ottawa

On October 7, Barrhaven Legion President Lyle Brennan and 3rd VP Richard Lynn presented a cheque in the amount of \$5,000 to Associate Director of Shelter Operations Shannon Miller, and Acting Director of Development and Communications Chris O'Gorman.



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On October 15, 2024, Branch 641 presented the Barrhaven Food Cupboard (BFC) with a cheque for \$10,000 from the Bingo Fund.

Pictured left to right, 1st VP, Bert Boehme, BFC Director of Volunteers and Legion member Jennifer Read, Bingo Team Co-ordinator Ed Schelenz.



Membership Report

Current membership 755

New Members 2

Transfers-out 2

Earlybird Draw: We will have two more draws for a year's free membership for everyone who renews early; draws to be held on October 31 and November 30 – one name will be drawn at the end of each month. Two names were drawn at the October 7 Executive Meeting and the winners were Darryl Timothy Gauthier and Mindy Robertson.

Membership stickers have arrived, and auto renewal stickers will arrive in November.

[Joe Guitard](#), Membership Chair

Seen at Branch 641 at the Halloween Dinner: Hospitality members Gail Provost and Alice Boehme (Alice took second prize for her angelic costume).



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Annual Imjin Classic Memorial Hockey Game

Shown right, the puck is being dropped by the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Canada His Excellency Lin Woongsoon at the annual Imjin Cup. Directly behind the Ambassador are two Korean Veterans. From left to right are George Guertin and Bill Black. Photo by Richard Lawrence

A bit of history behind the annual Imjin hockey game.

On March 11, 1952, Canadians and other UN forces with rifles at their sides, created a makeshift rink bordered by sandbags, which was always within range of Communist artillery, a mere five minutes away by jeep, indicating how close the games were to the front line. The tournament started and by March 25, the Canadian Infantry Brigade "Imjin Cup" championship match was held to end the 'official' season, pitting a PPCLI team against an R22eR squad. The PPCLI and the VanDoos faced off in an exciting and hard-fought game with the 3rdBn PPCLI winning against the 2ndBn VanDoos. The final score was 4-2.



This year, on October 5, 2024, the Embassy of the Republic of Korea (RoK) hosted the annual Imjin Classic Memorial Hockey Game at the Bell Sensplex in Kanata, Ontario. There were two games played, the first between the Royal Canadian Regiment "Royals" and the Ottawa Service Attaché Association "Lame Ducks" with a second pitting the PPCLI against the R22eR. The Lame Ducks are a team of defence attachés from around Ottawa who have taken the time to learn the Canadian game of hockey and have varying skill levels. Some come from warmer climates and have never skated before, let alone stick handled. This is the first year I remember the RCR Royals putting in a team and their inclusion means that three of the four original 1951/1952 teams were represented.

The final scores:
Royals 7 – Lame Ducks 1
PPCLI 4 – VanDoos 5

Excerpts taken from Richard Lawrence's narrative and submitted to The Advance by Comrade Charles Usher.

2024 Poppy Campaign

The Poppy Campaign enables branches of the Royal Canadian Legion to provide immediate assistance to ex-servicemen and women in need. This includes providing food, shelter and medical attention for them or their families when necessary. Thanks to the generosity of the Barrhaven community, during the 2023 Campaign, the branch raised more than \$80,000 which was used to support Veterans' causes in the community.

To date and as approved by the branch membership, the following donations amounting to \$62,814 for Poppy Year 2024 have been made:

\$20,000.00 (\$4K each) to the five cadet units that Branch 641 supports
\$10,000.00 to Leave the Streets Behind
\$1,000.00 to Ruck-to-Remember
\$5,000.00 to Service Dogs
\$2,000.00 to the Adaptive Ski Programme
\$800.00 to Operation Vet Build
\$500.00 to Quilts of Valour
\$1,514.00 Zone Youth Education Programme
\$2,000.00 to Veterans' House Ottawa
\$20,000.00 to Perley Veterans' Centre

Please sign up for one or more shifts to help at the six store locations where we have a Legion presence. The sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board at the branch.

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
Poppy.Campaign@rcl641.ca



Photo from 2023 Remembrance Day Ceremony

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Barrhaven Legion Branch 641

ANNUAL MARKET

We have artisans and creators, etc...

Date: Sunday, December 1, 2024

Time: 10am until 4pm

Barrhaven Legion Branch 641
3500 Fallowfield Road, Suite 3A
K2J 4A7

Parking and entry is free.

*There will be an onsite canteen &
a licensed lounge to rest in plus an
ATM machine*

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 Public.Relations@rcl641.ca.

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Executive and General Meeting Reports for October 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

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Red Bag Campaign

Thanks to the amazing generosity of our members, the Red Bag Campaign was a huge success, raising 1,352 lbs of food (71 Red Bags) and \$255 for the Barrhaven Food Cupboard. Branch 641 you are amazing and so generous – thank you.

On an ongoing basis, here's what the Barrhaven Food Cupboard needs to help its clients:

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



**BARRHAVEN FOOD
CUPBOARD**

Many thanks for supporting our neighbours!

[Jennifer Read](#)



“Supports RCL Branch 641 Barrhaven and our Veterans”



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Poppy Facts



When to wear your Poppy

The lapel Poppy should be worn during the Remembrance period, from the last Friday in October until November 11. The Legion encourages the wearing of Poppies at funerals of Veterans, and for any commemorative event such as a memorial service, or the anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge.



How to remove a Poppy

When a Poppy is removed, it should be stored appropriately, or disposed of respectfully. We encourage anyone who finds a Poppy that has fallen to the ground to pick it up, brush it off, wear it or dispose of it with respect.



How to wear your Poppy

The Legion's lapel Poppy is a sacred symbol of Remembrance and should not be affixed with a pin that obstructs the Poppy. The Poppy should be worn on the left side, over the heart.



Bursaries Are Available at Branch 641

Did you know that The Royal Canadian Legion will assist post-secondary students in financial need to achieve university, college, technical, or professional education. Indentured apprentices may also apply for assistance to purchase tools and instruments. Provincial and Local level programs are available.

[Ontario Command's Bursary Program link](#)

Visit their website to learn about the Bursary program opening September of each academic year through March (when students are physically on campus).

Barrhaven Legion Branch 641's Bursary Program

Did you know that Branch 641 also offers a bursary program for post-secondary students? All members of 641 are encouraged to apply for a bursary.

The branch local bursary program takes place annually, and applications will be accepted in person at the branch or by letter mail from September 1 until the deadline of October 31 of the current academic year. It is important for the candidate to demonstrate financial need with their application. Please see the form for details.

[Branch 641 Local Bursary Application form link](#)

Notes from the Editor

Debi Sereda



October and November are the busiest months of the year at the Barrhaven Legion as we prepare for the annual Poppy Campaign and Remembrance Day. A huge amount of work goes into planning and being prepared for these two events. All we ask members to do is volunteer to take a shift distributing poppies at a local store. It's three hours out of your day. Sign up with your spouse or friend, enjoy some time together and help your Legion.

I can't stress enough the importance of volunteering at **your** Legion. Becoming a member is awesome but being an **active volunteer** really makes a difference. *Please, make a difference!*

Make sure to sign up at the branch for shifts at local stores to distribute poppies. The Poppy Campaign started October 25 and runs till November 11.

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

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