

# News & Views

April/May 2020



Royal Canadian Legion Branch 11  
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Royal Canadian Legion Branch 11 East Toronto

## **President's Message**

### **Hello Comrades:**

I hope you are all staying home (if you are able) taking care of yourselves and checking in on loved ones and friends.



As per the Premier's declaration on Tuesday March 24, 2020 that all nonessential services be closed another 2 weeks. That would put us at April 7, 2020. We will continue to keep you up to date... To check on any updates, check our Facebook page Royal Canadian Legion Branch 11 East Toronto or call the branch 416 699-1353 and check for an updated message...

We had no choice but to close the branch. The Health and Safety concerns for our veterans, members, employees, volunteers and guests is paramount. As Branch 11 appeared to lead the Legions fight of Covid-19, in hindsight we were a bit late in the process. On March 6, 2020 we held a Covid-19 protocol meeting. This meeting was to put in place Covid-19 protocols for the branch to follow... This meeting was open to all the executive members, branch members and friends of branch 11; I chaired the meeting along with Chris Ostiguy who had experience in implementing the Covid-19 protocols at her workplace. I want to thank Chris Ostiguy, Vi and Ed Kenny, June and Doug Smith, Helen and Gord Pearce, Karen Boudreault, Jean Whynot, Jack Ridell, Chris Scott and Caroline Paulin who attended the meeting. Your extra efforts to help the branch are greatly appreciated.

During this temporary closure we plan on getting a few things done around the branch. Extra cleaning, some repairs and hopefully some painting. We are looking for volunteers to help... of course we are looking for those of you who are not required to be quarantined with a 14 day self-isolated... and we will limit the numbers of persons in the branch at any given time...

Please note that the entertainment and functions listed in this newsletter are listed as if everything is back to normal... if there is a need, we will advise if there are cancellations, as we do not know when the provincial state of emergency will end, and life goes

back to normal... I hope everyone continues to take care of themselves during these difficult times... and following the Covid-19 guidelines...

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks.html>. Please take a moment to check on family, comrades and friends via phone, text or social media... If you find someone who is in need of essential items, please call the branch and leave a confidential message at 416 699-1353...

**Jeff Paulin, President**

### **FEBRUARY 2020 – MARCH 2020 “IN MEMORIUM”**

#### **ORDINARY MEMBER**

**KING, Bill**

Royal Canadian Air Force Service # 37941

Joined Branch #11 April 1992

“At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
we will remember them”

Bill: he was a man of many talents, especially woodworking, and he was always willing to pitch in when needed. One legacy from his and his buddy Bill Topham are the small white crosses that our cadets put on Canadian Veterans' graves at St Johns Norway cemetery every June for our D Day service & parade. Bill created many other items that the branch has used over the years and he received a number of recognition certificates and was one of the first branch members to receive the Branch Service Medal in 2011 for his dedication to the Legion as an organization helping Veterans like him. In November 2019, he was presented and was very proud of the Quilt of Valour he received for his overseas assignments. Bill will be sorely missed by his dart buddies and by the family members he leaves behind; Linda, Fred, both active members in “his” branch, his daughter Kelly and all their extended family members. There is some comfort knowing that Bill is now with the love of his life Mary who was also an active member and still fondly remembered by many of us.

**WE WILL REMEMBER HIM**

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### **BRANCH ELECTIONS**

No elections this year as we are now on a 2-year term.

### **ST JOHNS' NORWAY PARADE**



The date for the parade has not been confirmed yet but there will definitely be one. Form up is at the usual place, the school on Kingston Road near Woodbine, at 1.00 pm and march-off will be at 1.30pm to the service that takes place in the cemetery at 2.00pm. We would like to see as many marchers or spectators as possible out to support this important Zone D3 Remembrance parade and service. Branch 11 will be open after the parade for food and refreshments. Come out and enjoy.

### **Sports**



District 8 Ball was held at Branch 101 on February 2nd and Asif Somji & Jeff Wilson advanced to Provincials at Branch 163 Mount Hamilton on March 28th. However, due to the COVID-19 protocols, the event has been cancelled

District Darts was held at Branch 345 on February 8th and the team of Sandra & Travis Durham and Fred & Linda Green advanced to Provincials at Branch 532 in New Hamburg on March 21st. This event has been cancelled. District Cribbage was held at Branch 1/42 on February 15th and the team of Lynn Somerton, Jim McKiel, Jason Prevost & Eunice Francis move on to Provincials at Branch 297 in Cornwall. Sadly, they did not advance.

All Dominion sports events have been cancelled for 2020.

District Shuffleboard was held at Branch 31 on February 22nd and we had 3 teams playing, but no one advanced.

Zone Washer Toss is at Branch 11 on April 25th. Provincial Euchre is on May 2nd at Branch 171 in Alliston and we have 1 team playing.

Zone Horseshoes is at Branch 258 on May 3rd.

Good luck to everyone.

Yours in comradeship

**Linda Green**

**Sports Chair**

### **Special functions**

April 17<sup>th</sup> Two Left Feet will be performing for us from 7:30 pm – 11:30 pm. Please join us and Support Branch 11 with a Wonderful Evening of Great Music, Dancing and an Evening full of Memories to Share!!

On May 8th, 2020: The Pepper Shakers will be Performing in our Branch from 7:30 pm - 11:30pm, Come on Out and Enjoy a Fantastic Evening of Music, Fun & another Great Time!!!

We are hoping to do a Bingo Afternoon in June and a Dinner in August details to follow!!

Of Course, we will have our Canada Day Celebration on July 1st!!! I will have more Details on this Event Coming Soon!!

Yours in Comradeship,

**Karen Boudreault**

**Special Functions Chair**

### **Building**

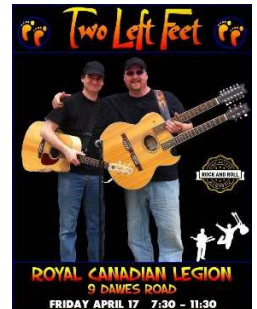


As two heads are better than one, then extra sets of eyes should be better than just one set. If you're at the branch and notice something that requires maintenance, notes can be left at the bar to be put in our new slot. It's a lot easier to keep on top of things when everyone chips in to help.

Please join us the first Wednesday of every month at our general meeting for more detailed information.

**Chris Scott**

**Building Chair**



## **HONOURS & AWARDS RECOMMENDATIONS**



***Just a reminder the committee is still looking for nominees!***

Honours & Awards presentations are made at a luncheon, usually the first Sunday in October if not the Thanksgiving weekend. This year the luncheon will be on October 4<sup>th</sup>. If you feel that anyone deserves recognition by the Branch for their work, volunteering, helping out or working behind the scenes, there are a number of ways we recognize special workers both members and non-members such as:

Certificate of Appreciation

Certificate of Merit (Branch and Provincial level)

Branch Service medal

Legionnaire of the Year award (restricted to Legion members)

Life membership for ongoing work in the Branch (restricted to Legion members)

Please contact Chairman John Dufort for this function, either by speaking to me when I am in the Branch or leave a note behind the bar for me. If you leave me a note, please include your name and contact information so I can communicate with you if necessary. You may contact me by phone at 416-688-3555 or by email at [jd-tran@hotmail.com](mailto:jd-tran@hotmail.com). If all else fails, please let someone on the Executive know and they will in turn notify the Chairman accordingly.

A meeting of the Honours & Awards committee is usually held late February/early March; (this has been delayed due to the COVID-19 issue). I will need to be advised of your recommendations before this meeting so that the committee can consider all the names that I have received.

***It is urgent that you submit your nominations for the various awards as soon as possible***

Yours in Comradeship,

**John N. Dufort**

**Honours and Awards Chair**

## **Youth Education**



Our Branch Public Speaking took place Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> ...excluding myself I had 24 volunteers assisting ...extremely awesome and very much appreciated! Besides the 6 Cadets there were two high school students

earning their community credits as well. I heard via one volunteer that various parents spoke to her about how impressed they were with all the preparation that goes into such an event. At the conclusion – one minute the hall was setup for the contest and then in a flash it was back to the usual hall set up ... I can't thank everyone enough for all their assistance. Although this was the smallest group of students competing in the 18 years I have been involved, thanks to some principals we had students from Crescent Town, D. A. Morrison, George Webster, Secord and a student from Markham via a private tutorial school in Toronto ... sadly no primary or senior students.

At the Zone D3 Public Speaking March 8<sup>th</sup> our two students did not move on to District. However, due to the COVID-19 issue the Public Speaking was cancelled at District, Area and Provincial for this year. We must be positive and now set our sights towards September to encourage all students to get involved in the Lit/Poster and Public Speaking Contests.

Keep well everyone.

**Helen D. Pearce**

**Youth Education Chair**

## **Leadership & Development**

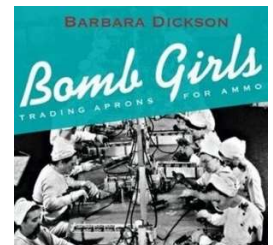
Due to our virus situation we have temporarily cancelled our Bomb Girl presentation scheduled for Apr 5<sup>th</sup>.

When all is safe, we will reschedule and enjoy this most entertaining presentation.

Stay Safe and Healthy.

**June M Smith**

**Leadership and Development Chair**





### **Clubroom Entertainment**



Please see the calendar at the back of the newsletter for the entertainment line up on Saturday night but be prepared for cancellations due to the corona virus.

**Tom Bragan**

***Clubroom Entertainment Chair***



### **5-year Planning Committee**

#### **Comrades:**

First and foremost, I would like to express my regrets that I have been unable to share the undernoted information with you prior to this time. This was the result of the strict confidentiality requirements demanded from all participants due to the delicate extensive continuing negotiations of several parties. If things were not completed March 20, 2020 there would be nothing to discuss. I trust that you will all understand.

As of today March 20, 2020, the current developer of 9 Dawes Road and 25 Dawes Road – 9 Dawes Development Inc. has transferred ownership of the property to a new developer. The new Developer Minto Communities of the Minto Group (aka Minto) will be required to assume all the obligations to the Branch contained in our original Agreement. Jeff O’Rielly a VP of Minto Communities did contact me after the close of the deal... First, he apologized that he was not able to speak to us due to the strict

confidentially requirements... and confirmed they plan to honour the agreement with the previous developer... and want to meet with us in the near future.

As part of the original Agreement, Branch 11 had provided the Purchaser with a Vendor Take Back loan for \$7,007,000 and as security had a first mortgage lien on the 9 Dawes Road property. Minto had suggested that the Legion accept the status of a second mortgage because the prime lender for the combined project would be holding first security. Your financial sub-committee did not agree to this dilution of the Branch’s security. As a result, on March 20, 2020 the Branch has now received the full payment of the mortgage and accrued interest amounting to \$7,014,658. This money has been transferred to the existing Capital Investment Fund currently being managed on behalf of the Branch by Richardson GMP Limited. Your Financial Planning Sub-Committee, consisting of Comrade John Dufort, Mr. Ed Kenny and myself assisted by our legal counsel Mr. Jon Venutti, are confident that with this payout the assets of the Branch have been fully protected.

Within the next few weeks, we expect to have detailed discussions with Minto with respect to its plans for the property. Although the mortgage has been paid out, the original Agreement stipulates that the Branch will remain at 9 Dawes Road, with zero rent until at least October 4, 2021. There are also significant additional benefits stipulated in the Agreement.

Within the next couple of weeks, we will be reviewing a comprehensive Investment Plan with Richardson GMP to not only to include this additional \$7+ million but also to mitigate the effects of the catastrophic impact of the current world markets collapse.

We are in the process of updating our 5-year Development Plan. More to follow.

Thank you all for your continuing support.

Yours in comradeship

**Jeff Paulin**

***President and Chairman, Five Year Planning Committee***

### Ways & Means



On Sunday April 19 is Sunday Funday the entertainment Joe Tucker and Rocky from the Rock. Come out and enjoy our kitchen party. Quench your thirst while meeting up with friends. Calling all down homers and wanabees, ha, ha. Branch opens at 12:00 noon 'til 7:00 pm.

Music begins at 2:00 to 6:00 and a meal will be served at 4:00, cost for food \$10.00 per person, no cost to enter. Come and get your fun on. If further info needed check for posters around the Branch.

May 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday funday with entertainment with Linda & Dennis. The theme, think western, blue jeans, cowboy hats cowboy boots if you like to go along with the theme. Branch will open at 12:00 noon until 7:00 pm.

Music 2:00 'til 6:00 and a meal served at 4:00 at \$10.00. Again, there is no cost to enter. Any info check with posters around the Branch as we get closer to the date.

Non-members always welcome.

Please remember to thank a Veteran

**Susan Squires**

**Ways & Means Chair**



Looking for volunteers to help with a Branch 11 property clean-up on Sunday, May 3, 2020. We will meet on site at 10:00 am. If you have gardening tools, work gloves and interested friends bring them along.

join us on  
**facebook**

Join the Branch 11  
Facebook page. Find  
us on Facebook at:

**Royal Canadian Legion Branch 11 East Toronto**

### Ladies Auxiliary



We start out on a sad note, we lost a dear friend, Ella Coyle in February. Our sincere condolences go out to her family.

We have never had a situation like this, the Coronavirus, before. The branch closed on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> along with all the other branches. All Ladies sports have been put on hold and will be looked at April 14<sup>th</sup> to see how the situation is and if they will be playing District Crib or Darts. As of the printing of this newsletter I don't know if we will be having our elections at our next meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup>, my only suggestion is to call the branch and check to see if we are open and we are holding our meeting/elections. If we do not have our meeting in April, then we will move it to the May meeting on Wed. May 13<sup>th</sup> and again please check with the branch to see if we are open and holding meetings.

Sunnybrook is also closed to outside people so our Bingo is cancelled until further notice. Kathleen will let me know when we can start going back.

On a positive note, we had our St. Patrick's Day celebration on March 15<sup>th</sup> with the Ulster Accordion Band. The Irish Dancers came and did another fantastic appearance. We had stew and chili with the great cake that Sandra Durham made. Thank you to Debbie Kirkland and Joyce Haden for their chili and Sandra Durham and Karen Boudreault for the Irish Stews. There were a lot of prizes and people wearing their "green". Although the Covid-19 was hovering causing some people to stay home I hope the people that came out had a great time.

At this point in time I can't really tell you what is going to happen. All I can do is urge all of you to stay home, stay healthy and stay safe. Clean your hands after touching anything outside your home, be it soap and water, wipes or hand sanitizer. Wipe down your door handles also.

Wishing everyone a Happy Easter

Yours in comradeship

**Nancy McKnight**

**L.A. President**

# April 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 General meeting 8:00 cancelled closed	2  closed	3  closed	4  closed
5	6  closed	7 Over 60 Club 1:15	8 L.A. General meeting 8:00 .	9 Mixed darts Playoffs 7:30	10 Good Friday Branch hours noon—6:00	11 Meat Spin 3:00  Clubroom enter- tainment 7:30 Al Jordan
12	13 Euchre 7:30	14	15 Executive meet- ing 7:30	16	17 Special Friday Night Entertainment TWO LEFT FEET, 7:30 pm -	18 Meat Spin 3:00 Clubroom enter- tainment 7:30 Gary Peters Mixed darts banquet 7:30 Main floor
19 Sunday Funday Branch open noon to 7:00 Joe Tucker 2-6 PM	20 Euchre 7:30	21 Over 60 Club 1:15	22	23	24 Karaoke 8:00  Blind draw darts 7:30	25 Zone Washer Toss Br 11 top floor 9:00 am Meat Spin 3:00 Clubroom enter- tainment 7:30 Joe Tucker
26	27 Euchre 7:30	28	29 L.A. executive meeting 7:30	30		

# May 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1 Karaoke 8:00  Blind draw darts 7:30	2 Meat Spin 3:00  Clubroom enter- tainment 7:30 Bill Dickenson
3 Zone horseshoes Br. 258 9:00	4	5 Over 60 Club	6 General meeting 8:00	7 Summer mixed darts meeting 7:30	8 Special Friday Night Entertainment Pepper Shakers 7:30	9 Meat Spin 3:00  Clubroom enter- tainment 7:30 Seabreeze
10	11	12	13 L.A. General meeting 8:00	14 Mixed darts 7:30	15 Karaoke 8:00  Blind draw darts 7:30	16 Meat Spin 3:00  Clubroom enter- tainment 7:30 Linda & Dennis
17	18	19 Over 60 Club	20 Executive meet- ing 7:30	21 Mixed darts 7:30	22	23 Meat Spin 3:00  Clubroom enter- tainment 7:30 Al Jordan
24 Sunday Funday Cowboy Theme Entertainment Linda Wells & Dennis Conn 2-6 PM	25 Victoria Day Branch open noon to 6:00	26	27 L.A. Executive meeting 7:30	28 Mixed darts 7:30	29 Karaoke 8:00  Blind draw darts 7:30	30 Meat Spin 3:00  Clubroom enter- tainment 7:30 Lloyd Young
31						