

# News & Views

## June/July 2021



No Canada Day parade this year, again.



**Royal Canadian Legion Branch 11**

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**f Royal Canadian Legion Branch 11 East Toronto**



### President's Message

**Hello Comrades,**

I hope you are all staying well and taking care of yourselves and checking in on loved ones and friends.



As of May 20, 2021, The Premier has announced a **3 - Stage plan** to open for business. Please note that as many times dates have been mentioned for opening it has been followed by a date shutting the province down... I remain hopeful. **Stage 1: June 14 - Patio's can fully open** with a max of 4 to a table. Outdoor public gatherings go from 5-10. **Stage 2: July 5** - Full Patio seating increases to a max of 6 to a table. Public gatherings - outside increases to 25, inside 5 people (no dining inside). **Stage 3: August?** - is a bit unclear right now - inside dining? - inside sports? - inside gatherings? - no confirmed date or numbers provided for any of these. But as of **June 14, our patio** should be open. We are open the same days and hours Monday through Saturday 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm. So, for those of you who have already been out welcome back and thank you for your ongoing support.

With the 'patio opening' the **Covid protocols** we have in place will remain... Yes, we still need to wear our masks whether we have had our shots or not, we need to sign-in for contact tracing and respond negatively to the covid screening questions, use the hand sanitizer we have provided and only one patron at a time using the facilities... and as always we would appreciate all those who volunteer to help us out during this time...

We again received a 2021 Canada Day grant from Heritage Canada. Let's hope we get to use it some time this year...

Even though we have been closed, your **Executive** has continued to meet monthly via Zoom. ... there is still very much to do running the day-to-day business of the Branch. I am looking forward to holding a **general meeting** as soon as the 'inside gathering numbers permit' Hopefully this September... Fingers crossed.

***Yours in Comradeship***  
***Jeff Paulin President***

**APRIL – MAY 2021**

**"IN MEMORIUM"**

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

**AFFILIATE MEMBER**

**LOUGHEED**

**Sandra**

Joined Branch # 11, November 2017

**Sandra** was an active member of both Branch #11 and our Ladies Auxiliary. She enjoyed her euchre and helped the L/A whenever needed. She will be remembered by many of our euchre players.

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Just a note of welcome from Branch #11 to the newest member who recently joined our Branch:

**Debbie Kirkland**

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER and we hope that she will continue to support the Branch as well as her Branch # 11 L/A

***Cathy Cole***

***Membership Chair***

**PARADES**



**ST JOHN'S' NORWAY PARADE:**

Cancelled due to pandemic.

**THE EAST YORK COMMUNITY PARADE:**

Cancelled due to pandemic.

**WARRIORS' DAY PARADE:**

Cancelled due to pandemic.

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**HONOURS & AWARDS/SPECIAL**  
**RECOGNITION DAY**



Cancelled due to pandemic.

Membership Chair Comrade **Cathy Cole** will still be providing/sending service pins to those who qualify this year.

### Ways & Means



Hello everyone, the sun is shining that's an indication that summer has arrived which means patio weather! Keeping fingers crossed that our Royal Canadian Legion could open. Then we can have few cold ones together and say goodbye to COVID. I'm looking forward to starting up the Saturday meat spins, followed by the once-a-month Sunday Fun Day with music, food, and dance. We all need to reach out and have some normal back in our lives. A shout out to all the dads for June 20 "Happy Fathers Day" and then coming up July 1st Happy Canada Day folks. Until we can be together again stay safe wear your mask. Branch 11 has masks FOR SALE. Please remember to thank a VETERAN today.

**Susan Squires**

**Ways & Means Chair**

### Leadership & Development



Hello from this wonderful world of Pandemic. Thank God we have friends that we can talk on the phone with and share our frustrations and happiness too.

Hard to keep writing about no report but we can look forward to a coming of time to the end of the Pandemic and get our future back on track. All we can do is get our needles, wear a mask and stay six feet away from others. Hugs are coming and sure do miss friends and family. . .

If you are looking forward to something to do and you are a veteran, even reservist...think about adding your story to our Military Service and Recognition Book. We are fortunate to have this history and are asking for volunteers to add to the next book. You might even connect with some old friends that you have lost contact with.

Stay safe, take care.

**June M. Smith**

**Leadership & Development & Legion Week Chairs**

### Special Functions



Good Day Comrades and Friends, hope everyone is staying safe and healthy. With the new 3 Step plan if the numbers are good the Patio only will be open on June 14th with limited numbers. Hoping we can do something for the long Weekends: Canada Day and Warriors Day however it all depends on the numbers and what we are allowed to do. Please follow the Branch 11 Website and/or Facebook for details and information. I will also be posting information at the Branch when we are allowed to be open. Wishing everyone a safe and Happy Canada Day and Warriors Day.

Yours in Comradeship,

**Karen Boudreault**

**Special Functions Chair**

### Youth Education



I am absolutely thrilled, delighted, and excited to inform you that our **George Webster** Student, **Ayesha Hossain**, 12 years old came in 2<sup>nd</sup> at National with her colour poster "Nursing Sisters". Her poster will now be hung on display in Ottawa either in the House of Commons or the Canadian War Museum (not sure which) for the year up to and including May 2022. I spoke to Ayesha's mother, and she confirmed that Ayesha has received the letter from The Legion National Foundation. When I receive the National award for Ayesha, she will be receiving 5 awards (Branch, Zone D3, District, Provincial & National)! At this point under the circumstances, I am truly not sure when that will happen but one thing for sure I do know is that I need to set up something special for this young lady as soon as restrictions are reasonably lifted to allow something. One more thing – believe it or not but Branch 11 is the only Branch in District D to have a National Winner in this 2020/21 Competition! So, I do

hope you don't mind if I "strut" a bit!!! Finally, I want to thank my 3 Branch Judges and my 3 Zone D3 Judges for volunteering and assisting, in spite of the restrictions, so we could allow this young student to receive such wonderful recognition for her efforts.

**Helen D. Pearce**

**Youth Education Chair**

### PRO



### Never to be Forgotten Memorial: Petition Support

– please see the attached email letter from NATO Veteran/56 years Legion Member, Tony Soulis – important.

**Canada Army Virtual Run** – as of the May 25<sup>th</sup> email there were 21 free registrations left – on a “first come first served” basis, as well there is also a discount code when the free ones are gone. If interested, please contact me at 416-690-6388 and I will forward you the e-mail.

**VAC Memorial Survey** – It is a survey on proposed designs for National Monument to Canada's mission in Afghanistan – 5 proposed designs – complete a survey offering your input. Again, if interested, please contact me at 416-690-6388 and I will forward you the e-mail. I have already submitted my survey input.

**Helen D. Pearce**

**PRO Chair**

### Walkathon

Good news Comrades and Friends, we are still doing the Walk-A-Thon September 18, 2021. We have a new Route Plan. We will start at **Branch 22** then on to **Branch 1/42** next will be **Branch 10** (New Addition this year) then back to **Branch 22**. We will not be stopping by our Branch, but we will still have Walkers participating. Sponsors Sheets will be out shortly. Please follow the Branch Website or Facebook for more details and information.

Yours in Comradeship,

**Karen Boudreault**

**Walk-A-Thon Chair**



## WELLNESS CHECK

**Donna Gumbley** – Is undergoing chemo treatments for cancer in her liver. She was in the hospital undergoing tests but is now home. When I spoke with her, she sounded in good spirits and says they are adjusting the chemotherapy to work for her.

**Sandra Durham** – Due to an unfortunate and totally unpredictable accident, Sandra is immobilized in casts at home. When I spoke with Sandra, she said that the breaks are not healing as well as had hoped. As you can imagine it is very frustrating to be so constricted, in pain and having to sleep in an easy chair. In spite of all this she is still, a very positive person and told me that she and her family have received their first COVID Vaccine shots – so kudos to you and your family Sandra.

Upon reading Nancy McKnight's report, it is good to hear that **Helen Small** is now home from her hospital stint.

If anyone knows of members in distress and alone, please let us know. Remember when we were kids we all had to have a buddy when we were swimming or hiking or whatever.

**Thanks**

**Helen D. Pearce**

### Over 60 Club

As we continue to miss our alternate Tuesday clubroom games of euchre, darts and our casino bus trips... It is looking promising we will be back in the clubroom soon. Until then... Enjoy the Branch 11 Patio and stay safe.

**Tom Bragan**

**Over 60 Club Chair**



### Building

Sunday May 16 was the Branch 11 property clean up... I want to thank all those who came out to assist with this event: **Cathy Cole, Helen & Gord Pearce, Joann Barden, Charlie Silson, Fitsum and Caroline & Jeff Paulin...**

**Alan Groome**

**Building Co-Chair**

### Sports



Here's hoping that with the loosening of the COVID protocols, we could possibly have winter darts this September. Keep your fingers crossed.

I hope everyone is enjoying the nice weather and getting outside.

Thanks, stay safe and enjoy Canada Day.

**Linda Green**

**Sports Chair**

### Clubroom Entertainment



Unfortunately, there is still no Saturday night entertainment until we are allowed to have full indoor capacity, but we hope this will be happening soon!! Please stay tuned

to our Facebook posts, website and newsletter

**Lynn Somerton**

**Saturday Night Entertainment Chair**

### RECYCLING FOR THE BRANCH

As many members and patrons of the Branch already know, several volunteers continue to crush our pop cans and take them to a scrap yard for cash for the Branch and this is very successful. We can send any liquor or wine bottles, tetra packs etc., anything with a deposit purchased at a beer, liquor store or grocery store, back via the Branch beer returns and get the benefit of these deposits. Although very small, from .05 - .20 cents, each time we redeem a deposit, the Branch benefits. Whenever you have any pop cans or items with a deposit, please bring them to the Branch, the cans will be crushed, the deposit items returned, and cash gained for the Branch. Several other branches have had to have bottle drives, but we have a number of members who don't need a specific day but help us with their recyclables daily/weekly/monthly. Any little bit helps the bottom



line; instead of throwing these items out, please consider bringing them in so we all will benefit.

**Cathy Cole**

**Secretary**

### Ladies Auxiliary



Here we are at another newsletter and still we are in lock down, the weather is getting warmer and now summer is around the corner.

I want to reach out to all our Ladies and hope everyone is doing well. It has been awfully hard on all of us being in lock down, I know because I have never spent this much time at home. We may have some good news in the next couple of weeks if they allow some places to open, even if it is just the patio.

Our sincere condolences go out to the **Lougheed family** on the passing of **Sandra** who was a familiar face on Monday nights at euchre, she will be missed. I personally will miss our chats in the car when I would drive her home.

Our own Sick and Shut In Convener, **Helen Small**, had a brief stay in hospital with pneumonia. I am happy to say she is home and doing much better (she refused to send herself a get better card though).

I want to wish everyone a Happy Canada Day, if the branch or patio is open perhaps, we can come together for a catch up for the past year. I'm sure if the patio is open the LA and Branch will get together and do something within the COVID guidelines in place at the time.

I hope everyone has a great summer and enjoy the good weather while it lasts.

Yours in comradeship

**Nancy McKnight**

**LA President**



**The Branch 11 facemasks** are available for \$15. We have other masks for \$10... It sounds like we will be wearing masks for awhile to come

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June/July 2021

## **Never to be Forgotten Memorial Support**



**Good Day:**

**As a NATO Veteran and 56 year Legion member, I am committed to support an important Canadian initiative to have a War Memorial Monument built on Cape Breton Island to honour those who paid the supreme war sacrifice never made it back home.**

**Once completed, this long overdue initiative titled *Never to be Forgotten*, will see a large monument erected on Cape Breton Island. A statue of *Mother Canada* (Vimy Monument Lady), who will face East with open arms to welcome our absent fallen.**

**Individuals and organizations across the country are participating in this valued project and I am seeking your support from Provincial-to pass on this email information to broadcast Branch support from comrades, friends, family and other business associates. The more contacts that sign this Federal petition, the better.**

**Numerous individual RCL Branches have already made the decision to come on board, and petition signatures are mounting rapidly, but not all Branches are aware of its existence. So please consider passing it on to your District and Zone Branches.**

**The project will be built and maintained with private sector funds and the project Ambassador is retired General Lewis Mackenzie. We are currently over 645 signatures, and we would like to reach 1000 by petition closing date, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021.**

**As such, your valued support in this National petition initiative would be greatly appreciated, as it would certainly help to honour those who sacrificed most, but who never made it back home.**

**Thank you for considering this request as your support, is key to the success to this important National project. You can watch our petition numbers mount at the Federal petition site below.**

**Sincerely Tony Soulis-Veteran**

**RCL Branch 100**

**Sign petition site: <https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-3074> (scroll to bottom of page)**

**Information and Reference:**

**[www.nfnm.ca](http://www.nfnm.ca);**

**<https://www.facebook.com/nfnmfoundation>;**

**<https://twitter.com/NFNMCCanada>**