

News & Views

October/November 2021

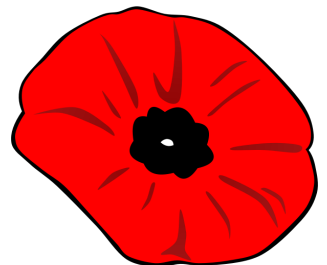


Royal Canadian Legion Branch 11
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Royal Canadian Legion Branch 11 East Toronto



President's Message

Hello Comrades,

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



As of **September 22, 2021**, the province of Ontario has adopted a proof of **Covid Vaccine Policy** for all Restaurants and Bars in the Province of Ontario. That includes Legions.

Effective September 22, 2021, Branch 11 will require anyone entering the Branch to provide '**Proof of Double' Vaccination** or 'proof of Medical Exemption'.

For our Members and Regular Guests: Once we have seen your 'proof'. We will keep your acknowledgement for our record, so you will not have to show your documentation again.

For those who have not been double vaccinated, nor have a medical exemption you will be allowed service at the bar and the use of washrooms but must consume / eat on the patio only.

All Covid protocols are still in place, including contact tracing and wearing a mask at all times unless you are seated.

Otherwise, we seem to be stuck in Stage 3 but slowly we are able to open the Branch more... So hopefully our rentals will start to pick up...

Our Poppy Campaign is fast approaching... I ask you to remember your obligations to our Veterans as Legion Members and to participate in the campaign... We are not all able to tag or deliver poppy boxes... Please talk to Mike, I am sure he can find something you can do to contribute to the cause...

We have had great participation in our **Special Functions, Sunday Fundays and Meat Spins..**

Thank you all for coming out.. If you have an idea of an event you would like to see happen at the Branch let us know...

We are hoping that our general meetings will be able to start up soon... We will keep you posted with updates on Facebook and our website.

Yours in Comradeship
Jeff Paulin President

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2021

"IN MEMORIUM" AFFILIATE MEMBER

SAYMAN

Betty

Betty Joined Branch # 11 in May, 2003

Our deepest sympathy to the members of her family.

Betty was very active playing in both the Branch & L/A Zone cards. She enjoyed playing cards, both euchre and crib, and was always ready to pick up a card and play with whomever wanted to play. Although she had poor sight when playing the last few years, she brought her own cards with large letters & numbers which helped her immensely. When we get back to playing cards again, Betty will be greatly missed by many of us.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS: welcome from Branch #11 to the members who recently joined or transferred to our Branch; we hope that you will continue to support the Branch that you chose to join:

Dan Gauthier, Paul Lamar, Alexandre St-Amour, Pieter Zuber

Thanks to the people who have donated stamps to the Branch over the last year. I have received strips of 10, sometimes several at a time; each stamp costs 92 cents + HST, cost of 1.04 cents, this is a wonderful savings for the Branch as we do mail a lot of items out, letters, newsletters, cards, invitations etc., too many things to list. All I can say is THANK YOU, THANK YOU to the people who have donated, you know who you are and I know this is your way of helping us out by contributing anonymously.

Cathy Cole

Membership/Secretary

REMEMBRANCE PARADE & SERVICE

We cannot commit at this time to having our parade and service on Sunday, November 7th, 2021 as Covid restrictions are still in place and we are limited to the number of people allowed in the Branch hall. If circumstances change and we can plan one, this change will be sent to all our email recipients, put on Facebook, our website and posted in the Branch Clubroom. Although we probably won't get together again this year, we must never forget the sacrifices made by our military forces and their families.

Poppy



Hello Everyone! I hope everyone is well.

The Poppy Campaign is coming upon us very quickly. With another year of dealing with a "Covid" campaign some restrictions have been lifted but we still need to be aware of the concerns and protect ourselves and the community.

This year the poppy campaign starts on Friday October 29th and runs until November 11th. This year the Campaign is only 14 days long. This is a very short campaign. Our counter boxes and Tag boxes are ready for this year and need to be in the stores on the Friday morning! I will be looking for volunteers to deliver, maintain and pick up the counter boxes.

This year we will be able to Tag unless the ministry of health changes the Covid protocols for our area. One stipulation to tagging is all taggers must be fully vaccinated and masked. The main reason for this is due to insurance coverage. If a tagger is not vaccinated and contracts Covid they will not be covered under our insurance policy.

This year we will not have Cadets to tag or assist us. The Office of the Cadet Courtiers' is not permitting this due to Covid Concerns

We will be selling the wrist band packages again this year. The Past two years we have done very well with these sales.

I will be putting volunteer sheets down on the bar for comrades to sign up for the poppy committee and poppy volunteer sign up by the end of this week. A board will be up in the club room for taggers to sign up closer to the poppy campaign.

This year we will be receiving 6 to 7 tap boxes that we may place where we wish. Earlier this year we supplied Ontario Command with electronic file transfer information directly to our poppy account and a void check. This was to set up the tap boxes for our branch so the funds would be directly deposited into our poppy trust fund.

As of august 31st 2021 the balance in our poppy trust fund is \$72,681.51

Last year we made just over \$39,000.00 in donations. At the last executive meeting (September 22nd 2021) a motion was put forth to donate \$20,000.00.

\$4,000.00 to Sunnybrook Veterans Comfort Fund*

\$4,000.00 to Ontario Charitable Foundation for bursary funding

\$4,000.00 to Joe Sweeney Leave the Streets behind Foundation

\$4,000.00 to Operation Service dogs

\$4,000.00 to Toronto Military Family Resource Centre (TMFRC)

Let's have another great Poppy Campaign. I will be looking for volunteers to assist.

So feel free to sign up on the sheets in the club room or contact me.

Poppy Chair Branch #11

Mike Turner

firstvice@rc111.com



REMEMBRANCE DAY, THURSDAY NOVEMBER 11TH, 2021

Hopefully this year we will be able to recognize Remembrance Day either at the East York Cenotaph ceremonies or at our own Branch with a small service in the Clubroom, if nice enough, in the parking lot similar to the service last year. As mentioned above about the service/parade, we will try to keep everyone informed by info in the Branch or on social media.

Cathy Cole

Secretary

Over 60 Club



We are back to playing Euchre every other Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. and looking for more people to join us.

It's a fun group and our next date is Tuesday, Oct. 5th. Hope to see you there.

June M. Smith

Ways & Means



By the time you receive this newsletter the September Sunday Funday on the 26th will be over. It was with THE PEPPER SHAKERS, I sure hope you were able to attend. Moving forward to Oct 24 Sunday Funday with Derek Pilgrim and guest from the "ROCK" calling on all down Easteners. Then for November 21st Sunday funday with THE REAL DEAL Tim you may have seen him Labour Day - come join in the fun. Legion opens 1 to 7pm

Music 2 to 6pm meal served 4pm for menu choice and cost keep watching for further info either in Branch or Facebook. It doesn't cost to enter but if you buy a meal ticket half your ticket goes in a draw for a prize. Every Saturday, meat spins start at 3pm, come give the wheel a spin and win a gift certificate of \$25 or \$10, lots of fun. Bring your friends on down to Branch 11 Royal Canadian Legion at 9 Dawes Road for cold one.

CHEERS

REMEMBER TO ALWAYS THANK A VETERAN

Susan Squires

Ways & Means Chair

Youth Education



Awards Presentation to Branch 11's National Winner, **Ayesha Hossain**, took place in the Main Hall on Friday, August 20th. While there were some behind the scenes glitches, the event went off very well. Beach Metro sent a Reporter/Photographer – a great article was in BM's September 7th issue on page 5 – hope you had a chance to read it. All told there were 32 gathered to Honour this young student. While I can't name you all I do want you to know that I thank and appreciate all of you for taking the time out of your personal day to support this very

special event. However, I would like to specifically point out, I had 3 high school students volunteering, 8 of the 9 Judges from 3 of the 5 levels of the contest were able to attend one of whom is a former student and now is a 4th year U of T medical student. **Anne Davis & Caroline Paulin** (Caroline took a day off work) took the pictures, dignitaries: **Jeff Paulin, President; Nancy McKnight, LA President, District D Youth Ed, June M. Smith**. I arranged for **Elsie Higgins** to present the Zone D3 award and **Anne Davis** the Provincial as well as my Youth Ed Committee award. The National award I felt the appropriate one to do that was our UN Veteran **Doug Smith** to present. Two of our politicians also presented Certificates to **Ayesha – Janessa Duran**, representing **MPP R. Berns-McGown** and **Councillor Brad Bradford** himself. Just before the reception, Ayesha, who is a very shy person, much to the surprise of her parents, teacher and myself, asked to speak to thank everyone which she did – well done **Ayesha!** One more WOW factor before I sign off – thank you **Sandra Durham** for making and preparing an amazing punch, food (all COVID protected) and the most creative Award Winning Cake I have ever seen all donated with no cost to our Youth Ed Programs – I am truly overwhelmed by such generosity. I asked our Editor to please insert some pictures that were taken on that day.

Helen D. Pearce

Youth Ed Chair

Sports



I hope everyone had a good summer.

Currently, there are still no sports functions going on, but if you are looking for something to do, the Branch is open 1:00 pm. to 10:00 pm, Monday through Saturday. Come out and say hi....

Have a great Thanksgiving and stay safe.

Linda Green

Sports chair

PRO



Beach Metro Sept. 7th issue, page 5 has a great article and picture of Ayesha Hossain, Branch 11's National Winner in the 2020/21 Remembrance Lit/Poster Contest. **NOTE** Branch 11 is the only branch in District D to have a student's entry place at National.

Saturday, Oct 16th Octoberfest Dinner, and entertainment – check out Karen Boudreault's report – sounds like a great time for everyone – and come early to join in the Meat Spin as well.

Sunday Funday, Oct 24th – check out Susan Squires' report – sounds like a great time for everyone!

Sunday Funday, Nov 21st - check out Susan Squires' report - sounds like another great time for everyone!

Helen D. Pearce

PRO Chair

Leadership & Development



We are still planning on having the **Bomb Girls** presentation when we can open to a larger number for attending. I know this will be an event to remember when we are able to enjoy it.

Stay safe and see you soon.

June M. Smith

Leadership and Development Chair

Legion Week

Nice to see that some things are beginning to look like we are still able to function in our Legion activities. Gradually we are opening and thanks to all that have worked to keep our heads above water and maintain our sense of humour. Once again we were not able to have Legion Week as we were not able to have our school children and Teachers. Safety first!

Looking forward to the year ahead.

June M. Smith

Legion Week Chair

Special Functions



Labour Day Steak Dinner, I would like to Thank Everyone that came out to support this Event. We had a very successful turnout, and a good time was had by all. Prize winners were **Jason Prevost, Nancy McKnight, Paul** (Susan Squires friend), and the draw was won by **Ed Grey**. Again, Thanks for all your support!!

My next event will be on Saturday, October 16. 2021. I will be having an Octoberfest Dinner at 5:30pm with Bratwurst Sausage on a Bun with Sauerkraut, Potato Salad and a Dessert for \$10.00. We will have Entertainment from 7pm until 11pm with Joe Tucker and Rocky. If you want, you can come out a little earlier and you can join in our Meat Spin which starts at 3pm. And win Gift Certificates \$25.00 for high and \$10.00 for low at \$ 2.00 a spin. We have 5 spins, so if you do all 5 the total is \$10 .00.

I have upcoming Events that will take place in December with Breakfast with Santa and New Years Eve Dinner with Entertainment by **David Wildesmith**. Please watch for details on Facebook, Legion Website or on Clubroom Board.

Yours in Comradeship

Karen Boudreault

Special Functions Chair

Dawes Road update

There are a lot of changes happening in and around the Branch on Dawes Rd.. The buildings on the west side of Dawes have been demolished awaiting development. The Danforth Lumber yard will be demolished soon... But not until after a proposed film shoot that will be happening in the community and on the lumber yard site... for us that means hall rentals for their staff and 'extras' and parking considerations.

Due to the increased 'crime' in the area... Minto has agreed to remove all the bushes between the lumber yard and Branch 11 and will be installing surveillance cameras on our roof to watch over the 2 properties...

Jeff Paulin

Walkathon

Good news Comrades and Friends,

The walkathon was held September 18, 2021. It was a great success. Thanks to all who participated and those of you who donated... We have not got the final totals yet... We will post that information as soon as we have it...

Please follow the Branch Website or Facebook for more details and information.

Yours in Comradeship,

Karen Boudreault

Walk-A-Thon Chair



Ladies Auxiliary

WOW. I can't believe we are in October already, August and September seemed to fly right by. The nights are getting cooler and soon it will be

Halloween.

I know this past year and a half has been very unusual with everything being shut down, opened up, shut down again and opened again. With being in this Stage 3 for what seems to be the longest time we are all hoping to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Maybe we will with the new policy of having to show proof of 2 vaccinations. This policy is now in effect at gyms, restaurants, banquet halls and bars which also effects our clubroom.

Our Ladies Auxiliary Dues need to be paid again this year. It is still \$20.00 for all member under 70 years of age and \$15.00 for all member over 70 and have been a member for 2 years. They can be paid at the bar or to myself and I will get your card to you. Your dues need to be paid by December 31st in order to qualify to be an Early Bird. You must be an early bird to play sports and I have my hope up that we will be able to start at some point next year. Ontario Command has said there is no sports for the 2020-2021 & 2021-2022 season but I'm personally holding out for the 2022-2023 season which would start next September. I would like to start having general meetings again and would like to have

our first on Wednesday, October 13th at 8 pm. Hope to see some of you there.

We had a Garage & Bake Sale on August 7th and we did very well. The rain held off until the final half hour and we had a lot of people come out. Thank you to all our members who came and to all the ladies that helped and baked.

I would also like to go forward with our Bazaar. We may have to do a "trimmed down" version due to number of people and social distancing, but I think we can manage. Our date for this would be Saturday, November 27th from 9am to 2pm. We will be holding our draw as usual tickets being 3 for \$2.00.

Our sincere condolences go out to the family of **Betty Sayman** who passed away in September. Betty was an avid euchre player. Her most memorable quote was "If I make it trump I expect my partner to take in at least 3 tricks". Betty always found humour in most things. She will be missed by a lot of people. Lest we forget.

Betty Groome has been in and out of hospital but I understand that she is doing better now. I sent her a card to let her know we are thinking about her. Shirley Duval is in Cedarbrook Lodge and is doing well. There are no visitors allowed except for immediate family but Anne Breen talks with her over the phone and has been keeping me updated. I stopped by on Sept. 23rd to leave a card and a few flowers for her from the LA. **Helen Small** is holding her own but after much consideration has resigned her Secretary position due to her health. I will assume her duties until we can find someone who would be willing to take over the position. Helen, it has been so many years that you have sat at the head table, it won't be the same without you.

Gwen Lake is in Presentation Centre at Fairfax and Warden. She is doing well. I hope to get to visit once the Covid restrictions are lifted.

I am not sure what is happening for Remembrance Day but I'm sure Branch 11 has something planned.

I think that is everything that I had to report on.

Wishing everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Yours in comradeship

Nancy McKnight

LA President

Branch 11's National Winner, Ayesha Hossain



Ayesha with parents, teacher Jen Li & bouquets donated by Ed & Vi Kenny



Anne Davis presenting Prov. Award



Elsie Higgins & Caroline Paulin



Cake designed & created by Sandra Durham



UN Vet Doug Smith presenting National Award



We have these Legion Remembrance lawn signs at Branch 11 for \$ 15.00.



"EARLY BIRD DRAW"

For many years, we have had a draw for those who pay their membership dues before November 30th, of the current year. The draw is usually held at the December General Meeting (last year at the December Executive) where we draw four (4) names and these winners have their dues for the next calendar year paid for them by the Branch.

We attempt each year to get a renewal percentage of better than 60% and again were successful last year as many of you sent your dues in early, were part of the "Early Bird" campaign and our Branch received an acknowledgement that we attained a 65% renewal.

In order for us to attain this level again this year, we need YOUR help. We need you to pay your dues before November 30th so that we can send payment for your card to Ottawa to be recognized as an Early Bird. Please send or bring your dues of \$ 50.00 to the Branch: if mailing, your cheque must be received before November 30th; do not mail on the 30th and expect to be included in the draw: we also accept etransfers at membership@rc111.com

As the stickers are already in the Branch, if you pay your dues to a steward, your sticker will be behind the bar for pick up within the week. If mailing your cheque, or paying by etransfer, you should receive your sticker within two (2) weeks. If possible when you mail your cheque, in order to save the Branch a few costs, please send a pre-addressed/ postage paid envelope for the mailing of your sticker. We appreciate these small savings as each one helps the bottom line in our general funds.

Cathy Cole

Cathy Cole
Membership Chair



MEMBERSHIP
RENEW TODAY!

October 2021

Sun

Mon



Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2 3:00 Meat spin
3	4	5 1:30 Over 60 Club	6	7 D	8	9 3:00 Meat spin
10	11	12	13 L.A. General meeting 8pm	14	15	16 3:00 Meat spin Oktoberfest Entertainmer Joe Tucker and Rocky Dinner served at 5:30 \$10.00
17	18	19 1:30 Over 60 Club	20 Executive Meeting 7:30	21	22	23 3:00 Meat spin
24 Sunday Funday Derek Pilgrim	25	26	27 LA executive meeting 7:30	28	29 Poppy Campaign begins 	30 3:00 Meat spin
31 Halloween 						

November 2021

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2 1:30 Over 60 Club .	3	4	5	6 3:00 Meat spin
7 Remembrance service at Branch 11 2:00 pm ???	8	9	10	11 Remembrance Day 	12	13 3:00 Meat spin
14	15	16 1:30 Over 60 Club .	17 .Executive meet- ing 7:30	18	19	20 3:00 Meat spin
21 Sunday Funday The Real Deal Meal served at 4:00 pm	22	23	24 LA Execitive meeting 7:30	25	26	27 .LA Bazaar 9:00 am –2:00 3:00 Meat spin
28	29	30 1:30 Over 60 Club				