

**OPENING ADDRESS TO THE
39TH BIENNIAL DOMINION CONVENTION OF
THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION**

BY

**HER EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE ADRIENNE CLARKSON
GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA**

It is my pleasure to be with the Royal Canadian Legion on the occasion of its 39th Dominion Convention. Since becoming Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of the Canadian Forces, I have come to realize even more how important the Legion is to our country, both for what it represents in our history and for what it is doing in the present.

In just about every town and city in Canada, there is a branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. Whenever we have events that we organize like levees to meet hundreds of the population, it is almost always the Legion which organizes it and contributes the volunteers. Recently, as part of our tour of southern Alberta, I visited Turner Valley and met many of its residents for an awards ceremony and reception at local Legion hall, Branch 78.

The award I was giving out was the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award. It's an award that was created to honour those "quiet" Canadians who devote their time and their lives to the care and benefit of others. The recipient in Turner Valley was Bill Dube, a veteran and a true leader in the community.

Like so many members of the Legion who volunteer, he is, through his example, knowledge and experience, passing on a way of life vitally important to our communities and our country. Through his efforts, young people have had the opportunity to learn the important values of service, good citizenship and duty.

Our military heritage, which the Royal Canadian Legion both symbolizes and embodies in its members, cannot be separated from our national identity. We are immensely proud of our military heritage. I can tell you that personally because of the dozens of letters I received from Canadians after the recent tragic events in Afghanistan. All of the letters emphasized things like honour, participation, sacrifice.

When I was coming home in the plane from Germany, there was a very interesting article by Kevin Myers in

The Sunday Telegraph

commenting on the deaths of the four members of 3rd Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. He said: "It seems that Canada's historic mission is to come to the selfless aid both of its friends and of complete strangers, and then, once the crisis is over, to be well and truly ignored." We provide 10 percent of the world's peacekeeping forces, even though we only have 1 percent of the world's population. We have a right to be called, as he said, "the greatest peacekeepers on earth – in 39 missions on UN mandates and six on non-UN peacekeeping duties."

I think it's very true what Myers says about "the sublime indifference" of the rest of the world to these Canadian contributions over the past century for peace and for the struggle against tyranny.

We should be proud of ourselves and of you all of whom have served your country so well, because you have in effect made us understand ourselves and have confidence in ourselves as a nation. Vimy, Dieppe, Normandy, Italy, Kapyong and Hill 355 in Korea – these are all places where we owe to you our sense of duty and our sense of doing what is for the public good.

This sense of doing the right thing for our fellow citizens is part of the reinforcement of our other traits and habits of our Canadian character. We volunteer for community activities or fund-raising for projects to help people in difficulty or poor health, or supporting educational opportunities for its clubs or youth programs.

I know that every year members of the Legion contribute over 700,000 hours of volunteer time assisting veterans, ex-service members and their families; over 500,000 hours of volunteer time assisting seniors; 400,000 hours of volunteer time in direct support of youth activities; and almost 700,000 hours in volunteer time to community service.

It's a record of which you should all be justly proud.

This history and this heritage are very important to us all and you have realized this in making the theme of your conference "Gateway to New Horizons." The forward-looking theme means that you will emphasize young people and the changing needs of Canadians. This is very important that, as the Royal Canadian Legion, you emphasize your history with pride, your present with commitment, and your future with confidence.

As Canadians we all share the heritage of the country whose citizenship we have embraced. You do not have to be directly descended from a *coureur de bois* or a United Empire Loyalist or an Aboriginal chief to say: "This is my history, too."

Ever since I was a child, I have brought with me my history of having lost everything in a war and having had the opportunity in Canada to remake my life with my family. I'm also very proud of the fact that my father William Poy, who died this year received the Military Medal for his actions serving with the Hong Kong Volunteer Militia. I know I share this kind of pride with so many of you in this room, and that is a bond between us.

And with each generation, we know that we must imagine ourselves again. The Canada of today is not the same as the Canada of 1902 when the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles saw action at the battle of Hart's River in our bloodiest engagement of the Boer War after Paardeberg. It is not the same Canada that knew the Armistice of 1918 after the hideous losses of the Somme, Passchendael and Vimy. It is not the same country that celebrated the end of a Pacific and a European war in 1945.

But if we look forward, and at the same time understand our history, we know that we have kept a very important sense of the public good. You have helped us with your organization to teach and practice the values of good citizenship, of commitment, of service, and of duty. That is the way you are keeping the gateways open.

And this is the way in which you keep the connection between us all, the generations who knew the war, the young people who know nothing of it, and you who have served and sacrificed. We are all part of the same current of history. And everything that was done for us in this sacrifice, in these selfless acts, makes us all join together in the most truly human way.

By what seem to be only small acts of kindness, of volunteering, of organizing and assisting, you are helping us all to be linked together to the memories of yesterday and the vitality of today. It helps us all to know we are part of the same fabric and share, even in a very reflected way, in heroism. Alden Nowlan says in his poem entitled

Ypres 1915

what I feel deeply:

“It makes me feel good, knowing
that in some obscure, conclusive way
they were connected with me
and me with them.”

Thank you for keeping that connection. Thank you for acting as a living reminder of what we should never forget.

Thank you.

THIRTY-NINTH DOMINION CONVENTION REPORT

The 39th Dominion Convention of The Royal Canadian Legion was held in the Shaw Convention Centre (SCC) in Edmonton, Alberta from Sunday, 9 June to Thursday 13 June 2002. It was the fourth time that the convention was hosted in Edmonton with previous meetings being held there in 1958, 1978 and 1986.

Attendance

There were 1,765 accredited delegates carrying 2,539 proxy votes for a total voting strength of 4,304. The number of delegates was lower than the previous convention in Halifax by 133, but the proxy votes increased by 186 from the previous gathering. Observers counted for 198 people in attendance. There were also 75 guests from governments and veterans organizations from Canada and abroad.

The Legion's Guest of Honour was Her Excellency The Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General and Commander in Chief of Canada. Her attendance was limited by her very busy schedule to the ceremonies held on Sunday, 9 June, which included the wreath laying ceremony, the delegates parade and the official opening ceremony. Other special guests included The Honourable Dr. Rey Pagtakhan, Minister of Veterans Affairs and representatives from the Canadian Forces, provincial legislature and municipal government.

Wreath Laying and Opening Ceremonies

The Sunday morning wreath laying ceremony at the cenotaph in front of City Hall at 1 Churchill Square was held under sunny skies with about 1,000 people in attendance. It commenced at 11:30 a.m. and the first wreath was laid by Her Excellency The Governor General of Canada followed by the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Wreaths were also laid by representatives of the Canadian Forces, the Provincial Government, the city and The Royal Canadian Legion's Dominion President Allan Parks and Alberta / Northwest Territories Command President John Poynter. The music was provided by the Naval Veterans Volunteer Band from Vancouver, B.C.

The weather remained generally cooperative for the parade that took place 1 ½ hours later. The Governor General took the salute from the 1,500 parading delegates in front of the same cenotaph as they proceeded to the SCC along the assigned route. She was joined on the saluting base by the Dominion President. Music at the saluting base was again provided by the Naval Veterans Volunteer Band while contingents marched to the base led by various pipe and drum bands from the local area. Looking on were various dignitaries and special guests including Ernest Alvia "Smokey" Smith, V.C., Canada's last surviving Victoria Cross recipient who had also attended the Remembrance Ceremony earlier.

The parade broke off at the SCC with the members and observers congregating in the Main Hall for the official opening at 3 p.m. The music was provided by the Cosmopolitan Music Society. Following the formal ritual featuring the cascading of thousands of small white crosses to the floor, and the lowering of a large poppy from the ceiling of the SCC, the Governor General officially opened the Convention. Her Excellency faced a moral dilemma in attending the ceremony because it had forced her to cross a union picket line at the SCC. In comments to the SCC strikers on entering the building, and in her remarks to the delegates, she noted that it was the first time she

had ever crossed a picket line and that she would not do it ever again. She stated that at this time she felt she had to for Canada's veterans as Commander in Chief of the Canadian Forces and Patron of the Legion. She noted the sacrifice of their comrades and said she would cross no man's land if they asked her. She received a warm reception and a standing ovation for her commitment and courage. Flowers were presented to both the Governor General and Janice Parks, wife of the Dominion President by Kevin Boyer and Hailey Brizak respectively. The children performed their duties with distinction.

After her departure, greetings were also given by the Minister of Veterans Affairs as well as the Honourable David Coutts, MLA for Livingstone -Macleod, the Alberta Minister for Government Services on behalf of the Premier, and by Councillor Ed Gibbons representing the Mayor of Edmonton. Other greetings were given by Brigadier General Ivan Fenton, Commander Land Forces Western Area for the Canadian Forces and by John Poynter, Provincial President, Alberta / Northwest Territories Command. The Resolution of Loyalty was presented in both official languages by Dominion President Allan Parks and Past Dominion President Gaston Garceau.

A very successful entertainment night was held at the SCC with a variety show on Sunday night featuring comedienne Shirley Best, country and western musician Danny Hopper and his band and the Loyal Edmonton Regiment Drum Line. It was decided later in the Convention to discontinue this Convention event in favour of branch hosted entertainment.

Convention Business

During the course of the three day business sessions there were a number of guests who presented briefings for information. They included Alex Gardiner, Head Coach and Chief Technical Officer with Athletics Canada who spoke on the importance of the Legion's track and field program to the development of our Olympians and good citizens; Colonel Jon Ambler, Director of Cadets at National Defence Headquarters who spoke on the Cadet program and the Legion's support to it; Brigadier General Dennis Tabbernor, Deputy Commander Land Forces Western Area who represented the Chief of the Defence Staff and spoke on the state of the Canadian Forces today; Comrade Barry Hill who introduced a video presentation by famed broadcaster Austin Willis on the Project Video Memories and how to conduct it at the branch level; and Jessica Humphreys of the Dominion Institute who briefed the delegates on the organization's Memory Project and training program for veterans to speak at schools.

Other special guests who brought greetings to the delegates over the course of the Convention included American Legion National Commander Richard J. Santos; the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Commander-in-Chief James N. Goldsmith; the National Chairman of the Royal British Legion Ian Cannell; the Chairman of the Royal British Legion Scotland Robert Allan; the Secretary General of the British Commonwealth Ex-Services League Brian Nicholson; the Dominion President of the Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada Bob Cassels; and the National President of the Korean Veterans Association of Canada Kenneth Blampied.

The first day of business opened with a convocation by the Reverend Terrie Downie which was followed by announcements from the Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) Chairman Lenore Schawabe. Dominion Chairman Wally Smith then reported on the day's procedures, introduced Alberta / Northwest Territories Executive Director Ron Rivard to deliver the Credentials Report and then introduced the Dominion Past Presidents in attendance. Following this the Chairman

introduced recently appointed Grand President Charles Belzile who spoke to the delegates on the importance of the business to be conducted. Dominion President Allan Parks was then asked to deliver the Dominion President's Report in which he paid tribute to the late Dominion President Bill Barclay who had died in February.

Following his report the Dominion President commenced the delivery of Committee Reports with the presentation of the Veterans, Service and Seniors Committee Report. Resolutions related to all reports were brought forward later in the schedule and budget matters emanating from reports were held over until the Dominion Treasurers Report. In the first report Comrade Parks asked for the cessation of the Gerontology Fellowship Program effective the end of 2002. The delegates approved. He was followed by Vice-President Ron Scriven with the Membership Committee Report which again brought forward the fact that membership in the Legion was still in a decline. He also presented the annual awards in the 2001 Membership Achievement and 2001 Membership Renewal categories to Nova Scotia / Nunavut Command, and the 2002 Early Bird Award to Saskatchewan Command.

Following the Membership Report, Comrade Scriven delivered the Red Maple Leaf Campaign Committee Report in the form of a detailed briefing. In it he explained the work that had been done to date in progressing the campaign noting, in conclusion, that it would be up to the delegates to make the ultimate decision as to whether to proceed or not. The delegates accepted the report but tabled the recommendation for acceptance until later in the Convention so that provincial caucuses could discuss the matter. Vice-President Mary Ann Burdett then gave the Sports Committee Report and introduced the new Track and Field Abuse and Harassment Policy. She was followed by Vice-President Clarence King with the Leadership, Development and Youth Committee Report which advised that the Committee had embarked on investigating the introduction of a National Youth Program at all levels of the Legion for possible future Convention consideration. Vice-President Wilfred Edmond delivered the Public Relations Committee Report which covered the PR plan for 2002 to 2004, including the introduction of a new Legion-wide Internet-based communication system to be known as E-Legion to speed up the movement of internal information in the organization.

Due to time constraints the Chairman deviated from the published procedures and moved the business on to the first call for nominations for the offices of Dominion President and Dominion First Vice-President. Comrade Allan Parks was nominated for the office of Dominion President and Comrades Scriven, King, Burdett and Edmond were nominated for the office of First Vice-President. When the nominations closed the business moved on to reports by the Dominion Treasurer Mike Cook, including the Centennial Committee Report and the Canvet Report. There were no questions raised on the fiscal health of the Legion or the management of its finances during the reports and no per capita increase was forecast at this time. In the Canvet Report however, the Treasurer briefed the delegates on the financial situation at Legion Magazine and introduced options for their decision. The delegates opted to increase funding for the magazine by raising the subscription rate by \$2 plus GST while increasing production frequency to six issues a year. With that the day's business was recessed.

On day two of the Convention the business opened with an invocation from the Reverend Robert A. Bauer, LAC announcements, the procedures report and the final credentials report. The Committee Reports continued with Dominion Vice-Chairman Ray Marjoram delivering the Ritual and Awards Committee Report, Immediate Past President Joe Kobolak and Dominion Chairman Wally Smith giving the Planning, Administration, Poppy and Remembrance Report in two sections,

and the Dominion President presenting the National Ceremonies Report. The Constitution and Laws Report was presented by Committee Chairman Vince O'Connor and introduced amendments to the General By-Laws made by the DEC since the last Convention. He also introduced a revised Article III which was adopted by the delegates. Comrade Russ Howcroft delivered the Tubercular Veterans Section Report followed by Comrade Al Harvey who gave the Imperial Section Report. Dominion Secretary Duane Daly delivered his report and the National Defence Committee Report in the absence of the Committee Chairman Lou Cuppens.

The second last report to be presented was the Resolutions Report which was delivered by the Dominion President who then brought forward the first 29 of 68 concurred resolutions for consideration. They all passed without controversy. The proceedings were interrupted to make the final call for nominations for Dominion President and First Vice-President. As there were no added nominations from the first call Comrade Allan Parks was acclaimed as Dominion President and voting started to elect the First Vice-President. Comrade Mary Ann Burdett was elected on the third ballot.

The Minister of Veterans Affairs presentation was made by the Honourable Rey Pagtakhan who reaffirmed his commitment to honour Canada's veterans by delivering quality services and programs. He also mentioned that his recent appointment as Secretary of State for Science, Research and Development would not impose on his primary duty as Minister of Veterans Affairs. He stated that one of the top three priorities for his department was the issue of national standards of long-term care and made announcements on funding committed to veterans facilities in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta. He further announced the progression of legislative amendments to enhance POW compensation packages and the addition in 2003 of the VIP benefit to the TAPS card program to avoid out-of-pocket expenses for VIP entitled veterans. He also made announcements on the commitment of funds to the Juno Beach Centre. In conclusion he commended The Royal Canadian Legion for the essential role it continues to play in the lives of all Canadians.

The British Commonwealth Ex-Services League (BCEL) Committee Report was delivered by the Dominion President during this session and his appeal for funding was met with an outstanding response with \$227,000 in cash, cheques and pledges being collected from the Convention floor. The largest single donation was from the Edmonton Poppy Fund for \$25,000. This was a record collection and ensured the viability of the program for the next two years.

While the vote counting was proceeding the remaining resolutions were brought forward by the Committee Chairmen responsible. Membership resolution No. 31 proposing to use the membership card to promote the Member Benefits Package was defeated as was No. 33 which proposed doing away with the Non-Voting Affiliate Membership Category. This resolution resulted in a standing vote before its defeat. Resolution No. 37 was accepted by the delegates which deleted the Vice-Chairman's position from the Sub-Executive Committee at Dominion Command.

At this point nominations were taken for the four Vice-Presidents' positions and the office of Dominion Treasurer and Dominion Chairman. The three candidates defeated in the election for First Vice-President were automatically nominated for the positions. Added by nominations from the floor were Comrades Pat Varga, James MacAulay, Bob Gray and Jack Frost.

Resolution No. 53 was defeated and flags will continue to be dipped at specific times by Legion flag bearers and colour parties. Resolution No. 61 proposing a long grey skirt for wear by ladies

as part of the Legion uniform for evening and formal functions was defeated as was Resolution No. 63 which proposed a more concise initiation ritual be adopted.

Following the consideration of the concurred resolutions the business session was recessed to Wednesday, 12 June. The opening invocation on Wednesday was delivered by the Alberta / Northwest Territories Command Padre Richard Conrad who was followed by the standard LAC announcements and the Dominion Chairman's procedures report. Thirteen non-concurred resolutions were brought back to the floor for consideration of which were six passed, three of them with amendments.

The Red Maple Leaf Campaign proposal came back to the floor for a vote of acceptance and was soundly defeated. In the meantime voting was carried out for the Vice-President's positions. After four ballots Comrades Jack Frost, Wilfred Edmond, Pat Varga, and Bob Gray emerged victorious. There were no further nominations made for the office of Treasurer and Comrade Mike Cook was acclaimed. A last minute nomination was made for the office of Dominion Chairman and incumbent Comrade Wally Smith faced former Dominion Chairman Comrade Pat Watkins. Comrade Smith was returned to the office.

During the time available to the delegates during this session a special presentation was made on the Youth Pilgrimage of Remembrance by a former attendee. Kathleen Salt of Slave Lake, Alberta presented a program of her thoughts on the Pilgrimage supported by computer generated graphics and music that brought the crowd to its feet in a roar following the incredible silence she imposed with the style and grace of her remarks.

When the elections finished the business session recessed until Thursday when Convention reopened with an invocation from the Very Reverend Wayne Bodnar. Following the LAC announcements and a short procedures report, the newly elected officers of Dominion Command were installed by Dominion Grand President Charles Belzile. Following the installation the Constitution and Laws final report was adopted and a notice of motion for the next Convention was made involving a proposal to reduce the categories of membership in the Legion. After accepting other comments from the floor the Chairman called for the motion to adjourn which was duly moved and seconded. And with that the 39th Dominion Convention of The Royal Canadian Legion came to a close.

Conclusion

A major highlight of The 39th Dominion Convention was the high standard set by the Local Arrangements Committee in its preparations and operations. Daily comments from the floor were laudatory and loud. From billeting to transport to the dinner arrangements at Fort Edmonton Park, all facets of the LAC's volunteer work were deemed excellent. The LAC's diligence made the business of Convention easier to conduct and resulted in an event that was successful despite minor disruptions.

REPORT OF THE DOMINION PRESIDENT

Comrade Chairman, Distinguished Guests, Fellow Comrades. As we commence the business of this 39th Dominion Convention, I cannot help but to think back to two short years ago when Comrade Bill Barclay stood before you as I do today. With the untimely passing of Comrade Chuck Murphy only weeks before Convention, Bill had to assume his office and carry on in those very difficult and emotional days before Convention. It was therefore with a profound sense of regret that he had to present the President's Report, to you on 12 June 2000. Who could have predicted at that time that Bill himself would soon have to answer the same call from the Lord and would not be here to address us all today. However, I know that he is here in spirit, because if there is one thing we knew about Bill, it was that he was as committed to the Legion as any one man could ever be, and when he said in his last days that he would do everything possible to make it to Convention, that's exactly what he meant. I have no doubt that he is standing right beside me at this very moment. Welcome Bill. We'll do our best to do it right and thanks to you for all that you have done for us.

And a lot he did do for us. The Royal Canadian Legion today may be somewhat smaller than it used to be, but we are as strong and committed today as we have ever been.

I am not going to go into very great detail on any of our committees or programs at this time. The Committee Chairmen will do that later, and as we started at the last Convention, those Chairmen will not read their full reports to you. Rather they will give a short overview of their reports and highlight only the main points. That should give you plenty of time for questions. For myself, I promise to be brief, but I would like to review some of the more significant achievements that have helped to bring us to this day.

First of all I am exceptionally pleased with the great success that we have had in progressing our advocacy efforts to the government in terms of long term care for veterans, improved benefits for prisoners of war, and enhancement of the VIP program for spouses. As you know, under Comrade Bill we laid down the gauntlet to Veterans Affairs late last year emphasizing the point that we would no longer accept the continual, bureaucratic delays of the Department Of Veterans Affairs in progressing long term care programs for veterans. We welcomed the new Minister's positive response and his commitment to move forward on all of the Legion's critical issues. I'm sure that you will be encouraged by Minister Pagtakhian's presentation later today. But, rest assured that we will continue to press these issues of crucial concern to the Legion.

As far as the activities and programs of Dominion Command are concerned, we are keeping our operations in the black and have made a number of significant cuts to our expenses so that we will not be asking for a per capita increase at this Convention. We have heard you loud and clear and will continue to live within our means.

In that regard I will be bringing forward a resolution to you later in Convention to reduce the expense and size of our Sub-Executive Committee By eliminating the Vice Chairman position. We Believe that we can function effectively with a smaller executive and I will ask for your support of this initiative.

There is one money issue that we will be bringing forward to you and that relates specifically to LEGION Magazine. The Magazine has gone through some very difficult times over the past few years but has managed to maintain itself as one of the finest magazines in the country. But, its subscription rate has been held fixed for over 10 years and it is now facing a crisis with rising paper costs. But there are some positive options to consider. The Board Chairman Of Canvet will present those to you later and I can only hope that we take the necessary action to ensure that we will be able to enjoy Legion magazine for many years to come.

We have finally completed our Long Term Planning Process in context of the submissions we have received from across the Legion and have now documented those objectives that we will attempt to pursue over the next five years. Copies of the plan were sent to your branches earlier this year, and you will all have received one in your Convention package. It is a good plan and I'm sure that Comrade Kobolak will welcome your questions on it later.

Needless to say the one major item which concerns us all for the future is our declining membership. We have all talked about it, but the only people that can do anything about it is you the branch member. Membership is a branch responsibility which is shared by every member of the branch. Surely it is not too difficult for every member to try to bring in one recruit each year. It is only in that way that we will survive and be able to continue our good works on behalf of all those who have served and in the promotion of Remembrance.

One of the most progressive steps that we have just initiated for our future is the establishment of a Legion-wide internet communication system. You all appreciate that whenever urgent news has had to go out to the branches we have not done a very good job of it. Snail-mail is costly and too slow. Faxes to over 1600 branches at one time is near impossible. Many of our branches and numerous submissions from our members have called for a Legion-wide internet system so that we can talk quickly and effectively to each other. There are costs involved but a program is well under-way, and I hope to see its continued evolution over the next few years as more and more branches come on-line or at least appoint one of their executive members as the internet point of contact.

I am also fully aware the branches across the country are facing challenging financial problems. Some municipalities have offered waivers on local property taxes in recognition of the great work that we do in the community, but there is no doubt that new sources of revenue will have to be developed to help sustain branch programs. Gone are the days when we can rely on profits from the bar. And slot machines are not the answer. It is only by working together on local projects and fund-raisers and by implementing effective programs to attract new members that we will be able to keep going. In that regard, you will hear later today of a proposal to use our red maple leaf as the basis for a new source of revenue. It's a great idea and if members work together it should be an excellent way to earn funds to support branch programs.

Comrades, we are Canada's largest veterans and community service organization. We are an instrumental part of the Canadian fabric and stand as the heart and soul of so many of our communities. We have a rich and proud history. We can also achieve a full and rewarding future. We must simply work together in the spirit of comradeship that was the foundation of the Legion's earliest beginnings. I look forward to this Convention, and I know that we will make decisions that will be the best for the Legion as a whole and which will provide the frame work for our continued efforts as the finest organization in this country.

I now wish you all the best. Let's get down to the business of the Legion.

And with that Comrades, I move acceptance of this report.

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND SUB-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, ADMINISTRATION, POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE

| | | |
|-------------------|---|----------------------|
| J. Kobolak | - | Chairman |
| A. Parks | - | Vice-Chairman |
| M. Cook | - | Member |
| W. Smith | - | Member |
| B. Barclay | - | ex-officio |
| D. Daly | - | Secretary |

Introduction

The activities of the Planning, Administration, Poppy and Remembrance Sub-Committee continue to be challenging and extensive. Due to this wide scope and the special significance of Poppy and Remembrance, the Remembrance related items will be presented in a separate report by our Sub-Committee member designated to oversee Poppy and Remembrance. That is our Chairman, Comrade Wally Smith. His report will be presented shortly. But for now, this report will focus on the planning and administrative issues with which the Dominion Executive Council has been most involved over the past two years.

Planning

We had gone for some time without an effective Planning document to guide the future planning options for the Legion. You will recall that our last attempt with the "RCL Plan for the Future" was not well received by Convention in 1996. Although there were many good ideas contained in that document it was ultimately shelved for a whole host of reasons.

As a result the Dominion Executive Council spent a great deal of time in reviewing and analyzing various suggestions and proposals for a new plan that were submitted from our branches and members as well as those that were developed by the Commands and Dominion Committees. That process was quite exhausting in that the Council wanted to make sure that every aspect of our future concerns was covered and assessed.

Many ideas were reviewed and rejected. Many were accepted in various forms. The most significant aspect of the planning process was that DEC decreed that no major item would be implemented into policy without being brought forward to Convention. As such, some of the proposals will be brought forward at this Convention as Resolutions for your consideration but others will not be ready for your review until Convention 2004.

In the interim, the edited Planning Document was sent out to every branch last February so that you could see the general direction that we are taking. But I want to emphasize, no major decisions will be taken without the agreement of Convention. The document as it stands simply highlights the ideas and concerns which were shared by all members of the Dominion Executive Council.

Supply

Up until this date we have managed a fragmented supply system across the Legion. Every Command has been involved in some way or another in providing various regalia and consumer items for your use. However, the process has been convoluted and has involved a high overhead with many staff being involved across the Commands. Not only has this led to high prices, but the level of service has not been held to the same standard across the country.

Therefore, the Dominion Executive Council has directed that we should investigate the establishment of a single, centralized supply system where prices and staff could be held to the lowest possible level to support the continued operation of the system and where a common standard of service and availability would exist across the Legion. Development of such a system is in the works and we hope to get it off the ground by early next year.

Cost Constraint

To ensure that Dominion Command is living within its means and will not have to request a per capita increase at this Convention or for the next few years, the Command has continued its cost-reduction program that was started in 1998. The Dominion Treasurer will report on these initiatives later but I am very pleased to report that we are achieving some success in holding the line of expenses. This includes a significant reduction in staffing levels and the Dominion Secretary will provide more details on that in his report.

Significantly we are also achieving major savings in our annual printing bill. With the approval of DEC we have moved to a common manual size that is the same size as our Poppy Manual, and we have finalized negotiations for a Dominion Command single Printer of Record. In other words, all our printing requirements will go to one contracted printer and will be printed according to a set standard. We are also setting the stage to put all our manuals on line through our Legion web-site so that you can keep abreast of the most current amendments.

Legion House

Legion House is fully occupied with tenants and the building has just completed a major exterior refurbishment. In spite of very high taxes imposed on us by the City of Ottawa we continue to operate the building in the black.

2000 Branch Survey

The 2000 branch survey was relatively successful with approximately 27% of the branches responding. Sufficient data was obtained to develop a fairly good profile of the Legion and specific details will be distributed in the months ahead.

All Branch Mailings

Starting later this year we will cease production of Reveille and implement a Legion-wide E-mail system for those branches that are on-line. We appreciate that a number of branches are not on the internet as of yet, so all-branch mailings will continue for the foreseeable future as may be necessary. This will be discussed in more detail in the PR Committee report.

Future Dominion Conventions

With the concurrence of Convention the following sites have been selected by the Dominion Executive Council for future Conventions:

- 2004 - London, Ontario: 13-17 June
- 2006 - Calgary, Alberta: 25-29 June
- 2008 - Ottawa, Ontario: 22-26 June
- 2010 - Winnipeg, Manitoba: 13-17 June

It should be noted that Convention 2000 requested, through its Resolution No. 46(attached), that consideration be given to changing the dates of Convention to a period out of the prime season in order to obtain less expensive hotel rates.

That review was completed and contact was made with convention and hotel officials in major Canadian centres. It was learned that there would be no savings on Convention facilities to move the date of Convention out of the Summer period as the Spring and Fall periods remain as major Convention time slots for numerous organizations. However hotel costs would be somewhat less expensive in the April period with reductions in the order of 8-10% compared to the Summer period.

In light of the fact that Convention costs would not be reduced and a savings of only 8-10% could be achieved for hotels in the April time-frame, DEC determined that it would not be sufficiently beneficial to move Convention into the April period with all the problems that would be involved for Commands in scheduling at this time of year.

MOTION: It is therefore moved by Dominion Executive Council that Dominion Convention 2000 Resolution No. 46 be rescinded and that future Dominion Conventions continue to be arranged for the June time-frame.

Convention 2000 Resolution 337 - Legion Medal Redesign

At the 2000 Dominion Convention, Resolution 337 - Redesigning of Past Service Medals, was adopted and a copy is attached. The purpose of the resolution is three fold:

- shorten the width of the “top bars” on medals to prevent them from overlapping when court mounted;
- redesign the bars to enable them to be sewn on the ribbon rather than be secured using clips as is done now; and
- stock the mounting strips that are used in the court mounting process.

In an attempt to gauge the full impact of this resolution an analysis of the Supply Department inventory is provided:

- **Dominion Command level** - there are 15 varieties of medals and bars at this level with a wholesale value of \$807.00;
- **Provincial and Branch level** - there are 126 varieties of medals and bars at these levels

- with a wholesale value \$21,658.00; and
- **Ladies Auxiliary** - there are 62 varieties of medals and bars for the LA with a wholesale value of \$14,160.00. It is realized that the LA is not included in the resolution and the inventory is provided for information purposes only.

The number of medals and bars at each level are also of concern as, in some cases, there is in excess of a 40 year supply. The requirement to hold such large quantities is due to the fact that the minimum number that can be ordered is 50.

There is no requirement to stock the mounting strips as these are available from the persons who court mount medals.

There are a number of factors that must be considered before we would implement this change and they are as follows:

- there would be one time costs to create new dies in order to produce the narrower top bar and ribbon bars. It is normal practice to factor these costs into the price of the medals and bars which will result in an increase in prices;
- if the new medals and bars are introduced as current stocks are depleted there would be concern that members would have a mix of medals and bars - old and new designs;
- the resolution states that the old designs will still be authorized for wear which means that sufficient stocks of the old pattern would have to be maintained for parts purposes;
- there would be concern on the part of Provincial Commands that they will no longer be able to sell the stock in their inventory;
- there would be periods when certain medals and bars would not be available due to the difficulty in predicting when stock will be depleted and ensuring new designed stock arrives just in time;
- new stocks would be excessive due to the requirement to order in minimum quantities of 50; and
- it is believed that once the new design is introduced pressure would develop to replace all medals and bars without due consideration of current holdings and the financial implications.

In short, the primary purpose of this resolution is to prevent medals from overlapping, one to another, when they are court mounted. However, there is no Legion requirement for medals to be court mounted as it is a personal preference. Legion medals have had the same design for many years and to change the design to facilitate court mounting would be exceptionally expensive and counter-productive when it is noted that an experienced and able practitioner is easily able to court mount our medals.

DEC therefore agreed that action on this Resolution should be suspended because of the exceptional high cost and effort that would be required for cosmetic purposes only.

MOTION: A motion to amend resolution 337 was passed and the delegates agreed that the proposed amendment be presented as a late resolution to be considered by the members of the Dominion Executive Council at their post Dominion Convention meeting.

The late resolution was subsequently approved by the Dominion Executive Council members.

Convention 2002 Resolutions

The Planning, Administration, Poppy and Remembrance Sub-Committee reviewed the general administrative resolutions submitted for consideration at this Convention and they will be addressed at the specific time to be fixed by the Procedures Committee.

Budget

The Planning, Administration, Poppy and Remembrance budget for the period 2002 to 2004 follow this report. Delegates may raise any questions that they have concerning Committee expenses at this time, but any motion for changes to the budget document as relates to this Committee will have to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

Conclusion

The Planning, Administration, Poppy and Remembrance Sub-Committee continues to be involved in a wide range of topics, and has proven very worthwhile in expediting issues for Sub-Executive and DEC. It has been a pleasure to work on your behalf. Our follow-on report on Remembrance items will occur shortly.

Thank you all.

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION DOMINION COMMAND

PLANNING, ADMINISTRATION, POPPY & REMEMBRANCE

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2000 | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2001 | <u>BUDGET</u> 2002 | <u>BUDGET</u> 2003 | <u>BUDGET</u> 2004 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Per Diem | 2,200 | 2,325 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Miscellaneous | <u>744</u> | <u>633</u> | <u>500</u> | <u>500</u> | <u>500</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>2,944</u> | <u>2,958</u> | <u>3,500</u> | <u>3,500</u> | <u>3,500</u> |
| <u>Germany Zone</u> | | | | | |
| N.W. Europe Activities | <u>4,000</u> | <u>4,000</u> | <u>4,000</u> | <u>4,000</u> | <u>4,000</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>6,944</u> | <u>6,958</u> | <u>7,500</u> | <u>7,500</u> | <u>7,500</u> |

RESOLUTION 46 FROM DOMINION CONVENTION 2000

46. Dates - Dominion Convention PAPR 5; NS 2/C

WHEREAS it has become obvious that holding Dominion Conventions during the month of June is becoming very expensive as the months of June, July and August are considered the height of the tourist season; and

WHEREAS competition with other large organizations for accommodation and meeting space during this period drives up costs; and

WHEREAS it is a fact that the cost of meetings held during the "shoulder" seasons - April/May and September/October - can be in the range of 30 per cent cheaper than those held during the height of the tourist season:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Dominion Command take action to determine which of the Spring or Fall periods provides the best savings. Once this season has been determined action be implemented to change the dates of Dominion Conventions to a date within the defined period as quickly as possible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that once the new time of year for Dominion Conventions has been determined it will become the standard.

RESOLUTION 337 FROM DOMINION CONVENTION 2000

Amendment to Dominion Executive Council motion to rescind Resolution 337 by amending the Resolution 337, as passed at the 2000 Convention in Halifax to read as follows:

337. Redesigning of Past Service Medals PAC 28

WHEREAS the design of The Royal Canadian Legion's medals is a source of frustration to those members who possess them due to the difficulty in mounting them, and because the mounting clips easily break which sometimes causes the loss of a bar:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that when new procurements are required, the bars which are to be affixed to the ribbon of Legion medals be made the width of the ribbon, without the mounting clips on the back and with small holes in the corners so that the bars can be sewn in place; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all existing stock of any particular Legion medal bar be exhausted to the normal re-supply level before redesigned bars are procured; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as the new design for the bars should be almost indistinguishable in appearance from the current design, bars of either design may be worn adjacent each other on a legion medal ribbon.

Long Term Care for veterans throughout Canada. In addition, Dominion President Bill Barclay expressed his dissatisfaction with the lack of progress on the issues of enhanced Prisoner of War benefits and the lifetime extension of Veterans Independence Program benefits to spouses of deceased veterans. The two other major veterans organizations, the National Council of Veterans Associations and the Army, Navy, Air Force Veterans Association in Canada have both joined ranks with the Legion in supporting our position in this matter. As a result, the Minister, the Honourable Ron Duhamel and the Department reacted positively to address Legion concerns. However, before a meeting could take place with Mr. Duhamel, the Prime Minister in a shuffle of the cabinet appointed the Honourable Rey Pagtakhan as Minister of Veterans Affairs on 15 January 2002. The new Minister, the Honourable Rey Pagtakhan met with your Chairman, the Dominion Secretary and the Director of the Service Bureau together with the President of the Army Navy Air Force Veterans Association in Canada, Bob Cassels and the Secretary Treasurer Jacques Arseneault. The Minister's Deputy Minister, Larry Murray, Associate Deputy Minister Verna Bruce, Assistant Deputy Minister (Veteran Services) Brian Ferguson and the Minister's Chief of Staff George Christidis were in attendance. The Minister gave a very firm statement accepting responsibility for Long Term Care for veterans and undertook to send a letter to that effect. He and his staff addressed all three issues of concern in sufficiently positive terms resulting in the Legion agreeing to recommence meetings and dialogue with the Department. The Minister further committed to at least two meetings per year with the major veterans organizations with a further promise of additional meetings with him as required. This is a very significant step forward in our relationship with the Minister and the senior executive of Veterans Affairs Canada.

Service Bureau Operations

Since the agreement by all Commands to adhere to common standards for Service Officers there has been a significant improvement in our resolve to serve clients even handedly wherever they may be in Canada. At each of the recent three Provincial Command conferences, Dominion Command conducted a session to train Command Service Officers to represent clients at the review level of the Veterans Review and Appeal Board without the necessity of involving the Bureau of Pensions Advocates. Of course, it remains open for Legion Service Officers to partner with the Bureau whenever they feel it is appropriate to advancing a veterans application.

Gerontology Fellowships to Professionals

Legion Gerontology Fellowships were reinstated for the traditional partners as directed by resolution of the 2000 Dominion Convention. While the actual program of academic study varies according to profession, approximately sixteen family physicians, occupational therapists, nurses, and physiotherapists engage in gerontology specialty training sponsored by the Legion at a current annual cost of \$110,000. Whereas the Legion originated this program in 1978 to help expand gerontology expertise in Canada, the Committee observes that the specialty is now well established and widely practised. Legion gerontology support no longer significantly influences the specialty. The Dominion Executive Council has approved funding in the amount of \$110,000. to the end of 2002. This was done at the expense of other programs.

At the 2000 Dominion Convention the Gerontology Fellowship program was reinstated when the floor passed a non-concurred resolution. However, sources of funding were not identified. Given the success of the Legion Seniors Housing Program and the focus now shifting in that direction, it is appropriate for Dominion Convention to consider the following recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION: it is recommended that the Gerontology Fellowship Program cease effective the end of 2002; and

IT IS FURTHER RECOMMENDED: that should it be alternatively decided to continue the program, a per capita increase be implemented to fund the program.

NOTE: The recommendation to cease the Gerontology Fellowship Program was approved by the delegates at the Convention.

The National Congress of Seniors Organizations

The Legion has participated with twelve other national seniors organizations to examine seniors issues in general, and to identify major issues for the attention of the Minister of Health in his capacity as Minister Responsible for Seniors. Consultations to date have identified a model which would allow seniors groups to be consulted and interact with government officials in the development of a policy and legislation affecting seniors. Health Canada has pledged financial and secretarial support to tackle health care as the first major issue.

Other Seniors Partnerships

Recognition as a national seniors organization and participation in the National Congress of Seniors Organizations has involved the committee in other seniors' interests. Consulted by Veterans Affairs and Health Canada in the establishment of a Falls Prevention Initiative, Legion branches have since been involved in community initiatives to extend falls prevention expertise, and avoid injuries. The Veterans, Service and Seniors Committee was also called upon for project steering group participation and advice to organizations such as the Canada Safety Council on Falls Prevention promotion. In addition, the Legion has participated in the Canadian Standards Association Project Advisory Committee to develop standards and guidelines entitled Design for Aging, and Seniors-Volunteers in Standards Work. Briefings on seniors issues have been delivered to the Deputy Minister Health Canada, a Parliamentary Committee and the Senate Sub-committee on Veterans Affairs.

Benevolent Fund Report

The following are Benevolent Fund statistics for the period 1 January, 2000 to 31 December, 2001.

| FUND | 2000 | | 2001 | |
|--------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| | NO. OF CASES | AMOUNT | NO. OF CASES | AMOUNT |
| DCBTF | 149 | \$63,486 | 135 | \$53,337 |
| IABTF | 14 | \$10,842 | 11 | \$ 5,856 |
| RAFBF | 83 | \$65,211 | 111 | \$95,779 |
| RNBTF | 24 | \$28,197 | 14 | \$11,056 |
| BCEL | <u>21</u> | <u>\$13,821</u> | <u>21</u> | <u>\$16,074</u> |
| TOTAL | 291 | \$181,557 | 292 | \$182,102 |

DCBTF - Dominion Command Benevolent Trust Fund

IABTF - Imperial Army Benevolent Trust Fund

RAFBF - Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund

RNBTF - Royal Navy Benevolent Trust Fund

BCEL - British Commonwealth Ex-Services League

Budget Report

For your information, a copy of the VSS Committee budget for the period 2002-2004 is attached to this report. Delegates may raise any questions that they have concerning Committee expenses at this time, but any motion for changes to the budget document as relates to this Committee will have to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
DOMINION COMMAND**

VETERANS, SERVICE AND SENIORS

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2000 | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2001 | <u>2002</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | | | 2003 | 2004 |
| <u>COMMITTEE</u> | | | | | |
| Travel | 9,205 | 6,801 | 22,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 |
| Per Diem | 17,191 | 12,727 | 14,000 | 14,000 | 14,000 |
| Chairman's Travel | - | 2,541 | 6,500 | 4,500 | 4,500 |
| Chairman's Per Diem | - | 2,192 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 |
| Cdn Assoc. On Gerontology | 1,873 | - | 1,500 | - | - |
| Printing & Stationery | 86 | 855 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| Telephone & Fax | 212 | 130 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Postage | 31 | 323 | 700 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Association Memberships | 155 | 505 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Miscellaneous | <u>122</u> | <u>190</u> | <u>200</u> | <u>200</u> | <u>200</u> |
| | | | | | |
| SUB-TOTAL | <u>28,875</u> | <u>26,264</u> | <u>49,900</u> | <u>46,700</u> | <u>46,700</u> |
| | | | | | |
| <u>PROGRAM</u> | | | | | |
| Gerontology | <u>-</u> | <u>55,000</u> | <u>110,000</u> | | |
| | | | | | |
| TOTAL | <u>28,875</u> | <u>81,264</u> | <u>159,900</u> | | |

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

| | | |
|---------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| R. Scriven | - | Chairman |
| J. Fraser | - | Vice-Chairman |
| A. Phillips | - | Standing Committee Member |
| J. Alger | - | Standing Committee Member |
| R. Howcroft | - | BC/Yukon |
| K. Wittkopf | - | Alberta/NWT |
| J. Henderson | - | Saskatchewan |
| C. Tessier | - | Manitoba/NWO |
| M. Atkinson | - | Ontario |
| D. Wells | - | Quebec |
| J. Clayton | - | New Brunswick |
| C. Dawe | - | Nova Scotia/Nunavut |
| A. Curtis | - | P.E.I. |
| H. Smith | - | Newfoundland/Lab |
| D. Bell | - | Secretary |
| M. Thompson | - | Assistant Secretary |

Introduction

Over the last two years the Membership Committee has worked hard to try to influence a change in our membership position, but membership is still going down, so we are failing somewhere between Dominion Command and the branches.

It was said at a previous convention that “we are at a crossroads,” well Comrades, we are no longer at that crossroads, we’ve gone beyond it and we’ve taken a turn that’s leading us into a questionable future. As we lose members, we lose the ability to afford to do the things we’ve taken for granted, including the very things that this organization stands for. These losses affect not only Dominion Command programs but programs within your Commands and your branches.

Membership begins and ends at the branch level. It is up to you as members and as executive officers of your branch, to address this issue. It is up to you to take seriously the consequences that will follow if we continue to sit back and watch our numbers fall. The strength of the Legion *is* our numbers. When we lobby for improved benefits for our veterans, our serving military and our seniors, or when things happen in our country that goes against our moral fibre, it is our strength in numbers that make governments and media listen and take notice of what we have to say. It is our strength in numbers that gives us the human resources to carry on with the work the Legion is known for in communities across the country. And it is our strength in numbers that provides the means to carry on with our commitment to the veterans who founded this great organization.

Membership Statistics

The final figures for 2001 show a total membership of 456,524, which represents 97.48% of last years membership. The 2.52% loss represents 11,821 members. This may not seem much to some; however, when we consider our loss of more than 11,000 last year, and more than 15,600 the year before that, it doesn’t take long to see why our numbers have dropped by 121,000 over the past ten years.

Nationally our renewal goals are being met, but we are failing on the recruiting side of the equation. This year’s loss is a direct result of our inability to recruit sufficient new members to make up for our anticipated non-renewals.

The 2002 Early Bird campaign and renewal material was sent out in August 2001, for the 1 September start of the campaign. The campaign ran until 30 November and branches had until 15 December to get submissions into Dominion Command. As the 15th fell on a weekend, the Membership Department included submissions received on Monday, 17 December. There was an improvement over last year's campaign of 2.75% representing 6,700 more renewals during the campaign period. This year seven Commands showed an increase over the previous year, compared to one Command last year.

Three national Membership Awards are presented each year by Dominion Command, to acknowledge best overall achievement, and best performance in the Renewal Campaign and the Early Bird Campaign. This year the 2001 Membership Achievement Award and the 2001 Renewal Award go to Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command, and the 2002 Early Bird Award goes to Saskatchewan Command. Congratulations to all the branches in these Commands for their efforts.

The final membership figures for 2001 and the various breakdowns are indicated in the graphs and tables attached.

Membership Blitz

The National Renewal goal is 90%, therefore if we are to maintain our membership from year to year we must bring in a minimum of 10% in new memberships. Branches should plan their recruitment drives in the Spring in order to ensure maximum return for their efforts. If they leave it too late in the year, they will not meet their current year goals. Branches should make every effort to reach their 2002 recruitment goals by the end of August, as many branches will begin recruiting for 2003 in the last few months of the year.

With this in mind, the Membership Committee proposed a three-month Membership Recruitment Blitz to be managed within each Command during the months of March, April and May 2002. The Command Membership Chairmen were to ensure that all levels within their respective Commands were involved, and that branches were informed and motivated to participate in the "Blitz." It is too soon to determine the results but it is hoped that we will see an improvement in our recruitment level this year.

Branch Per Capita Tax Submissions

There has been a very slight improvement on the error rate in per capita tax submissions sent to Dominion Command. Branches are reminded to review the procedures outlined in the Membership Processing Guide to ensure that they know how to process the various transactions properly, and to check submissions carefully before mailing them in. Errors make more work for everyone, use up valuable resources both at Dominion Command and at the branches and can lead to dissatisfied members.

Membership Communication Link

The committee considered that communication between the various levels of the membership structure to be important to the success of membership programs across the country. A Membership Communication Link has been established for the purpose of passing on information pertaining to observed strengths and weaknesses down to the branch level. Responses to these observations should then be passed back up the chain. With the cooperation of all concerned the program should work well with all levels being more informed.

Military Member-at-Large (MML)

The MML branch is growing and we ended the year with over 50% more members than we had last year. Applications continue to come in from military magazine ads, the web site and from the "RCL and the CF"

membership brochures, which are provided to new members with the suggestion that they pass them onto their colleagues in the CF.

Military Recruiting Team (MRT)

Due to the terrorist events of 11 September, the MRT curtailed the remaining visits to Halifax, the remainder of the Western Region and visits to the Quebec Region. The members of the team determined that because of the uncertain times and the increase in operational preparations and tempo that it would not be the right time to visit the bases. Once a clearer picture of CF involvement in the "war on terrorism" becomes evident, the team will conduct the remaining visits.

Membership Promotional and Processing Material

The Membership Processing Guide and the Membership Eligibility Guide were updated as a result of changes made at the 2000 Dominion Convention. A new manual, the Membership Chairman's Guide was completed in January 2001 and has been well received by Branches and Commands. It contains information to assist branches with Membership Recruitment and Renewal Programs. Copies of these manuals are provided to branches on an annual basis.

This Spring branches and Commands were provided with a sample of a new Bookmark produced by the Membership Committee. Designed as a promotional item for branches, it can be ordered from Dominion Command at no charge.

Budget

For your information, a copy of the Membership Committee budget for the period 2002-2004 is attached to this report. Delegates may raise any questions that they have concerning Committee expenses at this time, but any motion for changes to the budget document as related to this Committee will have to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

Conclusion

The Legion is better known and better respected than it has been in many years. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Two Minute Wave of Silence brought the Legion into the homes of Canadians across the country and will continue to do so in future. The unfortunate events of 11 September and the Canadian Forces involvement in fighting the battle against terrorism, brings the Legion to the forefront with the important ties we share with the military. And yet we are still, for some reason, unable to bring in new members to replenish the members we have lost and will continue to lose.

Today I am asking you for a commitment. A commitment on the part of each and everyone one of you to take the membership issue seriously. To go back to your branches and to your communities and do everything you can to replenish our ranks. By recruiting new members you will secure strong and healthy numbers, not only to take us into the future, but to sustain us in the present. It's all up to you.

LEGION MEMBERSHIP PROFILE 1991-2001

| Year | Life | Ordinary | Associate | | Merit Life | Hon | Fraternal Affiliate | Grand Total |
|------|--------|----------|-----------|-------|------------|-------|---------------------|-------------|
| | | | Voting | Non | | | | |
| 1991 | 13,579 | 255,034 | 202,302 | 1,022 | 223 | 6,945 | 107,548 | 586,653 |
| 1992 | 14,047 | 247,218 | 202,836 | 991 | 230 | 6,729 | 106,175 | 578,226 |
| 1993 | 14,445 | 239,523 | 211,536 | 960 | 254 | 6,390 | 99,173 | 572,281 |
| 1994 | 14,818 | 229,813 | 214,453 | 994 | 286 | 6,040 | 92,787 | 559,191 |
| 1995 | 15,227 | 220,289 | 217,722 | 999 | 301 | 5,468 | 85,513 | 545,519 |
| 1996 | 15,587 | 211,199 | 220,494 | 940 | 295 | 5,006 | 79,705 | 533,226 |
| 1997 | 15,589 | 201,056 | 219,611 | 857 | 290 | 4,599 | 71,996 | 513,998 |

| Year | Life | Ordinary | Associate | Affiliate Voting | Merit Life | Hon | Affiliate Non-Vtg | Grand Total |
|------|--------|----------|-----------|------------------|------------|-------|-------------------|-------------|
| | | | | | | | | |
| 1999 | 15,576 | 178,527 | 216,239 | 12,283 | 199 | 2,537 | 54,199 | 479,560 |
| 2000 | 15,501 | 169,147 | 212,977 | 11,336 | 176 | ----- | 59,208 | 468,345 |
| 2001 | 15,317 | 160,778 | 209,991 | 14,419 | 162 | ----- | 55,857 | 456,524 |

**2001 PAID MEMBERSHIP GAINS AND LOSSES
All Categories**

| COMMAND | 2001 | 2000 | Gain/(Loss) | % Gain/(Loss) |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| NS/NUNAVUT | 31,588 | 31,941 | (353) | (1.11) |
| ALBERTA/NWT | 63,080 | 64,455 | (1,375) | (2.13) |
| QUEBEC | 19,484 | 19,927 | (443) | (2.22) |
| MANITOBA/NWO | 38,101 | 38,983 | (882) | (2.26) |
| SASKATCHEWAN | 18,255 | 18,705 | (450) | (2.41) |
| ONTARIO | 172,807 | 177,216 | (4,409) | (2.49) |
| P.E.I. | 3,449 | 3,546 | (97) | (2.74) |
| BC/YUKON | 84,927 | 87,571 | (2,644) | (3.02) |
| NEW BRUNSWICK | 17,681 | 18,535 | (854) | (4.61) |
| NFLD/LABRADOR | 5,650 | 5,968 | (318) | (5.33) |
| DOM. COMM. BRANCHES | 230 | 192 | 38 | 19.79 |
| US ZONES | 925 | 965 | (40) | (4.15) |
| GERMANY ZONE | 347 | 341 | 6 | 1.76 |
| TOTAL | 456,524 | 468,345 | (11,821) | (2.52) |

2001 RENEWALS GAINS AND LOSSES
All Categories

| COMMAND | 2001 | 2000 | Gain/(Loss) | % Gain/(Loss) |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| NS/NUNAVUT | 29,195 | 28,671 | 524 | 1.83 |
| P.E.I. | 3,204 | 3,260 | (56) | (1.72) |
| ALBERTA/NWT | 58,673 | 59,759 | (1,086) | (1.82) |
| MANITOBA/NWO | 35,733 | 36,497 | (764) | (2.09) |
| ONTARIO | 162,346 | 166,020 | (3,674) | (2.21) |
| BC/YUKON | 77,793 | 79,924 | (2,131) | (2.67) |
| QUEBEC | 17,648 | 18,138 | (490) | (2.70) |
| SASKATCHEWAN | 17,147 | 17,641 | (494) | (2.80) |
| NFLD/LABRADOR | 5,287 | 5,443 | (156) | (2.87) |
| NEW BRUNSWICK | 16,772 | 17,421 | (649) | (3.73) |
| DOM. COMM BRANCHES | 174 | 155 | 19 | 12.26 |
| US ZONES | 856 | 897 | (41) | (4.57) |
| GERMANY ZONE | 289 | 301 | (12) | (3.99) |
| TOTAL | 425,117 | 434,867 | (9,750) | (2.24) |

2001 NEW MEMBERS GAINS AND LOSSES
All Categories

| COMMAND | 2001 | 2000 | Gain/(Loss) | % Gain/(Loss) |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| SASKATCHEWAN | 1,108 | 1,054 | 54 | 5.12 |
| NS/NUNAVUT | 2,393 | 2,331 | 62 | 2.66 |
| QUEBEC | 1,836 | 1,789 | 47 | 2.63 |
| MANITOBA/NWO | 2,368 | 2,480 | (112) | (4.52) |
| ONTARIO | 10,461 | 11,147 | (686) | (6.15) |
| ALBERTA/NWT | 4,407 | 4,704 | (297) | (6.31) |
| BC/YUKON | 7,134 | 7,630 | (496) | (6.50) |
| P.E.I. | 245 | 283 | (38) | (13.43) |
| NEW BRUNSWICK | 909 | 1,113 | (204) | (18.33) |
| NFLD/LABRADOR | 363 | 524 | (161) | (30.73) |
| DOM. COMM BRANCHES | 56 | 223 | (167) | (74.89) |
| US POSTS | 69 | 68 | 1 | 1.47 |
| GERMAN BRANCHES | 58 | 39 | 19 | 48.72 |
| TOTAL | 31,407 | 33,385 | (1,978) | (5.92) |

2001 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL STATISTICS
Goal 90%+ All Categories

| COMMAND | 2001 | % | 2000 | % |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| SASKATCHEWAN | 17,147 | 91.67 | 17,641 | 91.57 |
| MANITOBA/NWO | 35,733 | 91.66 | 36,497 | 91.73 |
| ONTARIO | 162,346 | 91.61 | 166,020 | 91.54 |
| NS/NUNAVUT | 29,195 | 91.40 | 28,671 | 91.06 |
| ALBERTA/NWT | 58,673 | 91.03 | 59,759 | 91.46 |
| NEW BRUNSWICK | 16,772 | 90.49 | 17,421 | 90.80 |
| P.E.I. | 3,204 | 90.36 | 3,260 | 90.20 |
| BC/YUKON | 77,793 | 88.83 | 79,924 | 88.24 |
| NFLD/LABRADOR | 5,287 | 88.59 | 5,443 | 90.94 |
| QUEBEC | 17,648 | 88.56 | 18,138 | 87.90 |
| DOM. COMM BRANCHES | 174 | 90.63 | 895 | 89.41 |
| US ZONE | 856 | 88.70 | 897 | 92.19 |
| GERMANY ZONE | 289 | 84.75 | 301 | 87.25 |
| TOTAL | 425,117 | 90.77 | 434,867 | 90.68 |

2001 NEW MEMBER STATISTICS
Goal 10%+ All Categories

| COMMAND | 2001 | % | 2000 | % |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| QUEBEC | 1,836 | 9.21 | 1,789 | 8.67 |
| BC/YUKON | 7,134 | 8.15 | 7,630 | 8.42 |
| NS/NUNAVUT | 2,393 | 7.49 | 2,331 | 7.40 |
| P.E.I. | 245 | 6.91 | 283 | 7.83 |
| ALBERTA/NWT | 4,407 | 6.84 | 4,704 | 7.20 |
| NFLD/LABRADOR | 363 | 6.08 | 524 | 8.76 |
| MANITOBA/NWO | 2,368 | 6.07 | 2,480 | 6.23 |
| SASKATCHEWAN | 1,108 | 5.92 | 1,054 | 5.47 |
| ONTARIO | 10,461 | 5.90 | 11,147 | 6.15 |
| NEW BRUNSWICK | 909 | 4.90 | 1,113 | 5.80 |
| DOM. COMM BRANCHES | 56 | 29.17 | 223 | 22.28 |
| US ZONES | 69 | 7.15 | 68 | 6.99 |
| GERMANY ZONE | 58 | 17.01 | 39 | 11.30 |
| TOTAL | 31,407 | 6.71 | 33,385 | 6.96 |

MEMBERSHIP BY AGE AND GENDER - 2001

Total Membership for 2001 = 456,524

Male 350,995 = 77%
 Female 105,529 = 23%

65 and over = 205,243 - 45%
 55 to 64 = 91,337 - 20%
 Under 55 = 159,944 - 35%

| | 75 & Over | 70-74 | 65-69 | 60-64 | 55-59 | 50-54 | 40-49 | 30-39 | 29 & Below | TOTAL |
|---------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------------|---------|
| MALE | 101,203 | 32,688 | 33,041 | 33,227 | 36,165 | 35,477 | 49,801 | 21,142 | 8251 | 350,976 |
| % | 22.17 | 7.16 | 7.24 | 7.28 | 7.92 | 7.77 | 10.90 | 4.63 | 1.81 | 76.88 |
| FEMALE | 19,833 | 9,398 | 9,080 | 10,045 | 11,900 | 12,867 | 20,267 | 8,685 | 3,454 | 105,529 |
| % | 4.34 | 2.06 | 1.99 | 2.20 | 2.61 | 2.82 | 4.44 | 1.90 | 0.76 | 23.12 |
| TOTAL | 121,036 | 42,086 | 42,121 | 43,272 | 48,065 | 48,344 | 70,068 | 29,827 | 11,705 | 456,524 |
| % | 26.51 | 9.22 | 9.23 | 9.48 | 10.53 | 10.59 | 15.34 | 6.53 | 2.57 | 100.00 |

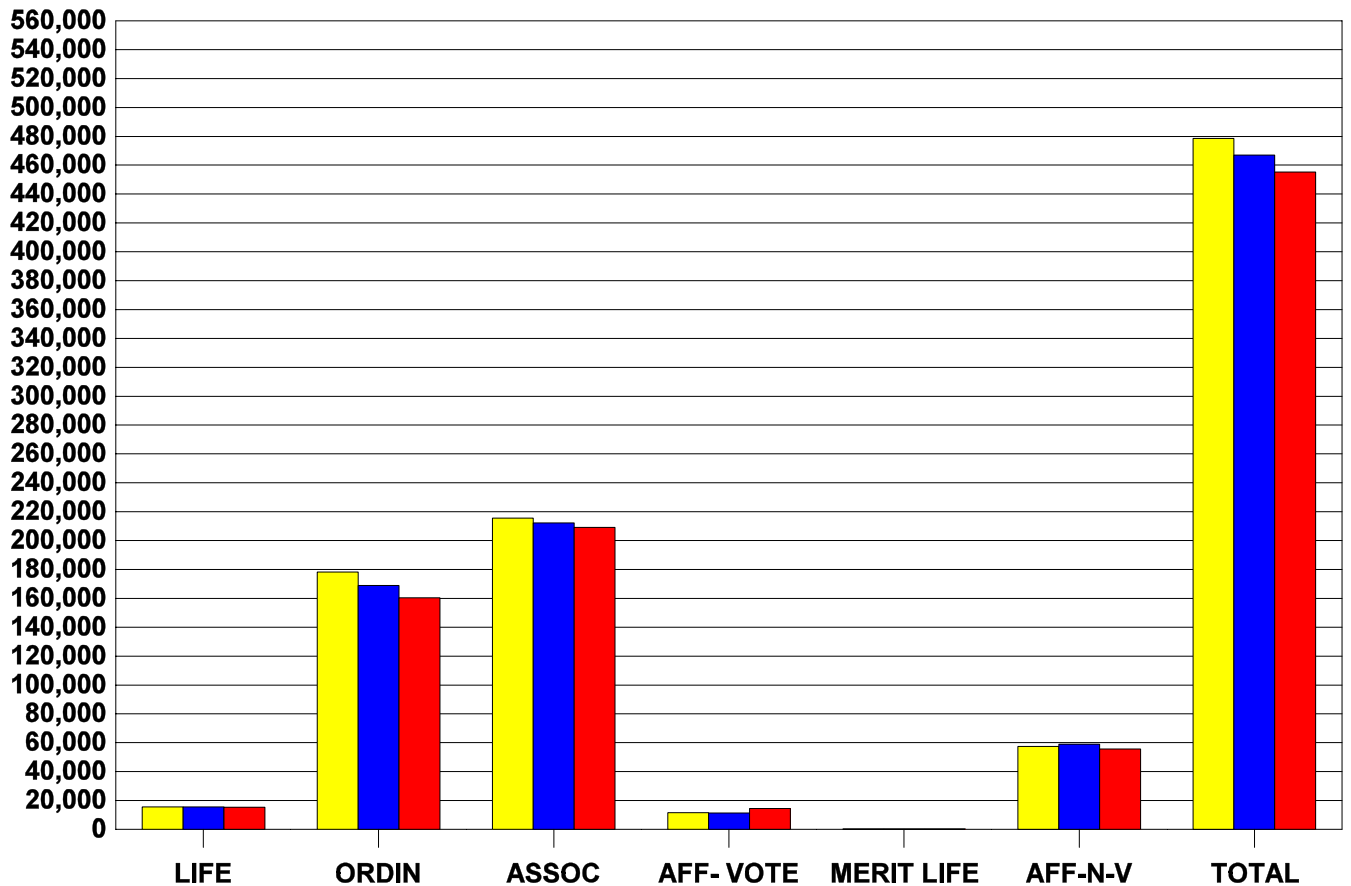
EARLY BIRD AWARD - 2002

All Categories

| COMMAND | 2002 | 2001 | GAINS (LOSS) | % |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| SASKATCHEWAN | 8,543 | 7,767 | 776 | 9.99 |
| NFLD/LABRADOR | 2,614 | 2,406 | 208 | 8.65 |
| MANITOBA/NWO | 17,771 | 16,595 | 1,176 | 7.09 |
| BC/YUKON | 41,053 | 38,768 | 2,285 | 5.89 |
| NS/NUNAVUT | 12,332 | 11,681 | 651 | 5.57 |
| ALBERTA/NWT | 32,100 | 31,130 | 970 | 3.12 |
| ONTARIO | 94,323 | 93,067 | 1,256 | 1.35 |
| QUEBEC | 9,120 | 9,265 | (145) | (1.57) |
| NEW BRUNSWICK | 8,406 | 8,661 | (255) | (2.94) |
| P.E.I. | 1,615 | 1,668 | 53 | (3.18) |
| DOM. COMM BRANCHES | 171 | 471 | (300) | (63.69) |
| US ZONES | 448 | 356 | 92 | 25.84 |
| GERMANY ZONE | 148 | 73 | 75 | 102.74 |
| TOTAL | 228,644 | 221,908 | 6,736 | 3.04 |

PAID MEMBERSHIP 1999 - 2001

■ Dec 1999 ■ Dec 2000 ■ Dec 2001



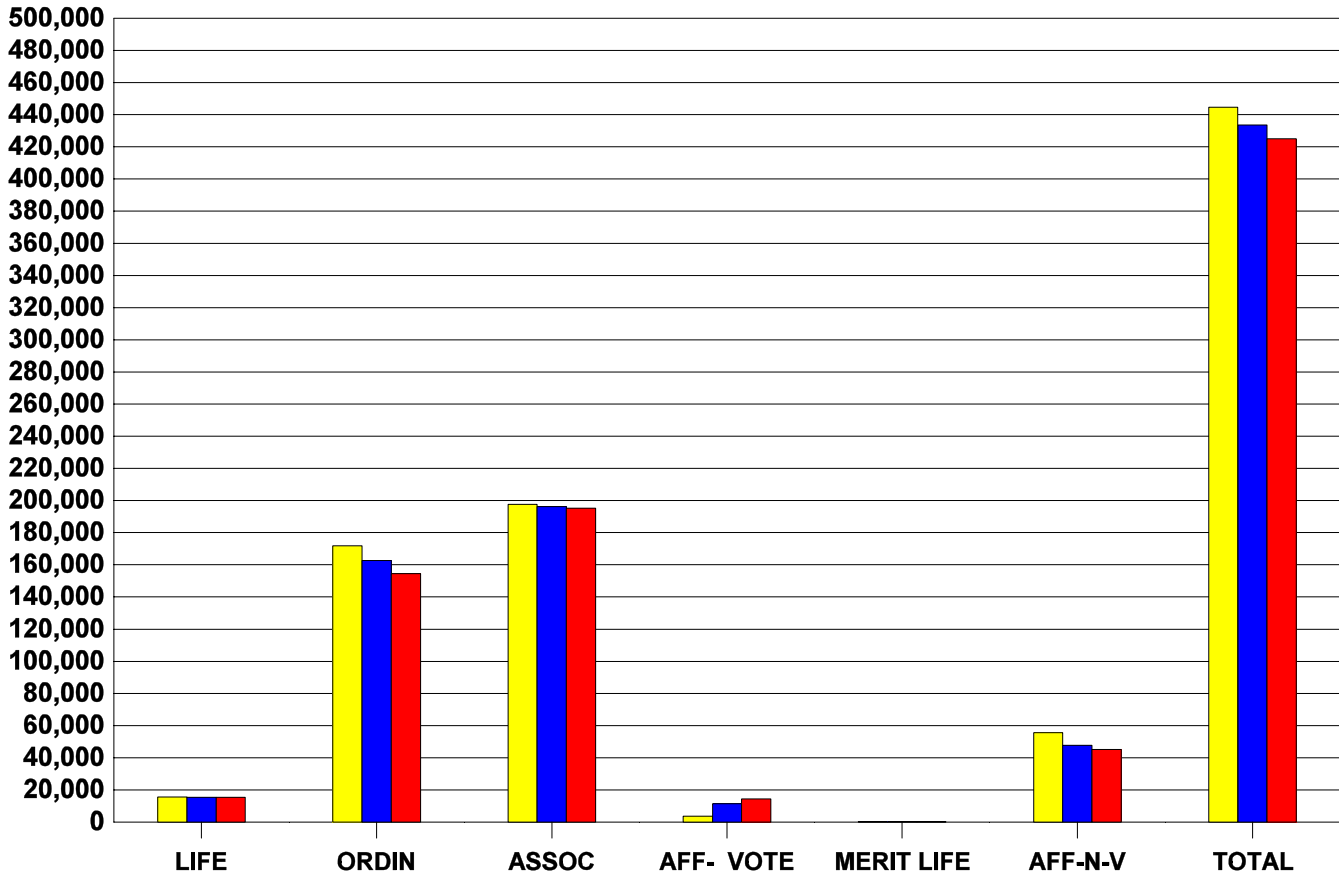
| PAID MEMBERSHIP 1999 - 2001 | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|--------|---------|---------|------------|------------|-----------|---------|-------|---------------|
| DATE | PREV YEAR | LIFE | ORDIN | ASSOC | AFFIL-VOTE | MERIT LIFE | AFFIL N-V | TOTAL | % | Gains/ (Loss) |
| Dec 1999 | 495,242 | 15,526 | 178,258 | 215,532 | 11,662 | 202 | 57,314 | 478,494 | 96.22 | (16,748) |
| Dec 2000 | 479,560 | 15,481 | 168,804 | 212,258 | 11,316 | 176 | 59,014 | 467,049 | 97.39 | (12,511) |
| Dec 2001 | 468,345 | 15,309 | 160,475 | 209,245 | 14,382 | 162 | 55,683 | 455,256 | 97.21 | (13,089) |

MEMBERSHIP TARGET = 500,000+ or 100% OF PREVIOUS YEAR PAID MEMBERSHIP

RENEWALS

1999 - 2001

■ 1999
 ■ 2000
 ■ 2001

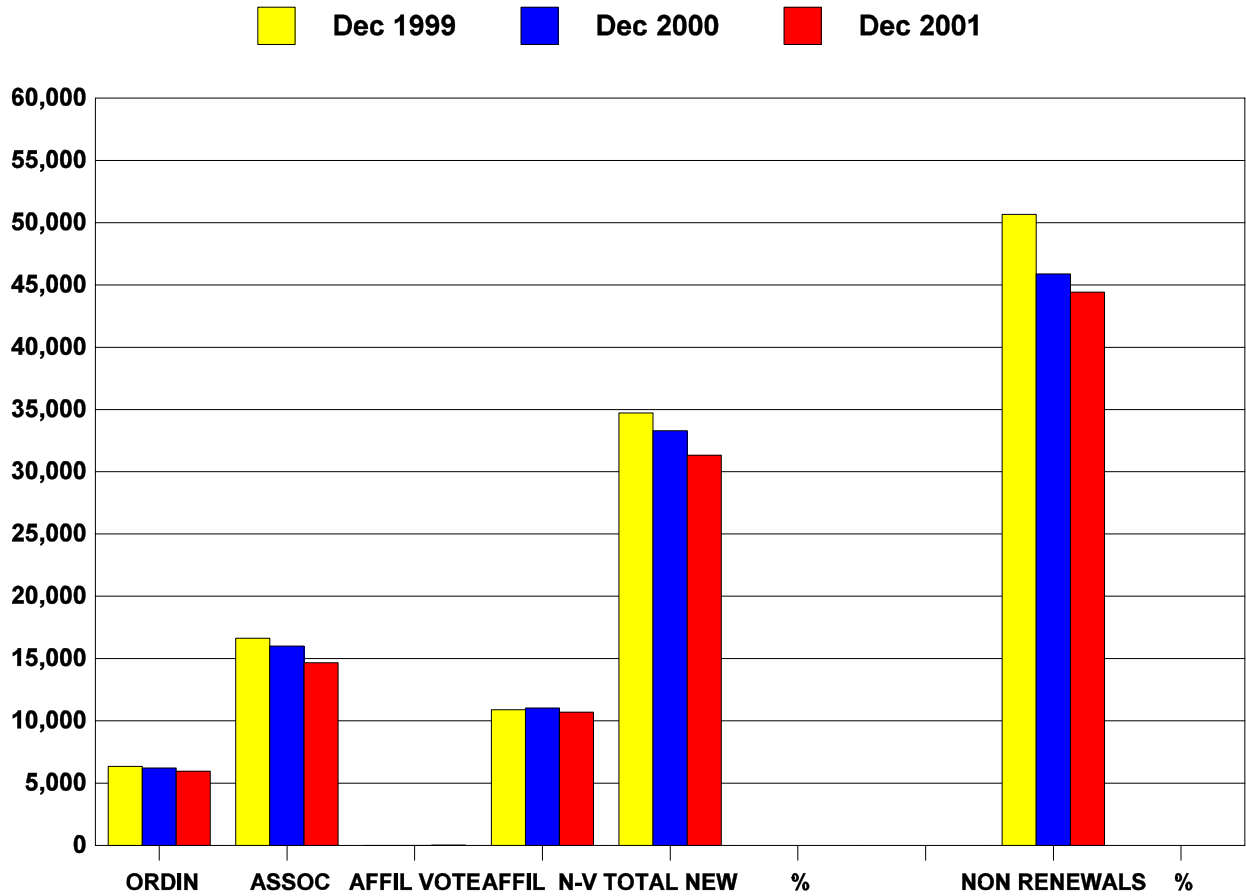


| RENEWALS 1999 - 2001 - FINAL | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|--------|---------|---------|------------|------------|-----------|---------|-------|---------------|
| DATE | PREV YEAR | LIFE | ORDIN | ASSOC | AFFIL VOTE | MERIT LIFE | AFFIL N-V | TOTAL | % | NON RE-NEWALS |
| 1999 | 495,242 | 15,521 | 171,821 | 197,714 | 3,682 | 209 | 55,622 | 444,569 | 89.98 | 49,617 |
| 2000 | 479,560 | 15,481 | 162,594 | 196,312 | 11,311 | 176 | 47,799 | 433,673 | 90.68 | 44,693 |
| 2001 | 468,345 | 15,317 | 154,526 | 195,276 | 14,406 | 162 | 45,137 | 425,117 | 90.77 | 43,228 |

RENEWAL TARGET = 90%+ OF PREVIOUS YEAR PAID MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS VERSUS NON-RENEWALS

1999 - 2001



| NEW MEMBERS 1999 - 2001 | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------|--------|------------|-----------|-----------|------|--------------|-------|---|
| DATE | ORDIN | ASSOC | AFFIL VOTE | AFFIL N-V | TOTAL NEW | % | NON RENEWALS | | % |
| Dec 1999 | 6,335 | 16,624 | 1 | 10,879 | 34,732 | 6.83 | 50,673 | 89.77 | |
| Dec 2000 | 6,215 | 16,016 | 6 | 11,042 | 33,279 | 6.94 | 45,887 | 90.43 | |
| Dec 2001 | 5,948 | 14,674 | 13 | 10,701 | 31,336 | 6.69 | 44,425 | 90.51 | |

RECRUITMENT TARGET = 10%+ OF PREVIOUS YEAR PAID MEMBERSHIP

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

| <u>COMMITTEE</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
| Travel | 12,915 | 8,772 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 |
| Per Diem | 12,353 | 10,493 | 13,000 | 13,000 | 13,000 |
| | <u>25,268</u> | <u>19,265</u> | <u>28,000</u> | <u>28,000</u> | <u>28,000</u> |
| <u>PRINTING & STATIONERY</u> | | | | | |
| Chairman's Guide | - | 2,042 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Membership Forms | 5,951 | 6,483 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 7,000 |
| Early Bird Certificate | 1,537 | - | 400 | 400 | 400 |
| Eligibility Guide | 862 | - | 1,000 | - | 1,000 |
| Sluggish Dues Notice | 4,402 | - | - | 4,500 | - |
| Renewal Notices | 41,293 | 43,827 | - | - | - |
| News Letter | 952 | 1,015 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| RCL Welcomes You (booklet) | 6,862 | 9,553 | - | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Bookmarks | 1,370 | - | 2,000 | - | 2,000 |
| <u>POSTERS</u> | | | | | |
| Renewal x 2 | 1,219 | - | 2,000 | - | 2,000 |
| Early Bird/Snow Bird | 499 | 1,327 | - | 1,500 | - |
| <u>BROCHURES</u> | | | | | |
| The RCL & C.F. | - | - | 3,500 | - | 3,500 |
| The RCL & You | 6,073 | 4,540 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,500 |
| <u>NATIONAL ADVERTISING</u> | | | | | |
| Canvet Ads | 23,543 | 20,160 | 24,000 | 24,000 | 24,000 |
| Esprit de Corps | 4,229 | 4,770 | 5,500 | 5,500 | 5,500 |
| Airforce Magazine | 6,848 | 6,848 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 7,000 |
| Base Newspapers | - | 9,933 | 12,000 | 12,000 | 12,000 |
| Pension Cheque Insert | - | 7,600 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 7,000 |
| Misc Advertising | - | - | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| <u>OTHER</u> | | | | | |
| Postage | - | 10 | 500 | 250 | 250 |
| Telephone & Fax | 80 | 63 | 500 | 250 | 250 |
| Miscellaneous | <u>102</u> | <u>52</u> | <u>300</u> | <u>300</u> | <u>300</u> |
| | <u>131,090</u> | <u>137,488</u> | <u>110,700</u> | <u>117,700</u> | <u>120,200</u> |
| <u>PROGRAMS</u> | | | | | |
| + 5 Recruiter | 2,078 | - | - | - | - |
| MIRP | 22,336 | 2,000 | - | - | - |
| Military Recruiting Team | <u>8,712</u> | <u>7,662</u> | <u>15,000</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>164,216</u> | <u>147,150</u> | <u>125,700</u> | <u>117,700</u> | <u>120,200</u> |

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND DEFENCE COMMITTEE

| | | |
|------------------------|---|------------------|
| L. W. Cuppens | - | Chairman |
| D. H. Brown | - | Member |
| L. T. Rowbottom | - | Member |
| B.K. White | - | Secretary |

Introduction

The past two years since Halifax has been a busy period for your National Defence Committee. With the ever increasing demands made upon Canada's military and the ever decreasing budget allocations that they have been given, our Canadian Forces have been stretched to the limit in both personnel and resources. Your Committee's mandate, which originates from the Articles of Faith and which was amplified in the Long Term Plan, remains to advocate on behalf of a strong national defence force with proper equipment, training, and compensation of its personnel. It is within this mandate that your Committee has focussed its efforts.

Operation

The composition of the Committee has not changed in that there are four members, including the Secretary. All of these personnel are recent retirees, current in military affairs and representative collectively of the three services and all rank levels. The majority of the committee work is done by scheduling meetings in conjunction with other credible defence monitoring groups such as the Conference of Defence Associations. Throughout the year the remainder of committee business is conducted by phone, fax and electronic mail. Therefore, the Committee operates at a very small cost in relation to the work that is accomplished.

Activities with the Conference of Defence Associations (CDA)

The Legion is represented by your Committee at the Conference of Defence Associations. Of all the member organizations in this Association, the Legion is by far the single largest representative group. Your National Defence Committee Chairman represents the Legion at the CDA Council of 17 member associations which oversee the independent analysis of defence issues to be placed before the people of Canada and the framing of recommendations to promote the efficiency and well being of the Forces.

Annually the Conference of Defence Associations conducts two meetings, one in the Spring where they conduct the Annual General Meeting and Seminar, and one in the Fall where CDA's Council meets. These forums are important for keeping in touch and informed about activities both within the regular and reserve components of the military.

CDA has been relatively successful in the past two years of bringing defence issues analysis forward to the Canadian public. Their studies on combat capability and defence preparedness have been useful tools for understanding the current capability gaps in both personnel and material in today's military.

Activities with the Canadian Forces

Another means of staying connected is by direct interaction with senior defence officials. Over the past two years the Committee Chairman has had senior level meetings with the Chief of Defence Staff, the Vice and Deputy Chiefs of Staff, all three environmental Commanders, the Canadian Forces Chief Warrant Officer and other senior leaders at the National Defence Headquarters. These meetings are fundamental to the achievement of our mandate and have opened up many important avenues to discuss outstanding issues.

Committee members also comprised the Legion's Military Recruiting Team which has visited bases across Canada and briefed more than 1000 serving military personnel. While the aim of the briefings was to entice service personnel to join the Legion, they were also educational so that serving members may consider joining the Legion either during or after their service in uniform. We are emphasising the extended military family relationship between the CF and The Royal Canadian Legion as a basis upon which to build our future mutual relationship. The visitations to the bases had to be curtailed as a result of the events of 11 September 2001 and the CF participation in the "War on Terrorism".

The Committee Chairman is also a member of the Canadian Forces Advisory Council which has representatives from Veterans Affairs, Canadian Forces and various veterans' organizations. This Council is in the process of reviewing the continuum of service for veterans and Canadian Forces personnel to ensure that there is consistency of service provided to the client.

Another important method of communication has been the writing of letters in support of the CF. The Committee has been successful in drafting letters of support from the Dominion President to all Senators and Members of Parliament to advocate for their support of the recent Standing Committee on National Defence and Veterans Affairs report on the state of the CF and for increased funding. As well, a letter was provided to the Minister of National Defence following the visit of a Show Tour to one of the CF's contingents in Bosnia which urged the Minister to ensure that when the troops are deployed, they be properly kitted out with the latest issue of equipment and stores. Finally, with the support of the Defence Committee, the Dominion President sent a letter to the Prime Minister which called for the retraction of remarks that he made in December 2001 where he stated that those personnel who lobbied on behalf of the CF were arms merchants interested only in their own benefit. In each case the letters continue to support our serving personnel while urging the Canadian Government to increase their level of support for our military.

2002 Convention Resolutions

The Committee reviewed a total of 14 resolutions, two of which were initiated by the Committee, in preparation for Convention. The consideration of these resolutions will be dealt with later on in the convention business program.

Budget

For your information, a copy of the National Defence Committee budget for the period 2002-2004 follows this report. Delegates may raise any questions that they have concerning Committee expenses at this time, but any motion for changes to the budget document as relates to this Committee will have to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

Conclusion

Your National Defence Committee continues to raise defence issues and advocate on behalf of serving Canadians. Our approach to advocacy through letters and in conjunction with like-minded people and organizations such as the Conference of Defence Associations has brought defence issues into the media and to all Canadians. Additionally, our approaches to the senior leadership of the CF have enabled the Committee to keep abreast of defence issues both from a personnel and a resource perspective. We remain conscious of our mandate and are working for the betterment of our serving personnel as well as bringing credit and respect to The Royal Canadian Legion.

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION DOMINION COMMAND

COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2000 | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2001 | <u>2002</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> 2003 | <u>2004</u> |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Travel | 3,096 | 5,384 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Per Diem | 4,585 | 3,606 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Printing, Postage, Telephone | 480 | 559 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| CDA Annual Fee | <u>1,950</u> | <u>1,565</u> | <u>2,500</u> | <u>2,500</u> | <u>2,500</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>10,111</u> | <u>11,114</u> | <u>13,000</u> | <u>13,000</u> | <u>13,000</u> |

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND LEADERSHIP, DEVELOPMENT AND YOUTH COMMITTEE

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---|----------------------|
| | C. King | - | Chairman | | |
| | J. Frost | - | Vice-Chairman | | |
| | C. Dawe | - | Member | | |
| | B. Wilson | - | Member | | |
| A. Phillips | - | BC/Yukon | G. Leduc | - | Quebec |
| R. Charlet | - | Alberta/NWT | B. Wood | - | New Brunswick |
| E. Noble | - | Saskatchewan | R. MacRae | - | NS/NU |
| G. Tait | - | Manitoba/NWO | C. Brodersen | - | PEI |
| B. Abrams | - | Ontario | J. Molloy | - | Nfld/Lab |
| | | | B. White | - | Secretary |

Introduction

The Leadership, Development and Youth Committee is responsible for the development of leadership training initiatives to foster the training of current and future Legion leaders. During the past two years the Standing Committee met twice in October 2000 and September 2001 and the Committee of the Whole also met twice in January 2001 and January 2002.

The Protocol Manual

In August 2000, just following the Convention in Halifax, the Committee issued the Protocol Manual. This manual, to be used in conjunction with other Legion manuals, sets forth guidelines to be used when dealing with issues of protocol. The manual was distributed to all branches free of charge and is now a purchase item through the supply system. Updates to the manual will be published periodically as necessary. It is hoped that the manual has become a valuable reference book for the branches and for members.

Legion Officers' Development - Train the Trainer Program

As reported at the 38th Dominion Convention, the Committee had been working at developing a standardized training package which would provide training for our elected officers to a common level across the country. DEC subsequently agreed that such training was necessary but also agreed that it should rest as a responsibility of the individual Provincial Commands and should not be coordinated or managed by Dominion Command. As a result, this task will be assumed by the Provincial Commands and the Dominion Leadership, Development and Youth Committee will no longer be directly involved.

The Comradeship Award

The presentation of this award continues at the Canadian Forces Leadership and Recruit School in St Jean, QC. Since last convention, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Academy in Regina, SK was contacted and the award is now provided to a peer-selected recruit of each graduating troop. Both the military and RCMP recruits look favourably on this award which provides a plaque, Comradeship pin and a two-year subscription to Legion Magazine.

National Youth Program Initiative

As expressed in the Long Term Plan for the Legion, your Committee is starting to investigate a possible National Youth Program which would involve all levels of the Legion and all regions across Canada. The program would naturally be of benefit to the Youth of Canada but would also provide national recognition for the Legion while conforming to our objectives and aims. No program will be brought forward without a funding formula or the consent of Convention.

New Youth Brochure

In 2001 the Committee produced a new bilingual and updated Youth Brochure which replaces both the English and French brochures which were produced more than 10 years ago.

The 2001 Youth Leaders' Pilgrimage of Remembrance

The 2001 Pilgrimage of Remembrance was held during the period 5 - 19 July 2001. All provincial commands, except one, were represented and there was one pilgrim from Iqaluit, Nunavut. In total there were 23 pilgrims, two of which were WWII veterans, who made the voyage. While the numbers are down from 1999, it is believed that the reason for the decline in participation was the outbreak of the Foot and Mouth disease which affected all the countries visited on this trip.

The schedule for the pilgrimage was altered this year to allow for more time being spent in each location. This worked well for the pilgrims in that they did not have to check in and out of hotels on a daily basis. All the major sites which were visited on previous pilgrimages were once again visited with the addition of a few other sites from WWI. Overwhelmingly pilgrims indicated that the visits to Vimy Ridge, Beaumont Hamel, Menin Gate, Dieppe and the Normandy beaches were the highlights of the tour.

In reviewing the pilgrimage the Committee reaffirmed its support for the pilgrimage and its desire to continue the trips every second year. The pilgrimage is a valuable educational tool for our youth leaders and provides them with first hand knowledge to educate youth groups and their communities in Canada. In reaffirming their support of the pilgrimages, the Committee also agreed that the main focus for the pilgrimages should remain on the youth leaders. These youth leaders are picking up the Torch and perpetuating Remembrance within their communities and it is important they understand the sacrifices that were made for them. It is an emotional experience for many of them and one that they will not soon forget.

A matter which the Committee addressed was the involvement of paying participants in the pilgrimage. The experiences and knowledge that veterans pass on to the pilgrims is invaluable. However, the number of veterans on the pilgrimage has declined in recent years. For health reasons, paying participants on future pilgrimages will be encouraged to have an attendant with them in the event that they become sick and require medical attention. They will also be informed that the program will continue even while they are being provided with medical care for there condition. It will then become a personal responsibility to either rejoin the pilgrimage or return to Canada. While it is hoped that this will not dissuade veterans or other paying participants from participating in the pilgrimage, the Legion cannot provide medical care personnel on the pilgrimage. This same policy will be in effect for all pilgrims on the trip.

The Cadet Medal of Excellence

The Cadet Medal of Excellence program continued to function well. Recent statistics show that more than 600 medals are awarded annually through Provincial Commands.

The Cadet Marksmanship Competition

The Legion continues to support the annual Cadet Marksmanship Competition. The spotting scopes and stands provided to each winning team in the small bore and air rifle categories is a popular award and provides the teams with much needed equipment.

Bursaries and Scholarships

In both 2001 and 2002, Dominion Command provided \$16,000 in bursary and scholarship funds to seven Provincial Commands which needed assistance in this area. British Columbia/Yukon, Alberta/Northwest Territories and Ontario Commands fund a bursary program from within their own resources.

Poster and Literary Contests

The Poster and Literary Contests continued to be well received with the youth of Canada. Annually the winners at the Senior level represented the Youth of Canada at the National Remembrance Day Ceremony in Ottawa. Statistics now indicate that more than 65,000 students participate annually in these contests.

2002 Convention Resolutions

The Committee reviewed a total of ten resolutions in preparation for Convention. The consideration of these resolutions will be dealt with later on in the convention business program.

Budget

For your information, a copy of the Leadership Development and Youth Committee budget for the period 2002-2004 follows this report. Delegates may raise any questions that they have concerning Committee expenses at this time, but any motion for changes to the budget document as relates to this Committee will have to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

Conclusion

Your Leadership Development and Youth Committee has had a busy two years. The main focus of the Committee has been on the requirement for a training program for elected officers. Although this program was not approved, it has brought forward the need for the training of our elected officers and hopefully this will remain in focus for the foreseeable future.

The Committee continues to administer and monitor the various programs under its mandate. These programs are running well and have received wide acceptance across Canada. Legion branches are to be commended for their efforts in supporting Cadets and youth programs in their communities as this is where these programs make a difference and gain recognition for the Legion. The Poster Essay and Literary Contests remain a major program whereby we can foster and perpetuate Remembrance to our youth and which provides them with an artistic vehicle to express their gratitude to our veterans.

The Committee looks forward to continuing the successes of the past two years, to expanding our existing programs through increased participation and to the serving all of you in the future.

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
DOMINION COMMAND**

LEADERSHIP, DEVELOPMENT AND YOUTH COMMITTEE

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
| Travel | 14,300 | 13,130 | 21,000 | 21,000 | 21,000 |
| Per Diem | 8,492 | 9,155 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Telephone & Fax | 283 | 367 | 300 | 300 | 300 |
| Postage, Printing & Stationery | 186 | 1,005 | 400 | 400 | 400 |
| Web Site | - | - | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 |
| Translation | 294 | 154 | 200 | 200 | 200 |
| Protocol Manual | 3,919 | - | 3,000 | - | - |
| Youth Brochure | - | <u>7,975</u> | - | - | - |
| SUB-TOTAL | 27,474 | 31,786 | 37,400 | 34,400 | 34,400 |
| <u>PROGRAMS</u> | | | | | |
| Cadet Marksmanship Award | 900 | 500 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Pilgrimage | 35,000 | 47,248 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| Comradeship Awards | <u>3,300</u> | <u>2,584</u> | <u>2,500</u> | <u>2,500</u> | <u>2,500</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>66,674</u> | <u>82,118</u> | <u>80,900</u> | <u>77,900</u> | <u>77,900</u> |

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|---|
| | W. Edmond | - | Chairman |
| | P. Varga | - | Vice-Chairman |
| | B. Alcorn | - | Member |
| | G. Moore | - | Member |
| G. Vowles | - | BC/Yukon | H. Shevalier - Alberta/NWT |
| B. Burns | - | Saskatchewan | B. Wilson - Manitoba/NWO |
| H. Campbell | - | Ontario | I. Robertson - Quebec |
| H. Harper | - | New Brunswick | S. Wessel - Nova Scotia/Nunavut |
| C. Phillips | - | P.E.I. | J. O'Grady - Nfld/Labrador |
| R. Butt | - | Secretary | M. Steers - Asst/Secretary |

Introduction

The Dominion Command Public Relations Committee of the Whole has met twice since the 2000 Dominion Convention. This report summarizes the Committee's activities over that period and introduces our plan and budget for the next two years. The past two years have been ones of extreme activity with plans developed and initiated in support of numerous committees, Provincial Commands and the branches.

General

The Public Relations program for the Legion is run on a two-year cycle with budgeted plans accepted by Dominion Convention being the basis for our work until the next Convention. I am pleased to advise you that this Committee has accomplished the goals set in 2000 within the budgets allocated. Our plan for the next two years is to continue with the proven elements of past plans while developing new elements that should continue to make our Public Relations efforts even more effective and efficient.

Project Report

The following projects were completed during the past two years:

- a. **The Preparation and Distribution of a Combined PR and Public Speaking Manual** - The manual was completed and copies forwarded to each branch and provincial command. The manual is designed to help branches and members at all levels conduct effective PR plans while also preparing them to speak about the Legion in a professional and effective manner.
- b. **The Preparation and Distribution of Speakers Notes and Briefing Packages** - The pocket-sized Speakers Notes packages were updated and provided to provincial commands and branches to act as quick reference notes for those called upon to speak formally or informally on the Legion.
- c. **Maintenance of an Effective Web Site** - During the period of this report, the content of the Legion web site again increased due to demands that more information be available on-line. Since the last Convention we have had more than 300,000 visitors to our web site which generated more than 6,000 requests for information via its automatic e-mail capability. The new site introduced in December 2001 continues to be upgraded with more features added each month. Soon this will

include access to manuals in a read only format and forms that you will be able to download, and eventually, submit electronically. We have developed a national protocol and assisted provincial commands in the development of their sites. We have received very few minor negative responses to the site and, having used comments we received, we are now also proceeding with a plan to use it as a communications centre by starting a Legion E-mail system for internal communications.

- d. **Branch Survey** - A branch survey was conducted in September 2001 and 27 per cent of our branches responded with enough data to build a reasonable profile of the Legion, the basis for our external and internal information products. This biennial survey again incorporated extra questions for three provincial commands and the completed data provided to them to create their own profiles. It is our intention to keep doing these surveys on a two-year cycle.
- e. **News Analysis** - Through our ability to keep track of Legion related stories in the media we have been able to discern that we are getting the positive coverage we deserve. There was very good coverage of our anniversary events locally and nationally. As well, we have been able to track stories that we have placed with the goal of crystalizing and even changing public opinion on issues of importance to the organization.
- f. **Training** - The Committee again offered training sessions to provincial commands on media awareness and public relations as it applies to our branches. A number of commands took advantage of this training and the reports on its effectiveness and value were very good. The training is very flexible in regard to timings and can be arranged through Dominion Command for groups of any size or interest from PR officers at a group of branches to major executive groups. In a budget containment effort we have reduced the funds that have been allocated for travel and per diem for the trainers and those requesting the training will have to pay part of the costs incurred.
- g. **Support to Other Committees and Programs** - The following major support functions were completed during the reporting period;
 - i. **Legion Dominion Command National Track and Field Championships** - Each meet continued to have a PR specialist on site to handle local media and to provide information to media on a national basis. Results were again available on the Internet and later supported by captioned photos stored electronically.
 - ii. **The 2 Minute Wave of Silence** - This highly visible campaign was supported by Dominion Command through the provision of materials to assist in its promotion. With the efforts of the branches it achieved its goals.
 - iii. **75th Anniversary** - The PR Committee continued to work closely with this Committee and provided them with the advice and support they needed to attain their goals.
 - iv. **Radio and Television Public Service Announcements** - We continued our program of producing radio public service announcements during the past two years with two groups of ads being produced and sent to over 600 radio stations across Canada with a request for free broadcast time. The ads have covered membership in the Legion, our youth programs and our services to veterans as well as the Wave of Silence. We continued our productions for television in support of the Poppy Campaign, the Wave of Silence and membership as well. All radio and TV production was done in-house for one-quarter of the cost of outside production and have netted us more than 3.2 million dollars in free air time for less than \$30,000 since the last Convention.
- h. **Sponsorship** - We continued with the three sponsorship roles in support of our Canadian Forces and Police Forces deployed out of Canada on international missions. Our support for the

entertainment shows sent to entertain our troops was not only welcomed and appreciated by the troops, but contributed significantly to their well being and morale. This has been witnessed by the members of the Sub-Executive that have been able to visit with them at the military's expense as part of tours to Eritrea and Bosnia. Our support of the military's national sports program has been equally recognized and we continued to participate in the military's Operation Santa Claus as well, even meeting an increased demand last year without having to ask for extra funds. This saw every deployed serviceperson receive the gift of a Legion 75th anniversary coffee mug for Christmas 2000 and a Legion water bottle and plastic key case for Christmas 2001. Through these programs they know we care. And while some of them are legionnaires already, many more have been brought into the Legion fold because they know we care.

- i. **PR Committee** - A report submitted to the Committee on the actual requirement for a PR Committee of the Whole at Dominion Command, and based on cost containment, stated that there was no need for the Committee as it stood and that public relations decisions at Dominion Command should be the purview of the Sub-Executive Committee based on professional advice, which would be reviewed by a small Standing Committee, and then submitted to Sub-Executive. The rationale was that one training meeting of command representatives every two years, combined with on-site training for provincial executives, briefings to Dominion Command committees and the good passage of information and materials would be just as, or more effective than the way things are done now. The majority of Committee members did not accept the recommendations put forward and voted to maintain the status quo.

The Plan - 2002 to 2004

While we were achieving these goals we were also planning for the next two years. As I mentioned earlier, it is our intent to carry on with that which has been successful for the Legion. Thus the basis of our plan for the next two years mirrors the past and includes the following current and new projects:

- a. **Committee Support** - The Committee will continue to support the initiatives of the other Dominion Command committees as required. This includes the development of plans and the production of products such as radio/ television PSAs and print materials for Membership, Remembrance and Poppy, Sports and Veterans Services.
- b. **Provincial Command and Branch Support** - The Committee will continue to review and update its current products to ensure they are timely and effective. The provision of speech material for special events will continue as will the provision of notes for speakers, but these will be delivered in a cheaper format. As a result of an effort to standardize our visual materials across the Legion, ready to print ads for branch programs will continue to be updated and distributed along with a new, ready to print Legion logo and "Legion Look". We are going to make material more available in an electronic format to meet the changing needs of the media and printing industries. We will continue to provide training resources, as requested by commands on a cost sharing basis, and we will continue to assist the provincial commands with their Internet initiatives.
- c. **Research** - In order to ensure we have an accurate profile of ourselves to present to the public we will continue with the branch surveys every two years as well as assisting the provincial commands in gathering the information they need. To ensure we know how the public sees us we will continue to run general polls as required to monitor any changes in the public's perception of us. We will also continue our media analysis, but at a lesser cost and in-house, to see what the Canadian public is reading and hearing about us and to identify issues that will require our attention. We are introducing one new tool for research and that is random polling of Legion members to ascertain their opinions on issues and Legion problems. We feel this will give us a better base from which to devise plans and solutions to them.

- d. **Internal Communication** - The Committee plans to review its Internet site on a regular basis to ensure timely information is provided, and to react to the requests of members, branches, provincial commands and the general public, where possible, to make the site more effective and useful. A major innovation to be introduced during the next two years will be the initiation of a Legion-wide, Internet-based E-mail system. We call it E-Legion. Our plan in the short term is to get as many e-mail addresses for branches together as possible and start to communicate electronically. In the long term it is to actually set up, on our web site, an e-mail post box for every branch and ultimately every major official at all levels of the Legion. This, comrades, is the way of the future and we are going to spend some money to set it up, maintain it and improve on it. To keep the costs down we are now stopping the production and distribution of Reveille. Communication with branches will be done by regular mail or e-mail depending what you have available to you. The faster a branch has an e-mail address, in the facility or in someone's home, the faster we will save money.
- e. **External Communication** - The Committee will continue to take every opportunity possible to educate the general public and specific targeted audiences on our purposes, objects, programs and projects through a speakers' program, the use of appropriate media where necessary and the continued provision of timely and accurate information on the Legion when requested. We will continue to monitor the media to identify new issues of interest to us while tracking those with which we are already involved.
- f. **Sponsorship** - The nature of our support to members of the Canadian Forces came up for review during our planning. Prior to our plan formation we were given a tentative proposal by the Canadian Forces Personnel Support Agency showing they were looking for sponsorship packages of \$100,000 or more. This led us to believe that we would become very minor players in this area indeed as this type of funding would simply not be available. I asked for a meeting with the Agency to discuss our current package in light of the tentative proposal. At a meeting held in September I learned that the Legion was not only appreciated as a primary and long-term sponsor for show tours, sports and Operation Santa Claus but that the military wanted to hold on to that relationship as long as possible because we are their extended family. Based on discussions a proposal was made to the Legion which asks for \$75,000 a year in support of our troops with the Legion continuing its sponsorship of the show tours, the sports championships and Operation Santa Claus. In return the Legion would be given increased exposure at all sponsored events. This is an increase of \$33,000 over what we have spent in the past. It should be noted here that other sponsors are being asked for much more money for individual event sponsorships. We are the only group that is being given the opportunity to stay involved with these programs for this kind of money. The support agency made that very clear. The Legion is important to the military in more ways than one, but this is another way of increasing the visibility that we have developed to date. Support for Canadian Forces morale is something the Legion has been involved in for a long time. We got away from it for a couple of years but we were needed again and got back into this type of program. It is a program that is covered in our purposes and objectives as the type of thing we should be doing.
- g. **Budget** - For your information a copy of the PR Committee budget for the period 2002 to 2004 follows this report. Delegates may raise any questions that they have concerning Committee expenses at this time, but any motion for changes to the budget document as relates to this Committee will have to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

Conclusion

The Public Relations Committee has worked hard over the past two years to attain the goals set by you. The products have been delivered and the public is learning more about us every year through the efforts at the branch and command levels that we support. Together, in the past two years, we believe we have

achieved over 8.5 million dollars worth of public exposure. That is a great return on our small investment and we can all be proud of it . But we must not lose what has taken time to establish. We must continue to maintain our place in the community and the nation. In closing I would like to take this opportunity to thank my Committee members for their dedication and commitment to this task. Their achievements speak for themselves but they would be impossible without the work you do in the community. So I thank you as well as we start on a new century of achievement through effective communication.

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION DOMINION COMMAND
PUBLIC RELATIONS**

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
| <u>DIRECT EXPENSES</u> | | | | | |
| Travel | 9,746 | 11,380 | 18,000 | 18,000 | 18,000 |
| Per Diem | 11,380 | 9,682 | 11,000 | 11,000 | 11,000 |
| Printing, Stationery | 1,367 | 880 | 2,000 | 2,200 | 2,400 |
| Telephone | 371 | 561 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Postage | 667 | 4,041 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 |
| Translation & Proofreading | 4,718 | 1,673 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| Miscellaneous | <u>967</u> | <u>1,150</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| SUB-TOTAL | 29,216 | 29,367 | 38,000 | 38,200 | 38,400 |
| <u>PR SECTION</u> | | | | | |
| <u>Internal</u> | | | | | |
| Legion Wide Internet | 9,592 | 4,876 | 45,000 | 28,000 | 28,000 |
| Backgrounders | - | - | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Speakers | 12,941 | - | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Posters/ brochures | - | - | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Research | 4,381 | - | 5,000 | 10,000 | 5,000 |
| Manuals | <u>1,932</u> | <u>2,756</u> | <u>1,000</u> | <u>1,000</u> | <u>1,000</u> |
| SUB-TOTAL | 28,846 | 7,632 | 71,000 | 59,000 | 54,000 |
| <u>External</u> | | | | | |
| Media Monitoring | 9,469 | 7,062 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,500 |
| Media Distribution | 3,702 | 3,855 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Training/Liaison - Per Diem | 2,223 | 3,061 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| - Travel | 1,568 | 3,291 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| PSA's | 7,179 | 27,264 | 12,000 | 12,000 | 12,000 |
| Advertising | 7,153 | 10,443 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 |
| Sponsorship | | | | | |
| -CF Morale Program | 32,918 | 32,151 | 65,000 | 65,000 | 65,000 |
| -Op Santa Claus | 8,137 | 16,285 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| -Nijmegen/Optional | - | - | 5,000 | - | - |
| Other | 10,000 | - | - | - | - |
| Identity | 3,478 | 12,517 | 10,000 | - | - |
| Research | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>12,000</u> | <u>12,000</u> | <u>12,000</u> |
| SUB-TOTAL | 85,827 | 115,929 | 149,000 | 134,000 | 134,500 |
| TOTAL | <u>143,889</u> | <u>152,928</u> | <u>258,000</u> | <u>231,200</u> | <u>226,900</u> |
| <u>ASSOCIATED EXPENSES - Admin (not part of PR budget)</u> | | | | | |
| Reveille | <u>36,977</u> | <u>26,425</u> | | | |

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND SPORTS COMMITTEE

| | | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|---|-------------|
| | M. Burdett | - | Chairman | | |
| | J. Davis | - | Vice-Chairman | | |
| | L. Washburn | - | Member | | |
| | E. Kish | - | Member | | |
| G. Stagg | - | B.C./Yukon | R. Greenlees | - | Québec |
| D. Orr | - | Alberta/NWT | C. Roberts | - | NB |
| F. Simpson | - | Saskatchewan | F. Mombourquette | - | NS |
| R. Oakley | - | Manitoba/NWO | J. MacEachern | - | PEI |
| D. Paterson | - | Ontario | J.T. Kennedy | - | Nfld/Lab |
| K. Mackarous | - | Secretary | B. Aguinaga | - | A/Secretary |

2001 Dominion Sport Championships

All commands participated in the Curling, Cribbage and Darts Championships. The following is a brief summary:

Regular Curling Host - Branch 005, Summerside, P.E.I. Command

First Place

Branch 044, Rouleau
Saskatchewan Command

Second Place

Branch 010, Sherbrooke
Quebec Command

Senior Curling Host - Branch 035, Stephenville, Newfoundland/Labrador Command

First Place

Branch 001, Regina
Saskatchewan Command

Second Place

Branch 262, Elmvale
Ontario Command

Cribbage Host - Branch 098, Kingston, Nova Scotia Command

First Place

Team: Branch 265, Aldergrove
Pacific Command

Second Place

Branch 150, Strathcona
Alberta-NWT Command

Doubles: Branch 054, Buckingham
Quebec Command

Branch 019, The Pas
Manitoba/NWO Command

Singles: Branch 150, Strathcona
Alberta-NWT Command

Branch 053, Jervis Bay
New Brunswick Command

Darts Host - Branch 006, Moncton, New Brunswick Command

First Place

Team: Branch 099, Belleville
Ontario Command

Second Place

Branch 093, Oromocto
New Brunswick Command

Doubles: Branch 058, Kennebecasis
New Brunswick Command

Branch 212, LaSalle
Quebec Command

Singles: Branch 229, Elora
Ontario Command

Branch 021, Langley
Pacific Command

2002 Dominion Member Sport Championships

The following is a brief summary of the 2002 Dominion Curling, Cribbage and Darts Championships and all Provincial Commands participated:

Regular Curling Host - Branch 115, Hudson, Quebec Command

First Place

Branch 010, Sherbrooke
Quebec Command

Second Place

Branch 001, Middleton
Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command

Senior Curling Host - Branch 176, Forest, Ontario Command

First Place

Branch 096, Merritt
B.C./Yukon Command

Second Place

Branch 262, Elmvale
Ontario Command

Cribbage Host - Branch 251, Laval, Quebec Command

First Place

Team - Branch 049, Arrowsmith
B.C./Yukon Command

Second Place

Branch 011, Channel
Nfld/Lab Command

Doubles - Branch 107, Chase
B.C./Yukon Command

Branch 365, Coleville
Saskatchewan Command

Singles - Branch 150, Strathcona
Alberta-NWT Command

Branch 070, North Battleford
Saskatchewan Command

Darts Host - Branch 004, Winnipeg, Manitoba/NWO Command

First Place

Team - Branch 011, Channel
Newfoundland/Labrador Command

Second Place

Branch 093, Oromocto
New Brunswick Command

Darts Host - Branch 004, Winnipeg, Man/NWO Command (Cont'd)

Doubles - Branch 154, Ogden
Alberta-NWT Command

Branch 011, Channel
Nfld/Labrador Command

Singles - Branch 021, Langley
British Columbia/Yukon Command

Branch 229, Elora
Ontario Command

2003 Dominion Member Sport Championships

- a. **Event Dates** - The 2003 championships will be held in the Western Region (B.C./Yukon, Alberta-NWT, Saskatchewan Commands) as follows:

Regular Curling - Ogden Branch No. 154, Calgary, Alberta-NWT Command, 22-29 March;

Senior Curling - Ogden Branch No. 154, Calgary, Alberta-NWT Command, 22-29 March;

Cribbage - Abbotsford Branch No. 015, Abbotsford, B.C./Yukon Command, 25-28 April; and

Darts - Nutana Branch No. 362, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Command, 16-19 May.

Ogden branch is more than capable of hosting both the regular and senior curling events simultaneously. Their own 8-sheet curling rink is part of their branch and there are three hotels within 5kms of the branch that can accommodate all participants. It must be emphasized that this simultaneous hosting will not set a precedent for the curling events to be held together in the future.

Cost Reduction and Containment

In an effort to reduce all budgets and expenditures, the Sports Committee, along with other Dominion Command committees, had been tasked by Dominion Executive Council to seek ways to reduce and contain costs of the Sports Program. In order to accomplish this task it was necessary to consider reductions to air travel costs. At the meeting of the Dominion Executive Council in February 2002, the recommendation to reduce the Dominion Command air fare subsidy from 50 per cent of four economy fares to the lowest available seat saver airfares was endorsed. In addition, an administrative fee in the amount of \$1000 per member sport event will be provided to each Provincial Command. This change will be implemented commencing in 2003 and is fully supported by the Sports Committee of the Whole.

Military Member-at-Large Program

Military Members-at-Large who "transfer" their membership from the Dominion holding branch (015) to an active Legion branch of their choice are interested in playing branch sports but are concerned that the transfer rule would apply. Imposing this penalty would certainly defeat the purpose of encouraging military members to join the Legion.

The transfer regulations, as specified in the Dominion Sports Guide do not apply to Military Members-at-Large when they become a member of the 1st Legion branch after belonging to Dominion Branch 015.

General By-Laws, Sections 101(3) and 1203(4)

In order to clarify Section 1203(4) of The General By-Laws, it has been amended to read: A member in arrears as of January 31st of that year is not in good standing for any purpose. Once the yearly membership dues have been paid, the member is considered to be "in good standing". (The bracketed information "including participation in sporting activities" is to be deleted from this section.)

Sports Guide - 2001 Edition

The 2001 Edition of the Sports Guide was printed and distributed to all branches in February 2001. Copies are available for purchase, in both English and French, through the Dominion Command Supply Department at a cost of \$3.00 each.

Legion National Track and Field Program - Abuse and Harassment Policy

The Sports Committee has developed an Abuse and Harassment Policy for annual implementation at the Legion's National Track and Field Championships. Our liability for the security and care of athletes begins with who we select as our volunteers and how they are selected. All persons in a position of responsibility will be subjected to a multi-step screening policy, which includes a mandatory CPIC (police) check to ensure that the person does not carry a record.

Legion National Track and Field Championships

- a. **2000:** The 2000 Legion National Track and Field Championships took place from August 10-17 in Calgary, Alberta. The weather was mostly sunny and warm and the championships were enjoyed by all. The total attendance was 392 people: 328 Athletes, 36 Chaperones, 26 Coaches representing all ten commands, plus two Head Chaperones. Six new meet records were set with four being in the field events, one in the track events and one in the Boys Heptathlon event. The total cost of the Championships was \$ 297,000 prior to the deduction of the provincial portion of \$ 82,500. We were fortunate to have had two former Legion athletes participate in the event. Michael Smith, a world-known decathlete and a six time Legion athlete and Diane Jones Konihowski, a heptathlete and a three-time Legion athlete.
- b. **2001:** The 2001 Legion National Track and Field Championships took place from August 9-16 in Sherbrooke, Quebec. The weather was very hot and sunny throughout the week and the championships were enjoyed by all. The total attendance was 382 people: 321 Athletes, 34 Chaperones, 25 Coaches representing all ten commands, plus two Head Chaperones. Two athletes were sent home for violating the rules and regulations, while one athlete went home due to medical circumstances. Seven new meet records were set with six being in the field events and one in the track events, while one long-standing track record from 1983 was tied. The total cost of the 2001 championships was \$ 298,713 and the Provincial Command share totalled \$ 71,228.
- c. **2002:** Although Sherbrooke was the official host for 2001, they also expressed their interest in hosting the 2002 Championships. The year 2002 marks the City of Sherbrooke's 200th Anniversary. The dates are August 15-22 and the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec has already confirmed her attendance, while initial confirmation has been received from a high profile athlete.

The World Youth Championships (WYC), an international event for athletes in the 17 and under age group, takes place every second year, in the odd year. The 2003 event has been awarded to Sherbrooke. Jean-Guy Ouellette is the new Chairman of the Board of Athletics Canada (the highest volunteer position in the organization) and a strong supporter of the Legion's track and field program. He is currently investigating the possibility that Athletics Canada will be able to identify a number of athletes who would qualify for the World Youth Games based on their performance at

and a selection criteria from the Legion Nationals. It is hoped that the Legion Nationals in the year prior to the WYC will become the standard selection meet for this international event.

The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for the 2003 WYC will be in place this summer in Sherbrooke and will be organizing our group's airport arrival/departure, as well as running the two day competition as a test run for the following year.

At a number of Legion Nationals, some inconsistencies have occurred during the two-day track meet. A goal of the Legion event is to prepare athletes for junior, senior, national and international level competition by coordinating and running specific aspects of the event as they are coordinated at the higher levels. Comrade LeRoy Washburn is on the Sports Committee as the track and field expert and he is an internationally certified Level 5 Official. With his background and involvement in track and field from his Legion and international experience, he is well aware of the requirements to run a successful competition. Comrade Washburn has been named the Legion's Technical Coordinator responsible to oversee the two-day track and field competition and clinics.

- d. **2003:** Ontario Command and the City of Kitchener/Waterloo have been accepted as the host site for the 2003 Championships (using the University of Waterloo campus). The Kitchener/Waterloo Local Arrangements Committee has been having regular meetings and are well on their way to organizing a successful championship. Dominion Command will be inviting the 2003 LAC Chairman to attend the 2002 event and numerous other LAC members will be attending the event at their own expense.
- e. **2004 and 2005:** B.C./Yukon and Alberta-NWT Commands have been approved as hosts for the 2004 and 2005 Championships respectively. B.C./Yukon's host university will be Simon Fraser University which is located in Vancouver, while Alberta-NWT will be using some of the new facilities in place from the 2001 World Championships in Edmonton.

Legion National Track & Field Championships - French Translation

The translation of the Legion National Track and Field Championships was "Les championnats nationaux de piste et pelouse de la Légion", however, it was brought to our attention that this terminology was not current. Since the most current French translation of track and field, used nationally and internationally is "athlétisme", action was taken to change the title to "Les championnats nationaux d'athlétisme de la Légion".

Sponsorship

The issue of securing National Sponsors for the Legion's National Track and Field Program is a major focus for the committee. This is not only to help offset overall costs, but to gain some national exposure for this most worthwhile program.

Financial Support re: Legion National Track & Field Championships

A request was sent to Denis Coderre, Secretary of State for Amateur Sport requesting that the Legion's National Track & Field Program be considered for subsidization by the Federal Government. Subsequent to discussions that took place between Mr. Coderre and Comrade Burdett at the World Track & Field Championships in Edmonton in August, an initial and positive response has been received from Mr. Coderre's office stating that our program is currently under review. As a result of the Cabinet Shuffle, our request was resent to Paul DeVillers, the new Secretary of State for Amateur Sport. It is anticipated that further discussions with Senior Officials from the new Minister's office will occur in the near future.

Dominion Convention Resolutions

The Sports Committee considered four resolutions of which one was concurred and three were non-concurred and one resolution was generated by the Dominion Sports Committee on the awarding of prizes to the 5th player on a winning team at a Dominion Curling Championship.

Committee Budget - 2002, 2003 and 2004

For your information, a copy of the Sports Committee's Regular Curling, Senior Curling, Cribbage, Darts, Track and Field and Committee budgets for the period 2002-2004 are attached to this report. Delegates may raise any questions that they have concerning Committee expenses at this time, but any motion for changes to the budget document as relates to this committee will have to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of the Committee for their enthusiasm and support during the past two years.

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
DOMINION COMMAND
SPORTS COMMITTEE**

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
| <u>COMMITTEE</u> | | | | | |
| Travel | 17,681 | 15,480 | 26,000 | 26,000 | 26,000 |
| Per Diem | 12,005 | 12,646 | 12,000 | 12,000 | 12,000 |
| T & F LAC - Calgary | 1,101 | - | - | - | - |
| - Sherbrooke | - | 3,113 | 10,000 | - | - |
| - Kitchener | - | - | - | 3,000 | - |
| - Edmonton | - | - | - | - | 6,000 |
| - Misc. | - | 18 | - | - | - |
| Printing & Stationery | 316 | 4,483 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Telephone & Fax | 727 | 555 | 800 | 800 | 800 |
| Postage | - | 718 | 200 | 200 | 200 |
| Competitors Pins | - | 6,438 | - | - | - |
| Translation | <u>1,701</u> | <u>854</u> | <u>800</u> | <u>800</u> | <u>800</u> |
| Total Committee | <u>33,531</u> | <u>44,305</u> | <u>50,800</u> | <u>43,800</u> | <u>46,800</u> |

| <u>REGULAR CURLING</u> | Nipawin Sask | Summerside | Hudson Que | Calgary | East |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Travel | 38,144 | 35,954 | 37,000 | 50,000 | 39,000 |
| Chair & Secretary Travel | 570 | 1,958 | 3,100 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Chair, Secretary Per Diem | 2,490 | 876 | 1,500 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| P & S, Postage, Telephone | 172 | - | - | - | - |
| Awards & Prizes | 1,050 | 1,907 | 1,700 | 1,700 | 1,700 |
| Entertainment | 175 | 190 | 300 | 300 | 300 |
| Ground Transportation | 500 | 1,500 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Advance to Host Branch | <u>3,000</u> | <u>1,667</u> | <u>2,000</u> | <u>2,000</u> | <u>2,000</u> |
| Legion Curling | <u>46,101</u> | <u>44,052</u> | <u>46,600</u> | <u>58,000</u> | <u>47,000</u> |

| SENIORS CURLING: | Spruce Grove | Stephenville | Forest Ont | Calgary | East |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Travel | 44,274 | 43,725 | 40,000 | 50,000 | 39,000 |
| Chair & Secretary Travel | 643 | 2,143 | 3,100 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Chair, Secretary Per Diem | 1,500 | 1,236 | 1,500 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| P & S, Postage, Telephone | 175 | - | - | - | - |
| Awards & Prizes | 945 | 2,063 | 1,700 | 1,700 | 1,700 |
| Entertainment | - | 221 | 300 | 300 | 300 |
| Advance to Host Branch | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Ground Transportation | <u>1,000</u> | <u>971</u> | <u>1,000</u> | <u>1,000</u> | <u>1,000</u> |
| Seniors Curling | <u>50,537</u> | <u>52,360</u> | <u>49,600</u> | <u>58,000</u> | <u>47,000</u> |

SPORTS COMMITTEE

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2000 | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2001 | <u>BUDGET</u> | | |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
| <u>DARTS</u> | | | | | |
| | Ponoka | Moncton | Winnipeg | Saskatoon | |
| Travel | 44,274 | 34,180 | 40,500 | 43,000 | 39,000 |
| Chair, Secretary Travel | 607 | 20 | 2,900 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Chair, Secretary Per Diem | 688 | 805 | 1,100 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| P & S, Postage, Telephone | 79 | - | - | - | - |
| Awards & Prizes | 1,486 | 2,552 | 2,200 | 2,200 | 2,200 |
| Entertainment | 75 | 75 | 200 | 200 | 200 |
| Advance to Host Branch | - | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 |
| Ground Transportation | <u>500</u> | <u>1,000</u> | <u>1,000</u> | <u>1,000</u> | <u>1,000</u> |
| Total Darts | <u>47,709</u> | <u>39,032</u> | <u>48,300</u> | <u>49,800</u> | <u>45,800</u> |
| | | | | | |
| <u>CRIBBAGE</u> | | | | | |
| | Calgary | Kingston NS | Laval Que | Abbotsford | East |
| Travel | 44,274 | 37,154 | 37,000 | 58,000 | 39,000 |
| Chair & Secretary Travel | 1,222 | 488 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Chair, Secretary Per Diem | 798 | 766 | 1,100 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| P & S, Postage, Telephone | 61 | - | - | - | - |
| Awards & Prizes | 1,615 | 2,923 | 2,200 | 2,200 | 2,200 |
| Advance to Host Branch | - | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 |
| Entertainment | 193 | 206 | 200 | 200 | 200 |
| Ground Transportation | <u>500</u> | <u>1,500</u> | <u>1,000</u> | <u>1,000</u> | <u>1,000</u> |
| Total Cribbage | <u>48,663</u> | <u>43,437</u> | <u>43,900</u> | <u>64,800</u> | <u>45,800</u> |
| | | | | | |
| TOTAL MEMBER SPORTS | <u>193,010</u> | <u>178,881</u> | <u>188,400</u> | <u>230,600</u> | <u>185,600</u> |
| | | | | | |
| TOTAL T & F (from pg 8 C) | 214,312 | 235,365 | 259,600 | 249,900 | 288,200 |
| | | | | | |
| TOTAL SPORTS & COMMITTEE | <u>440,853</u> | <u>458,551</u> | <u>498,800</u> | <u>524,300</u> | <u>520,600</u> |

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
DOMINION COMMAND**

NATIONAL TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | 2000 Calgary | 2001 Sherbrooke | 2002 Sherbrooke | 2003 Kitchener | 2004 Edmonton |
| Air Transportation | 182,021 | 134,978 | 158,300 | 161,200 | 216,300 |
| Accommodation, Meals | 75,950 | 118,685 | 111,200 | 117,600 | 112,000 |
| Camp Costs | - | 21,392 | 22,400 | - | - |
| Committee-Travel | 5,320 | 4,448 | 9,900 | 3,800 | 9,600 |
| -Per Diem | 7,235 | 8,280 | 12,600 | 11,300 | 13,300 |
| Local Committee | - | 3,074 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Kits/Supply/Medals | 11,890 | 2,609 | 3,000 | 7,000 | 7,000 |
| Local Buses | - | 4,706 | 8,000 | 10,000 | 5,000 |
| Honoraria | 1,300 | 2,100 | 1,300 | 1,400 | 1,400 |
| Insurance | 837 | - | - | - | - |
| Reception | 882 | 867 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Facilities | 2,696 | - | - | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Medical | 500 | 33 | - | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| Equipment/mtg rooms | 1,344 | 284 | - | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Clinicians | 2,144 | 1,888 | 4,500 | 3,800 | 4,700 |
| Officials | 3,209 | - | - | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| Media Coverage | 1,044 | 2,326 | 5,000 | 7,000 | 7,000 |
| Freight & Express | 423 | 282 | 200 | 400 | 400 |
| Miscellaneous | - | 641 | - | - | - |
| SUBTOTAL | 296,795 | 306,593 | 340,400 | 333,500 | 386,700 |
| Less Prov Portion | <u>82,483</u> | <u>71,228</u> | <u>80,800</u> | <u>83,600</u> | <u>98,500</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>214,312</u> | <u>235,365</u> | <u>259,600</u> | <u>249,900</u> | <u>288,200</u> |

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND BCEL COMMITTEE

| | | |
|------------|---|---------------|
| B. Barclay | - | Chairman |
| A. Parks | - | Vice-Chairman |
| J. Kobolak | - | Member |
| D. Daly | - | Secretary |
| R. Butt | - | A/Secretary |

Introduction

The primary goal of The Royal Canadian Legion's BCEL Committee is the support of those veterans in the Caribbean countries whose organizations and governments are unable to provide full care for their needs. Legion programs are centred on the provision of individual assistance as more and more veterans in need are identified in the area on which the Legion has concentrated its efforts. To date more than 500 veterans have been placed on our lists for assistance. This growth has stabilized in the short term and will decrease in the long term due to aging.

We continue to be satisfied that we are meeting the basic needs of these veterans. We continue to be publicly acknowledged in the most glowing of terms for what we are achieving in the Caribbean. That achievement and the praise belong to you at the branch level who make the funds available so that we can continue this work. For the past two years you have enabled us as a Committee to meet the needs of the destitute with your overwhelming benevolence. We needed record amounts of money and you delivered it. We still need the funds to continue our work and I call on you once again to let these veterans know that we, as a Legion, and as a nation, care about their service and sacrifice.

Committee Activity

A total of \$ 316,668 was spent on various support activities in the Caribbean in 2000, a six per cent increase over 1999. Individual assistance grants accounted for \$ 295,250 of the allocation. In 2001 \$359,966 was spent, a 12 per cent per cent increase over 2001. Individual assistance grants accounted for \$318,769 of the allocation.

- a. **Individual and Administrative Assistance** - The demonstrated need in 2000 leapt by about 40 per cent, or double the 1999 increase. The previously noted total of \$295,250 was expended on individual assistance for 512 needy veterans. The need in 2001 increased by about eight per cent. The noted total of \$318,769 was expended on individual assistance for 504 needy veterans. The increase in funding for fewer veterans was a result of inflation and varying exchange rates based on the value of the Canadian dollar. The large jump in numbers assisted experienced in 2001 resulted from the excellent work of the Belize Ex-Services League in identifying needy veterans. Another \$4,300 was supplied in 2000 to help the affiliated organizations administer themselves or to deliver individual services to the veterans. Despite our withdrawal from that function in 1999 there were still cases that had to be dealt with, but by 2001 this funding had largely been taken over by BCEL HQ in London with our requirement being reduced to \$2,030.
- b. **Poppy Material** - Poppy material is provided free of charge on request. Material valued at \$16,981 was provided during 2000 and \$16,504 for 2001. Requests for 2002 are expected to exceed that level because of rising costs. This program continues to be supported as it provides the affiliated organizations with the opportunity to raise funds to help support their own people.

- c. **Emergency Assistance** - There were no requests received and no grants made in 2000 or 2001.
- d. **SCOWP and Projects** - Our contribution to the BCEL Standing Committee On Welfare Projects funding for 2000 totalled \$ 4,300 and \$21,000 for 2001. These funds were used to assist in revamping and updating the washroom facilities in Guyana in concert with BCEL HQ, the commencement of a home care project in Belize in concert with BCEL HQ, and the purchase of a laptop computer system for use by the St. Kitt's Legion.
- e. **Other Assistance and Projects** - Eyeglasses continued to be distributed and the provision of some regalia item such as crests, badges, banners, ties, berets and clothing was maintained. These dress items are expensive to supply however, and the organizations are asked to pay for these items at cost. In early 2001 we were requested by the Jamaica Legion to help in securing proper hospital beds and mattresses to supply the Curphey Veterans Home residents who were then sleeping on old cots. Our search for beds resulted in our taking possession of 114 beds and the same number of mattresses deemed surplus at the Perley Veterans Centre in Ottawa. Through the good graces of the Canadian Forces we were able to deliver 37 of each to Jamaica in 2001 and 20 to Belize in early 2002. A further 17 of each are earmarked for delivery to Belize and 20 are earmarked for delivery to St. Lucia for veterans facilities during 2002.

Liaison Visits

In 2000 visits were made to Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat and St. Kitt's-Nevis from 8 to 18 January 2000. The participants were then Dominion First Vice-President Bill Barclay and Dominion Secretary Duane Daly. The visits helped increase awareness of The Royal Canadian Legion and its Caribbean affiliated organizations amongst local officials, and helped the Committee members determine the direction the Committee needed to take in the future. Unfortunately it was found that our worst fears had come to fruition with the Antigua Legion being practically defunct and some others headed in that direction.

Liaison visits by the Dominion President and Dominion Secretary were made to the Cayman Islands, Belize and Jamaica from 17 to 25 February 2001. The visits proved extremely helpful in improving communications and establishing contacts that could help veterans. Help Age Canada was approached prior to the visits with the aim of obtaining financial assistance for the home care project in Belize. Unfortunately their mandate did not permit this type of association. We therefore took a different approach and shared the funding of a home care project with BCEL HQ. We were pleased, however, to advise the Jamaica Legion that the RCL would be making an annual grant of \$5,000 to support the Curphey Home as long as it is required to support veterans.

Budget

For your information, a copy of the BCEL Committee Budget for the period 2002-2004 follows this report. Delegates may raise any questions that they have concerning Committee expenses at this time, but any motion for changes to the budget document as relates to this Committee will have to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

Summary

The Royal Canadian Legion took on a sacred trust involving the care of veterans in the Caribbean region many years ago and we have managed to keep that trust by meeting the demands placed on us by a growing population of destitute veterans. The veterans are now growing older and can no longer work or look after themselves. Many more are turning to us for help, so the demand will remain high for the next number of years. But by 2008 I expect that the demand will fall off significantly.

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
DOMINION COMMAND**

BCEL COMMITTEE

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2000 | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2001 | <u>2002</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> 2003 | <u>2004</u> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Meetings: | | | | | |
| Per Diem | 1,077 | 500 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Caribbean Legion Liaison: | | | | | |
| Travel | 13,571 | 16,980 | 17,000 | 17,000 | 17,000 |
| Per Diem | 13,802 | 12,936 | 14,000 | 14,000 | 14,000 |
| Postage, Printing | 11 | 15 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Miscellaneous | 7 | 74 | 400 | 400 | 400 |
| Telephone & Fax | <u>194</u> | <u>304</u> | <u>200</u> | <u>200</u> | <u>200</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>28,662</u> | <u>30,809</u> | <u>32,700</u> | <u>32,700</u> | <u>32,700</u> |

BCEL ASSISTANCE FUND

| | 1997 Actual | 1998 Actual | 1999 Actual | 2000 Actual | 2001 Actual |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Income | | | | | |
| Donations | 42,617 | 61,640 | 41,980 | 230,296 | 162,178 |
| Poppy Levy | 65,169 | 141,905 | 139,494 | 158,678 | 151,251 |
| Interest | 5,619 | 8,049 | 6,369 | 6,036 | 1,689 |
| Total | 113,405 | 211,594 | 187,843 | 395,280 | 315,118 |
| Expenditures | | | | | |
| Poppy | 12,904 | 15,337 | 12,199 | 16,981 | 16,504 |
| Assistance | 153,213 | 167,900 | 215,887 | 295,250 | 318,769 |
| Education | 1,000 | 3,282 | 3,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Projects | 10,400 | 13,950 | 10,700 | 4,300 | 21,000 |
| Emergency | 5,016 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Miscellaneous | 8,498 | 16,315 | 11,393 | 137 | 3,693 |
| Total | 191,031 | 216,784 | 253,179 | 316,668 | 359,966 |
| Surplus +/(Deficit) | (77,626) | (5,190) | (65,336) | + 78,612 | (44,648) |

Our Fund Balance as of 31 December 2001 was \$235,912

Note: BCEL Administrative and Committee expenses are accounted for in RCL Administration General Funds

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND

RITUAL & AWARDS COMMITTEE

| | | |
|---------------------|---|----------------------|
| R. Marjoram | - | Chairman |
| J. Eagleson | - | Vice-Chairman |
| C. Morris | - | Member |
| E. Stanfield | - | Member |
| | | |
| D. Baldwin | - | Secretary |

Statistics

As shown below, the Committee has been very active and the statistics include all applications received during 2000 and 2001. Your Committee believes reporting activity by calendar year provides information that is much more meaningful.

| AWARD | 2000 | | 2001 | |
|------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|
| | APPROVED | RETURNED FOR INFO | APPROVED | RETURNED FOR INFO |
| PALM LEAF TO MSM | 53 | 18 | 87 | 19 |
| MSM | 149 | 59 | 185 | 53 |
| PALM LEAF TO MSA | 4 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| MSA | 31 | 7 | 37 | 15 |
| LIFE MEMBERSHIP | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTALS | 240 | 87 | 313 | 88 |

Honours and Awards

The Committee is aware of the need to process applications for Honours and Awards in a timely and efficient manner. Representation has been received from various Provincial Commands recommending that authority to approve applications for MSM and MSA along with the Palm Leaf to these awards be granted to Provincial Honours and Awards Committees. In fact, two resolutions to this effect were received for consideration.

The MSM and MSA and the Palm Leaf to these two awards are the highest Legion honour any Legionnaire can receive. Such prestigious awards must remain subject to review at the national level. This will ensure that those who receive the award will know that their accomplishments have been subjected to strict scrutiny, that they are worthy of the award and are considered outstanding persons by all.

Canadian Flag Protocol

Many members have complained concerning the Legion practice of dipping the Canadian Flag during ceremonies. They believe that it should be held high as on the battlefield and never dipped except in direct salute to the reigning monarch when in attendance.

Your Committee agrees and a resolution will be presented for your consideration later on in the proceedings.

Honours and Awards Regulations

These regulations were republished in 2001 and are available through the Legion Supply System.

The Ritual and Insignia Manual

There is a requirement for a revised Ritual and Insignia Manual and it was intended to produce it in 2001; however, this was not possible. A concerted effort will be put forward to produce a new manual as soon as possible after this convention.

Budget

For your information, a copy of the Ritual and Awards Committee budget for the period 2002-2004 follows this report. Delegates may raise any questions that they have concerning Committee expenses at this time, but any motion for changes to the budget document as relates to this Committee will have to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of the Committee for their hard work and support.

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION DOMINION COMMAND RITUAL & AWARDS COMMITTEE

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2000 | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2001 | <u>BUDGET</u> 2002 | <u>BUDGET</u> 2003 | <u>BUDGET</u> 2004 |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Travel | 966 | 1,080 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Per Diem | 2,838 | 4,264 | 3,200 | 3,200 | 3,200 |
| Printing & Stationery | 945 | 658 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Telephone & Fax | 435 | 267 | 200 | 200 | 200 |
| Postage | 17 | 1,013 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Miscellaneous | - | - | - | - | - |
| Meeting Lunches | 211 | 198 | 300 | 300 | 300 |
| Manuals, Obsolete Stock | - | <u>1,559</u> | <u>2,000</u> | - | <u>2,000</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>5,412</u> | <u>9,039</u> | <u>9,200</u> | <u>7,200</u> | <u>9,200</u> |

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND NATIONAL CEREMONIES COMMITTEE

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|---|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | W. Barclay | - | Chairman | | |
| | C. Morris | - | Vice-Chairman | | |
| | G. O'Dair | - | Member | | |
| J. Côté | | - | Secretary | B. White | - A/Secretary |

National Remembrance Day Ceremony

The Committee again produced and directed the National Remembrance Day Ceremony and for the past two years, it took place at the National war memorial following two years of construction on and around the site. The various personalities and agencies usually represented at the ceremony were in attendance, including the Governor General, the Prime Minister, the Speaker of the Senate/House, the Minister of Veterans Affairs, the Chief of Defence Staff, the Dominion President, members of the Diplomatic Corps and other dignitaries.

Also in attendance were the Legion's special guests and for 2000 they were as follows:

Silver Cross Mother, Mrs. Carol Isfeld of Courtenay, BC., placed a wreath on behalf of Canadian Motherhood; the four senior winners of the Legion National Literary and Poster Contest - Anika Marquis, Saint Léonard, N.B., winner of the Senior Poem contest, Annik Marquis, Saint Léonard, N.B., winner of the Senior Essay contest, Kelly Ford, Red Deer, AB., winner of the Black & White Poster contest and Troy Barker, Mayerthorpe, AB., winner of the Senior Colour Poster contest.

The special guests in attendance at the 2001 ceremony were as follows:

Silver Cross Mother, Mrs. Ina Galvin of Bolton Centre, Quebec, then 79 years of age, placed a wreath on behalf of Canadian Motherhood; the four senior winners of the Legion National Literary and Poster Contest - Devon Caufield, Vernon, BC. winner of Senior Poem contest, Jessica Remedios, Whitbourne, N.F., winner of the Senior Essay contest, Stephen Wichuk, Wabamun, A.B., winner of the Senior Black & White Poster contest; and Naomi Cairns, Errington, BC. winner of the senior Colour Poster contest.

Dominion Command was also privileged to have among its special guests for the last two years, Comrade Smokey Smith, the only surviving recipient of the Victoria Cross.

The attendance at the 2000 ceremony was in the neighbourhood of 10,000 with approximately 600 veterans marching in the parade and in 2001 more than 15,000 spectators with 500 veterans marching in the parade. Both ceremonies received excellent coverage from the media including National television broadcast in English and French. CBC estimated the 2001 viewership at 2.1 million.

Canada Day Celebrations

Dominion Command was invited and took part in the Canada Day Celebrations in 2000 and 2001.

Dominion Command Colour Party

This group, comprised of 25 members of local branches, represents the Legion at a number of national ceremonies as well as different events in the Ottawa area and is under the direction and control of this Committee. The Colour Party was extremely busy in the last two years. They took part in many events including parades, banquets, visits by dignitaries of different countries, national ceremonies and sports events.

I am also most pleased to advise that our second Dominion Colour Party which is provided by the Germany Zone also took part in a number of Remembrance ceremonies in Europe. This group has distinguished itself and now regularly participates in ceremonies in Europe.

Budget

For your information, a copy of the National Ceremonies Committee budget for the period 2002-2004 follows this report. Delegates may raise any questions that they have concerning Committee expenses at this time, but any motion for changes to the budget document as relates to this Committee will have to be delayed until the budget is formally brought forward by the Dominion Treasurer later in the Convention proceedings.

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION DOMINION COMMAND NATIONAL CEREMONIES

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2000 | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2001 | <u>BUDGET</u> | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
| Travel | 311 | 619 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Per Diem | 1,630 | 1,716 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| Printing & Stationery | 932 | 2,239 | 1,500 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Telephone & Postage | 64 | 316 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Colour Party Activities Summer & Fall | 523 | 639 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Meeting Planning | 173 | 346 | 300 | 200 | 300 |
| Remembrance Reception | 1,642 | 1,708 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| St. John's Ambulance | 300 | 300 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Silver Cross Mother | 1,949 | 1,857 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| V.C. Recipient | 4,832 | 1,372 | 8,000 | 8,000 | 8,000 |
| Outstanding Cadet | 1,918 | 1,454 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Colour Party - Wreaths | - | 740 | 900 | 900 | 900 |
| - Training | | - | 600 | - | - |
| Miscellaneous | <u>576</u> | <u>851</u> | <u>600</u> | <u>600</u> | <u>600</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>14,850</u> | <u>14,157</u> | <u>22,500</u> | <u>22,400</u> | <u>22,400</u> |

ASSOCIATED EXPENSES (not part of N. C. budget- Poppy)

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| + 5 Recruiter | 2,078 | - | - | - | - |
| National Literary/Poster Contest | <u>17,286</u> | <u>13,448</u> | <u>15,000</u> | <u>15,000</u> | <u>15,000</u> |
| | <u>19,364</u> | <u>13,448</u> | <u>15,000</u> | <u>15,000</u> | <u>15,000</u> |

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND CONSTITUTION AND LAWS COMMITTEE

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|------------------|--|
| | V. O'Connor | - | Chairman |
| | B. Coldwells | - | Vice-Chairman |
| | D. Eaton | - | Member |
| | J. MacAulay | - | Member |
| J. Côté | - | Secretary | K. MacKarous - A/Secretary |

General

The purpose of this Committee is to advise the Legion on constitutional matters arising from interpretation of the Act of Incorporation and The General By-Laws which occurred between Conventions. In order to ensure that consistent interpretations are given the Committee followed a set procedure. All requests for rulings are directed to the Secretary of the Committee at Dominion Command. In minor matters, the Secretary, usually after consultation with the Chairman, will provide an answer. For some interpretations, the material is circulated to members of the Committee and their opinion is sought by mail. Important issues are reserved for consideration at meetings of the Committee.

Provincial Commands continue to report an increase in complaints being lodged in the last two years. Dominion Command has also experienced a noticeable increase in appeals of decisions of Provincial Commands.

Amendments to Provincial Commands By-Laws

In 2001, the Committee had been requested to review proposed amendments to Provincial Command By-Laws for seven commands. Following consultation, all have been approved. Three commands did not require any amendment to their By-Laws following their convention.

Amendments to The General By-Laws

Since the last Convention held in Halifax in June 2000, the Dominion Executive Council has adopted two By-Laws amending The General By-Laws of the Legion. By-Laws No. 59 and No. 60 are presented with this report and are submitted to this convention for ratification under Section 6(2) of the Legion's act to incorporate. If not ratified, they will cease to have effect at the end of this convention.

BY-LAW NO. 59

A By-Law to Amend The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion, as amended prior to this date

It is hereby enacted as and for a By-Law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Executive Council in session this 03rd day of February, 2001, that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

Section 103

Section 103 is amended by adding a new Subsection 103(1) to read as follows:

103 (1) The Corporate structure of the Legion as created by the Act, currently qualifies Commands and Branches in Canada as non-profit organizations under the Income Tax Act of Canada.

The current section 103 is renumbered 103(2)

Subsections 301(2)(a) and 301(2)(c)

The Subsections are amended by adding the words “**other voting**” before the word “**members**” on the second line of Subsection 301(2)(a) and on the third line of Subsection 301(2)(c).

Subsection 311(1)(c)

The Subsection is amended to read as follows:

311 (1)(c) removal from any office or position held and prohibition from running for and holding any office for any period up to 24 months;

In witness whereof The Royal Canadian Legion has caused its corporate seal to be affixed hereto, duly attested by the hands of its proper officers.

BY-LAW NO. 60

**A By-Law to Amend The General By-Laws of
The Royal Canadian Legion, as amended prior to this date**

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Executive Council in session this 25 November 2001, that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

Section 105

Section 105 is amended by adding a new subsection (5) to read as follows:

- **The command in the province of Nova Scotia includes branches organized in the territory of Nunavut and it shall be designated the Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command.**

The above amendment is effective 01 January 2002.

Sub-Sections 206(1)(b), 210(1)(b) and 215(1)(b)

The three Sections are amended by deleting the following sentence at the end of each Sub-Section: "For the purpose of this section, membership is considered lapsed if current year's dues are not paid by 1 January".

Section 208

Section 208 is amended by adding the following note:

Note: Affiliate Non-Voting members are allowed to attend branch meetings and participate in debates but cannot enter into the voting process, including motions, in any manner.

At the subsequent Dominion Executive Council meeting on 16 February 2002 it was decided that the last three words of the above note be deleted. The note will now read:

Note: Affiliate Non-Voting members are allowed to attend branch meetings and participate in debates but cannot enter into the voting process, including motions.

Sections 220 and 221

Sections 220 and 221 are deleted and sections 222 to 232 are renumbered 220 to 230 respectively.

Sub-Section 1203(4)

Sub-Section 1203(4) is amended to read as follows :

A member in arrears as of January 31st of that year is not in good standing for any purpose. Once the yearly membership dues have been paid, the member is considered to be "In good standing".

In witness whereof The Royal Canadian Legion has caused its corporate seal to be affixed hereto, duly attested by the hands of its proper officers.

This report is to bring to convention those changes to the General By-Laws which have already been approved by the delegates at this convention. By-Laws 59 & 60 have been previously approved by this convention.

BY-LAW NO. 61

**A By-Law to Amend the General By-Laws of
The Royal Canadian Legion, as amended prior to this date**

It is hereby enacted as and for a by-law of The Royal Canadian Legion by the Dominion Convention in session this 13th day of June, 2002, that The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion as amended be, and they are hereby amended by:

- a) deleting the current Article III of the General By-Laws;
- b) adopting the new Article III distributed as an attachment to the Dominion Command Constitution and Laws Report as approved by this Dominion Convention; and
- c) the following amendments brought about by concurred resolution.

Resolution #32 page 121

Section 205(8) is amended by including "New Zealand" after the word "Australia".

Resolution #34 page 122

Section 211 and Section 212 are amended to read as follows:

**Affiliate Voting Members
USA Branches/Posts only**

211 (1) Affiliate voting membership is open to any USA citizen who is of federal voting age and who is not eligible for ordinary membership or associate membership and who supports the purposes and objects of The Royal Canadian Legion.

- (2) A member admitted under subsection (1) is not permitted to transfer membership to a branch of the Legion in Canada.

212. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 205 to 211, any person who was qualified and became an ordinary, associate or affiliate member of a branch in Canada shall retain such qualification notwithstanding that the member has become a citizen of the United States of America.

Resolution #36 page 123

Section 403 of The General By-Laws is amended to read as follows:

- 403.** (1) The term of office of the Grand President and other honorary officers as appointed by the Dominion President will be from Dominion Convention to Dominion Convention and may be extended as circumstances warrant.

Resolution #37 page 123

The General By-Laws are amended to delete all references to "Vice-Chairman".

Resolution #50 page 128

Article 1105 (1) is amended by deleting the word "exclusively". Article 1105 (1) would then read:

A command, or, subject to the prior approval of the provincial command, a district, zone, branch or group of branches may allot not more than fifty percent of the balance in a poppy trust account, except in the case of a registered veterans' organization whose aims and objectives are for providing accommodation or care facilities for veterans and dependants, on the thirtieth day of September in the year preceding the allotment for the purchase, construction, reconstruction, maintenance, renewal, repair, furnishing or refurnishing of housing accommodation or care facilities for elderly or disabled persons and their dependants.

Resolution #51 page 128

Section 1106 is amended to read as follows:

The Command, or, subject to the prior approval of the Provincial Command, a District, Zone, Branch or a group of Branches, may expend a portion of the monies in its Poppy Trust Account, not exceeding fifty percent of the total available in the account on the date prior approval is requested preceding the expenditure for the following purposes:

Resolution # 68 page 133

Section 120 (4) is amended to read as follows:

Except in the course of the ordinary and usual activities of the Branch, a Branch or the trustees of a branch may not sell, lease, mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or alienate in any manner, any property held by them without prior written consent of the Provincial Command.

Resolution # 213 page 140

Sub-Section 219(1) is amended by changing (b) to (c) and adding a new sub-section (b) to read as follows:

2. If a member dies between the time a Life Membership is approved by the Provincial Command and submission to Dominion Command, no per capita tax is required.

Resolution # 306 page 157

Section 206 is amended by adding a new sub-section (h) to read “served for not less than one year in a City, Municipal, Volunteer, Unorganized Territories or Federal Fire Service”.

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
DOMINION COMMAND**

CONSTITUTION & LAWS COMMITTEE

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
| Travel | 15 | 2,919 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Per Diem | 546 | 2,908 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Printing & Stationery | 282 | 64 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Telephone & Fax | 700 | 882 | 700 | 700 | 700 |
| Postage | 757 | 64 | 1,500 | 500 | 1,500 |
| Bylaws - Revision | <u>3,375</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1,000</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1,000</u> |
| SUB-TOTAL | 5,675 | 6,837 | 8,700 | 6,700 | 8,700 |
| By-Law Amendments | <u>1,700</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>7,375</u> | <u>6,837</u> | <u>8,700</u> | <u>6,700</u> | <u>8,700</u> |

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND RED MAPLE LEAF CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

| | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| | R. Scriven | - | Chairman | |
| P. Cope | - | BC/Yukon | P. Cook | - |
| R. Charlet | - | Alberta/NWT | L. Johnson | - |
| P. Varga | - | Saskatchewan | F. Mombourquette | - |
| C. Tessier | - | Manitoba/NWO | F. Beairsto | - |
| W. Sexsmith | - | Ontario | C. Crane | - |
| | | | | Nfld/Lab |
| | J. Côté | - | Secretary | |

In the past year, your Dominion Executive Council agreed to the development of a new fund-raising project for the Legion. The essence of the project is to distribute our Legion Red Maple Leaf to the public on or close to Canada Day each year as an evident symbol of our pride in being Canadian. More specifically it is proposed that the Legion launch a major Canada Day program whereby Legionnaires would hit the streets during the Canada Day period distributing the Maple Leaves as a symbol of Canadian Unity and Canadian patriotism. By producing the maple leaf with an appropriate stick-on patch the leaf could easily be worn by adults on any piece of clothing and by children on any part of their body. This of course will not replace the Maple Leaves with pins that we use for funerals. These continue to be available through the Supply Department.

With the positive credibility of the Legion in the eyes of the public this project has the potential of bringing in large sums for each branch during the Canada Day period. It also has the potential of becoming an accepted Canada Day period ritual just as our Poppy has been accepted for the Remembrance period. The Legion could ultimately become regarded as the official distributor of the "Canadian Red Maple Leaf".

Much would have to be done to implement the project. Most significantly it would have to have the full support of the Commands and branches to be successful. Using the well-established distribution process that we now employ for the Poppy, the maple leaves could be distributed to every branch in the country. But the branches however would have to be prepared to send members in blues and grays to make the point very visible to the public that this is a Legion program. We would also have to advertise the program in advance and indicate to the public that the funds obtained will be directed to specific programs.

A Red Maple leaf Campaign Committee has been set with key representatives from each command as indicated above. These Command Chairmen will be responsible to coordinate the branches and oversee the launch of the campaign in each Command.

There are a number of items which must also be completed by Dominion Command to ensure that the program is implemented without legal and procedural obstacles. As such, it has been determined that it would be impossible to provide all the necessary information to the branches, obtain and distribute the required number of leaves, and advertise the program before Canada Day 2002. Therefore, in order to ensure the effective planning and success of such a major activity it would not be possible to launch the project before Canada Day 2003.

The Committee members met last March in order to evaluate aspects such as tax implications in conducting such a project, licenses required at all levels, the feasibility to produce up to 5 million leaves or more by early 2003, pricing and distribution of the leaves, reporting systems at branches and commands, availability of funds to initiate the campaign, and detailed launch and promotion procedures. These are issues that the committee members are currently working on .

This proposed project has the potential to yield significant profits at all three levels of the Legion, but primarily at the branch level. The selling price of leaves will be kept as low as possible but the poppy distribution process and experience will be utilized. Although profits will have to be maintained in some sort of a Trust Fund, the aim is to provide the branches with a good degree of flexibility in their use.

The proposal has been endorsed by the Dominion Executive Council and we are here seeking the Dominion Convention's approval of the proposal as described to continue with the implementation of the "Red Maple Leaf" project with the following terms:

- profits at all three levels of the Legion are to be held in trust and be allocated to Youth/Citizenship and Seniors Programs;
- the distribution for the year 2003 will be from 28 June to 01 July;
- the actual campaign is to be implemented by the distribution of the Red Maple Leaf to the public by individual branch legionnaires but branches are permitted to pursue other methods of distribution; and
- reports are to be made, as necessary, to Sub-Executive and DEC.

Conclusion

Comrades, we have the opportunity to not only launch an exciting and profitable project for the Legion, but also to play an instrumental role in fostering patriotism and a renewed commitment to our Canadian identity. I look forward to your support.

I so move approval of the Red Maple Leaf Campaign Project.

NOTE: The report was carried but the Red Maple Leaf Campaign Project was defeated.

ADDENDUM TO RED MAPLE LEAF REPORT

The following report was presented to the delegates at the Dominion Convention.

VERBAL REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND RED MAPLE LEAF CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

In the past year, your Dominion Executive Council agreed to the development of a new fund-raising project for the Legion. The essence of the project is to distribute our Legion Red Maple Leaf to the public on or close to Canada Day each year as an evident symbol of our pride in being Canadian. More specifically it is proposed that the Legion launch a major Canada Day program whereby Legionnaires would hit the streets during the Canada Day period distributing the Maple Leaves as a symbol of Canadian Unity and Canadian patriotism. By producing the maple leaf with an appropriate stick-on patch the leaf could easily be worn by adults on any piece of clothing and by children on any part of their body. This of course will not replace the Maple Leaves with pins that we use for funerals. These continue to be available through the Supply Department.

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Much would have to be done to implement the project. Most significantly it would have to have the full support of the Commands and branches to be successful. Using the well-established distribution process that we now employ for the Poppy, the maple leaves could be distributed to every branch in the country. But the branches would have to be prepared to go out as individuals in blues and grays to make the point very visible to the public that this is a Legion program. We could not simply leave trays in stores. We would also have to advertise the program in advance and indicate to the public that the funds obtained will be directed to specific programs.

A Red Maple leaf Campaign Committee has been set with key representatives from each command as indicated above. These Command Chairmen will be responsible to coordinate the branches and oversee the launch of the campaign in each Command.

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- reports are to be made, as necessary, to Sub-Executive and DEC.

Conclusion

Comrades, we have the opportunity to not only launch an exciting and profitable project for the Legion, but also to play an instrumental role in fostering patriotism and a renewed commitment to our Canadian identity. I look forward to your support.

I so move approval of the Red Maple Leaf Campaign Project.

REPORT OF THE TUBERCULOUS VETERANS SECTION

| | | |
|----------------------|---|------------------------------|
| R. Howcroft | - | President |
| P. O'Donoghue | - | First Vice President |
| B. Wiggins | - | Second Vice President |
| C. Elsdon | - | Secretary - Treasurer |
| G. Beech | - | Secretary |

History

A brief historical overview is offered to remind Legionnaires of the special relationship of the Tuberculous Veterans Section to The Royal Canadian Legion. The Tuberculosis Veterans Association of Canada was organized in 1917, and in 1925 when Field Marshal Earl Haig came to Canada to urge the formation of the Canadian Legion, it had over 7,000 members and had been very successful in obtaining war disability pensions for chest disabled veterans. The TVA was in sound financial condition, and was maintaining Service Bureaus in Ottawa, Toronto and London, with highly efficient service centres in most of the Canadian Sanatoriums. Believing in unity, the TVA responded to the appeal made by Haig and took a prominent part in the Unity Convention held in Winnipeg in November, 1925, at which the Legion was born. On the 1st of September 1926 in Victoria, B.C., the most solemn Articles of Faith were signed by Sir Percy Lake with the full approval of the Legion thus creating the Tuberculous Veterans Section (TVS) of the Canadian Legion.

The TVS not only became part of the Legion but also gave the Legion its financial start by providing \$10,000.00, which in the early 1920's was considered a large amount of money. The TVS also made available to the Legion a number of very experienced service officers who had proven their value in dealing with thousands of claims, and who were experienced in dealing with veterans legislation. For many years, the Chief Pension Officer of the TVS was the Director of the Service Bureau for Dominion Command of The Royal Canadian Legion.

The TVS Section, like the Legion as a whole, has lost a number of members through attrition. Tuberculous veterans are effectively 10 years older than the veterans of a similar age because of the ravages of Tuberculosis on the body. So not only are tuberculous veterans relatively older, but many are weaker health-wise, and therefore, our membership is diminishing faster than normal. Like old soldiers we are simply fading away. However, the pride in the legacy that we have left is not fading away; it remains like those of us who are left, forever strong.

The Scourge

Over the past 40 years Canadians have generally been spared first hand experience of how tuberculosis affects many countries. However for veterans who had served in war zones and special duty areas where poor health conditions existed, the disease was often passed on almost as easy as the common cold. It was not uncommon for those infected to spend two to five years segregated in hospital with no drugs to advance the cure. In the late 1950s, certain new drugs were developed that offered a cure and by the 1970s, hospitals that treated only tuberculosis progressively closed. Everyone thought the disease was finished!

However, Canadians were not watching what was happening throughout the rest of the world. Statistics show that between 8 -10 million new cases of tuberculosis develop each year with close to 2 million resulting in mortality. Members of our Armed Forces are serving in high risk areas today. If they become infected, treatment becomes a problem. Drugs effective in the past are not necessarily effective in attacking the new strains of the disease contracted abroad. A few weeks in hospital and release with medication may no longer arrest the condition. Treatment would extend for several months.

Statistics

There are currently over 6,937 ex-service personnel who are pensioned for respiratory disabilities. The figures below compare numbers for five years for which statistics are available:

| | 1996 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| World War I | 11 | 7 | 3 | Nil | Nil |
| World War II | 4,563 | 7,939 | 6,944 | 6,502 | 6,104 |
| Korea | 108 | 151 | 142 | 141 | 136 |
| Regular Force | 249 | 541 | 554 | 553 | 588 |
| Special Duty Areas | 49 | 93 | 99 | 102 | 109 |
| Totals | 4,980 | 8,185 | 7,742 | 7,298 | 6,937 |

Activities

Naturally, our TVS Branches have a particular concern for arresting the spread of tuberculosis, and the treatment of those affected and their families. Over the past two years, much effort has gone into fundraising for the provision of respiratory equipment for hospitals and care facilities. In addition, the TVS Branches have assisted in the funding of ongoing research into new drugs to counter variant strains of the disease. The University of British Columbia in Vancouver has the only laboratory in Canada working full-time on this project. The target is to develop, within five years, treatments that will offer a solution.

As with other Legion Branches across Canada, the four TVS Branches have remained very active within our communities in the BC/Yukon, Alberta/NWT, Saskatchewan and New Brunswick Commands. National Bursaries and Scholarships were awarded in the summers of 2000 and 2001 to deserving students within these Commands. Apart from the national awards, over the past two years TVS Branch awards totalled over \$100,000 in bursaries and scholarships for the children and grandchildren of members of the TVS throughout Canada.

By assisting the Communities in which our Branches reside, by providing scholarships, funding research, obtaining equipment and never forgetting our veterans and seniors, the TVS has advanced the Purposes and Objectives of the Legion. Even though our numbers are small, our efforts to promote Remembrance of our fallen comrades and serve those in need will continue to be given our utmost attention.

**DOMINION COMMAND POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE
REPORT
OF THE
PLANNING, ADMINISTRATION, POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE
SUB-COMMITTEE
TO THE
39TH DOMINION CONVENTION**

| | | |
|-------------------|---|--|
| J. Kobolak | - | Chairman |
| A. Parks | - | Vice Chairman |
| W. Smith | - | Poppy & Remembrance Coordinator |
| M. Cook | - | Member |
| B. Barclay | - | ex-officio |
| D. Daly | - | Secretary |

General

The wisdom of the decision to restructure Poppy and Remembrance matters and place them under the supervision of the Planning, Administration, Poppy and Remembrance Committee has been proven again over the last two years. There is a smooth flow of information, in both directions, between Dominion Command, Provincial Commands and Branches. Matters requiring interpretation and other questions are actioned quickly. As stated in the past, the restructuring has led to increased emphasis on Poppy matters and this has been observed to occur on a near continuous basis.

Ordering Poppies and Wreaths

Prior to this year, the charges for the shipment of poppy material by the various express companies was based on the weight of the materials. Today, these companies have now changed their policies and will implement shipment charges based on both weight and volume. This would increase our costs to an exorbitant level. Therefore, effective the 2002 Poppy Campaign, Poppy material will be sent via parcel post. In order to ensure that your branch receives its Poppy order in time for the Remembrance period, all orders must be received at your Command office no later than 15 September 2002. Delivery of orders received after that date cannot be guaranteed to arrive in time for Remembrance Day.

Lapel Poppies

The 2002 Poppy Campaign will see the introduction of the Lapel Poppy with a black centre. This issue has been outstanding since the 1986 Dominion Convention. A second Poppy trademark has now been successfully registered which describes the Poppy as having a black centre. In other words the Legion holds the trademark for both a green-centred and black-centred Poppy. The resolution has finally been implemented.

Wreaths - Members of Parliament

Again in 2000 and 2001, the Minister of Veterans Affairs purchased a No 20 wreath for each Legion Branch throughout the country to provide to the local Member of Parliament or his/her representative. A five dollar surcharge was applied to each wreath and the funds were forwarded to Provincial Command Central Poppy Funds. These funds represent the amount that a branch could expect to receive from the sale of a wreath to their local Member of Parliament. Should the Minister of Veterans Affairs continue this practice the surcharge will continue to be added.

Biodegradable Wreaths

Action has continued to find a suitable biodegradable material to replace the styrofoam core of the current wreaths. Materials such as peat moss, straw, raffia leaves and moss have been tested, but all have been found wanting. A new wreath made from coconut fibre has been tested and it appears to meet our requirements. The wreaths used as at the Wreath Laying Ceremony at this convention are constructed from this material and they will also be used at the National Remembrance Day Service in Ottawa later this year. In addition, 100 Number 20 wreaths will be randomly test marketed throughout the country during the Poppy Campaign. The branches that receive one of the wreaths will find a questionnaire enclosed in the shipping container requesting comments and pass them to Dominion Command. There are also two of these wreaths at the Dominion Command Supply outlet for comrades interested in seeing what they look like.

Lapel Poppies - CF Deployments and Canadian Embassies

Again in 2000 and 2001 Lapel Poppies were distributed to Canadian Forces personnel on deployment through military resources. As well, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) actively cooperated to ensure that Lapel Poppies were shipped to Canadian Embassies and Missions. Donations are received as a result of these initiatives and are more often than not accompanied by a letter expressing appreciation for providing the Poppies. As has been stated in the past, this practice to provide Canadians serving abroad the opportunity to receive Poppies will continue.

Poppy Manual

A revised edition of the Poppy Manual will be published immediately following this convention. It will be available for the 2002 Poppy Campaign.

2002 Convention Resolutions

The PAPER Sub-Committee reviewed Poppy and Remembrance Resolutions submitted for consideration at this convention and they will be addressed at a time to be fixed by the Procedures Committee.

Poppy Trust Funds

A status report on Poppy Trust Funds provided by Provincial Commands was distributed this morning.

Conclusion

Comrades, this concludes my report to this convention. In closing, I am particularly pleased with the cooperation received from all involved in this our most important activity over the last two years. It has been a challenging experience, but above all else a rewarding term of office.

REMEMBRANCE MATERIAL SALES

| POPPY CAMPAIGN | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| PURCHASES | \$1,514,888 | \$1,658,096 | \$1,643,790 | \$1,785,962 |
| PRODUCTS | | | | |
| Lapel Poppy - 01 | 13,090,000 | 13,580,000 | 14,200,000 | 15,800,000 |
| Window Poppy - 02 | 29,083 | 29,217 | 30,250 | 31,628 |
| Table Poppy - 03 | 11,061 | 9,679 | 9,264 | 8,545 |
| No 8 Wreath | 3,855 | 4,025 | 4,552 | 4,825 |
| No 14 Wreath | 22,678 | 23,582 | 24,728 | 23,039 |
| No 20 Wreath | 6,777 | 7,016 | 8,652 | 6,485 |
| No 24 Wreath | 718 | 691 | 562 | 607 |
| No 26 Wreath | 77 | 68 | 68 | 25 |
| No 31 Poppy Spray | 1,896 | 2,121 | 1,436 | 1,716 |
| No 35 Poppy Spray | 14,790 | 13,972 | 13,736 | 13,720 |
| No 36 Styrofoam Cross | 6,329 | 5,868 | 4,905 | 5,673 |
| Specials | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 |

SUMMARY REMEMBRANCE AND POPPY CAMPAIGN

| | 1997 CAMPAIGN | 1998 CAMPAIGN | 1999 CAMPAIGN | 2000 CAMPAIGN |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| REVENUE | \$10,174,934 | \$11,103,110 | \$12,072,546 | \$12,294,861 |
| CAMPAIGN EXPENSES | \$3,720,428 | \$3,983,962 | \$4,232,513 | \$3,834,832 |
| DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE PREVIOUS YEAR | \$4,783,433 | \$6,063,265 | \$6,003,826 | \$6,171,526 |

REPORT OF THE IMPERIAL VETERANS SECTION

| | | |
|-------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| A. Harvey | - | National President |
| F. Smith | - | First Vice-President |
| P. Rogers | - | Quebec Representative |
| R. Bell | - | Central Representative |
| L. Gill | - | Eastern Representative |
| D. Eyles | - | Western Representative |
| G.G. Beech | - | Secretary |

Introduction

The Imperial Veterans Section of The Royal Canadian Legion continues as a separate entity within the Legion as provided by the Unity Agreement with the Imperial Veterans Association, finalized in 1929. The Section represents the interests of all veterans who have served in Forces organized or maintained by the Imperial Government of Great Britain and Ireland. Originally, large numbers of Imperial veterans who were subject to differences in pension legislation and benefits were represented by Imperial Service Officers familiar with the unique types of cases. The need for special advocacy has progressively declined as a consequence of resolving Imperial cases, the entry of Newfoundland into Canada, legislative changes, and the inevitable passing of Imperial veterans. Currently pension and benevolent needs of Imperials are handled by the Legion Service Bureau network or by referral to the British War Pension Agency and various benevolent trusts.

British Benevolent Funds

British Service Benevolent Trusts provide significant assistance to British veterans in Canada. Applications originated by a Veterans Affairs Counsellor are vetted by a Dominion Command Service Officer and forwarded for consideration by the appropriate service trust in Britain. The tabulation for cases favourably considered in the period 1998 to 2001 shows trends by year and service.

| Fund | 1998 | | 1999 | | 2000 | | 2001 | |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|
| | No. | Value | No. | Value | No. | Value | No. | Value |
| Imperial Army Benevolent | 15 | \$ 7,564 | 11 | \$ 8,042 | 14 | \$10,842 | 11 | \$ 5,856 |
| RAF Benevolent Fund | 37 | 30,203 | 52 | 33,824 | 83 | \$65,211 | 111 | \$95,779 |
| RN Benevolent Trust Fund | 17 | 15,684 | 19 | 18,490 | 24 | \$28,197 | 14 | \$11,056 |
| Other BCEL Managed | 28 | 15,112 | 22 | 15,216 | 21 | \$13,821 | 21 | \$16,074 |
| Totals | 97 | \$68,563 | 104 | \$75,572 | 142 | \$118,071 | 157 | \$128,765 |

Activities

The Royal British Legion Magazine continues to be distributed to the Imperial's Executive by reciprocal arrangement with Legion Magazine. This greatly facilitates the dissemination of information to members on a regional basis. In fact, Imperials were advised of the introduction of compensation for Far East Prisoners of War in this way. To the credit of our own Legion Magazine and the Dominion Service Bureau, this important message was separately communicated through these channels. This resulted in about 30 referrals through Legion and Veterans Affairs channels to the War Pensions Agency.

Imperial veterans, who had not previously established entitlement, were adversely affected by the 1995 budget and associated legislative changes which denied War Veterans Allowance and Health Care benefits to Allied veterans. Hence, the Executive continues to monitor progress in the ongoing Legion challenge. The Veterans, Service and Seniors Committee has been endeavouring to establish a test case for Federal Court. Also, parallel discussions were being pursued with Veterans Affairs Canada in an interim effort to secure admission of Commonwealth veterans to Long Term Care facilities, according to their need.

In summary, the interests of Imperial veterans continue to be represented at Dominion Executive Council by the National President and through the Veterans, Service and Seniors Committee. Individual needs are well served through the Legion Service Bureau network.

REPORT OF THE DOMINION SECRETARY

| | | |
|-------------------|---|---|
| D. Daly | - | Dominion Secretary |
| J. Rycroft | - | Director Service Bureau |
| J. Côté | - | Director Administrative Services |
| B. Fermoye | - | Director Finance |
| D. Baldwin | - | Director Supply |
| D. Bell | - | Director Membership |
| B. Butt | - | Chief of Public Relations |
| M. Wilson | - | Secretary |

Introduction

It is a pleasure to be able to report to this Dominion Convention on the activities of the staff and departments of Dominion Command. In consideration that a great deal of the pertinent information will already have been given in the various Committee reports, I will only highlight the main points.

Service Bureau

The Service Bureau remains as the sharp end of our Dominion Command in dealing with the government in terms of winning benefits for our veterans and service personnel. In 2001 we handled a total of 1035 applications, reviews and appeals. This was all completed by our five Service Officers which include Comrade Kathy Roney who manages our Appeal Office in Charlottetown. You will also be interested to know that we responded to 292 benevolent applications from veterans and their dependants who were in dire need of assistance. Many of these cases were handled in cooperation with the RCAF Benevolent Fund and with some of our Provincial Commands.

Finally you should be aware that later this year our Director of the Service Bureau is retiring. Comrade Jim Rycroft has provided the Legion with outstanding service in his eight years at Dominion Command and it was largely through his initiatives that we have been successful in arguing for policy change with the government on a wide variety of legislative issues.

Supply

As indicated in the Planning, Administration, Poppy and Remembrance report we are currently deeply involved in laying the foundation for a new single, centralized Legion Supply System. This will enable direct contact with the Dominion Supply Department from your branches and will eliminate the need to go through the Commands to place your orders. The end result will be a more efficient operation and the savings in manpower across the Legion. We are hopeful that the new system will be running on a trial basis in 2003 and will be fully operational in 2004. Ultimately we look forward to a time when much of our business will be able to be conducted on-line and where individual members will be able to place orders directly on a wide variety of items.

Staffing and Administration

Since 1998 we have been involved with a major staff downsizing program at Dominion Command. In that year we were manned with 54 permanent employees and six full-time contract personnel for a total of 60 salaried individuals. By January of this year this number had been reduced to 46 permanent employees and two full time contract personnel for a total of 48 salaried employees. This 20% reduction in staff size has yielded a savings of over \$350,000 a year.

While the staff establishment has been reduced by 12 employees since 1998 the workload remains essentially the same. This includes the processing of 450,000 plus membership files each year and all the associated finances. Interestingly the error rate on submissions has not improved to a great extent and stands at 22%. In other words, almost 100,000 membership submissions are completed in error by the branches each year and must be returned for correction. This not only adds to the workload of the membership department, but also adds significantly to the postal bill. The staff also remains involved in processing complaints and appeals, the organizing of the Track and Field Camp, the preparation and organization of the four annual Member Participation Sport Championships, the implementation of the Youth Leaders Pilgrimage, the management of the Poster and Literary contest, the implementation of the annual Remembrance ceremony and the Poppy Campaign, the conduct of numerous PR seminars, the management and update of the Legion web site, the production and distribution of LEGION magazine, the management of the Members Benefit Program, the distribution of Honours and Awards, and all the routine staff effort required to maintain Legion House and to support all the Committees of Dominion Command.

Conclusion

On behalf of all members of the Dominion Command staff it is an honour to serve the Legion and to support its operation on an ongoing basis. We value highly our excellent working relationship with our counterparts in the Provincial Commands and remain dedicated to all elected officers who serve on the Dominion Executive Council and the Dominion Committee.

REPORT OF THE DOMINION COMMAND CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

| | | |
|--------------------|---|----------------------|
| M. Cook | - | Chairman |
| A. Parks | - | Vice Chairman |
| D. Daly | - | Member |
| | | |
| B. Fermoyle | - | Secretary |

This Committee has the responsibility for the investment of the funds originally collected in the Centennial Fund and the accumulated interest, and to ensure that all disbursements are in accordance with the mandate of Convention. Royal Trust has continued to advise the committee in order to maximise the returns on the investments.

A total of \$245,000 in bonds earning between 7% and 10.5% matured in 2001. The fund now earns an average of 6.75% and still holds \$250,000 bonds earning over 8%. The remainder earn between 5% and 7.7%.

The fund was charged with \$125,000 in 2000 and 2001 respectively, to cover part of the annual Legion National Track and Field Championships expenses in each year.

CENTENNIAL FUND SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS - 1966 TO 2001

| | | | |
|---|----|----------------|--------------------|
| Capital Contributions | | | \$1,029,055 |
| Gross Earnings | | | \$5,390,561 |
| Expenditures on RCL Projects: | | | |
| Action Program 1974-80 | \$ | 133,817 | |
| Dominion Command Track & Field 1977-92 | | 2,174,724 | |
| | | 1996-2001 | 875,000 |
| Geriatric Fellowship 1981-92 | | 1,152,015 | |
| Administration 1966-2001 | | <u>271,004</u> | <u>\$4,606,560</u> |
| Total Net Earnings | | | <u>\$784,001</u> |
| Total Capital Contributions and Retained Earnings | | | \$1,813,056 |

Balance in Fund at 31 December:

| ACTUAL | | PROJECTED | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| <u>2000</u> | <u>2001</u> | <u>2002</u> | <u>2003</u> | <u>2004</u> |
| \$1,829,928 | \$1,813,056 | \$1,800,000 | \$1,780,000 | \$1,750,000 |

Since its inception, Centennial Funds have been used for:

- a. Action Program (promotion, publicity, travel and administration).
- b. Twenty-two Dominion Command Track & Field meets involving 8,635 participants.
- c. Geriatric training for 91 doctors, 50 nurses, 11 physiotherapists and 9 occupational therapists prior to 1992.
- d. Fund Investment Administration (1966-2001).

REPORT OF THE DOMINION TREASURER

MICHAEL COOK

I am happy to report that revenues and expenses have been fairly balanced in both 2000 and 2001 and that the General Fund should remain viable throughout the period to 2006 without an increase in the Dominion Command per capita share that you pay each year to your branch.

Most significantly you will note that the exceptional effort made by the 75th Anniversary Committee in the year 2000 contributed \$309,126 toward the year-end net revenue of \$443,591. The surplus for 2001 was \$85,708.

Because of the cost containment measures adopted by DEC to cut program costs and the measures taken by the Dominion Secretary to cut the size of the Dominion Command staff by 20% since 1998, and reduced committee travel costs, I wish to emphasize that our general operating expenses at Dominion Command have been very closely controlled. As I promised you at Convention 1998 we are living within the Dominion Command approved per capita share of \$6.15 and we will not need to increase that amount until at least 2006.

That challenge is going to be difficult but we will do it in spite of the fact that the depressed interest rates have severely impacted our investments. Where we used to enjoy returns of 8% to 10%, we will now have to face the reality that we will be lucky to earn 5%. I am sure that you have faced that in your own savings.

I mentioned that, of the total fees or per capita tax that you pay to your branch, Dominion Command receives only \$6.15 per member for its operations. This is the other challenge that we must face. Our membership has been declining at an approximate rate of about 12,000 members a year. The associated loss of \$75,000 in per capita share is definitely putting a strain on our operations. As well, the cost of providing programs and activities such as the Member Participation Sport Championships continue to grow as our revenue has decreased. But overall, we have been able to make the necessary adjustments to keep the overall system working reasonably well. I can assure you that good business and accounting practices have prevailed in every decision that we have taken.

And so, despite the loss of revenue and increased operating costs, our General Fund operations should remain reasonably stable until 2006 unless we suffer an even greater decline in membership. That's the good news.

Unfortunately I cannot say the same for the long term health of LEGION Magazine. As you know, LEGION Magazine is operated as a separate entity at arms length from Dominion Command. It is managed under the auspices of CANVET PUBLICATIONS LIMITED. For many years it has operated with a subscription rate of \$5.00 plus GST for a total of \$5.35 which is paid through your per capita tax which you pay at the branch. (This is in addition to the \$6.15 paid for Dominion Command operations). To live within that fixed revenue of \$5.35 as determined by Dominion Convention, CANVET had to reduce its frequency of publication to five issues in 1997. That worked reasonably well up to the present time.

Costs have continued to rise dramatically and even though advertising revenue has increased, the expenses have outweighed the declining subscription revenue which has resulted from the decrease in membership of over 12,000 members a year. At the February Dominion Executive Council meeting, CANVET reported that there will be large projected deficits from 2003 onwards unless something is done. It has recommended to DEC that unless revenue is increased over the \$5.35 the magazine will have to be cut to four issues in 2003 and then production will ultimately have to be terminated in 2005.

DEC has closely reviewed the situation and has approved the presentation of a number of options for your consideration to resolve the issue. I will present those to you at a separate briefing under my hat as Chairman of CANVET.

For now, you can look at the estimates for 2003 and 2004 which are based on reducing LEGION Magazine to four issues. Even with this option which we want to avoid at all costs, the deficit in 2004 will be largely due to the losses in CANVET.

To summarize, the general operations of the Dominion Command are operating on a fine line but will remain fairly reasonable until at least 2006. LEGION magazine is in trouble and we will discuss that later as a separate issue. But for now, our general expenses have been contained and I wish to thank the Committee Chairmen and the Dominion Command staff for their continued diligence in keeping costs controlled and maximizing our limited revenue during the past two years.

On behalf of the Ways and Means Committee I recommend no increase in the Dominion Command operating per capita tax share of \$6.15 and I so move.

I recommend that, based on the excellent service and cooperation provided by our auditors over the past years, that Price Waterhouse Coopers be reappointed as auditors for the ensuing two years and I so move.

Comrades we have provided you with a full accounting of the actual expenses for the years 2000 and 2001 and have provided estimates for the future. I am now prepared to answer any questions you may have, especially concerning the 2002 budget for our programs and operations. I would however ask that you hold your questions on LEGION Magazine until I give that report. Any changes to the CANVET budget can be made at that time if necessary.

Comrade Chairman I move acceptance of my report and the 2002 budget.

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND
GENERAL FUNDS**

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSE

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
| REVENUE | | | | | |
| Per Capita Tax | 5,290,150 | 5,160,945 | 5,020,000 | 4,880,000 | 4,750,000 |
| Canvet - Agency Fee | 604,000 | 521,000 | 444,000 | 390,000 | 390,000 |
| - Services | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 |
| Investment Income | 716,087 | 643,515 | 600,000 | 550,000 | 550,000 |
| Service Bureau Grant | - | 183,976 | 710,000 | 698,000 | 736,000 |
| Supply Department | 734,948 | 643,537 | 620,000 | 620,000 | 620,000 |
| Legion House | | | | | |
| - Tenants | 351,779 | 401,558 | 410,000 | 410,000 | 410,000 |
| - Internal | 235,500 | 235,500 | 235,500 | 235,500 | 235,500 |
| Misc.- Master Card | 101,654 | 113,118 | 140,000 | 150,000 | 160,000 |
| - Other | <u>5,031</u> | <u>4,774</u> | <u>5,000</u> | <u>5,000</u> | <u>5,000</u> |
| TOTAL REVENUE | <u>8,114,149</u> | <u>7,982,923</u> | <u>8,259,500</u> | <u>8,013,500</u> | <u>7,931,500</u> |
| EXPENSE | | | | | |
| Canvet-Subscrip | 2,437,231 | 2,378,779 | 2,300,000 | 2,230,000 | 2,160,000 |
| Admin.-General | 1,285,076 | 1,338,323 | 1,416,000 | 1,440,000 | 1,468,000 |
| -Commit | 992,281 | 1,443,539 | 1,713,150 | 1,569,400 | 1,505,900 |
| -Misc | 233,801 | 184,441 | 208,000 | 203,000 | 203,000 |
| Membership | 640,039 | 621,311 | 602,000 | 629,000 | 639,000 |
| Service Bureau | 782,124 | 709,941 | 710,000 | 698,000 | 736,000 |
| Supply Department | 768,598 | 672,287 | 659,500 | 660,000 | 666,000 |
| Legion House | 531,408 | 548,594 | 526,700 | 531,100 | 542,700 |
| Canvet (Profit) Loss | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>12,000</u> | <u>(73,500)</u> | <u>62,000</u> |
| TOTAL EXPENSE | <u>7,670,558</u> | <u>7,897,215</u> | <u>8,147,350</u> | <u>7,887,000</u> | <u>7,982,600</u> |
| NET REV/(DEFICIT) | <u>443,591</u> | <u>85,708</u> | <u>112,150</u> | <u>126,500</u> | <u>(51,100)</u> |

STATEMENT A

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND
GENERAL FUNDS
ADMINISTRATION EXPENSE - GENERAL**

| EXPENSE | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
| Salaries | 879,945 | 903,226 | 945,000 | 965,000 | 985,000 |
| Pension (Statements) | 1,774 | 437 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Retirement Allowance | 8,799 | 16,258 | 17,000 | 17,000 | 18,000 |
| Other Benefits | 84,367 | 88,809 | 92,000 | 97,000 | 100,000 |
| Temporary Services | <u>3,835</u> | <u>16,132</u> | <u>46,000</u> | <u>40,000</u> | <u>40,000</u> |
| TOTAL PERSONNEL | 978,720 | 1,024,862 | 1,102,000 | 1,121,000 | 1,145,000 |
| Office Supplies | 57,367 | 60,432 | 60,000 | 63,000 | 65,000 |
| Network Servicing | 6,226 | 11,009 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Telephone | 7,090 | 6,655 | 8,000 | 8,000 | 8,000 |
| Postage, Express | 19,554 | 15,837 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| Printing, Stationery | 21,607 | 18,576 | 24,000 | 24,000 | 24,000 |
| Staff Travel | 16,738 | 11,711 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 |
| Audit Fees-General | 26,359 | 26,540 | 26,000 | 27,000 | 28,000 |
| -Pension | 2,975 | 2,996 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Insurance | 11,212 | 11,079 | 12,000 | 13,000 | 14,000 |
| Staff Recruitment | 2,454 | 4,257 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Miscellaneous | 8,305 | 8,460 | 8,000 | 8,000 | 8,000 |
| Training | <u>4,893</u> | <u>6,808</u> | <u>5,000</u> | <u>5,000</u> | <u>5,000</u> |
| SUB-TOTAL | 1,163,500 | 1,209,222 | 1,293,000 | 1,317,000 | 1,345,000 |
| Less charged to | | | | | |
| Membership | 22,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 |
| Service Bureau | 22,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 |
| Poppy Fund | <u>17,000</u> | <u>17,000</u> | <u>17,000</u> | <u>17,000</u> | <u>17,000</u> |
| | <u>61,000</u> | <u>61,000</u> | <u>61,000</u> | <u>61,000</u> | <u>61,000</u> |
| SUB-TOTAL | 1,102,500 | 1,148,222 | 1,232,000 | 1,256,000 | 1,284,000 |
| PLUS: | | | | | |
| Deprec Furn & Equip | 53,576 | 61,101 | 55,000 | 55,000 | 55,000 |
| Rent (Cr to Bldg.) | <u>129,000</u> | <u>129,000</u> | <u>129,000</u> | <u>129,000</u> | <u>129,000</u> |
| | <u>182,576</u> | <u>190,101</u> | <u>184,000</u> | <u>184,000</u> | <u>184,000</u> |
| NET GENERAL EXPENSES | <u>1,285,076</u> | <u>1,338,323</u> | <u>1,416,000</u> | <u>1,440,000</u> | <u>1,468,000</u> |

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND
GENERAL FUNDS**

MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT EXPENSE

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2000 | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2001 | <u>2002</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | | | 2003 | 2004 |
| REVENUE | | | | | |
| Agency Fee | <u>444,000</u> | <u>444,000</u> | <u>444,000</u> | <u>390,000</u> | <u>390,000</u> |
| TOTAL REVENUE | <u>444,000</u> | <u>444,000</u> | <u>444,000</u> | <u>390,000</u> | <u>390,000</u> |
| EXPENSE | | | | | |
| Salaries | 308,630 | 323,367 | 290,000 | 300,000 | 310,000 |
| Retirement Allowance | 3,086 | 5,821 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 |
| Other Benefits | 38,436 | 38,841 | 40,000 | 42,000 | 45,000 |
| Temporary Staff | <u>45,882</u> | <u>14,136</u> | <u>30,000</u> | <u>30,000</u> | <u>30,000</u> |
| TOTAL PERSONNEL | 396,034 | 382,165 | 366,000 | 378,000 | 391,000 |
| Compt process services | 119,604 | 91,514 | 97,639 | 102,639 | 107,639 |
| Stationery, Supplies | 3,128 | 3,491 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Membership Packout | 19,435 | 15,745 | 16,000 | 17,000 | 18,000 |
| Postage & Express | 35,137 | 38,573 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| Prov. Con/Seminar | 1,515 | 15,228 | 2,000 | 11,000 | 2,000 |
| Miscellaneous | 4,852 | 4,835 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Telephone | 1,343 | 1,399 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Administrative Contra | <u>22,000</u> | <u>22,000</u> | <u>22,000</u> | <u>22,000</u> | <u>22,000</u> |
| SUB-TOTAL | 603,048 | 574,950 | 555,639 | 582,639 | 592,639 |
| PLUS: | | | | | |
| Rent (Cr to Bldg) | 34,000 | 34,000 | 34,000 | 34,000 | 34,000 |
| Depreciation | <u>2,991</u> | <u>12,361</u> | <u>12,361</u> | <u>12,361</u> | <u>12,361</u> |
| | 36,991 | 46,361 | 46,361 | 46,361 | 46,361 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | <u>640,039</u> | <u>621,311</u> | <u>602,000</u> | <u>629,000</u> | <u>639,000</u> |
| NET EXPENSE | <u>196,039</u> | <u>177,311</u> | <u>158,000</u> | <u>239,000</u> | <u>249,000</u> |

STATEMENT C

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND
GENERAL FUNDS
ADMINISTRATION - COMMITTEES & ELECTED OFFICERS EXPENSE**

| COMMITTEES | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
| 1. Dominion Appeals | 316 | 523 | 800 | 800 | 800 |
| 2. Veterans, Service & Seniors | 28,875 | 26,264 | 49,900 | 46,700 | 46,700 |
| Gerontology | - | 55,000 | 110,000 | - | - |
| 3. B.C.E.L. | 28,662 | 30,809 | 32,700 | 32,700 | 32,700 |
| 4. Membership | 164,216 | 147,150 | 125,700 | 117,700 | 120,200 |
| 5. Public Relations | 143,889 | 152,928 | 258,000 | 231,200 | 226,900 |
| 6. Leadership & Development | 31,674 | 117,118 | 80,900 | 77,900 | 77,900 |
| 7. Planning, Admin, Poppy | 6,944 | 6,958 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 7,500 |
| 8. Sports | 440,853 | 458,551 | 498,800 | 524,300 | 520,600 |
| Centennial | - | - | (125,000) | (125,000) | (125,000) |
| 9. Finance | 6,497 | 8,955 | 8,000 | 8,000 | 8,000 |
| 10. National Ceremonies | 14,850 | 14,157 | 22,500 | 22,400 | 22,400 |
| 11. Ritual & Awards | 5,412 | 9,039 | 9,200 | 7,200 | 9,200 |
| 12. Convention | 25,853 | 13,888 | 32,400 | 7,400 | 18,400 |
| 13. Constitution & Laws | 7,375 | 6,837 | 8,700 | 6,700 | 8,700 |
| 14. Defence | 10,111 | 11,114 | 13,000 | 13,000 | 13,000 |
| 15. Liaison | 13,595 | 14,977 | 19,000 | 19,000 | 19,000 |
| 16. 75th Anniversary | 178,250 | 17,659 | - | - | - |
| Staff Pension | - | 300 | - | - | - |
| Provincial Secretaries | - | 9,728 | 13,000 | - | 13,000 |
| Maple Leaf | - | - | 25,000 | - | - |
| SUB-TOTAL | 1,107,372 | 1,101,955 | 1,190,100 | 997,500 | 1,020,000 |
| 17. Elected Officers | 96,501 | 139,758 | 101,500 | 146,500 | 101,500 |
| 18. DEC/Sub-Executive | 157,928 | 226,921 | 168,900 | 225,400 | 184,400 |
| 19. Dominion Convention | 457,856 | - | 252,650 | 200,000 | 200,000 |
| SUB-TOTAL | 712,285 | 366,679 | 523,050 | 571,900 | 485,900 |
| COMMITTEE TOTAL | 1,819,657 | 1,468,634 | 1,713,150 | 1,569,400 | 1,505,900 |
| Centennial | (125,000) | (125,000) | - | - | - |
| 75 th Anniversary Revenue | (487,376) | (65,095) | - | - | - |
| Convention Reserve | (250,000) | 200,000 | - | - | - |
| Pilgrimage Reserve | 35,000 | (35,000) | - | - | - |
| | (827,376) | (25,095) | - | - | - |
| EXPENSE TOTAL | 992,281 | 1,443,539 | 1,713,150 | 1,569,400 | 1,505,900 |

STATEMENT D

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND
GENERAL FUNDS
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE**

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
| MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE | | | | | |
| BCEL - Annual Dues | 49,456 | 46,720 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| - Scowp | <u>11,934</u> | <u>14,420</u> | <u>15,000</u> | <u>15,000</u> | <u>15,000</u> |
| B.C.E.L. TOTALS | 61,390 | 61,140 | 65,000 | 65,000 | 65,000 |
| Millennium Project | 18,875 | - | - | - | - |
| Request For Support | 20,000 | 3,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| Legion History Project | 4,000 | 7,063 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Reveille | 36,977 | 26,425 | - | - | - |
| Dom. Scholarship | 16,060 | 16,000 | 16,000 | 16,000 | 16,000 |
| Legal & Other | 27,103 | 31,150 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 |
| MBP Ads | 34,396 | 14,663 | 32,000 | 32,000 | 32,000 |
| Supply Study | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>15,000</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| SUB-TOTAL | 218,801 | 159,441 | 183,000 | 168,000 | 168,000 |
| BCEL RESERVE | <u>15,000</u> | <u>25,000</u> | <u>25,000</u> | <u>35,000</u> | <u>35,000</u> |
| TOTAL EXPENSE | <u>233,801</u> | <u>184,441</u> | <u>208,000</u> | <u>203,000</u> | <u>203,000</u> |
| <u>MILLENNIUM PROJECTS</u> | | | | | |
| Project Management | 24,543 | | | | |
| Tomb Unknown Soldier | 95,612 | | | | |
| 2 min. Wave of Silence | | | | | |
| Sale of Pins (Net) | 215 | | | | |
| Recovery - VAC | <u>101,065</u> | | | | |
| TOTAL | <u>18,875</u> | | | | |

STATEMENT E

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND
GENERAL FUNDS

SERVICE BUREAU

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2000 | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2001 | <u>BUDGET</u> 2002 | <u>BUDGET</u> 2003 | <u>BUDGET</u> 2004 |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| REVENUE | | | | | |
| Poppy Fund Grant | <u>-</u> | <u>183,976</u> | <u>710,000</u> | <u>698,000</u> | <u>736,000</u> |
| TOTAL REVENUE | <u>-</u> | <u>183,976</u> | <u>710,000</u> | <u>698,000</u> | <u>736,000</u> |
| EXPENSE | | | | | |
| Salaries | 502,235 | 474,199 | 475,000 | 485,000 | 495,000 |
| Retirement Allowance | 5,022 | 8,536 | 9,000 | 9,000 | 9,000 |
| Other Benefits | 50,213 | 46,916 | 45,000 | 47,000 | 50,000 |
| Temporary Staff | <u>81,915</u> | <u>59,795</u> | <u>35,000</u> | <u>35,000</u> | <u>35,000</u> |
| TOTAL PERSONNEL | 639,385 | 589,446 | 564,000 | 576,000 | 589,000 |
| Office Supplies Expense | 7,189 | 7,632 | 8,000 | 8,000 | 8,000 |
| Telephone | 3,678 | 3,718 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Postage | 10,472 | 13,657 | 12,000 | 13,000 | 13,000 |
| Staff Travel | 18,590 | 17,473 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 |
| VAC - Liaison | - | - | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| Service Officers Conf | 22,747 | - | 25,000 | - | 25,000 |
| Sub-Office | 19,892 | 14,053 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 |
| Admin Contra | 22,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 |
| Miscellaneous | <u>3,171</u> | <u>6,962</u> | <u>5,000</u> | <u>5,000</u> | <u>5,000</u> |
| SUB-TOTAL | 747,124 | 674,941 | 675,000 | 663,000 | 701,000 |
| PLUS | | | | | |
| Rent (Cr to Bldg) | <u>35,000</u> | <u>35,000</u> | <u>35,000</u> | <u>35,000</u> | <u>35,000</u> |
| TOTAL EXPENSE | <u>782,124</u> | <u>709,941</u> | <u>710,000</u> | <u>698,000</u> | <u>736,000</u> |

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND
GENERAL FUNDS

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2000 | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2001 | <u>BUDGET</u> 2002 | <u>BUDGET</u> 2003 | <u>BUDGET</u> 2004 |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| REVENUE | | | | | |
| Sales of Supplies | 717,076 | 624,812 | 600,000 | 600,000 | 600,000 |
| Royalties | 17,872 | 18,725 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| Less Cost of Goods | <u>444,100</u> | <u>346,791</u> | <u>350,000</u> | <u>350,000</u> | <u>350,000</u> |
| Gross Margin | <u>290,848</u> | <u>296,746</u> | <u>270,000</u> | <u>270,000</u> | <u>270,000</u> |
| EXPENSE | | | | | |
| Salaries | 172,166 | 178,596 | 165,000 | 190,000 | 195,000 |
| Retirement Allowance | 1,722 | 3,215 | 3,000 | 3,500 | 3,500 |
| Other Benefits | 21,249 | 21,850 | 19,000 | 20,000 | 21,000 |
| Temporary Staff | <u>15,670</u> | <u>20,826</u> | <u>39,000</u> | <u>15,000</u> | <u>15,000</u> |
| TOTAL PERSONNEL | 210,807 | 224,487 | 226,000 | 228,500 | 234,500 |
| Telephone | 1,619 | 1,554 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Postage & Express | 19,302 | 18,811 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| Printing, Stationery | - | 4,936 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Staff Travel | 376 | 596 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Insurance | 389 | 389 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Advertising | 47,481 | 33,499 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Wrapping Materials | 5,179 | 1,934 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Office Supplies | 1,148 | 1,291 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Miscellaneous | 55 | 499 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| Programming | 642 | - | 2,000 | - | - |
| SUB-TOTAL | <u>286,998</u> | <u>287,996</u> | <u>272,000</u> | <u>272,500</u> | <u>278,500</u> |
| PLUS: | | | | | |
| Rent (Cr to Bldg.) | <u>37,500</u> | <u>37,500</u> | <u>37,500</u> | <u>37,500</u> | <u>37,500</u> |
| EXPENSE TOTAL | <u>324,498</u> | <u>325,496</u> | <u>309,500</u> | <u>310,000</u> | <u>316,000</u> |
| GAIN OR (LOSS) | <u>(33,650)</u> | <u>(28,750)</u> | <u>(39,500)</u> | <u>(40,000)</u> | <u>(46,000)</u> |

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - DOMINION COMMAND
GENERAL FUNDS
LEGION HOUSE

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> | | <u>BUDGET</u> | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
| REVENUE | | | | | |
| Rent-Tenants | 342,149 | 391,829 | 400,000 | 400,000 | 400,000 |
| Rent Charge to Depts | | | | | |
| -Administration | 129,000 | 129,000 | 129,000 | 129,000 | 129,000 |
| -Membership | 34,000 | 34,000 | 34,000 | 34,000 | 34,000 |
| -Service Bureau | 35,000 | 35,000 | 35,000 | 35,000 | 35,000 |
| -Supply Dept. | 37,500 | 37,500 | 37,500 | 37,500 | 37,500 |
| Parking | 9,630 | 9,729 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | 587,279 | 637,058 | 645,500 | 645,500 | 645,500 |
| EXPENSE | | | | | |
| Salaries | 37,019 | 37,681 | 38,500 | 39,500 | 40,500 |
| Retirement Allowance | 370 | 678 | 400 | 700 | 700 |
| Other Benefits | 5,393 | 5,533 | 5,700 | 5,800 | 5,900 |
| Casual Staff & Benefits | 4,604 | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL PERSONNEL | 47,386 | 43,892 | 44,600 | 46,000 | 47,100 |
| Elevator Maintenance | 9,586 | 9,361 | 10,500 | 11,000 | 11,500 |
| A/C, Elect, Plumbing | 20,282 | 33,364 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| Interior, Exterior | 66,031 | 52,024 | 45,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| Cleaning Contract | 41,874 | 47,810 | 50,000 | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| Fuel | 17,548 | 26,380 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| Light & Power | 76,465 | 82,330 | 85,000 | 90,000 | 95,000 |
| Water Rates | 4,088 | 4,557 | 4,000 | 4,500 | 4,500 |
| Property Management | 16,010 | 18,489 | 20,000 | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| Taxes | 148,211 | 150,883 | 150,000 | 155,000 | 160,000 |
| Insurance | 5,699 | 4,901 | 6,000 | 6,500 | 7,000 |
| Commission | 4,554 | - | - | - | - |
| SUB-TOTAL | 457,734 | 473,991 | 465,100 | 483,000 | 495,100 |
| Building Repair | 17,804 | 92,800 | - | - | - |
| SUB-TOTAL | 475,538 | 566,791 | 465,100 | 483,000 | 495,100 |
| PLUS: | | | | | |
| Depreciation-Building | 32,600 | 32,600 | 32,600 | 32,600 | 32,600 |
| Leasehold Improvement | 28,074 | 29,003 | 16,000 | 2,500 | 2,000 |
| Reserve Fund | 13,000 | 13,000 | 13,000 | 13,000 | 13,000 |
| SUB-TOTAL | 73,674 | 74,603 | 61,600 | 48,100 | 48,100 |
| LESS: | | | | | |
| Building Repair Charged to Reserve | 17,804 | 92,800 | - | - | - |
| TOTAL EXPENSE | 531,408 | 548,594 | 526,700 | 531,100 | 542,700 |
| GAIN OR (LOSS) | 55,871 | 88,464 | 118,800 | 114,400 | 102,800 |

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
DOMINION COMMAND

75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

| | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2000 | <u>ACTUAL</u> 2001 | <u>2002</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> 2003 | <u>2004</u> |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| COMMITTEE | | | | | |
| Travel | 10,613 | 3,478 | - | - | - |
| Per Diem | 11,195 | 2,276 | - | - | - |
| Postage, Stationery | 5,610 | 1,237 | - | - | - |
| Promotional Material | 9,653 | 5,828 | - | - | - |
| Lobsterfest Subsidy | 18,370 | - | - | - | - |
| Advertising | 35,115 | 4,840 | - | - | - |
| 75 yr Branch Plaques | 16,307 | - | - | - | - |
| 75 th Magazine Issue | 55,000 | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | <u>161,863</u> | <u>17,659</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| <u>PROJECT</u> | | | | | |
| <u>REVENUE</u> | | | | | |
| Souvenir Items | 42,652 | (1,566) | - | - | - |
| Tulips (Net) | 250,868 | 28,620 | - | - | - |
| Medal (Net) | 193,856 | 38,041 | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | <u>487,376</u> | <u>65,095</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| EXPENSES | | | | | |
| Souvenir Items | <u>16,387</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| PROJECT TOTAL | <u>470,989</u> | <u>65,095</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| NET (REVENUE) EXPENSE | <u>(309,126)</u> | <u>(47,436)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
DOMINION CONVENTION**

| | 1996 | 1998 | 2000 | 2002 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> |
| DEC - Travel | 39,569 | 54,186 | 56,919 | 71,500 |
| - Per Diem | 60,558 | 66,220 | 77,674 | 78,000 |
| Staff - Travel | 7,370 | 12,180 | 18,554 | 24,000 |
| - Per Diem | 32,144 | 31,519 | 36,472 | 38,000 |
| Constitution & Law | | | | |
| - Travel | 2,298 | 80 | - | - |
| - Per Diem | 900 | 300 | - | - |
| Past President | | | | |
| - Travel | 4,453 | 11,812 | 10,586 | 13,500 |
| - Per Diem | 8,965 | 10,343 | 13,979 | 15,000 |
| V.C. Winners | | | | |
| - Travel | 1,673 | 1,567 | 3,905 | 1,200 |
| - Per Diem | - | - | 1,076 | 500 |
| Others | | | | |
| - Travel | 3,146 | 7,447 | 10,157 | 8,000 |
| - Per Diem | 6,083 | 6,752 | 9,821 | 7,200 |
| Credentials | 4,500 | 4,500 | 4,500 | 4,500 |
| Printing | | | | |
| - Convention Report | 31,067 | 28,606 | 29,289 | 35,000 |
| - Other | 23,720 | 20,297 | 27,502 | 33,300 |
| Translation & Interpretation | 6,592 | 6,689 | 10,285 | 10,000 |
| Postage | 8,559 | 13,905 | 13,771 | 17,500 |
| Freight | 470 | 366 | 2,814 | 3,000 |
| Social Activities | | | | |
| - President Reception | 11,702 | 11,971 | 13,690 | 12,000 |
| - Dominion Command Night | 13,782 | 11,508 | 59,350 | 22,000 |
| - Other | 11,598 | 5,947 | 10,587 | 10,900 |
| Convention Centre | 33,170 | 56,533 | 46,535 | 50,000 |
| Convention Operation | 41,602 | 47,112 | 76,996 | 65,350 |
| Transportation | 4,503 | 490 | 3,285 | 6,350 |
| Ceremonies | 1,775 | 1,337 | 200 | 3,000 |
| Local Arrangements Committee | 732 | 3,041 | 783 | 3,000 |
| Supply | <u>14,118</u> | <u>23,811</u> | <u>16,935</u> | <u>19,850</u> |
| | 375,049 | 438,519 | 555,625 | 552,650 |
| Revenue | <u>(92,494)</u> | <u>(98,646)</u> | <u>(97,769)</u> | <u>(100,000)</u> |
| SUB-TOTAL | 282,555 | 339,873 | 457,856 | 452,650 |
| Provision | <u>150,000</u> | <u>150,000</u> | <u>250,000</u> | <u>200,000</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>132,555</u> | <u>189,873</u> | <u>207,856</u> | <u>252,650</u> |

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
DOMINION CONVENTION**

| | 1996 | 1998 | 2000 | 2002 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> |
| DEC - Travel | 39,569 | 54,186 | 56,919 | 71,500 |
| - Per Diem | 60,558 | 66,220 | 77,674 | 78,000 |
| Staff - Travel | 7,370 | 12,180 | 18,554 | 24,000 |
| - Per Diem | 32,144 | 31,519 | 36,472 | 38,000 |
| Constitution & Law | | | | |
| - Travel | 2,298 | 80 | - | - |
| - Per Diem | 900 | 300 | - | - |
| Past President | | | | |
| - Travel | 4,453 | 11,812 | 10,586 | 13,500 |
| - Per Diem | 8,965 | 10,343 | 13,979 | 15,000 |
| V.C. Winners | | | | |
| - Travel | 1,673 | 1,567 | 3,905 | 1,200 |
| - Per Diem | - | - | 1,076 | 500 |
| Others | | | | |
| - Travel | 3,146 | 7,447 | 10,157 | 8,000 |
| - Per Diem | 6,083 | 6,752 | 9,821 | 7,200 |
| Credentials | 4,500 | 4,500 | 4,500 | 4,500 |
| Printing | | | | |
| - Convention Report | 31,067 | 28,606 | 29,289 | 35,000 |
| - Other | 23,720 | 20,297 | 27,502 | 33,300 |
| Translation & Interpretation | 6,592 | 6,689 | 10,285 | 10,000 |
| Postage | 8,559 | 13,905 | 13,771 | 17,500 |
| Freight | 470 | 366 | 2,814 | 3,000 |
| Social Activities | | | | |
| - President Reception | 11,702 | 11,971 | 13,690 | 12,000 |
| - Dominion Command Night | 13,782 | 11,508 | 59,350 | 22,000 |
| - Other | 11,598 | 5,947 | 10,587 | 10,900 |
| Convention Centre | 33,170 | 56,533 | 46,535 | 50,000 |
| Convention Operation | 41,602 | 47,112 | 76,996 | 65,350 |
| Transportation | 4,503 | 490 | 3,285 | 6,350 |
| Ceremonies | 1,775 | 1,337 | 200 | 3,000 |
| Local Arrangements Committee | 732 | 3,041 | 783 | 3,000 |
| Supply | 14,118 | 23,811 | 16,935 | 19,850 |
| | 375,049 | 438,519 | 555,625 | 552,650 |
| Revenue | <u>(92,494)</u> | <u>(98,646)</u> | <u>(97,769)</u> | <u>(100,000)</u> |
| SUB-TOTAL | 282,555 | 339,873 | 457,856 | 452,650 |
| Provision | <u>150,000</u> | <u>150,000</u> | <u>250,000</u> | <u>200,000</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>132,555</u> | <u>189,873</u> | <u>207,856</u> | <u>252,650</u> |

REPORT OF CANVET PUBLICATIONS LTD.

| | | |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| M. Cook | - | Board Chairman |
| A. Parks | - | Board Vice-Chairman |
| D. Daly | - | Secretary-Treasurer |
| B. Barclay | - | Director |
| M. Burdett | - | Director |
| C. King | - | Director |
| W. Edmond | - | Director |
| R. Scriven | - | Director |
| W. Smith | - | Director |
| R. Marjoram | - | Director |
| J. Kobolak | - | Director |
| M. Johnston | - | Editor and General Manager |

General

As indicated in the Dominion Treasurer's Report we are facing an exceptionally challenging situation in maintaining the viability of LEGION Magazine. Even though Dominion Convention has held the subscription rate to a fixed level for many years we have been able to keep our head above water through a number of innovations. However we are now at a stage where we have no recourse but to cut production to four issues a year or increase the subscription rate. I will attempt to review the background to this situation and will also present some options for your consideration so that we could maintain five issues or perhaps even increase production to six issues a year.

Background

The frequency of production of LEGION Magazine was reduced to five issues a year in 1997 as a cost-containment initiative. The subscription rate of \$5.00 plus GST has been held without increases since 1991. In the period since 1997, the annual subscription revenue has fallen \$356,990 from \$2,520,490 to \$2,163,500 for 2002. This huge loss of revenue has been accommodated only through major staffing cuts, a reduction in the number of pages printed, and the implementation of a successful program to attract additional advertising. As well, during that period we have been lucky to benefit from reduced paper prices and competitive printing contracts. However, the progressive decline in subscription revenue along with a substantial predicted increase in paper costs has led us to a point where five issues of the magazine can no longer be maintained without suffering a major deficit.

To describe the situation in other terms this is what it has cost to produce the magazine for each member of the Legion in the past few years:

| | | |
|------|---|----------------------------|
| 1999 | - | \$6.54 or \$1.31 per issue |
| 2000 | - | \$7.52 or \$1.51 per issue |
| 2001 | - | \$6.82 or \$1.37 per issue |

What is amazing is that thanks to our advertising revenue and cost-containment measures we have been able to provide the magazine to each member at a cost of only \$5.00 or \$1.00 per issue plus GST.

Impact of Maintaining Five Issues

If we were to continue production of five issues a year without an increase in the subscription rate (LEGION Magazine's share of your per capita tax) we would face growing deficits from 2003 onwards. In the three-year period 2003-2005 we would stand to lose a minimum of \$1,061,959. We cannot continue to operate in this manner. Since the subscription rate is legislated by Convention and since no other sources of revenue are immediately available, the CANVET BOARD has recommended that production be cut to four issues commencing in 2003 as an urgent response to the situation. The attached budget sheet therefore reflects this decision.

Production of Four Issues

What would be the impact of cutting production to four issues a year? From a CANVET PUBLICATIONS perspective the deficit situation would be arrested for a short period of time, but by 2004 we would again face a deficit of \$62,331. The detailed figures are indicated in the CANVET budget sheet which I have attached to this report from the main budget document. Not shown is the fact that the deficit would grow to an estimated shortfall of \$130,006 in 2005 and would escalate into the future.

And so even with four issues we would still face a deficit because of the growing cost of production mainly related to the price of paper and the continuous decline in membership and the associated subscription revenue. This deficit would occur even with the reduction of CANVET staff by one more person which would be necessary with a reduction of production to four issues.

By 2005 it would not be possible to cut any more staff and still have the expertise and resources to print the magazine. As well the magazine would lose all relevance if we tried to reduce the frequency of production even more. In fact it is even questionable if a four-issue magazine could adequately meet the needs of our membership.

Here is what it would mean to cut production to four issues. As opposed to producing 572 pages a year, it would be reduced to a maximum of 400 pages plus 72 pages for LAST POST.

Cuts of this magnitude would be spread throughout the magazine but the impact would be significant. Some items would be eliminated, while others would be reduced. The axe could chop: (a) several categories of Branch photos, including winners of literary, poster and public-speaking contests, Legionnaire of the Year recipients, and community festivals and parades; (b) the Lost Trails and Requests columns; (c) a number of feature stories, including some Defence articles; and (d) some feature illustrations and photographs.

It would also be necessary to provide reduced coverage of the member participation sports national championships and the Legion track and field championships because there would be less space and the travel budget would be pared accordingly.

Nevertheless, the reduction in frequency to four issues in 2003 would offset the immediate budgetary crisis and stands as the only possible solution in crafting an acceptable budgetary approach for the immediate future.

Options

And so Comrades, we are left with only a few options. We can accept a cut in production to four issues in 2003 and terminate production in 2005 or we can increase the subscription rate and keep the magazine going. In fact, we could even improve it by producing six issues a year. Here are the specific options for your consideration.

- a) **Sustainment of Four Issues** - If Convention is satisfied with reducing production of the magazine to four issues, there will be no requirement for any further immediate action. However, Convention must recognize that there will be a growing deficit even with four issues, and that a subscription rate

increase of \$1.00 (plus GST) would be required by 2005 to sustain the future production of the magazine beyond 2005.

- b) **Sustainment of Five Issues** - If Convention agrees that five issues a year should be considered as the minimum frequency of publication then immediate action must be taken at this Convention 2002 to approve an increase in the subscription rate effective 2003. It is estimated that an increase of \$1.50 (plus GST) would be sufficient to ensure stability for some time into the future.
- c) **Production of Six Issues** - When the decision was first made to cut production to five issues in 1997 it was acknowledged that the irregular distribution would be disruptive to the membership and that the opportunities for earning advertisement revenue would be limited. This compromise situation will be compounded even further by reducing to four issues. However, in recognition that a subscription rate increase will be required for the sustainment of either a four or five issue production cycle, it may be timely to consider the cost of improving the magazine's production to six issues. This would result in the regular distribution of an issue of the magazine in an orderly fashion every two months. The incremental cost difference is small. If Dominion Convention were to support the production of a magazine of six issues per year, a subscription rate increase of \$2.00 (plus GST) would be required commencing in 2003. Production of the magazine with a six-issue frequency would provide for a more meaningful product to the membership with an enhanced opportunity to earn advertisement revenue.

Summary

The significant decline in subscription revenue and the increasing price of paper has resulted in a major deficit forecast for LEGION magazine. In order to keep costs to a manageable level it will be essential to budget for a cut in production to four issues commencing in 2003.

However, although the CANVET budget will be based on the reality of the requirement to cut expenditures to a four-issue production cycle, Dominion Convention can use this opportunity to consider increasing the subscription rate to ensure a viable production in the future. Convention delegates are requested to consider the following options:

- a) maintain the current subscription rate, reduce production to four issues in 2003 and terminate production in 2005;
- b) reduce and maintain production at four issues a year at an increase in the subscription rate of \$1.00 (plus GST) commencing in 2005;
- c) sustain production of a five-issue magazine at an increase in the subscription rate of \$1.50 (plus GST) commencing in 2003; or
- d) increase production and quality to six issues a year at an increase in the subscription rate of \$2.00 (plus GST) in 2003.

And so comrades, what is your wish? DEC has asked me to advise you that they would prefer to go to six issues. Legion Magazine is not only the glue that binds our 450,000 members together, but it is the life blood of our organization.

The decision is now yours. And to get the discussion going on the floor, **I move that we approve "Option d"**.

CANVET PUBLICATIONS LTD

FEBRUARY 20 2002

| REVENUE: | 5 ISSUES 614 PAGES DEC 2000 | 5 ISSUES 572 PAGES DEC 2001 | 5 ISSUES 572 PAGES 2002 | 4 ISSUES 472 PAGES 2003 | 4 ISSUES 472 PAGES 2004 |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>ACTUAL</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> | <u>BUDGET</u> |
| Mag. Subscription | 2,280,697 | 2,227,356 | 2,163,500 | 2,100,000 | 2,040,000 |
| Advertising (Net) | 374,171 | 265,088 | 297,500 | 200,000 | 200,000 |
| 75th Anniv. Ctee | 55,000 | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Advertising RCL | 117,510 | 43,095 | 52,700 | 37,500 | 37,500 |
| Classified Ads | 7,281 | 8,946 | 7,500 | 6,400 | 6,400 |
| Interest Earned | 29,201 | 21,699 | 25,000 | 20,000 | 19,000 |
| QST | --- | 32,328 | --- | --- | --- |
| Royalties TCWS | 242 | 241 | -- | 100 | --- |
| Design Services | 12,504 | 1,238 | 5,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Misc. Revenue | 573 | 1,337 | 500 | 1,200 | 1,200 |
| TOTAL REVENUE | <u>2,877,179</u> | <u>2,601,328</u> | <u>2,551,700</u> | <u>2,368,200</u> | <u>2,307,100</u> |
| EXPENSE: | | | | | |
| Desk Top Pub. | 6,186 | 6,082 | 7,000 | 8,000 | 8,000 |
| Printing - Engl. | 1,036,910 | 931,871 | 910,181 | 781,732 | 829,938 |
| - Fr. | 37,600 | 22,408 | 23,000 | 20,300 | 21,825 |
| Illustrations | 41,186 | 27,688 | 34,500 | 28,000 | 28,000 |
| Editorial - Engl | 51,574 | 47,289 | 55,000 | 43,000 | 44,000 |
| - Fr. | 22,095 | 22,473 | 25,000 | 21,000 | 22,000 |
| Mag. Postage | 197,068 | 199,254 | 201,360 | 175,762 | 188,945 |
| Mag. Postage Due | 4,286 | 4,207 | 5,000 | 4,100 | 4,200 |
| Freight Express | 6,542 | 6,967 | 6,700 | 6,700 | 6,700 |
| | <u>1,403,447</u> | <u>1,268,239</u> | <u>1,267,741</u> | <u>1,088,594</u> | <u>1,153,608</u> |
| Salaries | 465,969 | 443,897 | 451,000 | 463,189 | 472,453 |
| Severance | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pension | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ret. Allowance | 4,660 | 4,439 | 4,510 | 4,632 | 4,725 |
| Other Benefits | 37,830 | 42,549 | 45,100 | 46,318 | 47,245 |
| Temporary Staff | 16,945 | 43,334 | 47,000 | --- | --- |
| | <u>525,404</u> | <u>534,219</u> | <u>547,610</u> | <u>514,139</u> | <u>524,423</u> |
| Advert. Comm. | 73,987 | 42,624 | 54,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| Agency Fee | 604,000 | 521,000 | 444,000 | 390,000 | 390,000 |
| Accounting Fee | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 |
| Directors Mtgs | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Subsc. Books/Dues | 1,406 | 2,371 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Rent | 51,146 | 51,146 | 51,000 | 51,000 | 51,000 |
| Insurance | 7,131 | 7,949 | 8,000 | 8,500 | 8,500 |
| Supplies-Office | 3,806 | 3,084 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| -Computer | 525 | 614 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| -Equip. Rental | --- | 2,651 | 4,600 | 4,600 | 4,600 |
| Telephone & Fax | 6,851 | 6,717 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 7,500 |
| Office Postage | 2,727 | 2,766 | 3,200 | 3,300 | 3,400 |
| Prof. Fees | 9,946 | 6,340 | 6,500 | 6,500 | 6,500 |
| Travel Expense | 24,797 | 29,401 | 29,500 | 26,000 | 22,000 |
| Printing & Stat. | 2,423 | 3,279 | 2,700 | 3,300 | 3,400 |
| Advert.Promo/Exp. | 67,904 | 16,450 | 23,700 | 39,300 | 26,500 |
| Misc. Gen. Exp. | 4,509 | 2,765 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Staff Recruit/Train. | 2,199 | 977 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Depreciation | 16,586 | 14,731 | 21,000 | 16,000 | 16,000 |
| Royalties TCWS | 44 | 80 | --- | 33 | --- |
| Prov. Cmd Corresp | --- | 14,049 | --- | --- | 16,000 |
| Bad Debt Exp. | 119 | 1,819 | --- | --- | --- |
| TOTAL EXPENSE | <u>2,885,957</u> | <u>2,610,271</u> | <u>2,564,051</u> | <u>2,294,766</u> | <u>2,369,431</u> |
| NET REV. (LOSS) | <u>(8,778)</u> | <u>(8,943)</u> | <u>(12,351)</u> | <u>73,434</u> | <u>(62,331)</u> |

RCL DOMINION COMMAND

NET REVENUE RECONCILIATION

DECEMBER 31

2001

| | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Net Loss Per Audited Statement | | (238,568) |
| Transfers from - Poppy Fund | 183,976 | |
| - Centennial | <u>125,000</u> | |
| | | <u>308,976</u> |
| Net Revenue Including Transfers | | 70,408 |
| Less: | | |
| Reserves Taken: | | |
| Convention | 200,000 | |
| BCEL | 25,000 | |
| Building | <u>13,000</u> | |
| | | <u>238,000</u> |
| | | (167,592) |
| Add: | | |
| Reserves Realized: | | |
| Pilgrimage | 35,000 | |
| Building | 93,300 | |
| Donations: | | |
| War Museum | 75,000 | |
| Normandy Foundation | <u>50,000</u> | |
| | | <u>253,300</u> |
| Net Revenue Per Departmental Statements | | <u>85,708</u> |

2000

| | | |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| Net Revenue Per Audited Statement | | 43,989 |
| Transfers from Centennial Fund | | <u>125,000</u> |
| Net Revenue Including Transfers | | 168,989 |
| Less: | | |
| Reserves Taken: | | |
| Pilgrimage | 35,000 | |
| BCEL | 15,000 | |
| Building | 13,000 | |
| Cornell Estate | <u>5,202</u> | |
| | | <u>68,202</u> |
| | | 100,787 |
| Add: | | |
| Reserves Realized: | | |
| Convention | 250,000 | |
| Building | 17,804 | |
| Donations: | | |
| War Museum | <u>75,000</u> | |
| | | <u>342,804</u> |
| Net Revenue Per Departmental Statements | | <u>443,591</u> |

CREDENTIALS REPORT

Chairman - R. Rivard

L. Sawyer
B. Burns
R. Lamontagne

M. Lambros
S. Clement-Trainor
G. Stewart

F. Fudge
B. MacLachlan
E. Casey

| COMMAND | 10 JUNE | | 11 JUNE | | 12 JUNE | | Observers |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| | Accredited | Proxy | Accredited | Proxy | Accredited | Proxy | |
| BC/Yukon 780 | 315 | 343 | | | 333 | 389 | |
| Alberta/NWT 624 | 318 | 136 | | | 396 | 204 | |
| Saskatchewan 296 | 108 | 119 | | | 112 | 130 | |
| Manitoba/NWO 428 | 134 | 174 | | | 142 | 176 | |
| Ontario 1785 | 458 | 1114 | | | 482 | 1188 | |
| Quebec 236 | 19 | 58 | | | 20 | 61 | |
| New Brunswick 199 | 40 | 148 | | | 41 | 152 | |
| NS/Nunavut 343 | 147 | 186 | | | 131 | 212 | |
| P.E.I. 42 | 32 | 10 | | | 32 | 10 | |
| Newfoundland/Lab 79 | 25 | 14 | | | 27 | 14 | |
| D.E.C./P.D.P 49 | 45 | | | | 45 | 1 | |
| U.S. Zones 21 | 1 | | | | 2 | 3 | |
| Germany Zone 5 | 2 | 3 | | | | | |
| TOTALS 4887 | 1644 | 2305 | | | 1764 | 2539 | |

The figures denote the Command entitlement to delegates and proxies based upon final 2001 figures for life, ordinary, associate and affiliate-voting members (General By-Laws Section 903).

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DOMINION CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

| | | |
|-------------------|---|----------------------|
| A. Parks | - | Chairman |
| J. Kobolak | - | Vice-Chairman |
| J. Côté | - | Secretary |

Statistics

Dominion Command has received 150 resolutions from Provincial Commands.

| <u>Command</u> | <u>No. of Resolutions</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Newfoundland/Labrador | 7 |
| Prince Edward Island | 2 |
| Nova Scotia/Nunavut | 14 |
| New Brunswick | 3 |
| Quebec | 13 |
| Ontario | 36 |
| Manitoba/NWO | 6 |
| Saskatchewan | 15 |
| Alberta/NWT | 15 |
| British Columbia/Yukon | 39 |

Of these, 85 have been concurred by Provincial Conventions. Sixty-five(65) have been presented by branches through their Provincial Command Committees; they did not go to Provincial Conventions.

In addition, 38 Dominion Command Committee resolutions are presented. One additional resolution was received from the Western Zone of the U.S.A.

The total number of resolutions to be considered is 189. For comparison purposes, in 2000, 186 resolutions were considered.

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| Canadian Forces | |
| Prisoners of War | |
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| Seniors | |
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| Planning and Administration | |
| BCEL | |
| Defence | |
| Leadership, Development & Youth | |
| Poppy and Remembrance | |
| Ritual and Awards | |
| Sports | |
| Public Relations | |
| Constitution and Laws | |

Each resolution has retained the number assigned in the convention Committee Reports and resolutions booklet.

Those abbreviations for Commands such as QUE., ALTA-NWT, etc. are well known. Two new abbreviations are NS/NU for Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command and BC/Yukon for what was formally known as Pacific Command. The number following the Command is simply a control number.

The "/C" following a resolution indicates that it was approved by a Provincial Convention.

Various standing or national committees have generated resolutions and the following is a list of the abbreviations used:

| | | |
|------|---|---|
| MEM | - | Membership |
| PAPR | - | Planning, Administration, Poppy & Remembrance |
| R&A | - | Ritual and Awards |
| VSS | - | Veterans, Seniors, Service |
| DEF | - | Defence |

**LOYALTY RESOLUTION
09 JUNE 2002**

THE MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION SEND GREETINGS TO HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II AND HUMBLY DESIRE TO CONVEY TO HER MAJESTY THIS EXPRESSION OF LOYALTY AND ALLEGIANCE.

MEMBERS WILL MEET IN CELEBRATION OF OUR 39TH DOMINION CONVENTION AT EDMONTON, ALBERTA DURING THE PERIOD 09 - 13 JUNE 2002.

WE PRAY THAT YOUR GRACIOUS MAJESTY MAY LONG BE SPARED TO GUIDE THE DESTINIES OF THE GREAT BRITISH COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS.

**RÉSOLUTION DE LOYAUTÉ
LE 09 JUIN 2002**

LES MEMBRES DE LA LÉGION ROYALE CANADIENNE ENVOIENT LEURS SALUTIONS À SA MAJESTÉ LA REINE ELIZABETH II, ET DÉSIRENT HUMBLEMENT TRANSMETTRE À SA MAJESTÉ L'EXPRESSION DE LEUR LOYAUTÉ ET DE LEUR ALLÉGEANCE.

NOS MEMBRES SE RÉUNIRONT POUR CÉLÉBRER NOTRE 39IÈME CONGRÈS NATIONAL QUI AURA LIEU À EDMONTON, ALBERTA DURANT LA PÉRIODE DU 09 - 13 JUIN, 2002.

NOUS PRIONS POUR QUE VOTRE GRACIEUSE MAJESTÉ PUISSE CONTINUER À GUIDER LES DESTINÉES DE NOTRE GRAND COMMONWEALTH BRITANNIQUE DE NATIONS.

RESPONSE

RÉPONSE

**Buckingham Palace
09 June 2002**

THE QUEEN WAS PLEASED TO RECEIVE YOUR KIND MESSAGE OF LOYAL GREETINGS SENT ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 39TH DOMINION CONVENTION WHICH IS BEING HELD FROM TODAY TO AT 13 JUNE IN EDMONTON, ALBERTA.

HER MAJESTY SENDS HER BEST WISHES TO ALL THOSE PRESENT FOR AN ENJOYABLE AND SUCCESSFUL GATHERING.

PRIVATE SECRETARY

**Le Palais de Buckingham
Le 09 Juin 2002**

LA REINE ÉTAIT RAVIE DE RECEVOIR VOTRE AIMABLE MESSAGE DE SALUTATIONS LOYALES AU NOM DES MEMBRES DE LA LÉGION ROYALE CANADIENNE À L'OCCASION DE LEUR 39IÈME CONGRÈS NATIONAL, TENU À PARTIR D'AUJOURD'HUI JUSQU'AU 13 JUIN, À EDMONTON, ALBERTA.

SA MAJESTÉ TRANSMET SES MEILLEURS VOEUX À TOUS CEUX ET CELLES PRÉSENTS POUR UN RASSEMBLEMENT QUI SERA AGRÉABLE ET COURONNÉ DE SUCCÈS.

SECRÉTAIRE PRIVÉ

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE PASSED BY

THIS 39TH DOMINION CONVENTION

VETERANS, SERVICE AND SENIORS

GENERAL

1. The Obligation of Canadian Citizens to Veterans VSS 1; SASK 10C; ONT 10C; NS/NU2C

WHEREAS The Royal Canadian Legion since its inception in 1926 has advocated programs and benefits for those who serve or who have served in the Armed Forces of Canada; and

WHEREAS the nature of military conflict and the organization and operation of forces has changed; and

WHEREAS this would address Peacekeeping, a common theme; and

WHEREAS the government of Canada primarily through Veterans Affairs Canada has built up a system of programs and benefits over the years; and

WHEREAS these well intended programs and benefits have evolved apart from other social programs in such a way that many gaps and inconsistencies have been introduced into the system; and

WHEREAS the needs of those who serve or who have served Canada and their dependants can no longer be efficiently met:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Forces, the Department of National Defence, Veterans Affairs Canada, The Royal Canadian Legion and other major veterans organizations work together to develop a modern vision that will encompass the obligation of Canadians to those who serve or have served in the Canadian Forces; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this vision address an integrated approach to the diverse aspects of this obligation now covered by legislation, plans or programs such as the Pension Act and related statutes and regulations, the Service Income Security Insurance Plan, the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act, Canada Pension Plan, Employment Insurance legislation and the like; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the requirements which flow from the obligation identified in the determination of the vision be addressed by a comprehensive, integrated plan modelled on the elements of the Veterans Charter to the extent they are still relevant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the solutions proposed be analysed to determine whether the proposed integrated system would be cost effective in comparison to the program and infrastructure costs under the current systems.

2. Eligibility for Veterans Affairs Assistance VSS 2

WHEREAS Veterans Affairs Canada has traditionally provided programs to veterans based on service eligibility criteria; and

WHEREAS the criteria as specified in Regulations and Policy have become increasingly complex; and

WHEREAS with the aging of the veteran population the overriding factor has become the necessity to meet the needs of the veterans and their spouses:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Veterans Affairs Canada in consultation with veterans organizations shift from a program-based to a needs-based system for the purpose of meeting the needs of veterans and their spouses.

PENSION

3. Revision of VAC Table of Disabilities

VSS 3

WHEREAS the Veterans Affairs Canada Table of Disabilities was designed to assist advocates and VAC staff as a guideline for consistent and fair assessment of disability pensions; and **WHEREAS** the Table of Disabilities has undergone significant revision and expansion over the last two years:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Veterans Affairs Canada, in consultation with The Royal Canadian Legion, continue to review and update the Table of Disabilities to make it a more effective guideline to assist in the proper assessment of pensioners' disabilities; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that guidelines for entitlement be prepared in a like manner.

4. Study in Survivor Pension Benefits

VSS 4; BC/YUKON 4C; ONT 1C

WHEREAS the disability pension system has evolved significantly over time; and **WHEREAS** a number of changes have been introduced without necessarily integrating all the concepts effected by the changes:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Veterans Affairs Canada in consultation with The Royal Canadian Legion and other veterans organizations study the disability pension scheme, particularly with respect to survivor benefits, so that a more equitable result based on needs can be achieved.

301. Tax Break for War Veterans

ONT 24

WHEREAS Canada's war veterans made an unselfish commitment to preserve the Canadian way of life for future generations; and

WHEREAS war veterans from other countries*, residing in Canada receive veterans' pensions tax free in Canada, pursuant to treaty agreements, between governments; and

WHEREAS Canada's war veterans contributed to the economy of Canada; and

WHEREAS many of the few remaining war veterans live on fixed and rather low incomes; and

WHEREAS a \$800.00 annual tax credit would assist to relieve some of the financial stress of these veterans:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Dominion Command of The Royal Canadian Legion petition the federal government to take immediate action to pass the necessary legislation to provide an \$800.00 annual tax credit to the benefit of those few remaining Canadian war veterans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that veterans of wartime allies, residing in Canada, be eligible to receive this credit with proof of service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that fifty per cent of this tax credit be transferable to the surviving spouse, upon the passing of the war veteran.

* Countries have treaties with Canada pursuant to income tax act 'IT-397R' 02/23/90 and 07/15/95

Countries, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxemburg, Malta, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Siam (Thailand), Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Syria, Tanzania, Trinidad & Tobago, Turkey, USA, USSR, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zimbabwe.

VETERANS INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM

5. Revision of Veterans Independence Program Criteria VSS 5; QUE 6C

WHEREAS the Veterans Independence Program has admirably met the needs of those veterans who qualified through the various gateways to allow these veterans to remain in their homes rather than be institutionalized; and

WHEREAS there are still categories of veterans who are not eligible for the Veterans Independence Program:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Veterans Affairs Canada make the Veterans Independence Program available to veterans based on need for the program rather than other diverse criteria.

6. Restoration of VIP to Spouse VSS 6; BC/YUKON 5C; BC/YUKON 29; ONT 3C; QUE 3C; QUE 4C

WHEREAS the present Veterans Independence Program has been formulated for income-qualified veterans and disability pensioners only; and

WHEREAS spouses lose the benefits of the Veterans Independence Program upon the recipient veteran entering an institution or one year following the veteran's death; and

WHEREAS the Pension Act recognizes an obligation to dependent spouses through the provision of an additional pension and widows (widowers) pension; and

WHEREAS many spouses desperately require these VIP benefits to remain self-sufficient in their own homes:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Veterans Independence Program be expanded to include the continuation of spousal benefits for the recipient veteran's dependent spouse or surviving spouse where due need for the program exists.

7. Veterans Independence Program - Widow/Widower VSS 7

WHEREAS Veterans Independence Program benefits available to survivors for one year following the death of the eligible veteran are paid in arrears, subject to submitting monthly reports to Veterans Affairs; and

WHEREAS delays in payments cause undue hardships to the surviving spouse:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Veterans Affairs allow the widow/widower to receive advance payment on a monthly basis and retain the receipts, on informing Veterans Affairs Canada that there has been no changes in the home expenses following the death of the spouse.

8. VIP For RCMP VSS 8

WHEREAS recent changes to eligibility for the Veterans Independence Program now allow

Canadian Forces members to qualify while still Serving or after release when qualified as a result of their pensioned condition; and

WHEREAS the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are eligible for disability pension payments while still Serving or after release:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Veterans Independence Program be made available to members of the RCMP on the same basis as for members of the Canadian Forces.

9. Modify Income Limits

VSS 9

WHEREAS the Legion is requesting an amendment to the income requirements to the War Veterans Allowance Program, we would further recommend that the income requirement for treatment benefits and the Veterans Independence Program be also revised; and

WHEREAS under established legislation the veteran is classed at the married or single rate plus dependents, if any. At present the W.V.A ceiling as of 1 January 2002, for a single veteran is \$1,058.60, per month and for a married veteran \$1,606.58 per month; and

WHEREAS the difference in the rates is hurting the livelihood of the single veteran. Most of our veterans live in their own homes and are finding it very difficult to run their home on a single income as it takes just as much money to run a home with one person as it does for two; and

WHEREAS a single veteran can be exempted \$2,900.00 per year on employment earnings, and a married veteran \$4,200.00 per year in earnings. Again, the single veteran is at a disadvantage because the married person can apply an extra \$1,300.00 toward the cost of running the home. A good example of this is a wife of a veteran who is in good health and could go out and earn \$4,200.00 and this would not affect their W.V.A. If a single veteran confined to his home were to earn a \$100.00 a month pension over the maximum treatment rates, he could lose his treatment and V.I.P. benefits; and

WHEREAS years ago the former Secretary of State (Veterans) advised the Legion that the income requirements for single veterans were being reviewed:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that married and single rates be revised to reflect today's difficult economic times.

LONG TERM CARE

10. Allocation of Veteran's Beds

VSS 10; SASK 11C; QUE 7C; NS/NU 5C

WHEREAS the Minister of Veterans Affairs has responsibility for Long Term Care for veterans in Canada; and

WHEREAS all but Ste. Anne's hospital have a mix of veteran and non veteran residents; and

WHEREAS the allocation of beds in specific areas must balance the needs of veteran and non veteran populations; and

WHEREAS it is desirable to accommodate veterans near families and familiar community support; and

WHEREAS it is frequently desirable for spouses of veterans to have the opportunity to reside in the same facility:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Veterans Affairs Canada work closely with the veteran's organisations, provincial and municipal authorities to define appropriate criteria for the allocation of beds to veterans to ensure that their needs are met; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the criteria include the provision for accommodating the spouses of veteran when that would be appropriate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Ste. Anne's be made available to spouses of veterans provided the needs of veterans are given priority.

11. Oversight for Transition from Acute Care VSS 11

WHEREAS Veterans Affairs Canada is responsible for veterans in priority access beds and a number of long-term care facilities across the country; and

WHEREAS from time to time veterans in those facilities require acute care; and

WHEREAS Veterans Affairs Canada through the Veterans Independence Program provides meaningful help to veterans in need; and

WHEREAS some of these veterans from time to time require acute care; and

WHEREAS there is no comprehensive program conducted by Veterans Affairs Canada to ensure the needs of veterans are met when they are in a state of transition to or from acute care; and

WHEREAS cases have arisen where veterans have been released from acute care and have found themselves in perilous circumstances as a result of the lack of such a program:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Veterans Affairs Canada institute a transitional care program to meet the needs of those veterans whose circumstances result in their transition to or from acute care by overseeing a comprehensive care plan that will ensure the safety and dignity of the veteran.

TREATMENT

12. Provision of Naturopathic Medicine VSS12

WHEREAS naturopathic remedies are finding increased acceptance in medical doctrine and practice; and

WHEREAS retired public servants, retired members of the Canadian Forces and the RCMP are provided payment for naturopathic medicine under the Public Service Health Care Health Plan; and

WHEREAS veterans are not provided with naturopathic medicine under regulations and policy of Veterans Affairs Canada; and

WHEREAS provincial health plans do not consistently provide naturopathic medicine; and

WHEREAS many veterans could benefit from naturopathic medicine:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Veterans Affairs Canada change its policy and provide payment for naturopathic medicines which are demonstrated to be beneficial to the veteran.

FUNERALS AND BURIALS

13. VAC/Last Post Fund Funeral Grants VSS 13

WHEREAS the purpose of the Last Post Fund is to provide dignified funeral services and burial for eligible war veterans; and

WHEREAS the amount of financial assistance provided under the Veterans Burial Regulations and Section 44 of the Pension Act is the same as that set for Last Post Fund; and

WHEREAS the Department of Veterans Affairs increases do not reflect the rising costs of such services:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Veterans Affairs increase their rates for funeral services and burials in line with those allowed by the RCMP and/or the Department of National Defence.

CANADIAN FORCES

14. Flexibility in the CF and RCMP Superannuation Plans

VSS 14

WHEREAS current legislation in the form of the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act and the RCMP Superannuation Act provided fixed benefits which do not allow members to tailor the plans to their personal circumstances; and

WHEREAS The Royal Canadian Legion supports the proposition that the contributing members should undertake the funding associated with introducing flexibility into the superannuation plans;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Canada amend Canadian Forces and RCMP superannuation legislation to provide flexibility in the plans in respect of marriage after age 60 and that survivor benefits incorporate the principle that the extra costs are to be attributed to those exercising a specific option to receive the benefits under a flexible plan.

15. Representation on the Canadian Forces Pension Advisory Committee

VSS 15

WHEREAS the Canadian Forces Superannuation Act provides for representation of a member of a representative organization on the Canadian Forces Pension Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS the CFPAC provides policy guidance and advice to the Minister of National Defence on superannuation issues under the CFSA; and

WHEREAS the current representative, the FSNA has a wide mandate to represent all federal public servants; and

WHEREAS the membership of The Royal Canadian Legion contains a significant number of annuitants under the CFSA; and

WHEREAS the Armed Forces Pensioners Annuity Association endorses the membership of The Royal Canadian Legion to fulfill the role of representing ex-military annuitants;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Minister of National Defence appoint a representative from The Royal Canadian Legion to serve on the CFPAC.

16. Crisis Intervention Centre

VSS 16

WHEREAS Canadian Forces members are participating in intensive peacekeeping operations with greater frequency than in the past; and

WHEREAS many Canadian Forces personnel choose to leave the military, often as a result of the physical and psychological trauma they have suffered during their military service; and

WHEREAS the Canadian Forces deals with the medical condition of members almost exclusively while they are still serving; and

WHEREAS there is no comprehensive system for intervention response for former members of the Canadian Forces who are in crisis;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Veterans Affairs Canada initiate, fund and deliver a program to provide crisis intervention for former members of the Canadian Forces; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the crisis intervention program employ to the maximum former members of the Canadian Forces for the purposes of establishing credibility of the program and engaging through experience those whom it is designed to serve.

17. Institution of Career Life Review Program

VSS 17

WHEREAS members of the Canadian Forces who have served in peacekeeping missions may develop physical and psychological disabilities as a result of their service; and

WHEREAS Regular Force and Reserve Force members who are leaving or have left the military generally will have significant transition issues; and

WHEREAS British Columbia/Yukon Command of The Royal Canadian Legion has partnered with Veterans Affairs Canada and the Department of Counselling Psychology at the University of British Columbia to pilot a successful Career Life Review Program:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Veterans Affairs Canada expand the program to provide a comprehensive capability throughout Canada based on the Career Life Review Program successfully piloted in British Columbia.

18. Canadian Forces Transition Assistance VSS 18

WHEREAS members of the Armed Forces who left the military immediately after World War II received considerable assistance from government and society to integrate into civilian careers; and

WHEREAS the Canadian Forces continue to carry on the proud tradition in defence of Canadian values and world peace through numerous Peacekeeping, United Nations and Allied Force Operations; and

WHEREAS members of the Canadian Forces leaving that organization after serving their country have similar needs as those who served their country in World War II and Korea:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Minister of National Defence and the Minister of Veterans Affairs work in cooperation to implement an effective transition program for those who have been released or are about to be released from the Canadian Forces; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the transition program be implemented in full consultation with veterans organizations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the transition program be structured to employ former members of the Canadian Forces to the greatest extent possible in order to maintain credibility and provide the expertise required for the success of the program.

19. Books of Remembrance - Canadian Forces VSS 19

WHEREAS the Government of Canada has Books of Remembrance in honour of those who sacrificed their lives from Newfoundland, in South Africa and the Nile, in the Merchant Navy, in the First World War, in the Second World War, in the Korean War; and

WHEREAS many Canadian Forces members serving on UN peacekeeping missions following the Korean War or in NATO have made the ultimate sacrifice; and

WHEREAS it is appropriate for Canadians to have a tangible reminder so that the memory of those who have given their lives is perpetuated:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian government order development of a Book of Remembrance containing the names of all those who have died in the service of peace while serving in Special Duty Areas or with NATO while in the performance of their duty.

20. Pension Claims for Peacekeepers VSS 20

WHEREAS medical and service records of Canadian Forces and RCMP frequently contain gaps, missing and incomplete documentation; and

WHEREAS these deficiencies are not attributable to the members who did not control the record keeping during their service:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Veterans Affairs Canada and the Veterans Review and Appeal Board adjudicate cases fairly by drawing favourable inferences in the absence of documentary evidence and give benefit of the doubt to the applicant in these cases as required by the Pension Act and the Veterans Review and Appeal Board Act.

21. Depleted Uranium Munitions VSS 21; BC/YUKON 12/C

WHEREAS various reports have indicated the possibility of health risks to military personnel exposed to Depleted Uranium (DU) munitions; and

WHEREAS DU munitions were used by NATO forces in such conflicts as the 1991 Persian Gulf War, the 1994-95 bombing of Bosnia and the 1999 Kosovo campaign; and

WHEREAS Canadian Peacekeepers have served and are serving in those areas where DU munitions have been used and therefore may have been and may continue to be exposed to this hazard:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Canada cause all serving and former Canadian Forces Personnel who may have been exposed to DU munitions to be immediately tested to determine whether this exposure has affected their health in any way and provide any and all care required to those shown to be ill due to exposure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Canadian Federal Government continue to research the possible effects of exposure to DU munitions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, should conclusive evidence be obtained of the health risks of exposure to DU munitions, the Government of Canada support a worldwide ban of its use.

PRISONERS OF WAR

22. Prisoners of War Pensions VSS 22

WHEREAS the Pension Act currently provides for Prisoners of War Compensation to those who were Prisoners of War for over 89 days; and

WHEREAS Prisoners of War receive maximum compensation of 25% of basic pension only after 911 days:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Veterans Affairs Canada, in consultation with veterans organizations, expand Prisoners of War benefits to include those who were prisoners of war for less than 89 days; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that those imprisoned for more than 911 days be eligible for increased percentages of basic pension for each additional 365 days or portion thereof that the person was a prisoner of war.

MISCELLANEOUS

23. Travel Reductions VSS 23; QUE 5C; NB 2C

WHEREAS the federal government has imposed reductions to travel programs and benefits for veterans; and

WHEREAS other jurisdictions now provide more generous reimbursement to all citizens in recognition of increasing costs; and

WHEREAS it is appropriate for veterans to have benefits that are at least equal to those available to the general population:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that travel programs and benefits for veterans be determined on the same basis as reimbursement to public servants in similar circumstances.

24. Education Allowance VSS 24

WHEREAS the federal government terminated educational assistance to veterans and their dependants in 1995; and

WHEREAS the rationale for terminating the programs was that the need no longer existed or that there were other programs available; and

WHEREAS it is apparent that the need does still exist particularly for Canadian Forces veterans and their surviving dependants; and

WHEREAS other programs are not as comprehensive as was the case on the Education Assistance Program Veterans Affairs Canada:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the government of Canada reinstitute the Education Assistance Program for Canadian Forces veterans and their surviving dependents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Veterans Affairs Canada consult with veterans organisations and the Canadian Forces to determine appropriate criteria for eligibility.

25. Computers for Branches VSS 25

WHEREAS the Community Access Program of Industry Canada provides funding to place computers in various locations across Canada; and

WHEREAS the Industry Canada Program is designed to give broad Internet access to various segments of Canadian society; and

WHEREAS Legion branches are well situated throughout the country to qualify at appropriate locations for the computers; and

WHEREAS Veterans Affairs Canada wishes to partner with The Royal Canadian Legion to provide Health Promotion and Education information to veterans and seniors; and

WHEREAS a unique opportunity exists to use the Community Access Program to place computers in branches; and

WHEREAS branches would be able to benefit from the computers for their own purposes; and

WHEREAS the pilot projects in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island have been extremely successful:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Royal Canadian Legion cooperate with Veterans Affairs Canada and Industry Canada in order to have computers under the Community Access Program go to all branches that wish to participate.

**26. Citizenship Criteria for Canadian Veterans
VSS 26**

WHEREAS dual citizenship was not permitted prior to 1977; and

WHEREAS a number of veterans who served during World War II, Korea or subsequently in the Canadian Forces gave up their Canadian citizenship prior to 1977 to take up citizenship of another country; and

WHEREAS a number of these veterans desire to return to Canada and again become Canadian citizens:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that changes to immigration policy and procedures be made to accommodate these veterans in recognition of their service to Canada.

**27. Assessment of Veterans Benefits for Abatement of Common Social Assistance Benefits
VSS 27**

WHEREAS all Canadians according to need and the laws and regulations applicable to their place of residence enjoy various social assistance benefits for housing, income security, medical and dental treatment, long term care, and others; and

WHEREAS Canadian veterans and their dependants enjoy as a matter of right and need certain unique benefits according to a body of veterans legislation and regulations which recognizes the obligation of the people and Government of Canada to those who have served their country; and

WHEREAS certain municipal, territorial and provincial jurisdictions, in the course of dealing with veterans or dependants who may require social assistance, assess veterans benefits for the purpose of obviating or abating the social benefit that should otherwise be provided:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Royal Canadian Legion Provincial Commands investigate such situations in their own province or territory and work together with provincial, territorial and municipal authorities as required to exempt veterans benefits from the determination of social assistance benefits.

**28. Just Benevolence
VSS 28**

WHEREAS its Purposes and Objects charge The Royal Canadian Legion to provide for the welfare of all who have served and their dependants; and

WHEREAS disparities among Commands exist in both the availability of benevolent funds and the means of allocation to need; and

WHEREAS veterans and their dependants with benevolent needs may therefore be unevenly treated according to place of residence; and

WHEREAS 90 percent of Dominion Command benevolent funds are currently directed for the resolution of needs within a major Command; and

WHEREAS major Commands generally have a well developed system of benevolent fund provision and allocation:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, for a period of five years, Dominion Command benevolent funds be directed towards meeting the benevolent needs in Commands which are currently inadequately served; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Commands work together and with other service benevolent organizations to develop common procedures to ensure benevolent needs of veterans and dependants are fairly and equitably met.

SENIORS

29. Legion Seniors Housing VSS 29

WHEREAS the aging veteran population has put great pressure on the traditional long-term care facilities across the country; and

WHEREAS there are lengthy waiting lists particularly in Victoria, Ottawa and Halifax; and

WHEREAS Veterans Affairs Canada has recognized the need for alternative solutions to meet the needs of the aging veteran population; and

WHEREAS it is generally advantageous and more cost effective to maintain veterans in a home-like environment as long as possible; and

WHEREAS The Royal Canadian Legion has a network of community-based branches with willing members; and

WHEREAS some initiatives to provide assisted housing sponsored or coordinated by Legion branches exist sporadically in the country; and

WHEREAS there is a general lack of appropriate information for branches to use their initiative to coordinate such assisted housing in partnership with local health authorities and community-based organizations:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Veterans Affairs Canada actively cooperate with The Royal Canadian Legion to coordinate assisted housing efforts throughout Canada.

MEMBERSHIP

30. Branch Honorary Membership MEM/1

WHEREAS in 1998 a major restructuring of Membership categories was approved by the delegates at Dominion Convention in an attempt to simplify membership; and

WHEREAS the category of Honorary Membership was eliminated and a "Branch Honorary Membership Award" was approved so that branches could award such to local dignitaries who may otherwise not be associated with the branch; and

WHEREAS the recipient of this award is not a "member" of the Legion as such as it is strictly a branch level award, which does not provide any membership privileges and records are not maintained at either Provincial or Dominion Command level; and

WHEREAS branches are confusing this award with a Membership Category; and

WHEREAS reference to this award has been removed from the General By-Laws and appears in the Ritual and Awards Manual only:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in order to better describe the intent of the "Branch Honorary Membership Award", that it be renamed "Branch Honorary Patron Award" and that it be identified as such in the Honours and Awards Manual.

213. Life Membership ONT 5/C

WHEREAS when a member has been approved for a life membership, his branch has to pay his per capita tax for a certain number of years (depending on his age); and

WHEREAS no consideration was ever given to the situation where a member, who has been approved for life membership, dies before he has received his life membership:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that if the member dies during the process, no per capita tax

be collected.

**32. Sub-sections 205(8) - Inclusion of New Zealand
BC/YUKON 6/C**

WHEREAS under Article II - Membership, Section 205, Ordinary Members, Sub-Section 8; reads “the Vietnam War in the Forces of the United States, Australia, the Republic of Korea or South Vietnam and who was a Canadian citizen or Commonwealth subject at time of service”; and

WHEREAS this Sub-Section contains an omission in not including the Commonwealth of New Zealand; and

WHEREAS this omission has in the past excluded Canadian citizens who have served with the New Zealand Armed Forces from membership in The Royal Canadian Legion as Ordinary Members:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Sub-Section 8 of Section 205 be amended to include New Zealand.

**34. Membership in USA Branches/Posts
EASTERN ZONE 1**

WHEREAS the liquor licencing commission regulations in the United states is different to those in Canada; and

WHEREAS their licencing regulations require every member of a Club or Organization to be a voting member; and

WHEREAS these regulations make it very difficult for the United States Branches/Posts to recruit new members:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Sections 211, 212 and 213 of The General By-Laws pertaining to United States Branches/Posts be changed to read:

**Affiliate Voting Members
USA Branches/Posts only**

211. (1) Affiliate voting membership is open to any USA citizen who is of federal voting age and who is not eligible for ordinary membership or associate membership and who supports the purposes and objects of The Royal Canadian Legion.

(2) A member admitted under subsection (1) is not permitted to transfer membership to a branch of the Legion in Canada.

212. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 205 to 211, any person who was qualified and became an ordinary, associate or affiliate member of a branch in Canada shall retain such qualification notwithstanding that the member has become a citizen of the United States of America.

**306. Associate Membership - Fire Services
BC/YUKON 31**

WHEREAS members in City, Municipal and Provincial Police Forces, receive Ordinary Membership after no less than one year service in their Police Forces; and

WHEREAS Firemen who risk their lives in their occupation (September 11th is a good example) have to join the Legion as Non-Voting Affiliates if they don't qualify as Ordinary or Associate Members and must wait two years before receiving the right to vote at branch meetings:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that members of City, Municipal, volunteer, unorganized territories and Federal Fire Services be eligible for Associate Membership after no less than one year service in these Fire Services.

PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION

35. Convention Entertainment Night PAPR 1; NS/NU 6/C

WHEREAS the cost of providing a special evening of entertainment to complement the Convention Opening Ceremonies is very high (over \$20,000); and

WHEREAS a great percentage of the expense is paid for staging and audio equipment rather than for entertainment; and

WHEREAS the programmed night of entertainment competes with those local branches which would prefer to organize their own entertainment activities on the night before Convention; and

WHEREAS the local branches look forward to the fund-raising opportunities as presented by Convention attendees:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Sunday evening of entertainment as organized by Dominion Command for future Conventions be cancelled in favour of enabling local branches to provide entertainment activities on that evening.

36. Honourary Officers - Grand President PAPR 2

WHEREAS the current wording of section 403 of The General By-Laws is very vague as to the term of office of the Grand President:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that section 403 of The General By-Laws be amended to read as follows:

403. (1) The term of office of the Grand President and other honorary officers as appointed by the Dominion President will be from Dominion Convention to Dominion Convention and may be extended as circumstances warrant.

37. Sub-Executive Committee Size - Reduction PAPR 3

WHEREAS Section 413 of The General By-Laws dictates that the Dominion Command Sub-Executive Committee shall consist of ten members including the President, First Vice-President, four Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Immediate Past President; and

WHEREAS the cost to support Dominion Committees continues to grow and Sub-Executive wishes to constrain its expenditures; and

WHEREAS the position of Vice-Chairman is not deemed to be essential for the conduct of Legion business:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Vice-Chairman's position be deleted from the Dominion Sub-Executive Committee and the By-Laws be amended accordingly; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that for Dominion Convention, that the Chairman of the host Command or other able member willing to accept this responsibility be appointed as "Vice Chairman of Convention" for the duration of the Convention.

38. Legion Supply System
NB 3/C

WHEREAS the cost of operating a Legion Supply System at the command level is, in most cases, no longer economically feasible and continues to be a drain on manpower; and

WHEREAS by and large very few of our members actually have access to purchase Legion supply items through their branches for one reason or another; and

WHEREAS should access to the purchase of Legion supplies be made available to all branches and members through an internet ordering system or some similar system, significant increases in sales would occur:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Dominion Command be requested to conduct a feasibility study into developing and implementing a "Direct Sales" program whereby access to the purchase of Legion supplies would be made available directly to members, branches and individuals by way of the internet, Legion magazine and/or other such resource; such a study to consider some or all of the following but not limited to such topics:

Return for credit of current inventories held by commands

Profit sharing by commands

Credit Card purchases to be accepted

Ladies Auxiliary regalia items to be included

Commands still be authorized to sell their own "non-regalia" items.

39. Standard Size of Certificates
ONT 21

WHEREAS Ontario Provincial Command awards Certificates for various reasons - Appreciation Certificates, Youth Education awards Certificates, etc.; and

WHEREAS these Certificates should be filled out in a manner befitting the high standards of The Royal Canadian Legion; and

WHEREAS it is not always possible to obtain the services of a calligrapher; and

WHEREAS these Certificates can be filled out with the acceptable lettering by the use of a computer; and

WHEREAS these certificates are of a size not compatible to a standard computer printer with an 8 ½ x 11 inch paper tray as they are 9 x 12 inches; and

WHEREAS frames for the 9 x 12 inch Certificates are not only hard to obtain but are much more costly than those frames of 8 ½ x 11 inches:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Royal Canadian Legion standardize the size of all Certificates - both landscape and portrait layout - to that of 8 ½ x 11 inches.

40. National Memorial Day
NS/NU 9/C

WHEREAS a National Memorial Day on August 19 for the Remembrance in perpetuity of one of the Canadian Armed Forces greatest battles of WW II, whose outcome while not totally victorious should not be regulated to the forgotten. The Battle of Dieppe was one where Canadians together were involved by Sea, Land and in the Air; and

WHEREAS the greatest involvement was by Units of the Canadian Army, whose losses exceeded 900 in the very short space of time of several hours. There is no greater example in Canadian History of loyalty, devotion to duty, love of Country, Comradeship in Arms than displayed by those men of Canada who died or survived on the beaches of Dieppe; and

WHEREAS these men were from all areas of Canada and deserve an honour place in our Canadian History as their Fathers and Grandfathers earned for their Country at Vimy Ridge

25 years before. Their memory is to honour all Canadian Battles none of which should be forgotten; and

WHEREAS there has never been a Memorial Day set aside to honour those personnel of the Canadian Army exclusively. We have commemorated the RCAF personnel by the Battle of Britain and the RCN by the Battle of the Atlantic. There is no public holiday in August, therefore the 19th of August, and only on that day, a memorial day should be Nationally declared to honour our Comrades in totality, those who have paid the supreme sacrifice for their Country, Canada:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Royal Canadian Legion petition the Government of Canada to pass the necessary legislation to ensure that the 19th of August be known as 'THE BATTLE OF DIEPPE DAY'.

41. Desecration of Canadian Flag SASK 7/C

WHEREAS the general rules of the Department of the Secretary of State, direct, in part, that "at all times the Canadian Flag should be treated with dignity and respect and flown or displayed properly"; and

WHEREAS Legionnaires are appalled at the actions of certain demonstrators during the North American Trade Conference in Quebec City as depicted on the television by various stations during the anti trade demonstrations; and

WHEREAS this Command regards this desecration of Canada's Flag, to be a direct insult to Canada and especially its Veterans who gave their lives so that our country could be free from such blatant acts of disrespect:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian Government make such persons accountable for these insults by amending the Criminal Code of Canada to include a provision to make it a criminal offense punishable on summary conviction:

1. for any person to mar, alter, desecrate or defile the Flag of Canada for any purpose where the effect thereof is to lower in esteem the Flag of Canada;
2. for anyone publicly to carry, hold or display a Canadian Flag altered in a fashion described in paragraph a.

DEFENCE

42. Requirement for a National Security Policy Review DEF 1

WHEREAS the formulation of National Defence and Foreign Affairs policies must logically flow from a National Security policy which outlines Canadian values, national interests, aims and objectives in the global environment; and

WHEREAS the present National Defence policy was formulated without reference to a national security policy and has postulated objectives and aims in recent times as in the past, and as reflected in the 1994 Defence White Paper; and

WHEREAS the 1994 Defence White Paper reflected a post Cold War era where peace dividends saw defence capabilities traded for social programs; and

WHEREAS as evident from recent national (ice storm) and global (11 September) events, the Canadian Forces ability to respond to crisis situations highlights the underfunded and overstretched nature of the nation's military capability; and

WHEREAS an accepted National Security Policy would guide the activities of government in the resolution of fiscal or security situations of the future:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a Canadian National Security Policy be completed from which should follow National Defence and Foreign Affairs policies which would guide Canada

in today's global environment and provide for adequate defence capability.

43. Support of Canadian Forces Personnel and Their Families DEF 2

WHEREAS service personnel of the Canadian Forces continue to proudly and professionally represent the Peoples and values of Canada while on operational deployments in support of peace support operations and other operations around the globe; and

WHEREAS personnel reductions in the Canadian Forces have reduced the number of personnel in our military; and

WHEREAS the amount of taskings and deployments have not been reduced; and

WHEREAS the military families are living these deployments along with the service person through enhanced global communications and media; and

WHEREAS in recent years the media has not always reported favourably on the exploits of our sailors, soldiers, sailors and air men and women:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Royal Canadian Legion, through all levels of the organization, continue to provide our support to advocate on behalf of our Canadian Forces personnel and to educate the Canadian public; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Royal Canadian Legion, though all levels of the organization, continue to provide our support and assistance to the families of our serving members of the Canadian Forces.

44. Training Leave for Full Time Employee Reservists BC/YUKON 14/C

WHEREAS the 1995 Special Commission on restructuring the Reserves emphasized the need to make the reserve capability more meaningful and effective for Canada's defence efforts; and

WHEREAS by 2006 it is planned to increase the Army reserves from 13,500 to 18,500; and

WHEREAS the Department of National Defence seeks recruits with contemporary skills and high school graduation for understaffed technical areas, e.g. HMCS Huron is docked indefinitely for staffing shortages; and

WHEREAS post-secondary students will join the reserves for 85% of regular pay, as a summer job but often fail to continue once fully employed, National Defence loses both their continuity and experience:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Minister of National Defence, through his Monitoring Committee on Change in the Department of National Defence and Canadian Forces, seek to amend the appropriate legislation to require all Canadian employers to guarantee reservist employees two weeks leave per year without pay for military training. This in addition to regular holidays and without loss of seniority.

45. Peacekeeping Medal - Cuba NS/NU 7/C

WHEREAS the Cuban Missile Crisis was the greatest and most aggressive threat to the safety and security of Canada and its Allies since the Second World War; and

WHEREAS the Canadian Military, especially the Naval Forces, were mobilized and sent in harms way for the detection of and possible protection against potentially hostile nuclear conventional forces of the then USSR; and

WHEREAS with the help of our forces, the potential holocaust was averted; and

WHEREAS many of the Armed Forces personnel who participated in this campaign have not been otherwise recognized for their service to Canada:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command through Dominion

Command petition the Government of Canada to have past members of the Canadian Armed Forces who served "In Theatre" during the Cuban Missile Crisis considered eligible for the Peacekeeping Medal, or an appropriate decoration.

**46. State of Canadian Forces
SASK 9/C; BC/YUKON 13/C; ONT 18**

WHEREAS one of the Purposes and Objects of The Royal Canadian Legion is advocating the maintenance by Canada of adequate and sufficient forces on land, sea and in the air for the defence of our country; and

WHEREAS the Canadian Forces, through its regular, reserve and cadet components, brings international recognition of Canada's sovereignty and constitutes a truly national organization modelling unity; and

WHEREAS since the early sixties, successive governments have effected disproportionate reductions in the defence budget with corresponding capability short falls; and

WHEREAS personnel reductions have resulted in over tasking of personnel, morale problems and training deficiencies; and

WHEREAS equipment on the land and in the air has been allowed to become deficient and outmoded; and

WHEREAS the ability of Canada to field and sustain meaningful forces in support of the many UN and NATO operations has been a matter of great concern to the Chief of Defence Staff;

WHEREAS the availability of forces to meet emergency, assistance and disaster recovery tasks in Canada is of increasing concern to citizens; and

WHEREAS the need for Defence Forces is increasing rather than decreasing, as our shores become inviting targets for people-smugglers and our sovereignty is challenged in the Arctic and our resolve remains strong to continue Peacekeeping:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Canada take the steps necessary to increase the funding level of the Department of National Defence to ensure cadet, reserve and regular components of the Canadian Forces are structured, organized, trained and equipped to meet current national security needs and our international commitments.

LEADERSHIP, DEVELOPMENT AND YOUTH

**47. Brochure Identifying Dominion Command Contest Winners
ONT 12/C**

WHEREAS branch youth education chairmen and their committees work extremely hard preparing for and conducting the annual poster, poetry and essay contests; and

WHEREAS some communities do not have Legions so the students participate through a Legion in another community; and

WHEREAS the award winners are identified in the awards booklet, prepared by Dominion Command, by the community where they live:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Dominion Command, in the awards booklet, identify the student by name, the name and number of the branch, and the community branch and school that they represent.

**48. Judging of Contests at Dominion Command
ONT 13/C**

WHEREAS in the literary, poems and poster contests, the branch, zone, district and provincial commands have set dates for the results to be forwarded; and

WHEREAS Dominion Command does not have a set date to advise of the results of said competitions; and

WHEREAS some results are received after school closings for the summer and the awards cannot be presented until the following year:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the judging at the Dominion level must be completed by March 31st and the results and awards be given to the District Chairman no later than April 30th of any given year.

49. Rules for Legion Contests ONT 27

WHEREAS Branch Youth Education Committees across Canada conduct a Remembrance Day Poster contest for Elementary and High Schools each year; and

WHEREAS the reason for the contest is to encourage our young people to study the deep meaning and purpose of Remembrance and to express their thoughts in the form of art; and

WHEREAS thousands of students across the Country take part in the contest, producing excellent results; and

WHEREAS the Rules and Regulations of the contest require the student to leave a 2 to 3 inch wide border around the art work, so that the National 1st place winner in each category can be easily framed for display in the National War Museum; and

WHEREAS the students find it difficult to maintain clean neat borders, which become messy, wrinkled and torn while taking them home to work on them or leaving them in the school where no adequate storage facilities exist; and

WHEREAS the poster becomes ineligible when the students tidy up their work, which is unfair to thousands of students who become discouraged and refuse to take part in the contest:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Dominion Command remove the controversial rule in the Rules and Regulations of the Remembrance Day Contest, which requires the student to leave a 2 to 3 inch wide border around the art work.

331. Annual Legion Contests ONT 22

WHEREAS grades 1-3 in the schools are eligible to participate in the public speaking contest held by The Royal Canadian Legion; and

WHEREAS grades 1-3 are not eligible to participate in the poster, poem and essay contest, above branch level, by The Royal Canadian Legion; and

WHEREAS those grades 1-3 are the platform for the contests in the upper grades:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Royal Canadian Legion acknowledge grades 1-3 and they be included for grading and consideration in the Legion annual poster, poem and essay contest above branch level, namely Zone, District, Provincial and Dominion levels.

POPPY AND REMEMBRANCE

50. Article 1105 (1) of The General By-Laws BC/YUKON 2/C

WHEREAS the wording of Article 1105(1) reads in part “except in the case of registered Veterans” organizations whose aims and objects are for providing accommodation or care facilities exclusively for Veterans and dependants; and

WHEREAS some hospitals and care facilities have an allotment of Federally funded Priority Access beds for Veterans and dependants:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that line 8 of Article 1105 (1) of The General By-Laws be amended by deleting the word “exclusively”. Article 1105 (1) would then read:

A command, or, subject to the prior approval of the provincial command, a district, zone, branch or group of branches may allot not more than fifty percent of the balance in a poppy trust account, except in the case of a registered veterans' organization whose aims and objectives are for providing accommodation or care facilities for veterans and dependants, on the thirtieth day of September in the year preceding the allotment for the purchase, construction, reconstruction, maintenance, renewal, repair, furnishing or refurbishing of housing accommodation or care facilities for elderly or disabled persons and their dependants.

51. Section 1106 of The General By-Laws BC/YUKON 3/C

WHEREAS Sub-Sections 1106 (1), (2) & (3) is limited to the amount you can donate by Section 1105(1) which limits a branch donation of not more than 50% of the balance in the Branch Poppy Trust Fund as of September 30th regardless of what was raised in the Poppy Campaign; and

WHEREAS Section 1105(1) refers to purchase, reconstruction, maintenance, renewal, repair, furnishing or refurbishing of housing accommodation etc. This specification could be of major expense and where most branches would not be using this Section; and

WHEREAS Section 1106(1), (2) & (3) refers to more common items that a branch would be asked to donate to out of the Poppy Funds:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the wording in the first paragraph of Section 1106 be changed to read:

The Command, or, subject to the prior approval of the Provincial Command, a District, Zone, Branch or a group of Branches, may expend a portion of the monies in its Poppy Trust Account, not exceeding fifty percent of the total available in the account on the date prior approval is requested preceding the expenditure for the following purposes:

52. Use of Poppy Trust Fund NFLD/LAB 4/C

WHEREAS the present Poppy Manual, Article 40(l) of the Do's and Don'ts Section reads: “reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred by the Remembrance and Poppy chairman to attend Remembrance and Poppy Seminars”; and

WHEREAS due to other commitments, the Remembrance and Poppy Chairman may not be available to attend:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that article 40(l) of the present Poppy Manual be amended to read “reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred by the Remembrance and Poppy chairman or his replacement to attend Remembrance and Poppy Seminars”.

RITUAL AND AWARDS

54. Wearing of War Medals
SASK 8/C

WHEREAS we have twice had a private member's bill before our Parliament, to amend the criminal code of Canada concerning the wearing of war decorations; and

WHEREAS this type of bill if passed in Parliament would allow any relative of a deceased veteran the right to wear military decorations, medals, badges and chevrons on Remembrance Day and at any commemoration to or for veterans; and

WHEREAS medals awarded to individuals on behalf of the Canadian People are in recognition of extraordinary personal contributions to the nation. They represent great deeds, heroism, or a lifetime of achievements and service. They are the highest forms of recognition that Canada can confer on its citizens; and

WHEREAS we fervently believe that the only person who should ever wear a decoration, medal or badge and chevron, is the person who earned it. We also feel that if this were to pass, it would devalue the Canadian Honours system. Decorations and medals identify those who deserve specific honours. If they can be worn by others the meaning becomes diluted and eventually lost; and

WHEREAS we the members of Saskatchewan Command, The Royal Canadian Legion believe that there are much better ways to honour our Veterans who have passed on and this is for the family to have the medals mounted, framed and displayed in a special place of honour. Their story of duty and sacrifice may thus be highlighted for generations to come:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Dominion Executive Council, do everything within its power to lobby our members of Parliament, informing them that The Royal Canadian Legion's membership is displeased with this members bill and ask that they vote against such a proposal, thereby ensuring that our veterans medals and honours are kept sacred to those who earned them.

342. Order of Wearing Medals
SASK 15

WHEREAS The Royal Canadian Legion is now accepting more and more Associate and Affiliate members into our organization; and

WHEREAS we now have only a written layout of the precedence of wearing Legion medals in The Ritual & Insignia Manual under Article 204 of Chapter 2; and

WHEREAS these newer, younger members cannot visualize the Legion uniform with medals:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in the next printing of The Ritual & Insignia Manual that a full picture in full uniform with medals and their order of precedence be added to the manual.

55. Clasp for Campaign Ribbon
ONT 8/C

WHEREAS a wound stripe was awarded to wounded personnel during World War I; and

WHEREAS there were 53,146 wounded during World War II and 1,558 were wounded in Korea, and some personnel have been wounded on Peacekeeping Missions; and

WHEREAS there has not been any recognition for these personnel:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a clasp be awarded with the letter 'W' on it to be worn on the campaign ribbon in which the wound was received; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Dominion Command pursue the Canadian government to make this clasp available.

56. Flag Day
QUE 10/C

WHEREAS The 15th of February is officially known as Flag Day:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Royal Canadian Legion petition the Federal Government to make the Flag Day a statutory holiday. This would help the population to be more aware of our flag.

57. Defacing or Misuse of National Flag ONT 6/C

WHEREAS the Maple Leaf is recognized as Canada's Flag; and

WHEREAS Canada's armed forces are recognized all over the world by the Maple Leaf:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the federal government make it law that defacing or misuse of our national flag be considered a criminal offense and that the unlawful removal of the flag be made an offense.

58. Bars for all Chairs of Committees ONT 4/C

WHEREAS there are nine Standing Committees at all levels of The Royal Canadian legion according to our by-laws and these Chairs are all very important to the Legion and its future; and

WHEREAS each of these Chairs hold very important and diverse responsibilities; and

WHEREAS the recent Dominion Convention passed a resolution supplying a bar for public relations, sports and youth education, in addition to membership and poppy, which were previously supplied, to a total of 5 chairs being so honoured:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that all remaining Standing Chairs have the appropriate bar struck at all levels.

59. Canadian Veterans' Flag NS/NU 1/C

WHEREAS many individual Veteran Organizations have their own flag or ensign; and

WHEREAS these flags/ensigns are recognized by The Royal Canadian Legion and the Canadian Government; and

WHEREAS a number of these flags have Royal Approval; and

WHEREAS Canadian Veterans who have served in any of the following conflicts, 1812 War, South African War, Crimean War, WWI, WWII, Korean War, Gulf War and Peacekeeping do not have a common flag; and

WHEREAS the Canadian Heritage, Veterans Affairs have agreed to such a flag:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that The Royal Canadian Legion give their support in recognizing the "Veterans' Flag" as the flag that represents all Canadian Veterans.

60. Inclusion of Nunavut Flag ONT 30

WHEREAS the Ritual & Insignia manual last went to print prior to the Territory of Nunavut's creation; and

WHEREAS Chapter 10, Article 1003 includes "a. to i." being 10 provinces and two territories:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that article 1003 be amended to include (m.) Nunavut at the next reprint.

**62. Life Membership Lapel Pin Backing
ALTA-NWT 2/C**

WHEREAS Life membership is a distinctive honour awarded by The Royal Canadian Legion; and
WHEREAS the recipients of this second highest award proudly wear the Life Membership lapel pin and only the “L” distinguishes this lapel pin from other Legion service pins; and

WHEREAS the 50 Year Service Pin awarded to members has been enhanced by the addition of a gold backing plate:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Dominion Command of The Royal Canadian Legion approve and strike a distinctive backing plate for the Life Membership in possibly the colour of Legion blue; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this backing plate be available for purchase from Legion supply by all past Life Membership recipients.

**236. Branch Chaplain Manual
BC/YUKON 10/C**

WHEREAS Dominion Command publishes manuals for nearly all Branch positions, i.e., - Sports, Honours & Awards, Ritual & Insignia, Branch News Guidelines etc.; and

WHEREAS there are no complete guidelines for the Branch Chaplains as to suggested sermons and scripture for a particular ceremony:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Dominion Command publish a guideline manual for the Branch Chaplain that would include suggested sermons and scriptures for various ceremonies such as Remembrance Day, Funerals, Dedication of Flags, Buildings, Cairns etc.

SPORTS

**64. Prizes for 5th Player - Dominion Curling Championships
SPORTS 1**

WHEREAS the 2000 Dominion Convention authorized Provincial curling rinks to carry and use a fifth player, at no expense to Provincial or Dominion Commands; and

WHEREAS Dominion Command currently only provides prizes for four players on the first and second place teams; and

WHEREAS a five person team has since won a Dominion curling event, resulting in embarrassment for organizers and participants when prizes were only presented to four of the five team members:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provision of prizes to a fifth player on the first and second place teams at a Dominion regular or senior curling event be permitted and that the minimal costs be absorbed by Dominion Command.

**65. Member Participation in Sports - Ladies Auxiliary
ALTA-NWT 4/C**

WHEREAS the Ladies Auxiliary are a positive asset in a great many branches, both operationally and economically, and many members desire to participate in Legion Sports at all levels; and

WHEREAS a number of Ladies Auxiliary Members may not choose to also be branch members, one reason being that the payment of double dues may be an economic hardship:
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Legion Sports Program be renamed from "Member Participation Sports" to "Member and Ladies Auxiliary Sports" to allow for the entry of Ladies Auxiliary Members into Provincial and Dominion play-downs; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Ladies Auxiliary members may participate in all Legion Sports at all levels with eligibility requirements reference Ladies Auxiliary Membership being the same as for members of The Royal Canadian Legion with permission of the Legion Provincial Commands.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

66. Legion Web Site

MAN/NWO 3/C; PE1 1/C; NS/NU 10/C; QUE 13/C; ONT 28; SASK 12/C

WHEREAS the use of the internet is increasing and web sites and e-mail are becoming more common at all levels of the Legion; and

WHEREAS the use of web sites can provide branches with fast and free access to all levels of the Legion with e-mail; and

WHEREAS the world wide web could become the centre of effective communications between members and branches; branches and zones, districts or commands; and

WHEREAS Dominion Command cannot provide links to web sites below those at the provincial command level as it is considered that it would be in violation of a resolution passed at Dominion Convention that prohibits Dominion Command from giving people access to bulk addresses of branches; and

WHEREAS it considered that the provision of internet links throughout the Legion would not contravene the previous ruling which was meant to address the problem of regular mail; and

WHEREAS the linking of web sites would benefit all levels of the Legion and eventually become a main means of communication and recruiting:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that all web site managers at all levels of the Legion in this Command be permitted to provide links to all other Legion web sites in this Command; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be taken to Dominion Convention for ratification so that there will be a nation wide linkage of Legion web sites through the main Legion web page.

67. CD with Legion Trademarks

ONT 36

WHEREAS we are living in a computer age; and

WHEREAS many Legion branches have computers; and

WHEREAS the cost of printing is very high when most branches are struggling to make ends meet:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Command at Provincial and Dominion level make available to Legion branches, a CD or floppy disc for their use in producing letterhead, envelopes, posters and advertising with Legion Logos, Crest and regalia symbols. This would be useful to Public Relations Officers, Entertainment Chairmen, Sports Officers and the Branch in general.

CONSTITUTION AND LAWS

68. Holding of Property

NS/NU 14

WHEREAS branches are entering into agreements for mortgages, leases, renovations, etc.; and
WHEREAS branches may from time to time find themselves in financial difficulties; and
WHEREAS The General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion Article I, Section 120, Sub-para(4) state: "Except in the course of the ordinary and usual activities of the branch, the trustees of a branch may not sell, lease, mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or alienate in any manner, any property held by them without prior written consent of the Provincial Command:
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Dominion Command of The Royal Canadian Legion amend The General By-Laws to state: "Except in the course of the ordinary and usual activities of the Branch, a Branch or the trustees of a branch may not sell, lease, mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or alienate in any manner, any property held by them without prior written consent of the Provincial Command.

NOTICE OF MOTION

The Membership Committee presented a notice of motion that the following resolution would be considered at the 2004 Convention in London, Ontario.

SUBJECT: Reduction of Membership Categories

WHEREAS in 1998 Membership categories were reduced from seven to five in an effort to simplify the membership process and to reduce the ongoing problem of dealing with resolutions at each convention to expand categories, especially the associate category; and

WHEREAS at the 2000 Dominion Convention resolutions were dealt with expanding the Ordinary category which has resulted in the elimination of a category recognizing only those who served in the Canadian and Her Majesty's forces and Her allied forces; and

WHEREAS at the 2002 Dominion Convention additional resolutions were submitted which called for the further expansion of the Ordinary category, thus it appears the same situation is occurring with the Ordinary category as did with the Associate category; and

WHEREAS It would appear that if this trend continues it will make the need for different categories redundant as everyone could end up an Ordinary member, and if this happened the history and traditions of the organization would be in jeopardy. It would therefore be prudent to act now to ensure that we preserve our military roots while making the organization accessible to all Canadians while eliminating the need to continuously expand membership categories.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That a new "Military Service" category be introduced covering all those currently included in subsections 205 (1) to 205 (8) of the 2000 General By-Laws and that subsections 205 (9) and 205 (10) and sections 206, 207 and 208 be combined into a new "Associate" category; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a new Associate Non-Voting category be introduced to include those who are not Canadian citizens or Commonwealth subjects but who support the aims and objects of The Royal Canadian Legion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all those currently holding Ordinary membership be "grandfathered" into the new "Military Service" category. All those currently holding Associate membership and those holding Affiliate voting and Affiliate non-voting membership who are Canadian citizens or Commonwealth subjects be "grandfathered" into the new Associate category. All those holding Affiliate Non-Voting membership who are not Canadian citizens or Commonwealth subjects be "grandfathered" into the new Associate Non-Voting category.

**ADDRESS TO THE
39TH BIENNIAL DOMINION CONVENTION OF
THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
BY
THE HONOURABLE DR. REY D. PAGTAKHAN, P.C., M.P.
MINISTER OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Thank you Allan for those kind words of introduction. Mr. Parks, first let me say how delighted I am to be attending my first Royal Canadian Legion Dominion Command Convention.

As the "new guy on the block", I cannot emphasize enough how much I have relied and will continue to rely on the Legion's advice and wisdom. To that end just last week Larry Murray and I met with Allan Parks and Duane Daly, along with Bob Cassels from ANAVETS and Cliff Chadderton from the NCVA. It was the second such meeting we had since I took over the Portfolio last January. May I say how valuable indeed, these meetings are to me. They have been extremely positive and instructive sessions, and I am very happy to say that they are to be regular events. It is my intent that we meet formally at least three times a year so that we can keep your priorities at centre stage as we work together to deliver the best possible services and benefits for our Veterans and their families over the next few years.

My commitment to you is clear. I consider Public Service a vocation; I and my staff are here to serve; and we best honour you by the quality of services and programs we deliver, and the care with which we do so.

I come to this job with an open heart, and an open mind. Health and health care have been a consuming passion of mine all my life. That is why I trained and worked as a doctor. I bring to the Veterans portfolio an equal passion for finding solutions to these and other issues that concern you the most.

I want to also mention my recent appointment to Secretary of State (Science, Research and Development). I want to assure you that I remain completely committed to my primary responsibilities as Minister of Veterans Affairs and in fact, this appointment can be helpful, especially in our efforts to ensure services and benefits improvement for veterans are supported by sound research.

As for the issues and challenges facing the Department, although the details can be complex, and the answers sometimes elusive, there is a clarity in the task at hand. Allow me to present these to you in three broad categories:

First - how do we continue to best serve the ongoing health, and long term care needs of our war era Veterans whose advancing years bring a complex set of demands?

Second - how do we best serve the needs of Canadian Forces Veterans and still-serving members who are increasingly in need of our assistance as a result of their current service?

And third - as we begin to lose our first-hand witnesses - our war era Veterans - how do we best keep the flame of remembrance alive so that the sacrifices they made in the 20th century will be remembered as well as those of Canada's Peacekeepers. Not to mention the ongoing response to duty by the men and women who stand on guard for us at home and abroad.

The overriding objective of Veterans Affairs Canada is to provide exemplary service to all of our clients. I want to emphasize that I am very proud of and fully accept my mandated responsibility for the long-term care of Veterans, whether they are at home or in long-term care facilities.

One of the top three priorities identified by the Veterans' organizations is the issue of national standards

of long-term care. Some concern has been expressed about the consistency of care offered to Veterans across the country and the need for a national standard of care, particularly since there have been cutbacks to many provincial health care budgets. We want to maintain the highest standards in long-term care facilities in cooperation with our colleagues in the provinces.

VAC shares the goals outlined by the Legion and the other Veterans' organizations in ensuring a high standard of care for Veterans. We are determined that the standard of care you and your comrades receive remains at a level we would want to have for all our loved ones.

To meet this goal we have partnered with the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation (the Council) and the Legion to establish an improved national health care accreditation program which will enhance the quality of care offered to Veterans in long-term care facilities across Canada.

The Council is a national, independent, non-profit organization, which assists health services organizations across Canada by objectively reviewing the care and quality of service provided to each organization's clients and comparing the findings against a set of national standards.

I'm proud to say that 93 per cent of our Priority Access Beds are already in accredited facilities.

In addition, through a contract with the Council signed a few months ago, I am pleased to announce that the Council has integrated VAC's 10 care outcome standards - ranging from safety and security to food quality - into its national accreditation process. Ultimately, this national standard will help us ensure that we meet the ongoing health, quality of life and long-term care needs of our war era Veterans whose advancing years bring a unique set of needs.

As well, we are grateful that the Legion is helping us in this area by securing volunteers to work in monitoring quality of care in community long-term care facilities. I also understand from our meeting on the May 29th that your organization has been successful in acquiring some potential surveyors to help in this monitoring. This will be a great addition to the work my staff does in their annual surveys at our contract facilities.

To give you a bit of local flavour, Veterans Affairs Canada has been actively partnering with provincial and regional health authority officials in Alberta to ensure that Veterans in this province have the most modern long-term care facilities and programs available to them. For example, in Calgary, our officials have been working with the Calgary Regional Health Authority, the Carewest Organization, the "Friends of the Colonel Belcher" and local Veteran organizations to plan for the replacement of the Colonel Belcher Veterans' Care Centre with a brand new facility which is scheduled to open in the spring of 2003. Here in Edmonton, a similar process is under way with the Capital Care Group and local Veteran organizations to plan for the replacement of the Mewburn Veterans Center with a new state-of-the-art facility in the next few years. Both initiatives will ensure that Alberta Veterans will have the highest quality facilities well into the future. And VAC will be there to support both projects financially, as well.

We are working to ensure that our Residential Care Strategy will continue to be well placed to respond to the current and future needs of our Veterans. And over the years we have developed considerable expertise in encouraging excellence in long-term care, bolstered by the professional advice provided by our Gerontological Advisory Council. This Council brings together experts in the field of health care and elderly care, seniors issues as well as representatives of the Veteran community to provide ongoing advice to myself and to the Department. Their work is very important in helping us help Veterans.

You may also be aware that the House of Commons Standing Committee on National Defence and Veterans Affairs has a sub-committee on Veterans Affairs which is also very interested in the long-term care Veterans receive. We are familiar with the work of the Committee and look forward to receiving whatever support and guidance they can offer us as we move forward in addressing your needs in this very important area.

Our Residential Care Strategy emphasizes three major themes in caring for the very old. Dementia care.

Palliative Care. And Respite Care. Particularly, we want to ensure that state-of-the-art dementia care is delivered to our residents. Consequently we have been helping long-term care facilities review their care of dementia patients.

We have also initiated a major renovation project to ensure that Ste Anne's Hospital meets provincial standards. Our investment of \$67.7 million will help the Hospital and its staff to build upon its international reputation and considerable expertise in the specialized clinical care of the elderly. In addition we have invested significant capital to these same ends at other care centres. \$1.25 million at the Deer Lodge Hospital in Winnipeg. \$13.4 million in improvements in Atlantic Canada, \$2.75 million in Sunnybrook in Toronto, \$1 million in Perley and Rideau Veterans's Health Centre, and \$1 million to the *Centre hospitalier universitaire de Québec*, to name just a few.

Through our meetings, I believe that together we are making good progress in addressing, not only the priorities identified by your organization, but also other issues that affect your quality of life. One of the topics that is under discussion is your resolution to expand VIP services to surviving spouses of Veterans. And I have agreed to organize a discussion with all the Veterans' organizations to establish some basic costs and identify and discuss options. I have asked that this happen and another meeting be set up with me within a few months. In the meantime, we are working with Edmonton native, Dr. Norah Keating, a member of our Gerontological Advisory Council, to follow up on her study of VAC policies that negatively affect caregivers. We will do this in partnership with the Legion. Indeed, I am optimistic that this work will provide us with some viable options to consider.

I am very happy to say that we have come to a consensus on a proposal to try to enhance POW compensation payments in response to long standing resolutions by the Legion and other Veterans' organizations. This will require legislative amendments and we are working on this front.

I am also pleased to share with you the progress of our new contract for administering health claims. You are all familiar with the health care identification or TAPS card which you use to directly bill for those health care services and products not covered by your provincial plans, such as prescription drugs. Starting in 2003 you will be able to use that same card for your at-home VIP services so that you won't incur any out-of-pocket expenses. By adding access to VIP services on your health care identification cards, this should make your transactions just that much easier.

Let me now briefly turn to our Canadian Forces Veterans. As a percentage of our overall clientele, the number of Canadian Forces Veterans who come to our offices across the country continues to climb. By 2005, they will represent more than 15% of our clients - in excess of 30,000 men and women.

Not coincidentally our disability pension client numbers have increased substantially - by over 4000 in a single year. By March of 2002 we had in excess of 155,000 disability pension clients - the largest number in at least 15 years! In fact, well over 10,000 new war service and CF clients were awarded pensions last year of double the recent annual average. And since disability pension entitlement is a gateway to all our programs, you can imagine how these increases affect our resource decisions. By the way, our budget this year is a little in excess of 2.2 billion dollars, a figure which we anticipate will also remain relatively stable over the next few years. Disability benefits alone take up the lion's share - some \$1.38 billion dollars.

Since our Canadian Forces stationed in Afghanistan are uppermost on our minds these days, let me turn to them for a moment. On April 17, 2002, as you are all well aware, the realities of the danger our Canadian Forces members face came home to all Canadians with the tragic loss of lives and injury suffered in Afghanistan. Four Canadian soldiers, members of the 3rd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Battle Group, from right here in Edmonton were killed and another eight wounded while taking part in a live-fire nighttime exercise south of the Kandahar Airport.

We were able to respond quickly and effectively to the soldiers and families affected by this tragedy. First and foremost by getting the word out to our District Offices via a special information package that

specifically addressed entitlement issues as they relate to survivors. The package also clarified the coordination of benefits available through VAC and through DND.

We continue to work closely with DND to try to make sure that all Canadian Forces Veterans receive the best service possible from both our departments, and that no one falls between the cracks.

One issue that particularly concerns me as a doctor is the apparent recurring incidences of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and other operational stress injuries, particular among our service men and women serving in hot-spots overseas. We are looking at how we can expand our assistance to people who suffer from this disability. While much work has been done, we must do more and it is my hope that we can become more proactive and effective in our approach. I hope to make some very specific announcements concerning new operational stress treatment and care initiatives shortly and I am hopeful that my new responsibilities for Science, Research and Development can contribute to a better understanding of the research around this complex issue of stress related injuries and illnesses.

The bottom line for all our Canadian Forces members is that they are entitled to most of the pension and health care benefits of their war era comrades. If they get hurt or sick, they need health care. If they are affected by disabilities, they need easy and fair access to the disability pension process. They will be served, and served well on all these fronts. But since they are younger, often with young families, they also frequently have additional needs for assistance to transition back into civilian society notwithstanding their disability. Thus, we are working hand-in-hand with DND and other federal and provincial partners to try and improve our focus on rehabilitation and re-integration for these younger veterans.

Finally let me turn to our Canada Remembers Program.

As you know for many years the Department concentrated much of its commemorative efforts overseas, with pilgrimages of Veterans returning to old battlegrounds, monuments, and cemeteries so they could pay tribute to their comrades who fell and remain buried in foreign fields. Some of you have participated in these pilgrimages, and know what an incredibly moving experience they are. Pilgrimages will continue, but in a more focused manner and with a greater emphasis on youth and getting the message out through more in-Canada activities. Next on the schedule is the 60th Anniversary of the Dieppe Raid in August, which I intend to lead.

Those of you who have been overseas recently have seen how some of our war memorials are now suffering from the ravages of time and Mother Nature. The magnificent Vimy Memorial is probably the most evident example. Our commitment of 30 million dollars to the restoration of the Vimy Memorial and 12 other First World War memorials in Europe recognizes the symbolic value of these monuments.

As an aside I should tell you that while I was in France in April to participate in the VIMY 85th Anniversary commemorative ceremonies, I met with my counterpart in the French government to personally express my concerns to the French Government over the proposal to build an airport outside Paris, on land which is now the final resting place of many Canadian and Allied soldiers.

You would not be surprised to learn that French veterans' organizations share your concerns and that the French government is very sympathetic to this issue. Certainly you can be assured that I will do my utmost to try and prevent any degradation of the overseas sites that honour our war dead.

In fact, we are supporting the establishment of another memorial to the contribution made by Canadians in the Second World War. I was pleased to announce on May 31st that the Government of Canada has provided an additional \$1 million to assist in establishing the Juno Beach Centre, an interactive educational facility and museum in Normandy, France. This centre will offer in-depth information about Canada's role in the Second World War. It is expected to be completed for the 59th Anniversary of the D-Day landings on June 6, 2003. This brings the Government of Canada's total contribution to \$ 1,254,000.

As important as our overseas commemorative work is, over the past seven or eight years we have begun

to pay increased attention to commemoration here at home.

The Commemoration Review undertaken by the Department in 2000/2001 underscored the need and desire of all Canadians to continue to raise awareness levels - particularly among the young - of our noble military heritage. I believe that was also extremely evident in the response to the wonderful RCL Tomb of the Unknown Soldier project a few years ago and in the more recent Afghanistan tragedy involving the loss of the four young soldiers. The media flooded the newspapers and airways with the news. And thousands of e-mails poured in from concerned Canadians who wanted to express their sympathy and solidarity with the families who had lost loved ones. Canadians care and do, indeed, want to remember and commemorate their Veteran heroes.

Our Canada Remembers Program is on track to try and do exactly that. And I believe its work is beginning to pay off in terms of increased awareness among Canadians about the sacrifices made by Canadians in uniform. We are particularly excited about the continuing potential of the Internet to increase knowledge and public awareness of the contribution of our Veterans, with such innovative technologies as the Canadian Virtual War Memorial. The possibilities are endless and we are determined that our youth, especially, have access to their birthright - a knowledge of their military history and heritage.

We must continue to foster this sense of pride in our history and in our Veterans for the youth of this country and indeed, for all Canadians.

In April, I had the pleasure of announcing that Her Majesty the Queen approved the design of the Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation - a special bar to be worn with decorations.

This commendation is "...awarded to individuals who have performed commendable service to the veteran community and /or individuals who represent commendable role models for their fellow veterans."

I was so tremendously proud to be able to award the very first of these commendations to Paul Métivier, a distinguished First World War Veteran. Veterans like Mr. Métivier, and like many of you, have given of their time and devotion in a number of ways. By speaking in schools and organizing special events, you help ensure the memory of your fallen comrades will never be forgotten and that all Canadians will remember the sacrifices that were made for our freedom. Some Veterans assist their comrades with health care issues and ongoing daily activities. Others provide friendship and support to family members of deceased Veterans. Veterans are effective advocates and provide a strong voice in representing Veterans' issues.

The time had come to honour the work of some of these unsung heroes and to recognize their tremendous contribution to their communities and country. I am pleased to report that we have received an overwhelming response and a second Minister's Commendation ceremony will be held in the fall, honouring several more distinguished Canadians.

In conclusion, I would like to commend the Royal Canadian Legion for the essential role you continue to play not only in the lives of Veterans, but indeed, all Canadians. You provide a strong and very important voice on behalf of Canada's Veterans and their families.

I pledge that I and my Department will do our utmost to work with you and to meet the needs of Veterans and their families. We may not always see everything in exactly the same way - but our common goal - has never wavered. To serve Veterans in the best way possible. I know that with your help and guidance, we will do exactly that.

Thank you for your time and attention. I wish you every possible success as you continue your deliberations at this most important convention.

**ADDRESS TO THE
39TH BIENNIAL DOMINION CONVENTION
OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
BY
THE GRAND PRESIDENT
THE HONOURABLE CHARLES BELZILE**

It is an honour for me to welcome you all to this Dominion Convention 2002. My appearance today as your Grand President is particularly meaningful to me as it is the first Convention that I attend, even if I have been a legionnaire for a long time.

I have learned a lot about The Royal Canadian Legion since I was installed at Dominion Executive Council last November. While this learning was valuable to me, what impressed me the most was the energy which all of you brought to the many and varied endeavours of this venerable institution, as well as the devotion all of you continue to demonstrate in promoting our National values through your service to those who have fought to insure we can continue, as a nation, to live in freedom. You have continued to serve with the same dedications even as we have all witnessed some significant changes in the world of today, and indeed within our own communities. For this and all that you have done for Canada, in the past and all that you are still doing, I thank you on behalf of all of Canada and the allies with which we have the same values of freedom, democracy and commitment to duty for the benefit of all.

As the world in which we live is evolving so must an institution such as ours. Like so many like minded civic organisation this Legion is and must be in transition. This was realized as early as 1994, when a so-called blue book was developed for consideration at convention 1996. With that as a moving start line (to use the military vernacular or is it line of departure now), the process of planning for the future has been a continuing activity shared by all of you. You, the legionnaire, have spoken to your elected officers. You have been the major author of what we now see in the recently developed Legion Long Term Plan 2002 - 2007. I know you have all read it ... but what I would like to do in the next few minutes is to talk about some of its salient points, hopefully within the context of my own observations as a soldier who, also during his active service and since retirement has been able to view and experience directly what The Royal Canadian Legion means to Canadians, both in and out of uniform.

Every organization must periodically look inwards and renew itself of its very raison d'être . It must do a good bit of self examination and be dynamic enough to change things which need to be changed, and respect and reinforce that which need not. This recent and arduous review has articulated a new mission statement, which reflects the realities of today, and I wish to quote it directly:

"Our mission is to serve veterans and their dependants , to promote remembrance, and to act in the service of Canada and its communities."

On the surface , this statement is not much different from what the Legion has always been striving to do, but its application will be directly affected by the realities of today and indeed has already been demonstrated by some resounding success. Let me just highlight three, for which the legion , can claim some significant credit. If one speaks of remembrance the traditional role of the legion as caretakers of remembrance the response of Canadians to the 2 minute wave of silence initiative on 11 november each year is a notable accomplishment as are the return to the National Cenotaph after 83 years of one of our unknown soldiers remains, and the creation of a National Military Cemetery in the National Capital. My personal congratulations to the Legion and its officers for successfully supporting and pursuing those initiatives. Our gratitude goes to the late president Chuck Murphy and our Dominion Secretary comrade Duane Daly who have received National recognition for their efforts.

Those successes do not come by accident but are the results of a lot of work, by a lot of dedicated people with a lot of leverage with Canadian citizens and their government. This leverage comes from, not only

dedicated work, but from what I will call a critical mass. The critical mass of the Legion with some 500,000 Legionnaires and Ladies Auxiliary, enhanced by our families involves one million people. That, comrades is leverage...that is clout. Unfortunately, with the aging population of our war veterans, this critical mass will soon be reduced significantly unless we find ways of recruiting and retaining our people. We obviously must enlarge our target base of members, particularly within the ranks of active service people, as well as within the ranks of surviving spouses and children. How do we do that? Most of us will have different views on how we can accomplish that but I submit that we must do more to promote ourselves and make our new members feel welcome and feel they have complete membership with voting powers, where applicable. I leave to you to decide whether this is achieved by reducing the number of types of membership or by making all members equal. That is obviously for you to decide, whether this is achieved by better training of our cadres at various structural distinctions is also worth considering. I would offer that a combination of all of the above may be worth investigating.

I have no intention of working my way through all the objectives listed in the long term plan, but I would like to say a few words on "advocacy" (objectives in the plan). In my previous position as chairman of the Conference of Defence Associations, I revisited the calling of the organisation as a lobby group ... because I thought, and still do, that advocacy was a better term, and unlike lobbying does not involve buying lunch for people in return for contracts. That does not mean we do not buy once in a while, but our objectives are not contracts for ourselves, but better condition of service and care for those who have earned it, because of their sacrifices.

Advocacy implies a commitment on the part of either individuals or organizations to advocate... or fight for what is due to people. I would chose to say that is the case of the legion, it implies its whole range of activities and is mostly directed at two main recipients of its results.

The first one, and the one which is at the very soul of this organisation is the benefits owed to the veterans and their dependents we simply must not let whatever benefits remain for those people to slide and eventually disappear.

The second one is directed at the veterans of today and the future... that is advocacy on behalf of the Canadian Armed Forces, to insure that they have the human resources, the equipment and the training required to serve this Nation as our government dictates that they should. Many organisations, and individuals have recently pointed out to our political leaders that our armed forces must simply not be allowed to deteriorate further... despite the outstanding service performed by those in operations at this very moment. All of this implicit in the Legion's hope but we will "act in the service of Canada and its communities"... a quote from the mission statement alluded in my earlier remarks.

Comrades, that is what we are all about. I encourage you all to read the Long Term Plan, to discuss it and to commit yourselves to make it work. Our organization will be much the better for it and will face this uncertain future with faith and belief in our cause.

Thank you and have a great convention.