

# **The Royal Canadian Legion**



## **Ontario Provincial Command**

# **MEDIA KIT**

**Join Us and be a Part of Your Community**



# Ontario Provincial Command

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## **ABOUT US**

The Ontario Command of The Royal Canadian Legion is comprised of three hundred and ninety-nine (399) branches throughout Ontario. With a total membership of almost 100,000 the Ontario Command of the Legion is the largest service oriented organization in Ontario.

Although our main focus continues to be remembering those who gave their lives for freedom, and looking after the needs of Veterans, their dependants, and those still serving in the Canadian Forces; Legions throughout Ontario Command are also contributing to the well being of our neighbours by sponsoring community programs. Support for the communities we live in is one of our main beliefs.

Legions sponsor sports, youth programs, senior's programs, as well as supporting other organizations both financially and by supplying meeting rooms and halls for events. In some communities, the Legion Hall is the main meeting place for community and social events. Branches, Zones and Districts also raise funds to assist local organizations and regional organizations and facilities such as medical centres, medical research facilities and communities affected by natural disasters.

In partnership with the Ladies Auxiliary of Ontario Command, the Legion operates a charitable foundation which brings the collective strength of our branches together to fund medical equipment and educational bursaries throughout Ontario Command. Funds to support this foundation are raised by Legion branches through Poppy tagging campaigns and various fundraising events.

## **REMEMBRANCE and POPPY**

We are a non-profit organization assuming the responsibility of maintaining the tradition of Remembrance of those who paid the supreme sacrifice by defending our great nation in past and present conflicts, so that we as Canadians can live in the freedom that we maintain today!



We continue to support our Veterans of past and present with many benefits and this is due to the determination of our thousands of dedicated volunteer members at all levels of the organization.

Legion Remembrance programs commemorate the men and women who died in the military service of Canada during war and peace. Maintaining the tradition of Remembrance is a sacred trust and the Legion's most important role.



The Poppy has been widely recognized as a symbol of Remembrance, since it was first adopted in 1921. By wearing the poppy, we demonstrate our gratitude to those who gave their lives for the freedom we enjoy.

Each year, Legions throughout Ontario carry out our Poppy Campaign from the last Friday in October to Remembrance Day. The campaign raises awareness of the Poppy as a symbol of Remembrance.

The basic purpose of the poppy funds is to provide assistance to ex-servicemen and women in need. This may include food, shelter or medical attention for Veterans and/or their families.

Funds raised during the Poppy Campaign are also used for the following:

- Comforts for veteran in hospital or hospitalized veterans
- Legion Service Bureau
- Medical Appliances
- Medical Research
- Medical Training
- Donations for Disaster Relief (declared by Federal and Provincial Governments)
- Educational Bursaries
- Remembrance Day Poster and Literary (Poem and Essay) Contests.

Any ex-serviceman or woman or dependent is eligible to apply for financial aid from the Poppy, whether they are Legion members, or not.

Poppy Trust Funds are placed in trust to be used on those purposes authorized in the General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion. Campaign expenses are generally low because most of the work is completed by volunteers.

The Legion's constitution, stresses that Poppy funds must be held in trust. They are held in a bank account separate from that of the branch general funds and cannot be used for any purpose other than those stipulated.

## **VETERANS and SENIORS**

There are four full time Service Officers supplemented by volunteer Service Officers in each Branch who help Veterans, still serving and Former Members of the Canadian Armed Forces and/or their dependants and widows apply for the available government support from Veterans Affairs Canada. These benefits include Disability Pensions, War Veterans Allowance (WVA), Veterans Independence Program (VIP), Treatment Programs, Financial Assistance and benefits under the New Veterans Charter ([www.vac-acc.gc.ca/clients/sub.cfm?source=Forces/nvc](http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/clients/sub.cfm?source=Forces/nvc)). You need not be a member of the Legion to use these services.



The Legion also monitors the care, programs and services offered in the three Long Term Care facilities in Ontario, that serve as residences for Veterans (Sunnybrook in Toronto, Parkwood in London and Perley Rideau Veterans Health Centre in Ottawa) and discusses issues related to care and comfort with hospital staff, Veterans Affairs Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

Ontario Command has an active Seniors Program that focuses on information sharing with other organizations so that their programs can be made available to our members and other Seniors in the community. Our approach is to make our facilities available to Seniors Programs in most cases free of charge. Our approach is to support but not duplicate other programs available in the community.

**ONTARIO PROVINCIAL COMMAND**  
**BRANCHES and LADIES AUXILIARIES**  
**CHARITABLE FOUNDATION**

The “Charitable Foundation” was first realized at a Provincial Convention 1979 held in Sudbury. The original name of the Foundation was Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command Charitable Foundation.

The Foundation was registered with the Federal Government under the “The Canadian Corporation Act” and also registered under “The Income Tax Act”. This allows the “Charitable Foundation” to accept donations and issue receipts for income tax purposes.

Since its inception in 1979, **2,440** applications **have been** given approval. This amounts to over **\$16,959,922.52** in donations to various Hospitals, Health Clinics and Homes for the Ages and Charities in communities throughout Ontario. (Note: figures are current to **2018**).

Bursaries for students throughout the Province of Ontario are also a major part of the Charitable Foundation. Each year hundreds of applications are received from students and with a budget of **\$400,000.00** annually.

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- Operation of the Ontario Command Service Bureau
- Veterans Welfare
- Programs for Aging Veterans
- Medical Research
- Medical Equipment
- Bursaries
- Other purposes of a charitable or benevolent nature, as approved from time to time by the Board of Directors

Hospitals, clinics, long term care facilities, fire departments, and other not-for-profit organizations involved in health care may make applications for funding to the foundation.

For more information on our program and how to apply, please visit our website ([www.on.legion.ca](http://www.on.legion.ca))

## **ONTARIO COMMAND BURSARY PROGRAM**

This program is designed to assist those students who enter a post secondary school of education (including courses and programs of a technical and vocational nature) and pursue the same course throughout their academic years (maximum of five years).

Those who are eligible to receive a bursary are as follows:

- Ex-Service personnel or currently serving members of The Canadian Forces (Regular, Reserve and Merchant Navy) and their children and grandchildren; Commonwealth War Veterans and their children and grandchildren
- Ordinary and Life members of The Royal Canadian Legion and their children and grandchildren (Current living members)
- Associate members of The Royal Canadian Legion and their children only
- Ladies' Auxiliary members and their children and grandchildren.
- Step Children and Step Grandchildren may be considered where applicable.

Students can apply up to 5 years, provided they are taking the same course of study. A photocopy of the Veteran's discharge certificate or record of service **must** be attached to the application. Service documents can be obtained from Library & Archives Canada in Ottawa. Send a copy only. Proof of relationship is required.

Application forms for the Bursary are available at all Legion Branches, post-secondary schools, online from the command website or by contacting Ontario Command. Zones and Districts have a Bursary Chairman who can assist the student with the application. The Command Bursary Secretary is also available for assistance. As it is the responsibility of each student to complete the application correctly, it behooves him/her to get the required help. All applications may be submitted starting each September; however the deadline for applications is the last Friday of March for the current academic year ending April 30<sup>th</sup>. **Applications must be sent to Ontario Command.** Early submissions are strongly encouraged in order to catch any errors or omissions.

The Ontario Command Bursary Program is one of the most generous bursary programs in Ontario (if not in Canada). While the Ontario Command Bursary awards are not large, many students find that they go along way towards buying the books and materials needed for their respective courses. During the **2017-2018** academic year, a total of **452** awards were made for an amount of **\$338,500** in the Province of Ontario.

The Ontario Command Bursary Program is funded by donations from Branches and Ladies' Auxiliaries and shows the Royal Canadian Legion's continuing commitment to the youth of Ontario.

## MEMBERSHIP

The Royal Canadian Legion is unique in that it is a Canada wide non-profit Veteran's organization founded by Veterans for Veterans. Legion Branches are member oriented with a membership who believe in and promote the perpetuation of "Remembrance" and the welfare of our Veterans.

In 1926, the "Legion" in Canada was born out of a group of 15 Veterans organizations formed after WW1 to promote the welfare of its Veterans. The largest of this group was the "Great War Veterans Association" and the oldest was the "Army and Navy Veterans Association".

Thirteen of these organizations, including the "Great War Veterans Association" joined together to form the "**Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League**". In 1961, the "Act to Incorporate" was amended to change the name of the Canadian Legion to "**The Royal Canadian Legion**". The word "Royal" was conferred by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth in recognition of the Legion's 35 years of dedicated service.

Initially, the Legion was an organization composed entirely of Veterans. These members were ex-service men and women who came from all walks of life possessing the leadership skills and training learned as sailors, soldiers and airmen. As "Comrades-in-Arms" who shared a common background, they were part of a brotherhood who worked together over the years to improve pension benefits and living conditions for our Veterans and their families.

At present, there are **399** Legion Branches in Ontario, **977** Branches in the rest of Canada, **12** Branches in the USA, **5** Branches in Europe and **1** Branch in Mexico, for a grand total of **1394** Branches. Legion Membership stands strong at over 270,000.

Today, there is no requirement to have a family link to a Veteran in order to become a member of the Royal Canadian Legion. Voting membership in the Legion is now open to any Canadian citizen of Federal voting age who supports the purposes and objects of the Royal Canadian Legion. Non-voting membership is also available to any non-Canadian citizen who is of Federal voting age.

## YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Royal Canadian Legion sponsors youth programs that include sports, cadet corps, scouts, leadership training and remembrance activities. It is our aim to help youth learn an appreciation for teamwork, leadership, duty and most importantly, Remembrance. A key focus for the Legion Canada-wide is our Youth Education Program.

Educating our youth about the high cost of their freedom is one of the Legions most important roles in Canada today. We must impress upon young people who have never known war, that freedom was won at the cost of many lives; young lives like their own. These competitions are open to all school aged students in Canada. The main principle of the contest is to encourage students to remember, think and participate, prior to and during the annual Remembrance Day observations



Our annual poster, literary and essay contests, help focus the attention of the participants on those who gave all for the freedom we enjoy. Contests are divided into the following categories – senior (Grades 10, 11 and 12), intermediate (Grades 7, 8 and 9), junior (Grades 4, 5, & 6) and primary (Grades 1, 2 & 3). The entry may be in the form of an essay, poem or poster.

**Participants in the primary category may submit entries in the poster contests only.**

Initial judging takes place at the community level by volunteers at local Legion Branches and the winning entries progress to judging at Zone, District and the Provincial levels. The winning entries at Provincial level are forwarded to Ottawa where they are judged against all winning submissions across Canada and the National winners declared. The names and work of all the National winners are published through our Legion youth program flyers and the website.

The Poster Contest has two divisions – Colour and Black & White. The first place National winning entries for the four categories (school grades) are displayed at the Canadian War Museum from 1 July – 1 May of the following year. The second place winners and any receiving an Honourable Mention are displayed at Parliament Hill during the Remembrance week.



The Legion also sponsors a trip to Ottawa for the Senior Winners in the four contests (two poster, essay and poetry) to attend the National Remembrance Day Service where they place a wreath on behalf of the youth of Canada. They also have an opportunity to meet and visit with the Governor General. Students may enter as many contests as they wish.

Public Speaking is the other category in our Youth Education program. Speakers may select their own topics. The program is meant to give young people an opportunity to speak in public. Speeches are to be the original work of the speaker. Like the poster and literary competition, contestants begin at branch level and winners move forward through to the Provincial competition. Public Speaking is Ontario Provincial Command wide which culminates in May at the Provincial competition. In all categories of competition, winners receive a certificate as well as a financial award for competing.

The Royal Canadian Legion also encourages our students to participate in the Remembrance video contest. This competition began in November 2013 and is now a yearly competition that is open to all Grade 4 - 8 and Grade 9 – 12 students in Ontario. Students may enter both the individual or group competitions but may submit only one entry per contest. Monetary cash prizes are provided to First place, Second place and Third place winners. The deadline for sending entries is December 1 of the current year and students may start sending in their entries starting in September. Submission must be sent directly to [info@on.legion.ca](mailto:info@on.legion.ca)

Canada's youth are our most important asset. The Royal Canadian Legion recognizes youth as a priority, only to be preceded by service to Veterans and the perpetuation of Remembrance.

**“WE WILL REMEMBER THEM”**



## **YOUTH TRACK and FIELD PROGRAM**



The Track and Field Program of Ontario Command is unique in that it is the only program of its kind in the province that offers a summer meet to boys and girls 17 years of age and under (Youth and Midget). Athletes can compete at two other levels (Zone and District) and those that qualify at these levels can progress to the Provincial level. Those who qualify at the Provincial level can advance to the National level.

The Royal Canadian Legion Track and Field Program has existed for many years, with up to 400 athletes competing in the summer meet annually. Many of them can participate

in the program for up to five years. We are proud that many have gone on to become very prominent in the field of sports. Wayne Gretzky, though best known as a hockey legend, also participated in our Track and Field Program and won a medal at the Provincial level. All the Canadian medal winners at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles advanced up through the Legion program. The Track and Field Program continues to produce many Olympic athletes including members of the 2016 Rio Olympic Team and more for the future.

The meets would not be feasible without the help of the 100 plus volunteers it takes to run them, and Ontario Command sponsors hundreds of young athletes across the province at an average annual cost of \$99,371. The athletes do not pay to participate and all costs are paid by the Legion, including transportation, accommodations and meals. In some cases, branches also make a donation to include some spending money.

We are very proud of our program. While it primarily assists young athletes to be the best they can be, it also allows them to develop confidence, maturity, and new friends as they participate through the age categories.

## **THE HISTORY OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION'S TRACK and FIELD PROGRAM**

None of the following could have been accomplished without the dedication, co-operation, and devotion of many volunteers, Track and Field officials and associations across Canada.

The Legion's interest in Track and Field extends back to the early 1950's. During the early years, the Ontario Legion Hydro branch No.277, with the leadership of the late Bob Saunders, chairman, Ontario Hydro, and the late George Duthie, manager of the sports department, Canadian National Exhibition, sponsored the former Canadian Olympic Training plan. The Hydro branch sponsored a series of projects to provide financing for this program, including invitational track meets and big name performances. The success of this program promoted the branch to forward a resolution to the 1956 Dominion convention of the Legion held at Vancouver, requesting and receiving, the Legion's Dominion wide support of the Olympic Training Plan. It was in 1957, then, that The Royal Canadian Legion entered the National Track and Field scene, when it undertook to finance The Canadian Olympic Training Plan. From 1957 to 1961, the Legion conducted National Athletes' Clinics in Toronto, with each province being invited to send a team of selected athletes and coaches.

For the initial four years, the program was under the direction of coaches Franz Stampfl, Don Canham and Dave Rankin. During that time, more than 700 athletes, and a number of coaches attended the clinics, which culminated with Track and Field meets at The Canadian National Exhibition.

In 1962, the federal government awarded a grant to the Legion in support of the first Canadian National Clinic for track and field coaches at Guelph, Ontario (this support continued until 1969). The 1962 clinic was under the direction of world-renowned Geoffrey Dyson, former British National Coach, with John Disley, John Savidge, Denis Cullum, French coach Jacques Bergougnous and nine well-known Canadian coaches assisting. In addition, four summer, and three winter training camps were held, which were attended by a total of 475 young track and field athletes.

At the conclusion of the 1962 coach's clinic, Geoffrey Dyson accepted the position of the Legion's sports training program coordinator for a 5-year period. During his tenure, more than 1300 coaches received the benefit of the program, with an additional 2500 coaches receiving training at Provincial and Regional clinics. In 1963, the Legion recognized the need for Canadian technical periodicals on track and field. As a result, COACHING REVIEW and THE TRACK and FIELD ANNUAL were produced. This program, made possible by the unique organization

and resources of the Legion, combined with the support of the federal government, passed into history in 1969, when the Fitness and Amateur Sport Directorate of the Department of National Health and Welfare advised that, as a result of a study of policies and guidelines relating to grants under the Fitness Act, no further federal financial support would be available.

From then until 1975, the existing Track and Field programs only went to the Provincial level. In 1975, a Canada-wide pilot Track and Field meet was conducted in Waterloo, Ontario. It was such a resounding success that a second National meet was held in Edmonton, Alberta in 1976, which also proved to be a great success.

Proof of the pie, as they say, is in the eating. The two pilot camps showed that there was a need, and that young Canadians certainly gained from the experience. They even looked a year ahead to plan for the next Legion meet. In keeping with the Legion's commitment to our youth, funds were allocated for National Track and Field camps to be held in 1977 and 1978.

Funds are still being allocated, with planning of future camps commencing five years in advance.

Thus, since 1977, the Legion has held National annual Track and Field camps to provide training and competition at the National level for young track and field athletes. The camps provide these youths with opportunities to mix with other athletes, coaches and chaperones from all parts of Canada.

The location varies from year to year; that provides travel experience with a chance to visit and see other parts of our country, as evidence by the following host cities:

|                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1977 Oromocto, NB  | 1978 Peace Garden, MB |
| 1979 St. John's NB | 1980 Saskatoon, SK    |
| 1981 Hamilton, On  | 1982 Oromocto, NB     |
| 1983 Ottawa, On    | 1984 Halifax, NS      |
| 1985 Saskatoon, SK | 1986 Sudbury, On      |
| 1987 Calgary, AB   | 1988 Quebec, PQ       |
| 1989 Victoria BC   | 1990 St. John's NF    |
| 1991 Toronto, On   | 1992 Calgary, AB      |
| 1993 Saskatoon, SK | 1994 Ottawa, On       |
| 1995 Winnipeg, MB  | 1996 Sherbrooke, PQ   |
| 1997 St. John's NF | 1998 Prince George BC |
| 1999 Sudbury, On   | 2000 Calgary, AB      |

2001 Sherbrooke, PQ  
2003 Kitchener/Waterloo, On  
2005 Edmonton, AB  
2007 Oromocto, NB  
2009 Sherbrooke, PQ  
2011 Ottawa, ON  
2013 Langley, BC  
2015 Ste. Therese/Blainville, PQ  
2017 Brandon, MB

2002 Sherbrooke, PQ  
2004 Sudbury, On  
2006 Burnaby, BC  
2008 Sherbrooke, PQ  
2010 Ottawa, ON  
2012 Charlottetown, PEI  
2014 Langley, BC  
2016 Ste. Therese/Blainville, PQ  
2018 Brandon, MB

In 1985, the program was expanded to include coaching certification courses. With the co-operation of the Canadian Track and Field Association, and the Coaching Association of Canada, highly qualified coaches and clinicians from across Canada conducted the courses and also took part in the clinics for the young athletes.

In 1997, the name of the Dominion Command and Athletic Camp was changed to the Legion National Track and Field Championships. These championships are divided into two sections – one consisting of a two day meet and the second, two days of training clinics, attended by approximately 330 athletes and around 25 coaches. The National Track and Field Championships are only one aspect of the total involvement of The Royal Canadian Legion with Track and Field in Canada. Many branches across the country sponsor local track and field clubs all year round; and many Provincial Commands hold provincial meets and training camps for hundreds of young athletes.



Because the athletes must qualify at these provincial camps, and each province brings its best, the caliber of the athletes competing nationally is very high. National and Provincial Athletic Associations have described the program as one of the best in existence for the duration of one week. Some have qualified it to be of international merit.

To bear this out, one third of the track and field athletes who were chosen to participate in the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles, and all Canadian medal winners, had gone through Legion camps. In the 2008 Olympics, there were 13 athletes. Over the years we have had numerous athletes also participating in the World Juniors Track and Field Championships. Without the 90 to 100 experienced volunteers it takes to conduct these camps, the program would not be feasible. But with these young

volunteers, The Royal Canadian Legion sponsors many thousands of young boys and girls in track and field, at an annual cost of approximately \$350,000.00.

# HOMELESS VETERAN'S PROGRAM

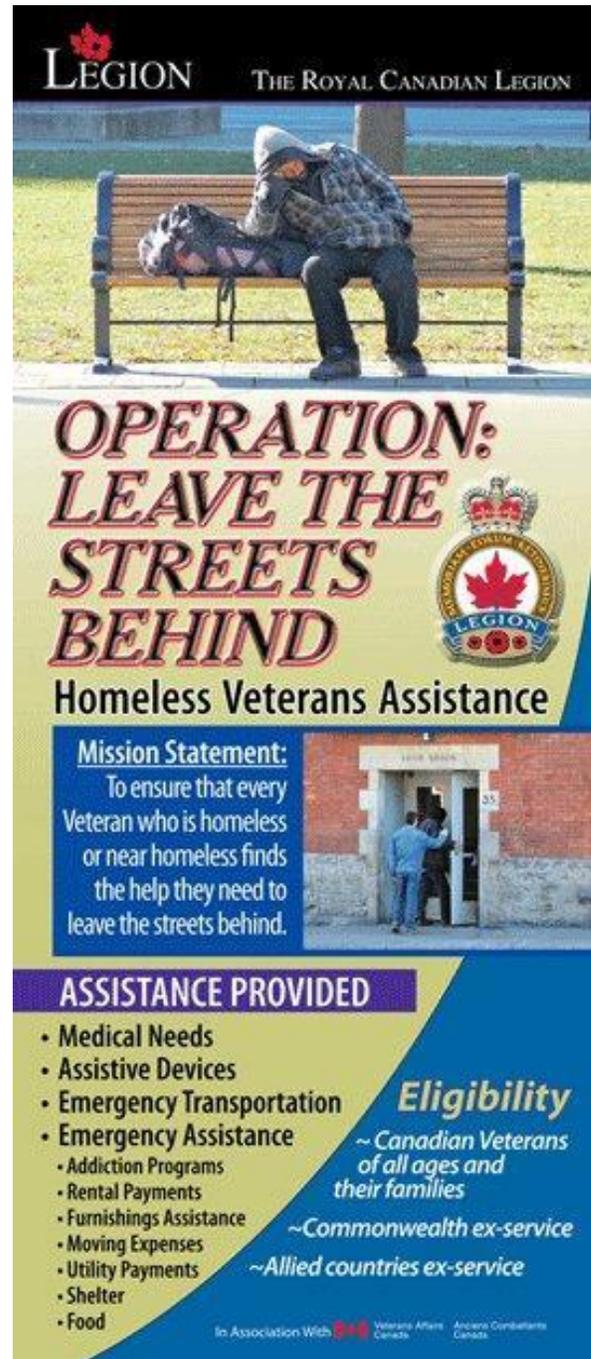
## **“Operation: Leave the Streets Behind”**

### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

*To ensure that every Veteran who is homeless or near homeless finds the help they need to leave the streets behind.*

In November 2009 Mr. Joe Sweeney, a Korean War Veteran who has dedicated much of his time to assisting homeless persons in the City of Toronto, wanted to organize a Remembrance Day Ceremony to honour the homeless Veterans. With assistance from The Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command it was held at the Scott Mission in Toronto. At the conclusion of the ceremony it quickly became evident that there were a number of homeless Veterans within the city and a team made up of personnel from Veterans Affairs Canada and The Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command were determined to see what could be done to assist them. This team travelled to Buffalo, New York in January 2010 to review the United States model to end homelessness in Veterans. From this a plan to launch a pilot project in Toronto was formulated.

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 a partnership between The Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command and Veterans Affairs Canada was announced at the Good Shepherd Ministry in Toronto. In an agreement with the Good Shepherd Ministry and Veterans Affairs, an Outreach Worker has been embedded at the Shelter. This enables the Outreach Worker to gain the trust of the Veteran and to coordinate the



**LEGION** THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

**OPERATION:  
LEAVE THE  
STREETS  
BEHIND**

Homeless Veterans Assistance

**Mission Statement:**  
To ensure that every  
Veteran who is homeless  
or near homeless finds  
the help they need to  
leave the streets behind.

**ASSISTANCE PROVIDED**

- Medical Needs
- Assistive Devices
- Emergency Transportation
- Emergency Assistance
  - Addiction Programs
  - Rental Payments
  - Furnishings Assistance
  - Moving Expenses
  - Utility Payments
  - Shelter
  - Food

**Eligibility**  
~ Canadian Veterans  
of all ages and  
their families  
~ Commonwealth ex-service  
~ Allied countries ex-service

In Association With  Veterans Affairs Canada  Armed Forces Canada

type of assistance required with the available resources. With the assistance of Mr. Joe Sweeney, our Homeless Veterans Committee Project Advisor, they have approached other shelters in the downtown core.

When news of the program reached the Ontario Command Legion Branches, they were very eager to assist. A [Homeless Veterans Assistance Fund](#) was started at the Provincial Headquarters and the Branches responded with generous donations. With funds raised from the Ladies Auxiliary, "comfort bags" were assembled with personal items such as shampoo, shaving cream, shavers, hats, mitts and socks and distributed to Veterans through the Outreach Worker. With assistance from the Homeless Veterans Assistance Fund, we have been able to permanently house Veterans with assistance for their first / last month's rent, furniture and food vouchers. Rental assistance has also been provided to those facing eviction. Medical assistance has been given to other Veterans such as dental treatments, transportation to stress therapy clinics, eyeglasses and much more.



**The Joe Sweeney Fund** was created to ensure that these Veterans have suitable housing and/or the support services they require to remain permanently housed and with a stable future. Tax receipts can be issued for this fund.

In early 2012 we partnered with Mainstay Housing to provide ten (10) residential units in a house on Parliament Street and it is now full. The tenants are enjoying a "safe" environment along with the camaraderie that comes with community style living. Now that they have stable housing the focus is on their well being and life skills.

We are currently working with two municipalities outside of the GTA regarding other possible housing projects.

Our program template has been implemented across the country by other Legion Commands and also Veterans Affairs Canada. With their assistance the program will soon be known to all communities and their local resources such as the "Out of the Cold" program, Food Banks, Churches, Municipal and Provincial Government Offices, local emergency personnel (Police, Fire, and Ambulance) all asking the same question: "*Have you had military service?*". The result of their efforts is already tangible as we are fielding many calls to our office regarding the program.



# Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command MILITARY SERVICE RECOGNITION BOOK

## Recognize our Veterans

As the “Keepers of Remembrance”, Ontario Command is proud to publish an annual Military Service Recognition Book to identify and recognize many of our Veterans in Ontario, who have either served or are still serving in our Canadian Armed Forces, the Commonwealth or Allied Forces.

We invite you to visit your local Legion Branch to obtain more information regarding this Remembrance program and more importantly, to submit a story and photo of a Veteran. Everyone is welcome to submit a story, including Veterans, relatives or friends.

Drop off or send your histories and stories to your local Legion Branch early. We accept them year-round. Please do not drop them off or mail them to our Provincial Command office.

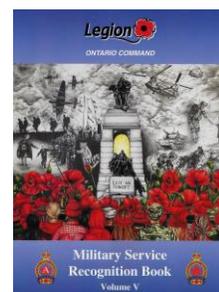
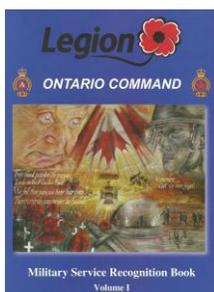
This project not only produces an annual Military Service Recognition Book, but also raises funds through a telephone appeal to the general public and through advertising sales.

The book publisher, Fenety Marketing, conducts a telephone appeal on our behalf to private citizens and the business community throughout Ontario.

The Funds raised through the program are being utilized to support various Veterans Transition Programs that in turn will assist our Veterans who suffer from various challenges they face through their day to day lives.

We invite you to share your story or the story of a loved one through your local Legion Branch.

Please visit your local Legion Branch or visit our website ([www.on.legion.ca](http://www.on.legion.ca)) for a submission form.





**Ontario Provincial Command  
Military Service Recognition Book – Submission Form**

Downloadable at <http://www.on.legion.ca>

| Information Required for Story Submission   |           | Please print clearly! |  |
|---|-----------|-----------------------|--|
| Name of Military Person being recognized  |           |                       |  |
|   | Last name | First name            | Middle Name  |
| Place of Birth  |           | Date of Birth (m/d/y) | Date of Death (m/d/y)<br>(if applicable)                     |
| Service: WWI WWII Korea Afghanistan Regular Force Reservist RCMP Other _____<br><small>(Click applicable area)</small>    |           |                       |  |
| Branch of Service: Navy Army Air Force Merchant Navy Other _____<br><small>(Click applicable area)</small>                |           |                       |  |
| Service Unit:<br><small>e.g. - PPCLI, Queen's Own, RCR,<br/>names of Ships, Squadrons, etc.</small>                       |           | Date of Enlistment    | Date of Discharge  |
| Areas Served<br><small>e.g. - Canada, High Seas, England, C/E Korea, etc.</small>   |           |                       |  |
| Killed in Service? Yes No   |           | Date of Death _____   | Where Killed _____<br><small>(Click applicable area)</small> |
| Was/Is a Member of Legion (Name & #): Yes No Branch _____ How many years? _____<br><small>(Click applicable area)</small> |           |                       |  |

**This Section MUST be completed.**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Submitted by (Name) _____  | Tel # _____                                 |
| Email _____  | Branch Name & # _____                       |
| Was permission given by individual or family to use submission? Yes No _____ | Signature of Veteran or Family Member _____ |

**Additional Information:** Please attach a paragraph if you wish, **maximum 200 words.**  
For example: special things the veteran did in the service, was he/she wounded, POW, special unusual awards, awards for bravery, i.e., VC, DSC, DFC, MC, MM, etc., or perhaps what the veteran did upon return to civilian life.

*Please include photograph, but do not use staples, paper clips or tape.*

*Also, do not write on the back of the photograph as this could damage the photo.*

*Faxed and emailed copies will not be accepted.*

*Actual photos will only be accepted.*

*Please return your completed Submission Form and photograph to your local Legion Branch.*



# THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION ONTARIO COMMAND

## FACT SHEET 2018 (Fiscal Year 2015-2016)

The Legion at work in Ontario:

- There were 403 Branches, with a total membership of over 100,000 (97% of Ontario Command Branches responded to this survey)
- For the year 2016 Grants from Poppy funds, to Ex-Service Personnel and their Dependents, totaled \$800,814.39
- Additional Funds spent on Veterans Programs for 2016 totaled over \$306,000.00
- Money Spent on Medical Equipment and Research totaled over \$1.3 million
- Not including funds spent on Veterans, over \$341,000.00 was used for Seniors' Programs
- Provide funding for Provincial Service Bureaus, for Provincial Service Officers to assist, all Veterans – Currently Serving and Ex-Service Personnel, with pension applications, benefit concerns, on an ongoing basis - free of charge
- Ontario Provincial Command Branches and Ladies Auxiliaries Charitable Foundation approved \$521,682.00 to Ontario communities in 2018. Since its inception in 1979, donations approved amounted to over **\$16,959,922.52** to various Hospitals, Health Clinics, Homes for the Aged and Charities in communities throughout Ontario.
- Through our Bursary program in the 2017-2018 academic year a total of 452 applications were awarded to students in need for post-secondary education in the total amount of \$338,500.00 in the Province of Ontario. Since the academic year of 2002-2003 to 2017-2018 our Bursary program has made a total of 11,484 awards totaling \$5,790,325.00

- Additional Bursaries from Poppy Trust funds were awarded in the amount of \$666,330.70
- Other Donations from Poppy Trust Funds in the amount of \$5,307,456.13
- Sponsors and facilitates low rental housing for senior citizens
- Branch and Ladies Auxiliary members visit Veterans in hospitals and continue to supply comforts and entertainment to enhance their quality of life
- Continued to support Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, Army/Air/Sea Cadets and other Youth Programs in excess of \$1.6 million
- Other donations to local charities amount to over \$1.2 million, not from Poppy Trust Funds
- Donations to local Community Projects totaled over \$1.6 million
- Total Donations made to the Homeless Veterans Program - "Operation: Leave the Streets Behind" amount to over \$2 million. As of October 2018 over 667 Veterans have been assisted (of which 62 were female Veterans)
- Ontario Command Members annually put in over 422,200 volunteer hours
- In 2016 Ontario Command Branches had over 6650 volunteer staff and employed over 1500 full time and part-time staff
- Ontario Command Branches offered their facilities free of charge to community groups for over 26,400 occasions in 2016

For further information please visit the  
Ontario Provincial Command Website at [www.on.legion.ca](http://www.on.legion.ca)

Fact Sheet Updated as of 2018



## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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For more information on our Legion Programs at Ontario Provincial Command  
Please visit our Website at [www.on.legion.ca](http://www.on.legion.ca)

(Media Kit Updated 2018)



# **Ontario Provincial Command**