

President's Message

Thanks to the efforts of Debbie Graburn in her many volunteer hours of organizing and securing sponsors for the golf tournament. It was a huge success!

This summer marks a number of major milestones for us to pause and Remember.

countries.

United Nations Emergency Force I (UNEF1) was established to secure and supervise the cessation of hostilities, including the withdrawal of the armed forces of France, Israel and the United Kingdom from Egyptian territory and, after the withdrawal, to serve as a buffer

with The Royal Canadian Regiment (RCR) for a 6-month tour in Cyprus, and was the Force Signals Officer in Damascus Syria for 1 year.

I also served with the United Nations on several tours, 1993 with UNPROFOR, (United Nations Protection Force) in the former Yugoslavia and two tours in the Golan Heights, UNDOF (United Nations Disengagement Force) my first tour, 1994 with Polish Infantry unit as the Signals Detachment NCO and my second tour 2000 as the Radio Sergeant for Camp Zuioni.

A separate Canadian medal was created and presented in 2000. The ribbon consists of a central stripe of United Nations blue on each side of which are stripes of white, red and green. The blue in the official colour of the United Nations, organization under which authority most of the peacekeeping missions are conducted, the green represents service, the white is the colour of peace, the red represents the blood shed in the service of peace. Red and white are also the official colours of Canada as appointed by King George V in 1921.

It also pays tribute to the brave Canadian peacekeepers who lost their lives or returned injured in pursuit of a safer, more peaceful world. National Peacekeepers' Day is observed on the anniversary of when a Canadian Buffalo aircraft was shot down over Syria while serving with the United Nations (UN) Emergency Force II on August 9, 1974.

The nine people killed in this attack represented the greatest single-day loss of Canadian Armed Forces on international peacekeeping duties.



Photo by Glenn Miller

Current and past veterans have served Canada proudly in many missions trying to ensure a more peaceful world for all of us to live in.

August 9th is the day annually we honour all Canadians who have served – and continue to serve – in peacekeeping operations around the world. Their courage, perseverance, and compassion have helped strengthen the rule of law, protect civilians, uphold human rights, and advance peace and stability in many

between the Egyptian and Israeli forces.

My Father, who was a young Signaler with the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals (RCCS), served on Canada's first of many United Nations Peace Keeping Missions. At the time, the tour was for 1 year. My father went on to serve

Cadets Military and Legion conduct outreach at Lethbridge Airshow



Photo by Glenn Miller

The 20th Independent Battery and 2296 Royal Canadian Army Cadets set a military display set up at the Lethbridge Air Show. Legion manager Tony Laphorn is answering questions about the Legion Banner project and membership for the Legion. The cadets had a separate tent set up as part of the display for their outreach.



Photo by Glenn Miller

Cadets from Lethbridge 2296 Royal Canadian Army Cadets carried the colours for the Air Show opening ceremony.



Photo by Glenn Miller

The 20th Independent Battery military answered many questions from the public about their equipment during the Lethbridge Air Show.

Legion Membership now 50% off for the current year

SATURDAY NIGHT KARAOKE



19 August starting at 7pm

Draw Volunteers Needed!

Come out and support your Branch by becoming a draw volunteer – Meat Draw, 50/50, Joker’s Wild. Draws are held Friday and Saturday evenings. Ticket sales are for only one hour. A great way to meet those socializing in the Branch on weekends. Those interested may come forward as individual volunteers or teams of two. Please note a lack of volunteers will put draws at risk to occur on a regular bases. So if you’re interested in meeting people or reconnecting with old friends, this may be the volunteering opportunity you’re looking for.



Photo by Glenn Miller

Ordinary member Knud Petersen received the Sovereign’s Medal For Volunteers from the Honourable Salma Lakhani, AOE B.Sc., LLD (Hon) Lieutenant Governor of Alberta in a recent ceremony at Government House in Edmonton. Petersen was recognized for his long time volunteer activities with many organizations in the city.

The Defence of Hong Kong

The Canadian Hong Kong Veterans were a group of 1,975 poorly trained volunteers, who arrived in Hong Kong on November 17, 1941, without their supplies and equipment, and joined the existing British, Scottish, East Indian soldiers and Hong Kong Volunteers to form a 14,000 garrison.

At 8:00 a.m. on December 8, 1941, simultaneously with the December 7th attack on Pearl Harbour, (on the other side of the International Date Line) the Japanese Imperial Army suddenly struck Hong Kong.

Many defenders were killed during the battle that took place in the mountainous and extremely difficult terrain of the Hong Kong Colony. Canadians and their Allies fought a brutal battle that lasted seventeen days and nights from December 8th to Christmas Day December 25th, 1941.

Without food, water, and ammunition, and exhausted, the battered allies were still willing to fight; however, the British Governor of Hong Kong still surrendered to the Japanese. Even though the battle was horrific, the worst was yet to come.

For nearly four years, Canadian and allied prisoners of war (POWs), endured unspeakable deprivation both in Hong Kong and Japan.

Starved and suffering from disease, severe malnutrition, dramatic weight loss, POWs were tortured, murdered, and forced to work as slave labourers.

Approximately 290 Canadian soldiers were killed in battle and another 267 died as POWs in concentration camps in Hong Kong and Japan. Ultimately, half the Canadians who went to Hong Kong were either killed or wounded.

Only 1,418 soldiers returned to Canada, most with severe physical and emotional trauma and medical conditions. They were the first Canadians to enter the WWII in the Pacific in 1941, and the last to return to Canada after being liberated on August 15, 1945.

When the survivors arrived in Canada in October 1945, they were sent home to get on with their lives with little recognition of their ongoing health problems. What they endured would today be considered Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Many took a lifetime to recover.

Each year, members of the Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association in some way, acknowledge August 15th, V-J Day, in their communities. This year, on August 11th, a flag raising of the Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association flag will occur



Photo by Glenn Miller
Relatives of Hong Kong veterans hold up the original flag used by the veterans in 1947.

at 11:00 a.m. at the Lethbridge City Cenotaph.

The original Hong Kong Veteran's flag will be displayed but not raised, as it is from 1947 and very fragile.

In addition, the red and green colours symbolizing the Hong Kong Veterans will light Lethbridge City Hall on August 14th and 15th. On August 18th, daughters of two Hong Kong Veterans will be at the Royal Canadian Legion General Stewart Branch No.4, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. to answer any questions and provide information booklets on the Battle of Hong Kong in World War II in the Pacific.

This year 2023, HKVCA Lethbridge wishes to acknowledge the last known living veteran of the Battle of Hong Kong. His name is Hormidas Fredette and he currently resides in New Minas, Nova Scotia. He is 106 years of age. He was born on August 10, 1917, and raised on a farm.

In the CBC interview his two sons Brian and Ron said he was accustomed to hard work, fresh air and good food. Longevity is a family trait as Hormidas's

sister was almost 105 years old when she passed.

Hormidas responded to the 1941 call by the Government of Canada and request by the British Prime Minister Churchill for Canadians to help defend the British Colony of Hong Kong. He volunteered with the Royal Rifles of Canada and along with the Winnipeg Grenadiers was shipped out of Vancouver in October 1941. Three weeks after arriving in Hong Kong, the Japanese Imperial Army attacked Hong Kong. Hormidas said in a CBC interview that he was picked as a first scout during the Battle, which he said was a dangerous job. They surrendered after 17 days of battle and became POWs.

He mentioned, as POWs, their diet was very poor and limited to a small amount of rice for one daily meal. He, like most other prisoners lost 60 plus pounds, even having to drink broth with maggots in it. He did say in the CBC interview that he still likes eating rice, which not a lot of veterans could say.

When returning home after their liberation, Hormidas said in his interview that he found work in an Electric company in Nova Scotia, married and had a family.

It's amazing that Hormidas has lived through two World Wars, the Great Depression, and survived for almost four years as a POW in both Hong Kong and Japan during World War II in the Pacific.

When his community recognized him on his historic birthdays, he was asked his secret to a long life. He responded by saying "There is no secret to living a long life, you just got to keep surviving."

Congratulations to you Hormidas Fredette for your service, and all you have seen and contributed.

Lest We Forget

Respectfully submitted
Kathie Carlson, HKVCA

Military Veterans Mountain View Cemetery Walking Tour 7 September 2023 6:00-7:15 pm cost \$10



Photo by Glenn Miller

Join retired Veteran and Military historian Glenn Miller on a fascinating walking tour, where we will explore the contributions of Lethbridge since the Boer War. Get ready for an informative and engaging experience as we delve into Lethbridge's military history. Please bring water and good walking shoes.

Access to bathrooms may be limited. Be prepared to walk for approximately 1 km. Meet at the Eternal Flame on Scenic Drive South. Tickets are required in advance and must be purchased at least 2 hours before program start time from the Galt Museum and Archives.

6:00-7:15 pm | adults and seniors | registration required | \$10 per ticket, \$9 per ticket for members

Deb's Fun in the Sun Legion Annual Golf Tournament Raises money for branch

As the teams were being selected and finished brunch at the Legion players headed out to Henderson Lake golf club for 18 hole scramble shot gun start of fun in the sun.

The weather cooperated and a good breeze was felt driving in the electric carts.

Players skills ranged from experienced to just enjoying a day hitting

the ball.

A number of specific prizes were established on the course such as closest to the green, longest drive both male and female and everyones favourite "the most honest" (subject to judges interpretation)!

The Ladies Auxiliary also supported the event taking team pictures and delivering shots of

success to the teams. They also held a raffle back in the branch.

Thank you to our bar tender Deb Graburn in organizing her event and securing donations and prizes for the players.

We already are looking forward to the next tournament next summer.

Deb's Fun in the Sun raised \$2818 for the branch. Congratulations!



Mike Viloni
Tammy Archibald
Glenn Miller





Team photos by Char Peck



Community Foundation 23 in '23

Since 1966, the Community Foundation has awarded over \$18 million in grants to projects across Southwestern Alberta. For the summer of 2023, we're highlighting 23 of them! Play 23 in '23 for your chance to win one of three \$500 gift cards for groceries and gasoline.






RULES

1 - Visit any of our 23 in '23 locations across Southwestern Alberta and tag us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram with a selfie from your visit.

2 - Visit as many locations as you can all summer long. Every selfie posted from a different one of the 23 locations will get you an entry into the grand prize draw.

3 - Contest runs July 1, 2023 through September 4, 2023.

4 - Winners will be announced on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 For details visit <http://Cflsa.ca/23-in-23>

 COMMUNITY FOUNDATION LETHBRIDGE + SOUTHWESTERN ALBERTA	Helen Schuler Outdoor Classroom	Bellevue Outdoor Stage	Cardston Niitsitapi Monument	Fort Macleod The Empress Theatre	Lethbridge Westminster School Playground	 COMMUNITY FOUNDATION LETHBRIDGE + SOUTHWESTERN ALBERTA						
Lethbridge Solar System	 <p>COMMUNITY FOUNDATION LETHBRIDGE + SOUTHWESTERN ALBERTA</p> <p>23 in '23 How To Play</p> <p>Since 1966, the Community Foundation has awarded over \$18 million in grants to projects across Southwestern Alberta. For the summer of 2023, we're highlighting 23 of them! Play 23 in '23 for your chance to win one of three \$500 gift cards for groceries and gasoline.</p> <p>RULES</p> <p>1 - Visit any of our 23 in '23 locations across Southwestern Alberta and tag us on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram with a selfie from your visit.</p> <p>2 - Visit as many locations as you can all summer long. Every selfie posted from a different one of the 23 locations will get you an entry into the grand prize draw.</p> <p>3 - Contest runs July 1, 2023 through September 4, 2023.</p> <p>4 - Winners will be announced on Tuesday, September 5, 2023</p>					Nanton Bomber Command Museum						
Coaldale Birds of Prey Centre						Lethbridge Therapeutic Riding Association						
Magrath Pool						Coalhurst Spray Park						
Milk River Neighbourhood Trailer						Claresholm Lions Gazebo						
Taber Municipal Library						Lethbridge Legacy Ornamental Garden						
Lethbridge Casa Kiosks						Picture Butte Walk on the Wild Side						
 COMMUNITY FOUNDATION LETHBRIDGE + SOUTHWESTERN ALBERTA						Vulcan Courts and Playground	Nobleford Free Town Pantry	Cowley Black Beauty Dinosaur	Pincher Creek Lebel Mansion	Lethbridge Legion Plane Base	Raymond Disc Golf Course	 COMMUNITY FOUNDATION LETHBRIDGE + SOUTHWESTERN ALBERTA

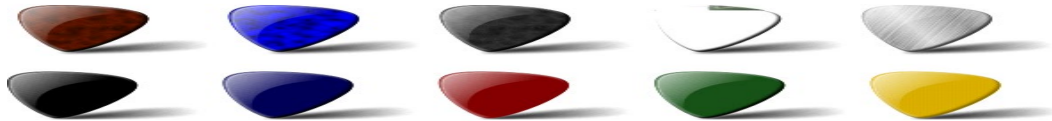
In the fall of 2021, the Royal Canadian Legion, General Stewart Branch No. 4, Lethbridge, received a Community Priorities grant to help with facility renovations, including bar and concession area improvements, and for repairs to the RCAF jet display pedestal.



You can find the pedestal at 2019 4th Avenue South in Lethbridge in front of the Legion.

Since 2018, the Community Foundation has awarded \$2,406,451 to projects in Lethbridge.

**LADIES AUXILIARY WILL BE HOLDING A
50/50 DRAW
ONE NIGHT ONLY
SATURDAY SEPT.16, 2023
GUESS THE NUMBER OF PICKS**



RULES:

**1 BALLOT FOR \$ 2.00
OR
3 BALLOTS FOR \$5.00**

OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS AND NON MEMBERS
FILL OUT A BALLET WITH YOUR NAME AND GUESS
INCLUDE YOUR PHONE # IF UNABLE TO STAY
DRAW WILL BE MADE DURING THE CHEVELLES BREAK
YOU'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN ½ THE POT
CLOSEST GUESS WINS WITHOUT GOING OVER
THE POT WILL BE SHARED IF MULTIPLE WINNERS

**THE L. A. WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR
SUPPORT**

Significant Dates August

- August: 2 Gulf War began in the Middle East, 1990
- August: 4 Canada entered the First World War, 1914
- August: 8 105th anniversary of the start of the Battle of Amiens, 1918
- August: 9 National Peacekeepers' Day
- August: 13 Canadian Women's Army Corps established, 1941
- August: 15 Victory over Japan (V-J) Day, 1945
- August: 19 Canadians took part in the Dieppe Raid, 1942
- August: 21 The Falaise Gap was closed during Battle of Normandy, 1944
- August: 24 Stretch of Highway 401 in Ontario was officially designated the Highway of Heroes, 2007

Ladies Auxiliary Corner



Correction:

Photos in July newsletter from the Battle of Atlantic were by Char Peck and not Pat Martin.

We regret the error.

The Legion Golf tournament on July 8th Ladies Auxiliary members Char Peck and Linda Learn did a “Guess the golf tees” 50/50 raffle. The lucky winner was Gary Maclean.

Ladies Auxiliary “Shot Girls” Char Peck and Carolyn McLennan hopped in a golf cart and visited all the teams on the golf course to take team pictures and deliver refreshments.

In September the Ladies Auxiliary plans on doing a “Guess the Guitar picks” 50/50 draw during the Chevelles evening on September 16th. Tickets will also be available during the Saturday evening Legion raffles. A big thank you to Gary Wittebolle for his donation of guitar picks. Char Peck is still accepting more guitar pick donations.

Our L.A. executive will be meeting in August to review our Standing Motions for discussion and revision at our next General meeting on September 12th.

Our District Fall Rally will be held in Blairmore on September 9th so if any L.A. members are interested in attending please contact Carolyn McLennan so arrangements for transportation can be made.

Look forward to the following events this fall:

Meat Pies
November poppy basket raffle
November “100 squares” 50/50 raffle

Enjoy the rest of this beautiful summer!

Carolyn McLennan
L.A. President



Photo Carolyn McLennan

LA members Linda Learn and Char Peck.



Photo by Glenn Miller

LA members Carolyn McLennan and Char Peck.



Thank you Donors for supporting the spring into summer silent auction

The Ladies Auxiliary of General Stewart Branch #4

would like to thank the following businesses for their donations.



PINCHER CREEK COLONY

And thank you to the following people for their handcrafted donations.

Kelsea Bly for her unique Bowl Buddies/Placemats and hand painted birdhouses.

Jackie & Cliff for their hand-crafted metal yard ornament poppies.

Alberta receives special monument to commemorate the Battle of Gapyeong from Republic of South Korea

This monument was presented to the City of Airdrie by Gapyeong-gun to commemorate the victory won there by Canadian soldiers in 1951.

It also represents the deep gratitude Koreans have for the 26,791 young Canadians who answered their country's call to defend freedom an ocean away from their hometowns. This is the 5th stone presented in Canada and the first in Alberta.

The Battle of Gapyeong

On Hill 677 in the Gapyeong River Valley from April 22 to 25, 1951, the 2 PPCLI (2nd Battalion of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry) met a devastating ordeal. Isolated from the other units of the 27th British Commonwealth Brigade, the 2PPCLI became surrounded by the overwhelming forces of the Chinese PVA (People's Volunteer Army), which was en route to capturing Seoul.

Despite the despairing tactical disadvantage of being surrounded,



Photo by Glenn Miller

Colonel Dongwon Lee, Defence Attaché with the Embassy of the Republic of Korea to Canada, gives the Act of Remembrance in Korean.

the lone Canadian unit atop Hill 677 firmly stood its ground with unwavering determination and triumphantly thwarted the PVA's advance against all odds.

For the outstanding exhibition of

heroism, the gallant heroes of the 2 PPCLI received the United States Presidential Unit Citation.

This rare patch continues to be proudly worn on the 2PPCLI dress uniforms today.



Photo by Glenn Miller

Dignitaries gather after the unveiling of the stone donated by the Republic of South Korea. The location of the monument was placed near the Airdrie cenotaph.



Photo by Glenn Miller

Glenn Miller with Airdre MLA Angela Pitt and Airdre Legion Branch 288 President Jasen Hoffman at the unveiling ceremony.



LEGION

Lethbridge



THE CHEVELLES

Date: Saturday September 16/2023

7:00pm-11:00pm



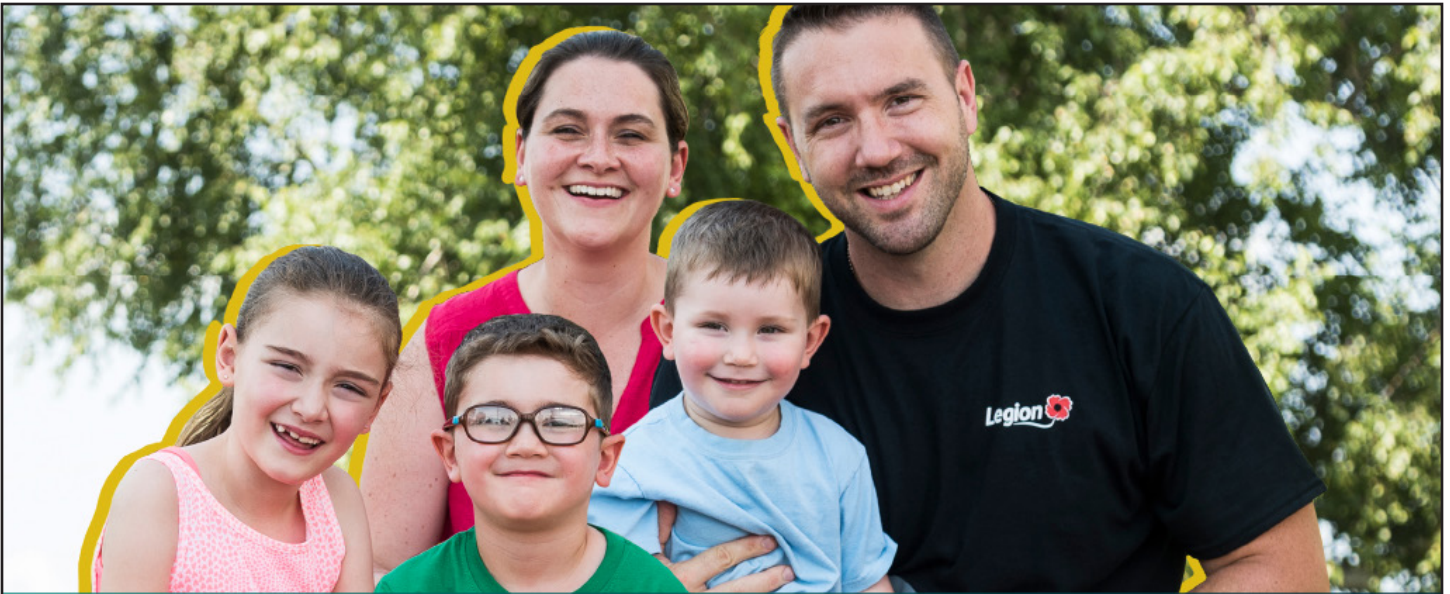
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

MEMEBERS \$20 PER PERSON

NON-MEMEBERS \$25 PER PERSON

**Tickets are
going fast!
Get yours today.**





National Legion Week 2023



BACKGROUND

The Dominion Executive Committee approved the establishment of the first National Legion Week. Already marked by some Provincial Commands and their Branches since the 1980s, the annual observance will now become a coast-to-coast celebration!

OBJECTIVE

National Legion Week is designed to educate visitors on the good work their local Branch does in their community. It reinforces the important role Branches play in our shared mission to serve and support our Veterans, as well as contribute to the well-being of so many communities. It serves as a vehicle to drive new traffic to Branches, attract new members and sign up new volunteers. This year, it can also include a salute to RCMP Veterans who celebrated the 150th anniversary (May 23) of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

DATES

The commemoration will continue to be held each September, with start and end dates that vary slightly from year to year. It kicks off on the third Sunday of the month in honour of Battle of Britain Day and wraps up on the following Saturday.

This year's first annual national observance runs from Sunday, Sept. 17 to Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023.



General Meeting
27 August 2:00 pm
Bring your membership
card for entry and to vote