

**General Meeting**  
**Alberta-NWT Command, Lacombe Legion Branch No. 79**  
**Of the Royal Canadian Legion**  
**January 5, 2023**



The regular general meeting was called to order by President Andy Gauthier, at 7:00 p.m.

**Executive Officers in Attendance:** Andy Gauthier, President; Kathy Hobbs, Past President; Janet Hall, Second Vice-President; Calvin Swarbrick, Treasurer; Cherry Baird, Secretary.

**Executive Members in Attendance:** Lea Redekopp, Lillian Gillis, Judy Lemieux, Arnie MacAskill, Rick Grinham

**Absent:** Susan Churchill, First Vice-President, Barbara Burnett

Welcome and introduction of Lance Hannesson, District Deputy Commander, District 4.

Installation of newly elected Executive Members:  
Cherry Baird, Arnie MacAskill and Rick Grinham

Welcome to new members:  
Irene Sisson, Ian Dawson, Lynn Farrant and Chris Contenti

**Call for additions to the agenda:**

None

**Call for errors or omissions to the minutes of the previous meeting:**

None

**Motion:**

Moved by Cherry Baird that the minutes of the November 3, 2022 General Meeting be approved as printed.

Seconded by:

All in Favour

Rick Grinham

CARRIED

**Motion:**

Moved by Cherry Baird that the minutes of the December 1, 2022 Election Meeting be approved as printed.

Seconded by:

All in Favour

Kathy Hobbs

CARRIED

**Correspondence**

None

**Old Business/Business Arising from the Minutes**

## Donation Budget - Calvin Swarbrick

In response to a request for a budget to guide our donations at the November General Meeting, Calvin reviewed all donations in the past year from our gaming account. The total donations from May 1st to April 30th were \$3,301.00. As we generally repeat the same donations each year, Comrade Swarbrick has set the donation budget at \$3,300.00 for next year.

## New Business

### Cow Patti Fundraiser- Calvin Swarbrick

Members have been investigating a fundraiser with the Cow Patti Theatre. The Theatre offers benefit shows where organizations can sell tickets and have a silent auction at the theatre. This would require us to sell 100 tickets for a specific night and we would receive back 10.00 per ticket and all the profits from the silent auction items we sell. Because it may be difficult for our Legion to sell 100 tickets and to also obtain silent auction items, Calvin proposed that we partner with Big Brother and Big Sisters for this fundraiser.

This was tabled until we have a theatre date and then further discussion and a motion will be brought forward.

### Treasurer Report - Calvin Swarbrick

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & EXPENDITURES December 2022										
ACCOUNTS	OPENING BALANCE	DEPOSITS	CHEQUES	CLOSING BALANCE	O/S CHEQUES	SIMPLY BALANCE	SAVINGS	GIC	CEBA Loan	TOTAL FUNDS
General	\$11,048.53	\$10,777.70	\$11,883.34	\$9,942.89	\$ 4,314.09	\$5,628.80	\$21,077.50		\$0.00	\$26,706.30
Sunset	\$2,753.51	\$25,189.00	\$17,074.98	\$10,867.53	\$ -	\$10,867.53	\$74,666.97	\$212,973.68		\$298,508.18
Bingo	\$4,329.03	\$233.00	\$280.44	\$4,281.59	\$ 301.72	\$3,979.87				\$3,979.87
Pull Ticket	\$7,137.41	\$3,259.71	\$2,874.62	\$7,522.50	\$ 1,426.47	\$6,096.03				\$6,096.03
Casino	\$9,225.91	\$683.00	\$1,793.09	\$8,115.82	\$ 1,049.67	\$7,066.15				\$7,066.15
Totals	\$34,494.39			\$40,730.33		\$33,638.38	\$95,744.47	\$212,973.68		\$342,356.53
Poppy Trust Fund	\$91,234.54	\$2,606.12	\$1,225.67	\$92,614.99	\$ 2,141.50	\$90,473.49			\$0.00	\$90,473.49

Our gas bills have been very high. We are on a monthly budgeted amount, the new budget is \$737.00 for gas per month.

Our savings account is at approximately \$21,000.00, however the cost of the new cooler has not been taken out yet. The Chase the Ace pot is also in the savings account, which is approximately \$3,000.00.

Comrade Swarbrick suggested that we start training an assistant Treasurer, for when he no longer holds the position. If someone is interested they can contact Calvin, however, the Treasurer must be elected by the members.

### **Motion:**

Moved by Calvin Swarbrick that his report be accepted.

Seconded by:

All in Favour

Rick Grinham  
CARRIED

## **Reports**

### **Bingo - Judy Lemieux**

We had two Bingos in December.

December brought in \$233.00

November brought in \$344.00

### **Bylaws - Lea Redekopp**

No Report

### **Campground - Susan Churchill absent. Report presented by Hannah Cucheran**

Father and Son Tree Services has completed the tree removal. The original quote was \$15,000.00 the actual bill was \$13,807.50, as the work was completed a day earlier than quoted.

The picnic tables at Sunset Campground are in need of paint and repair.

### **Motion:**

Moved by Hannah Cucheran that we spend up to \$1,300.00 to repair and paint the picnic tables at Sunset Campground.

Seconded by:

All in Favour

Arnie MacAskill

CARRIED

Due to conflict of interest, members who are campground leaseholders did not vote on this motion.

### **Casino – Janet Hall**

No report

### **Coffee Time – Shirley White absent**

No report

### **Flags of Remembrance – Kathy Hobbs**

A work party will be held on January 18th at 7 pm to fold the flags.

The closing ceremony date has been canceled. Veterans Voices has not given us a new date for the closing ceremony, we are expecting it to be mid February.

### **Hall and Building**

We purchased a new cooler for the kitchen in the upstairs hall. We have not received the final bill. It will be under \$4,500.00.

The hot water on demand system needs maintenance as it is not getting the water hot enough. It needs to be cleaned. We are going to try to clean this - if it is not successful we could need a new system.

### **Honours and Awards – Kathy Hobbs**

No report

### **Lounge and Bar - Andy Gauthier**

Things are going well in the lounge.

The glass sanitizer has been leaving water spots on the glasses. We increased the finish rinse and hope that this will correct the problem.

**Membership** - Kathy Hobbs

We have 242 members in good standing or active members. 57 members have not renewed their 2023 memberships as of this date. Sadly, ten Legion members passed during the 2022 year.

Currently we have 3 life members, 32 ordinary members, 147 associate members and 60 affiliate members.

Based on the 242 membership total for 2022, Membership fees totalled approximately \$12,100.00.

When members pay in the lounge we send the per capita tax to National Command and when members pay online National sends the difference back to the Branch. Of the individual fees collected, \$36.61 is paid out in per capita taxes per member. For each \$50.00 membership fee collected, the Branch gets \$13.39, Dominion Commands gets \$23.11 and Provincial Command gets \$13.50.

As of this date we should have realized \$3,240.38. Now that the Branch has added a late fee of \$5.00 to each membership fee paid, the Branch will receive \$18.89 per member.

Expenses incurred through membership are the purchase of service pins and year pins for the annual Honours and Awards Banquet.

Comrade Hobbs suggested that we have a laptop for use in the lounge. This laptop would be used by our Service Officer under 403ii n for support to Resource Centres that support Veterans. Computer access in the lounge would also give members/veterans access to minutes, motions as well as supply the membership chairperson quick access to membership questions.

**Motion:**

Moved by Kathy Hobbs that we purchase a laptop to be kept in the lounge for \$900.00 out of the General Account.

Seconded by:  
All in Favour

Hannah Cucheran  
CARRIED

**Poppy Trust Fund/Campaign** –Kathy Hobbs

October 2022 balance was \$69,812.82 Poppy Campaign brought in \$25,249.92  
The balance at close of business on Dec. 31, 2022 was \$91,614.99.

Currently we have Poppy Fund Distribution Requests with our District Commander for Christmas Personal Comforts for Veterans, Lunch for poppy campaign workers and monetary prizes for the poem, essay and poster contest.

**Motion:**

Moved by Kathy Hobbs that the Poppy Trust Fund cover the costs of \$439.95 under 403ii j to Alberta Elevating Devices and Amusement Rides Safety Association. This amount is for the annual inspection for the lifts, ensuring they are up to code and in good repair for Veteran and Senior access to the upper and lower halls.

Seconded by:  
All in Favour

Joann Swarbrick  
CARRIED

**Motion:**

Moved by Kathy Hobbs that the Poppy Trust Fund cover the costs of \$220.00 as per Article 402i b Storage for poppy campaign materials.

Seconded by:  
All in Favour

Hannah Cucheran  
CARRIED

**Motion:**

Moved by Kathy Hobbs that the Poppy Trust Fund cover the costs of the Poppy Trust Fund's official external audit by Garth Pol for the 2022 year under Article 402i v in the amount of \$450.00.

Seconded by:  
All in Favour

Joann Swarbrick  
CARRIED

**Motion:**

Moved by Kathy Hobbs that the Poppy Trust Fund cover the costs of the Service Officer in the yearly amount of \$300.00 relative to his service work with Veterans.

Seconded by:  
All in Favour

Hannah Cucheran  
CARRIED

**Pull Tickets** – Hannah Cucheran

Pull ticket sales were down in the month of December.

**Service Officer** – Rick Grinham

Sadly reported the passing of three members. Trudy Friesen, Vern Dool and Perry Babiuk.

The service for Vern Dool was held yesterday at Wilson's Funeral Home.

On Saturday the service for Perry Babiuk will be held at the Legion. An Honour Guard has been requested, those available are asked to see Rick Grinham.

**Social**- Lillian Gillis

No report

**Sports**- Arnie MacAskill

Tuesday, January 10th drop in crib will start in the lounge. It will be 6:00 pm for this first Tuesday as we will decide on the format. Ian Dawson will be taking care of crib on Tuesdays.

Thursday, January 19th Branch Playoffs for crib pairs will take place in the lounge. The winners will advance to play in Mulhurst on February 4th.

There was a question about how many years you must be a member to compete in Legion Sports. This was investigated and according to the 2019 ABNWT Sports Manual:

**ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE** Legion sports are open to all members as defined in the General By-Laws. Ladies Auxiliary members may participate in Legion sporting events if they meet the same eligibility requirements as members of The Legion.

- Members must be in good standing and have their membership card for the year in which the event is being held on their person at the event. Members deprived of club house privileges are not in good standing.
- New Members are eligible to participate at all levels of competition immediately. Reinstated Members, in good standing, can participate in sporting events immediately.
- Senior Event Participants are members in good standing and must be 50 years of age prior to January 1st of the year the sporting event is held.

**Ways and Means** - Lillian Gillis

\$116.00 was brought in for the Christmas raffle basket.

The draw was won by Joann Swarbrick.

**Motion:**

Moved by Rick Grinham that the meeting be adjourned at 8:01 pm

Seconded by:

Arnie MacAskill

All in Favour

CARRIED

Cherry Baird, Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Andy Gauthier President \_\_\_\_\_