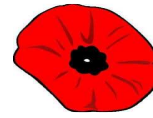


Royal Canadian Legion Bells Corners Branch 593 Newsletter



Volume 2 / Issue 2

March/April 2021

Last Post

February – Thomas Berra - Bells Corners Branch
- 1 year Affiliate Member

Please let us know of any member who passes away so we could assist the family, inform the membership and update our records.

Please inform the Branch President by email at:
President@legion593.com

You can also contact the Branch Chaplin at:
613-828-2314 or Chaplain@legion593.com

Branch Emails

Once every 2 months the Branch will send out a newsletter on what is happening at your Branch. Be assured that your personal email address will not be shared with anyone, or 3rd party companies.

Occasionally the Branch will also email our members important news or updated information on events.

If you, or someone you know is not receiving our newsletter, or emails please send the President their email address and we will update asap.

President@legion593.com

Branch Service Officer

The Branch Service Officer (Veterans Service Officer) is Ted Bransfield CD.

Ted is more than willing to assist any Veteran with a potential claim and help you determine what benefits you may be entitled too. Please include your contact phone number if you email the Branch Service Officer.

You can reach Ted at: VSO@legion593.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** Fish & Chips – Chicken Fingers – SOLD OUT
- 2** **Resignations of President & 1st Vice**
- 3** Branch COVID 19 Funding Update
- 4** Branch Financial Snapshot
- 5** 60th Anniversary Help Requested

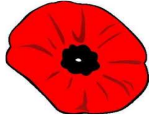


Good Friday Fish & Chips

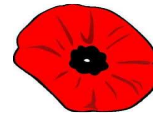
We sold out! From the President and Executive of Branch 593, **Thank you** to all our members and friends who either preordered or stopped by to purchase our Fish & Chips, and Chicken Fingers.

We want to thank the following folks who all helped make this a great success.

Brian Hubert
Tyler Todd
Angie Miner
Rob Dufour



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President Message

IMPORTANT NEWS – To Members of Bells Corners Branch #593(RCL)

The Legion Provincial Commander with the Provincial Executive Council (PEC) have now given direction to all Ontario Branches that they have suspended 2021 Branch Elections through Declaration No. 9 below:

DECLARATION NO. 9 – Feb 18 2021

All Branch elections, and transitions to a new Executive, and the General By-Laws of Command and Branch Regulations pertaining to Branch Elections, will be suspended pending a return to full Branch operations. The Provincial Administrative Committee will monitor and review the current and forecasted pandemic impact, including all applicable protocols, and report to the Provincial Executive Council.

RESIGNATIONS AS OF 31 MAY 2021 President & 1st Vice

President - It has been a very tough year for everyone. However, after long personal reflection and work-related reasons, **I will be stepping down as your Branch President on Monday 31 May, 2021.** I am hoping that a member will come forward to identify that they would like to take the challenge as President of your Branch. I will be available to assist whenever and however to ensure a smooth turnover. **If no one comes forward by 31 May 2021, the Branch will be placed in Trusteeship** by Legion Ontario Command on request from the Zone and District Commanders. **The Branch would close until a Board of Trustees is formed, and a search would begin until a new President is identified**

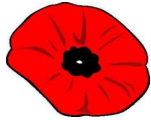
There are a few options that would allow your Branch to continue without a request for a Board of Trustee, but this process is best discussed with a willing member in person with me before Monday 31 May.

Having been your President for 4 years, I can reflect on the Branch having had some fantastic entertainment, super events and made some great building improvements, all with the support and hard work from your Executive. My main intent in becoming President in 2019, was to guide us into our 60th Branch Anniversary Year, (had been scheduled for May 2021) and pass the torch to a new President in June 2021. Unfortunately, COVID-19 came upon us and things changed overnight. Without the ability of holding General Meetings or our Branch Annual Election last year, your current Executive agreed to remain in place as guided by Ontario Command Declarations over the last 12 months. I will remain a member of Branch 593, where I hope to be involved in a Branch committee.

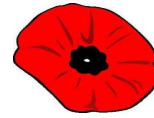
Shawn Taillon
President
Bells Corners Branch #593(RCL)

1st Vice – Hi everyone, it is with great sadness that with personal reflection and an increased professional workload that I must **step down as your 1st Vice effective 31 May 2021.** I will continue as a member of Branch 593 and hope to see many of you on future visits.

Ed Ruspic
1st Vice
Bells Corners Branch #593(RCL)



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SORRY
WE'RE TEMPORARILY
CLOSED
DUE TO COVID-19
RESTRICTIONS



Bells Corners Legion

**CLOSED SATURDAY 3 APRIL
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

UPDATE - COVID Support Funding

Income from Various COVID Grants Since Starting of COVID
March 2019

- Wage Subsidy - \$12,534.26
- Ontario Energy Rebate Grant - \$2,013.60
- Ontario Small Business Grant - \$20,000.00
- Veterans Organization Emergency Support Funds - \$10,845.05
- 2020 Dominion Command Support COVID 19 - \$6,126.00



St Patrick's Day Saturday 20 March – YIKES!

The Provincial Gov't sprang a closure on us just as we were about to have our St Patrick's Day festivities, with some homemade Irish Stew. We were forced to close that day not knowing how or when we might next offer the stew. Luckily, we had some great volunteers step forward and agree to help with a new plan of offering it by drive-by, and members who quickly came to our aid and purchased a container of stew. So successful was this, that within 30min we were sold out! WOW!

Thankyou to our members who dropped by and purchased Brian's Irish Stew. Thankyou also to 3 members who volunteered their help with this last-minute change of plan. Linda Barton, Joan McConnell and Sue Gilchrist who managed the table and cash at the door. Awesome job, and thankyou!

Branch Events - Update

The Executive has had to extend many of last years decisions into the Spring 2021 season events.

- **Friday night dinners** are cancelled until further notice;
- **Friday night dances** are cancelled until further notice;
- **Euchre, Darts & Pool Leagues** are on pause until further notice;
- **Rentals** of the Branch Halls are paused until further notice;
- **One** pool table at the Branch has been authorized to be used. Please follow the posted rules on using the pool table during the COVID-19 situation. Failure to comply with the posted rules will result in the closure of the pool table use immediately!



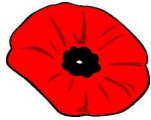
Legion Face Masks

We Have Masks!!

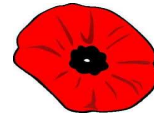
Bells Corners Branch has the awesome Legion Logo masks from Dominion Supply. The sizes are Large and Small. See our Bartenders for yours!

We've sold over 400 masks so far!

The cost of our mask is \$10.00 including taxes with the proceeds going toward the ongoing purchases of our COVID 19 supplies for the Branch.



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Membership

Big thanks to everyone that renewed their memberships for 2021.

As of March 31st, 2021, we achieved an 86% renewal of our Branch members. Fantastic!!

Ways to Renew Your Membership

- 1. Stop by the Branch**
4026 Old Richmond Rd., Ottawa.
- 2. Renew by Phone**
1-855-330-3344 (Dominion HQ)
- 3. Renew Online**
<https://portal.legion.ca/member/membership-renewal>

You will need to login to your account or create an account on the Dominion website.

To create a new account, follow the instructions on the **right side of the Dominion web page**

- 4. Renew by Mail**
Our Branch Mailing address is:
**P.O. Box 11187
Station H, Ottawa, Ontario
K2H 7T9**

Please make cheques payable to **Bells Corners Legion Branch 593** and in the memo section of your cheque please write in your Membership number.



Membership – Prepay Up for A Limited-Edition Watch

Make a difference in the lives of Veterans with a **five-year Legion membership. Prepay before 30 May 2021** to receive a free limited edition Poppy Watch commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Remembrance Poppy in Canada. Use <https://www.legion.ca/poppy100>

Men's and women's styles available. Watches will ship after May 30, 2021.

Branch COVID Hours

Sunday – Closed
Monday – Closed
Tuesday – 1 to 6 pm
Wednesday – 1 to 6 pm
Friday – Noon to 7 pm
Saturday – Noon to 6 pm

Note: The bartender reserves the right to close the bar earlier if there are no patrons.



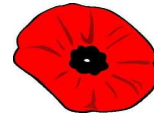
Membership - Refer A Friend Campaign

Refer a friend to join the Legion and you both could win a \$500 Canada Post Visa gift card!

- ✓ Tell the newly-referred Legion member to use code REFER at registration for a chance to win!
- ✓ Register at <https://legion.ca/join-us> or call 1-855-330-3344.
- ➡ New members without a referral are not eligible to enter



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60th Anniversary Logo Contest



Not Authorized

Authorized & Encouraged

We need your help to create our Bells Corners Legion Branch 60th Anniversary Logo which we may use on some clothing and merchandise this year...2021! Our first proposed logo using the Royal Canadian Legion Crest with a number 60 superimposed on it was denied by the Dominion Command Marketing Department in late November. It seems a long-standing policy has been that this crest is to have nothing superimposed on it. Yes, many of us have seen the Legion crests thru the years with numbers, sadly they were illegal.

Therefore, we are asking for your input, Member OR NOT to help us design a crest for our 60th this year 2021.

With little time to spare to initiate a design and then have some possible clothing and items produced this year, we are asking that your design be

submitted to us by April 6th, 2021

The winning design will receive a \$100 prepaid Visa gift card.

Anyone is welcome to submit a 60th logo design. Our Branch Logo can be just a start of many patterns and ideas that can be submitted. **The authorized logo should have the number 60 somewhere in its design, but may also contain 1961 – 2021 in various forms.**

Any HELP and Request for Template?

We will gladly email you the authorized Branch template to begin your designing. To receive the authorized template from us, please email us at legion593.ca@rogers.com or leave a voice message and we'll send out a copy of our current logo. If you have ideas to share, contact Mr. Rob Dufour who also designed our Branch Remembrance Day lawn signs this past November. Rob will also be happy to assist you with any technical questions.

60th Anniversary Branch History Book/Slide Presentation

**We need your help to preserve
our Branch history**

On May 3rd, 2021 your Branch will be celebrating its 60th Anniversary. We are hoping to create a history of the Branch over the past 60 years.

So, if you have any photos and information on different events that happened at the Branch over the years, we would love to see the photos and hear about the events. We are hoping to create a scrap book or a TV slide show of pictures of the events from our Branch history. We hope to leave something for the next generation of members and our 75th!

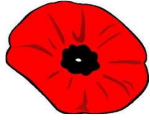
Email – email us photos you have of any of the different events we've had over the years at, legion593.ca@rogers.com

Scan - any photos you have, bring them in and we will scan them at the Branch and hand them back.

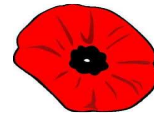
Mail – mail any photos you have to us at

**P.O. Box 11187
Station H Ottawa, Ontario
K2H 7T9**

Deadline for submission is April 30th, 2021



**Royal Canadian Legion
Bells Corners Branch 593
Newsletter**



Hear Ye Hear Ye – We Need Your Help!

Volunteer Bartenders are urgently required at your Branch in order to change the current Branch Bar hours of only Wednesday thru Saturday.

Currently, we do not have enough volunteer bartenders!!

All you need to help is the **Ontario Smart Serve Course**, and that can be completed online from the comfort of your favorite armchair. Once you have successfully completed the course **you will be reimbursed** and assigned to a bartender for training at your convenience.

Show your support and volunteer. Now is the time to help support your Branch from the other side of the bar. If you are interested, curious, or can offer some time, please contact me at: President@legion593.com

**Volunteers Needed Now
At Your Branch**

Over time and with life changes in various forms, some of our volunteers are now unable to continue in their current positions. Now more than ever, the Branch is in need of volunteers (new and old) to step up and help us achieve the mission of the Legion. **Areas where the Branch needs immediate help are:**

- Volunteer Bartenders (we have only two bartenders currently)
- Many positions on the Branch Executive need to be filled, please let us know if you are willing to take on a challenge with us. Positions we need your help with are

- President**
- 1st Vice**
- Secretary**
- Treasure**
- Membership**
- Bar Officer**
- Public Relations/Newsletter**
- Entertainment**
- Ways & Means**
- Bursary**
- Bingo Chairperson**
- Training & Development**
- Youth Education**
- Leadership & Development**
- Poppy Campaign**
- Honors & Awards**