

## September 2022 President's Report

Another busy month for Robertson Memorial as we started to activate our sports program for the Fall. This includes pool, darts on Thursday nights, League and Senior darts on Mondays and Thursdays. Line dancing is back in full swing. Also on Thursday evenings you are invited to the senior dine and dance in the canteen. Youth darts is held on Sundays.

September 6<sup>th</sup> marked the Grand Opening of our New Horizon Room. Honourable Glen Motz was in attendance and a brief power point was presented to demonstrate the changes in the Legion due to the \$120,500 our Branch has been able to get due to the New Horizons Grants for Seniors Program.

The meat raffle and chase the president was not held on Friday 9 and 16 because of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. Robertson Memorial organized a memorial to honour our Queen for the morning of September 19<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all who attended and special thank you to Jim Smallbones for playing "O Canada" and "God Save the King" on the trumpet, to Mark Ward for playing "Last Post" and "Rouse" on the bugle and to Eric Kean for playing "Lament on the bagpipes". Having this music adds so much to a Service of Remembrance.

September 17<sup>th</sup> Robertson Memorial Members and other Veterans Groups were invited to Veterans Memorial Park to witness the dedication of the Cenotaph as a Municipal Heritage Resource. The Cenotaph marked its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in May, 2022. Thank you to all who turned up to observe the dedication and thank you to Ian Parkinson for serving on the City Committee.

September 24<sup>th</sup> St Barnabas held a Memorial for Queen Elizabeth II. Veterans were invited to attend and our Legion was well represented. After the service they enjoyed tea and scones.

We have been busy getting the envelopes ready for mail out of the annual letters with information on membership renewal and the Poppy Campaign. Some members have already called the Legion to sit at the tables during the campaign which starts October 28<sup>th</sup> and runs to November 9<sup>th</sup>. It is anticipated the Cadets will do the weekend at Canadian Tire, Walmart and the Mall.

But there is a lot of work getting ready for the Campaign and getting ready for the Ceremonies at the Esplanade and the Cenotaph. Following are some of the tasks we need help with:

- Stuffing envelopes and getting member and business letters ready for mail out
- Delivering poppy boxes and refilling as required to businesses or taking responsibility for a route
- Working in the Poppy Office answering the phone and taking wreath requests or poppy orders

- Getting the wreaths ready to go to the Cenotaph, taking them there, placing them in the proper order and bringing them back later
- Getting the bins ready for Campaign with supplies needed at each table location
- Helping with the scheduling or taking responsibility for a particular location to ensure all time slots are filled
- Volunteering to help on November 11<sup>th</sup> at the Legion in the Canteen
- Helping as needed to get supplies to the Esplanade as required by the organizers
- Collect the Programs from Cooks Southland Funeral Chapel and distribute at the Esplanade and at the Cenotaph

Behind the scenes our staff have been busy working and making things ready for members and guests. A big thank you to them. Thank you as well the Executive for all they do, especially to Roger Beebe for Maintenance, and to Wes Krause for all his attention our artifacts and Historical items.

It is with deep sadness that I mention the passing of Roy Gale. It was an honour to know this fine gentleman and veteran. He was our oldest Veteran at 102 years of age. May Roy rest in Peace.

The family has requested a Poppy Service in the Ortona Room for October 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30. You are invited to attend. Please wear your uniform if you have one.

Sheila Donner,

President