

Vimy Memorial Bridge
Photo Credit Debi Sereda



The President's Message

Comrades:

As I prepare to close out my term as President, I want to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you. Serving in this role has been an incredible honour, and I am filled with gratitude for the support, dedication, and camaraderie of our exceptional team of volunteers.

Over the past term, we have continued to demonstrate what makes our Legion so special — a strong sense of community, a spirit of service, and a genuine care for one another and this branch.

Together, we've created a welcoming, inclusive environment that supports our Veterans, uplifts our Seniors, and engages and supports our Youth while promoting Remembrance. These are not just checkboxes on a mission statement — they are the reason we exist, and I'm proud of how we continue to live up to them.

There are so many examples of how 641 thrives, some obvious and some behind the scenes, that our patrons and members may not realise: whether it was organizing events, heavy lifting during Poppy Campaign, bartending, hospitality, cleaning and maintenance, hall rentals, improving our technology, tracking finances and prepping the floats, secretarial duties, Public Relations, offsite involvement like the bingo volunteers, hospital visits, Legion

In This Edition . . .

- Page 1 – The President's Message
- Page 3 – Last Post and Membership
- Page 4 – Sports and Bingoland
- Page 5 – 2024/25 Executive Team
- Page 6 – Virtual Garage Sale
- Page 7 – Thanks to Our Executive and Annual Veterans' Lunch
- Page 8 – 2025 Golf Tournament and Cleaning the Capital
- Page 9 – Cadet Corps and 641 in the Community
- Page 10 – Let Us Know and Memorial Bricks
- Page 11 – Where to Find Minutes of Executive and General Meetings and How to Reserve Dinners
- Page 12 – BFC Update and Notes from the Editor

Tributes, golf tournament, helping the food cupboard or our flag party proudly representing us in the community. All with an emphasis on supporting our veterans and providing financial support to many other great causes. Of course, we can't forget the significant efforts made towards raising funds for our Land and Building Fund to secure our future location — I truly appreciate every second of every minute that people contributed to moving the yardstick forward. Our volunteers are what make 641 a true community.

I've been fortunate to work alongside such a committed and compassionate group, and recently marking our 20th Anniversary, I know the branch is in great hands as we look to our future with the new President Dave Cole and his executive team. Thank you for your trust, your teamwork, and for everything you've done to make this branch stronger. I will of course remain engaged with the Legion, as I have accepted new responsibilities as the Zone G5 Deputy Commander and I look forward to continuing to support the Barrhaven Branch as your Immediate Past President in any way I can.

With sincere appreciation.

"Lest we forget."

Lyle Brennan, CD, [President](#)



*We ♥ our
Volunteers*



Last Post We Will Remember Them



Barry Herbert Holman (1952-2025)

Our friend Barry passed away unexpectedly on the afternoon of Monday, May 5, 2025 at the age of 72, with his devoted partner Anne by his side.

Beloved partner of Anne Rowe, and loving father of Daniel Holman (Megan), Emily Holman (Bogdan) and Allen Holman (Melissa); Special Stepfather to Allison Rowe (Darrell) and Jeremy Rowe (Elyse).

Proud Grandfather of Deegan, Tyler and Leanora; and Tillie.

He will also be missed by his siblings and extended family and his cherished friends, especially his pals at RCL Br. #641 – Barrhaven.

Our condolences to the Holman family. [Read More . . .](#)



Membership Report

Current membership 711

Quorum for General Meetings 38

New Members: 3

Transferred In: 2

Deceased Members: 2

The impending Canada Post Strike will impact the delivery of new cards for members. It's a great time for members to set up a digital membership card! You can add it to your wallet on your phone to make it quick and easy to show as needed.

If you want to know more about digital membership cards, [please click here](#).

Joe Guitard, [Membership Chair](#)

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven, 3A-3500 Fallowfield Road, Ottawa K2J 4A7

Call us: 613-843-8691 | Email us: info@rcl641.ca | Visit us: <https://rcl641.ca> |  Barrhaven Legion 641
This and all past issues of The Advance are available at: <http://www.rcl641.ca/advance.html>.



Legion Sports

On Saturday May 10, RCL 641 hosted the Zone Mixed Dart Tournament. I would personally like to thank Terry Claessen, Mike Joanis, Gary Cunningham, Joe Guitard, Dave Cole, Debi Sereda, Mindy Robertson for helping in prepping and take down of the event as it took a lot of effort/muscle to do this. Also, thanks to the bartenders on duty, Diane Craig, Gary Cunningham, Sharon McCarthy and Lorna MacIsaac for having to deal with the large group of enthusiastic players.

We will be sending two teams to district in Merrickville on May 24: doubles team Dwayne Hordij and Mindy Robertson as well as the foursome of Matt Dixie, Renee Muisee, Jim Cusick (subbing for Bill Carpenter) and Sue Ellis. Good luck to you all.

Sign up for washer toss is closed, and we'll be sending four teams to compete on May 31 in Bells Corners.

The corn hole sign-up sheet is in the lounge as well as District Horseshoes.

As I complete my first year as Sports Officer, I am looking forward to my second year with hopefully fewer hiccups along the way.

Please pay attention to our [Facebook page](#) and the Mailer lite emails that go out to members for upcoming sporting events. The Branch 641 Sports Bulletin Board in the Lounge will always be your main "go-to" for upcoming events.

To see what's coming up for Zone Sports, [please go to our website](#).

Michelle Guitard, [Sports Officer](#)

Bingoland South

Our Bingo volunteers are at Bingoland South, 9 Slack Road every Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m. Pop in, say hello, have some fun and support Branch 641!




"Supports RCL Branch 641 Barrhaven and our Veterans"





Bingoland Gaming
**Charities
Association**

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven, 3A-3500 Fallowfield Road, Ottawa K2J 4A7


Call us: 613-843-8691 | Email us: info@rcl641.ca | Visit us: <https://rcl641.ca> |  Barrhaven Legion 641
This and all past issues of The Advance are available at: <http://www.rcl641.ca/advance.html>.



2024/2025 Branch 641 Executive Team

| Position | Chair | Position | Chair |
|--|---|---|-------------------------|
| President | Lyle Brennan | Hospitality/Entertainment | Angele Guy |
| Immediate Past President | Ed Schelenz | Housing | Dave Cole |
| 1st Vice President | Bert Boehme | Leadership and Development | Bert Boehme |
| 2nd Vice President | Angele Guy | Legal Advisor | Rod Vanier |
| 3rd Vice President | Richard Lynn | Legion Seniors | Richard Lynn |
| Chairman | Dave Cole | Long Range Planning | Stephane Guy |
| Treasurer | Diane Craig | Membership | Joe Guitard |
| Assistant Treasurer | Will Read | Poppy | Kevin Brown |
| Secretary | Pam Hall | Poppy Trust Fund | Bert Boehme |
| Sergeant at Arms | Paul Leadston | Public Relations (Website, Newsletter) | Debi Sereda |
| Bar Officer | Dave Cole | Sports/Track and Field | Michelle Guitard |
| Cadets | Robert MacNichol and Anne Cole | Seniors | Richard Lynn |
| Community Liaison | Dave Sereda | Technology | Kevin Brown |
| Constitution and Laws | Stephane Guy | Veterans' Service Officer | Anne Cole |
| Finance Officer | Bert Boehme | Ways and Means | Dave Sereda |
| Grants and Assistance | Richard Lynn | Youth Education/Bursary | Carol-Anne Marleau |
| Honours and Awards | Ed Schelenz | | |
| Non-Executive | | | |
| Bar Manager | Diane Craig | Golf Tournament | Jennifer Read |
| Bingo Team Co-ordinator | Ed Schelenz | Hall Rental | Cathy Pearen |
| Chaplain for Legion Tributes | Robert MacNichol | Hospital Visits Co-ordinator | Richard Lynn |
| Cleaning the Capital | Will and Jennifer Read | Housing Assistant Housekeeping | Tom Lamb Greg Grimes |
| Finance Review Committee | Joyce Barr, Lorette Ellis, Kim Krueger | Nevada Trust Fund | Kevin Brown |
| <div>  <div> Email: info@rcl641.ca February 24, 2025 </div>  </div> | | | |

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven, 3A-3500 Fallowfield Road, Ottawa K2J 4A7

Call us: 613-843-8691 | Email us: info@rcl641.ca | Visit us: <https://rcl641.ca> |  Barrhaven Legion 641
This and all past issues of The Advance are available at: <http://www.rcl641.ca/advance.html>.



Update on Our Virtual Garage Sale

Since I launched my Virtual Garage Sale in 2020 as a fundraiser for the Land and Building Fund, I have been fortunate enough to receive lots of donations from our members. A big thank you to everyone who donated to this good cause!

At the General Meeting on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, I presented two cheques to President Lyle Brennan: the first cheque for \$825 came from the 20th Anniversary Silent Auction we had on Friday, April 25 and the second cheque of \$640 came from my Virtual Garage Sale.

So far, I have raised over \$21,000 from items sold at the Virtual Garage Sale and I couldn't have done this without all your help.

All of the auction items can be found on our website, so please feel free to share this with everyone, [just click here](#).

If you have any items you'd like to donate, please contact me.

[Angel Guy](#)

Organizer of the Virtual Garage Sale for Branch 641 Barrhaven
2nd VP and Entertainment/Hospitality Chair



**Welcome to the FUNDRAISER for
the Land and Building Fund for the
Barrhaven Legion Branch 641**

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven, 3A-3500 Fallowfield Road, Ottawa K2J 4A7

Call us: 613-843-8691 | Email us: info@rcl641.ca | Visit us: <https://rcl641.ca> | [f](#) Barrhaven Legion 641
This and all past issues of The Advance are available at: <http://www.rcl641.ca/advance.html>.



Thanks to Our 2024-2025 Executive

Many thanks to all our members who volunteered to take on roles on our executive for the past year.



Back row Angel Guy, Richard Lynn, Ed Schelenz, Paul Leadston, Stephane Guy, Diane Craig, David Sereda, Pam Hall, Kevin Brown, Michelle Guitard
Front row Bert Boehme, Lyle Brennan, Dave Cole

Annual Veterans' Lunch

Each year, Branch 641 invites Veterans from our community to attend a lunch in Valour Hall. **This year, the lunch will be held on June 18.** The sign-up sheet has been posted at the branch, or you can contact me directly at this email address.

Members are encouraged to make a donation at the bar to buy a Veteran a drink.

Richard Lynn, 2nd VP, Seniors Officer/Grants & Assistance Officer
richard.lynn@rcl641.ca
Cell Phone 613-716-9930

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven, 3A-3500 Fallowfield Road, Ottawa K2J 4A7

Call us: 613-843-8691 | Email us: info@rcl641.ca | Visit us: <https://rcl641.ca> |  Barrhaven Legion 641
This and all past issues of The Advance are available at: <http://www.rcl641.ca/advance.html>.



2025 Branch 641 Annual Golf Tournament

Mark your calendar for our 2025 annual golf tournament:

Friday, August 8 – Cedarhill Golf and Country Club

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| 641 Members with cart | \$120 |
| 641 Members walking | \$105 |
| Non 641 Members with cart | \$135 |
| Non 641 Members walking | \$120 |

Cleaning the Capital

Thirty volunteers (15 members and 15 cadets from 2958 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps) participated in the Spring Cleaning the Capital. They gathered about 30 bags of garbage along Fallowfield Road, enjoying some laughs and even find \$5 along the way! Thanks to everyone who helped out.

Jennifer Read, Co-ordinator



Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven, 3A-3500 Fallowfield Road, Ottawa K2J 4A7

Call us: 613-843-8691 | Email us: info@rcl641.ca | Visit us: <https://rcl641.ca> | <https://www.rcl641.ca/advance.html> | Barrhaven Legion 641
This and all past issues of The Advance are available at: <http://www.rcl641.ca/advance.html>.



How Branch 641 Supports Our Cadet Corps

Branch 641 is in regular contact with eight cadet units in our community who support us in various capacities. We officially support five of them through our poppy trust. The other three, as well as special requests from the main five, are considered for support on a case-by-case basis, as required.

- 75 Barrhaven Royal Canadian Air Cadets Squadron
- 2332 Maj E.J.G. Holland VC Royal Canadian Army Cadets
- 2958 1st Anti-tank Regiment Royal Canadian Army Cadets
- Cameron Highlander's of Ottawa Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps
- 40 Falkland Royal Canadian Sea Cadets Corps
- 2317 - 30th Field Artillery Regiment RCACC
- 742 National Capital Squadron
- 925 Edmond Lanthier Air Cadet Squadron (Barrhaven)

Annual Donations

The Poppy Trust is permitted to donate up to 20 per cent of the balance on September 20 of the previous calendar year.

The Cadets support Branch 641 during the important Poppy Campaign as well as other events throughout the year, such as Cleaning the Capital and our Veterans' Dinner.

To read more about the cadet corps we support, please go to our [website](#).

Branch 641 in the Community

On May 1, Branch 641 matched a \$5,000 donation from Boston Pizza as part of the Boston Pizza Paper Hearts Fundraising Campaign to support the Children's Aid Foundation of Ottawa for an incredible \$10,000 donation.

Left is Walter Noble, Executive Director, Children's Aid Foundation of Ottawa, Angele Guy, Branch 641 2nd VP, Laura-Lee Brenneman, Board Chair, Children's Aid Foundation of Ottawa, Alexandra Williams, Director of Philanthropy and Partnerships, Boston Pizza, Boston Pizza staff, and on the right, Richard Lynn, 3rd VP and Stephane Guy, Constitution and Laws Chair and Royal Canadian Legion Zone G-5 Commander.



Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven, 3A-3500 Fallowfield Road, Ottawa K2J 4A7

Call us: 613-843-8691 | Email us: info@rcl641.ca | Visit us: <https://rcl641.ca> | [f](#) Barrhaven Legion 641
This and all past issues of The Advance are available at: <http://www.rcl641.ca/advance.html>.



Let Us Know

When a comrade or family member passes away, it's important that you let our deacon, Robert MacNichol, know. He can then put several things into motion such as advising the president and our executive, connecting with the family, arranging for colour parties and Legion services – all of which fulfill our role to each other as a Legion family. When comrades are ill or pass and we don't know, we can't support the member or their family in their time of need.

If a comrade becomes ill, please let our Hospital Visits Chair, Richard Lynn, know so that he can contact them or the family and arrange a visit. Members love seeing a friendly face when they are sick, especially if they don't have many family members in town.

Reverend Robert MacNichol
Deacon
Robert.MacNichol@rcl641.ca

Richard Lynn
Hospital Visits Chair
Richard.Lynn@rcl641.ca

Canadian Veterans' Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255

Barrhaven Legion Memorial Bricks


If you would like to be a part of the past, present and the future of the Barrhaven Legion, purchase a Memorial Brick. Your brick will be engraved with your name, and it will be mounted on our Memorial Wall in Valour Hall.

Bricks are available in four denominations:

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Copper \$250 | Silver \$500 | Gold \$1,000 | Legacy \$10,000+ |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|

Purchasing a Memorial Brick is also a great way to honour a family member or friend. For more information, please contact [Debi Sereda](#).

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven, 3A-3500 Fallowfield Road, Ottawa K2J 4A7

Call us: 613-843-8691 | Email us: info@rcl641.ca | Visit us: <https://rcl641.ca> |  Barrhaven Legion 641
This and all past issues of The Advance are available at: <http://www.rcl641.ca/advance.html>.



Executive and General Meeting Reports for May 2025

These documents are now available on our website. Please note these are shown as submitted so please excuse any typos.

Executive Meeting Report, [please click here](#).

General Meeting Report, [please click here](#).

Barrhaven Legion 641 is on Facebook

Want to be a part of our private/members only Facebook group? Just go to “Barrhaven Legion 641” on Facebook, send us a friend request, answer the two questions* to tell us why you want to be a part of our private group and join in the conversation. Any requests from someone who is not a member of Branch 641 will be declined.

*If you don’t answer the questions, your request won’t be approved.

This is a private, members-only group.

Reservations for Friday-Night Dinners and Special Events


Barrhaven Legion Branch 641

Dinner served from 6-7 p.m.

Members: \$30 Non-members \$35

**For reservations, please contact Ken.
Phone 613-795-2127 or Email reservation@rcl641.ca**

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven, 3A-3500 Fallowfield Road, Ottawa K2J 4A7

Call us: 613-843-8691 | Email us: info@rcl641.ca | Visit us: <https://rcl641.ca> |  Barrhaven Legion 641
This and all past issues of The Advance are available at: <http://www.rcl641.ca/advance.html>.



Barrhaven Food Cupboard Update



In April, the BFC served 612 households or 2,673 families. On average, the BFC spends between \$45K and \$55K per month providing food to families in our community.

“The Barrhaven Food Cupboard is 100 per cent volunteer-run. In all, it takes well over 150 people to keep this grassroots community organization operating each month! Our volunteers work as greeters, dispatchers, packers, drivers, board members and in many other roles. We are always looking for volunteers. If you would like to put your name forward, please send an email our Volunteer

Director Jennifer Read at volunteering@barrhavenfoodcupboard.ca.”



BARRHAVEN FOOD
CUPBOARD

Notes from the Editor

Debi Sereda




This month sees the departure of our old executive and the arrival of our new executive team – some chairs are new, welcome, and others are back, thank you! This team has been chosen by our members, and they have generously agreed to volunteer in their new roles for a year. Take a moment, when you can, to thank all of them.

This is a great time for **you** to step in and volunteer at **your** Legion. We have lots of opportunities waiting for members who have some extra time on their hands. Speak to any of our executive and find the right job for you!

Enjoy your branch. Volunteer if you can. Stay safe.

[Debi Sereda](#), Newsletter Editor and [Public Relations Officer](#)

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 641 Barrhaven, 3A-3500 Fallowfield Road, Ottawa K2J 4A7

Call us: 613-843-8691 | Email us: info@rcl641.ca | Visit us: <https://rcl641.ca> |  Barrhaven Legion 641
This and all past issues of The Advance are available at: <http://www.rcl641.ca/advance.html>.

