

## The President's Message



Comrades:

We are already halfway through summer, and our branch continues to hum with activity.

The month of July started with a bang! After it was announced that the annual Canada Day activities at Clarke Fields had an initial funding shortfall, an array of community groups stepped up to the plate. Your Branch 641 donated \$5,000 to help ensure the continued success of the second largest celebration in the National Capital Region, and our involvement did not stop there. Hats off to the cooks and volunteers of the Hospitality Committee who hosted the annual Seniors' Breakfast, serving over 400 people! Later in the day, our Sgt-at-Arms lead the annual Parade of provincial flags, each carried by a cadet from one of the many units that the branch sponsors. Another fantastic job by all!

While the Wednesday-night dart league is suspended for the summer, the branch remains an active place. Monday and Thursday afternoons are filled with the sound of the tap-tap-tap of attendees who have found a fun fitness and social activity through line dancing. We are grateful for the continued donations that are generated for the branch's Land and Building Fund, for the future location. The regular bi-weekly Wednesday Open Mic, and the weekly Friday-night dinners and dances continue to also be popular. Attendance at Open Mic is often at capacity as a premier seniors' attraction in the Barrhaven area and beyond!

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And speaking of seniors, it is with sadness that we bid farewell to a longstanding member, Pat Brennan, who unfortunately lost his battle with cancer in July. Pat, a regular patron, will be missed. In August, we sadly bid adieu to an Ordinary Member, Garnet Chapman.

Another person who will be missed as part of the Volunteer team is one of our long-standing "custodial technicians" (i.e., housekeepers), Maynard "Butch" Whitlaw. Many of you may not even be aware of the number of silent hours that Butch faithfully put into cleaning the branch, (including the 'heads'), every Wednesday for over 10 years. We thank him for his contribution and dedication and wish him the best in his future.

Virtually all past and current presidents remind us that the success of our branch lies in the depth and variety of our volunteer base. As apparent with Butch's example, volunteering can take a number of forms and is not necessarily tied to a specific number of hours or the visibility of a role. The fact is that the branch would not function without any of you.

While the Legion has its own system of recognizing contributions to the institution, there are other reward systems beyond the Legion which also recognize contributions. Remember, that recognition is from your peers and therefore we are all responsible for submitting nominations to the Honours and Awards Committee. They can only work with what is provided to them. I would like to acknowledge six members of Branch 641 who were recently nominated for, and were awarded, the Ontario (Provincial) Volunteer Service Award. Congratulations to Dave Sereda, Bert Boehme, Alice Boehme, Stephane Guy, and Angele Guy! Big shoes to fill, but I welcome the new volunteer faces who have recently joined our ranks and look forward to many more Branch 641 members being similarly honoured for their respective contributions in the future.

On behalf of the 2025-6 Executive, I wish you a safe and uneventful remainder of the summer.


"In the service of Veterans and their families."

David M. Cole, MSJ ,CD  
[President](#)

*We ♥ our  
Volunteers*

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

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# Last Post We Will Remember Them



## Pat Brennan (1957-2025)

With broken hearts, we announce the passing of Pat Brennan on July 1, 2025, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was a loving husband to Linda, devoted father to Adam (Vanessa) and Kelsey, and a proud grandfather to Everly.

Pat is survived by his mother Bernice; sisters Gail, Debbie (Andy), Joanne, Cheryl (John), Kelly (Grant); and sister-in-law Colleen. He was predeceased by his father Joseph and his brother Mike.

He will be deeply missed by many brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, and friends. [Read more.](#)



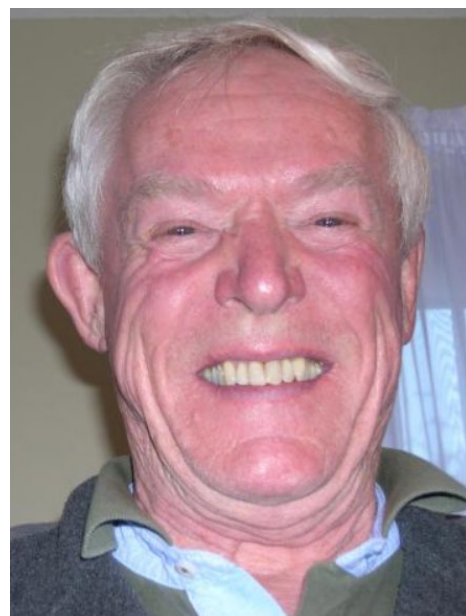
Our sincere condolences to Pat's wife Linda and their family. He will be missed by everyone at Branch 641.

## Garnet Chapman (1939 – 2025)

Garnet Gardner Chapman of Ottawa, Ontario, passed away on Saturday, August 9, 2025, after a long battle with cancer.


Born in Springhill, Nova Scotia, on October 8, 1939, Garnet was the son of the late Paul and Frances (Merritt) Chapman. Following the separation of his mother and father, Garnet and his brother, Sidney, were raised in a loving home by the late Earl and Marjorie Austin (Chapman) in Rodney, Nova Scotia.

Garnet joined the RCAF at the age of 19 and his career included postings to the No. 6 Repair Depot in Trenton, Ontario, 1 Wing in Marville, France, 1 Wing in Lahr, Germany, 416 sqn in Chatham, New Brunswick, 15 Wing in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, 17 Wing in Winnipeg, Manitoba and 450 sqn in Ottawa, Ontario. Following his retirement from the RCAF in 1988, he worked with the Department of National Defense as a quality insurance inspector, retiring in 2002. [Read more.](#)



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## Canada Day at Branch 641

As always, Branch 641 was hopping with fun, music and laughter on July 1 as we celebrated Canada Day. Our Hospitality Team started the day serving breakfasts to our community at the Canada Day in Barrhaven event, and were joined by Prime Minister Mark Carney (and his wife Diana Fox Carney), who helped flip pancakes like a pro.



Next up was our always popular Canada Day at the branch, which was a huge crowd pleaser. Our members and guests always enjoy the music and friendship at Branch 641.



Other members headed to the golf course where they celebrated Canada Day. Regardless of where our members celebrated Canada Day, it was a fun day.

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## Hall Rentals at Branch 641

Rental space is available on Saturdays and Sundays and some evenings for **WEDDINGS, RECEPTIONS, PARTIES, SHOWERS.**

Contact our hall rental agent, Cathy Pearen, at [hallrental@rcl641.ca](mailto:hallrental@rcl641.ca)

***Book early – our reasonable rates are very attractive!***

For more information, [click here to go to our Hall Rental web page.](#)

## Barrhaven Food Cupboard

Do you know what doesn't take a summer break? Hunger in Barrhaven.

Even during the summer months, we continue to feed over 500 families a month. But unlike the rest of the year, very few organizations run food drives or school drives, and donations can be challenging for us. We get it! Our volunteers, school organizers and food drive supporters deserve a summer break too!

But our important work continues. So, if you can spare anything extra to support us during the summer months, please consider a one-time or monthly recurring donation today.

### [Donate Here](#)

But summer also means celebrating how great it is to live in Barrhaven and in Canada! Please come and visit our Barrhaven Food Cupboard tent in-person on Canada Day at Clarke's field. Thank you for thinking about any extra support you can give the BFC this summer.


With gratitude  
The Barrhaven Food Cupboard Team

PS – Did you know that the BFC is 100 per cent volunteer run and 100 per cent community funded?

[Donate today to help Barrhaven families!](#)

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## 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**

## Thanks to Our Volunteers

Congratulations to our volunteers, recipients of the 2025 Ontario Volunteer Service Awards. Pictured below are Stephen Blais, Orleans MPP, Tyler Watt, Nepean MPP, Dave Sereda, Ways & Means Chair, Stephan Guy, Long Range Planning Chair, Angele Guy, 1st VP and Hospitality Chair, Chandra Pasma, West Nepean MPP, and John Fraser Ottawa South MPP at the July 22 award ceremony. Missing from the evening were Bert Boehme, Finance Officer and Alice Boehme, Hospitality. Thanks to all of our volunteers - without you, Branch 641 would not be the amazing Legion we are today. Photo credits Lyle Brennan.



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## 2025/2026 Executive Team




Position	Chair	Position	Chair
<b>President</b>	Dave Cole	<b>Financial Review Committee</b>	Stephan Whalen Melanie Brown
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Lyle Brennan	<b>Fortunato 5</b>	Kevin Brown
<b>1st Vice President</b>	Angel Guy	<b>Golf Tournament</b>	Jennifer Read
<b>2nd Vice President</b>	Richard Lynn	<b>Grants and Assistance</b>	Richard Lynn
<b>3rd Vice President</b>	Robert MacNichol	<b>Honours and Awards</b>	Lyle Brennan
<b>Chair</b>	Jennifer Dunham	<b>Hospital Visits</b>	Robert MacNichol
<b>Treasurer</b>	Will Read	<b>Hospitality/Entertainment</b>	Angel Guy
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Joanne Larrett	<b>Housing</b>	Mike Vincent
<b>Secretary</b>	Kevin Brown	<b>Leadership Development</b>	Bert Boehme
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	Paul Leadston	<b>Legal Advisor</b>	Rod Vanier
<b>Bar Officer</b>	Dave Cole	<b>Legion Seniors</b>	Richard Lynn
<b>Bar Manager</b>	Diane Craig	<b>Long Range Planning</b>	Stephane Guy
<b>Bingo Team Co-ordinator</b>	Ed Schelenz	<b>Membership</b>	Joe Guitard
<b>Branch/Veterans Service Officer</b>	Anne Cole	<b>Nevada Trust Fund</b>	Anne Cole
<b>Bursary</b>	Vacant Bursary@rcl641.ca	<b>Poppy and Remembrance</b>	Kevin Brown
<b>Cadet Liaison and Scouts</b>	Robert MacNichol	<b>Poppy Trust Fund</b>	Bert Boehme
<b>Chaplain (Lay)</b>	Robert MacNichol	<b>Public Relations (Website, Newsletter)</b>	Debi Sereda
<b>Cleaning the Capital</b>	Jennifer Read	<b>Sports/Track and Field</b>	Michelle Guitard
<b>Community Liaison</b>	Dave Sereda	<b>Technology Officer</b>	Kevin Brown
<b>Constitution and Laws</b>	Stephane Guy	<b>Ways and Means</b>	Dave Sereda
<b>Finance Committee</b>	Bert Boehme	<b>Youth Education</b>	Vacant Youth.Education@rcl641.ca

Email: Secretary@rcl641.ca

Revised: August 17, 2025

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## 19th Annual Branch 641 Golf Tournament

Well, it's a wrap for the 2025/19th Annual Golf Tournament here at 641. It was a HOT day at Cedarhill Golf & CC but it didn't bother our 105 golfers who had a blast.

Many thanks to our generous sponsors who are always here for us: Moussa Group, our Title Sponsor, Kevin Rattray Dentistry, our Gold and Dinner Sponsor, Kelly Funeral Homes/Capital Funeral Home & Cemetery by Arbor Memorial and Barrhaven Auto and Waterford Grand, our Silver Sponsors, Barrhaven Pharmasave, David Hill - Councillor - Ward 3 Barrhaven West, Wilson Lo - Councillor, Barrhaven East, MPP Tyler Watt, Capital City Heating & Cooling, Stuart Mann - Raymond James, Switzer and Carty, Porto a Casa, Fat Les's Chip Stand, Chequers Movers, David and Marion Rattray, and Barrhaven Legion 641 Past Presidents.

Thanks to organizer Jennifer Read and her team of volunteers including cooks and serving team Andy and Cathie Moore.



Congratulations to the winning team of Louis Brazeau, Luke Helmkey, Mike Ahern, and Chris Helmkey (left). They won golf passes for four at Equinelle Golf Club.

Our most honest players were Eric and Lorette Ellis, Rhona and Steve Bogue (right). They won a free group lesson from Kevin Haime Golf School.



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# Third Annual Branch 641 Social and Fundraiser

Mark September 13 in your calendar! It's our fall and third annual social and fundraiser for our Land and Building Fund. Tickets sold quickly but there may be a few left.

We have some fantastic sponsors this year, so you know it's going to be a fun and sold-out event.

## Fall Social

**3rd Annual Barrhaven Legion Social and Fundraiser  
Brought to You by Your Ways and Means Committee**



Roast Beef Dinner and Dance  
**Saturday, September 13, 2025**  
Musical Guests – 4 Better Times

Cocktails	3-4.30 p.m.
Dinner	5-6.30 p.m.
Band	7-11 p.m.



**Legion Members \$35**  
**Non-Legion Members \$40**  
**Dance only – \$5**

Tickets will be sold at the bar to **Branch 641 Members only** starting noon, **Monday, August 11**. From **August 26**, tickets will be available for **non-Branch 641 members**. Only 72 tickets are available.


Thank you to the following sponsors – we appreciate their support:

- The PATRY Group of Companies
- Phoenix Homes
- J.S. Maclaren Enterprises Inc. Canadian Tire Barrhaven 442
- Kelly Funeral Homes/ Capital Funeral Home & Cemetery- by Arbor Memorial
- Doug Mason
- The Brew Table
- Lakeview Wine Company
- Councillor Wilson Lo
- Councillor David Hill
- Branch Office Services

If you have any questions please contact  
Dave Sereda  
Email- [davidmsereda@gmail.com](mailto:davidmsereda@gmail.com)  
Cell- 613.218.7306

**This is a fundraiser for the Branch 641  
Land and Building Fund.**

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# Legion

## Barrhaven Legion Red Bag Campaign

Once again, it's time to support our community and the [Barrhaven Food Cupboard](#) through the **Red Bag Campaign**. Last year 73 bags (1375 pounds) of food was donated by Branch 641. This is truly "neighbours helping neighbours."

This year's campaign will run from September 5<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>. **Red Bags** will be available at the branch starting on September 5<sup>th</sup>. You will be able to find them in a box out front in the foyer. Please come into the Legion to grab one.

How the **Red Bag Campaign** works - Members and families can collect and fill their **Red Bag** with any of the following items:

- cooking oil (946 ml)
- peanut butter (1kg)
- flour (1 kg)
- breakfast cereal & oatmeal
- canned fish / meat
- canned vegetables
- pasta
- granola bars
- baby diapers
- baby food and formula
- feminine hygiene products

**Red Bags** can be dropped off at the branch. Monetary donations to the Barrhaven Food Cupboard are also welcome. Please leave cheques or cash in an envelope inside the **Red Bag**. I collect the food and monetary donations each day and will maintain a tally, so we know final numbers.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need more information about the **Red Bag Campaign**

Jennifer Read  
[jen.read@rcl641.ca](mailto:jen.read@rcl641.ca)





## 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, lowering the flags, updating our memorial board and website – 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, Robert MacNichol, 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  
Chaplain, Hospital Visits Chair  
[Robert.MacNichol@rcl641.ca](mailto:Robert.MacNichol@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](#).

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## Executive Meeting Reports for July and August 2025

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

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

Executive Meeting Report for August, [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](mailto:reservation@rcl641.ca)**

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Hello members,

It is that time of year again to clean up our designated stretch of road (Fallowfield Road between Woodroffe Avenue and Greenbank Road).

Please volunteer to join us on Saturday September 27<sup>th</sup> (Rain date October 18<sup>th</sup>) at 0945 hrs to collect equipment and receive your collection assignment. We will be starting the clean-up at 1000 hrs and expect to be finished by 1200 hrs at the latest.

Your reward will be the satisfaction of helping to keep the community clean as well as pizza will be served at the branch after.

If you are available to help, there is a sign-up sheet at the legion or, if you prefer, you can email me at [jen.read@rcl641.ca](mailto:jen.read@rcl641.ca)

Hope to see you there,

Jennifer Read

# Free Seminar about Combating Phishing, Scamming, Extortion and the Do Not Call List

We've all heard the horror stories of seniors being duped out of their life savings by some unscrupulous person pretending to be calling from their bank. And many of us don't understand how anyone can possibly be caught so easily in such a scam. But it happens, and often.

Join us on September 9 from 1-3 p.m. at Branch 641 and attend a free seminar to throw light on how to protect yourself against being scammed.

We will have three experts from the Canadian Anti-Fraud Center and Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission. Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided. Come out and learn how to protect yourself, loved ones and your money.

Join in person or via live broadcast.

**Pre-registration is required.** Please contact Richard Lynn (613-716-9930 or email [richard.lynn@rcl641.ca](mailto:richard.lynn@rcl641.ca)) to register.

## Notes from the Editor

Debi Sereda



Despite the hot and dry weather outside these past weeks, inside Branch 641, it's cool and busy as always, and the drinks are icy cold. No matter the day, there are always possibilities for friendship and fun at your Legion.

Tickets for the September 13 Social and Fundraiser are selling very quickly so if you haven't bought yours yet, get to the branch pronto and buy them. This is a fundraiser for our new build, and it looks like it's going to be a fun evening, with first-class food and a fun band. Don't forget your dancing shoes! (See page 11 for more information.)

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

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