

## The President's Message



Comrades:

I am honoured to be confirmed as your **10th** branch president. I am eager to tackle the challenges this role will inevitably pose but feel prepared to do so. As an Ordinary Member, I bring 39 years of dedicated Regular and Reserve Force service with multiple United Nations and operational mission-based taskings.

I am also a Gulf War Veteran, having served with a British/Canadian Field Hospital within miles of the front lines. Further, I offer a long commitment and involvement with the Royal Canadian Legion. I was first sworn-in as an Ordinary Member at Branch 517 Petawawa in 1977. Throughout the years, I continued to join Legions wherever I was posted, including Cold Lake, Gagetown and Trenton. Upon arrival in Ottawa, I first joined Branch 593 Bells Corners before switching to the newly created Branch 641. Since 2007, with the exception of President, I have been an active executive member in all major roles, most recently as Bar and Housing Officer. I have served extensively as Branch Chair and for several years as Zone Chair.

I am very grateful for the assistance and mentoring I have received from both the immediate past president Lyle Brennan and others who came before. I also want to thank both the outgoing and incoming executive members for stepping up to ensure continued success of our branch. In particular, I thank Pam Hall and Diane Craig for carrying out, respectively, the important roles of Secretary and Treasurer as we transition to some new reporting and recording processes. While it has not been easy at times, your sense of humour and willingness to engage with the changes,

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coupled with your dedication to and knowledge of the branch, is greatly appreciated. Welcome to Kevin Brown and Will Read who have accepted the challenge to assume these duties.

As our branch completes a milestone birthday and prepares to participate in activities celebrating a historic century of the Royal Canadian Legion as a whole, I am proud of the many volunteers who make our very existence possible, particularly those who toil invisibly. Even if you only have a few hours a month, what better way to support Veterans and your branch than to find a committee or event to volunteer for. Please consider lending a hand. If you're not sure how, please seek out any one of the new or past executive teams or give your name to the bartender with what you are interested in, and someone will get back to you. Our collective efforts will continue to support our Veterans and promote Remembrance, as well as contribute to the well being of seniors and youth in the community.

On behalf of the 2025/2026 executive, we wish you a safe and enjoyable summer and look forward to another fruitful and event-filled year at Barrhaven Legion.

"In the service of Veterans."

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



## Garage Sale – Cancelled

Unfortunately, we have cancelled the garage sale scheduled for July 12 due to lack of participation.





## The Past Presidents of Branch 641

Over the past 20 years, Branch 641 has had 10 presidents to lead us. We lost three of these fine people – Ray Desjardins (2004-2007), Gord Ley (2007-2009) and Gus Este (2011-2012); however, we are lucky to have seven comrades remaining to provide history, mentorship and knowledge. With the exception of a few years where presidents served a two-year term, terms for presidency are one year. Thank you all for your service.

Pictured left to right (photo taken June 2025):

Ed Schelenz 2012-2013 (1 year), 2015-2017 (2 years), 2022-2023 (1 year)

Lyle Brennan 2023-2023, (1 year), 2024-2025 (1 year)

Bert Boehme 2017-2019 (2-year term)

Ernie Hughes 2009-2011 (2-year term), 2014-2015 (1 year)

Stephane Guy 2012-2022 (3-year term courtesy of COVID)

Dave Sereda 2014-15 (1 year)



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## Membership Report

Current membership 720

Quorum for General Meetings 38

New Members: 1

Transferred In: 3

Deceased Members: 0

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

Joe Guitard, [Membership Chair](#)

## Legion Sports

We have two used dart boards for sale for \$30 each. If you wish to purchase one, email me at [sports.officer@rcl641.ca](mailto:sports.officer@rcl641.ca).

The first Zone golf tournament was held last week at the Manderley Golf Course. We had three teams compete in the three different levels. The team of Luke Helmkey and Mike Ahern won the Open division, and they will be heading to Alexandria to represent Branch 641 in Districts.

I'm looking forward to my new term as Sport Officer.

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

Michelle Guitard, [Sports Officer](#)

## 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](#).

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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**

## CANADA DAY

TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2025

At the Barrhaven Legion Branch 641

Band: 4Better Time  
From: 1pm – 5p

No need to reserve, just drop by.  
1<sup>st</sup> come, 1<sup>st</sup> serve  
Food available at **The Poppy Café**  
In Valour Hall From: 12pm to 3pm

### Menu:

Hot Dog & condiments \$6.00  
Hamburger & condiments \$7.00



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## Branch 641 Expands Our Navy Memorabilia

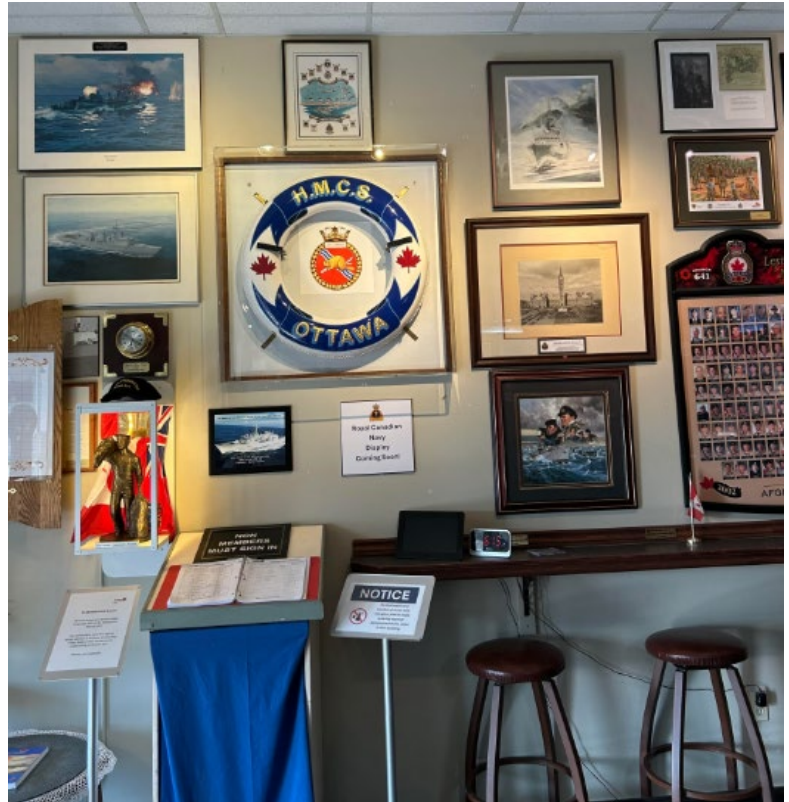
For the past month, our branch historians, Terry Claessen (aided by his wife Caroline) and Dwayne Hordij, have been busy sourcing, preparing and installing another piece of history at Branch 641 — a Naval Kisbee, also spelled Kisbie.

“We’re a little exhausted, this took a day more than a month from the time I received the Kisbee to installation. We have invested at least 50 hours of work into this project. Our final tribute goes to the Navy,” said Terry.

“The HMCS Ottawa Kisbee ring has been a long time coming to our branch. From countless promises of “I can get you that” to disappointment, our searching finally paid off.

“At the time our current ship had been deployed to the South China Sea, which is where contact was made with our request to acquire their Kisbee ring. Within a month or two, it was in our hands and the project started to take shape. Many thanks to our contact who would like to stay anonymous. Of course, the ship’s company as well for their assistance.

“After years of searching for a centrepiece for our navy display, it is now at home in Barrhaven. If you’re looking at our museum wall you will notice an order to our military collections starting with the Navy, the Army and then the Air Force.



“There’s a line in our opening ceremonies at our general meeting that states, “Those of our comrades who by sea, by land and in the air, laid down their lives, for their Sovereign and Country.” It may have been by accident, but it seems fitting. We will remember them.”

Terry and Dwayne are the keepers of our military memorabilia at Branch 641. They have toiled for years, collecting, arranging and installing all the donations and acquisitions of Army, Navy and Air Force photos, medals, planes, tanks, etc. that are on display at the branch. You may have noticed the propeller on the wall, and this is also thanks to Terry and Dwayne.

[Here’s a link to a bit of history about the Kisbee.](#) [Here’s a link to the history of the HMCS Ottawa.](#)

Thanks Terry (and Caroline) and Dwayne for all you do for Branch 641.

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## 2025/2026 Branch 641 Executive Team

Position	Chair	Position	Chair
<b>President</b>	Dave Cole	<b>Hospitality/Entertainment</b>	Angele Guy
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Lyle Brennan	<b>Housing</b>	Dave Cole
<b>1st Vice President</b>	Angele Guy	<b>Leadership and Development</b>	Bert Boehme
<b>2nd Vice President</b>	Richard Lynn	<b>Legal Advisor</b>	Rod Vanier
<b>3rd Vice President</b>	Robert MacNichol	<b>Legion Seniors</b>	Richard Lynn
<b>Chair</b>	Jennifer Dunham	<b>Long Range Planning</b>	Stephane Guy
<b>Treasurer</b>	Will Read	<b>Membership</b>	Joe Guitard
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Joanne Larrett	<b>Poppy and Remembrance</b>	Kevin Brown
<b>Secretary</b>	Kevin Brown	<b>Poppy Trust Fund</b>	Bert Boehme
<b>Sergeant at Arms</b>	Paul Leadston	<b>Public Relations (Website, Newsletter)</b>	Debi Sereda
<b>Bar Officer</b>	Dave Cole	<b>Sports/Track and Field</b>	Michelle Guitard
<b>Cadets</b>	Robert MacNichol and Anne Cole	<b>Seniors</b>	Richard Lynn
<b>Community Liaison</b>	Dave Sereda	<b>Technology</b>	Kevin Brown
<b>Constitution and Laws</b>	Stephane Guy	<b>Veterans' Service Officer</b>	Anne Cole
<b>Finance Officer</b>	Bert Boehme	<b>Ways and Means</b>	Dave Sereda
<b>Grants and Assistance</b>	Richard Lynn	<b>Youth Education/Bursary</b>	Carol-Anne Marleau
<b>Honours and Awards</b>	Lyle Brennan		
<b>Non-Executive</b>			
<b>Bar Manager</b>	Diane Craig	<b>Golf Tournament</b>	Jennifer Read
<b>Bingo Team Co-ordinator</b>	Ed Schelenz	<b>Hall Rental</b>	Cathy Pearen
<b>Chaplain for Legion Tributes</b>	Robert MacNichol	<b>Hospital Visits Co-ordinator</b>	Robert MacNichol
<b>Cleaning the Capital</b>	Jennifer Read	<b>Housing Assistant Housing Officer</b>	Tom Lamb Mike Vincent
<b>Finance Review Committee</b>	Ed Schelenz, Stephan Whalen, Melanie Brown	<b>Nevada Trust Fund</b>	Kevin Brown
<div>  <div> Email: <a href="mailto:info@rcl641.ca">info@rcl641.ca</a>  June 18, 2025 </div>  </div>			

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# Annual Veterans' Lunch

Each year, Branch 641 invites Veterans from our community to attend a lunch in Valour Hall.

**This year, the lunch was held on June 18.** Thanks to our guests and Comrades for attending, our Veterans Service Officer Anne Cole and Seniors Chair Richard Lynn for arranging the event, and our Hospitality Team for their hard work putting the meal together.


Here are some photos, thanks to our on-site photographer, Linda Laframboise.



Richard Lynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Seniors Officer/Grants & Assistance Officer  
[richard.lynn@rcl641.ca](mailto:richard.lynn@rcl641.ca)  
Cell Phone 613-716-9930

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## 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Legion Golf Tournament – 8 August 2025

The Legion's 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament will be held on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at Cedarhill Golf and Country Club with a shotgun start at 1200 hrs, and the putting contest starting at 1100 hrs.

Due to reduced capacity at the Legion there can only be 132 golfers.

To avoid the additional costs of bringing in carts this year, there will only be 104 spots available with carts, and the remaining 28 spots will be for those people who are interested in walking.

Registration costs are as follows:

- RCL 641 Legion Members with cart - \$120.00
- RCL 641 Legion Members walking - \$105.00
- Non-RCL 641 Legion Members - \$135.00
- Non-RCL 641 Legion Members - \$120.00

Please Note:


1. Walkers will be starting on holes 1, 9, 10, and 18. Carts will start on the remaining holes.
2. Holes 5, 9, and 14 only have one foursome, the remaining 15 holes will each have two foursomes.

Title Sponsor	
	
<b>Gold Sponsor – Dinner Sponsor</b> 	<b>Silver Sponsor – Goodie Bags</b> Kelly Funeral Homes Capital Funeral Home & Cemetery by Arbor Memorial <b>Silver Sponsor - Golf Balls</b> 
<b>Contest Sponsor</b>	Barrhaven Pharmasave (Closest to the Pin – (Men's & Ladies))
<b>Birdie Sponsors (Hole)</b>	Drummonds Gas, Capital City Heating & Cooling, Councillor David Hill, Councillor Wilson Lo, Stuart Mann - Raymond James, Switzer Carty (x 2), Porto a Casa, Fat Les's Chip Stand Barrhaven, Barrhaven Legion Past Presidents

*Donations of non-perishable food items for the Barrhaven Food Cupboard would be greatly appreciated*

For any questions, please e-mail Jennifer Read @ [golf@rcl641.ca](mailto:golf@rcl641.ca)

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## 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 and General Meeting Reports for June 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](mailto:reservation@rcl641.ca)**

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# 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](mailto:volunteering@barrhavenfoodcupboard.ca).”

If you are able, please donate food or money to the Barrhaven Food Cupboard. “Neighbours Helping Neighbours!”



## Notes from the Editor

Debi Sereda




With the arrival of July, our volunteers get to take a little break for the months of July and August. While your executive continues to meet on a regular basis, at least monthly, General Meetings are put on hold till September. Also, our Friday-night dinners are held less frequently so make sure to [check our website](#) to see what's on the menu! I also hear from a “reliable source” that Dave Sereda and his Ways and Means team are planning something fun for September 13 so keep an eye out for more on that!

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

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

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