

# THE BRANDON LEGIONNAIRE



*Branch 003, Brandon, MB*

## NEWSLETTER MAY 2022 VOLUME XLII : 5



### National War Memorial

On May 21, 1939, King George VI unveiled the National War Memorial. Intended to honour those who fought in the First World War (1914 to 1918), it was called "The Response", to symbolize Canadians' willingness to serve not just Canada, but the larger Empire (now the Commonwealth) to which it belonged.

Just months after the unveiling, Canada had entered the Second World War. The Memorial was rededicated in 1982 to honour those who had served in the Second World War and the Korean War. In 2000, Canada's Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was placed at the foot of the Memorial. To honour those who had participated in the South African War and the mission in Afghanistan, the Memorial was dedicated once again on November 11, 2014.



**National War Memorial** Over time, the Memorial has evolved into more than an iconic site. It is now a formal place of commemoration and remembrance where visiting dignitaries can pay their respects and all Canadians can mark November 11. It is also an informal gathering place where people can remember those who have served and sacrificed for their nation. The National War Memorial has transformed the heart of Canada's capital.

**Honouring sacrifice** The First World War touched almost every Canadian family. Some 650,000 Canadians served in that war, and 68,000 died. When the troops returned—including these members of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, Canadians wanted to honour their sacrifice. The need for a national war memorial was clear.

**The Prime Minister's choice** Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King, shown at Remembrance Day ceremonies on Parliament Hill in 1937, campaigned forcefully for a war memorial to honour the sacrifices Canadians made during the First World War. He also selected the site where the Memorial would be built. (Continued on page 5)

### National Notable Dates 2022

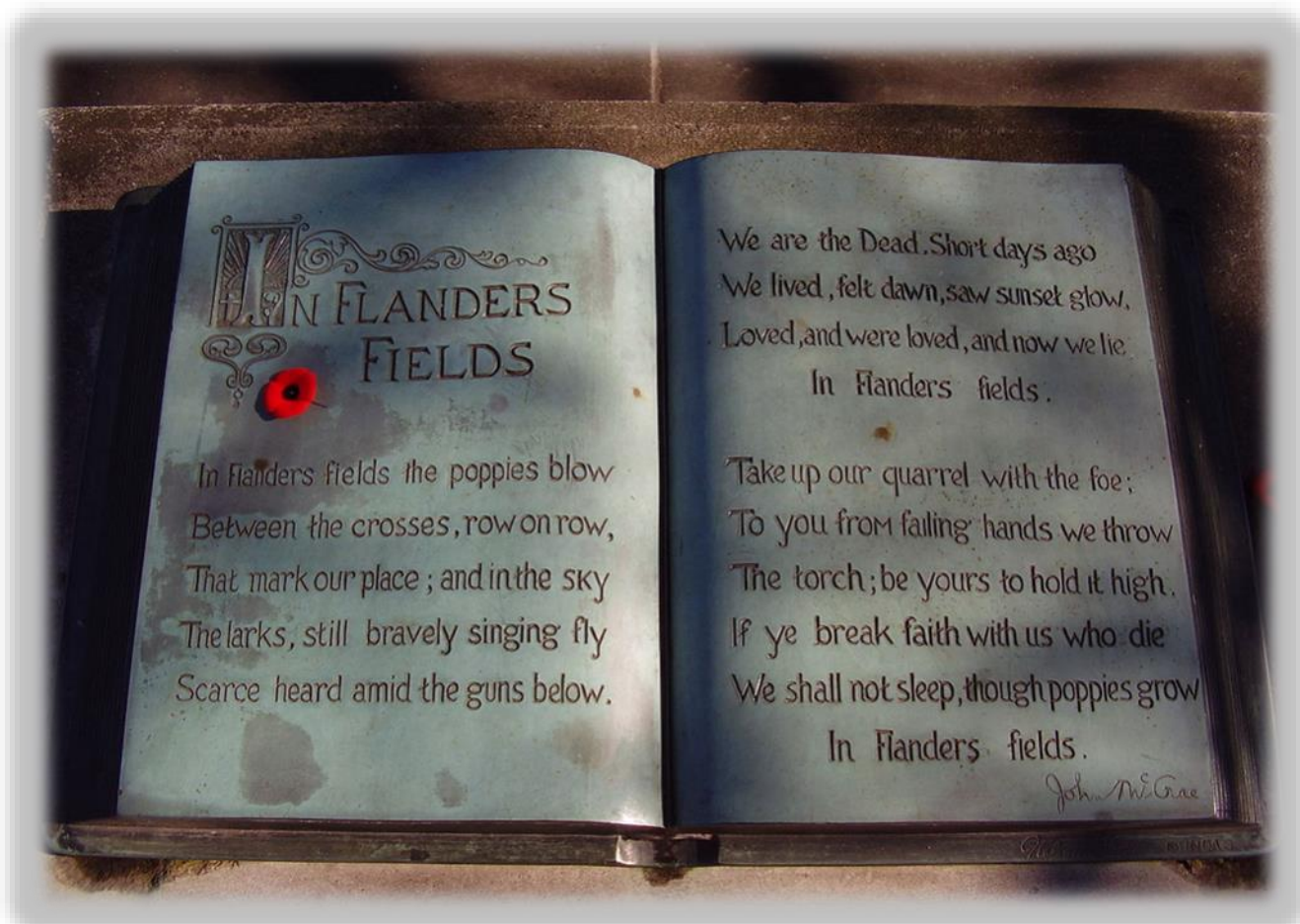
The following are national days of relevance to The Royal Canadian Legion that raise awareness of an issue, commemorate a group or event, or celebrate something. Also included are national Legion activities.

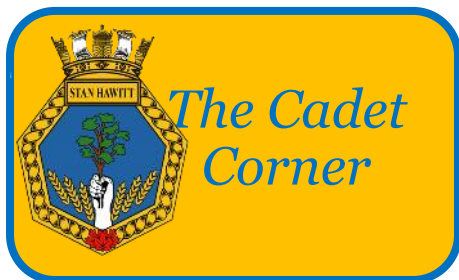
Dominion Command promotes many of these dates through the Legions' social media channels....

Facebook.com/CanadianLegion    Twitter.com/RoyalCdnLegion    Instagram.com/royalcanadianlegion

### MAY 2022

* May 1	First Sunday Battle of the Atlantic (1945)
* May 3	John McCrae wrote <i>In Flanders Fields</i> poem
* May 4-10	CMHA Mental Health Week
* May 5	Liberation of Netherlands (1945)
* May 8	VE Day (1945)
* May 8	Mother's Day
* May 19	Canadian Army founded (1855)
* May 21	National War Memorial unveiled (1939)
* May 23	Victoria Day
* May 25	Ypres (1915)
* May 28	Tomb of Unknown Soldier (2000)
* May 29	International Day of UN Peacekeepers
* May 31	End of South African (Boer) War (1902)





## Battle of Atlantic Service 01 May 2022 Brandon Armoury



### Laying of Wreath

Mr. Peter H. Atkins (Red) RCN (Ret'd), NLCC  
Stan Hawitt Cadet PO2 Emmanuel Ogunnaya



### Reading of the Honour Roll of Ships

Royal Canadian Sea Cadet from RCSCC  
Swiftsure Cadet PO2 Maged Abdelmonem, Bell  
Ringer NLCC Stan Hawitt Cadet PO2 Niko  
Borkent, with Veteran Captain Edd McArthur  
CD (Ret'd)

The Navy League of Canada, Manitoba Division, Brandon Branch Web: [www.mbnavyleague.ca](http://www.mbnavyleague.ca)

Steven Ternovetsky

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(National War Memorial continued from cover page)

International competition In 1925, an international competition to design the National War Memorial attracted 127 submissions from Canada and abroad. Competition documents included photographs like this one of Connaught Place, the proposed location, now called Confederation Square. The post office, which originally dominated the site, was demolished and rebuilt, making space for the Memorial.

"The Response", Peace and Freedom British sculptor Vernon March won the international competition to create the National War Memorial. Here, he works on the figures of Peace and Freedom. March's design captures the response of Canadians called to war. Whereas most war memorials glorify "victory," this one emphasizes the willingness of Canadians to fight for peace.

Family of artists The completed bronze sculptures stand outside the March studio in England. Vernon March came from a working-class Yorkshire family but, remarkably, six of his brothers and one sister were artists. When Vernon March died suddenly in 1930, his siblings rallied around. They finished the figures in their own foundry.

Work begins The Ottawa site was not ready when the March family completed the sculptures in 1932, so they were exhibited for six months in Hyde Park, London, England, before going into storage. In 1937, the figures were shipped to Ottawa in wooden crates. Work began with Sydney March surveying the site and directing construction.

All of us These figures, laid out on the ground before being incorporated in the Memorial's granite arch, symbolize the "going forth of the people." Capturing the diversity of the Canadian response, the 22 figures represent infantry, cavalry, riflemen, gunners, pilots, sailors, nursing sisters and lumbermen.

In the presence of royalty Sunday, May 21, 1939, saw 100,000 eager Canadians, straining for a glimpse of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, gathered in spring sunshine for the National War Memorial's dedication. The King described the Memorial as symbolizing a great truth: "Without freedom there can be no enduring peace, and without peace no enduring freedom."

Remembering in new ways Canadians continue to experience the National War Memorial in new ways. In the week leading up to Remembrance Day 2008, actor R.H. Thomson and lighting designer Martin Conboy orchestrated a unique commemoration, with the names of the 68,000 Canadians who died in the First World War being projected on the Memorial's granite walls.



Photo: City of Ottawa Archives, CA-001244 , Information t– National War Memorial taken from— <https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/biens-property/galerie-gallery-eng.html> Canadian Heritage exhibit: The National War Memorial-Symbol of Remembrance

April 27, 2022

Dear Friends & Collectors of Tabs for Wheelchairs,

We are so very thankful for your continued dedication and support to the program! Whether it be through collecting tabs, monetary donations or taking in metal of all shapes & sizes, it has definitely paid off in a very big way!

As of June 2022, we will have given a total of **50 specialized wheelchairs, one Pegasus Pro 4 Scooter and one wheelchair lift ramp**. It is truly unbelievable that we have accomplished this in 24 years!

Since our last newsletter in December 2021, the same very generous donor who gave six sport wheelchairs previously, has given another three. These **three sport wheelchairs** were specifically given to certain young people who play basketball and are associated with the Manitoba Wheelchair Sport Association. Thank you so much to our special donor!

This year marks the **5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of my son's passing**. Anthony was my main helper for 19 years in bagging all the tabs that were delivered to Holy Cross School. He truly loved this job and always had a smile on his face every time we were in the car heading to the school. To honor Anthony, the same family member who has donated so very generously to the program in the past, wanted to give **five extra specialized wheelchairs** this year in Anthony's memory. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! I'm sure Anthony is smiling down on you right now!

Unfortunately, it saddens me to announce that we have decided for the safety of everyone that we will not be having an assembly and presentation in the Holy Cross gym this June. At every assembly, there are approximately 500 people which includes staff, students, and visitors. At this point in time, we feel this would not be a good idea. However, **Catie, who is this year's** recipient, will definitely be receiving her **K300 PS Jr Power wheelchair** in the next few months. We will make sure to get a picture of her in her new specialized wheelchair and include it in our September newsletter.

Next year, we have chosen two young men to receive specialized wheelchairs. Attached are the pictures and write-ups of Bernard and Hayden. We will look forward to seeing them receive their chairs in 2023!

A huge thanks to **Wesman Salvage** in Brandon and everyone who has taken their tabs and metals of all types and sizes to their location. In January, we received a cheque for **\$1493.05** from Wesman Salvage. We are so very grateful for all that they do for us and happy that they are a part of our team!

If anyone would like to make a monetary donation to the program, please address your cheque to Holy Cross School and write at the bottom left, "Tabs for Wheelchairs". Tax receipts will be given for donations over \$20. Please mail your cheque to the school's address shown in the letterhead.

We also hope that you haven't forgotten about **Access Storage** who continues to give us free storage space for our bags of tabs every year. If you are ever looking to rent a storage space, please keep them in mind. It would certainly be a way of saying "Thank you" for their generosity and commitment to our program. (Attached is an advertisement of their many locations in Winnipeg.)

Please don't forget to look at all the following attachments. The first one is a picture of what the Holy Cross Gym looks like every time we had an assembly to present a wheelchair. Unfortunately, it has been three years since we have been able to gather together for this special occasion. We are hoping and praying that an assembly will be possible next year when we celebrate our **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Tabs for Wheelchairs**.

Just a reminder, the last day to bring in your tabs is **Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>**. Please refer to the information in the body of the email.

Sincerely,

Gwen Buccini

Tabs for Wheelchairs Coordinator

Phone: (204) 612-5392

Ms. Rachael Andrew

Principal

**Special Legion Branch #3  
'Thankyou' to Maureen & Ed  
Farrant, Wesman Salvage and  
ALL tab collectors for your  
continuing support of  
'Tabs for Wheelchairs'**



## 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY 2023



**BERNARD**

Bernard will be 17 years old this summer and in Grade 12 at Vincent Massey Collegiate this fall. Bernard was born with proximal femoral focal deficiency (PFFD). This is a complex birth defect in which the upper part of the femur bone (in the thigh) is either malformed or missing, causing one leg to be shorter than the other. For Bernard, it affected the growth of his right leg. He is an above-knee hip disarticulated amputee.

He plays wheelchair basketball for Team Manitoba within the Manitoba Wheelchair Sport Association. He has also competed with the Men's U23 National Team – Wheelchair Basketball Canada. His interests are, of course, basketball, music, Japanese cartoons, and fashion.

Bernard has already played for the World Juniors and World Nationals. He is one of the youngest that has ever played for these teams. His immediate future plans, after graduation in 2023, will be to travel and compete on the Senior Men's Team with Team Canada. We will be so proud to be able to present him with not just a sport wheelchair, but a Top End Pro custom-built basketball wheelchair designed for athletes.



**HAYDEN**

Hayden is 15 years old and will be in Grade 10 at Lord Selkirk Regional Comprehensive Secondary School this fall. He was born with a perfect bill of health and wasn't diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy until he was nine months old.

Hayden is known for his smile, sense of humor and very kind heart. He has a younger sister whom he simply adores and loves to go to her hockey games to watch her play. When he is not getting his hair styled, he is busy online gaming with his friends, or spending the day outdoors quadding with his family. Although he sees himself being a computer programmer in the future, his family thinks he has a calling to be a counsellor. He is an "old soul" and is often giving great advice to friends and family.

Presently, Hayden has a power wheelchair, but has a great need for a manual one. A manual one will allow him to continue to work on his fine motor skills by navigating around his house and going to places that are not power wheelchair (200-300 lbs.) friendly. It will be our pleasure to give him an ultralight manual wheelchair!

## Ladies' Corner

### Roast Beef Supper

A big thank you to all who helped make the take-out roast beef supper such a success with special thanks to our hard-working chef, Erich Stumme. 170 meals were served in a short period of time and we appreciate all those who bought tickets. Look for another supper in the fall and get your tickets early!!

### Raffle

The Ladies' Auxiliary are holding a spring raffle with the draws to be held on [May 7](#) during the meat draw. Tickets are \$5 for a book of 10 and prizes are \$200, \$100 & \$75. Tickets can be purchased from Auxiliary members.

The Ladies' Auxiliary held their May meeting with 11 members present. We were honoured to have our District Commander, Marie Barron in attendance. She spoke on ways to increase membership and also updated us on the upcoming convention which will be held in Thunder Bay, [June 17](#) - 19. Marg Melnyk, Betty Persian and Pat Simmons will attend as delegates.

Our next meeting on [June 7](#) will begin with a potluck at 6 pm in the hall followed by the meeting at 7 pm.



**Happy Mother's Day to all the Moms who serve or have served in the Canadian Armed Forces and the RCMP, to the moms who support their families when their loved ones are serving abroad, and the Moms of Canada's serving and retired Veterans.**

**We salute you!**

### **Brandon Branch 003 Legion Executive 2022**

President: Fred Pritchard  
 Past President: Cindy Stumme  
 1st Vice President: Raymond Burgess  
 2nd Vice President: Linda Wakefield  
 Sgt-at-Arms: Richard McDonald

### **Executive Committee**

Maureen Hawkins, Laura Hyrich,  
 Bob Mawson, Paul Mount,  
 Terry Shand, Erich Stumme, Murray Tallant

### **LADIES AUXILIARY 2020 EXECUTIVE**

President : Maureen Farrant  
 Past President: Linda Leckie  
 1st Vice President: Laura Hyrich  
 2nd Vice President: Barb Roberds  
 Secretary: Betty Persian  
 Sgt-at-Arms: Suzanne Cartier  
 Treasurer: Pat Simmons  
 Membership: Barb Wood  
 Poppy Committee: Shirley Kernaghan, Barb Roberds  
 Liaison: Laura Hyrich  
 Funeral Teas/Houselady: Maureen Farrant

### **Royal Canadian Legion Brandon Branch #3**

**560—13th Street EAST Brandon, MB R7A 7C1**

**OFFICE:** Branch Manager Colleen Gammack 204-728-5026 &/or  
[office.admin@rclbrandon003.com](mailto:office.admin@rclbrandon003.com)

**Legion Branch Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LegionBrandonBranch/> ...contact  
 Laureen at Legion Lounge

**Legion Branch Website:** <https://www.brandonlegion.ca/> ( Please note plans for a re-start  
 /update for our Branch website in 2022

**Brandon Legionnaire Branch Newsletter:** contact Linda at [mrs wakes@mymts.net](mailto:mrs wakes@mymts.net) to submit  
 articles &/or pictures



# LEGION BINGO

**THURSDAY EVENING**

**Doors open 5:00pm-Early Bird 6:30 pm**

**Regular 7:00 pm**

**BRANCH 003 Legion hosts every  
Friday & Saturday Nite**

**Meat Draws - 50/50 - CHASE The ACE**

Join in the fun & excitement of a  
chance to win while supporting your



Brandon Branch #3