



## BC/YUKON COMMAND

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[legionbcyukon.ca](http://legionbcyukon.ca)

## News Release

For Immediate Release

June 7, 2019

### Remembrance is Everyone's Responsibility

BC – 2019 marks the 75th Anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy. This time gap makes remembrance more important than ever. The BC/Yukon Command of the Royal Canadian Legion branches have been involved in hosting and facilitating commemoration events since the beginning of this year. It makes organizations like the Royal Canadian Legion more important than ever.

“We are keepers of remembrance. And as we continue commemorations, we must look and listen to our younger generations to pass on our proud traditions. It is our duty to honor the sacrifices made by men and women who have served, those who are currently acting in service to our great country, and at this time, our World War 2 veterans.”, said BC/Yukon Command President Glenn Hodge.

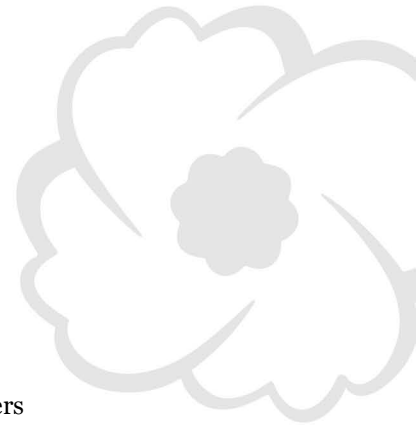
“The Department of National Defence and Veteran Affairs Canada are not the sole owners or benefactors of our veterans efforts. Remembrance is everyone's responsibility,” said David Whittier, Executive Director of the BC/Yukon Command. “While being a veteran myself, and going overseas several times, there is a certain reverence when in the presence of our World War 2 veterans. It is important for our younger generations to feel and know this kind of reverence as well.”

The BC/Yukon Command of the Royal Canadian finds that any attempt to dismiss the responsibility of honoring those who have sacrificed their lives for what we enjoy today is a choice to forget.

For more information about the BC/Yukon Command, or to see what's happening in your community, visit [www.legionbcyukon.ca/](http://www.legionbcyukon.ca/)

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### ABOUT THE LEGION

Established in 1926, the Legion is the largest Veterans service organization in Canada with more than 320,000 members. Its mission is to serve all Veterans including serving Canadian Forces and Royal Canadian Mounted Police members and their families, to promote Remembrance and to serve our communities and our country.

The Legion's Service Bureau Network provides assistance and representation to all Veterans including serving CF and RCMP members, and their families regarding their disability claims, benefits and services from Veterans Affairs Canada and the Veterans Review and Appeal Board. In communities across Canada, it is the Legion that perpetuates Remembrance through the Poppy Campaign and Remembrance Day ceremonies. With more than 1,450 branches, The Legion supports programs for seniors, Veterans housing, Long Term Care, youth leadership, education, sports, Cadets, Guides and Scouts. We will Remember Them.

NEWS RELEASE

## Backgrounder

To learn more about the BC/Yukon Command of the Royal Canadian Legion, visit [www.legionbcyukon.ca](http://www.legionbcyukon.ca)

Fast facts about the Royal Canadian Legion:

- The Legion is a developer of veteran and senior affordable and assisted living housing in BC.
  - Over 4,500 units in 70 facilities
- The Legion Poppy Campaign raises around \$2,500,000 per year for services and support in BC
  - Grants for Veterans and their families in need
  - Veteran transition programs
  - Comforts for Veterans and their spouses who are hospitalized and in need
  - Support to Cadet units
  - A network of Branch and Command Service Officers across the province
  - Donations for disaster relief
  - Promotion and administration of Remembrance activities
- The BC/Yukon Legion Foundation gives more than \$500,000 a year to support veterans and strengthen communities
  - Research and treatment of trauma and PTSD
  - Cockrell House provides shelter, food and support services to Veterans who are homeless or under-housed
  - The Veterans Transition Network provides group-based counselling and transition programs to help military members to overcome barriers to their transition to civilian life
  - Medical and other equipment for seniors' care
  - Veteran programs like the Vancouver Island Compassion Dogs
- The branches in BC/Yukon Command raise \$1.2 Million/year through gaming which is re-invested in community programs
- The Legion holds contests for youth with cash prizes
  - Poster and Literary
  - Video

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