



BC/YUKON COMMAND

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News Release

For Immediate Release

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Legion Week Celebrates 93 Years of Service to Veterans and Canadian Community

BC – Starting June 24-30, the BC/Yukon Command of the Royal Canadian Legion is hosting events in 78 communities across BC and the Yukon to celebrate Legion Week 2019.

“Legion Week builds festive momentum leading up to Canada Day and honors the duty, service and sacrifice of our veterans,” said David Whittier, Executive Director of the BC/Yukon Command. “Drop in to your local legion and enjoy face painting, barbecues, concerts and all kinds of fun and entertainment for families and community members alike.”

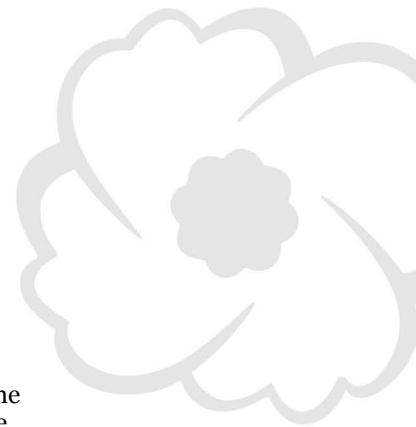
Events are taking place across BC and the Yukon, bringing people from diverse backgrounds together to celebrate and learn more about Canada’s history. It is part of the BC and Yukon governments’ official proclamations of Legion Week as a testament to the dedicated community service of the Royal Canadian Legion, a cornerstone of Canadian communities for 93 years.

“During Legion Week and throughout the year, we welcome people from every corner of the community to visit their local legion to celebrate and learn about our country’s proud past,” said Whittier. “Membership is open to all citizens and we encourage community members to join their local legion and participate in building Canada’s legacy of diversity, vibrancy and strength.”

For more information about the BC/Yukon Command, or to see what’s happening in your community for Legion Week, visit www.legionbcyukon.ca/what-we-do/legion-week-2019

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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

Legion Week 2019 events are happening in the following communities:

Agassiz, Armstrong, Ashcroft, Kitalano/Kerrisdale, Bowser, Britannia, Campbell River, Castlegar, Chase, Chemainus, Chetwynd, Chilliwack, Clinton, Cloverdale, Comox, Cranbrook, Crescent Beach, Delta, Diamond Head, Enderby, Fernie, Gibsons, Grand Forks, Grandview/Collingwood, Hope, Kamloops, Kaslo, Kitimat, Ladysmith, Lumby, Lytton, Malahat, Maple Ridge, Merritt, Mission, Mount Arrowsmith, Mount Pleasant, Nakusp, New Westminster, North Vancouver, Peachland, Pemberton, Pender Island, Penticton, Port Coquitlam, Powell River, Prince Edward, Prince George, Prince Rupert, Quesnel, Revelstoke, Richmond, Roberts Creek, Rossland, Salmo, Salmon Arm, Seaview Centennial, Sechelt, Sicamous, South Burnaby, South Similkameen, Summerland, Texada Island, Trafalgar, Valemount, Victoria, West Vancouver, Westbank, Whalley, White Rock, Windermere (Invermere)

To see what's happening by community, visit 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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