



BC/Yukon Command

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Response to Mr. Rankin's article: 'My honour has been shredded': 94-year-old Vancouver vet fights legion expulsion"

Surrey, BC, Canada

BC/Yukon Command of the Royal Canadian Legion values all those who have served their country. This situation is very unfortunate and the decision to expel any member is not taken lightly. Expulsion from the Legion is a rare occurrence and is only undertaken for serious offences such as theft or misappropriation of Legion funds or Poppy funds, cases of stolen valour or fraud. Such a decision is finalized after all avenues of appeal have been pursued and a thorough review of the matter has taken place by the next superior command.

The complaint and appeal process is outlined in the General By-laws as set out by the founders of the Legion, most of whom were First and Second World War Veterans. In summary, as with every member against member complaint, once deemed properly lodged, the person against whom a complaint is lodged will receive a copy of the complaint lodged against them. A complaint committee of Legion members is then struck and the chair of the committee sends both parties details of the hearing date and time via registered mail. Each party always has the opportunity to present their case and, based on the facts presented in the matter, the complaint committee renders their decision. Both parties then have the right to appeal this decision to an appeal committee made up of Legion member peers. If a decision of expulsion is upheld, that decision is finalized at the National level. I can confirm that in all cases, this process is followed and both parties are offered every opportunity to respond to any complaint allegation and appeal any decision.

Sincerely,

Val Macgregor
President, BC/Yukon Command of the Royal Canadian Legion

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