



Craig Thomson

Candidate: Command President

I have been a Legion member for 50 years, joining Branch 240, Crescent Beach when I was 18 years old and headed to Canadian Forces Basic Training. After two years in the Canadian Forces, posted at CFB Comox as Military Police, I transferred to the RCMP where I served for 35 years until retiring in 2009. During my time in the RCMP, I served 3 United Nations Missions as UN Civilian Police, in Yugoslavia, Kosovo and East Timor.

In 2010 I transferred to Branch 052 Kamloops, where I have served as 1st Vice and President and chaired the Honours & Awards and Bursary Committees and acted as Parade Commander for Remembrance Day ceremonies. I currently act as Branch Service Officer.

In 2015 I was elected as Zone Commander for Nicola Thompson Zone. In 2016 I was appointed Chair of the Constitution and Laws Committee at the Command level, and in 2017 I was elected a Vice President of BC Yukon Command and in 2019, I was elected 1st Vice President. I have been the Chair of Branch Advisory (Operations) for the past 3 years. As well, I sit on the Dominion C&L Committee.

Outside of the Legion, I am an avid motorcycle rider and am a member of the Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle group as well as CAV, the Canadian Army Veterans Motorcycle Unit. Over the past several years I have been active in the Military Police National Motorcycle Relay Ride that raises funds for the Military Police Fund for Blind Children.

Election Pledge:

It has become apparent the future of this great organization is on uncertain ground. In order for us to serve those the Legion was founded to represent, the Veteran, we have to ensure the Legion continues to be a leader for Veterans. As a Veteran, I want to see the Royal Canadian Legion continue to be the leader in Veterans issues for years to come. I am willing to do my part as an elected officer of this Command to keep the Legion strong and the leader of aid to Veterans across this great country.



Robert R. Underhill

Candidate: First Vice President

Comrades, it has been an honour to represent you as Vice President for the past three years. With all of the Covid 19 restrictions, we have faced, I wish to thank all of you for your efforts and support of the Legion. Your efforts have enabled me to perform my assigned duties, which I have done with pride.

I am a retired RCMP Veteran with almost thirty-nine years of service. I joined Branch 5 Richmond of the Royal Canadian Legion in 1975 and am currently President of Branch 44 TVS. Since I joined the Legion, I have been a champion for Veterans issues both within and outside of the organization and in 2015, I was awarded the Minister of Veterans Affairs Commendation.

I have been involved with the Vancouver Remembrance Day Ceremony at Victory Square since 1975, and have Chaired the Vancouver Remembrance Day Observance Committee since 2017. I have also been the Floor Director for the Annual Salute to Veterans Halftime Show with the BC Lions since its inception.

I am actively involved in all levels of the Legion and have held positions on numerous committees at the branch, zone, and command level. Currently, I am Chair of the Constitution and Laws Committee for BC/Yukon Command, as well as a Trustee for Branch 291 Richmond and Branch 60 West Vancouver. I am also involved with Branch 178 Shalom, helping them fight against their eviction.

I accept the nomination for the position of First Vice President of BC Yukon Command. I give my word that I will do my best to support the wishes of the membership if elected as First Vice President.



Bev Croft

Candidate: Vice President

I am a proud daughter of a Veteran who taught me, even before I was old enough to be a Legion Member, what “Service Not for Self but to Others” really means. One of the proudest moments we shared, was after helping my mom run the bingo in the Legion Hall, dad took me downstairs to the Canteen and signed my membership papers as it as my 19th Birthday. It was the first year that Sons’ & Daughters’ could join as Associate Members.

I was one of the first Associate members to hold office on my Branch Executive. It was a privilege to have been mentored by knowledgeable Veterans as I moved up the Chairs. Most fulfilling was serving as Poppy Chair for 12 years. The most challenging chair was By-laws; it was a lot for me to absorb, but I knew it was vital for me to learn how things were to be done correctly. At the same time, it showed me that they had confidence, respect and believed I could do this. That knowledge has served me well as I have sat on as our By-laws Chair at Branch, Zone and Command Levels for over 35 years now. Other chairs I have had the honour of working on have been: Ways & Means, Public Relations, International Memorial Day, Zone Delegate and a Director to New Chelsea Society.

While as a Director to New Chelsea, I held several positions, including President. I received the New Chelsea Golden Heart Award for facing difficult situations head on while staying respectful of all concerned.

After serving as East Vancouver Zone Commander for one term, I was elected as a Command Executive Officer. I chaired Honours & Awards, Membership, Communications, and By-laws. I was honoured in 2002 by East Vancouver Zone with my M.S.M.

Currently, I am the Zone Commander for North Shore & Howe Sound as well as being active with North Vancouver Branch 118. This past term, I have served on The Legion Foundation sitting on both the By-laws and Key Tag Committees. I have had the pleasure of Chairing the Poster & Literary Committee for the past three years.

I can’t think of any better way to honour my dad that to continue in my Service to others.

I appreciate your consideration on electing me as Vice President of BC/Yukon Command.



Dale Johnston

Candidate: Vice President

I joined the Legion in 1980 as an associate member under my father, a World War II veteran. I am a member of Cloverdale Branch 06 and currently the 1st Vice President and Finance chairman. I was elected chairman of the Peace Arch Zone in 2005 and held that position for 6 years. In 2011, I was elected Deputy Zone Commander and in 2013 was elected Zone Commander and served four terms. In 2010 I was honored to receive a life Membership.

I have been called upon over the years to sit on several committees. In 2013 and 2014 I was on The National Track and Field Committee, held in Langley. I have also served as Trustee for branches within my zone and currently a Probationary Manager. I was also the Chairman of the Provincial Golf Tournament and was the Finance Chairman for the Dominion Dart Tournament at Cloverdale Branch 06, in 2014. From 2016 to 2020 I was your B.C. and Yukon Command Sports Chairman.

Outside of Legion Life myself and my wife Teresa own a Triple “O” Burgers by White Spot franchise located in Surrey. While Teresa works at the restaurant, I take care of the finances and the books. I am an avid Golfer and Curler, but my real passion is training my dogs Riley and Parker. Whether competing at an agility trial or a Frisbee trial, you will always see me with my dogs.

Election Pledge: My commitment is to our Veterans and their communities. My mandate is to ensure that all branches within our command continue to operate efficiently. If elected, it is my intention to continue to assist all branches within our Command, where necessary. With my business experience, Legion experience and by thinking outside the box, I can make this happen. Our Veterans and their communities need a voice. I thank you for your support.



Karen Kuzek

Candidate: Vice President

My father and my uncle were both WW2 veterans who served overseas. I wanted to honor their memory, so I sought out the Legion. I joined the Mission branch in 2010 to offer what service I could provide.

It wasn't long before I became involved in organizing events for the branch. Soon after I was asked to chair various committees including the Poppy Committee and the New Horizon Grant committee. I was first elected to the Executive in 2011 as a Vice President and became President in 2012. Today I am currently the Treasurer and a volunteer bartender at my home branch.

In 2013 I was asked to stand for Deputy Zone Commander, Fraser Valley and was elected and served two terms.

In 2017 I was elected as the Fraser Valley Zone Commander and continue to represent the branches of the Zone. Over the course of time, I have been asked to be part of several committees at Provincial Command. I have chaired the Membership Committee between 2017 to 2019 and currently sit as Chair of the Marketing/PR Committee.

In addition, I have worked with several branches under the direction Branch Advisory in the capacity of Probationary Manager and Trustee in my zone as well as others in the lower mainland.

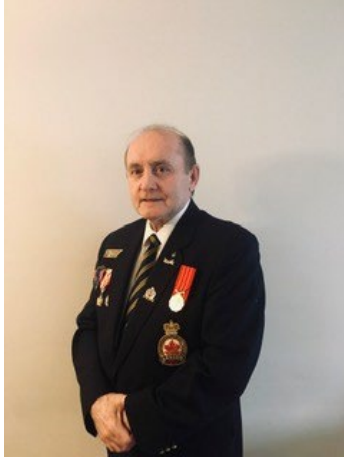
During my career, I worked my way up in my human resources profession to Human Resources Manager with the designation of Chartered Professional in Human Resources (CPHR). I hold this position in a local manufacturing company which has operations not only in Canada but also worldwide. I am responsible for 230 employees in 7 locations in Canada and provide support to my international counterparts around the world.

I also serve the community by volunteering with Operation Red Nose as part of the organizing committee in the Abbotsford Mission district.

Our mission is to to serve Veterans, including serving military and RCMP members and their families, to promote Remembrance, and to serve our communities and our country. I believe the need for veterans is greater now than it has ever been. My commitment if elected is to ensure the Legion continues to be the leading organization that is recognized for the service it provides to all past, present, and future veterans.

In these challenging times, The Royal Canadian Legion has a lot of work ahead to continue to deliver the great service to our veterans and the community as a whole.

I would be honored to represent our Veterans and Members in the position of Vice President bringing my valuable knowledge and skills that I have learned and acquired as a human resources professional and leader.



Danny Redden

Candidate: Vice President

Danny is President of the Royal Canadian Legion Shalom Branch 178 and has held this position since 2017.

He is the son of a Military Veteran of 33 years who served with The Royal Irish Fusiliers and after the end of WW2 was assigned to the British Occupation Forces in Germany. Towards the conclusion of his military career he was with Royal Canadian Army Intelligence Corps.

While living in Montreal, Danny became a Sea Cadet. He was promoted twice in one night attaining the rank of Petty Officer. After moving to Newfoundland he became an Air Cadet achieving the rank of Warrant Officer. In 1967 he was selected to attend Centennial Camp at CFB St. Jean as a Centennial Cadet.

After high school he went to the United States to attend college in Rhode Island. On his return to Canada, Danny worked for the United States Air Force Strategic Air Command at a Pinetree Radar site (NORAD).

He eventually joined The Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve. Danny spent over 12 years in the reserves. He held the rank of Captain.

Danny was employed for a number of years as an announcer with CBC Television. While living in Newfoundland he joined the Royal Canadian Legion in 1971. Over the years he helped many veterans with employment and housing issues as well as health problems.

He spent a few years with CTV in British Columbia then went to the Middle East working with various media organizations including BBC. Danny later was engaged in the insurance industry in British Columbia until his retirement.

For many years Danny was very active with the Royal Canadian Air Cadets.

In 2016 he joined RCL Shalom Branch 178 and in 2017 became president. He is also the Service Officer for the branch. Danny is a Board Chair of TB Vets Charitable Foundation. TB Vets has been supporting the frontlines of respiratory care in British Columbia since 1926.

In addition, he is also an Executive Member of the Vancouver Poppy Fund and has been for a number of years. He is the past Vice-President of Yaffa Housing Society a Vancouver based organization that assists adults with development disabilities.



Jim Diack

Candidate: Treasurer

Jim's family has a long history with the Royal Canadian Legion. His grandfather served in WW1 and joined the Legion at conception in Winnipeg, Manitoba; he was a life member. Jim's father served in the Navy during WW11, he joined the Legion near the end of the war and also became a life member. He was a District Commander in Manitoba and with more than 65 years of Legion service when he passed away.

Jim joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police at the age of nineteen, serving 31 years in the Province of Alberta. He joined the Legion at the age of 21, transferring among several branches in the communities where he was posted over the years. Upon retiring in 1998 and moving to Qualicum Beach on Vancouver Island he became involved with the local Legion executive, serving on various executive positions and committees. In 2001 Jim was elected as Branch President and served in that capacity for four years. During that period, he became involved with the Zone activities and was elected as Deputy Zone Commander in 2009. He served in that position for two years and then became Zone Commander serving two terms. Jim's branch awarded him with his life membership in 2007. In 2012 Jim was awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal and received his Meritorious Service Medal in 2016.

During his service as Zone Commander and member of the Provincial Executive Council he served on the Legion Foundation Board, Honours and Awards Chairman and Constitution and Laws Committee.

Jim was elected Command Treasurer at the 2015, 2017 and 2019 conventions and is currently the Command Treasurer and serves on both the Branch Advisory Operations Committee and the Branch Development Committee. He is also Chair of the Poppy Committee.

Election Pledge: Having served as Command Treasurer, I fully understand the magnitude of the responsibilities and, if elected, I pledge to continue to apply my understanding of Legion operations and will carry on with care, determination, fairness, transparency and honesty for the good and welfare of this great organization.



Denise Young

Candidate: Treasurer

A graphic artist by trade, bookkeeping was my second major. My trade endeavours for accuracy, and I do accounting with the same attention. My husband convinced me rejoin the Legion and I took over the accounting for Branch #141 Dawson Creek. In 2014 I was elected as Secretary and when our Finance Chair passed away in 2022, I took over the books, our elections are at the end June.

In 2006 Peace River Zone Commander Faron Stopsen instituted a committee to do the financial audits of the branches in the zone, it was designed to assist the smaller branches. Unfortunately, most of the other members have moved on, I still continue doing the audits when requested.

The Peace River Zone was re-instated in 2018 I was nominated and elected as Secretary/Treasurer, our elections were held recently, being re-elected.

Outside of the Legion I volunteered in 2010 with the Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron #353, was elected Treasurer, still serving on the board. I was asked by a Director of the Pouce Coupe Volunteer Fire Department Association to do an audit for them in 2021.

My history with the Legion starts as a child, growing up in Dawson Creek, my father, an Air Force veteran joined Branch #141 and we were encouraged to help where and when we could. Growing up amongst veterans it was always a joy to hear their stories. I joined in 1988 as an associate member, rejoining in 2008 the finance chair and I incorporated a computerized bookkeeping system.

I have volunteered occasionally with other smaller associations, helping others is fulfilling.



Glenn Hodge

Candidate: Chairman

Glenn Hodge retired 7 years ago after a 38- year career employed by Teck Resources, Trail Operations, he has rejoined the workforce as an Owner Operator of a Loomis Courier Service.

Glenn is involved with various organizations and has been volunteering most of his adult life; he continues to support the community by being active in:

- Royal Canadian Legion, at the present time he is the BC Yukon Command Immediate Past President
- Oasis Waterworks District Chairman, for 30 years, 28 as Chairman;
- Cominco Employees Joint Social Club for 18 years, 10 last years as the President;
- Charter Member of Waneta Trail Sunrise Rotary Club;
- Past Master of Trail Masonic Lodge; Scottish Rite 32 ° Mason, holding the positions of Grand Secretary and Registrar for the Lodges of Kootenay Valley;
- Noble with the El Katif Shrine;
- President of the North East Washington Shrine Club 9 years;
- A Grand Stewart, for the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and Yukon for 2014, and District deputy for 2016.

Glenn has received the following Honors and Awards from the governments, and community organizations:

- 1986 Canadian Force Decoration (CD), 1996 bar to the CD;
- Special Service Medal from Canadian Forces for service in with NATO while serving in Germany, in 1975 & 1976;
- Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, for service as a volunteer in the Royal Canadian Legion and service to the community;
- Certificate of Achievement from the United States Army Reserve, for service to US Service members during joint training;

- Received his Life Membership in the Royal Canadian Legion in 2005 and the Medal of Merit in 2011; and Palm Leaf in 2017.
- In spring of 2014 was honoured with an Award of Excellence for Teck Metals Trail Operation for achievements in the workplace.

Glenn would like your support as Chairman of BC Yukon Command as he feels he has the knowledge, ability and to stay involved with the Command Executive. To assist the BC Yukon Command moving forward into the future with the aim at assisting as many veterans as possible with the programs and events of the Command. He has the knowledge of the Legion as he has served for over 46 years at all levels from Branch to Zone to Command and on Dominion committees. Is currently the Past President of BC Yukon Command, and member of Trail Branch #11 in BC.

Glenn and his wife Jane still reside in Oasis, a small community outside of Trail, for the past 30 years, each having two adult children, five grandchildren, and one great granddaughter.