



BC/Yukon Command

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For Immediate Release

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Statement on Protests during Remembrance Day 2021

BC/Yukon, Nov.12, 2021 - Every year, at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, we gather in memorial parks, community halls, workplaces, schools and homes to stand in honour of all who have fallen.

Pandemic restrictions have meant we have had to change how we honor our veterans with smaller ceremonies, virtual ceremonies, or the cancellation of the event all together. It is unfortunate that some took this as an opportunity to distract others from grief, remembrance, and their intention honour our veterans.

The disruption of services in Kelowna, and Kamloops, and the defacing and vandalism of the memorial in Cranbrook are unacceptable.

“We are the Keepers of Remembrance in Canada. As long as we exist we will uphold the tradition of Remembrance to ensure Canada’s Fallen will not be forgotten,” says Val MacGregor, President of BC/Yukon Command of the Royal Canadian Legion. “We are saddened that anyone would feel it necessary to distract from the sacrifice of our veterans and their families with political agendas. Especially, on Remembrance Day.”

November 11th is marked to honour the sacrifice of the many in the service to their country, and to acknowledge the courage of those who still serve.

Lest we forget.

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Backgrounder

To learn more about the BC/Yukon Command of the Royal Canadian Legion, visit www.legionbcyukon.ca

Fast facts about the Royal Canadian Legion:

- The Legion is a fundraiser for 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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