



BC/Yukon Command

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### **Three BC/Yukon Command of the Royal Canadian Legion Life Members Receive New Exclusive ‘Presidential Citation’ Award**

**BC/Yukon** – Val MacGregor, President, BC/Yukon Command of the Royal Canadian Legion presented a “Presidential Citation” on behalf of Tom Irvine, Dominion Command, President to three of BC/Yukon Command’s life members.

This Dominion Command Presidential Citation is “an award that, at the Dominion President’s sole discretion, will be bestowed on individuals who give such exemplary service to the Legion that existing awards are insufficient to recognize the achievement.”

The three Life Members to receive this award are: Michael Cook, Dave Sinclair, and Gerry Vowles.

These three dedicated Past BC/Yukon Command President’s stepped up in 2017 and agreed to run the Command during an incredibly challenging period. What started as a short-term commitment lasted two years.

Dominion Command President Tom Irvine said, “Their terms lasted for two years and the amount of time and effort was staggering and concerning to me.”, and “These comrades did an exceptional job under a very stressful situation...they pulled it off, they got the Command back on its feet.”

Michael Cook is a Life Member of Cloverdale Branch #6 in Surrey.  
Gerry Vowles is a Life Member of Grandview/Collingwood Branch #179 in Vancouver.  
Dave Sinclair is a Life Member of Britannia Branch #7 in Victoria.

Attached to this release are the biographies and achievements of each Life Member.

A link to the picture gallery is also attached.

## 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 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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