

Branch Line

PO Box 359, 630 Green Street, Port Elgin, ON N0H 2C0 519-389-9917
Branch340@eastlink.ca www.Branch340.ca



Inside this issue you will find what is happening this month with Committee Reports, general information and a wee bit of humour too. We welcome your articles and will be more than glad to insert them in future issues.

Thanks to those who have submitted in the past. Anyone wishing to contribute to the Branch Line please submit

your articles to Branch340newsletter@gmail.com.

Happy Groundhog Day Groundhog Day happens every year on February 2. It's the day upon which, according to legend, he leaves its burrow. If it's sunny and he sees his shadow, it's said we'll see six more weeks of winter. If it's cloudy and he doesn't see his shadow, it's said to mean an early spring.

Valentine's Day is just around the corner so have some sweets with your sweetheart! Celebrate your day!

And, from our family to yours Happy Family Day! Enjoy your time together!!! In Ontario, a day is set aside to reflect on the importance of families and to celebrate with loved ones.

Our Annual General Meeting & Elections will be held on Tuesday, April 1, 2025. We encourage all members to attend this very important meeting. If nominated, please consider letting your name stand for an Executive position. The Nomination Board will be situated in the Club Room closer to the date. If you have any questions regarding a position please contact any present Executive member.

All the events happening at the Branch are open to the public so please bring your friends and join in the comradeship.

If you no longer wish to receive the Branch Line newsletter, please leave a message at Branch340newsletter@gmail.com
Accessible formats are available upon request



**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
BRANCH 340 EXECUTIVE 2024-2025**

President	Robert Harrison	bnrshow@eastlink.ca	519-389-4806
Immediate Past President	Dan Kelly	dankelly@bmts.com	519-389-2352
1st Vice President	Craig Bell	bellcr@bmts.com	519-386-7771
2nd Vice President	Bernice Ribey	1bernie@bmts.com	519-832-8783
Secretary / Treasurer	Norma Dudgeon	branch340@eastlink.ca	519-832-2903
Chaplain	David Baker	david@southport.church	519-270-9582
Executive	Janice Pepe	branch340@eastlink.ca	519-832-2903
	Rhonda Harrison	bnrshow@eastlink.ca	519-389-4806
	Gord Kelly	gordonakelly1973@gmail.com	519-389-6057
	Tom Jacques	thjacques@bmts.com	519-832-6837
	Don Lindhorst	dlindhorst@bmts.com	519-389-4826
Bar Chair	Norma Dudgeon	branch340@eastlink.ca	519-832-2903
Bursary	Robert Harrison	bnrshow@eastlink.ca	519-389-4806
Constitution & Laws	Norma Dudgeon	branch340@eastlink.ca	519-832-2903
Charity	Rhonda Harrison	bnrshow@eastlink.ca	519-389-4806
Hall Rental	Bernice Ribey	1bernie@bmts.com	519-832-8783
Honours and Awards	Tom Jacques	thjacques@bmts.com	519-832-6837
Leadership Development	Robert Harrison	bnrshow@eastlink.ca	519-389-4806
Membership	Craig Bell	bellcr@bmts.com	519-386-7771
Poppy	Rhonda Harrison	bnrshow@eastlink.ca	519-389-4806
Property	Robert Harrison	bnrshow@eastlink.ca	519-389-4806
Public Relations	Rhonda Harrison	bnrshow@eastlink.ca	519-389-4806
Seniors	Don Lindhorst	dlindhorst@bmts.com	519-389-4826
Sergeant-at-Arms	Mike Hobson	hobson@eastlink.ca	519-386-6078
Service Officer/Veterans Services	Janice Pepe	branch340@eastlink.ca	519-832-2903
Sports	Gord Kelly	gordonakelly1973@gmail.com	519-389-6057
Track & Field	Bernice Ribey	1bernie@bmts.com	519-832-8783
Ways & Means	Tom Jacques	thjacques@bmts.com	519-832-6837
Youth Education	Rhonda Harrison	bnrshow@eastlink.ca	519-389-4806
Air Cadets Liaison	Alex Taylor	alex.taylor@bmts.com	519-389-2616
Nevada	Andrew Reinhart	andyreinhart@hotmail.com	519-708-0553



Notice to Branch Membership

The next General Meeting will be Tuesday, February 4, 2025. We look forward to seeing you and thank you for supporting your Branch.

Reminder, that without a quorum at the General Meetings the Executive is unable to ratify any of the Motions that need approval.

Executive Committee

There was no quorum for the January General Meeting and therefore all the Motions that were to be presented did not occur. The Executive needs your support to finalize these Motions. Please attend the meeting.



President's Report



It's been quite the snowy start to this year. Great news for skiers and snowmobilers but with December and January already past it won't be long until spring. That means spring elections are just around the corner also. If we are to continue as a viable Legion we need to recruit new members with new ideas to get more people into our Branch.

Please consider joining our team. We have resource material to help you with what is necessary for an executive position.

We also need volunteer support for bingo, property maintenance and other social events which may be forthcoming. Without your help we will not be able to continue to support our veterans, our hospitals and our community.

Please consider letting your name stand for a position on the Branch Executive. We need your help.

President Robert Harrison
bnrshow@eastlink.ca





Bursary



Any member who is interested in applying for a bursary for their post-secondary student must complete the application and send to Ontario Command no later than the last Friday in March.

If I can help you with this please give me a call anytime.

Cde Robert Harrison
Bursary Chair
bnrshow@eastlink.ca
519-389-4806



Hall Rental



The Branch had a considerable amount of hall rentals over the holiday season. I thank the volunteers who helped with all the needs to make each event as successful as it was. We look forward to you booking our facility for your future social events.

Special consideration is given to the fee schedule when renting to non-profit organizations.

Family and group events/meetings welcome.

Please contact me for more information when considering a venue for your event.

Cde Bernice Ribey, Hall Rental Chair
1bernie@bmts.com or call the Branch at 519-389-9917 to leave a message



<p>WHY DO EGGS COME IN FLIMSY STYROFOAM CARTONS AND BATTERIES COME IN A PACKAGE ONLY A CHAINSAW CAN OPEN?</p>	<p>FUN FACT: IF IT WASNT FOR OUR ERRATIC WEATHER, 9 OUT OF 10 CANADIANS WOULDNT KNOW HOW TO START A CONVERSATION</p> 	<p>The irony for mankind is that a computer program asks a human to prove that they're not a robot.</p>
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Honours & Awards



Recognizing valued members for their contributions at our Legion is an important part of the Honours & Awards Chair.

When you nominate volunteer members, based on their efforts of ensuring our Branch functions continue, we build strong and continuous relationships, and we build a stronger Branch.

If you know anyone whom you feel should be shown appreciation, please contact me with this members particulars and the Honours & Awards Committee will evaluate the nomination.

Cde Tom Jacques
Honours & Awards Chair
thjacques@bmts.com



Membership Report



Please use one of the options below and get your 2025 membership dues taken care of:

1. On-line by going to **Legion.ca** on the computer
2. Come into the Branch when we are open (3 – 8 pm Monday to Saturday)
3. Contact me at bellcr@bmts.com to make other arrangements.

Cde Craig Bell
Membership Chair
bellcr@bmts.com





Poppy

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 340
Poppy Trust Fund Branch Status Report
1 January 2024 – 31 December 2024

Balance in Branch Poppy Trust Fund as of 1 January 2024		\$38,050.67
Income from Campaign & all other sources	\$37,474.55	
Sub Total		\$75,525.22
Campaign expenses & Youth Education Program	\$ 4,210.80	
Donations from Fund	\$21,262.72	
Total Expenses & Donations		\$25,473.52
Closing Balance as of 31 December 2024		\$50,051.70

Cde Rhonda Harrison, Poppy Chair
Cde Norma Dudgeon, Poppy Financials



Sergeant-at-Arms






Our Branch Colour Party on parade is one of the most visible things that we do. We could use a few new flag bearers. It is not difficult to learn and I would be more than glad to train new volunteers.

You would be needed for Remembrance Day, the Santa Claus parade and General Meetings if possible. We support other Branches for special events when requested. We have even been invited to the Saugeen Shores Winterhawks game for the dropping of the puck on the Friday closest to November 11th.

Please consider joining our Flag Family Team. You can meet some new friends and have some fun doing it. If you are interested please contact me.

Cde Mike Hobson
Sergeant-at-Arms
hobson@bmts.com



<p>When my arms can't reach people who are close to my heart... I always hug them with my prayers.</p>  <p><small>www.lampoopie.com</small></p>	<p>"All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt." ~ Charles Schulz</p> 	<p>I don't have time to worry about who doesn't like me.. I'm too busy loving the people who love me.</p> 
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Sports



The team of Mike Howe and Brad Davies qualified for District 8 ball but did not go further. Congratulations on your advancement to District level.

Cde Gord Kelly
Sports Chair
gordonakelly1973@gmail.com

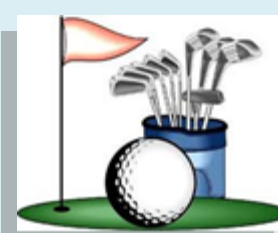


Veterans Services



As always, if any member is aware of any veteran, whether a Legion member or not, who may need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me and I can contact the veteran directly to assess any support that may be required. I can be contacted via the Branch at 519-389-9917.

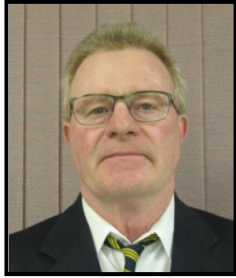
Cde Janice Pepe
Veterans Services Officer
Branch340@eastlink.ca

	<p>PRELIMINARY EVENT DETAILS – HOLD THE DATE!</p> <p>LEGION BRANCH 340 – GOLF ‘Fun Day with Veterans’ <i>Sunday, June 22 – SouthPort Golf Course (Rain Date TBD)</i> <i>Start Time: 10am</i></p> <p>GOLF PACKAGE INCLUDES: 9-HOLES OF GOLF IN GROUPS OF 4 + CART + LUNCH</p>	
<p>REGISTRATION OPENS MAY 1 MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vets & Caregiver (May 1-30) • Legion Members (Jun 1-15) • Registration Closes: June 16 • Numbers (min-max) 36-72 	<p>COST (ALL IN)</p> <p>VETS & CAREGIVER: \$40PP LEGION MEMBERS (NON-VET): \$55PP LUNCH ONLY: \$15PP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VETS DO NOT NEED TO BE AFFILIATED WITH A LEGION. • LEGION POPPY FUND REGULATIONS PERMIT FOR MEALS ONLY TO BE COVERED FOR VETERANS & THEIR CAREGIVER.





Ways & Means



The next Meat Draw is Saturday, February 15 and starts at 4:00 pm.

Join us for our weekly Wednesday Bingo. Doors open at 6:00 pm and games start at 7:00 pm in the upstairs hall.

Everyone is welcome to all events and we appreciate your support

Cde Tom Jacques
Ways & Means Chair
thjacques@bmts.com



Upcoming Legion Events

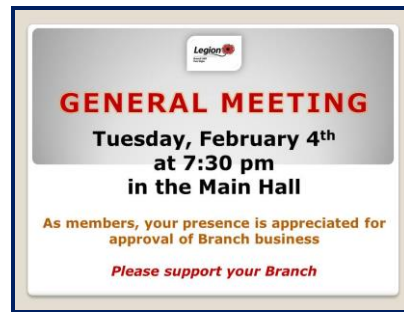


BINGO
Come Play With Us!

Port Elgin Legion Br. 340
Wednesdays

Doors open at 6:00 pm
Bingo starts at 7:00 pm
Must be over 18 years of age to play

\$700.00 Jackpot to be Won



GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, February 4th
at 7:30 pm
in the Main Hall

As members, your presence is appreciated for approval of Branch business

Please support your Branch



Meat Draw - 4:00 pm
Sat. February 15

Please join us

Everyone Welcome

Trees Get Fresh

The Highway Patrol car pulls over a bus on a lonely back road and approaches the driver. 'Sir, is there a reason you're weaving all over the road?'

The driver replies, 'Oh officer, thank goodness you're here! I almost had an accident. I looked up and there was a tree right in front of me. I swerved to the left and there was another tree in front of me. I swerved to the right and there was another tree in front of me.'

Reaching through the side window to the rearview mirror, the officer says, 'Sir, that's your air freshener.'





ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & BRANCH ELECTIONS

**Tuesday, April 1, 2025
7:30 pm in the Main Hall**

**Be prepared to show your 2025
Membership Card or receipt of paid
membership**

Please support your Branch

**Dan Kelly, Elections Chair
dankelly@bmts.com**



Notable Dates for February 2025

The following are national commemorative and notable days of relevance to The Royal Canadian Legion that raise awareness of an issue, commemorate a group or event, or celebrate something.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black history month • 14 Valentines Day • Family Day (day varies by province) • 15 National Flag of Canada Day (1965) – 60th anniversary • 28 Gulf War ends (1991) • Lapsed member reminders
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CBC Documentary Screening: Secret Agents of the Underground Railroad | February 8 | 1:00 PM
 Uncovered artefacts from a luxury hotel in Niagara Falls, NY reveal the hidden history of some of the Underground Railroad's greatest unsung heroes who helped ferry enslaved people to freedom in Canada in this special screening for Black History Month. [Learn more >>](#)

Stay up -to-date on all things BCM&CC by [following us on Facebook and Instagram](#).

[CBC Documentary Screening: Secret Agents of the Underground Railroad - Bruce Museum CA](#)
[Family Day: Earth Explorers - Bruce Museum CA](#)

Leyla Top, Marketing Coordinator
 Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre
 226-909-3189
ltop@brucecounty.on.ca
www.brucemuseum.ca



Port Elgin Dance Club News



Events are held in the main hall of the Port Elgin Legion.

Hoping the weather allows us to continue dancing. Remember to stay safe.

February 7	Regular Dance Program	7:30-9:30 \$5 per couple
February 14	Valentines Dance	7:30-9:30 \$5 per couple
February 21	Regular Dance Program	7:30-9:30 \$5 per couple
February 28	Regular Dance Program	7:30-9:30 \$5 per couple

Please bring shoes to dance in, so that the lovely Legion Hall floor stays safely dry and unmarked.

We are planning for lessons in the future, once the weather and driving conditions improve. To that end we are taking a survey of what dances people would like to learn.

If you would like to take lessons (1 hour from 6:30-7:30 at \$10 per person) please send me the 5 dances you would like to learn [from the list below](#), in order of preference.

Also input next to the dance style, whether [you would prefer beginner or intermediate](#) (Which will include a quick review before adding new moves or turns).

The dance that gets the most votes will be taught first, and the others by order of popularity.

- Ballroom:** Foxtrot Waltz
- Latin:** Rhumba Cha Cha Mambo Salsa Tango

Line Dance:

One lesson will cover "Sherry Baby", "Wagon Wheel", and a "Couples Line Waltz"

Thank You for your input

Jackie & Don
 "The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing"
 519-368-7377



My wife sat next to me as I was flipping through channels.
 "What's on TV?" she asked.
 "Dust," I replied.
 And that's when the fight began!

This morning, I rear-ended another car. The driver got out and turned out to be a dwarf.
 He glared at me and said, "I am NOT happy!"
 So I asked, "Well, which one ARE you then?"
 And that's when the fight began!



PORT ELGIN LEGION – BRANCH 340
2025 - MONTHLY EVENTS
 (Event Dates subject to change)

Statutory Holidays Meat Draws Bingo

JANUARY 2025							FEBRUARY 2025							MARCH 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1							1
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
														30	31					

APRIL 2025							MAY 2025							JUNE 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

JULY 2025							AUGUST 2025							SEPTEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				

OCTOBER 2025							NOVEMBER 2025							DECEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4						1		1	2	3	4	5	6	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31	1		
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2025 Monthly Events

