



**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
BRANCH 595 (STRATHCONA)
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**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
STRATHCONA BRANCH 595, TUESDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 2013**

PRESENT: Comrades Brian Madden, Jim Simpson, Ken Parker, Georges Winters, Greg Devine, Martin Maltais, Bruce Brown, Helen Fraser, Dennis Sirman, Paul Gauthier, Shelagh Trombley, Stu Cameron, Guy Labelle, Wanda Riddell, Ken Byars, Robin Brown, John Gazeley, Doug Craig, Barbara Boyer, John Boyer, Don Skemer, Katherine Winters, Georges Winters and Fred Rance

EXCUSED: Greg Devine, Ken Parker, Mike Gauthier, Corinne Allaire, Dan O'Leary

1. OPENING CEREMONIES AS PER LEGION RITUAL:

Meeting called to order and opened with the President, Comrade Brian Madden, conducting the "Opening Ritual" at 7:00 pm. He then turned over the meeting to the Branch Chairman, Comrade Jim Simpson.

2. CEREMONY OF ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS:

Membership Chair Ken Byars moved to approve the following members and the motion was seconded by Comrade Martin Maltais. **Motion carried.** Membership Chair Ken Byars then announced the following new members were present for initiation:

Robin Brown	David Chow
John Boyer	Barbara Boyer
Doug Craig	Frederick Rance
Guy Labelle	

The President conducted the swearing in ceremony of the above new members after which they were welcomed by the Members.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on November 27th, 2012 were distributed.

Moved by Georges Winters and seconded by Stu Cameron to accept the minutes as circulated. **Motion carried.**

4. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Comrade Helen Fraser advised that the property tax exemption matter has been rectified. The Branch paid to the Landlord \$15,957.81 + \$2,074.51 HST in property taxes for 2012 which has been credited back. The Branch will have to repay the HST to CRA as it had been refunded by CRA. The property tax component has been removed from the Branch's monthly rent. 2011 property tax recoveries are still being calculated by the City. Once the City has completed the re-adjustment, the Landlord will credit back that amount as well.

5. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**
President, Comrade Brian Madden

Welcome to 2013 at Branch 595.

The last couple of months have been very busy. In December the Branch hosted the 2784 GGFG Cadet Corps Christmas Dinner. It was the largest event held outside of Remembrance Day.

Comrade Winters and I attended the Christmas Dinner held by the Falkland's Sea Cadets held at Dows Lake. There we presented them with a cheque as a thank you for the use of their band for our Remembrance Day parade.

Thanks to the hard work of some of our members we held our first ever New Year's Eve Party and I would expect this to become an annual event.

On New Year's Day we had our New Year's Levee and I would like to thank Comrade Greg Devine for the food and Comrade Peggy Bamber for all her help.

This month is off to a great start with our 5th annual Robbie Burns dinner and I would like to especially thank Comrade Georges Winters for his hard work in organizing it.

We do have a number of events coming up and I hope to see everybody come out for them.

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT:**
Comrade James Simpson

The financial statements for period ended December 31st, 2012 were presented and a copy is attached to the Branch and Secretary's copies. Comrade Simpson answered questions to the satisfaction of the membership.

7. CORRESPONDENCE AND BUSINESS ARISING THEREFROM:

None

8. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

(a) Bar and Entertainment - Comrade Ken Parker

No report. Excused.

(b) House - Comrade Dennis Sirman

A new mike for the PA system has been purchased, as well cabling to connect MP3 players or lap tops to our sound system. Everything has been tested and appears to work fine. Instructions for use are being written and will be available shortly.

CLV has confirmed that a bracket for the dead bolt for the back door will be installed shortly. Also a salt box has been placed near the front door for our convenience to assist in a safe entry for our patrons. CLV is investigating a solution to the cold air seeping in from the sealed doors near the Bull table and in front hall area.

The pool table has been leveled and new bumpers installed.

The Hall chairs that are damaged will be fixed. At this time Global industries, the company that 595 purchased the chairs from will be shipping new backs which we will replace. The expected delivery date is mid-February. The precise details or costs at this point are sketchy, expect it will be at no cost to 595.

The Safes used for storing the float, daily sales and petty cash have been bolted to the cabinet as requested.

The entrance lights will be fixed shortly. A new ballast has been purchased.

Items outstanding and to be addressed:

Custom cabinets for kitchen will be designed and presented to exec. For approval for Feb meeting,

Cover for sound system to be built soon,

New bulletin board to be purchased and installed in February,

Plaque for volunteer of the year, to be brought up to date (engraving) by next meeting.

(c) Membership Communications - Comrade Dennis Sirman

Newsletters are being sent out regularly to the membership, everything is running smoothly.

(d) Membership - Comrade Ken Byars

Membership Chair Ken Byars moved to approve the following transfers and the motion was seconded by Comrade Martin Maltais. **Motion carried.**

Wallis Jackson	Montgomery
Wayne Moore	Barrhaven
Gord Belyea	Orleans

The Early Bird winner was announced – Vera Clarke.

A questionnaire is being developed. Members asked to volunteer as part of the phone committee for contacting members.

The update of the database is coming along.

(e) Poppy – Comrade Martin Maltais

final tally for Strathcona Poppy Campaign 2012 is \$50165.50

(f) Training and Organizational Development - Comrade Greg Devine

No report. Excused.

(g) Sports and Track and Field - Comrade Greg Devine

No report. Excused.

(h) Hall Rentals - Comrade Greg Devine

No report. Excused.

(i) Honours and Awards - Comrade Brian Madden

No report.

(j) Public Relations and Publicity - Comrade Georges Winters

Our monthly AD was placed in the EMC, and the road sign was changed to advertise both the Robbie Burns Dinner and the Super Bowl.

Unfortunately the signboard could not carry both events on the same side due to the size of the lettering and was suggested that one event be placed on either side of the board. I agreed that this would be an acceptable solution.

Again unfortunately, no one side of the sign was designated to a specific event.

Much to comrade Ken's displeasure the Super Bowl event ended up facing south and asked if it could be switched.

I told him that I could not afford to pay an extra \$45.00 to have the sign switched on my present budget.

We get one free change per month, the rest we pay. But it is my understanding that both events were well attended.

As both events are in close proximate date of each other, and have to be advertised at the same time, next year I will make sure that Ken's event is posted facing north and not south as it was this year.

(k) Veteran's Services and Legion Seniors - Comrade Dan O'Leary

No report. Excused.

(l) Branch Regulations - Comrade James Simpson

No report.

(m) Youth Education - Comrade Bruce Brown

The awards ceremony for the Poster and Literary Contest will be held on Saturday, January 26 from 1300 to 1500.

The Zone G5 Public Speaking Contest will be held at Strathcona on March 2nd. It run from 0800 to about 1600. Volunteers will be needed.

(n) Sick and Visiting - Comrade Corinne Allaire

No report. Excused.

9. MOTION TO ACCEPT ALL REPORTS

Moved by Shelagh Trombley and seconded by Guy Labelle that all reports be accepted. **Motion carried**

10. GENERAL AND NEW BUSINESS:

Comrade Paul Gauthier advised that February is Heart and Stroke month and a donation box will be placed at the bar.

Proposal for the Legion to host Bingos, Comrade Ron Allaire has a committee set up to bring Bingo to the Legion on Thursdays.

Stu Cameron congratulated the executive on the hard work being made to have the members make more use of their Legion.

11. TABLING OF NOTICES OF MOTION

None.

12. MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:

All of the business of the meeting having been concluded, the Branch Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

13. CLOSING CEREMONY:

President Brian Madden conducted the "Closing Ritual" at 8:30 pm.

Next General Meeting: General Meeting on April 23, 2013

Helen Fraser
Secretary

Brian Madden
President

November, January, April, June, September, October