



## ***Supporting Veterans & families, communities, and promoting Remembrance***

### **FACTS & FIGURES 2019**

#### **General**

- Founded in 1925 in Winnipeg, Manitoba with its Charter issued in 1926.
- Legion National Headquarters (Legion House) and Dominion Command based in Ottawa, Ontario.
- Organization serves Veterans and families, including RCMP, communities, and promotes Remembrance.
- Supports youth initiatives and organizations including Cadets, Scouts, and Guides.
- From the last Friday in October through Remembrance Day, conducts its national Poppy Campaign to raise funds for Veterans and their families.
- Poppy Fund donations are held in trust at every level of the organization for approved use only.
- Each year distributes around 20 million poppies and millions of dollars. (*Latest figure is for 2017: over \$16 million was distributed*).
- Organizes and conducts Canada's national Remembrance Day ceremony in Ottawa and selects Canada's National Silver Cross Mother each November.

#### **Membership, Commands and Branches**

- Membership of 260,000 (2019) includes thousands of volunteers across the country.
- 10 Provincial/Territorial Commands and 1,400 Branches operate independently.
- Branches in Canada, the United States (17 posts), Europe (five Branches) and Mexico (one Branch).
- Membership is open to all who support the organization, whether or not they are Veterans.
- A one-year complimentary new membership is offered to military and RCMP members.

#### **Support, Advocacy and Research**

- Through Service Officers across the country, supports Veterans with a range of help, from filling out government forms, to making disability claims or receiving emergency funding.
- Promotes Veterans' health research with a master's student scholarship and continues to call for research into issues such as cannabinoid-based therapy or programs tackling post-traumatic stress.
- Pushing for a coordinated national strategy to address issues facing homeless Veterans and supports homeless Veterans through its *Leave the Streets Behind* program.
- Works with all government levels, the Veterans Ombudsman and the Veterans Consultation Assembly in an effort to identify challenges and press for needed changes.
- Consults with other Veterans' groups including those who provide services; with the Canadian Armed Forces and the RCMP to develop programs and services to help their personnel.
- Continues to fight for issues of importance including lifelong financial security for ill and injured veterans and improvements to the system to help veterans transition to civilian life.

*For more on the Legion's advocacy and other work visit: [www.Legion.ca](http://www.Legion.ca)*

***The Royal Canadian Legion is Canada's largest Veteran support and community service organization.***