



ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION COBOURG BRANCH 133  
135B Orr St. Cobourg, ON K9A 0J6  
OFFICE: 905-372-2231  
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**2025 MISSILE – Re; January 2025**  
**Posted February 1<sup>st</sup>2025.**  
**Official Newsletter of Cobourg Legion Br#133**  
**Vol 6 Issue 02**

**President's report - February 2025**

It is hard to believe that January has come to an end. It just flew by, but to start off the year we had a great day at the Levee on Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, with branch members in the morning, and it was wonderful to see so many turn out and a big thank you to the LA for providing Hot Roast Beef Sandwiches. The Cobourg Legion Pipes and Drums welcomed in the New Year followed by an open house with the Vinyl Groovz Band. A great day was had by all.

On our January 7<sup>th</sup> coffee morning, Mayor Lucas Cleveland joined us and we had a great morning of conversation, along with Destiny the Service Dog and her owner Todd. Feb 10<sup>th</sup> was again a sell-out for Fish and Chips, so remember to get your tickets now February Fish and Chips for February 7<sup>th</sup>.

Jan 18<sup>th</sup> saw us welcome in 29 new members to Cobourg Legion Br 133, of which many stayed for the meat draw. It is great to see us keep growing by leaps and bounds! Then Jan 25<sup>th</sup> was the highlight of the month with the Cobourg Legion Pipes hosting the Robbie Burns dinner. It was a sellout, and a great evening was had by all with performances by the Pipe band, Scottish dancers and Madman's window Trio! Thank you to all that came and supported the band and the Branch. And then we come into February and a bit quieter this month, but come on out and support the branch and come and join in the Meat Draws on Friday's at 5pm and Saturday at 3pm!

See you there!  
Yours in Comradeship  
Janet Kyle  
President



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**Entertainment Committee**  
**Entertainment Report**  
**February 2025**

On January 1<sup>st</sup> our Branch hosted the New Years Day Levee. The clubroom was open to members in the morning. We were entertained by our very own Cobourg Legion Pipe Band. Members also enjoyed roast beef on a bun sandwich courtesy of our Ladies Auxiliary.

On the other side in the Function room, the Pipe Band again marched in and piped in the New Years to our guests. This was followed by entertainment with music from Joe Harvey and his band 'Vinyl Groovz'. A great day to greet friends and welcome the new year in.

On Jan 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 hrs. our veterans enjoyed a coffee morning with a surprise visit from Mayor Cleveland. Our President and Veterans Service Officer were also in attendance. Although touted for Veterans, members, spouses are also welcome. Coffee mornings are on the First and Third Tuesday of each month.

On Friday 10 January we again hosted and enjoyed our fish and chips supper organized and served by Branch members. The next one is on Friday February 7. These are sold out events so plan to get your tickets in advance.

On Saturday January 25<sup>th</sup> our Pipe Band planned, organized, and ran a very enjoyable Robbie Burn's Dinner. We were treated to roast beef dinner, Pipe music, an excellent display of Highland dancing, music from Madman's Window Trio and a raffle to beat all raffles. Thank you to Mary Ito and her team for executing such a big event.

Every Wednesday at 19:00 hrs. in the Clubroom we have Trivia night hosted by volunteer and member John Lindsay. Always a fun and entertaining night.

Please watch out for announcements on the Missile, Emails, Facebook and our Webpage for more events in the planning.

This is my report.

Yours in comradeship

Ian Kyle (Entertainment Chair)



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### **Ladies Auxiliary February 2025 Missile Report**

It appears that a true winter has arrived in our area and I hope that you are staying warm & safe.

Our Ladies Auxiliary have had a quiet January in the catering area. A Euchre tournament took place on January 18 and was a very successful. Special shout out to Michelle Mallory for leading and organizing this event.

Ladies Auxiliary will be celebrating their birthday on Saturday, March 15th with a luncheon. Cocktails -12:00PM Lunch at 1:00PM \$10.00 per ticket. Tickets made available at February & March General meetings or by contacting Yolande at 905-375-0996.

### **February 2025 Events ---**

19- Over 55 Luncheon-Diane MacPhee

Please reach out to convenor or sign up at the General meeting to assist on those dates. We do appreciate you getting in touch to assist.

### **Notice for Upcoming Events**

- General Meeting February 3 @ 7:00PM
- Birthday Party March 15 @12:00Noon

In Comradeship, Normalee Teskey- President of Ladies Auxiliary, RCL Br # 133 Cobourg



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### **Membership Report - February 2025**

Unfortunately, if you are looking to see Josephine in the membership office, she won't be in for a while, as she decided to go and break her ankle! But don't despair – Josephine has a magnificent group on her membership committee, so I'm sure we will be able to assist when needed, so please reach out if you need anything.

If you have paid your 2025 membership, remember to pick up your sticker or if you requested a new card, please ask at the bar.

We wish Josephine a speedy recovery.

Janet Kyle  
President



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HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE

Hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year  
On December 23<sup>rd</sup> we officially had our last Monday darts  
until the New Year. High score was made by Greg with a  
score of 92. Great job Greg.

Our winner of the 50/50 was won by Lois Ann - \$31.00. Hugs all around when it was time to leave. Merry Christmas everyone and we will see everyone in the New Year. On January 6<sup>th</sup> we had our first dart games after Christmas break. It was great seeing everyone again. The 50/50 was won by Marian - \$34.00. The highest score of all three games was won by Greg with a score of 116. Great job Greg.

On January 13<sup>th</sup> we had another fun day of darts with an excellent group of people. The 50/50 was won Barry, the bartender - \$29.00. The high score was done by George with a score of 110. Way to go George.

We have 7 spots available to join our fun games of darts on Monday afternoons at 1:00pm if you are interested in joining in the fun. We had two beautiful ladies pass away that were members of our fine group. Edith Doherty and Eileen Rollings. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families. 🙏

On January 15<sup>th</sup> we had our first luncheon after the holidays. We get together every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month in the banquet hall at the Legion. We had baked macaroni and cheese with garlic bread, for dessert we had apple or lemon pie, and of course tea and coffee served by the Ladies Auxiliary. Our 50/50 winner was Marlene - \$38.00. We also had a door prize, and the winner was Rick - \$25.00

We celebrated 3 birthdays in the month of January, each person who attended the luncheon received a cupcake for their special day. We had our meeting then special guests, Sherry Sullivan and her mother who entertained us with Bell Ringing. Following that we had some fun games of bingo.

Next luncheon will be held on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

If all of this sounds like something you would be interested in, our membership is only \$20 for the full year. Our luncheons are \$15.00 every month. Come join the fun!!!!

Communication Officer: Judy Turk



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## Padre

### A BREATH OF FRESH AIR

If I was to venture outside today, (which I will not be doing) I would be greeted with winds blowing at fifty kilometres per hour, giving a wind chill factor of minus seventeen Celsius. While I love fresh air, that's a tad or two, too fresh.

While we have been gripped in a Polar Vortex for almost two weeks, we long for warmer breezes to blow our way.

Speaking of fresh, have you stopped in to your Legion branch 133 to experience some of the greet new fresh things going on there?

One of the best & most exciting meat draws in the land every Friday at 5 and Saturday at 3. Wednesday evening trivia is great fun. Darts, pool, camaraderie and a whole lot more.

Some folks are prone to the Winter blues at this time of the year and a great remedy for that is to get up and get out, for a breath of fresh social stimulation. The Legion Hall is just what you need.

As we venture into 2025, we look forward to fresh ideas and creating even more exciting events. So, what would YOU like to see happening at your Legion? Bring your fresh ideas to a general meeting (third Thursday 7:30pm) or reach out to a member of the executive.

Another feature of the windy weather blowing outside today is the battering of the breakwater out in the Cobourg harbour, by cascading waves, making for a spectacular display. For a spectacular meal of battered fish and chips, join us on the first Friday of the month. Tickets at the bar.

So that's about it, comrades, for this month. I'm just going to hunker down and ride out this stormy weather.

Stay warm.



Chaplain Art



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**Cobourg Legion pipes and drums**  
**Missile Missive**  
**February 2025**

In support of the Cobourg Legion, and in recognition of Scotland's Immortal Bard Robbie Burns, band members held a very successful dinner on January 25, at the Orr St. Legion. Born in 1759, Burns has been inspiring celebratory gatherings around the world at this time of year since shortly after his death in 1796. The Cobourg Legion evening had Scottish Country dancing, a large silent auction with dozens of donated items, music by Madman's Window Trio and the Cobourg Legion Pipes and Drums, and of course the necessary toasts and speeches by various band members. The meal was delicious and served by the Legion ladies to 162 guests. As a fund raiser organized and run by the pipes and drums for the Cobourg Legion, we were able to hand over to their needs \$2,745.75. It was another successful collaboration and one which we are sure will be repeated.

The band will focus their practicing efforts next on recognizing another Celtic hero, St. Patrick. We will be marching again this year in Toronto for the St. Patrick's Day Parade, and will be polishing our repertoire of Irish music, which at this point stands at nine or ten tunes, over the next month and a half. A very long parade, and often accompanied by challenging weather, it is nonetheless an honour to be asked back each year and an opportunity to show our Legion uniform in the Ancient Red Gordon tartan on the streets of Canada's largest city.

On a note of concern, one of our very popular band members recently had an important surgical procedure performed at a hospital in Toronto. The surgical intervention went very well, but there was an unforeseen and unfortunate complication that arose post-surgery. Cindy Qualtrough, a delightful and talented musician and piper, has embarked on a challenging road to recovery, aided by her husband Jim, also drummer in our band, their three daughters and their many family members. Both have contributed a great deal to the success and the joy of this band and we are steadfast in our thoughts and prayers, and efforts where we can, to assist in Cindy's recovery. Please keep them in your prayers too.



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## **Ways and Mean's Report - February 2025**

As always, we appreciated you coming out to the meat draws and sharing in comradery and laughter.

### **Reports for January**

#### **Meat draw**

Income \$6689.00  
Expenses \$3849.00  
Profit \$2840.00  
Donations \$1000.00

#### **Toonie Draw**

Income \$1197.00  
Winner - Judy Elliott \$1924.00

#### **Bingo**

July to December License \$5720.51

#### **Nevada**

Income \$3525.00  
Payouts \$2334.00  
Profit \$1191.00

#### **50/50**

Sales \$940.00  
Payout \$470.00  
Profit \$470.00





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### **Youth Education**

On March 2<sup>nd</sup> we will be holding our Branch Public Speaking Competition with local students. This will be very interesting on listening to our youth talk on their favorite subjects while promoting self-confidence.

March 29<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting district Public Speaking at our Branch. We will be looking for judges for this event. If you are interested in listening to our youth, please reach out to the office, and we will forward your information.

### **Bursaries**

We have applications at the branch for The Royal Canadian Legion and Royal Canadian Ladies Auxiliary Bursary Assistance Program. If you are a serving veteran, Ex-service personnel, Legion member or their spouse, children or grandchildren, you may qualify for this award of \$1250.00

Applications must be received by Ontario Command prior to the last Friday in March which this year is March 28<sup>th</sup>.

Judy Elliott

Youth Education Chair



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### Club Room Bar Hours

- Monday: 12:00 to 10:00
- Tuesday: 12:00 to 6:00
- Wednesday: 12:00 to 10:00
- Thursday: 12:00 to 6:00
- Friday: 11:00 to 11:00
- Saturday: 1:00 to 6:00
- Sunday: 12:00 to 5:00



Don't forget while you're enjoying the clubroom, to also enjoy some snacks, play the always popular Nevada tickets and tip our own hard-working Buddha and sweet Grace! AND pop those can pop tops for the wheelchair fund! 😊





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The image on this Introductory Poster is from a poster that was entered in a recent Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Provincial Command Youth Education Poem, Poster and Essay Competition. The Poster being depicted was the 1st place winner in the Senior Colour Poster category at the Provincial level. It was designed by student Casey Charolette Bouwman of the Discipleship Christian Secondary School in Kitchener, Ontario. She represented the Waterloo Ontario Legion Branch 530 in District C in our Legion Branch competitions.

## Military Service Recognition Book

### The Royal Canadian Legion Ontario Command

We are proud to be introducing year twelve of our annual publication that will help identify and recognize many of Ontario's Veterans who have served their country so well during times of war and peace.

- Our twelfth book will be available at all Legion Branches by October 2025.
- Books are gifted to Branches, Veterans, Schools, Libraries, Military Bases, Museums, local Municipal Buildings and Community Resource Centres.
- We invite you to submit stories of Veterans and Military Service Personnel who have touched your life. Submission forms and guidelines are available from your local Legion Branch or at [www.on.legion.ca](http://www.on.legion.ca) for those wishing to submit a Veteran story and photo.
- A provincial telephone appeal is underway to private citizens and businesses requesting support to publish this book each year and to support our Veterans.



**Remember, share, donate today.**

For more information:

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## CANADA REMEMBERS The Canadian Armed Forces and the Gulf War

### INTRODUCTION

The Gulf War of the early 1990s was a struggle that is well known to many. More than 4,000 Canadian Armed Forces members served in the Persian Gulf region in 1990-1991 as part of the international coalition of countries that came together to drive the invading forces of Iraq out of Kuwait. In the aftermath of the conflict, Canadians would continue to serve with peacekeeping and embargo-enforcement efforts in the region for several years.

### THE PERSIAN GULF

Iraq and Kuwait are Arab countries located next to each other in the heart of the oil-rich Middle East, a region of the world steeped in history. In fact, many historians would say that human civilization itself was born in the “Fertile Crescent” – the land between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers in modern-day Iraq.

In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, both Iraq and Kuwait achieved independence. The relationship between the two countries, however, has not been smooth. Iraq had long felt that Kuwait was really a part of Iraq and that Kuwaiti oil rigs were illegally tapping into Iraqi oil fields. In the late 1980s, tensions grew and relations became much worse. On August 2, 1990, the situation came to a head when Iraqi forces invaded Kuwait, quickly taking control of its much smaller neighbour.

### THE WORLD RESPONDS

Many in the international community condemned Iraq’s bold act of aggression and Canada soon joined a 35-country, American-led multinational coalition to restore freedom to Kuwait. Functioning under the mandate of a United Nations (UN) resolution that approved the use of force, Operation *Desert Shield* saw the build-up of Coalition forces in the Gulf region. The Canadian Armed Forces participation in the military efforts there would be codenamed Operation *Friction*.

Canada’s first military contributions came at sea in August 1990, when three of our warships sailed to the Persian Gulf to be part of a Coalition fleet that would secure the waters off Iraq and occupied Kuwait. Canadian CF-18 warplanes were sent to the Middle East in October 1990 to help take control of the skies above the Gulf. A joint headquarters for the Canadian Armed Forces in the region was also established in Manamah, Bahrain in November 1990. Canadian medical, communications, logistical and security units would also bravely play support roles in the Gulf War.

On January 16-17, 1991, Operation *Desert Storm* began as Coalition forces launched a devastating air campaign after a final deadline for Iraq’s withdrawal was ignored. This was followed by an armoured and infantry ground offensive that commenced on February 24 which rapidly pushed the Iraqis out of Kuwait. This fulfilled their mandate to liberate Kuwait, and Coalition forces ceased the offensive on February 28 and offered a



Branch 133  
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cease-fire which Iraq accepted on March 3. The end of the war left Iraq defeated but the country's leader, Saddam Hussein, retained power. He would remain in control of Iraq for more than 12 years until the second Gulf War of 2003 finally swept him from power.

After the Gulf War ended, Canadian troops remained in the region as part of the UN peacekeeping mission along the Iraq-Kuwait border, monitoring the demilitarized zone between the two countries, investigating cease-fire violations and clearing land mines. Canada also had a role in the years that followed in the special commission to seek out Iraq's biological, chemical and nuclear weapons production facilities. On the water, Canadian warships helped to enforce the economic sanctions that had been imposed on Iraq after the conflict.

#### FACTS AND FIGURES

- The fact that Iraq possessed chemical and biological weapons, as well as large missiles that could be used to attack neighbouring countries, made the entire region very tense in 1990-1991.
- The peak number of Canadian Armed Forces members in the Persian Gulf region at one time was some 2,700 personnel.
- The Canadian Naval Task Group—consisting of the destroyers HMCS *Terra Nova* and HMCS *Ashabaskan*, and the supply ship HMCS *Protecteur*—helped support the Coalition fleet efforts in the region. Five Sea King helicopters with No. 443 Squadron were also part of this force.

- CF-18 jet squadrons with approximately 500 personnel operated out of the 'Canada Dry' bases in the Persian Gulf nation of Qatar, performing combat air control, escort and reconnaissance missions. For the first time since the Korean War, Canadian air-to-surface attacks took place during the conflict.

- The Canadian Air Command's Transport Group carried personnel and cargo in the region. One of the Canadian planes was used in aerial refueling duties for Coalition air forces.

- A Canadian field hospital with 530 personnel was established in Al-Qaysumah, Saudi Arabia in February 1991. This hospital cared for both Coalition and Iraqi wounded.

- Soldiers from units like the Royal Canadian Regiment and the *Royal 22<sup>e</sup> Régiment* performed security duties at Canadian installations in the Middle East in 1990-1991.

#### HEROES AND BRAVERY

On a hot afternoon in Kuwait City, an overheated Coalition convoy truck caught fire suddenly, setting off a series of explosions that injured many American soldiers. Captain Fred Kaustinen, acting commander of Canada's 1<sup>st</sup> Combat Engineer Regiment, and 50 of his troops took immediate action, providing emergency treatment and evacuation for the wounded.

The Gulf War marked the first time that female Canadian Armed Forces members performed combat duties. It was especially challenging for these trail-blazing women because they were serving in conservative Middle

Royal Canadian Regiment soldiers on patrol in Qatar in December 1990. Photo: Department of National Defence IS290-50-50





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Canadian warship conducts replenishment at sea en route to the Persian Gulf. (from left) HMCS *Athabaskan*, *Proteus* and *Iron Warrior*, September 1990. Photo: Department of National Defence

Eastern countries where traditional gender roles are very different than in Canada.

HMCS *Athabaskan* took part in a tense mission in February 1991 when the ship went to the aid of the USS *Princeton*, which had been seriously damaged by Iraqi mines off the coast of Kuwait. Keeping a vigilant watch while crossing hundreds of kilometres of dangerous waters and navigating through enemy minefields, *Athabaskan* escorted a Coalition fleet tugboat that would safely extract the American warship.

### SACRIFICE

Theatres of war, like the Persian Gulf in the early 1990s, are dangerous places. There are many risks that go beyond the obvious ones of enemy attack or landmines. Friendly fire incidents, vehicle accidents and the psychological impact of serving in such stressful conditions can take a heavy and life-long toll. Debilitating medical conditions have struck some Veterans of the Gulf War, including symptoms like chronic fatigue, respiratory complaints and muscular pain.

Fortunately, no Canadian Armed Forces members died in the course of the Gulf War. A total of more than 1,800 Canadians have died in military service in the post-war years, however. Their names are inscribed within the beautiful *In the Service of Canada Book of Remembrance* that is displayed in the Peace Tower on Parliament Hill in Ottawa.

### CANADA REMEMBERS PROGRAM

The Canada Remembers Program of Veterans Affairs Canada encourages all Canadians to learn about the sacrifices and achievements made by Canada's Veterans during times of war, military conflict and peace, and to become involved in remembrance activities that will help to preserve their legacy for future generations of Canadians.

To learn more about Canada's role in the Gulf War, please visit the Veterans Affairs Canada website at [veterans.gc.ca](http://veterans.gc.ca) or call 1-866-522-2122 toll free.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Canadian Military History Gateway: [www.cmhg.gc.ca](http://www.cmhg.gc.ca)
- Canadian Peacekeeping Veterans Association: [www.cpva.ca](http://www.cpva.ca)
- Canadian Association of Veterans in United Nations Peacekeeping: [www.cavunp.org](http://www.cavunp.org)
- The Royal Canadian Legion: [www.legion.ca](http://www.legion.ca)

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