

# Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Command

## PROVINCIAL COMMAND RESOLUTIONS RECAP 2017

	Branch/Committee	Committee	Synopsis	Committee Input	Convention Decision
1	Rivers #75	CL&L	Cease to Operate Zones	Non Concur	Non Concur
2	Transcona #7	CL&L	Eliminate 1 <sup>st</sup> VP Position	Non Concur	Non Concur
3	Lac du Bonnet #164	CL&L	Amend Article III to include Ladies Auxiliary members	Non Concur	Non Concur
4	Transcona #7	CL&L	Eliminate Sgt-At-Arms	Concur	Non Concur
5	Norwood/St. Boniface #43	Membership	Allow CBSA Ordinary Membership	Concur	Concur
6	Virden #8	Honours & Awards	Produce Medal for Cold War Veterans	Concur	Concur
7	Oxdrift & District #41	Sports	Display Cribbage & Dart Results Electronically	Concur	Concur
8	Kenora #12	Leadership & Development	Update Online Manuals	Concur	Concur
9	Kenton #118	Finance	Dominion and Provincial Commands to Financially Support RCLSF	Non Concur	Non Concur
10	Souris #60	Finance	Stop Legion Magazine to Decrease Per Capita Tax	Non Concur	Non Concur
11	Charleswood #100	VSS	All Veterans with 20+ Years' Service & Honourable Discharge Receive VIP Benefits	Concur	Concur

# **2017 PROVINCIAL CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS**

## **CONSTITUTION AND LAWS AND LEGISLATION**

### **1. Rivers Branch #75**

**WHEREAS** Modern communication has improved and is far more efficient than in the past and contact between Command and Branches no longer relies only on written communications; and

**WHEREAS** Some Branches, Zones and Districts rely only on mail and telephones without answering machines; and

**WHEREAS** Dominion Command General By-Laws (2016), Sections 507 to 509 indicate that Provincial Commands have jurisdiction over the set up and administration of Zones and Districts for the purposes of administration.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Command cease to operate Zones and have Branches communicate directly with their District. And that Command also establish and ad hoc committee to analyze the efficiency of communication with a view to possible changes in the structure of Districts.

**NON-CONCUR -**

## **CONSTITUTION AND LAWS AND LEGISLATION - continued**

### **2. Transcona Branch #7**

**WHEREAS** the Position of First Vice President gives most Legion members an assumption that that individual is the President elect for the next term; and

**WHEREAS** Many delegates to Convention consider it unseemly or disrespectful to vote for an alternate choice for President than the First Vice President; and

**WHEREAS** the reluctance to consider an alternate to the First Vice President may on occasion result in a person of lesser expertise, leadership skills and vision for the Command, being elected to the position.

**WHEREAS** the belief that "it just isn't done" to nominate a person other than the First Vice President may deny the members the opportunity to select the absolute best person for the position.

**WHEREAS** we, the membership must accept change and in order to keep The Royal Canadian Legion viable must elect the best individual for the position of Command President.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the office of First Vice President be eliminated and replaced with a fourth Vice President Position; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that in the event that the elected President cannot fulfill their duties at any time, the position will be filled from among the four (4) Vice Presidents. Selection of the Acting President would be made through the vote (electronic communication) of the District Commanders. Such vote would be conducted by the Command Chair and the Executive Director. In the event of a tie vote, the Command Past President will cast a deciding ballot; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all applicable Provincial Command By-Laws be amended to conform to this resolution.

**NON-CONCUR -**

## **CONSTITUTION AND LAWS AND LEGISLATION - continued**

### **3. Lac du Bonnet Branch #164**

**WHEREAS** Article III (Complaints) #302 a, b and c of the General By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Legion refers to Ladies Auxiliary members in regards to complaints and the complaint procedure. It covers two (2) types of complaints – LA Member on LA Member, LA Member who is also a Branch Member. In these cases, the both parties have benefit of the procedures and dispositions in Article III. This is not the case when a Branch member lodges a complaint against a LA Member; and

**WHEREAS** Article VIII #804 of the General By-Laws states “For disciplinary measures, Ladies Auxiliaries are governed by Article III of these By-Laws.” Ladies Auxiliary members can be charged and disciplined under Article III but are not protected by the intent of the by-law and process therein. For example, if a Branch Member lodges a complaint against a LA member who is not a member of the Branch, the Branch may act against the LA member who will not have benefit of a hearing under the process set out in Article III but may be subject to the dispositions therein; and

**WHEREAS** Branch and LA members work side by side to benefit the Branch. Should a conflict arise whereby a complaint is lodged, both should have due process afforded by Article III regardless of who is lodging the complaint. If this change in the by-law requires an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of either or both parties (LA and RCL) those should be enacted to affect change.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** Article III #302 is amended to read “The provisions of Article III shall apply to LA members in respect of procedures and dispositions herein.”

**NON-CONCUR -**

## **CONSTITUTION AND LAWS AND LEGISLATION - continued**

### **4. Transcona Branch #7**

**WHEREAS** the Position of Provincial Command Sergeant-at-Arms has been vacant since July of 2015; and

**WHEREAS** the lack of a permanent Sergeant-at-Arms has had no discernable ill effect on Provincial Command operations or ceremonies. That position when occupied costs the Provincial Command significant expenses for attendance at Provincial and Dominion Conventions; and

**WHEREAS** that position when required may be filled on a temporary basis by Provincial Command by appointment with minimal costs to cover shipping or transportation costs as required.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the position of Provincial Command Sergeant-at-Arms be removed from the Command By-Laws as the first resolution to be considered, prior to any election for said position.

**CONCUR**

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **5. Norwood/St. Boniface Branch No. 43**

**WHEREAS** Ordinary membership is open to any Canadian citizen or Commonwealth subject who is of federal voting age and whose service was terminated under conditions other than dishonorable or for reasons of misconduct; and

**WHEREAS** Ordinary membership includes still serving and retired military, reservists, RCMP (1 year), Police Officers (1 year), Canadian Coast Guard (2 years), and other listed in the General By-Laws, none of which are Canada Border Service (CBSA) Officers; and

**WHEREAS** CBSA are part of a team that protects the safety and security of Canada and Canadians, contributing to the fight against international terrorism and illegal immigration, detaining those people who may pose a threat to Canada; and

**WHEREAS** CBSA are Canada's FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE in preventing inadmissible people, contraband and other illegal substances from coming into the country, processing more than 97 million travelers, 200,000 immigrants and refugees, and over 12 million commercial releases; and

**WHEREAS** CBSA conducts lengthy, complex investigations of suspected war criminals, national security cases, and organized crime groups, removing people who are inadmissible to Canada, including those involved in terrorism, war crimes, organized crime, or crimes against humanity; and

**WHEREAS** CBSA officers provide services at approximately 1,200 points across Canada and at 39 international locations, employed at highway, air, marine, and rail locations as well as at certain postal facilities located throughout the Country, including rural and remote areas, to protect and serve in an armed law enforcement environment; and

**WHEREAS** The Royal Canadian Legion is looking to increase membership and CBSA officers are often posted at International Borders across Canada in towns and cities having Branches of The Royal Canadian Legion, participating in Legion parades and remembrance services on a regular basis, marching and laying wreaths in honour of our veterans; and

**WHEREAS** One third of Legion members are Veterans (Ordinary and Life), while majority of our members (Associates) are civilians, membership numbers have declined over the years through attrition (members passing on).

**THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED** that Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) Officers, serving for not less than one year, be included in Ordinary Membership (206) category for membership into The Royal Canadian Legion.

**CONCUR -**

## **HONOURS AND AWARDS**

### **6. Virden Branch No. 8**

**WHEREAS** There were fatalities of the Cold War and the serving veterans which haven't been recognized with even the slightest mention of what was by far Canada's most important military activity since 1945; and

**WHEREAS** their contributions to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the North American Aerospace Defence Command (NORAD) in the Cold War from 1946-1989 has received very little recognition. It was a massive commitment, as several hundred thousand Canadian Military members served in the vital cause of deterring Soviet aggression, thereby joining Canada's allies in preventing the outbreak of a Third World War and the nuclear holocaust that would have ensued; and

**WHEREAS** "What many don't realize is that Canada's military operations during the Cold War results in more fatalities due to military service than the Korean War, Balkan conflicts, Gulf Wars, Afghanistan and peacekeeping combined," writes retired General Paul Manson who served during the Cold War.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that all those who serviced during this period and applied themselves in defending our country be recognized and rewarded with an appropriate Defence of Canada Medal to formerly honour those who served in maintaining a fragile peace and that Provincial and Dominion Command be encouraged to pursue this matter with Veterans Affairs.

**CONCUR -**

## **SPORTS**

### **7. Oxdrift and District Branch No. 41**

**WHEREAS** in the Year 2017, the technology has been around to allow for the tabulation and display of results for Cribbage and Darts; and

**WHEREAS** Competitors like to know where they stand during the competition; and

**WHEREAS** the public display and tabulation of results ensures an open and transparent competition.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Provincial Cribbage and Provincial Darts have electronic results tabulation and display of results during the competition, made available for competitors to view.

**CONCUR –**

## **LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT**

### **8. Kenora Branch No. 12**

**WHEREAS** it has become increasingly evident that there is a need for more current information pertaining to the running of a Legion Branch and the obligations of an Executive and General Membership; and

**WHEREAS** New Executive Members with a desire to serve but little or no previous experience and/or knowledge of the Legion are constantly being elected and/or acclaimed to Branch Positions; and

**WHEREAS** Information to help the members to understand how to perform their duties, answer many questions that arise and generally explain how to run a Branch, is already in print and available in the manuals but has not been updated in years.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Manuals listed below be revised, updated and included on the Royal Canadian Legion, MB&NWO Command website:

1. Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Command Frequently asked Q and As.
2. Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Command, Provincial Command Leadership Guide; and from the Legion.ca website.
3. The "Branch Leadership Manual".

**CONCUR –**

## **FINANCE**

### **9. Kenton Branch No. 118**

**WHEREAS** the Royal Canadian Legion has its name on a sports camp on the Manitoba/US border and said camp has been allowed to degrade to the point where they are begging for funds from the branches to bring it back to “livable” standard; and

**WHEREAS** there are two (2) repairs required to bring the gym, kitchen and quarters back to livable standards. These involve an air exchanger and an improved drainage system. Costing approximately \$80,000.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Dominion Command be approached to donate the necessary funding for the two (2) above jobs. MBNWO Command might be asked to partially fund repairs as the camp does appear to be in Manitoba. If it turns out that the camp is not part of the Royal Canadian Legion then it might be beneficial to us to remove Royal Canadian Legion signage.

**NON-CONCUR – The Sports Camp is a separate entity on its own. They raise and spend their money without Royal Canadian Legion oversight. The success and/or failure of the Sports Camp lies entirely in the hands of their directors.**

### **10. Souris Branch No. 60**

**WHEREAS** the Souris Legion #60 cannot afford the Legion Magazine included in our per capita tax, we feel it will hurt our branch and other smaller branches; and

**WHEREAS** the per capita tax increasing for the next two (2) years, and we feel we do not want to raise our membership fees.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** we would like there to be a resolution to decrease the cost paid towards the magazine in our per capita tax.

**NON-CONCUR - This is a Dominion Command issue. The Legion Magazine does serve a useful and necessary purpose.**

## **VETERANS SERVICES AND LEGION SENIORS**

### **11. Charleswood Branch No. 100**

**WHEREAS** those Members who choose to forego a more lucrative civilian career and pursue a long term military career and receive a modest wage when compared to the civilian sector; and

**WHEREAS** those who serve receive a very modest retirement package based on number of years' service; and

**WHEREAS** the family members follow the serving member and endure many years of multiple moves and separation as a single parent; and

**WHEREAS** the retired military family for economic and health reasons may have to abandon their home and grounds earlier because they are no longer physically capable of maintain their residence and grounds adequately; and

**WHEREAS** the current Veterans Independence Program (VIP) is in place to assist those veterans (regardless of years of service) who have suffered an injury attributable to their service and is attributable to an injury while in service.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that The Royal Canadian Legion, Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario Command make representation to Dominion Command to have them recommend to Veterans Affairs Canada to enact legislation that all veterans who have served twenty plus (20+) years and have been honourably discharged be granted the VIP at age sixty five.

**CONCUR –**