



# The Royal Canadian Legion Esquimalt Dockyard Branch 172

BRANCH NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2015

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### **The Esquimalt Legion**

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Victoria BC V9A 2N7

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**Website** [www.legion172.com](http://www.legion172.com)

**Bar** (250) 385-0213

**Kitchen** (250) 385-0213

## YOUR 2014 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Bernard MacLean
1st VICE PRESIDENT	Robert Haldane
2nd VICE PRESIDENT	James MacMillan-Murphy
SECRETARY MANAGER	Douglas Grant
TREASURER	Anna Appleby
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	Dale Crewe
SERVICE OFFICER	Ken Irvine
PAST PRESIDENT	Donald Barr
MEMBER AT LARGE	Curtis Danchuk
MEMBERSHIP	Larry Smith
HOUSE CHAIRMAN	Keith Hatten
PUBLICITY	James MacMillan-Murphy
WAYS & MEANS	Kathleen Prior
SICK VISITOR	Orville Mayer
ENTERTAINMENT	James Swanbeck
SPORTS CHAIRMAN	K. Brian Hammond
OFFICE ASSISTANT	Neil Townsend
POPPY CHAIRMAN	Sylvia Vink

The President Bernie MacLean and Secretary Manager Doug Grant on behalf of the Executive, welcome you to the Esquimalt Legion.

The Esquimalt Legion hosts special events, weddings, mess dinners, anniversaries, reunions etc. Our upper lounge has a capacity of 528 people.

Why not join the Legion. Only \$50 per year and you become a member of a very respected group. Everyone can join and enjoy the benefits. Medical equipment, scholarships, bursaries, sports teams, largest TV screen in BC, meat draws, special events, country music jam sessions and various other bands.

The Canadian Legion donates in excess of \$350 million into our communities each year and provides services to Veterans, ex-service persons, seniors, youth and numerous community based charities. We do it for our Veterans and those who have served in Canada's military forces to whom we owe so much!!

**To submit info/events for this Newsletter email [hockey.melissa@gmail.com](mailto:hockey.melissa@gmail.com) or the office at the above contacts.**

## ABANDONED MILITARY BASES

### Royal Canadian Air Force Station

#### Vancouver:

(Royal Canadian Air Force Station Sea Island):

Established beside the Vancouver Airport on 22 July 1940 under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan as No. 8 Elementary Flying Training School. Originally RCAF pilots had grass runways on which to land, but these were eventually replaced by a Congo Mat (Steel Mesh Mat) runway.

No. 13 Operational Training Squadron was also established at the aerodrome in 1940, but its stay was brief as it re-located to RCAF Station Patricia Bay in November 1940. No. 8 EFTS re-located to Boundary Bay and became part of No. 18 EFTS in January 1942.

The aerodrome became was home to No. 22 Service and Repair Depot from 1944-45.

The station remained open after World War II and was re-named RCAF Station Sea Island, but this was later changed to RCAF Station Vancouver. 442 Squadron was re-activated as a 442 "City of Vancouver" Auxiliary Fighter Squadron at Sea Island 15 April 1946, but was later re-designated an Auxiliary Transport Squadron. 123 Rescue Flight and 121 Composite Flight (KU) were also formed at Sea Island. By 1948, Sea Island's runways were linked up with those of the Vancouver Airport

On 1 December 1951, 442 Squadron was split in half to form 443 "City of New Westminster" Squadron.

With the impending Unification in the mid 1960s, a reorganization and consolidation occurred within the Canadian Military. Several bases were either downsized, merged or closed and as a result, RCAF Station Vancouver closed on 31 March 1964.

One of the consequences of the closure of the station was the cancellation of a contract to build four additional rooms to the station's elementary school. No. 121 KU Squadron moved to RCAF Station Comox, where in 1968, it was renamed 442 Transport and Rescue Squadron, but 442 Squadron and 443 Squadron disbanded. However, No. 11 Air Movements Unit remained at the former station for several years afterwards.

The PMQ houses became part of the Army Camp at Jericho Beach until 1973, when they were sold and moved onto First Nations Reserves along the Georgia Strait.

Very little remains of the former station. Only the footings of the old base water reservoir and the

### MUSIC BINGO

every Friday at 5pm followed by RON KING at 8:30pm



### MEAT DRAWS

Friday 4 PM  
Saturday 3 PM - 5 PM  
Sunday 3 PM - 5 PM



**Texas Holdem'** every  
Thurs at 6:30pm



### KARAOKE

Come out and sing with 'SUSAN' and the group every Wednesday



### SPECIAL EVENT

Attention all singles!  
Come and dance to "SOULMATE" at the Legion on Saturday 17 January 2015. Bring a friend and have some fun.

Tickets available at the Bar.

\$15 presale or \$20 at the door!

wooden pump house shack remain today. The former RCAF Recreation Centre was demolished in 2003.

*Source Material: 442 Squadron history web site – <http://www.comox.dnd.ca/squadrons/442/442hist.htm>, 440 Squadron history web site – <http://www.440sqn.com/frames.htm>, 19 Wing Comox web site – <http://www.comox.dnd.ca>, information supplied by Sherry Eastholm, Manager, Sidney (B.C.) Museum (1999), the Pinetree Line web site – <http://www.pinetreeline.org/articles/resarth.html>, information supplied by Doug Eastman, President, Sea Island Heritage Society (2004), the personal recollections of Vince Bissonnette, former Commanding Officer CF Detachment Jericho Beach (2004) & "Jericho Beach and the West Coast Flying Boat Stations" by Chris Weicht*

November 26, 2014

TO: All Branches  
For Information of Members of Command Executive Council

FROM: Inga Kruse, Executive Director

SUBJECT: **Legion Blog – Call for Articles**

Memo #143.14

Do you know any creative writers? Maybe you have some interesting tales to tell yourself? Why not see your name in lights on the Legion's Blog Website?

We are looking for submissions that are on any number of themes like:

- Stories about Veterans or tales from wartimes (even stories of families who were home while their soldier was deployed)
- Patriotism and Legion lore
- Cadet history or interesting stories
- Military family life – could be funny or serious

There are millions of stories out there, and we want to put them on our blog!! If you want to submit a story it will be put through editing process and tidied up for publication. You can submit in your own name or anonymously. Please send an email with your post to [info@legionbcyukon.ca](mailto:info@legionbcyukon.ca)

If you haven't seen the blog yet, please click here: <http://legionbcyukonblog.org/> There is some really good reading on there. The bit about the snake in a Military vehicle in Afghanistan is very funny! There are also serious pieces commemorating important stories from the Great War, and a heart wrenching piece from a young Veteran about his PTSD and how it happened.

If you want to get posts sent to your email as they are published, it is easy to subscribe: <http://legionbcyukonblog.org/about/> Just put your email address in the box for subscriptions, and you will get any new articles posts.

I know we have some budding Shakespeare's in our membership, show us your stuff! Some of the best posts of the year will also be published in the Military Service History Book! Your friends and family will want your autograph.

Questions or ideas? Feel free to contact me.

Inga

<http://legionbcyukonblog.org/>  
*Open the above link to see the Legion Blog*

## 10 Cool Facts about Robbie Burns

1. **His handsome mug is everywhere-** There are more public statues of Burns around the world than any other writer. Apparently, only Queen Victoria and Christopher Columbus have more statues when it comes to non-religious figures.
2. **People have been preserving his legacy since 1814.**
3. **He's a hit songwriter-** The Guinness Book of World Records recognizes Burns' Auld Lang Syne as being one of the three most popular songs in the English language, eclipsed only by Happy Birthday and For He's a Jolly Good Fellow.
4. **He was hugely popular in the USSR-** In 1956, to mark the 160th anniversary of his death, the Soviet Union commissioned a commemorative stamp, making it the first country/constitutional state to honour the poet in such a way.
5. **Michael Jackson was a huge fan-** He recorded a collection of show tunes based on Burns' life and work that were never formally released.
6. **He inspired J.D. Salinger-** Catcher in the Rye was based on his poem Comin' Thro' the Rye.
7. **He beat Braveheart (sort of)-** In 2009 Burns was crowned the Greatest Scot of all time, narrowly edging out rebellion leader William Wallace, in a public vote.
8. **You may not have actually wanted to visit him back in the day-** Towards the end of his life, he continued to write poetry but found regular employment as a tax man.
9. **Out on a date and need to reference a Burns poem to look sophisticated?-** In 2011 the Scottish Government released a free iPhone app that featured a searchable database of every poem he wrote and a handy guide to hosting a Burns Supper.
10. **His friends started a tradition in his honour that became and international phenomenon-** The first recorded supper took place in 1801 with a few close friends who got together to mark the 5th anniversary of his death. They couldn't possibly have known that, hundreds of years later people from across the Globe would continue to gather to recreate their tribute.

## MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Larry Smith

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY GUIDE

The below is intended as a quick reference guide. If the membership category is unclear, the membership chair of the Branch must refer to *The General By-Laws* and the *Membership Eligibility Guide* published by Dominion Command.

Ordinary, Associate or Affiliate Voting membership applicants **MUST** be Canadian Citizen or Commonwealth Subjects **AND** of federal voting age.

#### ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP

A person who is serving or has served in:

- Canadian Forces or Her Majesty's Forces and includes Regular or Reserve Forces under class "C" service; or
- The Forces or Underground Forces of Her Majesty's allies in any conflict in which Canada was also involved (Command approval is required for Underground Forces service); or
- And actual theatre of war in any non-military services during any war in which Canada was involved (i.e. Merchant Navy); or
- Her Majesty's Reserve Forces including Cadet Instructors for not less than one year; or
- The RCMP, RNC, city, municipal or provincial police force, as a police officer, for not less than one year; or
- The Forces of a country while a member of NATO or NORAD in alliance with Canada; or
- The Canadian Coast Guard with active service on the high seas or inland waters for not less than two years; or
- The Forces of the United States; or
- The Vietnam War in the Forces of the United States, Australia, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea or South Vietnam and who was a Canadian citizen or Commonwealth subject at time of service.

#### ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

- The child, adopted child, step child, grandchild, sibling, niece, nephew, widow/er, parent or spouse of a person eligible to be an ordinary member; or (**Note:** a divorced spouse retains the right of associate membership unless such membership lapses)
- The child of an associate member; or
- Cadet Civilian Instructor for not less than three years; or
- Served in the Royal Canadian Sea, Army or Air cadets for not less than three years; or

- Served in the navy League of Canada for not less than two years; or
- Served in a city, municipal, volunteer, unorganized territories or federal Fire Service for not less than one year.

#### AFFILIATE VOTING MEMBERSHIP

- Any Canadian citizen or Commonwealth subject who is **NOT** eligible for ordinary or associate membership

#### AFFILIATE NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP

- A citizen of an Allied country, excluding Canada and the Commonwealth
- Is of federal voting age
- Is not eligible for ordinary, associate or affiliate voting membership

NOTE: A member in this category cannot vote nor hold office but can attend and participate in debates at Branch meetings.

Link to LEGION MAGAZINE

<http://legionmagazine.com/en/>

The Legion needs



Start the New Year off right by getting your year long membership. Applications at the bar or in the Office.

#### **"CHEF AT OUR LEGION"**

PLEASE COME VISIT "MARCIA OR COLLEEN". THEY CAN BE REACHED THROUGH THE BAR AT 250-385-0213 OR JUST DROP IN TO THE LEGION FOR ALL YOUR FUNCTIONS

CHECK OUT OUR OFF SALES-CHEEPEST IN TOWN-BEER, WINE, COOLERS AND CIDERS. SUPPORT YOUR LEGION. THE OFF SALES ARE ICE COLD FOR YOUR PLEASURE.

# JAN 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Levee	2	3 2pm Yesterday's Wine
4	5 10am Bgnrs Line Dancing 1pm Srs Carpet Bowling 7pm Mixed Tactic Darts	6 10am Bgnrs Line Dancing 10am Srs Floor Curling 7pm Men's Darts 7pm VISA Shuffleboard	7 10am Intrmed Line Dancing	8 1pm SrsShuffleboard 7pm Darts	9	10 2pm Yesterday's Wine
11	12 10am Bgnrs Line Dancing 1pm Srs Carpet Bowling 1pm Srs Directors Mtg 7pm Mixed Tactic Darts	13 10am Bgnrs Line Dancing 10am Srs Floor Curling 7pm Men's Darts 7pm VISA Shuffleboard	14 10am Intrmed Line Dancing 6pm Executive Mtg	15 1pm SrsShuffleboard 7pm Darts	16	17 2pm Yesterday's Wine 7:30pm Solemate– Singles Dance
18 1pm General Mtg	19 10am Bgnrs Line Dancing 1pm Srs Carpet Bowling 7pm Mixed Tactic Darts	20 10am Bgnrs Line Dancing 10am Srs Floor Curling 7pm Men's Darts 7pm VISA Shuffleboard	21 10am Intrmed Line Dancing	22 1pm SrsShuffleboard 7pm Darts	23	24 2pm Yesterday's Wine
25 2pm Robbie Burns	26 10am Bgnrs Line Dancing 1pm Srs Carpet Bowling 7pm Mixed Tactic Darts	27 10am Bgnrs Line Dancing 10am Srs Floor Curling 7pm Men's Darts 7pm VISA Shuffleboard	28 10am Intrmed Line Dancing 1pm Srs Gen Mtg	29 1pm SrsShuffleboard 7pm Darts	30	31 2pm Yesterday's Wine