

Volume II Edition 5  
May 1, 2024

# The Log

MAY 2024



**Central Vancouver Island Zone**

Branch No. 160 Comox

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**President:** [president@comoxlegion.ca](mailto:president@comoxlegion.ca)

*In the Heart of Downtown Comox*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, I am happy to report that we have had a few people step up to chair our vacant positions and I thank them very much. We still have 2 positions left to fill, Membership and Sick and Visiting. If you can find the time to help us out in either of these please email me at; [president@comoxlegion.ca](mailto:president@comoxlegion.ca)

Our entertainment has proven very popular thanks to Gerry O'Doherty hard work. Please check our entertainment schedule on our website, [comoxlegion.ca](http://comoxlegion.ca) or Facebook [Comox Legion Branch 160](#)

I know that I may be starting this a bit early but here goes. We will( in the fall) be recruiting for volunteers to help with our poppy campaign. We will need canvassers for our 5 poppy box routes and mall poppy donations. Our poppy chair would like to get an early start on this.

In closing I would like to thank all the volunteers who help to make our legion a welcoming place for all our members and patrons.I was given the latest membership list dated 2024-02-24. Gerry Maillet, President Br 160, Comox

**NEXT SCHEDULED GENERAL MEETING**  
**Upper Hall on Thursday June 20<sup>th</sup> @ 1400 Hrs**

## POPPY REPORT

Quite a few Bursary Applications received this year which we are happy to receive. I hope to have a committee set up this coming week for the decision findings.

Val Greenlaw, Poppy Chair Comox Branch 160  
Royal Canadian Legion, BC/Yukon Command,

# SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

## CSO responsibilities and the LCF, Legion Veterans Benefit Guide

The Command Service Officer or CSO, Randy Stewart, is a full time paid member of the Legion who has the training and can get access to your medical records, military employment records and VAC claims. Everything he does is confidential between the veteran and himself, but the BSO is there to help you with forms and updates.

The Legion Claim Form or LCF once completed gives the CSO authorization to tell VAC to give him access to your files. The BSO (Branch Service Officer) will complete the LCF and with photo ID, it is forwarded onto the CSO. The CSO then sends it onto VAC who digitizes your files and forwards them to the CSO. This normally takes 6 to 8 weeks, but at times this takes longer if your files have been sent to the archives. And also, how busy the CSO is as he does veteran claims from all over the island.

Upon receipt of your files, the CSO then reviews it and completes the initial application on your behalf, and then eventually you get a wad of paperwork. Again, depending on how complicated your claim is, and matter of personal preference on which one to use. how big your file is, will determine the length of time before you get your claim from the CSO.

The CSO does explain what you have to do in a cover letter, and then you get to complete the rest of your application. The main sections you need to put a great deal of thought into is how your service contributed to the claimed disability. And then there is the Quality of Life, QOL, forms that must be completed. And a form your doctor has to complete. If you have questions on how to fill out the forms, the BSO can help

as I have done many forms to date.

The Legion has a great handout titled: Legion Veterans Benefit Guide 2023. Download a copy, or request a copy from me or the CSO. It has a step-by-step guide on filling out the various forms. If you have any problems, this is where I can come in and help. <http://www.legionmagazine.com/guide/>

Cheers, Donald, Comox Legion Branch Service Officer

## **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

Greetings,

### **\$817 Million Pension Miscalculation Class Action Settlement Approved: Next Steps for Class Members**

We are pleased to announce that the Federal Court has approved a Settlement to resolve the *Manuge v Canada* class proceeding. The proceeding deals with the alleged underpayment of certain disability benefits administered by Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) and paid to members and former members of the Canadian Armed Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and their survivors ("Class Members") between January 1, 2003 and December 31, 2023. The estimated value of the Settlement is at least \$435 million and up to \$817 million, depending on the total number of eligible Claims received.

The Settlement affects over 330,000 Class Members and provides that Class Members and their eligible relatives or estates will receive a one-time payment of approximately 2% of the total amount of affected benefits received between January 1, 2003 and December 31, 2023.

### **IMPORTANT: THERE ARE TWO PAYMENT GROUPS CREATED BY THE SETTLEMENT. WHICH GROUP ARE YOU PART OF?**

#### **GROUP 1: Class Members with a current payment relationship with VAC**

If you are a Class Member with a current payment relationship with VAC and are currently receiving disability pension benefits from VAC, or are a survivor of a person who received disability pension benefits from VAC, a Claim is not necessary. You will automatically receive your settlement payment from VAC by

direct deposit or cheque later this year.

## **GROUP 2: Relatives or Estates of Class Members and Class Members who do not have a current payment relationship with VAC**

If you are a relative or Estate representative of a Class Member, or a Class Member without a current payment relationship with VAC, you must submit a Claim in writing by **March 19, 2025**.

You may submit a Claim online to the website of the Administrator, KPMG, at: <https://veteranspensionsettlement.kpmg.ca/> (the "Settlement Website").

KPMG also has established a dedicated call centre to address general inquiries and help claimants complete Claim forms. Please call 1 (833) 839-0648 if you need assistance.

You may also visit the Administrator's FAQ page at the above website.

### **Help Spread the Word**

If you know of relatives, beneficiaries, or estate representatives of Class Members we encourage you to let them know there are time limits on making a Claim and that they can get answers and help with the Claims process by visiting the Settlement Website (<https://veteranspensionsettlement.kpmg.ca/>).

A dedicated call center has been established to address general inquiries and help individuals complete the online Claim Form. The call center is open, Monday to Friday, 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM (Eastern Time). **Please Call 1-833-839-0648**

## **COMPUTER KORNER**

**Short disclaimer. The opinion(s) and advice(s) given here are not from the Royal Canadian Legion. They are from the writer.**

**Next Branch general meeting will be on 20 June at 1400hrs (2 PM)**

**If you know of anyone who wish to receive a copy of the Log, kindly send us his/her email address at [computerkorner@comoxlegion.ca](mailto:computerkorner@comoxlegion.ca)**

Last month's Glossary was a hit with many and it was suggested I include some computer terms in each Log. So, I will cover 2 abbreviations which are used daily. **SMS and MMS**

**SMS** – Stands for Short Message Service. In other words, a text message which many of us use daily. SMS is one of the oldest form of digital communication created in early 1980.

**MMS** – Stands for Multimedia Message Service. This is also a text message but it will have a picture or video attached to the message.

One of the words in last Month's Glossary was Browser which is a software or application to access webpages on the Internet. A question was sent to me “Since there are dozens of browsers available, which one is better and why?”

I will start with **Safari**. This Browser was created in early 2000 for Apple and Mac users. It was the fastest browser on the market at the time. Today, **Safari** is now running version 17 and it is still a very good and efficient Browser for Mac and Apple users.

In the early 1990, Microsoft created **Internet Explorer** to compete with **Netscape**. **Netscape** was fast and secure where **Internet Explorer**, well not so much. **Netscape** took Microsoft to court for unfair competition and they won. However, they spent so much money in lawyer fees that they had to sell the company..

**Internet Explorer** was a terrible Browser. Hackers were very successful at inserting malware using **Internet Explorer**.

In 2015, Microsoft replaced **Internet Explorer** with Microsoft **Edge**. Supposedly the **Edge** is more secure and runs faster. I really can not give you more on it because I try to stay away from Microsoft products.

The next four Browsers are equally good in my opinion and it is a **Chrome** developed by Google and Firefox developed by Mozilla Corporation are both good and secure browsers. I have used both and still use them at times.

And finally, the two Browsers I use daily are **Brave** and **Thorium**. Both Browsers are secure and will prevent almost all posted ads.

**Thorium** claims to be the fastest Browser. This is great for impatient person like me. So, in a Browser, the two most important factors for me are speed and security. In the early days of the Internet, our

guideline for writing/creating websites was a maximum 12-15 seconds for the website to display. Today, it is 3 to 4 seconds. If a page has not loaded within 4 seconds, I am gone. As I said, I am impatient.

Now, there are dozens more available browsers but this covers the most common ones on the web.

**If you would like me to research a topic or question for you, contact me at [computerkorner@gmail.com](mailto:computerkorner@gmail.com)**

Jacques

## CLASSIC LIFECARE

Classic Lifecare is now an approved provider for Department of Veterans Affairs, so can bill DVA for personal care and home support services. This applies to veterans with VIP coverage. Veterans will have to seek approval from DVA before setting up any care.

We have a free open house for all seniors every month hosted with the Comox Valley Senior Support Society.



**Laila Yuile**

Service Coordinator

(250)890-7535

[lailay@classiclifecare.ca](mailto:lailay@classiclifecare.ca)

[classiclifecare.com](http://classiclifecare.com)

[200D-1822 Comox Avenue,](#)

[Comox, BC V9M3M7](#)

For your personal convenience or to share with someone who doesn't have access to email or the Internet a print version of **The Log** is available at the Branch Office and in **The Beaufort Pub and Restaurant**

# OCEAN FALLS WW1

## VETERANS HEADSTONE FUNDRAISER

Hello.

I'm writing this email to let you know about a little fundraiser we have started on board the BC Ferries Northern Seawolf. As a ferry crew we were looking to do something to give back to the communities of the mid coast towns that the ferry we work on services. A crew mate I work with has a daughter who spent some time helping the The Last Post Program and the Find a Grave Program in the lower mainland. He brought that up at one of our staff meetings on how rewarding it was for her so we decided why not, let's see if we could help out find any graves in the towns that we serviced.

I reached out to Ted Usher at the Last Post Fund and the Comox Legion, Ted has been very helpful and supportive of our endeavor through our whole process. It is Ted who supplied me with your email address so I could reach out to you today.

Ted sent us into the Ocean Falls cemetery with a list of names of people that we're being searched for by family members and others over the Internet. We had a successful visit to the cemetery, including finding four World War I veterans headstones that were in need of restoration. On the advice of Ted we contacted Mortimers Victoria to see about getting some replacement headstones. Through the Last Post Program there is money there to replace headstones, but it takes quite a bit of time for things to proceed. So as a crew, we thought why don't we raise some money to replace the four headstones in the Ocean Falls cemetery of the World War I veterans that are in there.

Our idea to raise some money for this started as a simple draw. The idea grew large, so we've actually have a gaming license now and we're doing this legit/properly so we can go sell tickets in the public and promote it.

I've included an a picture of one of the headstones in Ocean Falls



that we're going to replace, a draft of the replacement headstones being made at Mortimers.

I've put down the draw date June 6 in the Comox Legion. I'm sure everybody will be on board to help us out with the draw date when that day comes.

Let me know what you think and if you want to follow this a bit more for a good story for your log sounds great, look forward to meeting you and selling you a ticket.

Ticket sales so far have been brisk so far which has been wonderful but we still plan to visit a few legions to try spread the story and sell some tickets.

Talk soon by email or text  
1-250-812-2580.

Paul Dexter  
Chief Steward Northern Seawolf  
**British Columbia Ferry  
Services Inc.**

**T: 1 250-978-1702**

[paul.dexter@bcferries.com](mailto:paul.dexter@bcferries.com)

[bcferries.com](http://bcferries.com) |

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

†  
OSCAR BREAUULT  
PTE 2024988  
1ST DEPOT BN BCR CEF  
1895 - 1922

†  
WILLIAM ROBERT  
BRUCE  
PTE 70336  
102ND BN CEF  
1884 - 1934

†  
DONALD ALEXANDER  
ROBINSON  
PTE 425259  
2ND BN CMGC CEF  
1896 - 1943

†  
WILLIAM HAWTHORNE  
PTE 925351  
152ND BN CEF  
1888 - 1944



# COMOX AIR SHOW / SPECTACLE AÉRIEN

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024 / SAMEDI 18 MAI 2024

9AM TO 4PM / 9H À 16H

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19 Wing Comox  
PO Box 1000, Stn Forces  
Lazo, BC V0R 2K0

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19ième escadre Comox  
PO Box 1000, Stn Forces  
Lazo, BC V0R 2K0

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We are excited to invite the local community (and beyond) to 19 Wing for an exciting and fun-filled family event with opportunities to see a variety of military flying and static displays, a kid's zone and much more.

Nous sommes ravis d'inviter la communauté locale (et au-delà) à la 19e Escadre pour un événement familial passionnant et amusant offrant la possibilité de voir une variété d'expositions militaires et statiques, une zone pour les enfants et bien plus encore.

## COMOX LEGION BRANCH NO. 160

I was asked how the Bullshit Table came to the Comox Legion. It was no easy matter. As a member of the WO's & Sgt's mess till retirement in 1982, i sat at this table most days after work and all TGIF's. As it was in the snake pit it was a perfect table as it sat a lot of members. After being released from the service i became an associate member.

During 1982 I was Mess Manager at the WO's and Sgt's Mess. During this time this table became three as they had two more made. This table was built on the base at a place we called the box factory. A close friend of mine and a Mess Member was

Glen (Tiger) Moncreif, a civilian worker working in the Combined Mess. I mentioned to Tiger it would be a nice gesture if we could let Branch 160 have one of these tables as three were a bit much for the Mess. Tiger told me he had this particular table made and felt it was his table. As far as he was concerned, if I could get permission to take it down there and install it that was fine with him. I told him he would have the first beer drank at the table once it was a member of Branch. 160.

From that day forward I approached every P.M.C. for permission to have it put before the members. P.M.C.'s were made up every six months so there were quite a few. I can't remember there names but all I got was NO.

When I became 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President at Branch. 160, and was for two years we met with a P.M.C by the name of Jack Muir, MWO Army. I sat down with him and after a bit of BS we got talking about tables. He was at the time having one of those standup tables made for the mess. Something he said all army messes have. I said if this was going to happen then the tables we had at the time would be one surplus. He agreed. I mentioned about trying to get one for Branch.160. That we had an Army Room, a Brown Room, which could sure use that table. Mention of the room being brown & Army did it. He told me if I could arrange to have it taken out it was ours.

The next Sunday, I backed my pickup to the Mess. Had two defaulters who were picking up butts outside, help bring it down from outside and load it in my truck. I phoned Lloyd (Oily) Lohnes before I left home to meet me at Branch 160, he had a key. We set the table up at the same place as it is in at this time. (This table was built to take abuse. 4x4's plus 2

sheets of plywood, with the same top as the bar and the rest of the tables in the snake pit.) Oily immediately set about getting a plague installed.

This table while being at Branch.160 is very dear to those using it. And also as a remembrance of those who used it

John O. Erickson, RIP Branch Member

## MEAT DRAW SCHEDULE

May 2024	Friday	May 2024	Saturday
3	Val & Heather	4	Gerry & Shauneen
10	Bea & Susan	11	Bob & Liz
17	Lynn & Deb	18	John & Eileen
24	Gerry M & Al	25	JC & Raymond
31	Tim & Dave		
June 2024	Friday	June 2024	Saturday
		1	Gerry & Shauneen
7	Bea & Susan	8	John & Eileen
14	Lynn & +1	15	JC & Raymond
21	Tim & Dave	22	Gerry & Shauneen
28	Deb & Heather	29	John & Eileen
Spares	Ann Gallagher		Cheryl Morrow

Please let me know if you can't make the date scheduled. Thank you for volunteering.

Al Astles; Gaming Chairman,  
250-702-1448 [alastles@shaw.ca](mailto:alastles@shaw.ca)

## Officers

President	Gerry Maillet
Vice President	Wayne Hockley; John Paulin
Secretary	Garry Brown
Treasurer	Bob Hodgins
Past President	John Paulin
Honorary Vice President	Marjorie Arnold
Executive Donald Bourne; Steve Gowan; Al Astles; Val Greenlaw	

## Committee Chairs & Appointments

Padre	Vacant
Entertainment	Gerry O'Doherty
Building	Gerry Maillet
Membership	Vacant
Gaming	Vacant
Honours & Awards	Vacant
Publicity	Vacant
Poppy	Val Greenlaw
Sick & Visiting	Vacant
Log	T. W. Smith
Service Officer	Donald Bourne
Sgt-at-Arms	John Paulin

## Office Staff:

Emma Whanstall, Branch Manager

Telephone: 250 339-2022;

Email: [branch160office@comoxlegion.ca](mailto:branch160office@comoxlegion.ca)

**Editor's Notes:** All articles for **The Log** should be with the Editor by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. Photos must include a short description of the event c/w the names of the persons in the photo. Send submissions in doc, docx, xls, xlsx, eml, pdf, odt, gif or jpeg format to the Editor by email at [t.w.smith@shaw.ca](mailto:t.w.smith@shaw.ca).

**Sick & Visiting:** We are seeking your assistance. If you know of any member or veteran in need of assistance or a visit please call the Office.

**Service Officer:** Telephone: 250 339-2022

**Email:** [branch160office@comoxlegion.ca](mailto:branch160office@comoxlegion.ca)

Website: [www.comoxlegion.ca](http://www.comoxlegion.ca) ; Facebook: [Comox Legion Branch 160](#)