|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **Keep your Branch informed** |

 |
|   |
|

|  |
| --- |
| Forward this email to your Branch Executives, Committee Members and other members to keep them up-to-date on important updates and information. |
| All Branch emails are also available on the [Member Services Website](http://portal.legion.ca/branch-and-command-resources/all-branch-emails) |

 |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **In this edition – March 2020** |

 |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **>** | [Join us at Dominion Convention 2020](https://portal.legion.ca/branch-and-command-resources/all-branch-emails/2020_03-march#domcon) |
| **>** | [Run a Legion OSI support program](https://portal.legion.ca/branch-and-command-resources/all-branch-emails/2020_03-march#osisupp) |
| **>** | [Host a 2022 Member Sports Championship](https://portal.legion.ca/branch-and-command-resources/all-branch-emails/2020_03-march#memberschamp) |
| **>** | [Attend the Facebook Live Town Hall](https://portal.legion.ca/branch-and-command-resources/all-branch-emails/2020_03-march#fbtownhall) |
| **>** | [View members who renewed online](https://portal.legion.ca/branch-and-command-resources/all-branch-emails/2020_03-march#renewon) |

 |

 |

 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **>** | [Get a custom Branch logo](https://portal.legion.ca/branch-and-command-resources/all-branch-emails/2020_03-march#custlogo) |
| **>** | [A Nijmegen participant has been selected](https://portal.legion.ca/branch-and-command-resources/all-branch-emails/2020_03-march#partselect) |
| **>** | [Discover a Legion Branch success story](https://portal.legion.ca/branch-and-command-resources/all-branch-emails/2020_03-march#branchsuccess) |
| **>** | [Messages from Veteran organizations](https://portal.legion.ca/branch-and-command-resources/all-branch-emails/2020_03-march#vetorg) |
| **>** | [Special offer from our Partner](https://portal.legion.ca/branch-and-command-resources/all-branch-emails/2020_03-march#specoffer) |

 |

 |

 |

 |

 |
| alt_text |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **Join your Comrades at Dominion Convention 2020!** |
| The Legion’s 48th Dominion Convention will be held in Saskatoon, SK from 22–27 August 2020. |
| The Convention Call, mailed to every Branch, includes everything you need to know to help with your planning. This information is also available online. |
| In response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, Legion National Headquarters is developing a preparedness plan to address the potential operational impact on the 2020 Convention. We are continually monitoring Public Health Agency of Canada for updates as they re-assess the situation throughout the country. At this time, Convention in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan is taking place as planned. Should these updates necessitate a change in our plans, immediate communication throughout the organization will occur. |
| Please see the link below for more information and updates. |
| [**View Convention Information  ‣**](http://portal.legion.ca/branch-and-command-resources/dominion-convention) |

 |
| alt_text |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **Host a Legion OSI program at your Branch** |
| The Royal Canadian Legion Operational Stress Injury Special Section (Legion OSI) recently launched two programs aimed at supporting Veterans and their families: [Buddy Check Coffee](https://www.legion.ca/news/2020/02/11/veterans-helping-veterans-with-the-legion-s-osi-buddy-check-coffee) and [Operation VetBuild](https://www.legion.ca/news/2019/06/16/the-royal-canadian-legion-launches-operation-vetbuild). |
| Buddy Check Coffee is a Veteran-run peer program offering comradeship in a relaxed environment, encouraging Veterans to connect and support each other. Operation VetBuild is a veteran-to-veteran peer support program that incorporates hobbies such as plastic scale model building as a means to alleviate the symptoms of OSIs and PTSD. Watch [this video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xUv-CgTl0Y4) to learn more. |
| Legion OSI is looking for Branches and members to host and coordinate these programs for Veterans in their community. For information, contact: |
| **Buddy Coffee Check:** chris.richardson@bsovetsosi.com or joe.elliott@bsovetsosi.com |
| **Operation VetBuild:** ovb@bsovetsosi.com |

 |
| alt_text |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **Host a 2022 Member Sports Championship** |
| The Dominion Command Sports Committee is calling for Branch applications to host any one of the 2022 Dominion Member Sports Championships:* Cribbage: Friday 22 April – Monday 25 April 2022
* Darts: Friday 29 April – Monday 2 May 2022
* Eight Ball: Friday 27 May – Monday 30 May 2022
 |

 |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| [**View call for applications  ‣**](http://portal.legion.ca/docs/default-source/branch-and-command-resources/sports/hosting-memo-2022---eng.pdf) |

 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| [**Download the application  ‣**](http://portal.legion.ca/docs/default-source/branch-and-command-resources/sports/application-form-2022---eng.pdf) |

 |

 |

 |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **The application deadline to Provincial Commands is July 31, 2020.** |

 |
| alt_text |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **Facebook Town Hall with the Legion Dominion President** |
| Have you heard? Dominion President, Thomas D. Irvine, CD, will be conducting a Q&A session live-streamed on Facebook on April 27, 2:00-3:00 pm EST. Don't miss your chance to get your questions answered by Tom, along with Dominion Command Senior Executive Officers and Committee Chairs. |
| Submit your questions to townhall@legion.ca by April 23 at midnight and tune in on April 27 for the live Q&A here: Facebook.com/CanadianLegion. |
| [RSVP here](https://www.facebook.com/events/2731895363525574/) to ensure you get a Facebook reminder of the event! |

 |
| alt_text |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **Branch Membership Administration** |
| **Resources and tips to support your Membership Chair.** |
| Branches can login to **portal.legion.ca** with the username and password provided. |
| **View members who renewed online** |
| Over 30,000 members have renewed their membership online. Membership Chairs can check to see if their members have renewed online by logging in to their Branch home page on the [Member Services Website](https://portal.legion.ca/) and clicking on Reports under ‘IN THIS SECTION’. Open the report titled *Membership – Branch Online Member Reports*. |

 |
| alt_text |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **Get access to Marketing and PR resources** |

 |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| alt_text |
| **Marketing** |
| **Get your custom Branch logo** |
| alt_text |
| Legion Headquarters can assist Branches in adding their Branch number and town or city to the Legion logo, for use on websites, posters and more. Simply email marketing@legion.ca with your Branch number and Branch town or city. We will then develop the logo and provide your Branch with an .ai file and a .jpg file. |

 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| alt_text |
| **PR Tip of the Month** |
| **Spelling and grammar count** |
| There’s nothing like the first impression that comes from poor spelling or grammar. Ideally, important internal or external communications or advertisements are first proofread by a colleague or other professional. Your Legion communications reflect the Legion as a whole. |
| Have questions or need advice? Contact your [Command Public Relations Officer](http://www.legion.ca/contact-us/provincial-commands) or Nujma Bond, Dominion Command Communications at nbond@legion.ca. |

 |

 |

 |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **Your Legion calendar: April – May 2020** |
| Promote important dates and organize activities at your Branch with this list of upcoming days that raise awareness of an issue, commemorate a group or event, or celebrate an important topic. |
| [**DOWNLOAD THE CALENDAR  ‣**](http://portal.legion.ca/docs/default-source/branch-and-command-resources/marketing-and-public-relations/national-notable-dates-2020_english.pdf) |
| **Lower your flags on Vimy Ridge Day – April 9** |
| The Legion joins federal, provincial and municipal institutions in lowering the Canadian flag from sunrise to sunset on Thursday, April 9 in observance of Vimy Ridge Day. The day honours and remembers those who fought during the fierce Battle of Vimy Ridge in France in 1917, a defining moment for Canada as soldiers from several divisions battled together. |

 |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| alt_text |
| **Legion member selected to participate in the Nijmegen Marches** |
| We are pleased to announce that Comrade Joan Cook, member of the Kemptville, Ontario Legion Branch #212, will be representing the Legion at the International Four Days Marches Nijmegen held in the Kingdom of the Netherlands, in July 2020. A 14-year Veteran of the Canadian Armed Forces, Joan will join the Canadian Armed Forces marching contingent on four days of walking more than 40 kilometres per day carrying a 10-kilogram backpack. |
| [**Read more  ‣**](https://www.legion.ca/news/articles/2020/03/09/joan-cook-is-the-royal-canadian-legion-s-2020-marches-nijmegen-representative) |

 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| alt_text |
| **Discover a Legion Branch success story** |
| Branch 13 in Scarborough, Ontario is seeing their recruitment efforts pay off! |
| “It’s great to see the community getting behind a landmark that’s been here for almost 100 years,” said Birch Cliff resident Sandy Robitaille. |
| [**Read more  ‣**](http://www.birchcliffnews.com/local-legion-membership-surges/?fbclid=IwAR1Qs_7DuHqGYQgTeAXlaOKAkpRq_F49UsZARXuM1SmUoIGVjmrph1vocew) |

 |

 |

 |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **Messages from Veteran organizations** |

 |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **The RCMP is recruiting** |
| The Royal Canadian Mounted Police are recruiting across Canada. Print and post these posters at your Branch and help promote exciting career opportunities within the RCMP. |
| [**Download poster  ‣**](https://edm-assets-v2.s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/legion/5576_Legion_Dispatch_Mar2020/English/Belt_RCMP-PublicNotice_NoEvent_Over150-Bil-E.PDF) |
| **Changes to service medals** |
| The Government of Canada recently announced the time criteria for several medals has been reduced, and the Special Service Medal has been amended to expand eligibility to Canadian civilians. |
| [**Learn more  ‣**](https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/medals/medals-former-members.html) |

 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **Veteran Service Card** |
| Veterans Affairs Canada recently announced the Veteran’s Service Card is now available to all former Canadian Armed Forces members who have completed basic training and have been honourably released. |
| If a Veteran transitioned out of the military before September 2018 or meets the updated criteria, this information may be of interest. |
| [**Learn more  ‣**](https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/benefits-military/transition/service-card.html) |
| **Veterans Ombudsman Annual Report** |
| The Office of the Veterans Ombudsman released its annual report highlighting their work in support of Veterans and their families in 2018–2019. |
| [**Read the report  ‣**](https://www.ombudsman-veterans.gc.ca/pdfs/reports/annual-report-2018-2019.pdf) |

 |

 |

 |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **Partner promotions** |
| The following is brought to you by our partners, highlighting special offers and other information. |

 |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **Special offer from Legion Magazine** |

 |
| alt_text |
|

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |
| --- |
| **If you have any questions, please contact Member Services and we will be pleased to assist. 1-855-330-3344 or****membership@legion.ca**Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. EST |
|  |
| **Working together to serve Canada’s Veterans.** |

 |

 |

 |