

The Legion Quarterly Newsletter



Dr. C. B. Lumsden Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 74, Wolfville, NS

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Local Area Man, Superintendent Craig Gibson appointed HMCS William Hall Ship's Sponsor.

By Trident Staff and Chris Lambie, Saltwire.



Craig Gibson

William Hall likely would have been “wondering what all the fuss” was about if he was alive to see a Canadian warship named after him, his descendant said at the Irving Shipyard in Halifax.

“He was a humble and simple man,” Sgt. Philip Safire, his great-great-great-nephew, told a small crowd of dignitaries gathered to watch two young welders attach a ceremonial coin to the keel of the fourth Arctic and offshore patrol ship Irving is building for the navy.

Mind-Bending?

Can you name the branch of the Canadian military which created the world-renowned CADPAT pattern?

- 1 Royal Canadian Navy
- 2 Canadian Army
- 3 Royal Canadian Air Force
- 4 Special Operations Forces

Answer on page 2

Hall returned to Hantsport at the age of 47 after “sailing the world for almost 30 years” with the Royal Navy, Safire said. “He chose a humble life of farming and shipbuilding.” Hall had joined the Royal Navy because he “felt that he owed a debt to the British for saving his parents from a life of slavery in the U.S.,” said Safire, an intelligence operative who trains people for the army in Halifax.

The Royal Canadian Navy is preparing to receive the future HMCS William Hall later this year, and has revealed who will act as the ship's sponsor for the latest addition to the Arctic and Offshore Patrol Ship (AOPS) fleet.

Former RCMP Chief Superintendent Craig Gibson was chosen for the role on April 25, marking a historic moment as the first male to sponsor an HMC ship. From Gibson Woods in Nova Scotia, Gibson spent more than 30 years with the RCMP, having served in five different provinces across Canada since joining the organization in 1980. In 2012, he became the first Black Commanding Officer in the RCMP's 92-year history when he was appointed to lead the force in Prince Edward Island. Gibson left this role in 2015 to become the RCMP's national Director-General of Modernization, Recruiting, and Human Resources prior to his retirement.

The RCN highlighted the significance of the appointment, noting that selecting a Ship's Sponsor is an esteemed naval tradition. The sponsor usually plays a central role in the ship's naming ceremony by breaking a bottle of champagne across the vessel's bow.

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Zoe Strutt

OUR YOUNGEST MEMBER

The Wolfville Legion is extremely excited to introduce Zoe Strutt as a valued new member. Zoe is from Kindersley, Saskatchewan where her Grandfather, Herb Strutt (1920-2022) was a WWII Spitfire mechanic and was always part of the gatherings in the Legion basement. Zoe's father, Roger Strutt, was also active in the Legion, including having been past President. He started Zoe on her volunteering journey with the Legion starting at age 18.

Now 27, Zoe is our youngest member and has been very active in fundraising and promotions. She has been instrumental in planning and set up for our fundraising launch, including designing the billboards now proudly displayed on Main Street in front of the Legion. She is always a willing volunteer when the need arises.

Zoe Strutt (MTA) is a music therapist currently practising throughout the Annapolis Valley. She works with a wide range of age groups from young adults to seniors with a variety of requirements. She will be offering group sessions once our building reopens.

Zoe also works with the Nova Scotia Wind Ensemble as a Clinician and Percussion Director and participates in Nova Scotia's all female Wind Ensemble, Glass Winds. Additionally, she has been involved in many musicals as a choreographer and musical director.

Zoe has expressed that she is honoured and excited to be involved with the Wolfville Legion and we could not be more pleased that she has chosen to join our membership!

Jo-Ann Gertridge

Did you hear about the new restaurant called Karma? There is no menu. You get what you deserve.

Mind-Bending Answer

Forces around the world have the Canadian Army to thank for their camouflage patterns! The Army started researching ways to create a pattern that effectively camouflaged their members, which is what turned into the CADPAT design that we see today.



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YOUR CHANCE TO HONOUR REV ROGER PRENTICE!

Wolfville NS. November 17, 2022

As the Wolfville Legion moves towards the completion of its exciting renovations, it is also in the process of raising the funds to pay for them. With our First Vice-President Paul Murphy's tireless work on applications for funds from all levels of government, the Legion has been awarded no less than 23 grants, which have enabled the work to continue to this point, with many private donations adding to the total. Five other applications are still awaiting a response, including one which if successful would go a long way towards our goal. Meanwhile we continue to embark on other fundraising projects. One of these is the Roger Prentice Legion Library Fund.



Rev Roger Prentice

Roger Prentice was the Chaplain of the Wolfville Legion for seven or eight years. He was also the Chaplain of Acadia University, from 1985 until his retirement in 2007. He continued living in Wolfville, and was a familiar figure around town, with his warm greeting of 'blessings, blessings, blessings' (his arms held high!) to friends and acquaintances he met along the way. His sudden death in April 2022 shocked and saddened many friends and admirers, and many of them have been looking for a way to honour his memory.

The new Legion Centre when completed will include a new Library and Counselling Room, and it was from this that the idea developed of naming it the Roger Prentice Library, if \$50,000 could be raised to obtain the naming rights. The Legion Executive Committee was unanimously in favour, and so in November 2022 the Fund was established at the Bank of Montreal in Wolfville, with Roger Prentice's Executor John Churchill, Lawrence Maclsaac and Michael Bawtree as its officers.

Roger Prentice was an avid collector of books, and not many of his friends knew that his collection included hundreds of books of military history, many of them dealing with the Canadian armed forces. Roger's Executor John Churchill, has donated these books to the Wolfville Legion, where they will form the basis of their new library's holdings.

Since the fund was set up, it has received donations and pledges of no less than \$35,000 towards its \$50,000 goal. The friends of Roger are all invited to contribute to this worthy cause, which will go far to ensuring that Roger's name will continue to be honoured in the town he loved and served so well. Donors should make out their donations by cheque to 'Wolfville Legion Library Fund' c/o Bawtree, 155 Main Street Wolfville B4P 1C2, or handed to any member of the Wolfville Legion.



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PAUL MURPHY 1st VP, RENO UPDATE



Hello everybody! We have been very busy over the past several months since our last Newsletter. We were required to arrange several work parties to pick up oak bookshelves for the Library and Veteran's Counselling room, install sound proofing insulation into the ceilings of the lower and main level ceilings, pick up in Halifax, furniture, chairs and tables for the main level and of course the weekly meetings regarding fundraising, renovations, weekly coffees to name a few. We have the greatest volunteers and I know once we are open there are many more who have expressed an interest to help us run our programs and events.

We have received more funding from grants between April-June 2023 from the Federal Government for \$25,000, the NS Provincial Government for \$49,166.67 and from Mud Creek Rotary \$5000. We thank each one of them for supporting this extremely worthwhile venture. We also have a few other grant requests that we are waiting for an answer on.

The Legion now has all of its exterior windows and doors installed and I must say, what a wonderful view we have from the upper level Veteran's Suite overlooking the Minas Basin! The siding is complete and the insulation and gyproc have been installed. The HVAC, plumbing and wiring has been completed and the new flooring is being installed with porcelain tile on the lower level and birds eye maple on the other two levels. We have put a deposit down for the new elevator but it may not be installed by the time the rest of the building is completed and so we may be open for a few months without an elevator.

We had our last coffee and tea social at the White Rock Community Centre Wednesday 28 June. We presented our final rental cheque to the WRCA who have been gracious hosts to our membership over the past 3 years and we thanked them heartily, serving them a breakfast consisting of waffles and berries and other delicious snacks and sandwiches.

Our Fundraising Committee has still been meeting on a weekly basis. We realize that we will still owe money for our renovations after we are open and are planning several fundraising events to catch the interest and generosity of all. Whether it's a wine or whiskey tasting, a lunch at the Noodle Guy, a patio event at Troy Restaurant, an online auction or a Cookie Walk etc., there should be something that will interest everyone. Please continue to support our fundraising endeavours as we strive towards the finish line!

Our Grand Opening should happen sometime later this summer with a host of events planned over a week or two. Plan to attend - you won't recognize the interior or exterior and you will be amazed at the transformation that our building has taken. Drop in for a visit and check out our new state of the art electronic features and wheelchair accessibility additions especially if you are looking for a venue to rent for a birthday party, wedding, anniversary, office party, meeting or conference. Our membership has grown almost threefold since 2018 and for \$45 a year you too can join as well, everyone is welcomed! Join with us as we Remember the Fallen, Care for all Veterans and their Families and become a community hub in the heart of Wolfville.



Comrade Paul Murphy
1st VP, Renovation Chair and Co Fundraising Chair

MUD CREEK ROTARY DOES IT AGAIN!

At our weekly Legion Coffee morning at the “White Rock Community Center” (our temporary home) on March 15th, we were paid a lovely visit by Georgie McNeil and John McNeil of the Mud Creek Rotary Club. They presented us with a cheque of \$5000 to go towards our new building project. It is so greatly appreciated and we thank them ever so much.

The Rotary Clubs of Kings County Charitable Foundation began with a dream to build an endowment fund to provide a source of sustainable funding for future projects in our communities

It is a grant program that goes to qualified organizations that support seniors, the relief of poverty, programs for the physically and mentally challenged, immigration services, literacy and employment training, preservation of the environment, advancement of education, international development and advancement of the arts.



L-R Rotary member Georgie McNeil, Branch 74 Ted Cross, President Donn Miles with Treasurer Jo-Ann Jackson

People of Action!

The Leopard is a Bad-Ass Tank!



Canada has sent eight Leopard 2 tanks from its own military inventory, part of a multi-nation effort to provide dozens of the German-built tracked vehicles to Ukraine, along with British Challenger and American Abrams tanks.

The Leopard tank is a bad-ass tank. The Leopard 2 is a modern battle tank that first entered service in Germany in the late 1970s and is now used by approximately 20 countries. Featuring heavy armour and a main gun with good speed, the Leopard is designed to move fast, strike hard and survive on the modern battlefield. The basic design

has been upgraded numerous times since it was introduced to add better armour, weaponry, digital technology and other modern features. Some have also been modified for non-combat purposes such as recovering disabled tanks from the battlefield and engineering tasks like carrying mobile bridges .

Join today! Branch 74 Legion Membership is only \$45 annually.

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Legions's Top Picks "Nova Scotia Festivals" July 1 - Aug 31

July	Event	Where
02	Antigonish Highland Games	Antigonish, Northumberland Shore
8	Kite Flying & Lobster Bash	Digby
8-9	Lunenburg Craft & Food Festival	Lunenburg, South Shore
11-16	TD Halifax Jazz Festival	Halifax Metro
13-16	Acoustic Maritime Festival	Kempt Shore
15-23	North American Indigenous Games	Halifax
20-24th	Stan Rogers Folk Festival	Canso, Eastern Shore
29	Festival Acadien de Clare	Church Point & Acadien Shores
29	Great Annapolis Bike Ride	Grand Pre & Annapolis Valley
August	Event	Where
2-7	Halifax Buskers Festival	Halifax Metro
4-6	New Glasgow River Front Jubilee	New Glasgow, Northumberland Shore
7	Pictou Natal Day Celebrations	Pictou, Northumberland Shore
10-13	Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival	Lunenburg, South Shore
11	Coal Shed Music Festival	Yarmouth, Acadia Shore
14-19	Annapolis Valley Exhibition	Lawerencetown, Annapolis Valley
16-19	Chester Race Week	Chester, South Shore
31	Wharf Rat Rally	Digby, Annapolis Valley
September	Event	Where
8	Lebanese Food Festival	Halifax Metro
8-23	Hike The Highlands	Cabot Trail, CB
14-21	Atlantic Film Festival	Halifax Metro
15-17	Ship Hector 250th Anniversary Festival	Pictou, Northumberland Shore
22-24	Canadian Deep Roots Festival	Wolfville, Annapolis Valley

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Legion calls for immediate action on defense policy and spending.



April 20, 2023

OTTAWA, ON, 20 APRIL

2023 – The Royal Canadian Legion is calling for robust action after learning that Canada’s extraordinary Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) members may be facing unnecessary risks. Media reports of insufficient equipment and support – whether while in garrison or deployed - must be taken seriously.

“We were also disturbed to read of the reported assertion that Canada will not meet its defense spending commitment to NATO,” says Bruce Julian, Dominion President. “This is of immediate concern because that reality is directly connected to ensuring our troops are in a strong position to defend not only Canada but our allies, and to the best of their ability. That requires the right equipment at the right time. With additional reports of delayed procurement and unfulfilled military contracts, we are creating a dangerous environment for our troops.”

In 2022, the federal government announced a much-needed Defence Policy Update to address global and systemic security challenges. It is only just now seeking public consultation, and the Legion is calling for this assessment to be expedited. And while significant funding was outlined in the 2023 budget, it was a restatement of already announced defence spending.

“Considering all of these factors, along with the CAF’s ongoing member shortage, the overall threat to our troops remains real,” says Julian. “We must ensure that our Canadian Armed Forces are prepared to respond to the current and future security environment.”

It is important to acknowledge that replacements for the decades-old CF-18 fighter jets and the modernization of NORAD are steps in the right direction but more action is needed, immediately.

PRINT DONATED TO ROGER PRENTICE MEMORIAL LIBRARY by Jim Russell

A recent donation of a Jeannie Hancock print to the Roger Prentice Library of the Royal Canadian Legion Wolfville has some interesting history. The print by well known local artist Jean E Hancock is an historical scene of skating in a Wolfville park and was generously donated by local historian Ken Bezanson.



Ken Bezanson

Ken Bezanson is the owner of Country Barn Antiques of Port Williams. As an antique dealer, Ken acquired the print, which was originally presented to Legion Chaplain Roger Prentice by the town of Wolfville in recognition of his many years of community service to the people of Wolfville.

Ken Bezanson is making this generous donation to the Royal Canadian Legion in Wolfville because of his great respect for Roger Prentice and hopes that having this Jeannie Hancock print hanging in the new legion library will continue to honor the memory of Rev. Roger Prentice.

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The New Wolfville Legion Building



The Dr C.B. Lumsden Royal Canadian Legion Branch 74 in Wolfville, NS is a non-profit organization whose mission is to ensure that Canadians never forget the sacrifices the men and women made who served and serves our country in war and peace. It is also our mission to share our resources in Wolfville and the surrounding communities. Our new building at 310 Main Street, Wolfville will be a social centre, a meeting place and a comfort centre for anyone in need. It will be a spectacular venue for entertainment, weddings and important occasions. **Follow this Newsletter.**

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