



**Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario
Provincial Command**

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January 22, 2025

New Veteran Support Initiatives and Branch Participation Opportunities

MBNWO Legion Branches,

We are pleased to announce two new Veteran Support initiatives that your Branch may consider for Poppy Fund donations. To maximize our collective impact, all donations received for these initiatives will be matched 1:1 by Provincial Command until the funding goal for each project is achieved. Donation instructions are included on the second page of this memo.

1. Support for the Purchase of a Sport Wheelchair

Provincial Command is seeking to raise \$5,000 to support the purchase of a sport wheelchair for a Veteran who has overcome homelessness and will be competing in the 2025 Invictus Games in Vancouver. Your Branch's support can help this Veteran pursue their dreams and represent our community with pride. Please note the Branch donation limit per section 403.ii.p of the Poppy Manual.

2. Homeless Veteran Support Kits

Provincial Command is also seeking to raise \$1,225 to purchase and distribute ten homeless kits to Veterans experiencing homelessness as a pilot project. Each kit includes essential items such as personal hygiene kits, hand warmers, gloves, toques, scarves, a blanket, and information on available support services bundled into a high-quality backpack.

3. Provincial Service Officer Branch Visits

Provincial Command is seeking expressions of interest from Branches to host our Provincial Service Officer for a day. These visits will be scheduled with a lead time of 6-8 weeks to allow for sufficient notice to local Veterans. During these visits, the Provincial Service Officer will be available to address support-related questions from Veterans and Branch Service Officers and assist with initial VAC claim applications.



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Donation Instructions

As these initiatives are pre-approved by Command, no SUE is required to donate to either project. If your Branch wishes to donate, please make out a cheque payable to the RCL MBNWO Poppy Fund and indicate in the memo line or an attached letter which project the donation is in support of. We will be tracking progress towards our goals for each project, and participating Branches will be informed once the project has reached its funding goal. In the event that a donation is received at Command for projects that have already reached their funding goal, the cheque will be returned to the sending Branch.

If your Branch is interested in learning more or would like to participate in these initiatives, please contact our Provincial Service Officer, Cody Klassen at

Veterans@mbnwo.legion.ca.

Thank you for your continued dedication to supporting our Veterans.

Yours in Comradeship,

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Provincial Executive Director

The Royal Canadian Legion

Manitoba and Northwest Ontario Command

