



As part of their 90th Anniversary celebrations in September, Hants Co. Branch 9 in Windsor unveiled a new mural (inset). Above, veteran Myron Phillips and Windsor Mayor Paul Beazley join the artist, Kelly Mitchelmore, after the unveiling ceremony. (Glen Parker)

Hants County Branch 9 celebrates 90th Anniversary

Sharon Thibeau
Chair, 90th Anniversary Committee

Windsor, NS – Members, media representatives and the public attended a moving tribute to local Veterans as the Hants County Branch 9 commemorated its 90th Anniversary.

The branch was granted the Freedom of the Town and Municipality and a 90th Anniversary mural was unveiled as part of the day-long celebrations on Sept. 12.

Ninety years ago as veterans returned home from the untold terrors of the Great War, they found solace, comradeship and support in the creation of the Great War Veterans Association Branch 9 which eventually evolved to become Hants County Branch 9 Royal Canadian. Growing from 27 members in 1919 to close to 1,000 today, the Hants County Branch 9 has been a crucial link for local Veterans carrying the torch of remembrance in both service to Veterans and commemorative activities.

Members of the Legion and the Ladies Auxiliary

The mural, entitled Cadence, was commissioned by the branch following a competitive process with local artists.

have contributed much to the community, supporting organizations such as the Navy League/Sea Cadets, Air Cadets, RCMP Stetson and Spurs and the Victoria Order of Nurses.

"This is a historic time for the Legion that not only celebrates 90 years of those who have served but recognizes the great contribution of the many volunteers from the branch and the Ladies Auxiliary," said Conrad Gilbert, President of the Hants County Branch 9.

The mural, entitled Cadence, was commissioned by the branch following a competitive process with local artists. Kelly Mitchelmore, Windsor artist and business-owner was chosen to create the three paneled mural that tells a story of pride, dedication, and perseverance

that the Legion and its members have readily provided for the past 90 years and will continue to provide in the future. The images of veterans, community and commemoration, convey the Legion's commitment to community, military service and country.

"As an artist and a Canadian Forces Veteran, Cadence became a labour of love," said Ms. Mitchelmore.

"Being a part of a Legion is so much more than badges and ceremonies, it is about giving to the community, supporting our serving troops, and remembering those who have served our country. It's about serving those who have served. Cadence commemorates all those who have served, are serving and will serve their country and celebrates the Hants County Branch's 90 years of being a part of it all."

The unveiling ceremony featured Windsor Town Crier Lloyd Smith and the Branch Legion Choir. A BBQ and concert followed with the CFB Greenwood band, Route 66, and Darrell Meyers. All these events were open to the public for those 19 and over.

Captain Angus L.
Macdonald
BRANCH # 132

P.O. Box 239
INVERNESS, NS B0E 1N0
PHONE: (902) 258-3233

br132invernessrcl@ns.sympatico.ca
22752 2-12/5-7/7-29/10-29


LEGION

Royal Canadian Legion - Stellarton
Branch #28

P.O. Box 2110
Stellarton, NS B0K 1S0
Phone: 902-755-1885



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For information or assistance contact
Elizabeth May, O.C.
Leader of the Green Party of Canada
Candidate for Central Nova

New Glasgow Green Party Office
902-695-4000
121 George St., New Glasgow, NS B2H 2K7
leader@greenparty.ca • www.elizabethmay.ca


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