

Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada

Kelowna – Unit 376

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, April 18, 2026

(Meeting Recorded)

CALL TO ORDER: 1:00 pm

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT: We respectfully acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the SYLIX Okanagan Nation. May we continue to foster relationships and deeper respect for our Indigenous Peoples in the spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

President Stephen Walters apologize for an incident that happened at the last General Meeting.

Singing of “O Canada”

SILENCE: Moment of silence in memory for our fallen Comrades
Act of Remembrance recited by Unit President - Stephen Walters

RE-AFFIRMATIONS: Unit President - Stephen Walters
2nd Vice-President - Karen Ziegler

ROLL CALL: President: Stephen Walters, 2nd VP-Karen Ziegler Directors: Helene Fitzgerald, Darrell Unrau, Bill Edwards, Harry Karpenski, Brigid Cawthra and Sgt @ Arms – Burpee Atkins
1st VP-Dave Pich, Past President-Kathy Barber and Ron Christy – absent with reason

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Brigid Cawthra moved that the minutes of March 21, 2026 General Meeting, be adopted as posted. 2nd - **Kelvin Fitzgerald - Carried**

CORRESPONDENCE: None

MEMBERSHIP INITIATION: Helene Fitzgerald moved the following for membership:
Joseph Decaro, Shelia Gardiner, Catherine Jackson, Dave Schroeder, Tara Schroeder
2nd - **Mike Gagne - Carried**

The following new applicant was initiated: **Shelia Gardiner** by President – Stephen Walters

MEMBERSHIP COUNT: **Helene Fitzgerald**

Total members to date - 111

4 - Life Members

22 - Active Members

16 - Affiliate Members

69 - Associate Members

2nd - **Cherri Jackson - Carried**

FINANCE:**Kathy Barber as read by Brigid Cawthra**

As of March 31, 2026

Operating & Shares - \$12,332.67

Savings & Shares - \$4,035.32

Total \$16,376.92

Welfare & Charity – \$26,085.47

Commercial Loan - \$29,761.78

Revenue: \$14,087.45

Expenses: \$14,416.20

Deficit: \$ -328.75

YTD Revenue: \$37,221.90**YTD Expense:** \$40,646.22**YTD: Deficit** -\$3,424.32**Brigid Cawthra moved the acceptance of the Finance report - 2nd - Cherri Jackson - Carried****DONATIONS:**

None at this time

SGT AT ARMS:**Burpee Atkins**

Nothing to report

SPORTS:**Dave Pich as read by Stephen Walters**

BC Provincial Dart shoot held on April 11, 2026 in Vernon with Vernon taking 1/2/3 with Kelowna and Kamloops finishing 4 and 5th. There was only 3 Units participating. Dart shoot at Lumby Legion on April 18.

We continue to have Drop in Darts on Mondays at 7:00 pm

Friday Crib had a challenge with the West Kelowna Legion which they were victorious. This will be an ongoing event

BC Prov Crib Tournament - May 23, 2026 will be held in Kamloops and we are sending 2 teams of two.

Drop in Pool on Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 pm

2nd - Mike Gagne - Carried

HOUSE/GROUNDS:**Henry Karpinsky**

Back door has been installed, weatherstripping has been completed. Sensor alarm for door has been installed. Camera at bar has been fixed and all cameras in Unit are working.

Will be look at installing a screen door on kitchen back door and will be starting work on replacing LED lights in Unit.

2nd - Kelvin Fitzgerald - Carried

ENTERTAINMENT**Karen Ziegler**

Bingo is going okay and Bingo will be finished at end of June. Karen cannot continue to do it alone; more volunteers are needed otherwise we may be forced to end earlier the scheduled.

Saturday - April 18th - Dinner and Dance with Kelly Bellanger. Dinner will consist of Ham and scalloped potatoes. 17 tickets available as of April 8. May 23rd - Dinner and Dance with Vic Ukranitz.

Thursday Jams - going well Stephen is running them and its very popular with more people coming in. Karaoke is going well.

2nd - Cherri Jackson - Carried

WAYS AND MEANS: Karen Ziegler
Meat Draws are going well. Meat Draw limit raised from \$550.00 to \$600.00 as it was difficult to stay within the budget as meat prices have increased drastically. Lots of compliments since raising it. Kelvin Fitzgerald will be helping Karen with Ways and Means as part of her committee.
2nd - Pat Burnett - Carried

DVA/SICK AND VISITING: Bill Edwards
Nothing to report

PUBLICITY: Stephen Walters
Emails are being sent out to members with upcoming information. Stephen will try and send more information out to members about events. New Domain Server from US to Canadian domain - 3-year plan \$240 much cheaper than yearly payment.
2nd - Tammy - Carried

BY LAWS: Darrell Unrau
Bylaw to change the spending limit from \$300 to \$1000 has been approved by Provincial and Dominion Command at beginning of April 2026.

LADIES AUXILLIARY: Wendy Finlayson as read by Phyliss Walters
Meeting of LA was held on April 15, 2026 and the following items were discussed:
Current membership stands at 34 Regular members and 2 Life members.
Volunteers are requested for Bake sale on May 9th. We continue to encourage bakers from the Unit to consider donating as all is appreciated.
Volunteers from the unit is needed to help Pat in the kitchen when she is preparing a meal for the monthly dinner & dance. If anyone can help Pat in any way, please see her as she will gladly accept any help. The Ladies Auxiliary with only having 34 members are spread pretty thin with the Snack Shack open 3 times a week. We also have other fund-raising events that the ladies work on throughout the year.
Additions to the Kitchen menu (such as the Pork Bites) are proving to be popular.
May 9th will be a huge day for the Ladies Auxiliary as we will be holding our Mother's Day Basket draw, along with running of the Meat Draw Table and of course the Bake Raffle. There will be a few other surprises that day too! Tickets for the Mother's Day Baskets are now on sale so please see Eileen if you want to purchase or to take some to sell.
Preparations have been made for our up coming Convention meeting in Sidney. A tremendous thank you to all who donated items for our baskets that are taken to the convention to raffle off. Your support is always greatly appreciated.
We have donated \$1000.00 to the Southern Interior Veterans Society.

OLD BUSINESS: Stephen Walters
Lawyer for our roofing lawsuit has let us know that the defendant has been served. Executive will be discussing consolidating all our loans (approximately \$55,000 which includes our roof loan of \$40,000) and taking a \$100,000 line of credit as the interest rate is much lower than the loans. One all the details have been ironed out; we will bring to the General Membership for approval. Mike Gagne thinks this is a great idea.

OLD BUSINESS con't: Email letter dated March 10, 2026 has been sent to Provincial Command President Nicholas Newell in regard to the Circular NO 5-2026 – Licenses and BCLC Compliance. The Gaming and BCLC rules state that it is recommended that they do not play at their Unit that a family member works at or is a member of the Executive Committee. We are still waiting for his reply.

NEW BUSINESS: **Stephen Walters**

Ron Christy announced his resignation from the Executive Committee effective April 18, 2026. We thank Ron for his service and wish him well.

GOOD AND WELFARE: Kelvin Fitzgerald brought up doing 50/50 during Friday night Karaoke. Discussion of not enough people during the event at this time, will be looked at in future if attendance increases.

Meeting adjourned: 2:00 pm

NEXT MEETING: Next General Meeting - Saturday, **May 9, 2026** at 1:00 pm (note change in date as 3rd Saturday is May 16 and is a long weekend)

THE KING – CHARLES III

Stephen Walters - President

Brigid Cawthra - Recording Secretary