Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada
Kelowna – Unit 376
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Saturday, Sept 12, 2026
(Meeting Recorded)

CALL TO ORDER: 12:00 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.

Singing of "O Canada"

SILENCE: Moment of silence in memory for our fallen Comrades
Act of Remembrance recited by 1st Vice - President – Dave Pich

RE-AFFIRMATIONS: President – Stephen Walters
1st Vice - President - Dave Pich

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

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Brigid Cawthra moved that the minutes of June 20, 2026 General Meeting, be adopted as posted. **2nd - Mike Gagne - Carried**

CORRESPONDENCE: None

MEMBERSHIP INITIATION: Helene Fitzgerald moved the following for membership:

New members: Al Barnes, Doug Rosen, Heidi Walters, Marie Winacott, Shaun Chartran, Marco Spagnuolo, George Porter

The following applicants were initiated: Al Barnes, Doug Rosen, Heidi Walters, Marie Winacott, Shaun Chartran, Marco Spagnuolo, George Porter by President - Stephen Walters

MEMBERSHIP COUNT: **Helene Fitzgerald**

2026 - Total members to date - 144
4 - Life Member
25 - Active Members
19 - Affiliate Members
96 - Associate Members
14 - Non-Associate Members (not initiated yet)

Membership 2027 - cost will stay at $50.00
2nd - Wendy Finlayson - Carried

Suggestion that we provide a hard copy of the bylaws to new initiated members.
We will look into this since we are working on new bylaws.

FINANCE:

Dave Pich
As of July 31, 2026
Operating - $5,525.88
Savings - $3,537.46

Welfare & Charity - $24,469.36

Commercial Loan -$ 27,607.56

Revenue: $7,069.02
Expenses: $6,030.74
Net Income: $1,038.28

Dave Pich moved the acceptance of the Finance report **2nd - Tammy - Carried**

DONATIONS:

$5,000.00 - BC Wildfires for Fire Fighters
2nd - Patty Burnett - Carried

SGT AT ARMS:

Burpee Atkins
Nothing to report

SPORTS:

Dave Pich
Drop in Darts resume on September 14
Drop in Pool - Wednesday afternoons at 1:00 pm
Monday Night Pool League commences on September 14
Provincial 8 ball Tournament – Oct 17 in Vernon, we are the Host Unit and representing the Club are Gord McInnis and Mel Mcintyre as defending champs. Also representing the Club are Stephen Walters, Mike Stewart, Gary Blidook and Butch Lenarduzzi.
Curling will start up on Sunday Oct 18 at the Lake Country Curling Club
2nd- Sue Greenhalgh - Carried

HOUSE/GROUNDS:

Henry Karpinsky as read by Stephen Walters
We have purchased a portable AC unit for the kitchen, and it has help immensely. LED lights have been replaced in most of the Unit, remainder to be finished in the next couple of weeks. Kitchen drain repairs have been completed by Stephen Walters.
Dave Pich motioned 2nd – Shirley Corrigal - Carried

ENTERTAINMENT

Karen Ziegler
Sunday Sept 13 - Bingo will resume. Shirley Corrigal will be working with me, and we have had some people step up to help volunteer. Thursday Jams are going well with your host Stephen Walters who is doing a great job. Friday Night Karaoke - Slow for the summer but we are hoping it will pick up now that Fall is here. Bill Edwards and Pam Ferens will be alternating Fridays starting with Bill hosting Sept 4 and Pam on the 11th. Sept 18 either are available so we will be having "Freaky Fisher" the Magician. Cost for this event is $300 for 2 hours. No cost to attend. Bill will be back on Sept 25 and then Pam on Oct 2nd and should be smooth sailing at least until the end of the year. Dinner and Dances continue to be sold out. We have a new chef - Doug Rosen who is now doing the catering. He started with our Christmas in July dinner, and his presentation of the food was exceptional. Our August 29th dinner was Lasagna, salad and garlic toast and Doug did another great job! Ian Stewart was the Entertainment, and the dance floor was never empty. Dinner and Dance on September 26th will be Octoberfest with Snitzel and German Potatoes. Vic Ukranitz will provide entertainment. Stephen Walters gave a big thanks to Karen for all her work in ensuring the Dinner and Dances continue to be successful.
2nd - Mike Gagne - Carried

WAYS AND MEANS: **Kelvin Fitzgerald**

Meat Draws - continuing to do well. A new list has been created of the team members and the weeks they are responsible for. We also have a list of spares available.
Possible upcoming events - Garage Sale - and a Christmas Craft Sale
2nd - Cherri Jackson - Carried

Suggestion to open up the Unit and offer the space for birthday parties, COL, etc.
Ideas: Karaoke Sundays 1-4, Ladies Clothing Exchange
Contact the office for further information.

DVA/SICK AND VISITING: **Bill Edwards**

Nothing to report

PUBLICITY: **Stephen Walters**

Website is coming along, emails are going out but not all members are receiving them, and this is being looked and will be fixed in the next couple of weeks.

LADIES AUXILLIARY: **Wendy Finlayson**

No meetings were held in July and August, but the Ladies Auxiliary have been fairly busy.
We were honored to provide two Celebration of Life luncheons, one for Ray Harke and recently another for Maynard Reed, bringing family and friends together to celebrate and remember their lives.
Thanksgiving Baskets have been assembled; tickets are printed and are now on sale. The draw will be October 10th.
Claudette (Sick and Visiting) has been checking up on our ladies.
Lots of gratitude and positive feedback from the ladies who have been working in the kitchen, since we have had the new portable air conditioning unit, it has made such a difference.
Bake Raffle proceeds from Sept 12 will be donated to the Salvation Arm for those affected by the wildfires.
Volunteers are always welcome.
Our next meetings will resume on Wednesday, Sept 16 at 6:00 pm at the Club and are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

OLD BUSINESS:

Doug Rosen is our new chef for our dinner and Dance meals, a big welcome. Thank you to Wendy Schultz for the presentation of the tables including rolling of the silverware.
Volunteers are needed for clean up after the dinner; help is needed in the kitchen for the pots and pans which take so much time to clean. We need to have a volunteer list. This is not a LA event, so it is not their responsibility. We all need to work together.
Defibulator is still being looked into, The Seniors New Horizons grant is not for these kinds of items, and we are looking at other options.

Mike Gagne made a motion to destroy the ballots from the previous election held at the last General Meeting - June 20, 2026 **2nd - Patty Burnett - carried**

Roofing - Lawyer's off is still owed approximately $500.00. Lawyer has suggested to hire a PI which could cost a couple of thousand dollars and still could not guarantee that he will be found and if found, there is also 6-7 people in front of us. It does not make sense to spend more money and time on something that seems impossible. Bill Edwards motioned that we make final payment of what is owing to lawyer. **2nd - Kathy Barber - carried**

BC Command Financial Assistance Loan for ANAF Unit 376 - Kelowna has been approved as of August 10, 2026.
Loan Amount: $28,155.62
Interest Rate: 5% per annum
Term: 5 years
Monthly Payments: $531.33 consisting of principal and interest
Prepayment: The Unit may make additional payments toward the outstanding principal at any time during the term of the loan. The loan may also be paid in full prior to the expiry of the five-year term, without penalty.
Dave Pich motioned to accept the loan terms, 2nd - Mike Gagne - carried

Roofing - Lawyer is still owed approximately $500.00. Lawyer has suggested to hire a PI which could cost a couple of thousand dollars and still could not guarantee that he will be found and if found, there is also 6 -7 people in front of us. It does not make sense to spend more money and time on something that seems impossible. Dave Pich motioned that we terminate our lawsuit and make final payment of what is owing to lawyer. **2nd - Mike Gagne – carried**

4 Notice of motions which were presented at our June 20th General Meeting to add and change some of the bylaws.

Brigid Cawthra motioned that:
By-law 14 Nominations and Elections

Currently no by-law

By-law 14 (g) Term of Executive Members - Passed 31 members were able to vote
21 votes for 7 votes against 3 opposed - Mike Gagne, Patty Burnett, Colleen Kelly

The term of office for Executive members shall be one (1) full term of two (2) years, and that in the event a position becomes vacant during the term, any member appointed to fill that vacancy shall serve until the next November election following the completion of the original two (2) year term.

Brigid Cawthra motioned that:
By-law 15 (e) Currently Reads:

Elections:

e) When a Vacancy occurs on the Executive during the year:

i) The vacancy shall be filled, by calling for nominations from the floor at the next General Meeting after the vacancy occurs, .Elections will then take place at that General Meeting.

ii) A candidate running in this election may request from the Returning Officer, ONLY the total number of votes that he or she received.

iii) Any candidate may as the Returning Officer for a recount of the votes for whichever Office he or she was a candidate. This must be done in writing with at least (2) Seconder to his or her appeal. The appeal must be made within (3) three days after the announcement of the results of the voting. The appeal must also be accompanied with a written valid reason for the Appeal.

iv) The current Executive shall hear the appeal and a decision must be approved by at least 2/3 majority vote of the Executive.

Change to Read: - Not passed will remain as currently noted

Elections: subsection (e) **When a Vacancy occurs on the Executive during the year**
In the event of a vacancy, the President shall, subject to the approval of the Executive, appoint a replacement to serve in the vacant position. The person so appointed shall hold office for the remainder of the current Executive term.

Brigid Cawthra motioned that:
By-law 15 Currently Reads:

Elections:
The officers of the Unit shall be elected by ballot during the **Annual General Meeting to be held on the (4th) fourth Sunday of November each year at 11:00 am**. Only those candidates who are defeated for the Office for which they run, may then seek election to other offices if they are nominated from the floor. The new Executive shall take office upon being installed by BC Command or their designate.

Change to Read: Passed 31 votes for 0 against 31 members were able to vote

Elections:
The officers of the Unit shall be elected by ballot during the Annual General Meeting to be held on the (3rd) third Saturday of November. Only those candidates who are defeated for the Office for which they run, may then seek election to other offices if they are nominated from the floor. The new Executive shall take office upon being installed by BC Command or their designate.

Brigid Cawthra motioned that:
Bylaw 16 Currently Reads:

General Meetings:
General Meetings shall be held on the third (3rd) Tuesday of each month, except July and August.

Change to Read: Passed 31 votes for 0 against 31 members were able to vote

General Meetings:
General Meetings shall be held on the third (3rd) Saturday of each month, except July and August, or unless otherwise rescheduled from its original date and time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Members would like more communications possibly by text message, this idea will be looked and more info to follow at next meeting.
Mike Gagne will apply to City of Kelowna for permits for upcoming Remembrance Day ceremonies.
President Stephen Walters has asked that Mike Gagne be the Returning Officer for Nominations for our October General Meeting and our Elections in our AGM in November. Mike Gagne has accepted the job.

GOOD AND WELFARE: None

Meeting adjourned: 1:30 pm

NEXT MEETING: Next General Meeting - Saturday, October 24 at 12:30 pm
Just a reminder that the doors will be closed at 12:30 and will not open until the meeting is finished. You must also be a current member of Unit 376 to attend the meeting.

THE KING – CHARLES III

Brigid Cawthra

Stephen Walters – President

Brigid Cawthra - Recording Secretary