



Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command  
The Royal Canadian Legion

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## **All Branch Mail Out #41 - 2018**

**Date:** August 8, 2018

**To:** NS/NU Command Branches  
NS/NU Zone Commanders  
NS/NU Executive Council  
NS/NU Past Presidents  
NS/NU Command Staff

**From:** Valerie Mitchell-Veinotte  
Executive Director/Command Secretary  
NS/NU Command, RCL

**Subject:** 2019 Pilgrimage Of Remembrance

**Message:** Comrades: please see attached memo



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Comrades:

The 2019 Royal Canadian Legion Pilgrimage of Remembrance will take place from 6 to 20 July 2019. During this 15-day experience, pilgrims will tour battlefields, pay their respects in cemeteries, reflect at memorials and explore museums throughout France and Belgium with a short foray into the Netherlands (to be confirmed). A maximum of 45 people will participate in this pilgrimage, which will include Command representatives and paying (self-funded) pilgrims.

As this is a major investment for the Legion, pilgrims selected must understand that they will be representing their commands as well as the Legion itself, and that they understand their obligation to conduct post-Pilgrimage presentations for at least the following year.

Completed applications (attached) must be submitted to the office of NS/NU Command Executive Director to be received no later than November 09 8:30 am.

Yours in Comradeship

*Valerie Mitchell-Veinotte*

Executive Director

Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command, RCL



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Provincial Command Secretaries **FILE:** 41-2-19  
**FROM:** Secretary, Poppy & Remembrance Committee **DATE:** 30 July 2018  
**SUBJECT:** 2019 ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
PILGRIMAGE OF REMEMBRANCE

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**Introduction**

The 2019 Royal Canadian Legion Pilgrimage of Remembrance will take place from 6 to 20 July 2019. During this 15-day experience, pilgrims will tour battlefields, pay their respects in cemeteries, reflect at memorials and explore museums throughout France and Belgium with a short foray into the Netherlands (to be confirmed). A maximum of 45 people will participate in this pilgrimage, which will include Command representatives and paying (self-funded) pilgrims.

As this is a major investment for the Legion, it is incumbent on the part of Provincial Commands to ensure that the pilgrims selected understand that they will be representing their commands as well as the Legion itself, and that they understand their obligation to conduct post-Pilgrimage presentations for at least the following year. Please ensure that your Command Pilgrim fully meets the criteria as stated below.

**Command Representatives**

Each Command is invited to select a representative to participate in the Pilgrimage. For the purposes of Dominion Command the following is required:

- The name of your official representative, including his/her completed application form;
- A brief essay drafted by the selected command representative explaining their motivation to attend the pilgrimage;
- An attached outline of the representative's planned post Pilgrimage activities as stated in the introduction paragraph; and
- The name of the backup representative.

This information is to be forwarded to the undersigned by **Friday, 16 November 2018** for review by the Poppy & Remembrance Committee.



In choosing the Legion member to participate as your command's official representative, please note the following requirements:

- Must be a member of The Royal Canadian Legion and possess proper Legion dress for ceremonies conducted while on the pilgrimage;
- Must be of the age of majority and possess a passport valid to **January 2020 (security requirement)**;
- Must be active in a Legion branch, youth and other community activities;
- Must be an effective communicator with proven experience in public speaking and technical ability in preparing presentations with experience in the use of social media would be highly desirable;
- Must draft a brief essay on their motivation to attend the pilgrimage;
- Must attach a separate document outlining post pilgrimage activities, specifically, how they would expect to relate their pilgrimage experiences to youth groups, Legion branches, the media and other organizations in their communities upon their return. Provincial Commands shall determine expectations for presentations; and
- Must be physically fit.

Costs for the ten Provincial Command representatives will be covered by Dominion Command. This includes domestic travel, international air and coach travel, hotel accommodations, meals, museum admissions and out-of-Canada medical insurance. It does not include gratuities for the tour guide and coach driver or any items of a personal nature. **Please note that accommodation is based on double occupancy**. Any single premium will be at the individual's expense in all cases.

### **Additional Requirements**

Once your command representative has been selected, a personal information form will be sent to them by Dominion Command. A copy of the information pages of their passport will be required. Applications for medical insurance will be provided to each command pilgrim on the tour and will be processed centrally through Dominion Command to the insurance provider. If an individual is of the opinion they have equivalent insurance to that offered by our insurance provider, they will be required to sign a waiver to that effect.\

### **Cancellation of Command Representative**

In the event that the primary command representative elects to cancel their participation in the pilgrimage prior to departure, the respective Provincial Command's backup candidate will be expected to attend. Confirmation as a

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replacement delegate will be contingent upon the ability to effect the required changes; one major determining factor will be flight availability, as simply changing the name on an airline ticket is not an option.

Provincial Commands are to be aware that they will be responsible **to reimburse** Dominion Command for all non-refundable expenses associated with the cancellation of a command representative. In addition to airfare, expenses could include accommodations and meals as these arrangements will have been confirmed and paid well in advance of the pilgrimage dates. The Provincial Command will then have the responsibility to decide whether to seek reimbursement for the expenses repaid to Dominion Command from the pilgrim who cancelled.

## **Paying Pilgrims**

Individuals interested in registering as paying (self-funded) pilgrims are encouraged to contact Dominion Command directly. Reservations for paying passengers will be on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to the receipt of passport documentation and the required medical insurance. Tour costs will be the responsibility of the individual(s) or sponsoring organization. The 2017 Pilgrimage cost \$5,200/person, based on double occupancy, which included all breakfasts and dinners; it did not include lunches, add-on airfare to the departure point (Toronto) or medical insurance. The finalized cost per person for 2019 will be established in the near future and will be posted on our website at [www.legion.ca](http://www.legion.ca). If you are aware of Legion members **or** other individuals who may be interested in participating in this pilgrimage as paying pilgrims, kindly refer them directly to the Secretary, Poppy & Remembrance Committee.

Should you have any questions or require any additional details, please do not hesitate to contact me.

In comradeship,



Danny Martin  
Secretary to the Poppy & Remembrance Committee

CC: Poppy & Remembrance Committee

Attachment (1)



