


Reno Reader

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**Celebrate 100 years
of the Poppy**


#POPPY100

The Royal Canadian Legion says they are looking forward to seeing Remembrance Day commemorations as well as the celebration of the poppy's centennial anniversary.

"The ceremonies that are going to be at various cenotaphs are going to be much bigger and much more pointed so that they can explain how the poppy started," Vancouver Poppy Fund administrator Jim Howard said on CBC's *On the Coast*.

He said the use of the poppy as a symbol of remembrance was started by a French woman named Anna Guérin in 1921, when she was inspired by John McCrae's poem, *In Flanders Fields*, to raise money for veterans and to remember those who had given their lives during the First World War.

"She had originally founded a charity to help the children of the people that were displaced or killed during the war," he said.

Approximately 20 million poppies will be distributed by legion branches throughout Canada this year, and all donations will go directly to support veterans and their families.

"The money is used for assisting the veterans themselves who have fallen through the cracks with Veterans Affairs Canada," Howard said.

For the 100th anniversary, Howard says the legion has come out with a special pin that can be purchased at its branches across the province.

Source: www.cbc.ca/news/canada/

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Reno Multiple 4-H Club is collecting food for the **local food bank** during the month of November. Drop off your donations at the Consul Co-op.

Consul Curling Club is planning to run an **Open Square Draw League** on Thursday evenings, beginning on December 2. To register a team please call Doreen at 306-299-5712 by November 30. Fees are Adults –\$90, students in league – \$45.

chinook library - consul branch

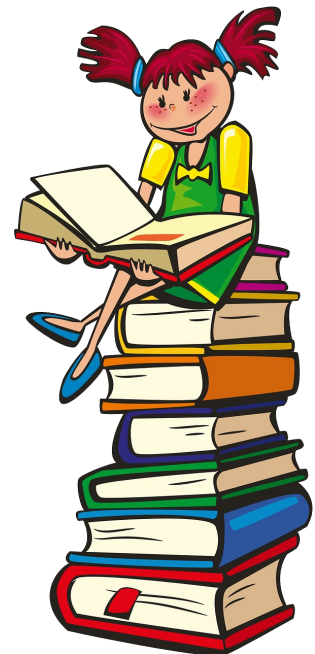
Winners of the Summer Reading Club Program are as follows:

- ◇ Kade Wenaas
- ◇ Hadley Dahl
- ◇ Brooklyn Newman
- ◇ Elijah Manley
- ◇ Rylan Wenaas

Please come to the library to pick up your prize. Thanks to all the parents and students for supporting our library and reading during the summer. It is much appreciated.

Library hours are:

Monday & Wednesday
from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.,
Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
until December 2,
then changes to
9 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Linda Brown
Branch Librarian

Doug Steele Saskatchewan Party MLA for Cypress Hills

The summer in the Cypress Hills Constituency has been busy meeting and working with constituents from across the area on a wide range of issues and topics.

The drought situation has been one area that my work continues.

In July David Marit, Minister of Agriculture and Minister Responsible for Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation, and I took part in a stakeholder meeting regarding the Miry Creek Irrigation Project. We discussed their concerns around the sustainability of the project with low water level years and allowing producers to have irrigated hay for harvest.

The concerns raised about the drought resulted in the expansion of the AgriRecovery program, announced at the Ranch of Eldon Jamieson. The program, now referred to as the 2021 Canada-Saskatchewan Drought Response Initiative, will consist of two payments totaling up to \$200/head for cattle, with adjustments based on animal unit equivalents for other livestock. The initial payment will provide producers with \$100 per breeding female equivalent in inventory as of August 1, 2021. Secondary payments will be up to \$100 per breeding female equivalent in inventory as of December 31, 2021.

On the bright side, the summer heat proved to be a big draw for campers and outdoor enthusiasts. A record number of people explored our provincial parks, including Cypress Hills. The excitement helped to break two provincial park records this year with more than one million park visits, surpassing the previous record from 2020 and more than 400,000 camping nights booked, surpassing the previous record from 2016.

An interesting investment in our constituency has been the helium sector. Saskatchewan is becoming a major supplier of helium which is a key resource to a number of industries such as medical research, space exploration and even fibre optics. I spent time this summer exploring parts of southern Saskatchewan to get a better idea of the potential for the industry.

I was very interested to explore the new North American Helium purification plant south of the Village of Consul. This is a great community for this investment which will bring increased traffic through the region.



Royal Helium also invited me for a tour of their operation near the community of Climax and I was able to meet with investors from across the country who are eagerly looking for projects like this to invest in. Based on these meetings, I would expect to see even more exploration and development in the helium industry within the province and the constituency.

The largest solar power project in Saskatchewan is now online and located right here in southwest Saskatchewan. Saturn Power constructed and will operate what is the first of many new solar farms for the province that can generate enough electricity for about 2,500 homes. This is part of a long-term SaskPower goal of achieving net-zero emissions from power production by 2050.

The Cypress Hills Constituency hosted the Saskatchewan Government Caucus annual retreat and meetings in the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park. This was welcomed by business owners and residents of the constituency as we were able to showcase Southwest Saskatchewan to the members of the caucus while holding their meetings. Thank you to the local offices who met with us to discuss the important issues of the area.

It was great to have Premier Scott Moe and Minister of Government Relations, Don McMorris, join us for the grand opening of the new Maple Creek Community Fire Hall this summer. Our government was very pleased to provide \$300,000 towards the project through the Municipal Economic Enhancement Program. The new hall official opened its doors last December after years of work, planning, fundraising and construction.

A sombre yet powerful event saw the community come together in September for the first-ever Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Community members joined across the country to pay tribute and I was pleased to take part in the ceremonies held in Maple Creek alongside the Nekaneet First Nation.

Finally, I just want to thank all of the residents who have received their COVID-19 vaccination and a heartfelt thank you to the health care professionals. With 70-80 percent of recent hospitalizations being unvaccinated, getting the shot is the easiest way to help our vulnerable neighbours and to ease the pressure on health care facilities and professionals.



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NEXT ISSUE: NOVEMBER 25th
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Monday, November 22nd at noon



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For over 50 years, The Royal Canadian Legion has sponsored annual Poster and Literary Contests that are open to all students in the Canadian school system. The youths who participate in these contests assist the Legion in one of our primary goals—fostering the tradition of Remembrance amongst Canadians.

First Place **Junior**
Première Place **Junior**

**NL War Dog
Gander**

It's true, dogs were in the war and helped save the lives of many. Now let me tell you about this amazing war dog named Gander.

Pal was a pet to the Hayden family in Gander, Newfoundland. He was used as a sled dog most of the time and he loved to play with the neighborhood kids.

Pal was playing with the kids one day and accidentally scratched a six-year old. They brought her to the doctor and the family was ordered to put Pal down or give him to a new family. The family decided to give him to the soldiers stationed at the air base, RCAF station in Gander. They renamed him Gander.

They made Gander the regimental mascot for the 1st Battalion of the Royal Rifles of Canada.

In 1941 the 1st Battalion was sent to Hong Kong to fight off the invading Japanese. But, they didn't want to leave Gander behind so he was promoted to Sergeant and Gander joined the soldiers on their mission.

Rifleman Fred Kelly was in charge of taking care of Gander. Gander helped in the battle of Hong Kong. He ran at any Japanese soldiers who thought they could sneak by but he caught them and started to bite at their heels. Mostly all the battles were at night which made the black dog hard to see, and they called him the "Black Beast" which made them think their enemies were training wild animals for warfare.

On the 19th of December, Gander was fighting off the Japanese as he always did when he noticed something thrown near a group of his soldiers. It was a live grenade. He ran over and grabbed it in his mouth and rushed away from the men. The grenade, unfortunately, exploded in Gander's mouth killing him but saving the lives of seven soldiers.

Gander was awarded the Victoria cross for animals 60 years after his death. Well done Gander. Thank you for your service.

Chelsea Thompson Botwood, NL · Memorial Academy · #5 Botwood Br.
Essay · Composition

Editor's Note: This is just one example of an award-winning submission to the Legion Contest for 2021. See more at https://Infcanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/200809_Winners_2021.pdf



Lest We Forget

REMEMBRANCE DAY
NOVEMBER 11, 2021

*Remembering those who
have given so much for our
freedom.*

Doug Steele, MLA
Cypress Hills
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