

THE RENOVATED BUILDING WILL INCLUDE

A new professionally-designed kitchen with high-efficiency appliances;

New wheelchair-accessible washrooms on three floors;

A newly renovated basement;

An elevator serving the basement, plus first and second floors;

A counselling room on the second floor;

An extension of the second floor to provide a Meeting-Room overlooking Cape Blomidon.

These renovated spaces will be served by new infrastructure:

Reinforced structural beams to strengthen the two floors;

A new 400-amp control panel and re-wiring;

An external fire escape for the upper Meeting-Room;

3-phase electrical service for kitchen and elevator;

Re-routed entry for water supply, and new drains;

New furniture for all spaces;

Replacement of roof



75TH ANNIVERSARY

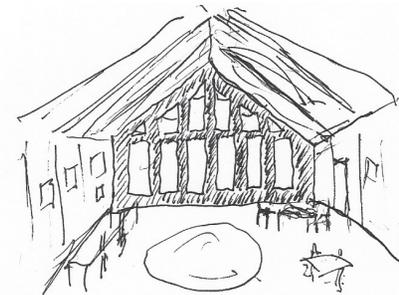
RENOVATION

FUND

CAMPAIGN

TARGET: \$150,000

Re-fitting the 1912 Legion building at 310 Main Street, Wolfville, to serve our veterans and community better for the times ahead



“designed to make our Legion attractive, accessible and caring”



A NEW BEGINNING

Like many Legions across Canada, the Wolfville Legion, Branch 74, began losing its way in the early 2000s. By the summer of 2017 it was in serious disarray. Funds were running out. Membership had dwindled to just over 60. The building had deteriorated.

At that point a small group offered to form a committee to survey the whole state of affairs. When their report was presented to a General Meeting, they had a sad story to tell, and they asked the meeting for a show of hands as to whether the Legion should continue or fold. The desire to continue was unanimous.

So began a flurry of new activity. The Legion had owned some land up on the Ridge for many years, where they had once thought of re-locating. It was voted to sell the land, and a buyer was found. With access to new funds it was decided that to attract new members the front exterior of the Legion building must first be repaired and re-decorated, with a new sign, a new flagstaff (donated), and (with the help of the Province) a wheelchair-accessible front door. The main hall was also re-decorated and re-furnished. The facelift was completed for Remembrance Day 2018.

THE ROAD FORWARD

While the building was being refurbished, a new policy was instituted in the Branch, whereby anyone who ventured inside was made to feel welcome. Coffee mornings were started and opened up not just to Legion members but to the community in general. Card nights, dances and concerts were brought back. And in a major decision, it was voted to remove our three Video Lottery Terminals and sell them back to the Atlantic Lottery Corporation.

The new approach paid off dramatically. Membership doubled in one year, registering the biggest increase in the Legion nationwide. Community members became regulars: the Legion found itself beginning to serve as a community centre for a town that had no facility of this kind. The new members also included many recent veterans from the armed forces, who found themselves able to re-integrate with the community.

What soon became clear is that if the Wolfville Legion was to ensure a prosperous future for its activities, and make a real contribution to the community, a major renovation was going to be necessary.

It was at this point that Mike and Therese Harvey of Harvey Architecture, Halifax, became involved, generating a complete set of plans for the building's renovation. They also approached structural, electrical and mechanical engineers to join them in assessing the building's needs. All these firms contributed their work *pro bono*, with an estimated value of over \$60,000. Others from the building community have donated materials. With warm support from the Town, grants have been applied for, and we are now instituting our Renovation Fundraising Campaign to assist with costs.

Our Legion's mission remains as it has always been: to remember the fallen, and to assist surviving veterans and their families. But we see one way of doing this is by making our Legion a place where the community as a whole can meet and find a home. This is the end goal for our Renovation Campaign.