



2013 Energy Grant for Eligible Veterans

The Royal Canadian Legion Br. 197 Acton is offering eligible Veterans and their dependents a onetime energy grant to help offset the cost of home heating for 2013. To be eligible you must be a Veteran or a dependent of a Veteran and either a member of Br. 197 or a citizen of Acton On.

To apply for your energy grant please provide Br. 197 Acton with the following information;

- Veteran Service Number
- Proof of Residence
- Copy of existing Energy Charge
- Copy of GIS Entitlement or other Government Assistance
- Married or Single (If married, two GIS forms must be presented)

Please enclose all information in an envelope and mail to or drop off at and addressed to;

Service Officer Wayne Young
Royal Canadian Legion Br. 197 Acton
15 Wright Ave
Acton On
L7J 2T1

All enquiries are held in the strictest of confidence

Deadline for Energy Grant 2013 applications
March 30 2013

The Legend of St. Valentine



The history of Valentine's Day – and the story of its patron saint – is shrouded in mystery. We do know that February has long been celebrated as a month of romance, and that St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. But who was Saint Valentine, and how did he become associated with this ancient rite?

The Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom were martyred. One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and

families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

Other stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons, where they were often beaten and tortured. According to one legend, an imprisoned Valentine actually sent the first "valentine" greeting himself after he fell in love with a young girl – possibly his jailor's daughter – who visited him during his confinement. Before his death,

it is alleged that he wrote her a letter signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today. Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories all emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic and – most importantly – romantic figure. By the Middle Ages, perhaps thanks to this reputation, Valentine would become one of the most popular saints in England and France.

Valentine greetings were popular as far back as the Middle Ages, though written Valentine's didn't begin to appear until after 1400. The oldest known valentine still in existence today was a poem written in 1415 by Charles, Duke of Orleans, to his wife while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London following his capture at the Battle of Agincourt.

LEGION NEWS

BRANCH No. 197 By Sharon Graham P.R.O.

Comrades,

The Branch offers condolences to Peggy and Bob Harris in the loss of their nephew, Christopher.

Happy Valentine's Day. This is a special day for your loved one and or good friend so enjoy.

Last Friday we sure got our share of snow. It snowed the whole day and we ended up with about 20-centimetres. It was nice to see especially for the kids and their toboggans. It was all you could do to keep up either shovelling or using your snow blower to clear the snow. Even on Saturday some were still shovel-

ling their way out. I sure hope that this is the end of the snow. We do need it for this coming Sunday for our annual family fun day. The kids really have a good time either out on the ice skating or playing games. It is always a good day filled with fun for all.

Remember that the family fun day will start at 1 and go to 3 p.m. We hope to see you all there.

The Legion will be open on Sunday from 12 to 6 p.m.

This coming Saturday is our ladies appreciation dinner. Following the dinner is a dance with the Par 3 show band. This starts at 9 p.m., and everyone is welcome. The dance will be in the main hall.

Ladies Auxiliary Notes

Ladies Appreciation Night for the LA Members is Saturday, February 16. Cocktails will be served

6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m., cooked and served by the Branch members and executive. Since Thursday's meeting was cancelled due to bad weather, there will be a short mini-meeting to pass a couple of motions, so please ensure you are there no later than 6:45 p.m., this will only take a few minutes but it needs to be taken care of.

At 9 p.m., Par 3 will entertain everyone and this is when your spouse or significant other can come and join you. To the members of Branch 197 you are more than welcome to come out and dance the night away. Please also remember the Hockey Heritage Banquet that your Auxiliary is cooking and serving for. We need every able member to come out and help with this function – it is one of the biggest banquets that we have. Since everyone has had a little rest this past few months I am sure you are eager to come out and help your Auxiliary.

To those members who will not be able to make it to the Appreciation Dinner we will be thinking of you and to the shut-ins are thoughts are with you as well.

Please volunteer to help on Monday, March 4.

Next General Meeting is Thursday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m.

Yours in Comradeship
 Peggy Harris
 President to Branch 197
 Ladies Auxiliary

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