

Article II MEMBERSHIP

THE GENERAL BY-LAWS AS AMENDED TO DECEMBER 2018

GENERAL

201.

a. Except as hereinafter otherwise provided, to become a member of the Legion one must become a member of a branch.

b. The approved categories of membership are: Life, Ordinary, Associate, Affiliate Voting and Affiliate Non-Voting.

c. Members of the Canadian Forces may be accepted as military members at large in the Dominion Command special branch.

d. Subject to the provisions respecting Tuberculous Veterans' Section, no person may be a member of more than one branch of the Legion at the same time (see Sections 224-226).

202. No person who advocates the destruction by force of the duly constituted government of the country where the branch may be, or any person proven to advocate, encourage or participate in subversive action or subversive propaganda or who has previously been expelled from the Legion shall be permitted to become a member.

203. Any member convicted in Canada of theft, fraud or misappropriation of Poppy funds, Legion funds or Legion property, shall be summarily expelled from the Legion.

204. Any member leaving, suspended or expelled from membership in the Legion, shall have no claim upon the Legion or against any of its officers or officials.

205. No member of the Legion may sign in or bring in to any Legion premises any person who was expelled from the Legion or who has had their membership revoked by the Dominion President. Further, no member of the public who has been expelled from the Legion or had their membership revoked by the Dominion President may enter any Legion premises.

CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

ORDINARY MEMBERS

206. Ordinary membership is open to any Canadian citizen or Commonwealth subject who is of federal voting age and whose service was terminated under conditions other than dishonourable

or for reasons of misconduct and who served or is serving in:

- a. the Canadian Forces or Her Majesty's Forces, including Regular or Reserve Forces under class "C" service; or
- b. the Forces or Underground Forces of any of Her Majesty's allies in any war, conflict or police action in which Canada was involved (Provincial and Dominion Command approval is required for underground service); or
- c. an actual theatre of war in any of the non-military services, during any war in which Canada was involved (i.e. Merchant Navy); or
- d. Her Majesty's Reserve Forces including Cadet Instructors on the Cadet Cadre, for not less than one year; or
- e. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police or The Royal Newfoundland Constabulary, for not less than one year; or
- f. the Forces of a country while that country was a member of NATO or NORAD in alliance with Canada; or
- g. the Forces of the United States; or
- h. the Vietnam War in the Forces of the United States, Australia, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea or South Vietnam and who was a Canadian citizen or Commonwealth subject at time of service; or
- i. the Canadian Coast Guard as an officer or crew member, and who has two or more years of active service on the high seas or inland waterways; or
- j. a city, municipal or provincial police force, as a police officer, for not less than one year.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

207. Associate membership is open to any Canadian citizen or Commonwealth subject, who is of federal voting age and who is not eligible for ordinary membership, and who:

- a. is the child, adopted child, stepchild, grandchild, sibling, niece, nephew, widow/er, parent, or spouse (as defined in these by-laws), of a person who is or was eligible to be an ordinary member; or
- b. is the spouse, parent or sibling of an associate who qualified under Subsection 207.a. or Subsection 207.c. to h. In the case

of divorce or legal (documented) separation, a spouse who is an associate member through marriage to an associate member, retains the right to membership unless such membership lapses; or

c. is the child of an associate member; or

d. served as a Cadet civilian instructor for not less than 3 years; or

e. served in The Royal Canadian Sea, Army or Air Cadets, for not less than 3 years; or

f. served as an officer in the Navy League of Canada, for not less than 2 years; or

g. served below the rank of officer, in the Polish Forces after WWII, and whose services were terminated under conditions other than dishonourable or for reasons of misconduct; or

h. served in a city, municipal, volunteer, unorganized territories, provincial or federal Emergency Response Service for not less than one year.

AFFILIATE VOTING MEMBERS

208. Affiliate voting membership is open to any Canadian citizen or Commonwealth subject who is of federal voting age and who is not eligible for ordinary or associate membership.

AFFILIATE NON-VOTING MEMBERS

209.

a. Affiliate non-voting membership is open to any citizen from an Allied country, excluding Canada and the Commonwealth, who is of federal voting age and who is not eligible for ordinary, associate or affiliate voting membership and who supports the purposes and objects of The Royal Canadian Legion. Affiliate non-voting members shall have the same rights as all other members except the rights to vote and hold office.

b. A member admitted under Subsection (a) is not permitted to apply for voting status, unless otherwise qualified.

Note: Affiliate Non-voting members are allowed to attend branch meetings and participate in debates but cannot enter into the voting process, including motions.