

**"70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice"**

**Legacy of Korean War Veterans**

**& Reception**



**July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 3:30 P.M.**

**Royal Canadian Legion Branch 26**

**92 Banff Avenue, Banff, Alberta**

**Organized by**

**Korean War Veterans Advocates of Canada  
The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 26**

**Funded by**

**Veterans Affairs Canada and Korean War Veterans Advocates of Canada**

**Dear Korean War Veterans and family's members, Friends,**



**On July 9th, as a co-event chairs of the Korean War Veterans Advocates of Canada (KWVA), it was our honour to organize the "70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice - Legacy of the Korean War Veterans" at the one of the most beautiful Legions in Canada, The Royal Canadian Legion Br. 26 Col. Moore in Banff, Alberta Canada. Over 100 guests attend our event and His Excellency Ambassador Woong Soon Lim and Col. Dong Won Lee, Defence Attaché presented 3 Ambassador for Peace Medals**

**to Korean War Veteran. James Albert Santa Lucia served with Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry, 2nd Battalion and he is a past president RCL Br.26 Col. Moore in Banff (3 terms president and a life member). David Marsh served with Royal Canadian Navy on HMCS Sioux. William Ezra Waddell served with 3 Filed Ambulance. (Since he has passed, his daughter June Greig received the medal, she is a Vice President of the Royal Canadian Naval Veterans Association.**

**To date, we helped to present over 230 Ambassadors for Peace Medals in Canada and U.S. (mainly in Florida). If you are Korean War Veterans and did not receive the "Ambassador for Peace Medal" from the Korean government, please contact the Korean Embassy. Family members of the deceased Korean War Veterans are also eligible to receive the "Ambassador for Peace Medal" (one medal per a deceased Korean War Veteran). While we were playing the 3 Videos (Canadians our Heroes, Thank you Korean War Veterans, Last Ship in the Hobour) at the ceremony, 2 gentlemen wearing cowboy hats (one with US flag on it) just walked into the Legion. Both of them were delightfully surprised by our Korean War Veterans event and particularly for the older gentleman. Mr. Robert L. Warren told us that he served with US Air force in 1952 to 1956 at Kimpo Airbase during the Korean War and the UN Peace Keeping. His son-in law Bruce Johnson served with the US Marine Corps during the Afghanistan War as well. We will start to process Mr. Warren's "Ambassador for Peace Medal". What a serendipity and he said that the "Good lord sent me here".**

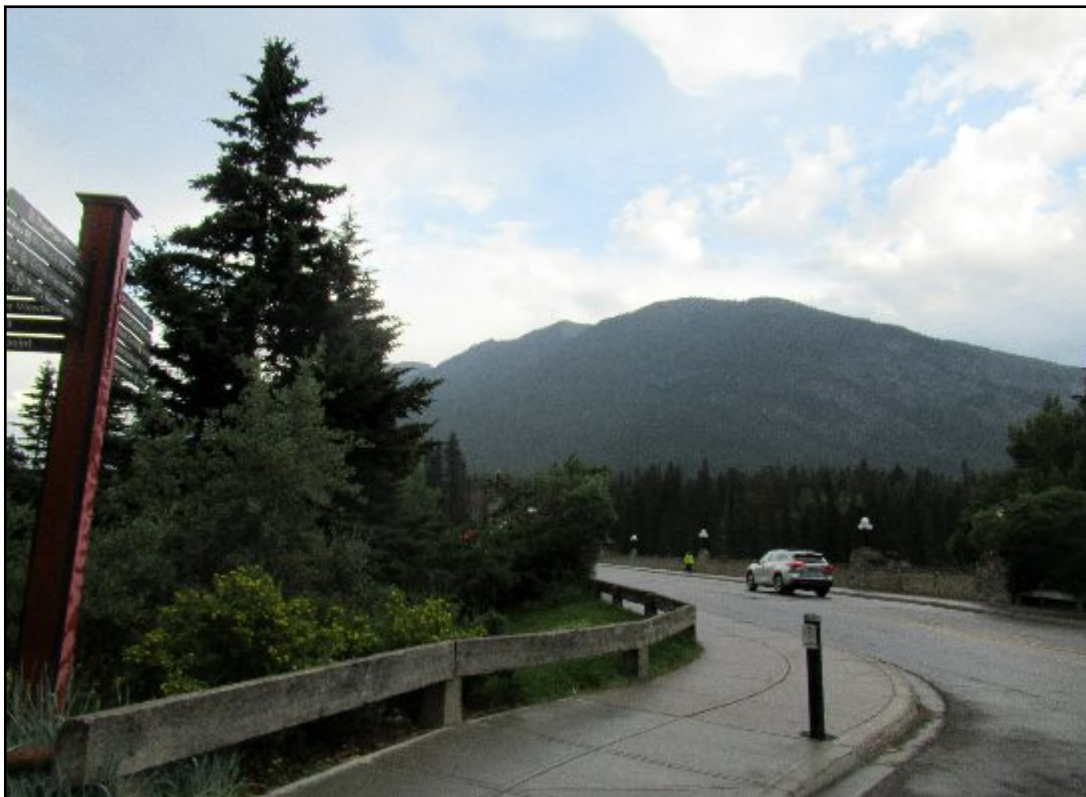
**This year, we also celebrate the "60th Anniversary of the Canada-Korea Diplomatic Relations" The Korean War Veterans Advocates of Canada's new website [www.koreanwarveteransadvocates.com](http://www.koreanwarveteransadvocates.com) has been develop to carry the torch of our KVA (Korea Veterans Association of Canada). We Will Remember 516 fallen Canadians and all Korean War Veterans who helped to secure Peace and Freedom of the Republic of Korea and helped to save many innocent lives including my parents during the Korean War. We salute to our heroes.**

**We send our special thanks to our guests including Korean War Veterans and their family members, Hon. Yonah Martin Senator, Hon. Karen Sorrento Senator, His Excellency Ambassador Woong Soon Lim, Col. Blake Richards, MP (Banff and Airdrie), Shadow Minister of Veterans Affairs Canada, Sarah Emeligi, MLA, Corrie DiManno, Banff Mayor, Col. Dong Won Lee, Defence Attaché, So Sun Suh, Defence Attaché Aide, Bryan Gerrie, President of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 26 Col. Moore, Hugh Pettigrew, Past President of RCL Br. 26 and Banff City Councillor, Vic Anderson, Sgt. At Arms, RCL Br. 26 volunteers, Dann Oliver, Post Commander of the The Royal Canadian Legion Post 144 Pinellas County and his wife Mary Oliver, Pastor Sung un Choi, Banff Korean Church members, Jessica Lee Reporter, Jung Min Ham Photographer of the Rocky Mountain Outlook RMO Today, Tommy (Minsik) Kim, reporter and publisher of the CN Dream (#1 Korean Newspaper in Calgary), Jeong Sooncheon, Commissioner Kukkiwon and 8<sup>th</sup> degree Black belt Grand Master of Taekwondo, Make Weaver, Bag Piper, Anthony Finnigan, Trumpeter, Rebecca Jeon, Public Affair Director of KWVA, Jung Ho Jang and Wongkyoung Jang (Grade 10), Youth Project Coordinator of KWVA.**

**Thank you very much for all your support to honour and remember Korean War Veterans.**



**The Beautiful Rocky Mountain in Banff, Alberta Canada**



**Over 5 millions tourist in the world visit Banff annually.**





**Banff Avenue is the heart of Banff downtown surrounded by beautiful Rocky Mountain.**



**The Royal Canadian Legion Br.26 Col. Moore is located at the heart of Banff downtown.**



**The Canadian War Memorial at the The Royal Canadian Legion Br.26 Col. Moore.**





**The outside patio at the Royal Canadian Legion Br. 26 Col. Moore in the heart of Banff downtown.**



**Mary Oliver and HooJung Jones Kennedy are snowbirds and members of Royal Canadian Legion Post 144 Pinellas County, Florida and HooJung organized many “Ambassador for Peace Medal” presentation ceremonies in Canada and US.**





**The Bow Valley Trail begins at the side of The RCL Br. 26 Co. Moore.**



**Dann Oliver, Commander of the RCL Post 144 Pinellas County drove 4 days from Ontario to help set up our Korean War Photo Exhibition.**





**The tree garden beside of the RCL. Br, 26 Col. Moore**



**RCL. Br, 26 Col. Moore is surround by the beautiful Rocky Mountains.**





Korean War Photo Exhibition Korean War Photo banners



**KVA Korean War Photo Banners designed by HooJung Jones Kennedy.**







**Volunteers setting up the tables for over 100 guests at the RCL Br. 26 Col. Moore Legion. They have another hall that able to host 120 additional guests in the basement.**



**Korean War Arts Display, these wonderful arts were painted by Capt. Michael Mcglahson.**





**Wonkyong Jang (Grade 10) is a Youth Coordinator of the Korean War Veterans Advocates of Canada (KWVA) painted 8 Korean War Posters and made them into the “Thank you card” for Korean War Veterans. The hand-written message in the card stated that “Korean War Veterans, Thank you for giving us the future!”**



**The 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event took place at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO**



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**HooJung Jones Kennedy, President of the Korean War Veterans Advocates of Canada, the event co-chair of the “70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice - Legacy of the Korean War Veterans” welcomes Korean War Veterans, family members, dignitaries and Legion members and guests. The Korean War Veterans Advocates of Canada’s mission to carry the torch of the Korean War Veterans and KVA (Korea Veterans Association of Canada) to preserve their legacy for the future generations. [www.koreanwarveteransadvocates.com](http://www.koreanwarveteransadvocates.com)**





**Bryan Gerrie, President of Royal Canadian Legion Br. 26 Col. Moore explaining the history of legion. 100 years old of tradition to honour and remember Veterans.**





**Senator Yonah Martin speaks during the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO**



**Senator Karen Sorensen speaks during the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO**



**Lim Woongsoon, ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Canada, speaks during the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO**





**Banff-Airdrie MP Blake Richards speaks during the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO**



**Banff-Kananaskis MLA Sarah Elmeligi speaks during the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO**



**Banff Mayor Corrie DiManno speaks during the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO**



**Lim Woongsoon, ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Canada, left, and Korean War veteran James Santa Lucia pose during the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO**





**Lim Woongsoon, ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Canada, left, and Korean War veteran James Santa Lucia pose during the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM**



**Korean War veteran James Santa Lucia, who was awarded the Ambassador for Peace medal, poses during the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO**



**Lim Woongsoon, ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Canada, presents Royal Canadian Navy veteran David Marsh with Ambassador for Peace Medal during the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO**



**Roha Shin gives a bouquet to Korean War veteran James Santa Lucia during the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO**





**Daniel Choi gives a bouquet to David Marsh, Royal Canadian Navy, during the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO**



**Banff Korean Church members sing Arirang, a traditional Korean song, during the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO**



**Andy Barber, Korean War Veteran served on HMCS Haida during the UN Peace Keeping Mission. He is also past president of HMCS Haida and Secretary of the Korea Veterans Association of Canada Unit 26, Hamilton, Ontario.**

**Recently, he received the stunning HMCS Haida “Thank you Card” that hand painted by a Korean artist. HMCS Haida served during Korean War and the UN Peace Keeping Mission.**





**HMCS Haida is a Canada's flagship located at the harbour in Hamilton, Ontario.**



**Wonkyong Jang, Andy Barber, Korean War Veteran, Rebecca Jeon**





**Hon. Senator Yonah Martin, Rebecca Jeon, Andy Barber, His Excellency Lim Woong Soon, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea (South Korea), Vic Anderson, Wonkyoung Jang, HooJung Jones Kennedy.**





**His Excellency Lim Woong Soon, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea sending his heart-felt thanks to Korean War Veterans as Canada and Korea celebrate 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the diplomatic relation.**





**HooJung Jones Kennedy, Robert L. Warren, Korean War Veteran served with the US Air force in 1952 -1956 in Korea, he just walked into the legion as a tourist, Hon. Senator Yonah Martin.**



**Robert L. Warren, Korean War Veteran, Col. Dong Wong Lee, Defence Attaché**





**Ambassador Lim Woong Soon, Robert Warren, Korean War Veteran, his son in law, Bruce N. Johnson from USA.**



**Vic Anderson, Robert L. Warren, Korean War Veteran**



**HooJung Jones Kennedy, Robert L. Warren, Korean War Veteran**



# Banff veteran awarded peace medal on 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice

“There is no political agenda in this event. We just have the shared memories about the Korean War and a strong sense of solidarity based on mutual affinity.”

—Jessica Lee, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter Jul 13, 2023 11:15 AM



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**Lim Woongsoon, ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Canada, left, presents Korean War veteran James Santa Lucia with Ambassador for Peace Medal during the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice – Legacy of the Korean War Veterans event at the Royal Canadian Legion No. 26 Col. Moore branch in Banff on Sunday (July 9). JUNGMIN HAM RMO PHOTO**

**BANFF –** James Santa Lucia still wonders what became of a young boy he met overseas while enlisted in the Korean War.

On the 70th anniversary of the Korean War armistice, the 92-year-old veteran and Banff resident, who served from 1950-52 as a paratrooper with the 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry (2PPCLI), was awarded the Ambassador for Peace medal for his part protecting the Republic of Korea (South Korea) from its North Korea invaders.

"I'm honoured to be here," said Santa Lucia at a ceremony at the Banff Legion Sunday (July 9). "I'm glad for what I did or accomplished or didn't accomplish in Korea. I'm thankful the country's gotten back on its feet and is doing good things."

A Banff resident of over 60 years, Santa Lucia was one of three veterans to receive the medal – a commemorative token of appreciation from the Korean government to service men and women who served in what was the third deadliest conflict in Canada's military history.

The 2PPCLI embarked for Korea in November 1950 with the understanding they would be conducting occupational duties after a successful United Nations Command campaign in the Battle of Inchon, which would later lead to the recapture of the South Korean capital of Seoul.

En route, the Chinese Army intervened in the fighting, and the 2PPCLI, unprepared for all-out warfare, quickly joined the 27th British Commonwealth Infantry Brigade on the front lines.

In April 1951, with the country and its allies still holding the line against North Korea, Santa Lucia's battalion held back heavy enemy offensives in the Battle of Kapyong, where 10 Canadian soldiers were killed and 23 were wounded in battle.

The 10 fallen soldiers at Kapyong were among 516 Canadians who died in service during the Korean War. More than 26,000 Canadians served on land, at sea and in the air.

Over three years of brutal fighting ended with the signing of an armistice on July 27, 1953. This year marks the 70th anniversary of the armistice.

Santa Lucia and veteran David Marsh, who served in the war under the Royal Canadian Navy, were recognized for their service with peace medals presented by Lim Woongsoon, the Republic of Korea's ambassador to Canada.

Santa Lucia's daughter, Catrina, said her father – like many veterans – doesn't talk much about his time served. When he does, it's to speak fondly of his fellow soldiers.

"He speaks very highly of them as a group," she said. "There's a lot of respect and pride for one another."

"We were very proud and I think my dad was very proud to receive this distinction." Honoured with the peace medal posthumously was William Ezra Robert Waddell, who served in the Korean War with the Canadian Armed Forces medical unit 3 Field Ambulance.



Woongsoon said the medal “embodies the deep gratitude of all Koreans, something that cannot be shared even with a lifetime of kind words.”

“There is no political agenda in this event,” he said at the ceremony. “We just have the shared memories about the Korean War and a strong sense of solidarity based on mutual affinity.”

Earlier this year Canada and the Republic of Korea also celebrated 60 years of diplomatic relations, an alliance reinforced on the battlefield during the Korean War.

“We must take stock of what we have achieved in over the last 60 years in preparation for another 60 years and beyond,” said Woongsoon. “It is our shared memories and a strong sense of solidarity that will guide us for years to come.”

Banff-Airdrie MP Blake Richards, who was recently appointed as shadow minister for veterans’ affairs, said it’s important to honour the brave men and women who served not just on anniversaries and Remembrance Day, but every day.

“The men and women who serve and served this country in uniform are true heroes. They’re true heroes,” he said. “Every opportunity we get to recognize their service, to recognize the sacrifice of, in this case, 516 Canadians who laid down their lives to ensure that South Korea can be a free and prosperous and democratic country ... we’ve got to take every opportunity we can to recognize those heroes.”

The Local Journalism Initiative is funded by the Government of Canada.

The position covers Îyârhe(Stoney) Nakoda First Nation and Kananaskis Country.

