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May 19, 2020

Comrades,

A message from the Provincial Property Committee Chairman, at the request of our Provincial President.

It has been over 2 months since the Premier declared a State of Emergency in Ontario. We have been adjusting to daily updates by medical authorities and reassurances that people still need to be vigilant in stopping the spread of COVID-19. Although certain phases are being introduced in various provinces across this county, Ontario has extended all emergency orders, including limits on social gatherings until May 29, 2020. We must make certain the health and wellbeing of our members, Staff and anyone else with whom we may do business take precedence.

Your Provincial Property Committee appreciates the hardships that some branches are dealing with wondering how they will survive with little to no revenue stream. The Property Committee has looked at Branches turning to Developers for potential projects and has the following comments.

### **PROJECTS/DEVELOPERS**

The doors to our Branches have been shut by the Provincial Government for a reason. Repairs and renovations to branches should be considered with caution as we need to be concerned with the possible branches' financial strains upon reopening, restocking as well as the possible need for hand sanitizer, distancing stations/plexi-glass, masks and other items to ensure the health of Legion members, volunteers and employees.

The Provincial Property Committee is also seeing branches speaking with developers during this pandemic. Some Developers are suggesting to Legion Branches that they apply to CMHC for seed funding. This is a loan for up to \$200,000.00 to assist with predevelopment soft costs, such as Professional fees, Management plan, Preliminary design of the project, Project drawings and specifications. The list has 23 Eligible Activities that could be approved.

Any activity prior to the approval of the Seed Funding will not be eligible as it must be items that have not been started.

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**If the project does not reach completion, the applicant is responsible for repayment, in this case the Branch and it is mandatory for repayment in full.**

Therefore the Provincial Property Committee **will not approve any Seed Funding applications.** It is the developer that should be applying for this, if required. All other requirements listed in the Legion Officer's Manual with respect to property and borrowing remain in place.

Yours in Comradeship

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sharon McKeown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sharon McKeown  
Past Provincial President  
Provincial Property Committee Chairman