



*Memorial Gardens*



## **90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

### **Qualicum Beach Legion Branch 76**

As Branch 76 reaches this very important Anniversary, it is time to reflect, on the impact that the Branch has had on the Community through these many years. From the beginning, in 1929, when a small group of WW 1 Veterans met and applied for the Charter to form Branch 76 the Branch has been a strong supporter of many organizations and events within District 69.

It was not until 1973 that the Branch was able to purchase the property on Veterans Way and through the years there have been many changes to the building and grounds. To-day the property is a showcase for the Town. From 1990 the garden area has been the host for the Town's Canada Day activities. The Saturday morning Pancake Breakfasts held, in conjunction with the Farmers Market draws many visitors through the summer.

In 1996 when the Town opened the new Civic Center the Branch and the Town agreed that the Remembrance Day Ceremony should be held there. Now each November 11 the Legion is proud to host this very important event.

Through the dedication of many volunteers throughout the years the Legion has been able to support many students from KSS with two Bursaries being presented annually to deserving students. The 893 Beaufort Squadron Air Cadets, an organization very close to the hearts of the Legion members have benefited from annual donations.

In 1990 when the Eagle Park Long-term Care facility opened its doors the Legion was there to furnish one of the rooms dedicated to Veterans. Just as recently as the June general meeting the Branch donated the funds to buy new equipment for one of the rooms.

The Branch has supported many other groups; the local Fire Departments, Ambulance, Soccer and Baseball teams to name a few. Throughout all of this, the Branch's main Purpose and Objective still remains to support our local Veterans and their families. With the support of the residents of Qualicum Beach during the annual Poppy Campaign we continue to carry out this very important duty.

On October 2<sup>nd</sup> The Branch will take to time to celebrate and reflect on the many changes that have occurred over these many years. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Walter Sweet and Life Member Wilma Stevens have brought the Branch history up to-date by producing a book to record the last ten years, 2006 to 2016. This book continues to record significant happenings though out the years and continues the tradition set by two previous publications. Copies of the latest book will be available for members to pick up at the Branch.