To The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Council Members, Staff and Community Members All;

I come before you today as the humble representative of The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 281 Beaver Valley to offer an update on the development of 229 Bruce Street South.

As some of you may know this project has been in our minds for many years now and has taken considerable time and energy on both the Town and the Legion. Our existing Cenotaph the Jack Acres Memorial Park which was built in approximately 1975 with the co-operation of the town of Thornbury and the members of RCL Br 281 erected a monument and small park area to pay respect to the fallen. As the years have passed the population has grown in our small town and with our Remembrance Day Ceremony that we conduct on every November the 11th there is little room on the property, of which it turns out is not a real property at all! That park is simply the amalgamation of 3 road allowances and does not officially exist.

Now, after careful planning and execution we have a new location that will better suit the needs of our Town, Legion and Community. The design is simple and low impact, with Bruce Street accessibility we will now have a focal Memorial site for all to see. The footings have been poured, the property leveled and the cement walkways curing. With four new flag poles and soon all of the necessary greenery to be planted.

We the legion have accepted the responsibility of having our existing monument relocated with the assistance of Sanderson Monuments. Of which will take its place once the cement is cured.

On June 7th 2020 we the Legion will be hosting a Ceremony called a Drum Head Service, of which we pay homage to the days of old when Soldiers were without churches and quiet Armistices were called and a battlefield service was held by use of stacking the bandsman’s drums to make a podium for the residing Reverend. On this day we intend to hold our official rededication of the monument as by then the grass will be grown and the finishing touches completed. Along with many guests besides Legion members, Town Council, Staff and our Community All are welcome to attend.

I thank the Town and Council for their time and look forward to the future developments of our ever growing municipality.

Respectfully,

Shawn McKinlay
President Royal Canadian Legion Branch 281 Beaver Valley
District E Membership Chairman
Deputy Zone E 4 Commander
Zone E 4 Poppy Chairman