



Veterans' Association
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Prince Edward Island Division

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MINUTES – November 15, 2016

Call to Order

Mike O'Neil, the president, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and welcomed guest Ian Oland and new members Ed Gillis and Richard Thibault.

Adoption of Agenda

The president called for additions to or deletions from the agenda and none were received from the floor so the agenda was adopted as circulated.

Last Post

Attendees paid respect to the former members of the Force who died since our last meeting whose details were provided to the membership in advance of the meeting.

Attendance

The following members were in attendance: Ron Allen, Ian Beer, Ruby Burns, Wayne Carver, Walter Charlesworth, Gordon Coffin, Ken Cormier, Dave Corrigan, Frank Dolan, Fred Foster, Ed Gillis, Royce Greene, Fred Lynch, Ernie MacAulay, Richard MacAulay, Mike Murphy, Bob Nahrgang, Mike O'Neil, Phil Pitts, Randy Robar, Llew Robinson, Wayne Schleyer, Derek Smith, Peter Sorensen, Paul Stetson, Bryon Sutcliffe, Richard Thibault, and Jerry Wolfrey. Regrets were received from: Lee Barnes, Reg Campbell, Brad Chugg, Bill Dickie, Damien Dunsford, Scott Ferris, Ian Gemmell, Harold Hodgkin, Jack Jans, Don MacGregor, Lorne MacKinnon, Gary McLeod, Bob Moffatt, Al Roach, and Brian Weldon.

Birthdays October and November

- a. October: Jeannette Doucette, Gary McLeod, Kevin McNeil, Llew Robinson, and Bryon Sutcliffe.
- b. November: Wayne Carver, Evan Courtney, Harry Kennedy, Don MacGregor, and Wayne Schleyer.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The secretary moved, seconded by Randy Robar, that the minutes of the September 20, 2016 meeting be adopted as circulated. CARRIED

Financial Statements

The Treasurer noted that he had provided information on future financial planning at the September meeting and he invited the membership to provide their comments and

suggestions to him by e-mail. Peter Sorenson, the Association Treasurer, informed the meeting that the per capita assessment has been increased from \$32.00 to \$37.00 and that the assessment now covers both the insurance and audit costs. The PEI Division will send \$37.00 of each active member's dues to the Association and retain \$13.00 for Division needs. Peter also stated there are initiatives underway to enact bylaws to regulate and simplify the Association's financial activities. There are no plans to make substantive changes to the autonomy of divisions and divisions will continue to retain their assets and embark on their local initiatives. Peter noted that these activities are not centralized decisions but result from advice from eleven representatives from divisions across the country and that the Association now has its own chair at government discussions on benefits rather than reliance on the Royal Canadian Legion.

Correspondence

The secretary reported having forwarded the following non-routine correspondence to the membership:

- Schedule of two-day mental first aid courses at military bases forwarded on September 21 at the request of Sgt. Hendricken
- Poster on instructor courses for mental health first aid forwarded on September 21 at the request of Sgt. Hendricken
- Poster on East Coast Art Party sponsored by Military Family Resource Centre forwarded on September 22 at the request of Sgt. Hendricken
- Exclusive savings from Johnson Insurance forwarded on September 26
- Poster for November 9 event at Holland College for Military Family Resource Centre forwarded on September 26 at the request of Sgt. Hendricken
- National President's Update forwarded October 6
- Remembrance Day breakfast information from Cpl. D'Amour forwarded October 12
- Information on 2017 Tattoo forwarded from Nova Scotia Division on October 13
- Obituary of Marie Kathleen Hendricken forwarded October 17
- VAC Atrium Open House on Remembrance Day forwarded on October 31
- 'Salute' variety show poster forwarded at request of Sgt. Hendricken on November 2

The president elaborated on the last item of correspondence by pointing out that the PEI branch or the Military Families Resource Centre is the only one that serves RCMP members and RCMP veterans. Rather than communicating through VAC Liaison Sgt. Kim Hendricken, the MFRC will now send its communications to the secretary for distribution to the membership. The MFRC has been added to the PEI Division Facebook page and their website can be found under "Links" on the PEI Division website.

New Business

County Reports: Richard MacAulay reported all is quiet in his jurisdiction. Walter Charlesworth reported that he and Fred Lynch visited Frank Graham a number of times in Room 107 at the Garden Centre and, although Frank is totally immobile and has lost a lot of his sight, he really appreciates visitors. Llew Robinson reported having helped Frank's

family move his personal effects and Llew secured a collection of lapel pins, police shoulder flashes, and ball caps and Llew invited interested persons to contact him. Members also reported that Cathy McCann suffered a stroke earlier this month. Members also reported that Damien Dunsford is recovering from his November 9 knee replacement surgery but is still in the hospital because of spinal vertebrae issues. Royce Green visited Mac MacDonald on November 15 and he was about the same and was being fitted for a new wheelchair. Ron Allen reported that there are no health issues in his area.

2017 Police and Peace Officers Memorial Service: The president reported that the service was well attended at St. Mark's Anglican Church in Kensington. The PEI Association of Chiefs of Police and the PEI Police Association each contributed \$500 and the Province of PEI contributed \$750 for total revenue of \$1,750. Expenses amounted to \$1,014.34 leaving a balance of \$735.66 carried forward to 2017. The expenses included a donation of \$100 to the PEI Regiment's band and \$200 to St. Mark's. This year's expenses were significantly reduced because Phil Pitts arranged for free printing of the programs. The committee also purchased some wreaths for use at future ceremonies.

Nominating Committee: Past president Peter Sorensen reported that he and Paul Stetson sought candidates for the expiring terms of president, 1st vice president, the remaining year of 2nd vice president, treasurer, and directors for Kings and Queens Counties with only two responses. The committee identified the following candidates for the vacancies for two-year terms and Peter moved, seconded by Royce Greene, that the following slate of nominees be considered:

1. President: Mike O'Neil – 2 year term expiring December 2018
2. 1st vice president: Brian Weldon – 2 year term expiring December 2018
3. 2nd vice president: Scott Ferris – remainder term to December 2017
4. Treasurer: Randy Robar – 2 year term expiring December 2018
5. Director Kings County: Richard MacAulay – 2 year term expiring Dec. 2018
6. Director Queens County: Wayne Schleyer – 2 year term expiring Dec. 2018

CARRIED

The past president called for nominations from the floor and, hearing none, moved, seconded by Jerry Wolfrey, that the proposed slate be elected by acclamation. CARRIED Peter noted that the positions of 2nd vice president, secretary, and director for Prince County will be vacant next year and he encouraged the membership to consider offering to fill these positions when the current terms expire.

Information on Earl Adams: The president reported that Earl's wife, Joanne, contacted the Association about the status of Earl's dues because he is in a nursing home and would like to keep current as a member of the Calgary Division. She was put in contact with the treasurer of the Calgary Division. Gordon Coffin reported that Earl has been living in Seaview, PEI for about 10 years but preferred to maintain contact with former colleagues in the Calgary Division. Gordon offered to contact Joanne, identify the nursing home that he is in, and offer any assistance that our members can provide.

Policing Review Update: The secretary reported that the CO of "L" Division recently updated the members of the CO's Employee Advisory Committee on the status of the policing review that had been completed earlier this summer by a consultant and a sub-

contractor on behalf of the Province. She reported that the consultant reported to the Executive Council of PEI and the contents of the report have not been shared with the police community. There have been some requests for additional information, mainly of a corporate nature, received from the PEI Department of Justice which the RCMP responded to.

Entertainment Committee: Phil Pitts summarized the division's social activities for 2016 and provided a written report for retention. He noted that all the events were well attended with 76 at the Christmas dinner, 47 at the lobster dinner, and 28 at the golf event. He proposed holding the lobster dinner on June 13, 2017, the golf event on July 18, 2017, and the Christmas dinner on December 5, 2017. Phil moved, seconded by Randy Robar, that the division continue to pay for meals for widows attending our events. CARRIED Phil provided posters for the Christmas dinner on December 6, 2016 and asked members to RSVP by November 30. Ruby Burns agreed to coordinate the delivery of Christmas fruit cakes with the recipients being identified to her by the county directors and delivery assistance from the membership as required.

Membership Committee: Ruby Burns reported that four applicants have recently been accepted as active members. Bill Dickie and Reg Campbell were unable to attend the meeting but Ed Gillis and Richard Thibault were in attendance. Ruby noted that the two most prominent questions she receives in her recruiting efforts are whether we have a visitation committee to visit members who are hospitalized or institutionalized and whether some meetings could be scheduled at other times than in the evening. The president noted that, although we do not have a formal visitation committee, our chaplains do visit members who are hospitalized and he invited Ruby to bring the issue of alternate meeting times to the next executive meeting.

Service Bars: The president presented a service bar for 10 years' membership in the Association to Wayne Carver.

Installation of New Members: The president installed Ed Gillis and Richard Thibault and they each provided a summary of their service in the RCMP.

50/50 Draw: Ian Beer won \$27.00.

Adjournment

At 8:05 PM the chair adjourned the meeting until January 17, 2017.

Ernie MacAulay - Secretary