



Veterans' Association
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Prince Edward Island Division

P.O. Box 1360, Charlottetown, PEI, C1A 7N1
www.rcmpvetspei.ca



MINUTES – January 16, 2018

Call to Order

President Mike O'Neil called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

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 with special recognition given to Reg. No. 16014, former S/Sgt. W.J.R. 'Mac' Macdonald, a former president of and a life member of the PEI Division, who died in Charlottetown on December 23, 2017.

Attendance

The following members were in attendance: Ian Beer, Walter Charlesworth, Cynthia Chugg, Brad Chugg, Gordon Coffin, Ken Cormier, Frank Dolan, Karen Dunning, Damien Dunsford, Fred Foster, Royce Greene, Harry Kennedy, Fred Lynch, Ernie MacAulay, Richard MacAulay, Don MacGregor, Lorne MacKinnon, Bob McCann, Bob Nahrgang, Mike O'Neil, Phil Pitts, Tom Ralph, Randy Robar, Paul Saulnier, Wayne Schleyer, Peter Sorensen, Bryon Sutcliffe, Richard Thibault, Bob Thorne, Brian Weldon, and Jerry Woolfrey. Regrets were received from: Ron Allan, Ruby Burns, Reg Campbell, John Dunne, Scott Ferris, Harold Hodgins, Fraser Inman, Jack Jans, Aletha MacDonald, Paul MacDougald, Dan MacLean, Ray McCormack, Bob Moffatt, Anne O'Shaughnessy, and Geoff Tucker.

Birthdays for December and January

Birthdays for December: Walter Charlesworth and Bob McCann. For January: Levi Barnes, Bush Dumville, and Bob Vokey.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The secretary moved, seconded by Ken Cormier, that the minutes of the November 21, 2017 meeting be adopted as circulated. CARRIED

Financial Statements

The treasurer provided a statement that outlined total revenue for 2017 of \$10,495.90, total expenses of \$13,183.18 for 2017 with a net operating loss of \$2,687.28 for the 2017 fiscal year. The treasurer moved, seconded by Brian Weldon that the financial statement be accepted as circulated. CARRIED The treasurer noted that the Division made a cash transfer of \$2,350.00 to a fraudulent entity which accounts for most of the deficit. He explained to the membership how the scam was perpetrated and that an apparent earlier version of it was unsuccessfully attempted involving the New Brunswick and Ottawa Divisions. The treasurer stated that the events have been reported to the Royal Bank and to the RCMP but, to date, he has not heard back from either on the status of the investigations. The CO of "L" Division offered to follow up on the issue and inform the treasurer. Bob McCann moved, seconded by Phil Pitts, that the transaction be recorded on the PEI Division's financial records as an expense. CARRIED

Business Arising From Previous Minutes

Commemorative Coins for C/Ms: C/Supt. Jennifer Ebert, CO of "L" Division, reported that she, former CO A/Comm. Joanne Crampton, and Hon. Antoinette Perry, Lieutenant Governor of PEI, presented commemorative coins to 13 serving civilian members and 1 retired civilian member at Government House on January 11, 2018. The CO noted that the deeming date has been deferred indefinitely because of the Phoenix pay system disaster. She noted the long history of civilian members serving in the Force and the valuable services they provide. She also mentioned that other divisions have commented favourably on the quality of the commemorative coin.

Police and Peace Officers' Memorial Service: The president of the PEI Division recently distributed a comprehensive report on this event, which he prepared for the PEI Association of Chiefs of Police and the PEI Police Association, to the membership. He reported that there is currently \$1,451 held in reserve to fund future memorial services. There was concern expressed that the low attendance at the 2017 service might be due to a feeling of disenfranchisement because the PEI Division had assumed primary responsibility for organizing the events but the other partners reported that this is not the case and they appreciate the PEI Division assuming responsibility of organizing the services. The 2018 service will be in Prince County and the partners consider Miscouche as the most westerly location that should be considered.

Correspondence

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

- Message about executive appointment of secretary to serve until the next AGM distributed on November 23, 2017
- MFRC monthly forwarded on November 27, 2017
- Special Frank's Facts & Funnies on ID cards forwarded December 1, 2017
- Ticket information on 2018 International Tattoo forwarded on behalf of NS Division on December 5, 2017
- President's response to Johnson Insurance Administrative Services Agreement distributed December 8, 2017
- CO's message to former C/Ms forwarded on December 11, 2017

- Message on healthy ageing forwarded on behalf of the Canadian Deprescribing Network on December 20, 2017
- Message on Mental Health First Aid for Veterans and Caregivers forwarded on behalf of Sgt. Hendricken on January 4, 2018
- Message on PTSD Coach mobile app forwarded on behalf of CO of “L” Division on January 4, 2018
- Notice of 2018 AGM forwarded on behalf of the Association on January 15, 2018

New Business

County Reports: Kings County Director Richard MacAulay reported that there are no issues in Kings County. Queens County Director Wayne Schleyer reported that Hector MacDonald has Alzheimer’s disease and he will contact Eleanor to determine if we can provide any assistance. Ian Oland has moved to the Prince Edward Home and is pleased with his new living facilities. Wayne also informed the membership that he is organizing a lunch for February 22 at the Top of the Town at Charlottetown Driving Park and he will provide further details by e-mail. Prince County Director Ron Allan was unable to attend but Gord Coffin reported that Earl Adams is in the Garden Home in Charlottetown suffering from two types of Parkinson’s disease. Although Earl has lived on PEI for some time, he maintains a membership in the Calgary Division. The PEI Division has included Earl in our communications since we learned of his local residence.

Guest Speaker: The president introduced C/Supt. Jennifer Ebert, CO of “L” Division and Honourary President of the PEI Division of the RCMP Veterans’ Association and provided details of her policing background (which can be viewed at: <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/pe/commanding-officer>). The CO stated that her goals include ensuring that all members are prepared for all service eventualities. She is a strong advocate for an appropriate work and home life balance. She reported that the implementation of the recommendations from the PEI Policing Review is proceeding slowly and there are some changes to the *Police Act* on the way as well as changes at the executive level of the Atlantic Police Academy. She estimates that unionization of serving members and a collective agreement is still 12 to 18 months away. Although she had hoped that a new commissioner would be named early in 2018, the process is still underway. She stated that today’s recruits are better trained than in our era but are also more aware of the risks of police work, are more family-oriented, and there is no voluntary overtime. The CO also noted that there is recruiting targeting specialty areas with some members going from recruit field training directly into specialty areas. She expressed the view that the number of available resources is unlikely to change in response to provincial initiatives toward amalgamation of largely rural PEI communities.

Succession Planning for Executive Positions: Past president Peter Sorensen noted the difficulty the nominating committee has annually to locate volunteers for the executive positions. He mentioned past examples of individuals who had served long periods on the executive and continued serving until they died. He plans to send a message to the membership to ascertain members’ interest in serving on the executive for a 2-year term during the next five to eight years. He will challenge each member to consider a 2-year term on the executive and he will incorporate the results into the annual nominating process.

Retired Members Badges and Wallets: The secretary reported that the Québec Division sells retired member badges and wallets. The badges have RCMP – VETERAN – GRC at the top, the crest of the

RCMP Veterans' Association in the middle, and your regimental number engraved below the crest. The badges sell for \$80.00, the wallets sell for \$45.00, and both sell for \$105.00. The secretary can provide order forms to anyone interested in purchasing these items.

Entertainment Committee: Phil Pitts reported that 81 people attended the Christmas Dinner which was the largest attendance in the event's history. The next scheduled social event will be a lobster dinner in June.

Gravesite Inspection Committee: Damien Dunsford reported that inspection activities are currently suspended and will resume in the spring.

Military Family Resource Centre: Richard Thibault reported that a member of the MFRC will provide an overview of the organization at a future meeting.

Presentation of Service Bars: The president presented 10-year service bars to Ian Beer, Don MacGregor, and Lorne MacKinnon; a 20-year service bar to Frank Dolan; 30-year service bars to Bryon Sutcliffe and Bob McCann; and a 40-year service bar to Wayne Schleyer.

50/50 Draw: Brian Weldon won \$53.50.

Adjournment

At 8:10 PM Damien Dunsford moved, seconded by Fred Foster, that the meeting be adjourned until March 20, 2018.

Ernie MacAulay - Secretary