



**Royal Canadian Mounted Police**  
**Veterans' Association**  
**PEI Division**



P.O. Box 1360, Charlottetown,  
Prince Edward Island, C1A 0H3  
[www.rcmpvetspei.ca](http://www.rcmpvetspei.ca)

**Minutes of the Meeting (March 19, 2019)**

**Welcome & Introduction**

Following a brief reception, the President called the March Meeting of the RCMPVA (PEI) to order. Members and guests were welcomed.

The Following members were in attendance:

Fred Foster, Mike O'Neil, Lew Robinson, Royce Greene, Ron Allen, Peter Sorensen, Tom Ralph, Bob Moffatt, Ben MacConnell, Stan Ferguson, Ruby Burns, Daniel D'Amour, Scott Stevenson, Randy Robar, Paul Stetson, Phil Pitts, Dene Williamson, Lorne MacKinnon, Mike Murphy, Bryon Sutcliffe, Harry Kennedy, Ian Beer, David Corrigan, Wayne Schlyer, Wayne Carver, Derek Smith, Kevin McNeil, Ernie MacAulay, Richard MacAulay, Anne O'Shaughnessy, Don MacGregor, Brian Weldon, and Richard Thibault

**Adoption of Agenda**

The agenda as circulated was adopted.

**Last Post**

The membership offered a moment of silence for those who had passed since our November Meeting, in particular former "L" Division member: John Reid.

**Birthdays**

Birthday wishes were extended to: (February) Mel Anderson, Ian Beer, Peter Sorensen, Paul Stetson, Richard MacAulay, Randy Robar, Mike O'Neil, Addison Coffin, Paul MacDougald, Gord Coffin and Don MacAulay; (March) Paul Saulnier, Jim Delaney, Brian Weldon, Dave Aitken, Ernie Maidment, Ruby Burns, Phil Pitts and Allan Roach.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the November Meeting held on 2019-01-190 had been circulated by the Secretary were not yet adopted. One member, Ruby Burns, indicated she had not received same. Peter Sorensen suggested the record show internet enquiries that were made be shown. Peter Sorensen moved that – minutes of January 19 meeting be re-circulated and considered at next meeting. Seconded by Randy Robar.

**Financial Statements**

The outgoing treasurer (Randy Robar) gave a financial re-cap of finances from 2013 to 2018 inclusive, indicating that the balance grew and introduced widows benefit. Canteen inventory needs to be updated.



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Peter Sorenson briefly brought up the Benefit Trust Fund (BTF) and the provision to utilize it for memorial donations.

Dene Williamson, indicated that the BTF was open to members who were under various types of duress and indicated he would like a presentation regarding what was available through the BTF.

The incoming Treasurer (Fred Foster) indicated that the new bank account has been opened at Scotiabank. There are 72 members paying annual dues. Fred indicated that the e-transfer option for paying dues is working well with over 50% of members utilizing this method. Use of investment account has ceased and monies moved to the general revenue account.

**Business Arising from the Minutes**

Although minutes were not formally adopted, the President followed up on his request from last meeting regarding identification of a representative from our association to attend the AGM in Whitehorse later this year. There were no volunteers identified and as of now, there will be no representative from the PEI membership attending.

**Correspondence**

The only correspondence was a letter from Mr. Bill Gillespie to The President which outlined his reason for wanting to become an associate member of our association. The letter had been distributed previously to the membership via email.

**New Business**

Reports from County Representatives

**Kings County**

Richard MacAulay reported that Jim Cairns was now out of hospital and recovering. As well advised of the Kings County social at Calm Diggers in Cardigan on 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tuesday in April.

**Queens County**

Wayne Schleyer indicated that the Director's Luncheon at the "Top of the Park" restaurant on Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 was well attended. The President thanked Wayne for his efforts in that regard.

**Prince County**

Ron Allan had nothing of interest to comment on other than "the geese are back".

**Entertainment Committee**



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Phil Pitts noted that there will be a Lobster Dinner sometime in June, probably the 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
Wednesday of the month.

**Gravesite Inspection Committee**

No report submitted this meeting.

**Membership & Credentials Committee**

Ernie MacAulay advised that James Brown was the new National Director and his goal is to grow association membership to 10,000 by 2024. Applications now can be made on line. On line applications appear to be working well and is effective, seeing a 60% increase in on line applications.

There are three recent notices of member retirements from "L" Division, and we have one successful on-line application.

**Advocacy Committee**

No report

**Military Family Resource Centre**

Richard Thibault announced MFRC events for Mar 31 and Apr 1.

**Pillars of the Force**

Ruby Burns distributed pamphlets and made a presentation on this initiative at the museum in Regina at "Depot" Division. Basically, monies for Heritage Foundation, members can purchase a brick or plaque on a pillar. The donation is tax deductible. The plaques are for Members only, bricks for anyone. June 20/20 date set to unveil bricks.

**"L" Division Reunion**

Lorne MacKinnon noted that a group has been formed to plan a reunion for "L" Division to happen tentatively on September 7, 2019. More information to follow.

**New associate membership proposal.**

Ruby Burns put forth Bill Gillespie's name for associate membership. Seconded by Derek Smith.

Ruby Burns made a short presentation on Bill Gillespie, explaining how she knew him, and provided information about his background, his involvement as a witness/agent in a homicide investigation in Winnipeg years ago and continued affinity for the Force.



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Mike O'Neil made a brief factual presentation outlining the history of this matter to date.

Bob Moffatt and Ernie MacAulay made short presentations in favour of the membership application, while Brian Weldon and Paul Stetson made short presentation against the application as not truly meeting the affinity test.

Derek Smith asked the question, "how do we vote, do non-votes count?" The President responded "members abstaining from voting are not counted."

Voting on associate membership conducted.

The vote was:

13 in favour

10 against

6 abstained.

Bill Gillespie accepted as associate member of the PEI RCMP Veterans Association.

**Installation of New Membership.**

Scott Stevenson was welcomed into the association by the President.

*Adjournment to Next Regular Meeting (May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019)*