

## *REPORT FROM SECRETARY – BOD Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014*

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### **Notice for AGM 2014:**

As per Bylaws I have forwarded a Letter of Notice of Meeting AGM 2014 to the BOD, All Presidents and Governors RCMPVA and Divisions were given until 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014 to list resolutions or agenda items of importance to the Secretary. I have asked for written submissions on Resolutions to be received by the 15<sup>th</sup> February 2014 for review by the Resolution Committee.

### **Nomination Committee 2014:** (Chair Tim Hoban, Members: Governors, Keith Trail and Larry Power)

The Chair for the 2014 Nominating Committee, Tim Hoban has forwarded the Nomination Committee letter to BOD, All Presidents and Governors RCMPVA.

Positions open for election are for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three (3) Directors positions for the RCMP Veterans' Association on the National Board of Directors. Candidates are to identify themselves and gain support from their respective Divisions and Divisions in turn forward the name (s) to Tim Hoban, Chair Nomination Committee by 15<sup>th</sup> March 2014 with a brief CV attached.

### **Constitution, Bylaws & Operations Manual:** RCMPVA site: ([www.rcmpvetsnational.ca](http://www.rcmpvetsnational.ca)).

The Constitution and Bylaws continue to be under a complete review by the Canada Not for Profit (CNFP) Committee, who have been totally engaged with many Division representatives in ongoing Video Conference meetings up to the 9<sup>th</sup> December this year to ensure all Divisions were representative at the table to voice concerns, suggest amendments and no one be surprised. It was a great success for those who participated. The CNFP Committee continues to work behind the scenes to complete the Articles of Continuance and Bylaws that will be presented at AGM 2014 by way of resolutions and Divisions will be updated at all times.

The Operations Manual is under review and will eventually change to "Administration Manual" for the RCMPVA and the Divisions will be implementing a "Division Manual" for their respective divisions. The manuals are for guidance on administrative and operational procedures for the Association, and must comply with the Articles of Continuance and new Bylaws as prescribed in the Canada Not for Profit Act and regulations.

### **Communication Committee (Geddes and Bryan Neville, Webmaster):**

I am repeating myself here but as I have said many times before, I rely on Division Presidents, Secretaries and Division Communications members to relay all the messages to their respective Executives and their Division members. I still receive requests for contact information for the President, National BOD, National Office Executive Director and Administrative Assistant as well as The Quarterly management and Administrator. All these members and staff are listed on our National Website with email and telephone numbers. The National Website is a great source of information on Veterans' business, advocacy issues, job postings and social activity. I would once again ask that every Division who complete newsletters, provide email fan outs or post their Division Meeting Minutes, that they

occasionally remind our membership to surf the National Website ([www.rcmpvetsnational.ca](http://www.rcmpvetsnational.ca)) for a wealth of information on ongoing business and improvements to benefits.

Recently in early December, I travelling to Johnstown (near Prescott, ON) and sat down with Bryan Neville (Webmaster) and we reviewed the complete National Website. We have moved some items to archives, deleted a lot of older information to do with job applications etc., and have tried to create common MENU ITEMS that are easy for anyone to access. We welcome any constructive advice at any time to improve the website.

All I can say, is we are extremely lucky to have Bryan as such a dedicated Webmaster for the RCMPVA.

**RCMP / RCMPVA Communications:** I am presently working with RCMP representatives in the Communications Branch, RCMP HQ to do our best to have ongoing articles of interest and initiatives on recruitment of Force members to join the RCMPVA through RCMP publications (C.O's Weekly Communiques, Pony Express, Poster Campaign and use of the RCMP Info-Web to promote the RCMPVA). We have had some success in the past but we want this to be a continuous avenue of communications.

#### **Translation Services:**

Mr. Jean Roux, RCMPVA Quebec Division, continues to provide our Association translation services. Jean will be departing very soon to spend his winter haunt on the Costa del Sol, Spain and return to Montreal in April 2014. Jean continues to support the National BOD/Executive Director and the BOD Committees on translation services. As I have said before we are very fortunate to have Jean Roux as our Translator.

#### **RCMP Veterans' Executive Contact List:**

**Divisions:** As a reminder, several times throughout the year Division Executive members change their email addresses, phone numbers and mailing addresses. It is requested that a message on changes of addresses be sent to Ms. Jennifer Elliott, Administrative Assistant, RCMP HQ, Veterans' Office, Ottawa at [Jennifer.D.Elliott@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:Jennifer.D.Elliott@rcmp-grc.gc.ca) or call 613-993-5578, in order for Elliott to update the phone list and email addresses. We have received several changes to the 2014 Division Executives', so if you are making changes or have made changes please ensure you forward your up to date list to Jennifer Elliott. I will then ensure the President, Secretary or your contact person is added to my National Contact fan out list.

**AGM 2014:** We continue to work closely with Bill Lenton, Chair of the AGM Host Committee for Ottawa Division planning and organizing the Agendas for the National Council Meeting on Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> June and Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup> June for the Annual General Meeting. A draft Agenda is in the planning stage. Lenton and President, Graham Muir, Ottawa Division RCMPVA are now attending all our BOD Video Conference Meetings to provide the BOD updates. All the information to register for the AGM 2014 – Rendez-Vous Ottawa is online and linked to the National Webpage and Ottawa Division webpage.

**Future AGMs:**

- AGM 2014: Host: Ottawa Division – Rendez-Vous Ottawa – (5-8 June 2014).**  
**AGM 2015: Host: Quebec Division – to be held in Quebec City.**  
**AGM 2016: Host: Halifax Division – Planning a Maritime Cruise (Second week of June 2016).**  
**AGM 2017: Host: PEI Division – Planning to focus around Centennial.**  
**AGM 2018: Host: New Brunswick Division**

**2013/2014 Challenges/Priorities:**

- a) Recruiting/Membership: Just wonderful: Great work by George Savage to increase our membership and thanks to the Divisions in their valiant efforts in support to increase their division membership.**
- b) Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act: On target for AGM 2014.**
- c) Change Management of the National Office RCMPVA. – Under development.**
- d) National Office (Admin. Assistant & Executive Director) – Presently asking for financial support from RCMP and under review.**
- e) National Nominal Roll – E-Voting being developed.**
- f) Ensuring our voice continues to be included with Veterans Organizations on benefits and insurance coverage for our RCMP Veterans through letter writing to the Ministers of Veterans Affairs, Commissioner RCMP and Treasury Board Minister as examples.**
- g) Partnerships: Many of us from the National BOD, and in particular, President Cal Small, Past President, Tim Hoban and National Advocate, Ron Lewis have ensured that we are very actively involved in Advocacy on behalf of all RCMP Veterans. The RCMPVA have been very successful in the continuation to ensure we are represented at the table with RCL, RCMP, FSNA, VAC, VAC Ombudsman's Office, VAC Advisory Council, Veterans Review Appeal Board (VRAB), House of Commons/Senate Committees, and other Government of Canada Departments. Governor, Rick Morris continues to be our representative with the Canadian Institute for Military and Veteran Health Research (CIMVHR) headed by Queen's University.**

I sincerely hope that everyone takes the opportunity to get together in Ottawa for the AGM 2014 and have a great rendezvous.



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“Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.”  
— [Winston Churchill](#)