



ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE VETERANS' ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors - News and Views

July 2010

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

I want to thank the membership for their support in electing me to the position of President of the RCMP Veterans Association. I am presently in the process of setting up committees, including Division Presidents, because I honestly believe that we will only be as strong as our committees are.

I am in the process of reviewing the "RCMP Veterans Association Review Report" completed by Paulette VINETTE – 07 Sept 07, along with detailed job descriptions of our staff working in Ottawa.

I have met with our Secretary and Treasurer in Ottawa on the 02 July to discuss at some length some items that came out of the syndicate study conducted at the AGM in Regina. The point of this meeting was to discuss such things as;

- A. Committee makeup
- B. National Registry
- C. Committee Review of Resolutions
- D. Montreal Badge
- E. AGM Requirements/restructuring (Friday workshops)
- F. Marriage after 60; VIP; Spousal Pensions
- G. Partnerships with RCMP, Royal Canadian Legion, FSNA, DSSR's & DND/CF.
- H. Conducting business on a shoestring

I fully intend to push our concerns to the limit, working alongside the above noted organizations. Membership and our 125th birthday will also be amongst our goals. Remember no matter how we look at it, the birth of our organization was the concept of a few members 125 years ago in 1911. Let's make it a year to remember.

Tim HOBAN – President

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEW PRESIDENT

BIO

Thomas Lewis (Tim) HOBAN **Miramichi, NB**

- Born: Sydney, Cape Breton, NS 1942 (Thomas & Jennie)
 - Graduate Sydney Academy & 29th Squadron Sydney Air Cadets – Queen Scout
 - Joined RCMP 1961 – Retired Senior NCO/Detachment Commander after 24 years service
 - New Brunswick Community College – Instructor 4 years – Dept. Head Protective Training for Province of NB 10 years & retired 2nd time.
 - C.E.O. Aboriginal Training School – 4 years –
 - Active Member Lions Club International 43 years – Past Council Chair – Past District Governor – Leadership Chair Multiple District “N” 2010/2013.
 - Active member of the Chatham NB Wing Association –
 - Active member of RCMP Veterans Association since 1985. Presently serving 2nd term as President of NB Division
 - National Director of the RCMP Benefit Trust Fund past 8 years
 - National President as of June 6th 2010.
 - Medals – RCMP Long Service – Queen Golden Jubilee –
 - Awards – Lions Highest Award “Melvin Jones Fellowship” – NB Attorney General Award for Work with Troubled Youth – Life Member Lions Foundation of Canada –
 - Married 46 years to Betty, three sons – two living Tim Jr., & Bill – One deceased John –
 - Hobbies – Community Volunteer, Motorcycle, RV, and Golf.
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The Five Resolutions at the AGM were brought forward and voted on as shown below.

Resolutions 1 to 6: Secretary refreshed the membership on the Voting procedures for all the Resolutions and others items for voting.

1) RCMP Veterans’ Association Amendments to By-laws:

Resolution read and moved by Alex Geddes that the General By-laws of the Association be approved. SECONDED by Tim Hoban. A short discussion took place regarding the approval of the Bylaws. Vote including Proxy Votes: For – 3871 contrary 233. CARRIED. *Note: These By-laws will come into force subject to approval by Industry Canada.*

2) Officers & Directors and General Liability Insurance:

Resolution read and moved by Dave Leblanc that the per capita dues be increased from \$24 to \$25 to provide or an increase in the insurance premium of per capita dues from \$2 to \$3. SECONDED by Phil Vincent. After a short discussion President asked for a vote including Proxy Votes: For – 3714 contrary 417. CARRIED.

3) RCMP Veterans’ Association Benefit Trust Fund (BTF): – WITHDRAWN by BOD at the National Council Meeting Friday, 4th, June 2010.

4) Increase to Spousal Pension - NL Division:

Read by and moved by Wayne Burry, NF and Labrador BE IT RESOLVED that the RCMP Veterans' Association negotiate with the RCMP, Canadian Forces and FSNA and solicit their support in having the legislation as it relates to increasing spousal pension amended; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the RCMP Veterans' Association in conjunction with the RCMP, Canadian Forces and FSNA; or alone, take the necessary action to have the current legislation be amended increasing spousal pension. SECONDED by Gary Bolton. No discussion. Vote including the Proxy votes: For 3019 contrary 1125. CARRIED.

5) 2011 – 125th Anniversary of the RCMP VA – Lethbridge Division:

This resolution was read by Lynn Spring, President, Lethbridge Division. Spring moved that be it resolved that the year 2011 be recognized as the 125th Anniversary of the NWMP, RNWMP, and RCMP Veterans' Association. SECONDED by Al Rivard. A short discussion regarding whether the date for the Association was recognized by the Federal Government in 1924 or was it in 1886 was carried out. Ian Brownlee, Calgary Division read a direct quote from the Calgary Herald written on 17th April 1886. The article talked about 24 members of the NWMP meeting on the 16th April 1886 to form a Veterans' Association and it did quote the new officers elected for this Veterans' Association. Don Klancher debated this issue and stated that the RCMP Veterans' Association formed officially in January 1924 from historical records and Government of Canada confirmation. Lynn Spring debated this assertion and stated that on the 16th April 1886, the meeting to form an Association was for the common purpose of all Veterans' and was formed by 24 NWMP members confirmed by the article in the Calgary Herald dated 17th April 1886. President Power asked for a vote including the Proxy votes: For 3542 contrary 602. CARRIED.

6. Montreal Veterans' Badge:

BE IT RESOLVED that Montreal is the only Division of the RCMP Veteran's Association to promote, sell and distribute the souvenir veteran's badge to any former member of the RCMP that asks for one.

WHEREAS the RCMP does not have the right to interfere in the sale of our veteran's badge,

WHEREAS Montreal division holds the rights and privileges since September 15th 2003, as mentioned in volume IV, page 311, of *The Public Register of Arms, Flags and Badges of Canada* ,

WHEREAS Montreal division presented Insp. Bird in September 2009 a sample badge with letters
RCMP-GRC removed,

WHEREAS Montreal division of the RCMP Veteran's Association known hereinafter as Montreal, will take responsibility of the sold veteran's badge and that the RCMP Veteran's Association, known hereinafter as National will not be held liable for the sold veteran's badges,

WHEREAS Montreal has been selling that souvenir veteran's badge for over nine (9) years,

WHEREAS Montreal will be the holder of the working moulds and obligations for the sale of the souvenir veteran's badge, Montreal will be sole responsible for the marketing of the said badge,

WHEREAS Montreal will be the holder of a liability insurance policy and that the National will not have any rights on sale, distribution and responsibilities

WHEREAS Montreal will abide to article 104 of the Association's Constitution and By-laws,

WHEREAS royalties will be handed over to the RCMP Foundation.
SECONDED by Jan Wolynski, Manitoba Division.

Desormeaux gave a briefing to the AGM and after a discussion President Power stated that we have a motion and it is seconded and is their any further discussion. A short discussion took place and a resolution was put forth for a vote. All votes including the proxy votes were counted. **Votes for 2834 contrary 1210. CARRIED.** The President stated that the RCMP Veterans' Association now has the responsibility for this Badge. Gaston Desormeaux advised President Power that he wished to thank everyone for their support and that the Montreal Division would give back a percentage of all sales to members in their Divisions who wish to buy a badge.

Alex Geddes
National Secretary

Bladder Cancer - VAC pension to one of our Association Veterans afflicted with bladder cancer.

One of our veterans was awarded a pension for life under the Pension Act for bladder cancer wherein it was proven he caught the cancer from certain fingerprint powders utilized by Identification Forensic technicians in the 60's, 70s, and 80's.....

Our Veterans' Association are now attempting to inform other former Identification Forensic Members who may have been exposed to the same chemicals and are currently afflicted with cancer.

I have requested the OIC Health Services of the RCMP to send out a communiqué to retired members alerting them to the above.

The OIC Health Services informed me they have the research document prepared by CANTOX - which is the research company that in fact completed the research on the member's case for VAC and they concluded the fingerprint powders and related materials contributed to his affliction with cancer and the removal of his bladder.

This CANTOX report is voluminous and the RCMP is having it translated prior to any publication, and subsequent communiqué.

The OIC Health Services also stated they have not developed a strategy for this planned communiqué. This is due to other priorities they are faced with and they are also moving their offices from 295 Coventry Road to the West End of Ottawa.

I could not obtain a date when this communiqué might be ready for sending out....but gathered it will be later on this year 2010.

Bill Gidley
Executive Director

I met John Larlee - Chairman of the Veterans Review and Appeal Board (VRAB) on Canada Day. He was addressing the Legion Veterans, suggesting if they were unhappy with a VRAB decision to get in touch with him and he would attempt to resolve the problem. I told him I was an RCMP Veteran and he immediately said "I need Retired and Former Members of the RCMP on the VRAB" That was discussed and he stated a test was required and when that was passed the names go into a pool. Due to a need for former members of the Force to sit on the board there would be a good chance one or two members would be selected. I spoke to MP Greg Thompson - former minister - who confirmed this. To apply go to the VAC website.

Dale Lively
National Advocate,

Produced by: COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
Rick Morris, Governor and Committee Member

View or national website at: www.rcmpvetsnational.ca