



RCMP Veterans' Association, Nova Scotia

I don't know if I need some 'cation'. 'Va'cation or perhaps a 'stay'cation, but it is more likely 'medi'cation. I am a bit tardy on this edition, so consider it the 'Sprummer' edition. Lots of history as usual, activities of our membership and of course some important reference information. Please pay particular attention to the narrative submitted by Neil Fraser as it relates to the benefits you may be entitled to and the processes for gravestone and marker acquisition. We receive many enquiries on this so it is done up nicely in a package for you to extract and investigate. As always, thank you to all who contribute to this publication. Enjoy your remaining summer months, safe travels and partake in your favorite activities. Perhaps you may wish to explore some new ones.

Pat Moran editor

Executive Contact

President- Dan McNaughton - novascotia.president@rcmpva.org ,
1st VP - Paul Smith, 2nd VP - Patricia McNeil

Secretary - Fred Hildebrand - novascotia.secretary@rcmpva.org ,
Treasurer - Ian Atkins - novascotia.treasurer@rcmpva.org

Master at Arms - Pat Moran - novascotia.masteratarms@rcmpva.org ,
Chaplain - Rev. Katherine Bourbonniere - kbourbonniere@ns.sympatico.ca

Submissions contact - Joanne Caruso - novascotia.communicationsdir@rcmpva.org

Mailing address

RCMP Veterans' Association Nova Scotia Division
Mailstop H-025, 80 Garland Avenue, Dartmouth, NS, B3B 0J8

Summer **Scotia Vets** August 5, 2024

This is one of many interviews conducted with retired members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Marine Division. This particular interview was conducted on July 21, 2017 by Garry McCay.



Ronald Beazley, Reg # M-44 / 10871, was born on July 8, 1936 at Halifax, Nova Scotia.

When asked about his job experience prior to enlisting in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Ronald replied, "I worked for a magazine wholesaler and at joe jobs, low paid jobs. I was eighteen when I joined the RCMP. I wanted to join the Air Force but I couldn't manage that. I didn't have enough education. I thought the RCMP would be a pretty good thing. I applied for the RCMP, the Regular Force. I missed my opportunity to join a troop that was forming so I had to wait. Things got too bad at home. My mother lost her job and we were really up against it". "I went back to the people in the office down at Cheapside in Halifax and I asked them if there was anything I could do to hurry this up. They told me I would have to wait until there was another troop organized. When I asked about the Marine service, they said they would sign me on today and I would be on a boat tomorrow. So, I went down and signed on. I joined in 1955. It was in a matter of hours. I got my kit and went down to the ship. My family didn't care what I joined as long as I sent my cheque home. My cheque went to my mother".

"My first posting was on the old mine sweeper, the 'Irvine'. She was one of the patrol vessels along with the 'MacBrien'. She eventually became a 'Depot' ship in Halifax. We went up north in alternate years and we serviced detachments and delivered stores. It was two or three years before I went to training."

"I started on the boat as a mess man, a dish washer. You cleaned up and then they would take you up on deck and you would be painting and doing upkeep and things like that. If you could see where you were going, they put you on the wheel."

“I eventually went to training. I trained in Rockcliffe. Training was for seven weeks. A lot of physical training but no mounted. They still had the horses. We learned about various statutes, customs and excise and lots of war stories. I went to training by train. We lived in barracks, about twenty bunks in the room.”

When asked what he liked most about training, he said “after I got used to it, PT was pretty good. Boxing, running and murder ball. You got hold of this ball and you didn’t let go. It was big, almost like a cushion and I hung on. Someone got me by the legs and somebody had me by the head”.

Ron was asked about what he disliked the most about training. “I don’t know if I could put an interpretation on that. Once you got used to it. When you got there, you were scared. There was a lot of yelling. I remember Curtain. He was in charge and a guy by the name of Lynch. Curtain was the Sergeant in charge and he was cruel. The hardest part of training was dealing with people like that”.

“We didn’t get much time off. I had no money. I sent my cheque home. I had a little money, enough for cigarette tobacco. You wouldn’t go very far on what we made at the time.”

“I had been in the hospital for a while and when I came back, they were going to have this drill, pass-out parade. I was unfamiliar with some of what they were doing. I knew some of it but I screwed up and went the wrong way. I would have been alright if I hadn’t screwed up. I was glad to get out of there. I went back to the ‘Irvine’. There was a thing with Marine Division. You went to Navigation School. First you undertook to study on board the ship. There was Navigation School every day. If you needed more training at the school, they put you on night watch on one of the ‘Depot’ ships and you would do patrols around the dockyard where the ships were tied up. In the morning you would get up and go to school.”

“After the ‘Irvine’ I went on the ‘Fairmile’. It was a wooden patrol boat. Like a torpedo boat. There were sixteen members on board. I was a signal man. You were away for long periods of time. You left in April and came back in August. Usually, we went to Newfoundland or up the St. Lawrence, up to Tadasaque. We were searching ships and looking for rum runners from St. Pierre Miquelon.”

When asked about his first police call, Ron replied, “When you were in Newfoundland, you had to transport prisoners and mental patients. On the ‘Fairmile’, I remember we had a man come aboard. He was in a thing to immobilize him. He was giving them a lot of trouble. It wasn’t a straight jacket. It was a thing that you could send him from one ship to another. It was like a canvass that went around him with wooden slats so he couldn’t move and his hands were inside.”

“You could see a little bit of white, curly hair sticking out on one end and two dirty feet at the other end. He had tuberculosis. He was in our mess, like in our bow. It was a place where sailors could sleep. He was sitting on the mess table and he was coughing. Suddenly, he started spitting. Everybody just stopped what they were doing and went up to the hatch and up to the deck. We finished our dinner there. The only one who stayed with him was the wireless operator and a very kind man. He stayed with him and got a bowl of soup from the cook and fed him. It made an impression on me. Lawrence Titus was the operator’s name.”

“From the ‘Fairmile’ I went to a smaller boat, like a harbour patrol boat. You would do that for a while and then they had me going up the Northwest Arm to enforce the Canada Shipping Act. It was a big thing then. From there I went on the ‘Burin’. I had to relieve the skipper. I was in charge for my first time. There was me and the engineer sometimes, that is all. Sometimes we would have a deck hand. We would answer calls day and night. We were on duty twenty-four hours a day. We had one day off, eight thirty in the morning until four thirty in the afternoon. I did that for quite a while. I was married at the time and we lived in Fairview.”

Next, I went to Windsor, Ontario to get ready for ‘Expo’. I was supposed to run the boat. The boat was the ‘Chilcoot’. There were four of us and we patrolled Lake Erie. We were searching ships all the time. Enforced the Shipping Act and that kind of thing. The boat that I had at ‘Expo’ was a new one, the ‘Moosejaw’, a little thirty-six footer. After ‘Expo’ was over, they transferred me to Hamilton. They had plans to open a Sub/Division in Hamilton. They had made arrangements with the Navy to take over the Naval Station. The whole plan fell apart.”

“This was at a time when Marine Division was being phased out. It was a difficult time. You didn’t know where you were. They were making these decisions in Ottawa and Marine Division had nothing to do with it. I put the ‘Moosejaw’ on a flat car, made sure it was secure and that no one was going to steal the propellers. I had to make sure the engines were disconnected, pulled the shafts back into the boat and tied them so you couldn’t pull them out and then sent her on her way. You get attached to boats and I didn’t go with her.”

“From there, I went to Windsor on the ‘Chilcoot’ again, in charge as the skipper. Then I went to Thunder Bay. I was on the ‘Mooseman’. I took her from Windsor to Thunder Bay. There were four of us and we were there for three years. Then we went to Salt Spring Island. That is on the west coast and that was a big move but it was a good move for us. I was on the ‘Sidney’. I was the skipper and we had an engineer and two deck hands. I never had two deck hands and sometimes I didn’t have a deck hand. It was a very informal set-up. Her patrol area was the Gulf Islands and we tied up at Salt Springs. There was a Corporal in charge of Salt Springs and I was a Sergeant. We got along well.”

“When asked about a highlight in his career, Ronald said, “It was my time in Salt Spring Islands on that boat. We were on call twenty-four hours a day and we were always going. You would just get back and somebody would think there was something going on over there and they would call us. On these islands, there was Galliano, which was a provincial park. It was our responsibility to look after the park. The park ranger would call us if there were guys drinking in the park. We would get a truck and a chain somewhere and tie the chain to front bumper of the vehicle that was causing trouble and yarded her out. This was how things were handled. I remember occasions that when there was a problem there, the whole damn community would back you up.”

[At this time, I acknowledge that Ron’s wife Norma was present. She was helping out with some of the questions.]

“When I went to Salt Springs there was a big drug deal. A shipment of cocaine. I have pictures of the boats involved. There were three big boats and one of them was almost as big as the ‘Fairmile’. It was a yacht and she was lined everywhere. They had taken the insulation out and put marijuana in. She was loaded. She had sixteen tons of marijuana. But they lost the cocaine. The people who had the cocaine took it and ran. It isn’t a very bulky material to handle. A little bit goes a long way. They took off with it and burned the boat. They got away with that but it was really interesting.”

“From Salt Springs I went to Campbell River. I was on the ‘Rivett-Carnac’.

When asked about any decisions he made during his career that he regretted, he commented, “No, I don’t think so. Anyway, you really didn’t get to make a lot of decisions. You were told what to do. Police work for me changed quite a bit. I went from checking for life jackets in the North West Arm to being in the fog up in Northern British Columbia.”

When asked about what changed during his career, Ron replied, “The community out west supported us. In Newfoundland, we were looking for contraband coming in from St. Pierre Miquelon. For a lot of poor fishermen, that is what they did. That was a source of income. Everybody knew where the Mountie boat was and they kept an eye out.”

When asked if there was an incident during his career during which he feared for his life, he responded, “No, I don’t think so. Maybe from making a mistake with the boat. If you fell overboard, you were screwed. From a small boat, they make so much noise, you can’t hear. You could yell your lungs out and nobody would hear. You would just be watching as the boat was going away from you. It wouldn’t take long for you to drown.”

“I retired in 1980. I had twenty-five years service. I went down to Halifax for a weekend and met the guys from the re-enactment of the passage through the North West Passage. They had a reunion and a reception. I was talking to them and they were all in red serge. They had their Marine badge on their uniform. We were told to take them off. That was when the Marine Division was disbanded. The west coast guys put them back on.”

“When I retired in Salt Spings in 1980, I stayed there. We had a house and it was a nice place where we lived.”

Ron was a school bus driver for a short time after his retirement from the RCMP and then he joined Newfoundland Ferries as a First Mate until 1997 when he retired again.

Ronald made several miniature scale models of RCMP boats and was also an excellent artist. A photograph of his painting of the wreck of the Fort Walsh, ML 35, off Scaterie is included in this article. He also did photography and developed his own film.

Ronald passed away on January 28, 2021 but we remember him and thank him for his service.

Submitted by Garry A. McCay

Director of History and Artifacts, Nova Scotia Division

Just a wee reminder
Updating Contact Information

If there are any changes to your contact information (phone, email, address, etc.), please don't forget to let us know. This will ensure that your information is up-to-date on our nominal roll and contact list.

AND, you will also need to update your member profile on the RCMPVA website at:

[Member Login - RCMP Veterans' Association / Association des Vétérans de la GRC \(rcmpva.org\)](http://rcmpva.org)

Type in your email address and password and your personal profile page will appear. Select View Profile/Edit Profile to make the necessary changes, and click the SAVE button to retain the changes. If your email address is one of the items that needs to be updated, please sign in with your old email address and password first. Once you are finished updating the information and have saved your entry, simply sign out of the site.

If you have not logged in previously or are having difficulty logging in, send an email to Member Administrator [membership.admin@rcmpva.org] and request assistance.

Our PAL, and the stand has been refurbished and is available for use on request.



I would like to acknowledge an outstanding feat accomplished by one of our Division's serving members, Cpl. Pascal Boudreau, currently posted to Middleton Detachment. On June 12th, he was awarded the Connaught Cup in Regina at the Integrated Training Facility at Depot Division. This award is in recognition of being the **"Best Shot on the Force"** after a competition involving one member representing each Division that chooses to participate. The full story and press release associated with it can be found at

<https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/connaught-cup-2024>.



Photo credit RCMP Integrated Training Facility, Depot Division

Of note, Cpl. Boudreau is the first member of H Division to be awarded this 100+ year old trophy. Well done Cpl. Boudreau.

Pat Moran

Summer **Scotia Vets** August 5, 2024



On May 22nd we liaised with S/Sgt. Marc Rose to commemorate the 50th anniversary of RM women joining the RCMP.

The event was jointly sponsored by the Colchester-East Hants RCMP Vets and the Colchester-East Hants Branch of National Association of Federal Retirees and was held at Bible Hill Det. during an appropriate time for a coffee break (9:30AM - 11:15AM) allowing for drop-ins by those working.

Marc arranged for as many of his women members as possible to be available to join in for camaraderie, cake and refreshments.

Several of our RCMP Veterans attended and Cpl. Sharon Sisson (rtd) was invited to cut the commemorative cake supplied by NAFR. Sharon was in Troop 17 of 1974 (the first woman's troop) and is a resident of Valley, just north of Truro.

During the get-together a short speech highlighting the value of women regular members was given by Al Wellwood and our Regional Director, Cheryl Young also spoke about the cooperative liaisons between RCMP and NAFR.



Photos and narrative submitted by Al Wellwood.

HISTORY – PRESIDENTS OF THE RCMP VETERANS' ASSOCIATION, NOVA SCOTIA



The 30th President of this Division was Reg. # 30379/0.1665, Ian Edward Atkins. He was born on January 3rd 1948 at Accrington, Lancashire, United Kingdom.

Ian enlisted in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police on April 19, 1973 at Ottawa, Ontario.

He trained at “Depot” Division, Regina, Saskatchewan then served in “A” Division, Ottawa in Protective Services. He transferred to “H” Division, Nova Scotia and served at New Minas on General Detachment and Highway Patrol duties. He served in “L” Division, at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island in Commercial Crime. He then transferred to “HQ”, Ottawa, Ontario and served in Commercial Crime, Academic Training, Audit and Evaluation and Professional Standards and Adjudications.

Ian then transferred to “H” Division, Nova Scotia and served at Commercial Crime and was the O i/c Criminal Operations and later became the Commanding Officer of “H” Division. He was then posted to “HQ”, Ottawa, Ontario in Change Management.

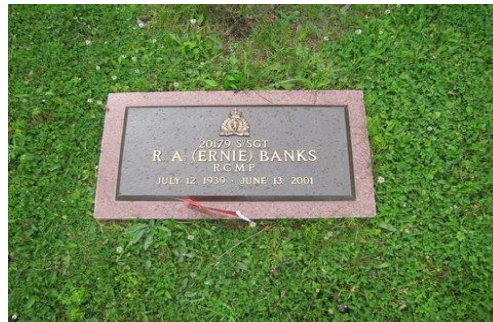
Ian retired from the Force on July 15th, 2010 at the rank of Assistant Commissioner.

He joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Veterans’ Association, Nova Scotia on August 26, 2010 and served as President of the Association from 2012 to 2013 inclusive. He has served as “H” Division Treasurer for many years.

Ian was awarded the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Long Service Medal with Bronze and Silver Clasp. He was also awarded the Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal, the RCMP Canada 125th Medal, the St. John’s Ambulance Medal, the Officer of the Order of Merit (OOM), the Nova Scotia Police Long Service Medal (15 years) and the Lt. Governor’s Award for Administration.

Submitted by Garry A. McCay
Director of History and Artifacts

Gravestone Eligibility Information



{bronze marker & flat granite marker (flush at ground level) and upright granite marker examples}

Neil Fraser has provided this synopsis of highlights:

The applicant has been receiving pension payments - proof required

- \$220 payment from the Force towards a family stone with any reference to Force service. Proof of payment for the stone required.
- SIN of person receiving the \$220 payment required
- Photo of the stone in place required
- Full payment for Regimental headstone or Footstone. Some cemeteries do not allow footstones so check first. Regimental headstone now allows for the inscription of a spouse as well. There are a limited number of designs that are acceptable as a Force headstone or footstone marker. As far as I know all Memorial stone companies are aware of the designs.
- Stones will be inspected on a yearly basis and repairs / cleaning etc. are looked after by your Veterans Association.
- Payment is received from "H" Div. Awards and Recognition Coordinator.
- Stones can be ordered and put in place prior to death.

If you have questions about the gravestone policy or wish to discuss it further, please make contact with Neil Fraser at nfraser191@gmail.com

Here is a link to the full policy

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:va6c2:884f3252-dc9d-46c6-884c-16f3f7c2175a>

On behalf of RCMPVA Nova Scotia Division a donation was made through Neil Fraser, our tabs for chairs coordinator, to Easter Seals this past Christmas. It was a hectic time so we didn't actually go there but transferred the funds. We sent \$1100 and received the attached Thank You from them.



Neil Fraser
RCMP Veterans Association

Dear Neil,

At Easter Seals Nova Scotia, we understand one of the ways to take down barriers and increase independence is the ability to access adaptive supports. These adaptive supports can come with a significant price tag that carries an increased burden on Nova Scotians and their families. With the creation of the Adaptive Support Fund, we hope to alleviate some of this financial hardship.

This program is fully funded through donations like yours, and the donation provided will go to cover existing approved grants so we can increase next year's funding by this amount.

Below are just a few examples of people we have recently helped.

Penny Butler – Nexus walker and M-Rail for bed



Penny is a 74-year-old woman with significant medical history of COPD and severe arthritis. She lives alone in her home and strives to be as independent as possible. She recently started having to use a walker to assist with mobility due to increased pain and increased shortness of breath. We were able to provide Penny with a Nexus walker (pictured here) and an M-Rail for her bed for stability.

Justin Bourdon – Voice Amplifier



Justin at times finds it difficult to speak above a whisper due to breathing and larynx problems. Having a voice amplifier helps take stress off his vocal cords but still allow him to be heard easily. This device has not only helped Justin communicate better with co-workers, family and friends but has also increased his independence out in the community by letting him communicate more easily with people.

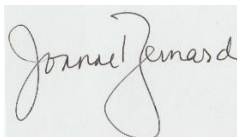
Binder – Early intervention communication device and software program



Holly is a vibrant but non-vocal little girl who we provided a communication device and software program to. Having access to such a device provides Holly with a voice of her own that can be used to communicate her wants and needs, gain increased self-autonomy, help her make friends, engage social activities, and so much more.

We are so very grateful for your continued support of our Assisted Mobility program and truly appreciate you thinking of us in your fundraising efforts.

Sincerely,



Joanne Bernard
President and
CEO



In support of the Tabs program, Tantallon Detachment contacted Neil Fraser to stop by and pick up tabs they have collected from regular drop in donors. A shout out to the Tantallon Detachment and consider this a challenge to other detachments.

Submitted by Neil Fraser



A quick note just to remind you of our 26th annual Corn Boil, being held on September 8, 2024.

However, we need to know how many are attending so that we will know how much corn and sausages to purchase. So, if you are planning to attend, please let me know, no later than September 3, 2024. Responses can be sent to Darryl Cook at: d.s.cook@ns.sympatico.ca

The cost remains the same as last year at \$10.00. Don't forget, you can also invite a guest. This event is enjoyed by all who attend and creates a wonderful atmosphere to enjoy delicious food and great company.

Darryl Cook, Co-Director/Secretary
South Shore Region
NS RCMP Veterans' Association

Don't let fuel prices fill you up with anger.

Are you one of many who revised your vacation plans due to rising gas prices? Goodbye epic road trip, hello picnic in the park! But maybe leaving the car in the garage this summer isn't an option. If that's the case, we suggest you fill up on plenty of advice that will keep rising gas prices from ruining your summer. As a bonus, we'll give you some simple and eco-friendly options when looking for an alternative to taking the car.

Read full article here:

<https://www.belairdirect.com/blog/dont-let-fuel-prices-fill-you-with-anger>



Did you know @belairdirect offers exclusive discounts and enhanced coverage on home and car insurance that are tailored just for you? Get your quote today!

Visit [belairdirect.com/savings](https://www.belairdirect.com/savings) (link to: [Group member discounts on car and home insurance | belairdirect](#))

The following information, which was received from Dave White, is being circulated at the request of Darryl Cook, South Shore Co-Director:

Hello Darryl

Dan Wallace, the class-action lawyer who is my contact person, just got back to me. Mr. Wallace advised all disabled veterans currently receiving monthly disability payments - pensions from Veterans Affairs Canada, will have their compensation payment automatically deposited into their bank account before December 19, 2024.

You will recall the priority is to compensate living veterans first, then the estates of deceased veterans/beneficiaries.

I hope you will pass along this information to RCMP veterans and any other interested parties.

I also appreciate your continuing support and your help in relaying messages of concern to class-action members.

All the best

Dave White

I just fired myself from mowing the lawn. I don't like my attitude and I got caught drinking on the job.

In defense of alcohol, I do a lot of dumb stuff sober too.

It's good thing that last rain storm wasn't snow. Can you imagine shoveling that stuff in this heat?

I'm retired in the sense that I was tired yesterday and today I am tired again.

Summer **Scotia Vets** August 5, 2024



Photo credit – Dan Mallet

Ketchup and beer appeared to be on the menu at Metro Region's annual St. Paddy's Day luncheon.

New Member, Sean Curry (serving) is shown here with his father, association member Norm Curry after his introduction to the membership at the general.



Summer **Scotia Vets** August 5, 2024

meeting held on February 17, 2024,



Left photo - Your executive, regional directors and committee members gathered in Dartmouth for a two-day (May 8 & 9) executive training session. Lots of topics discussed for the betterment of our association along with reports and projected direction of the numerous supporting programs available in our Division.

Right photo - Service pins were presented by your association president, Dan McNaughton, to association members in attendance at the executive training session on May 9 in Dartmouth, NS. (l-r) Dan McNaughton, Ian Atkins (15y), Bruno Deveau (15y) Howard Eaton (10y) and Al Wellwood (20y)

Bottom photo (l-r) Dan McNaughton (l) presenting service pins to Dan Mallet and Stephen Grant on March 16, 2024



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James Arsenault accepting his 20-year service pin from president Dan McNaughton at the general meeting on February 17, 2024.

Tim Brodie and George Locuratolo of Society of Atlantic Heroes were presented with challenge coins and \$1000.00 cheque after their presentation to general meeting on February 17, 2024. The *Society for Atlantic Heroes* provides a place to stay for Veterans, first responders and their families who need to be in Halifax for medical care.

See the below link to learn about the Society.

<https://www.atlanticheroes.org/>



The Commanding Officer
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
80 Garland Ave.,
Dartmouth, NS

2024-02-20

Re: RCMP Graves Inspection Program – 2023/24

During 2023, the majority of all known gravesites of members and/or their spouses in the province were inspected. There are currently 561 known RCMP grave sites that are on our list for yearly inspections – an increase of 4 from the past year. The increase is from recent deaths and locating sites that were not known through the Graves Recovery Project. During inspection, sites are marked with the Divisional Ensign to indicate to relatives or friends that the Force has checked the site. These inspections were carried out by approximately 35 Veteran members throughout the province, many who were assisted by their spouse / partner.

During the 2022 inspections, 25 sites were identified as requiring some maintenance or repair, which included cleaning, re-lettering, new bases, or other work such as straightening of the stone itself. Much of the repair work was performed by Heritage Memorials, the local cemetery maintenance staff, or in some cases, by the inspecting member.

During the inspections in 2023, a further 26 sites have been identified as requiring some type of maintenance or repair. 10 have been identified as requiring professional work through Heritage Memorials or a similar company. This work will be conducted during the summer of 2024. The remaining sites will be assessed to determine if the cleaning or repairs can be done by local cemetery maintenance or by the inspecting members themselves. As per the MOU between “H” Division and the Veterans Association, any maintenance and repair work are being paid directly by the Veterans Association through the funding made available.

A review within the province shows 102 people with service or employment with the Force passed away during 2021 - 2023. Most are RM's. Only 10 locations are known, however, efforts are underway to determine the location of these gravesites so they can be added to the yearly inspection list.

Additional sites are believed to be located throughout the province. With funding from “H” Division since 2015, a project dedicated to locating these marked or unmarked graves has made considerable progress in identifying the sites. Although deceased members / employees have been identified, the grave sites have yet to be located.

Recently we learned of an additional 43 sites in the Annapolis Valley that are not on our inspection list. The cemeteries of the graves are known but there is no indication if they are marked, or where they are in the cemetery. Efforts will be made during the summer to locate these graves and to photograph and note their location by GPS. It should be noted that there are many sites on our inspection list that do not qualify for maintenance or repair due to limited service or the member having passed prior to the inspection process being a death benefit. Most of these are in graveyards or cemeteries which are visited on a yearly basis for

other members, and it is not an inconvenience to check on the sites. If repairs are required, we will advise the family of this.

As noted earlier, there are currently 561 sites on our inspection list. The RCMP Graves Database (which is privately operated by retired Supt Joe Healy) lists 899 gravesites in the province. As they were at one time employees of the Force it is planned to attempt to locate these sites and the background of the employees and determine if they qualify.

Once a grave that does not have reference to Force service is located, follow up work is required. This includes contacting family members to obtain information such as Reg #, years of service etc. to ascertain if the member would have qualified for a Regimental marker. If the member qualifies, it is left to the families to decide if they wish to have the RCMP service recognized. We believe that many family members are not aware that the recognition, as well as care and maintenance of the site, is a benefit that may be available. Once informed, family members can decide if they wish to take advantage of this service or to have any recognition placed on the stone. Currently there are several sites which are ready to be identified as member graves during the coming summer. Metal crests from transfer plaques which have been donated by Veterans can be affixed to the stones if the family wishes. These family members have been contacted and are very pleased that their loved one will receive recognition for serving in the Force. This work has been taken on by Joanne Crampton and Vince Wood, with assistance from other veterans, and with minimal cost to the Veterans Association.

Both Joanne and Vince have taken an active role in locating these sites and identifying next-of-kin. They have a strong interest in genealogy and have been a great resource for the project. Approximately 25 sites are at different stages of the process to determine if NOK can be contacted, and whether the family wishes Force reference at the gravesite. Funding has been set aside specifically for this project and will not be placed in general revenues. Once graves are identified and marked appropriately, they are added to the database and become part of the yearly inspections.

I have attached a spreadsheet with the current information on all known graves in the province. They are sorted alphabetically, with a separate tab showing sites sorted by Detachments in the province. Most sites have photos of the stones held on file. Inspecting members are requested to photograph the stones and submit them with their reports if possible.

The MOU expires at the end of March this year. A renewal to cover the years 24/25 to 26/27 is attached for action. The support of "H" Division to the Graves Inspection Program is greatly appreciated. If you or employees of your Division have any questions or suggestions in relation to the inspection program do not hesitate to contact me at nfraser191@gmail.com or 902-293-8020.

For your information



Director, Graves Inspection Program
RCMP Veterans Association, Nova Scotia Division

Submitted by Neil Fraser

Summer **Scotia Vets** August 5, 2024



Nova Scotia RCMP Veterans' Association

2024 Lottery

4 Chances to Win a Cash prize

1 X \$1000 and 3 X \$500

Nova Scotia Lottery regulations prohibit ticket sales outside the province and our lottery license restricts ticket sales to members of the NS RCMP Veterans' Association. A condition of our Nova Scotia Lottery License also prohibits electronic payments, including e-transfers and PayPal. Therefore, the Association can only accept payment for Lottery Tickets by cash, cheque or money order.

Tickets purchased are eligible for all remaining draw-dates following the date of purchase as outlined in the DRAW SCHEDULE. One ticket will be drawn on each draw date and the drawn ticket will be returned to the drum and included in all remaining draws. The cost of a single ticket will be based on the number of draws remaining at the time of purchase.

To be entered in a draw, payment must be received by the Association at least one day prior to the draw as per the **DRAW SCHEDULE below. Receipts will be issued for all tickets purchased.**

Purchase Options: Cash, Cheque or Money Order

Please make all Cheques / Money Orders payable to:

NS RCMP Vets' Association

In Person:	Cash / Cheque or Money Order [Pay directly to Treasurer - Ian Atkins]
Mail:	<p>Mail Cheque or Money Order to: <i>[Do not send Cash by Mail]</i></p> <p>Nova Scotia RCMP Veterans' Association Mailstop# H-025 80 Garland Ave., Dartmouth, NS B3B 0J8 Attn: Treasurer</p> <p>1. Include a notation the payment is for the 2024 Lottery 2. Include ticket owner's name & telephone #</p>

Draws: 4 **A Cash Prize will be awarded according to the Draw Schedule**
A Winning ticket will be returned to the Lottery Drum for all remaining Draws, so you could win more than once with the same ticket.

***** **DRAW SCHEDULE** *****

Ticket Cost	Purchased prior to Draw on	Cash Prize	Eligible Draws
\$20	September 19th	\$500	4
		NS Lottery Lic #	AGD-335586-23

BENEFITS and INFORMATION WORKSHOP

Yarmouth NS – APRIL 30, 2024

On Tuesday, April 30th the NS RCMP VA Executive and the Support and Advocacy Committee jointly conducted the first full-day Benefits and Information Workshop for 2024 at the Rodd Grand Hotel in Yarmouth.



Sunset in Yarmouth - Town Hall and Frost Park along the Waterfront

Following a Workshop format established last fall in the Truro session, the first part of the morning saw the recently elected NS President Dan McNaughton introduce himself to the attendees. He provided an overview of the recent activities and plans of the Nova Scotia Association. Following that update, Treasurer Ian Atkins updated everyone on the financial status of the NS DIVISION, a break-down of how the annual dues are spent, and also the financial responsibilities of the Association as a Not-for-Profit organization. As a National Director of the RCMP Foundation, Ian also outlined the uses for that charitable fund.

The first guest speaker of the day was Chantel Cunningham RN, who was representing NS Continuing Care. Her message dealt with Home Care and Long-term Care provisions available through that provincial department. She explained the processes for applying for various home care programs and the associated costs.

Prior to the lunch break, Sandy Glenn, the immediate Past President of the national RCMP Veterans' Association, provided updates on the national activities. In his remarks, Sandy informed everyone on initiatives being undertaken to

benefit all members across the country, and to provide assistance to those experiencing difficulties. He also spoke of the upcoming AGM in Edmonton, Alberta in early June.

A soup, sandwich and sweets lunch was served during the noontime break while the attendees had the opportunity to mingle and chat with their Executive and with members of the Support and Advocacy Committee. As is often the case at any of these functions, new acquaintances were made and old friendships were rekindled.

The first speaker in the afternoon was lawyer Raymond Jacquard of Yarmouth. His message included information related to the importance of Wills, Power of Attorney documents and of having a Personal Directive. He also outlined the consequences of not keeping these documents current as a result of changing family dynamics, acquisitions and your own wishes.

The next speaker was Trudy MacDougall – an employee of the RCMP in ‘H’ Division who is the new SOSI Coordinator. The Support for Operational Stress program is available at no cost to all current and former/retired RCMP employees. Connecting with the Coordinator may provide opportunities to chat one-on-one in a confidential environment and can open up avenues to other support resources to assist individuals in learning to cope with operational stress.

The final portion of the day was dedicated to information shared by Vic and Jan Gorman, Co-Directors of the Support and Advocacy Committee of the RCMP VA Nova Scotia Division. They provided updates on the Veterans’ Affairs Canada benefits for serving, former and retired RCMP and their spouses and families – from disability pensions for work-related injuries, to mental health support and the revised list of acceptable medical practitioners who can complete the VAC medical questionnaires, to a possible residual pension for a surviving spouse following the death of the member with the VAC disability pension. They also included updates on the Canada Life health and dental coverage, travel information related to out of country insurance coverage, and other supports available.

This workshop would not have been possible without the efforts of Region Directors Jeff and Karen Holmes who, along with Ken Jacquard, serve as the Support and Advocacy Committee Consultants in the Yarmouth Region.

THANK YOU.



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Cecilia Dove, retired RCMP,
now works in Parking & Curbside Services
at Halifax Airport

Sue Sarkany, retired RCMP Security Service member,
now serves as a Recruiter for Commissionaires NS

Stephen Grant, retired RCMP Intelligence Officer,
became a Risk & Resilience Advisor at CNS Head Office



Pension & Benefits Reference Contacts – July 1, 2023

Pertains To	Website	Phone #	Details
<p>RCMP Pension administered by</p> <p>Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC)</p>	<p>www.rcmp-grc.pension.gc.ca</p> <p>https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/remuneration-compensation/index-eng.html</p>	<p>1-855-502-7090 (all ranks other than below)</p> <p>1-855-502-7088 (for levels EX-01-C/Supt. & above)</p> <p>1-800-561-7930 Public Servants</p>	<p>Have the Pension number and/or HRMIS number available.</p>
<p>Veteran's Affairs Canada (VAC)</p>	<p>www.veterans.gc.ca</p> <p>Select My VAC Account Select Sign In Sign-in Partner or GC Key Input Username & Password</p>	<p>1-866-522-2122</p>	<p>Have the CSDN – "K" Number available.</p>
<p>Canada Pension Plan (CPP) Old Age Security (OAS) Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) Survivor's Benefit Disability Payments</p>	<p>www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/publicpensions.html</p> <p>Select language of choice Select Benefits Select Pensions</p>	<p>1-800-277-9914</p>	<p>Have the Social Insurance Number (SIN) available.</p>
<p>RCMP Group Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plan</p> <p>Administered by SEB Administrative Services</p>	<p>www.pbs-sra.ca</p> <p>Input User ID & Password You may enter as GUEST or SURVIVOR</p> <p>On June 14, 2021, the administration of the RCMP Group Life Insurance Plans was transferred to SEB Administrative Services. For information or to make changes to your group life insurance coverage, please visit https://fp.seb-admin.com/fpconnect/#/rcmp-glc or contact the RCMP Group Life Insurance Centre from Monday to Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time (E.T.) at: 1-877-778-8084.</p>	<p>1-877-778-8084</p>	<p>Have Pension number &/or HRMIS number &/or other personal information available.</p>
<p>Public Service Health Care Plan – PSHCP (Canada Life)</p>	<p>Canadalife.com/pshcp and Public Service Health Care Plan - Canada.ca</p> <p>Each member's Contract number depends upon month of birth (dependent's contract number is 52115) Certificate Number remains as before.</p> <p>*** Effective July 1, 2023 – now administered by CANADA LIFE</p>	<p>1-855-415-4414</p>	<p>Have individual Group Contract Number & Certificate number available</p>

Blue Cross - Medavie	www.medaviebc.ca Select Account Login Select VAC Input Username & Password	1-888-261-4033	Have Client Number available.
Pensioners' Dental Services Plan - PDSP (Sun Life)	www.sunlife.ca/pdsp Group CONTRACT number is 255555 Each member has a Certificate Number on their card Input Access ID & Personal Password NOTE – SUN LIFE continues to administer this benefit after July 1, 2023	1-888-757-7427	Have Group Contract Number & Certificate Number available.
Bureau of Pension Advocates (VAC)	www.veterans.gc.ca <u>How to review or appeal a decision - Veterans' rights - Veterans Affairs Canada</u>	1-877-228-2250	If you applied for disability benefits from VAC & received a negative response to the application, you may qualify for support from the Bureau of Pensions Advocates.
Canada Revenue Agency Disability Tax Credit (DTC)	https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/individuals/segments/tax-credits-deductions-persons-disabilities/disability-tax-credit.html	1-800-959-8281	Require SIN
GST Office	https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&q=gst+office+canada	1-800-959-8281	
VAC ASSISTANCE SERVICE	24/7 PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT FOR VETERANS & FAMILIES	1-800-268-7708	NO FEE