



**RCMP
VETERANS'
ASSOCIATION
Ottawa Division**

**ASSOCIATION
DES VÉTÉRANS
DE LA GRC
Division d'Ottawa**

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Events - Événements

March 29 mars: Model Train Event / Événement de train miniature- Villa Marconi, at 1026 Baseline Road, Ottawa

May 22 mai: Sunset Ceremony at Beechwood/ Cérémonie du crépuscule à Beechwood

May 23 mai: 152nd Anniversary Ceremony at Beechwood/ Cérémonie du 152e anniversaire à Beechwood

June 6 juin: 10th Annual BBQ at Long Island / 10e BBQ annuel à Long Island



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Association des Vétérans de la GRC—Division d'Ottawa

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National Memorial Cemetery		
Beechwood	Kevin Mole	Cimetière commémoratif national, à Beechwood
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Memorial Maintenance Program	Joe Healy	Programme d'entretien des mémoriaux

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The Spirit est publié par et pour les membres de l'Association des Vétérans de la GRC, Division d'Ottawa. Les éditoriaux et les opinions publiés dans ce bulletin d'information ne sont pas nécessairement ceux de la Division.

COVER PHOTO: Artist unknown.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the Division Executive Committee, I would like to wish every member of Ottawa Division a happy and healthy 2025.

As most of you are aware we paused the January 2025 Regular Meeting so that the new Executive could meet and have a strategic planning meeting. For this year our priorities are as follows.

1. Communications: Ottawa Division, in support of the Associations communications policy is striving to "increase the Association's profile through an informative, relevant and timely communication network which meets the needs of our membership while supporting the Association's Purpose, Mission, Vision and Values."

In 2024, the ODVA website had been active for nearly 3 years, and it was determined that it was time for a refresh. A content audit was conducted, and another service provider was identified to accomplish this important initiative. Unfortunately, the old website suffered a critical error" in the Fall of 2024, one that it was not able to recover from. Therefore, workarounds and solutions have been found to now move forward.

Ottawa Division is committing to having a new website available for our membership as quickly as possible to meet our communication needs for today and into the future.

2. Recruiting & Retention: Ottawa Division, in support of the Associations initiatives to recruit and retain those who have chosen to join the RCMP Veterans' Association, acknowledges that "Our Association is a network of former RCMP employees who are dedicated to retaining our strong ties forged in the Force, investing in each other to maintain and expand a coordinated network of mutual support for today, tomorrow, and always."

Ottawa Division also recognizes that "Our primary role is to provide a network of support for one another."

Ottawa Division is committing to having a recruiting and retention strategy for the 2025 fiscal year understanding that this aligns with our Mission "To be responsive to the physical, psychological, social and economic welfare of all former employees of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and their families."

3. Information/Record Management: Ottawa Division recognizes that in these current times there is a vast amount of information and records that are generated through the everyday activities of the division. Proper storage and maintenance of these records in this digital age is very important.

The Director of Administrative Services has been asked to examine and to commence the development of appropriate procedures surrounding the proper management of information and records for the Ottawa Division.





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—CONTINUED

The three items above denote what the Ottawa Division Executive has made out to be priority initiatives for the year 2025. Along with these, the Ottawa Division is also committed to continue in its delivery of the following:

1. Timely Communications through Email;
2. Publication of The Spirit;
3. Social Events;
4. Honours & Recognition Events;
5. Regular General Meetings;
6. Member Service Initiatives:
 - A. Advocacy;
 - B. Visitation of those in need;
 - C. Christmas Hampers;
7. Education Awards

A recently viewed quote on the LinkedIn site and for some may resonate to the challenges of 2025:

"Bison are the only animal that turns into a snowstorm rather than away from it because they instinctively know that walking into the storm will get them out of the weather quicker. There may be a life lesson for humans in this. It also makes for some epic pictures.

No matter what you're battling going into 2025...be a damn Bison!!!! Face it & move forward!"



Upon reflection, being a Bison means to strive for excellence in what you choose to do, with pride and passion in everything you do.

As always, stay positive, stay healthy, stay safe.

Sincerely



Message du Président

Au nom du Comité exécutif de la Division, j'aimerais souhaiter à tous les membres de la Division d'Ottawa une année 2025 remplie de bonheur et de santé.

Comme la plupart d'entre vous le savent, nous avons annulé la réunion régulière du mois de janvier 2025 afin de permettre au nouveau comité exécutif de se réunir et de tenir une réunion de planification stratégique. Nos priorités pour cette année sont les suivantes.



Communications : La Division d'Ottawa, conformément à la politique de communication de l'Association, veille à « accroître la visibilité de l'Association grâce à un réseau de communication informatif, pertinent et opportun qui répond aux besoins de nos membres tout en soutenant la raison d'être, la mission, la vision et les valeurs de l'Association. »

En 2024, avec près de trois ans d'existence, on a constaté qu'il a été temps de remettre à jour le site web de l'AVDO. Une vérification du contenu a été effectuée et un autre fournisseur de services a été identifié afin de mener à bien cette importante initiative. Malheureusement, à l'automne 2024, une erreur critique s'est produite affectant l'ancien site web, erreur que l'on n'a pas été en mesure de corriger. Par conséquent, des solutions de rechange ont été identifiées afin d'aller de l'avant.

La Division d'Ottawa s'engage à mettre en ligne, le plus rapidement possible, un nouveau site Web à la disposition de ses membres afin de répondre à nos besoins de communication actuels et futurs.

Recrutement et rétention : La Division d'Ottawa, soucieuse d'appuyer les initiatives de l'Association visant à recruter et à maintenir les personnes qui ont choisi d'adhérer à l'Association des Vétérans de la GRC, reconnaît que « notre Association est un réseau d'anciens employés de la GRC qui sont déterminés à conserver les liens solides qu'ils ont tissés au sein de la Gendarmerie, en investissant les uns dans les autres afin de maintenir et d'élargir un réseau coordonné de soutien mutuel et ce, pour aujourd'hui, pour demain, et toujours. »

La Division d'Ottawa reconnaît également que « notre rôle principal est de fournir un réseau de soutien mutuel ».

La Division d'Ottawa s'engage à se doter d'une stratégie de recrutement et de rétention pour l'année fiscale 2025, en tenant compte du fait que cette stratégie s'inscrit dans le cadre de notre mission, qui consiste à « veiller au bien-être physique, psychologique, social et économique de tous les anciens employés de la Gendarmerie royale du Canada et de leur famille ».

Gestion de l'information et des dossiers : La Division d'Ottawa reconnaît qu'à l'heure actuelle, une grande quantité d'informations et de dossiers sont générés dans le cadre des activités quotidiennes de la Division. À l'ère du numérique, il est très important de conserver et de tenir à jour ces dossiers de façon appropriée.

Le directeur des services administratifs a été chargé d'examiner et d'entreprendre l'élaboration de procédures appropriées concernant la gestion des informations et des dossiers de la Division d'Ottawa.

Les trois points ci-dessus indiquent ce que l'exécutif de la division d'Ottawa a défini comme des initiatives prioritaires pour l'année 2025. En plus de ces initiatives, la Division d'Ottawa s'est également engagée à poursuivre les activités suivantes. à poursuivre ses activités dans les domaines suivants :



Message du Président—Suite

1. Les communications en temps opportun par courriel
2. La publication de la revue *The Spirit*
3. Les activités sociales
4. Les cérémonies de Reconnaissance et distinctions honorifiques
5. Les assemblées générales régulières
6. Initiatives en matière de services aux membres
 - A. Plaidoyer
 - B. Visite des personnes dans le besoin
 - C. Paniers de Noël
7. Bourses d'études

Une citation publiée récemment sur le site LinkedIn et qui, pour certains, pourrait faire écho aux défis de 2025 :

« Le bison est le seul animal qui affrontera dans la tempête de neige plutôt que de s'en éloigner, car il sait instinctivement que marcher dans la tempête le sortira plus rapidement du mauvais temps. Il y a peut-être là une leçon de vie pour les humains. Cela donne également lieu à des images épiques. »

« Peu importe ce que vous affronterez en 2025... Soyez un sacré Bison !!!!
Faites-y face et aller de l'avant! »



Après réflexion, être un Bison signifie viser l'excellence dans ce que l'on choisit de faire, avec fierté et passion dans tout ce que l'on fait.

Comme toujours, restez positifs, en santé et en sécurité.

Cordialement



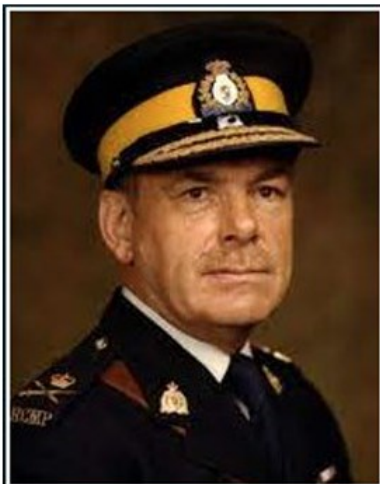
We are here to heal,
not harm.
We are here to love,
not hate.
We are here to create
not destroy.

Commemorative Pathway Plaque Program ~ RCMP National Memorial Cemetery at Beechwood

To honour the proud traditions of the Force and help in maintaining the legacy of our service to Canada's communities, a group of RCMP Veterans - Ottawa Division have since 2019 been working closely with the Beechwood Cemetery Foundation on a commemorative plaque program. It is a small but significant initiative that studies the history of the Mounted Police, records many of its important people, groups, events and key accomplishments and then memorializes them on informative plaques that are placed along the pathways in this cemetery. In addition to bilingual inscriptions and images, each commemorative plaque is equipped with a near field communication (NFC) device. The NFC allows visitors and students who have smart phones and tablets the opportunity to link directly to a website that provides additional explanation and detail on the subject background.

At the close of the annual May 23rd Vigil & RCMP 151st Anniversary Parade and Memorial Services, a number of new commemorative plaques were dedicated for 2024.

Throughout the 150-year history of the Mounted Police, Canada has truly benefited from the dedication, service and exemplary leadership of a number of its Commissioners. A special area near the Main Monument in the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery at Beechwood has recently been set aside to recognize and celebrate some of these leaders. Commissioner Maurice J. Nadon was selected as the first Commissioner to be honoured at this site.



Commissioner Maurice Jean Nadon (1974/1977)

Maurice Nadon, from Mat-tawa, Ontario, was the 16th Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He brought a wealth of police and investigative experience from cross Canada to his appointment.



Notably, Commissioner Nadon steered the Force through challenges of public scrutiny, fostering modernization and significant change. He played a pivotal role in directing operations during the 1976 XXIst Olympiad in Montréal and advocated for intensified efforts against organized crime. Under his

leadership, the RCMP's Canadian Police College and Canadian Police Information Centre underwent crucial modernization to support law enforcement nationwide.

Commissioner Nadon's impact extended to the establishment of the RCMP's first national Native Policing Branch, the institution of the First Nations Special Constable Program and the roll-out nationally of Cross-Cultural training and Police-Community Relations units. His transformative initiatives included the development of the RCMP Member Staff Relations Program, francophone cadet training, paid overtime, and the integration of women into the RCMP.

In recognition of his contributions, a patrol vessel and the RCMP's National Headquarters, named the "Nadon" and "MJ Nadon Government of Canada Building" respectively, honour his legacy. Throughout his 37-year career, Commissioner Nadon was an exemplary and visionary leader.

Commemorative Pathway Plaque Program - Continued



Joining Commissioner Nadon's daughter Suzanne Nadon-Metcalf (far right) in the unveiling of a plaque honouring Commissioner Nadon are (left to right) retired Commissioner Senator Bev Busson, Deputy Commissioner Jodie Boudreau, retired Commissioner Brenda Lucki, retired Commissioner Philip Murray, ODVA President Wayne Jacquard and Minister of Veterans Affairs Canada Madame Ginette Petitpas Taylor. (photo courtesy of Gilbert Bouffard)

The RCMP Band



From the outset of the long and colourful history of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, music and bands contributed to the Force's culture, traditions, and overall success. As playing a musical instrument was a very popular pastime in the late 1800's, many members of the North-West Mounted Police were also capable musicians.

The first Mounted Police band was formed at Swan River, Manitoba, where it gave its première performance on May 24, 1876. In the fall of that year, the group also played during ceremonies for the signing of Treaty No. 6 at Forts Carleton and Pitt, and in 1877, performed the same role at Blackfoot Crossing for the signing of Treaty No. 7. The success of the Swan River band on those

occasions quickly led to similar groups being formed at many NWMP forts on the Prairies, and at Dawson City in the Yukon.

In 1938, efforts by Commissioner S.T. Wood to rekindle the early traditions and character of the Mounted Police led to the formation of the RCMP Band. Over the years, members of the Band regularly took part in ceremonies, celebrations, and events of national historic importance, welcomed royalty and heads of state and represented Canada and the RCMP abroad.

Before ceasing operations in 1994, the Band traveled extensively across Canada and abroad promoting closer ties between the Force and the communities it served. Accomplished, entertaining, and impressive in concert, the RCMP Band was revered by enthusiastic audiences of all ages and walks of life. It was a highly respected, well recognized, and beloved Canadian institution that performed in more locations, throughout our great country, than any other musical aggregation in history.

Commemorative Pathway Plaque Program - Continued

The RCMP Band



Participating in the unveiling ceremony are veteran RCMP Band members (seated left to right) Jim Gayfer, Drummond Hudson, Dean Tronsgard, and (second row - left to right) guest retired Commissioner Brenda Lucki, Jim Brough, guest retired Commissioner Philip Murray, guest retired Commissioner Senator Bev Busson, Randy Demon, Gord Price, Murray Cuthbert, Harold Pretty, Garth Hampson, Peter Carrs, Craig Kennedy, Sid Arnold and Gary Morton (photo courtesy of Gilbert Bouffard)



16 Former Band members attended the unveiling of their commemorative plaque including (seated left to right) Jim Gayfer, Drummond Hudson, Dean Tronsgard, and (standing left to right) Ken Isles, Murray Cuthbert, Jim Brough, Craig Kennedy, Doug Thomas, Sid Arnold, Randy Demon, Harold Pretty, non Band member Henry Dzuba, Gary Morton and Garth Hampson. Attending but not in this photo Keith Estabrooks. (Photo courtesy of Veterans Affairs Canada)



Commemorative Pathway Plaque Program - Continued



Dedicated in 2024, the RCMP Band commemorative pathway plaque highlights some of the history of the Band since its early days until its function was retired in 1994. Special care was taken to ensure that the Lyre patch from the Band members' uniform, the actual music notation of Charles O'Neil's Regimental March (based on the original "Regimental Bugle Call" of the Mounted Police), and former RCMP artist Paul Cedarburg's pin design created especially for the RCMP Showband, all found their way to this plaque. (photo courtesy of Gilbert Bouffard)

Women in Uniform – The first 50 years

The last commemoration of the day celebrates the special anniversary for women Regular Members in the RCMP. While women had historically held positions in the Force, some of which were very critical to police operations, it wasn't until 50 years ago that they were sworn in as police officers, held a badge and wore the uniform of the RCMP.

On May 23rd in 1974, on the 101st anniversary of the Force, Commissioner Maurice Nadon announced that the RCMP would begin recruiting women candidates for uniformed regular member police officer positions. Thirty-two females from across Canada were simultaneously sworn in on September 16, 1974, as Troop 17, becoming the first women to join the Force as regular members, and were sent to Depot Division in Regina to commence their training. Upon successfully graduating in March 1975, they were assigned to serve in detachments throughout Canada. While few modifications were made to training standards when women entered the Force, uniforms and kit initially designed for women proved to be cumbersome and impractical for police duties. In 1990, the RCMP decided that women members would wear the same ceremonial and service uniforms and kit as the men. These earlier women members—and for the many who followed—faced, at times in their careers, difficult challenges from some of their male counterparts, managers and often even the public they served.



Commemorative Pathway Plaque Program - Continued

Throughout this formative period, women regular members proudly lined up with their male counterparts, faced the same dangers and challenges and performed the full range of both general and specialized policing duties. Those who paid with their lives in the line of duty are forever remembered on the RCMP Honour Roll.

In December 2006, Beverley MacDonald, today, Senator Bev Busson, an original member of Troop 17 was appointed as the 21st RCMP Commissioner and the first woman to lead the entire Force. Today women regular members make up more than twenty percent of the uniformed police service and earn their way through the ranks from Constable to Detachment/Unit/District Commander to Division Commanding Officer and Commissioner.

Women in uniform are well regarded and respected by the public and their peers and continue to make significant contributions as RCMP officers in every part of Canada and around the world. This special plaque will remain installed permanently at the central pathway at the Fallen member Cenotaph.



Participating in the unveiling of the “Women in Uniform – First 50 years” commemorative plaque (left to right) retired Commissioner Senator Bev Busson, RCMP Deputy Commissioner Jodie Boudreau, ODVA Parade Sgt-at-Arms Christine Windover, ODVA Vice President & Parade Commander Luisa Russo-Lemay, retired Commissioner Brenda Lucki, retired Commissioner Philip Murray and Minister Veterans Affairs Canada Madame Ginette Petitpas Taylor. (photo courtesy of Gilbert Bouffard)

The RCMP National Memorial Cemetery at Beechwood Committee continues to seek suggestions for meaningful subjects to consider for the commemorative plaque program, raise donations to support the costs of the program and with the help of Beechwood staff, organize commemoration ceremonies. Through the efforts of this collaboration, we hope to raise awareness of the importance of the RCMP, the dedication of its men and its women throughout Canada’s history, and to maintaining the legacy of those who have come before us.

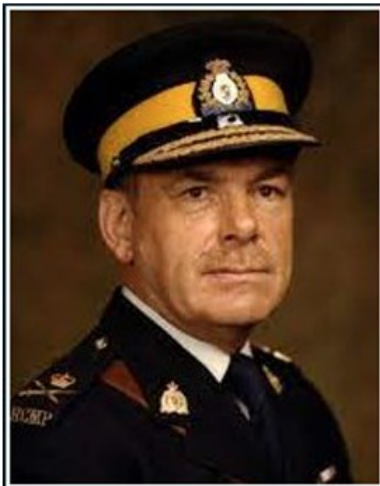
Prepared by Kevin Mole, Veteran ODVA and Committee Chair RCMP National Memorial Cemetery, Beechwood.

Programme de plaques commémoratives du sentier—*Cimetière commémoratif national de la GRC à Beechwood*

Afin d'honorer les fières traditions de la GRC et aider à maintenir l'héritage de notre service aux communautés du Canada, un groupe de vétérans de la GRC - Division d'Ottawa travaille depuis 2019 en étroite collaboration avec la Fondation du cimetière Beechwood sur un programme de plaques commémoratives. Il s'agit d'une initiative modeste mais significative qui étudie l'histoire de la Police montée, enregistre bon nombre de ses personnages, groupes, événements et réalisations clés, puis les commémore sur des plaques informatives placées le long des sentiers de ce cimetière. En plus des inscriptions et des images bilingues, chaque plaque commémorative est équipée d'un appareil de communication en champ proche (CCP). Ce dispositif permet aux visiteurs et aux étudiants disposant de téléphones intelligents et de tablettes de créer un lien direct vers un site Web fournissant des explications et des détails supplémentaires sur le sujet.

À la clôture de la veillée annuelle du 23 mai et du défilé et des services commémoratifs du 151^e anniversaire de la GRC, un certain nombre de nouvelles plaques commémoratives ont été inaugurées pour 2024.

Tout au long des 150 ans d'histoire de la Police montée, le Canada a véritablement bénéficié du dévouement, du service et du leadership exemplaire de plusieurs de ses commissaires. Une zone spéciale près du monument principal de ce cimetière a récemment été réservée pour reconnaître et célébrer certains de ces dirigeants. Ce jour-là, nous avons dévoilé notre première plaque honorant le commissaire Maurice John Nadon.



Commissaire Maurice Jean Nadon (1974/1977)
Originaire de Mattawa, en Ontario, Maurice J. Nadon a été le 16^e commissaire de la Gendarmerie royale du Canada. Il a apporté à cette fonction une vaste expérience du travail policier et des enquêtes acquise aux quatre coins du pays.



Au cours de son mandat, il a guidé la GRC alors qu'elle a traversé une période difficile sous la loupe du public et l'a amenée à se moderniser. Il a joué un rôle de premier plan dans la direction des opérations lors des XXI^{es} Jeux olympiques à Montréal en 1976 et a préconisé une lutte accrue contre le crime organisé. Sous son leadership, le Collège canadien de police et le Centre d'information de la police canadienne de la GRC se sont considérablement modernisés pour mieux appuyer les services de police partout au pays.

Il a contribué à la mise en œuvre du premier service national de police autochtone de la GRC, du Programme des gendarmes spéciaux autochtones et de groupes de formation interculturelle et de relations entre la police et les communautés à l'échelle nationale. Parmi les initiatives de transformation qu'il a pilotées, citons la création du Programme des représentants des relations fonctionnelles de la GRC, la formation des cadets francophones, la rémunération des heures supplémentaires et l'intégration de femmes à la GRC.

En reconnaissance de ses contributions, un navire de patrouille et l'immeuble de la Direction générale de la GRC ont été baptisés respectivement le *Nadon* et l'immeuble M. J. Nadon du gouvernement du Canada. Tout au long de ses 37 années de carrière, il a été un leader exemplaire et un visionnaire.

Programme de plaques commémoratives du sentier—*Cimetière commémoratif national de la GRC à Beechwood—Suite*



Se joignant à la fille du commissaire Nadon, Suzanne Nadon-Metcalf (à l'extrême droite) lors du dévoilement d'une plaque honorant le commissaire Nadon, se trouvent (de gauche à droite) la commissaire à la retraite, la sénatrice Bev Busson, la sous-commissaire Jodie Boudreau, la commissaire à la retraite Brenda Lucki, le commissaire à la retraite Philip Murray, le président de l'ODVA. Wayne Jacquard et la ministre des Anciens Combattants Canada, Madame Ginette Petitpas Taylor. (photo gracieuseté de Gilbert Bouffard)

The RCMP Band



Dès le début de la longue histoire colorée de la Gendarmerie royale du Canada, la musique et les orchestres ont contribué à la culture, aux traditions et au succès global de la Gendarmerie. Comme jouer d'un instrument de musique était un passe-temps très populaire à la fin des années 1800, de nombreux membres de la Police à cheval du Nord-Ouest (P.C.N.-O.) étaient également des musiciens compétents. Le premier orchestre de la P.C.N.-O. a été formé à Swan River, au Manitoba, où il a donné sa première représentation le 24 mai 1876. À l'automne de la même année, le groupe a également joué lors des cérémonies de signature du Traité n° 6 aux forts Carleton et Pitt et, en 1877, il a assumé le même rôle à Blackfoot Crossing pour la signature

du Traité n° 7. Le succès de l'Orchestre de Swan River à ces occasions a conduit rapidement à la formation de groupes semblables dans de nombreux forts de la P.C.N.-O. dans les Prairies et à Dawson City au Yukon.

En 1938, les efforts du commissaire S.T. Wood, pour raviver les anciennes traditions et le caractère de la Gendarmerie ont conduit à la formation de l'Orchestre de la GRC. Au fil des ans, ses musiciens ont participé régulièrement à des cérémonies, des célébrations et des événements d'importance historique, accueilli la royauté et les chefs d'État et représenté le Canada et la GRC à l'étranger. Jusqu'à la fin de ses activités en 1994, cet orchestre a énormément voyagé dans tout le pays, ainsi qu'à l'étranger, afin de resserrer les liens entre la Gendarmerie et les collectivités bénéficiaires de ses services. Aussi divertissant qu'impressionnant sur scène grâce à ses musiciens accomplis, il a su conquérir des publics enthousiastes de tous les âges et de tous les horizons. Ce fut une institution canadienne appréciée, hautement respectée et de

Programme de plaques commémoratives du sentier—*Cimetière commémoratif national de la GRC à Beechwood*—Suite



Participant à la cérémonie de dévoilement des membres vétérans de la bande de la GRC (assis de gauche à droite) Jim Gayfer, Drummond Hudson, Dean Tronsgard et (deuxième rangée - de gauche à droite) la commissaire invitée à la retraite Brenda Lucki, Jim Brough, le commissaire invité à la retraite Philip Murray, invité. Le sénateur commissaire à la retraite Bev Busson, Randy Demmon, Gord Price, Murray Cuthbert, Harold Pretty, Garth Hampson, Peter Carrs, Craig Kennedy, Sid Arnold et Gary Morton (photo gracieuseté de Gilbert Bouffard)



16 anciens membres du groupe ont assisté au dévoilement de leur plaque commémorative, dont (assis de gauche à droite) Jim Gayfer, Drummond Hudson, Dean Tronsgard et (debout de gauche à droite) Ken Isles, Murray Cuthbert, Jim Brough, Craig Kennedy, Doug Thomas, Sid Arnold, Randy

Demmon, Harold Pretty, Henry Dzuba (non membre du groupe), Gary Morton et Garth Hampson. Keith Estabrooks est présent mais pas sur cette photo. (Photo gracieuseté d'Anciens Combattants Canada)

Programme de plaques commémoratives du sentier—*Cimetière commémoratif national de la GRC à Beechwood—Suite*



Dédiée en 2024, la plaque commémorative du sentier de l'orchestre de la GRC met en lumière une partie de l'histoire de l'orchestre depuis ses débuts jusqu'à ce que sa fonction prenne fin en 1994. Un soin particulier a été pris pour s'assurer que l'écusson Lyre de l'uniforme des membres de l'orchestre, la musique réelle de la notation de la marche régimentaire de Charles O'Neil (basée sur l'appel original du clairon régimentaire de la Police montée) et le dessin d'une épinglette de l'ancien artiste de la GRC, Paul Cedarburg, créé spécialement pour le Showband de la GRC, ont tous trouvé leur place sur cette plaque. (photo gracieuseté de Gilbert Bouffard)

Femmes en uniforme – les 50 premières années

La dernière commémoration de la journée célèbre l'anniversaire spécial des femmes membres régulières de la GRC. Bien que les femmes aient historiquement occupé des postes au sein de la Gendarmerie, dont certains étaient très essentiels aux opérations policières, ce n'est qu'il y a 50 ans qu'elles ont prêté serment comme policières, détenaient un insigne et portaient l'uniforme de la GRC.

Le 23 mai 1974, à l'occasion du 101^e anniversaire de la GRC, le commissaire M. J. Nadon a annoncé que la GRC recruterait désormais des femmes pour remplir des fonctions policières en uniforme. Le 16 septembre 1974, 32 femmes provenant des quatre coins du pays ont été assermentées simultanément, devenant ainsi les premières femmes à entrer dans la GRC à titre de membres régulières. Elles se sont ensuite rendues à la Division Dépôt, à Regina, pour suivre leur formation dans la troupe 17. Après avoir obtenu leur diplôme en mars 1975, elles ont été affectées dans des détachements à divers endroits au Canada. Quelques modifications avaient été apportées aux normes de formation à l'arrivée de femmes à la GRC, mais les uniformes et le matériel conçus pour elles étaient encombrants et peu pratiques pour effectuer des tâches policières.



Programme de plaques commémoratives du sentier—*Cimetière commémoratif national de la GRC à Beechwood*—Suite

En 1990, la GRC a décidé que les femmes porteraient les mêmes uniformes de service et de cérémonie que les hommes. Ces premières policières et celles qui ont suivi ont parfois eu à composer avec des collègues masculins, des gestionnaires et des membres du public qui leur *ont rendu la vie difficile*.

Pendant cette période initiale, ces femmes ont fièrement travaillé aux côtés de leurs homologues masculins, affronté les mêmes dangers et défis et accompli l'éventail complet de tâches policières générales et spécialisées. Malheureusement, certaines ont péri dans l'exercice de leurs fonctions et sont inscrites au Tableau d'honneur de la GRC.

En décembre 2006, Beverley Busson (MacDonald), membre de la troupe 17 (1974-1975), a été nommée 21^e commissaire de la GRC et a été la première femme à diriger l'organisation. De nos jours, les membres régulières représentent plus de vingt pour cent de l'effectif policier en uniforme et gravissent les échelons, du poste de gendarme à celui de chef de détachement, de service ou de district, de commandante divisionnaire et de commissaire. Elles sont très estimées et respectées par le public et leurs pairs et continuent d'apporter une contribution importante en tant que policières dans toutes les régions du Canada et dans le monde entier.

Cette plaque spéciale restera installée en permanence sur ce chemin central.



Participant au dévoilement de la plaque commémorative « Les femmes en uniforme – 50 premières années » (de gauche à droite) la commissaire à la retraite sénatrice Bev Busson, la sous-commissaire de la GRC Jodie Boudreau, la sergent d'armes du défilé de l'ODVA Christine Windover, vice-présidente et commandante du défilé de l'ODVA Luisa Russo-Lemay, la commissaire à la retraite Brenda Lucki, le commissaire à la retraite Philip Murray et la ministre des Anciens Combattants Canada, Madame Ginette Petitpas Taylor. (photo gracieuseté de Gilbert Bouffard)

Le Comité du Cimetière commémoratif national de la GRC à Beechwood continue de rechercher des suggestions de sujets importants à considérer pour le programme de plaques commémoratives, de recueillir des dons pour soutenir les coûts du programme et, avec l'aide du personnel de Beechwood, d'organiser des cérémonies de commémoration. Grâce aux efforts de cette collaboration, nous espérons sensibiliser à l'importance de la GRC, au dévouement de ses hommes et de ses femmes tout au long de l'histoire du Canada, et à maintenir l'héritage de ceux qui nous ont précédés.

Préparé par Kevin Mole, vétéran de l'ODVA et président du comité du cimetière commémoratif national de la GRC, Beechwood.

Christmas Cheer Follow-Up

Submitted by Pierre Bélanger, ODVA Chaplain:

RCMP Veterans Association, Ottawa Division, just completed two holiday initiatives that they have been organizing each Christmas for more than 10 years.

Members of the Association put together 55 Christmas hampers which have been distributed to the spouses of Ottawa area RCMP veterans who passed away in the past year and to current veterans who are shut-ins or are currently in hospital or for other reasons are unable to get around.

A second initiative is baking and providing Christmas cookies for distribution to homeless or street involved youth who are served by Operation Come Home, a not-for-profit organization which assists youth experiencing homelessness to achieve their goals, and avoid the experience of homelessness as an adult. They offer Employment, Education, Housing, Mental Health, Harm Reduction, and Drop-In programs for at-risk youth aged 16-29.

This year's cookie drive resulted in over 3,000 home baked cookies being donated. Volunteer Veterans packed cookie boxes donated by a local Metro Grocery store which were brought to OCH to be distributed to 128 youth. In addition, several trays of pastries, and tins of quality commercial cookies were made available to the youth and staff at OCH to eat while at the drop-in centre in downtown Ottawa.



EDITOR'S NOTE: Many thanks to ODVA members and families who contributed their time and efforts to support these community initiatives...

MEDAL PRESENTATION

On December 3, 2024, members of the Division Executive Committee met for the monthly meeting. During the luncheon recess, presentations were made to members of ODVA.

The presentations were for the King Charles III's Coronation Medal, commemorating the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III as King of Canada.

Eligibility and criteria are as follows: Candidates must have made a significant contribution to Canada or to a particular province, territory, region or community of Canada, or have made an outstanding achievement abroad that brings credit to Canada.

The medal program was first announced three days before the Coronation, on May 3, 2023, by the Prime Minister.

The medal was designed by Cathy Bursey-Sabourin, Fraser Herald at the Canadian Heraldic Authority at the Chancellery of Honours, Rideau Hall.

Description:

A circular medal, silver in colour:

On the obverse, a crowned and robed effigy of His Majesty The King of Canada, facing right, circumscribed with the inscriptions "CHARLES III DEI GRATIA REX" and "CANADA".

On the reverse, there appears on the background a ring of frosted triangular shapes evoking the image of a string of pennants displayed for a celebration. These 13 shapes allude to Canada's provinces and territories, and their circular arrangement conveys the idea of inclusion for all Canadians. The circle is also an important concept for many Indigenous Peoples, symbolizing not only equity but also the cycles of the natural world. Over this background appears the Canadian Royal Cypher in the center, the date of the Coronation, 6.V.2023, on the left and the words "VIVAT REX" meaning Long Live The King, on the right.

Presentation of the medal was made by Glen Siegersma, Chief Administrative Officer, RCMP Veterans' Association, accompanied by Inspector Eric Sheppard, representing the RCMP.



MEDAL PRESENTATION – Continued

Coronation Medal recipients (L-R): Jack Briscoe, Luisa Russo-Lemay, Ralph Mahar, Glen Siegersma, Joseph John Healy and Wayne Jacquard.



From all of your colleagues in ODVA, and indeed across the greater Association, heartiest congratulations. [Ed.]



REMISE DES MÉDAILLES

Le 20 février 2025, Son Excellence la très honorable Mary Simon, gouverneure générale du Canada, a remis la Médaille du couronnement du roi Charles III à 52 personnes lors d'une cérémonie à Rideau Hall. Les récipiendaires venaient de partout au Canada (de Victoria, en Colombie-Britannique, à Goose Bay, à Terre-Neuve) et faisaient partie des 100 récipiendaires qu'elle a personnellement désignée dans le cadre du programme de la Médaille du couronnement. Parmi eux se trouvait un vétéran de la GRC, le sergent d'état-major à la retraite Garth Hampson (matricule # 19201), qui s'est vu décerner la médaille dans la catégorie « Service extraordinaire rendu à la Couronne » au cours de sa carrière et à sa retraite. A 90 ans, Garth demeure un membre dévoué de l'Association des Vétérans de la GRC de la Division d'Ottawa, qui continue à mettre bénévolement ses talents vocaux à contribution dans de nombreux domaines. En effet, au cours de sa vie, il a directement servi et chanté nos hymnes nationaux et royaux pour de nombreux souverains, y compris douze gouverneurs généraux, lors de centaines de cérémonies de remise de prix et de dizaines de milliers d'événements à travers le Canada au cours des 60 dernières années. En guise de conclusion, Son Excellence a invité chacun à toujours viser l'excellence et à encourager les autres à s'inspirer des valeurs communes du Canada. Les membres de la famille de Garth ont eu le privilège d'assister à la présentation à Rideau Hall.



Félicitations Garth de l'AVDO; Photos et texte fournis par Brad Hampson.





MEDAL PRESENTATION

On February 20th, 2025, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon, Governor General of Canada, presented the King Charles III Coronation Medal to 52 individuals during a ceremony at Rideau Hall. Recipients attended from across Canada (Victoria, BC to Goose Bay, NL), and were among 100 recipients she personally nominated as part of the wider Coronation Medal program. Included was RCMP veteran and retired Staff Sergeant Garth Hampson (Reg #19201), who was awarded the medal within the category of “Extraordinary Service to the Crown” during his career and in retirement. At 90 years old, Garth remains a dedicated member of the Ottawa Division RCMP Veterans Association, who still volunteers performing with his vocal talents across many spheres. Indeed, he directly served and sang our national and royal anthems for many Royals in his life, including twelve Governors General, at hundreds of award ceremonies, and tens of thousands of events across Canada over the past 60 years. In closing remarks, Her Excellency invited all to keep striving for excellence inspiring others to build on Canada’s shared values. Garth’s family were fortunate to witness the presentation at Rideau Hall.



Congratulations Garth from ODVA.

Photos and text provided by Brad Hampson.



Peter Webster, ODVA Honourary Member HM05 is a longtime supporter of the Force, in particular, ODVA, through the Webster Foundation (Montreal and Vancouver) and the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery (RNMC) and RCMP Veterans Legacy Pathway at Beechwood, Canada's National Cemetery.

On February 14, 2025, Peter Webster was awarded the King Charles III Coronation Medal after a nomination by the British Columbia Sports Hall of Fame. The ceremony took place at the BC Sports Hall of Fame.

"Peter's contributions to the BC Sports Hall of Fame and the broader sports community are immeasurable...Peter's impact has been profound. His dedication to preserving the legacy of athletes and builders, and his efforts to support amateur sports in Canada, have left an indelible mark on the community." Michelle Kitchen, CEO, BC Sports Hall of Fame.



Birthday wishes are extended to 15451 / O.559 Raymond Quintal, D/Commr (Retired) on the occasion of his 95th birthday.

Happy Birthday and congratulations.

Photo is from Michel Pelletier's Archives.

Nous souhaitons un anniversaire au 15451 / O.559 Raymond Quintal, sous-commr (retraité) à l'occasion de son 95e anniversaire.

Joyeux anniversaire et félicitations.

La photo provient des archives de Michel Pelletier.

Jack Briscoe was presented with his 20 Year Service pin by Roy Berlinquette and Alex Geddes. Presentation took place at the Briscoe Ranch in September.

Jack Briscoe a reçu son épinglette de 20 ans de service des mains de Roy Berlinquette et Alex Geddes. La présentation a eu lieu au Briscoe Ranch en septembre.



The Veterans of Perth hosted a Christmas Party on December 12 and it was well attended, including Veterans from Ottawa. Here are a few photos, courtesy of Louise Ross.

Les Vétérans de Perth ont organisé une fête de Noël le 12 décembre, à laquelle ont participé de nombreux Vétérans d'Ottawa. Voici quelques photos, gracieuseté de Louise Ross.

Tim McNulty holds a set of spoons that were made by Dave Holland. A game was played with the gifts and these spoons were a hot commodity! There were two sets of these spoons, and they exchanged hands many times over the evening!

Tim McNulty tient un ensemble de cuillères fabriquées par Dave Holland. Un jeu a été joué avec les cadeaux et ces cuillères étaient un produit très prisé ! Il y avait deux jeux de ces cuillères, et elles ont échangé leurs mains plusieurs fois au cours de



Michel and Judy were the perfect hosts for this very successful event. Fun was had by all!

Michel et Judy ont été les hôtes parfaits pour cet événement très réussi. Tout le monde s'est bien amusé !





FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK / DU BUREAU DE L'ÉDITEUR

So there are a couple of items to talk about in this section:



1. 50 Years of Women in Uniform:

I hope you enjoyed the stories presented in the last two editions. There is on waiting in the wings, and will probably be published in two parts. I am looking for more contributions and plan to continue the celebratory



tomies to the end of 2025. Congratulations to the ODVA Women who were presented their Challenge Coins at the February RGM. If you enjoyed the article prepared by Joanne McKinnon-Smith in the Summer Edition, here is a photo she sent to me that missed the print deadline. This photo is from her tenure at Pangnirtung in 1995...could be the start of golf-

ing season? Maybe not. Thanks JM-S.

2. I would like to encourage the women of Ottawa Division to share stories of your service in the Force.
3. Over the course of the months that I have worked on assembling *The Spirit*, every once in awhile I am asked how one might obtain documents from a member's service or personnel file. I elicited some assistance of an expert from the Access to Information and Privacy Branch at NHQ Ottawa.

ACCESS TO YOUR OWN SERVICE, PERSONNEL OR MEDICAL FILE:

The member, RM or CM, can contact the Career Development and Resourcing Office or Health Services Office in the Division where retirement occurred. For those living in Ottawa and the National Capital Region, there is **no direct contact phone number**. To set up an appointment in a controlled environment to view the file, **Retired members'** records are held by HQ Archives, email Archives_HQ@rcmp-grc.gc.ca. The individual may take notes, and if he or she seeks copies of materials, all efforts will be made by the custodian of the records, to provide copies at the time of access. If satisfying the request for copies is not immediately possible, the requesting individual will be advised when copies will be made available. Every effort will be made to keep the time lapse between request and provision to a minimum. The Office in question will vet the file for materials that are not releasable (for example psychological testing instruments) to ensure that they are not copied and released. Individuals may only access their own service, personnel or health files. There are no circumstances that allow an individual access to the service, personnel or health files of another member or employee. **Active members'** files should be with Leikin Records : NHQIS LEIKIN RECORDS / SIDG BUREAU DE DOSSIERS LEIKIN (RCMP/GRC), email RCMP.NHQISLEIKINRECORDS-SIDGDOSSIERSLEIKIN.GRC@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK / DU BUREAU DE L'ÉDITEUR

ATIP—Continued

FOR ACCESS TO A SERVICE, PERSONNEL or MEDICAL FILE OF A DECEASED MEMBER:

Sometimes, a family member will seek documents from a Service File concerning the relative's service in the Force, usually a parent or sibling. A request can be made by submitting a formal application to the RCMP Access to Information and Privacy Branch. This can be done either electronically or sent in a paper request form ([English](#)), ([French](#)). Information about a deceased member's service, such as information on transfers and length of posting can be released, but any request for access to performance or medical documents for a member who has been deceased for less than 20 years, is very limited, and little, if any, information can be released. The authority for this limitation is found in the Privacy Act, R.S.C., 1985, c. P-21, subsection 3(m) which states that personal information remains personal for 20 years following death.

From my experience reviewing Service Files on behalf of the Quarterly, in the preparation of the Obituaries, the Service file does not, as a rule, contain photographs of the member, particularly post 60's Service Files. If you are looking for photographs, they will more than likely be found in the Personnel File. Documents of historical interest include documents attesting to Commendations or Awards and the member's Engagement Documents. In recent years, members have been provided, on retirement, their original Engagement Documents, together with their Certificate of Service, but I still encounter some originals during review.

CONCLUSION

Hoping for some semblance of clarity, attached to this edition is RCMP Form 6331E and 6331F, complete with relevant information for the best possible results. These forms are found on the RCMP website at <https://rcmp.ca/en/corporate-information/forms>. If anyone has trouble tracking down any of these forms, or completing the information required, please feel free to contact me at ottawa.thespirit@rcmpva.org and I will send or deliver what you need and help with completing the forms. The Instructions on the form, both English and French make mention of a \$5.00 fee, but I have been told that there will be no fees assessed.

4. As we are facing some challenging days and months ahead, I thought I might include a fairly detailed poster about **Petroleum Products: From Crude Oil to Useful Products, the Petroleum Value Chain**. The poster is a few years old, but it serves to suggest that life without oil is not so simple.

CANADA—TRUE NORTH STRONG AND FREE...





Royal Canadian Gendarmerie royale
Mounted Police du Canada

Protected A
once completed

PIB CMP-PPU-045

Access to Information Request

Instructions

By completing this form, you are making a formal request for information pursuant to the *Access to Information Act* for RCMP records. Written requests using Treasury Board Form TBC-350-57, or a written request mentioning the Act will also be accepted. If you wish to make an informal request, contact the local RCMP office / detachment where the records are kept. Completed forms must be sent to the following address:

Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Access to Information and Privacy Coordinator
73 Leikin Drive
Mail Stop 061
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0R2

Describe the information being sought and provide all relevant details necessary to help the RCMP locate the requested information. Please include the city, RCMP detachment, and / or file number to expedite the search. If you require assistance, refer to [Info Source](#) (Sources of Federal Government Information) for a description of program records held by the RCMP or visit the [RCMP's ATIP website](#).

Forward your completed request to the address above. Enclose a \$5.00 money order or cheque payable to the Receiver General of Canada. Depending upon the type or amount of information being sought, you may be asked to authorize further charges.

When you receive an answer to your request, review the information to determine whether you wish to make a further request under this Act. You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner of Canada should you believe that you have been denied any of your rights under this Act.

Information

I wish to examine the information

☒ As it is ☐ All in English ☐ All in French

Provide details regarding the information being sought. Include city, RCMP detachment or unit, and file number, if applicable.

SERVICE AND PERSONNEL FILE FOR 98765 / O.7890, BLOGGINS, PETER QUINCY ALBERT
LAST POSTING HQ OTTAWA - RETIRED OCTOBER 2004

LOOKING FOR ANY PHOTOGRAPHS RELATED TO HIS SERVICE; ENGAGEMENT DOCUMENTS DATED OCTOBER 1969;
ANY DOCUMENTS RELATED TO COMMENDATIONS, AWARDS, OR THE LIKE.

Preferred Method of Access

☒ Receive Copies of Originals ☐ Examine Originals in Government Office

Surname

BLOGGINS

Given Name

HENRY PERCIVAL HINCHLEY

Street Address

1234 SMITHY ROAD

City

BILLINGSLEY

Province

Ontario

Postal Code (A9A 9A9)

P6P R5R

Telephone No.

913-223-6789

This request for access to information under the *Access to Information Act* is being made by:

☒ a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or
another individual present in Canada ☐ a corporation present in Canada

Signature

Date (yyyy-mm-dd)

The personal information provided on this form is protected under the provisions of the *Access to Information Act* and the *Privacy Act*.



Gendarmerie royale du Canada
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Protégé A
une fois rempli

FRP GRC-PPU-045

Demande d'accès à l'information

Instructions

En remplissant ce formulaire, vous présentez une demande officielle de renseignements en vertu de la *Loi sur l'accès à l'information* concernant des dossiers de la GRC. Toute demande faite par écrit au moyen du formulaire CTC-350-57 du Conseil du Trésor ou toute demande faite par écrit qui mentionne la Loi seront également acceptées. Si vous préférez présenter une demande officieuse, communiquez avec le bureau ou le détachement local de la GRC où les dossiers sont conservés. Les formulaires dûment remplis doivent être envoyés à l'adresse suivante :

Gendarmerie royale du Canada
Coordonnateur de l'accès à l'information et de la protection des renseignements personnels
73 promenade Leikin
Arrêt postal 061
Ottawa ON
K1A 0R2

Décrivez l'information demandée et fournissez tous les renseignements pertinents afin d'aider la GRC dans ses recherches. Veuillez indiquer la ville, le détachement de la GRC et / ou le numéro de dossier pour accélérer les recherches. Si vous avez besoin d'aide, consultez [Info Source](#) (Sources de renseignements fédéraux) pour y trouver la description des dossiers de programmes de la GRC ou visitez le site Web d'[AIPRP de la GRC](#).

Faites parvenir votre demande à l'adresse indiquée ci-dessus. Veuillez inclure un montant de 5 \$ payable par mandat-poste ou par chèque rédigé à l'ordre du receveur général du Canada. Selon le type ou la quantité de renseignements que vous désirez obtenir, on vous demandera peut-être d'accepter de payer d'autres frais.

Dès que vous recevrez réponse à votre demande, examinez les renseignements afin de déterminer s'il y aurait lieu, à votre avis, de faire une autre demande en vertu de la Loi. Vous avez également le droit de présenter une plainte au commissaire à l'information du Canada si vous estimez avoir été privé des droits que vous confère la Loi.

Renseignements

Je désire examiner les renseignements

☒ tels quels ☐ en anglais ☐ en français

Précisions sur l'information demandée, y compris la ville, le service ou le détachement de la GRC et le numéro de dossier, s'il y a lieu

Dossier de service et du personnel de 98765 / 0.7890 BLOGGINS, PETER QUINCY ALBERT

Dernière affectation DG Ottawa - à la retraite octobre 2004

À la recherche de photographies de son service ;

Documents de mission datés d'octobre 1969 ; tout document relatif aux distinctions, récompenses ou autres.

Méthode de consultation préférée

☒ Recevoir des copies de l'original ☐ Examiner l'original dans un bureau du gouvernement

Nom de famille

BLOGGINS

Prénom

HENRY PERCIVAL HINCHLEY

Adresse - numéro, rue

1234 SMITHY ROAD

Ville

BILLINGSLEY

Province

Ontario

Code postal (A9A 9A9)

P6P 5R5

N° de téléphone

913-223-6789

Cette demande d'accès à l'information est présentée en vertu de la *Loi sur l'accès à l'information* par :

☒ un citoyen canadien, un résident permanent ou une autre personne présente au Canada ☐ une société présente au Canada

Signature

Date (aaaa-mm-jj)

Les renseignements personnels dans ce formulaire sont protégés par la *Loi sur l'accès à l'information* et la *Loi sur la protection des renseignements personnels*.



PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

From Crude Oil to Useful Products: the Petroleum Value Chain

AVERAGE OUTPUT FROM A BARREL OF OIL PRODUCED IN CANADA:

Gasoline	35.6
Diesel fuel	25.9
All other products (including petrochemical feedstocks)	14.0
Light fuel oil	7.2
Heavy fuel oil	6.8
Aviation fuel	3.9
Asphalt	3.9
Propane/butane	2.6

1 CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION AND TRANSPORT

Canada produces 3.9 million barrels per day of crude oil from conventional, unconventional (e.g. tight and shale oil), oil sands and offshore sources. These are moved via pipeline, tanker and rail to upgraders and refineries here in Canada, and to markets in the United States and overseas.

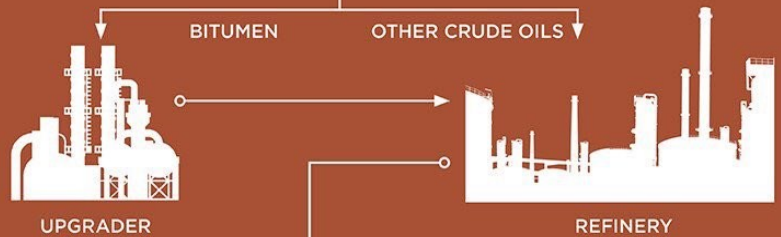


2 REFINING AND UPGRADING

Refineries turn crude oil into usable products like transportation fuels and feedstock for petrochemical plants. Upgraders turn bitumen into synthetic crude oil that can then be processed at a refinery.

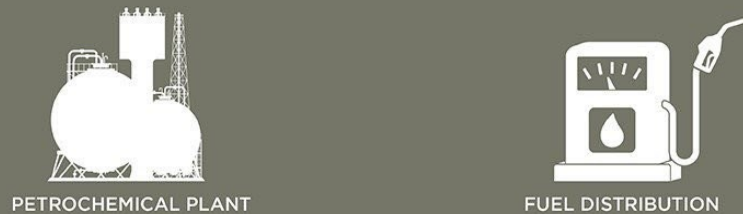
DID YOU KNOW?

Canada's 18 refineries produce nearly **293 million litres** of refined petroleum products per day.



3 FUELS AND PETROCHEMICALS

Transportation fuels are essential to the mobility of people, goods and services; and our quality of life. Some refined products are used directly as transportation fuels, while others are sent to petrochemical plants where they are turned into thousands of essential products we use in our everyday lives.



Learn more about the petroleum value chain with the Canadian Fuels Association at canadianfuels.ca.



SPIRIT



LAST POST - DERNIÈRE SONNERIE

Reg / Service #	Surname	Given Names	Age	Date of Death	Place of Death
18587	PELLETIER	Rodrigue	89	18 novembre 2024	Québec, QC
27846	BURDICK	Norman Douglas	78	November 20, 2024	Temiskaming, ON
PSE	SCOTT	Phyllis Margaret (Née Kowaluk)	80	November 22, 2024	Surrey, BC
18982 / O.1064	MARKELL	Mervyn G.	88	December 5, 2024 December 12, 2024	Victoria, BC
18695	MILLS	Robert Graydon	89		Kelolwna, BC
24441	GOODRIDGE	Gary Lewis	79	December 15, 2024	Salmon Arm, BC
C/3474	BOUCHER	Jean-Claude	84	17 décembre 2024	Québec, QC
31496	ARKLIE	Ian Richard	71	December 26, 2024	Port Alberni, BC
CM	CALVERLEY	Donna Belle	84	December 27, 2024	Victoria, BC
24107	HARLOW	William Charles	78	January 1, 2025	Ingersoll, ON
CM	BENOIT	Terrence Richard "Terry"	78	January 1, 2025	Ottawa, ON
21212	LANGLOIS	Leodor	86	January 2, 2025	Winnipeg, MB
22119	EAVES	Robert Leonard	82	January 2, 2025	Saint John. NB
26372	HARRINGTON	Kevin Gerald	68	January 3, 2025	Edmonton, AB
32165	BARNES	Terrence Charles	69	January 3, 2025	Englehart, ON
20661	SABO	Peter	85	January 3, 2025	North Cowichan, BC
C/1638	MOYES	Ronald Trevor	99	January 4, 2025	Ottawa, ON
22081	LÉONARD	Guy	82	January 4, 2025	Ottawa, ON
36611	McNUTT	Scott Douglas	69	January 5, 2025	Sprinhill, NS



THE SPIRIT

LAST POST - DERNIÈRE SONNERIE



Reg / Service #	Surname	Given Names	Age	Date of Death	Place of Death
36461	GALLANT	Francis Edward	65	January 6, 2025	Warman, SK
20140 / O.773	COUTU	Joseph Marcellin	89	January 6, 2025	Ottawa, ON
S/1007	KOBE	Frank John	88	January 6, 2025	Ottawa, ON
17488	BLAIS	Joseph Eugene Philias	92	January 6, 2025	Neepawa, MB
17974	BOLLMAN	Frederick Glen	94	January 7, 2025	Ottawa, ON
17735	POKOJ	Eugene John	92	January 8, 2025	Ottawa, ON
20439	KIRK	Alexander Frederick	87	January 8, 2025	Chilliwack, BC
17103	MAXWELL	Ralph Harry	93	January 10, 2025	Truro, NS
20100 / O.1091	BOYD	Ernest Henry	86	January 12, 2025	Ottawa, ON
C/787	BREHAUT	Shirley A.	93	January 14, 2025	Bracebridge, ON
24525	LATURNUS	Kenneth W.	80	January 15, 2025	Vernon, BC
16130 / O.995	HAMILTON	Earl Walker	94	January 17, 2025	Truro, NS
19861	ZUK	Jaroslav "Jerry"	87	January 17, 2025	Regina, SK
19283	TUPPER	Clayton Wellwood	86	January 19, 2025	Fredericton, NB
15401	SURKAN	Matthew	96	January 19, 2025	Ottawa, ON
26802	BRADLEY	Glenn Justin	75	January 20, 2025	LaRiviere, MB
S/255	LYALL	Johnny	85	January 20, 2025	Yellowknife, NWT
20236 / O.1029	BECKETT	Terence Leslie	86	January 21, 2025	Toronto, ON
22087	NOLET	Jacques	82	23 janvier 2025	Beloeil, QC



SPIRIT

LAST POST - DERNIÈRE SONNERIE



LAST POST JANUARY 25, 2025

Johnny Lyall, S/255, Special Constable (Retired)
October 1, 1940 - January 20, 2025

Years of Service: 1964 - 1984

Postings: "G" Division

Special Constable Johnny Lyall, Reg. No. S/255, died January 20, 2025, in the hospital surrounded by family in Yellowknife, NWT. He was 85 years old.

S/Cst. Lyall joined the Force June 1, 1964, and he served in Cambridge Bay and Frobisher Bay/Iqaluit, NWT/Nunavut.

"They told me I was going to be a guide and an interpreter. When I started, we still had dog teams and then we had ski-dogs" (personal communication, Monday July 24, 2017).

On July 3, 1984, after 20 years of service he retired to pension.



Photo courtesy of Sgt. Dione Allen.

[EDITORS NOTE: The article that follows was first published in *The Quarterly*, **October 1973** and is reprinted with the permission of the Editor, *The Quarterly*. The text and content have not been altered from its original printing, **except for the endnotes.**]

THE LYALLS OF THE NORTH by Cpl K.G. Huxter

During centennial year, emphasis is being placed on past accomplishments. In the Force's efforts over the years, it has been assisted by many people outside – people from all walks of life in all parts of Canada. The North is no exception.

There is one person living in the eastern part of the Arctic whose help probably extends over a longer period than any other individual. Ernest Wilson Lyall left Newfoundland-Labrador and moved to the Northwest Territories in 1926. At that time the Force was just becoming established in the eastern Arctic.

Since then, Ernie has lived and worked in the majority of communities east of Cambridge Bay. He started at Port Burwell and except for two short stints at Port Harrison and Povungnituk, spent the rest of the time in places such as Lake Harbour, Pangnirtung, Cape Dorset, Pond Inlet, Arctic Bay, Cambridge Bay, several small places that have since closed like Fort Ross, and last but not least Spence Bay.

He moved to Spence Bay and helped establish the settlement in 1949. He still lives there. Ask if he intends to stay and he replies, "I've been here too long to leave now!" He appears as fit as a fiddle, so if this is any indication, he will be around a long time yet.

During these years in the North, Ernie has helped judges, lawyers, accused persons, and members of the Force, especially due to the fact that he speaks Eskimo fluently. In the earlier years it was difficult to find anyone with a complete command of both English and Eskimo. In this aspect, Ernie has probably assisted more members of the RCMP than any other person in this part of the North today.



SPIRIT

LAST POST - DERNIÈRE SONNERIE



THE LYALLS OF THE NORTH - CONTINUED

Over the years he has seen many men come and go and occasionally we get into conversations about some of them. Some of his comments clearly point out that he has, in fact, been around for a long time.

On one such occasion, I mentioned that the first time I met Supt W.G. Fraser, Retired, he was the Commanding Officer "G" Division, and I was a raw recruit fresh out of training, and on my way to the eastern Arctic. I met him in Ottawa on my way through.

Ernie said, "The first time I met W.G. Fraser, he was a raw recruit himself and on his way to the eastern Arctic. This was in Fort Burwell in 1932. With was the son of the Commissioner, at that time Sir James MacBrien."

Ernie knew the Late Supt H.A. Larsen, another former CO of "G" Division. At the time he was Captain of the *St. Roch*, which was on its way through the Northwest Passage. He visited the crew of several occasions via dog team from Fort Ross, when the *St. Roch* was wintering in Pasley Bay during the winters of 1940-41 and 1941-42.

A member of the crew, Cst. A.J. "Frenchy" Chartrand (1), died suddenly of a heart attack February 13, 1942.

Ernie remembers helping to build the cairn that marks Chartrand's lonely grave on a hillside near Pasley Bay. It is perhaps a bit coincidental that Ernie's son and I will be there this centennial year to assist building a cairn in memory of Superintendent Larsen and the *St. Roch*.

Ernie has provided valuable assistance on several famous murder trials. One, the Kookeyout murder case, involved a young Eskimo woman who shot her unwanted husband who had been chosen by her parents – the custom in those days - so she could have the man of her choice. This was reported to Larsen in June 1942, but travelling was impossible at that time of year between Pasley Bay and where the murder occurred at Thom Bay on the easter shore of Boothia Peninsula.

He reported it to Pond Inlet Detachment and the following April a member of that detachment arrived at Fort Ross, and Ernie guided him to Thom Bay and assisted in the complete investigation from then until it ended – a couple of years later. They located the body near Thom Bay, dug it up, and took it back to Fort Ross where they reburied it to wait for the arrival of the supply ship for the autopsy.

When the supply ship got close, they dug it up again and prepared it for the autopsy. However, the supply ship was unable to get into Fort Ross that year because of ice. The body was buried again to await the ship the following year. When it returned, the body was dug up again and a doctor on board performed the autopsy.

Ernie and a detachment man from Pond Inlet made another trip to Thom Bay to secure the witnesses. The trial was held on the ship at Fort Ross and Ernie acted as interpreter. It is also interesting to note that Ernie acted as guardian of the body during the time it was kept at Fort Ross, as the detachment men had to return to their post at Pond Inlet.

In 1929, Ernie received his first offer of a job with the Force. As a marine engineer for \$60 a month, he would be sent out for one year's training and when completed and posted he would hold the rank of Lance Corporal. The letter was signed by the late Commissioner Starnes. He was only making \$20 a month with the Hudson's Bay Company at the time but was eager to go further north and did not want to go south



When the Force opened a detachment in Spence Bay in 1950, it needed a Special Constable. Ernie was approached because of his knowledge of the Eskimo language and the country. He did not take the job but continued to assist detachment men when ever his help was needed.

On June 4, 1964, the first of Ernie's sons to join the Force, John, (2) was signed on as a Special Constable and posted to Cambridge Bay Detachment. Another of Ernie's sons, Patrick, worked for the Force as a guard in Inuvik. He applied to join as a regular member but was turned down because of his height.

On March 2, 1970, Ernie was sworn as a Justice of the Peace and a Coroner for the Northwest Territories. He has served the needs of the area in that capacity since then.

One of the highlights of Ernie's life came last June. He was proud to be abler to sign on his last sone, John Charles "Charlie" (3) as a Special Constable investigator for Spence Bay Detachment.

This is the only known occasion when anyone in the Division has signed on both sons as Special Constables while acting in the capacity as Justice of the Peace. It is a first for the Division where a man has two sons as Special Constable in the Force.

ENDNOTES:

1. 10155 Cst. A.J. CHARTRAND served from January 22, 1926, until his death of an apparent heart attack February 13th, 1942, while on duty near the Boothia Peninsula, Northwest Territories. He was a crewmember on the St. Roch while it was on the historic voyage throughout the Northwest Passage. He was buried at Pasley Bay, Northwest Territories.
2. S/255 LYALL, Johnny, served in the RCMP from June 1, 1964, to July 3, 1984.
3. S/795 LYALL, John Charles "Charlie"



Photo of Johnny Lyall taken in 2014

Courtesy of George Bliss. RCMP Vets. Regina, SK
23/01/2025

EDITORS NOTE: To all the Special Constables who served in many roles in the North, as interpreters, investigators and most importantly as teachers of survival skills...thank you for your service.



COFFEE TIME / LES P'TITS CAFÉS

For the information of the members in the National Capital Region, here are the updated dates and times for various Breakfast /Lunch Clubs. Hope you all enjoy the meetings.

À titre d'information des membres de la région de la capitale nationale, voici les dates et heures mises à jour pour les différents clubs de petits-déjeuners/déjeuners. J'espère que vous apprécierez tous les rendez-vous.

PERTH: The Perth Veterans are happy to inform everyone that their monthly breakfast is back. With a new management team, **The Perth Restaurant (23 Gore Street East)** will once again be hosting all former employees of the RCMP and their families on the **first Wednesday of every month** at 09:00 for a hearty breakfast. / Les Vétérans de Perth ont le plaisir de vous informer que leur petit déjeuner mensuel est de retour. La nouvelle administration du Perth Restaurant (au **23 rue Gore E.**) accueillera à nouveau tous les employés retraités de la GRC et leurs familles **le premier mercredi de chaque mois** à 9 h pour un petit déjeuner copieux.

Contact: Michel Saurette at/à michel.saurette@hotmail.com

OTTAWA EAST: Second Monday of the month at 07:45 am; fourth Monday of the month at 09:00 am; Gabriel Pizza Restaurant, 2160 St Joseph Blvd, Orleans, ON.

OTTAWA EST: Deuxième lundi du mois à 07h45 ; quatrième lundi du mois à 09h00 ; Gabriel Pizza Restaurant, 2160 St Joseph Blvd, Orleans, ON.

Contact: Sig Sigurdson at/à eastenders@sympatico.ca

OTTAWA CENTRAL: Every other Wednesday starting May 25, 2022, 07:30 am, Stacked Smoked Meat and Grill, 2679 Bank Street, Ottawa, ON.

CENTRE D'OTTAWA: Tous les deux mercredis à partir du 25 mai 2022, 07h30, Stacked Smoked Meat and Grill, 2679 rue Bank, Ottawa, ON.

Contact: Brent MacDonald at/à brent.macdonald@rogers.com

OTTAWA WEST: Second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am, Busters Bar and Grill, 420 Hazeldean Rd, Kanata, ON.

OTTAWA OUEST: Deuxième et quatrième mercredi de chaque mois à 10 h, Busters Bar and Grill, 420 Hazeldean Rd, Kanata, ON.

Contact: Bill Sandzuik (613) 828-8329

LES BONS VIVANTS DE GATINEAU: Retirees luncheon: At 11:30 a.m. last Thursday of every month at La Cage aux Sports, 325, blvd. Gréber, Gatineau, QC

Déjeuner des retraités : À 11 h 30, le dernier jeudi de chaque mois, à La Cage aux Sports, 325, boul. Gréber, Gatineau, QC

Contact: Michel Beland at/à meraille@videotron.ca

Further to the “Message from the Association President, October 2022” you will recall that the Association dues will be increasing by \$5.00 for 2025. This brings ODVA dues for 2025 to \$85.00. If you have any questions, concerns or comments, regarding the increase of national dues, please send them to: communications@rcmpva.org. If you have any questions, concerns or comments, in regards to the actions of the Ottawa Division, please send them to ottawa.info@rcmpva.org. Associate Member dues will remain at \$25.00.

The National website, Member Management System is updated for the \$5 national dues increase. To process your dues electronically through the website, go to www.rcmpva.org; Click on “membership”, and then click on “RCMPVA member renewal”. Once there, please follow the process as outlined.

Fast and easy way to pay 2025 Dues!

You can pay your annual dues via e-transfer payments! Pay your dues directly from your bank account to the Veterans’ bank account in a simple transaction.

You will require the following three things:

1. account email address to send payment to ottawavetsdues@gmail.com
2. enter the following security question: What is the RCMP ceremonial hat called?
3. enter the answer (stetson) to the security question in the answer field.

OR: You can mail your cheque, payable to The RCMP Veterans’ Association-Ottawa Division, to The RCMP Veterans’ Association, Ottawa Division, PO BOX 9045, Station T, Ottawa, ON K1G 3T8

Suite au « Message du président de l’Association, octobre 2022 », vous vous souviendrez que les cotisations de l’Association augmenteront de 5 \$ en 2025. Cela porte notre cotisation pour 2025 à 85 \$. Si vous avez des questions, des préoccupations ou des commentaires concernant l’augmentation des cotisations nationales, veuillez les envoyer à communications@rcmpva.org. Si vous avez des questions, des préoccupations ou des commentaires au sujet des mesures prises par la Division d’Ottawa, veuillez les envoyer à ottawa.info@rcmpva.org.

Le site Web national, le système de gestion des membres, a été mis à jour en tenant compte de la hausse de 5 dollars des cotisations nationales. Pour traiter vos cotisations par voie électronique sur le site Web, allez à www.rcmpva.org. Cliquez sur « adhésion », puis cliquez sur « Renouvellement des membres de la l’Association des Vétérans de la GRC ». Une fois sur place, veuillez suivre le processus décrit.

Façon rapide de payer votre cotisation de 2025!

Payez votre cotisation annuelle par virement électronique! Payez votre cotisation directement de votre compte bancaire au compte bancaire des vétérans en une simple transaction.

Vous aurez besoin des trois choses suivantes:

1. l’adresse courriel du compte pour envoyer votre paiement à ottawavetsdues@gmail.com
2. inscrivez la question de sécurité suivante: quel est le nom du chapeau de cérémonie de la GRC?
3. inscrivez la réponse (stetson) à la question de sécurité dans la case de réponse.

OU: Vous pouvez envoyer votre chèque par la poste, à l’ordre de L’Association des Vétérans de la GRC, Division d’Ottawa, C.P. 9045, Station T, Ottawa, ON K1G 3T8

Members Services & Division Advocacy

The ODVA Member Services Program provides support and assistance to all division members in the following areas:

Following a Death :

We provide direct assistance to association members, spouses, loved ones, significant others, partners, families, including executors, following the death of a retired regular or civilian member or a public service employee who worked for the RCMP.

Some of the services that we offer, but are not limited to, include:

1. Contact information for the RCMP Pension Centre. It is important to contact the Pension Centre within 14 days weeks following the death of a member.
2. Various guides and information where appropriate such as:
 - A. National Survivor & Executors Guide . An updated version specific to ODVA to be published shortly.
 - B. Retired Serving RCMP Member Survivor & Executor Information Package.
 - C. Post Death Family Assistance Document.
 - D. Civilian Survivor & Executor Information Package.
 - E. Information regarding reimbursement programs for: Regimental markers, plots and/or niches.
 - F. Referral of next of kin to the Editor of the LAST POST, who will work with the next of kin to create a final tribute to be published in the Association's LAST POST and posted on The Vets Net website www.rcmpvets.ca.
3. There is an offer of tribute for a funeral/celebration of life and/or an interment/inurnment. This may include, Red Coats Honour Guard, piper and/or bugler (some restrictions apply), accoutrements such as palls, flags, boots, Stetson, etc.

Visitation Program

The purpose of the program is to continue comradery with those who are hospitalized or shut-in.

Eligibility: Any veteran in ODVA who is shut-in or hospitalized who wishes to receive regular visits is welcomed to participate in the program and become a "Visitee".

ODVA members are encouraged to identify to the **Members Services Director**, any veteran that they feel should receive visits.

Volunteers: The confidential visitation program is a vital lifeline for our members who are in need. If you are interested in volunteering or know someone in need, please contact us at: Ottawa.vetervices@rcmpva.org

Advocacy & Support : Our main objective is to recognize, promote, protect and champion the rights of our members as it relates to,

- Pension.
- Insurance.
- Health care and benefits.

We will assist members in gaining access to and/or information concerning:

- A. RCMP pensions
- B. Veterans Affairs Disability Pensions
- C. RCMP Benefit Trust Fund
- D. RCMP Veterans' Association Foundation
- E. Other sources of financial aid
- F. Current or evolving issues of concern for the health and wellbeing of Veterans.

For more information, please contact Director of Members Services and Advocacy, Terence McDonald at Ottawa.vetservices@rcmpva.org, or 613-866-5153.

Important Phone Numbers and Website Links

- Ottawa Division: Assist as part of a pool of Peer Support Volunteers for Operational Stress Injury (VSOSI/ SOSI program. / Assister en tant que bénévole dans le cadre d'un groupe de soutien par les pairs pour le programme de Soutien-blessures de stress opérationnel des vétérans (« VSOSI / SOSI») : Paul Woods: 613-720-1335; paul.w.vsosi@gmail.com.
- RCMP Veterans' National Association: <https://rcmpva.org>. 1-877-251-1771 (Toll Free)
- Veterans Affairs (VAC) My VAC Account: http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/e_services and 1-866-522-2122 / Anciens Combattants Canada Mon dossier ACC = <https://www.veterans.gc.ca/fra/endirect/> 1-866-522-2122
- Veterans Affairs Liaison Officers: (1) Graeme Shaw – Sgt. Retired; RCMP Liaison Officer with Veterans Affairs Canada; National Compensation Services, RCMP; (902) 388-7592; graeme.shaw@rcmp-grc.gc.ca or graeme.shaw@veterans.gc.ca (2) Sgt. Clay Wortman; RCMP Liaison Officer to VAC; Agent de liaison de la GRC à ACC; Phone/Tél. (902) 397-2597; clay.wortman@rcmp-grc.gc.ca or clay.wortman@veterans.gc.ca
- Group Life and Disability Insurance (replaces Morneau Shepell) 1-877-778-8084 or <https://fp.seb-admin.com/fpconnect/#/rcmp-grc>
- Public Works Government Services Canada - PWGSC - Pension Administration: 1-855-502-7090
- Old Age Security (OAS) /Pension de la Sécurité de vieillesse & Canada Pension Plan (CPP)/Régime de Pensions du Canada: 1-800-277-9914
- Public Service Health Care Plan: Canada Life: 1-855-415-4414/ <https://welcome.canadalife.com/pshcp>; Public Service Health Care Plan, Dental Benefit: <http://www.pshcp.ca/coverage/extendedhealth-provision/dental>
- Sun Life Financial (Claims): Phone: 1-888-757-7427 or 613-247-5100 (National Capital Region)
- Service Canada: <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/portfolio/service-canada.html>; 1-800-622-6232
- Canada Revenue Agency/Agence du Revenu du Canada 1-800-959-8281
- Employment Insurance/Assurance-emploi/Social Insurance/Numéro d'assurance sociale: 1-800-206-7218
- Immigration & Citizenship/ Immigration et citoyenneté/Canada 1-888-242-2100
- Passport Canada/Passeport Canadiens: 1-800-567-6868
- Service Ontario: 1-800-267-1234
- Ontario Disability Support Program/ Programme ontarien de soutien aux personnes handicapées: 1-800-267-5111
- Family Responsibility Office/ Bureau des obligations familiales: 1-800-267-7263
- Francophone Affairs/Ministère des affaires francophone: 1-800-268-7507
- Consumer Protection Ontario/Protection du consommateur de l'Ontario: 1-800-889-9763
- Drive Test Ontario/Test au Volant: 1-800-489-845



Support the RCMP Veterans' Legacy Pathway at the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery at Beechwood Cemetery

The RCMP Veterans' Association, Ottawa Division, will build the RCMP Veterans' Legacy Pathway at the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery situated within the picturesque gardens of Beechwood, the National Cemetery of Canada.

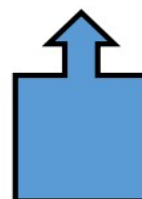
The intent of the RCMP Veterans' Legacy Pathway is:

- to profile the contributions of the RCMP to the development of Canada,
- to capture the highlights of the history of the RCMP from its inception in 1873, and
- to recognize all those who served throughout the years.

280 Beechwood Avenue, Ottawa 613-741-9530

www.beechwoodottawa.ca

*Owned by the Beechwood Cemetery Foundation
and operated by The Beechwood Cemetery Company.*



**SCAN
ME**





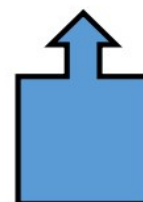
Supportez le sentier du patrimoine des Vétérans de la GRC au Cimetière commémoratif national de la GRC à Beechwood

Le sentier du patrimoine des Vétérans de la GRC sera construit, par la Division d'Ottawa de l'Association des Vétérans de la GRC, au Cimetière commémoratif national de la GRC dans les jardins pittoresques du cimetière national du Canada à Beechwood.

Le sentier du patrimoine des Vétérans de la GRC

vise à :

- illustrer les contributions de la GRC au développement du Canada;
- saisir les faits saillants de l'histoire de la GRC depuis sa création en 1873; et
- reconnaître tous ceux et celles qui ont servi au fil des ans.



SCANNEZ

280. Avenue Beechwood, Ottawa - 613-741-9530—
www.beechwoodottawa.ca

Propriété de la Foundation du cimetière Beechwood et
administré par La Société du cimetière Beechwood.



En reconnaissance de votre service courageux

Le Cimetière commémoratif national de la GRC reconnaît de façon unique le courage de tous les membres de la GRC et de leurs familles qui servent ensemble pour protéger notre pays.

Les préarrangements offrent à votre famille la sécurité qu'elle mérite. Laisser Beechwood vous aider à planifier maintenant. Réservez dès aujourd'hui votre rendez-vous sans engagement avec le cimetière Beechwood.



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Propriété de la Foundation du cimetière Beechwood et administré par La Société du cimetière



Recognizing the courage of your service

The RCMP National Memorial Cemetery uniquely recognizes the courage of all RCMP members and their families who serve alongside each other protecting our country.

Pre-arrangements provide your family with the security it deserves. Let Beechwood help you make your plans now. Book your no-obligation appointment today with Beechwood Cemetery.



280 Beechwood, Ottawa 613-741-9530 www.beechwoodottawa.ca

Owned by the Beechwood Cemetery Foundation and operated by The Beechwood Cemetery Company



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car and home - groups

*Eligible family members include spouses and children under 25 that are residing with the Member, or attending an educational institution on a full-time basis.