



A publication of the RCMP Veterans' Association – New Brunswick Division

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2024 Spring Issue | Photo: St. Martins, NB

President's message

Greetings Association members,

Spring is here, and better weather and new growth are just around the corner. This is my second message to you, and a lot has taken place over the winter months in the Division, so I wanted to let you know what your Executive has been working on. You may recall that I mentioned we would focus on four priorities over the next two years, the AABCs. Allow me to provide you with some updates.

First, we have made very good progress with the Advocacy and Support initiative. Under the leadership of our Chief Advocate, Vet. Joe MacLoughlin, training will take place for several Association volunteers on May 16th in Moncton. Newly trained volunteers will provide Advocacy and Support services to our membership throughout the province in the following areas: Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) submissions, bereavement benefits and questions when a veteran passes away, Canada Life concerns, etc. Funding has been made available to help facilitate this training.

Secondly, we would like to add to the Affinity partners that our Association already has in place so that our membership can enjoy some savings throughout the province. Discounts at hotels, restaurants, golf courses, etc. You can access existing [Discounts for Association Membership](#) on our Association website.

Thirdly, we are in good shape budget-wise this year, better than the previous two years, and this is thanks in large part to a renewed partnership with the New Brunswick RCMP at "J" Division for the gravesite inspection program. We currently have over 500 sites that are visited each year by our team of inspectors. With the financial support of our agreement with "J" Division and with the generosity of our gravesite inspectors, most of the money generated stays within our division to assist us with other programs, such as the Advocacy and Support noted above.

Fourth and finally, our biggest communications avenue has been our Connexion newsletter. After many years of fantastic service, our former Editor Brenda Bouck requested a rest. We thank her for creating such an informative and interesting Connexion. Building on this success, I am pleased to report that we have a new Editor, Ms. Jennifer LeJeune. As you can see in this edition, we are striving to be more targeted in our communications. In addition to our newsletter, we hope to improve our communications via social media, and we will continue to send important emails as necessary.

So, as you can see, we have been busy during the winter months. Our efforts are for you, our Veterans, and our Association members.

Finally, I wish to say that our division is blessed to have numerous volunteers who work to help each other and maintain contact and camaraderie during our working days. Volunteers such as our area Directors and other volunteers who look after things such as our communications, bursaries, and gravesites, to name but a few. If it were not for our volunteers, our division would not be able to function. Thank you to all who agree to assist and help each other. Having said this, we are looking for a new Treasurer as our current term is nearing the end. If you are interested, please contact me for more information.

With that, I wish you all a great spring and summer. Take care and stay safe.

Ross White, President
RCMP Veterans NB Division



NB Division Support and Advocacy Program

Joe MacLoughlin, our Division advocate for the NB Veterans' Association, is pleased to announce an upcoming training workshop for Division Advocacy Committee Volunteers on **May 16, 2024, in Moncton, NB.**

This training is the first step in equipping Advocacy Committee members with the tools they need to provide accurate, timely, and effective support to veterans and their families across the Division.

Trained Advocacy Committee Volunteers will be able to

- Assist surviving spouses and families in managing notifications related to pensions and insurance after the loss of a loved one, offering support to help them adjust and move forward.
- Help veterans apply for VAC pensions or health-related assistance and follow up on inquiries.
- Collaborate with other Veterans Support and Advocacy teams across the country to share information on unique cases.
- Occasionally assist with applications for support from the RCMP Veterans Foundation or Benefit Trust Fund.
- Communicate with veterans over the phone to provide information and assistance as needed.



For inquiries regarding the program, contact Division Advocate Joe MacLoughlin at macloughlin@xplor.net or 506-538-7387.

The RCMP Veterans' Association Advocacy Program supports members' rights regarding pensions, insurance, and healthcare.

50 years ago, Troup 17 made history as the first female cadets in the RCMP



In celebration of the 50th anniversary of women in the RCMP, Veteran Lucie Dubois reflects on her career and encourages other women to join law enforcement. Read this Q&A with the Second Vice-President of the New Brunswick Veterans' Association to learn more about her journey.

As a young girl growing up in Lévis, Québec, what inspired you to become a police officer?

My adventurous nature, love for challenges, and passion for helping and defending the vulnerable inspired me to become a police officer. Fairness and justice were important values to me, and I wanted to serve and protect others.

When did you join the RCMP?

I joined the RCMP on April 5, 1988. As a unilingual francophone, I underwent English language training in Ottawa for four months before attending the RCMP Basic Training at Depot in August 1988. I graduated from Troop 8, an all-women troop, on March 6, 1989, and my first posting was in Summerside, PEI.

During your career, what were some of the different roles you held, and what would you say was the most rewarding part of your career?

Throughout my career, I have served in various roles, including general duties and highway patrol officer, supervisor, federal enforcement officer, boat operator, and OCC Manager. In 2011, I was commissioned as the Executive Officer to the J Division Commanding Officer. I later became the provincial Officer in Charge of Crime Reduction and served in Haiti for the United Nations and as the Canadian Contingent Commander. Upon my return, I was posted to West District, where I held positions as the Officer in Charge of Operations and District Commander. I also served as a Critical Incident Commander from 2014 until my retirement in May 2020. Following my retirement, I had the privilege of working with New Brunswick Justice and Public Safety for over three years.

The most rewarding part of my career has been the diverse experiences and opportunities it has offered. I am grateful for the mentorship and support I received from role models throughout my journey. Each posting, community, and position I held contributed to my growth and learning. My time in Haiti working with the Haitian National Police was particularly special, as it taught me the true meaning of resilience.

Throughout my career, I have always upheld the principle of giving my best in every endeavor, driven by personal satisfaction rather than external recognition. My family, especially my husband and two daughters, has been my pillar of strength, providing unwavering support. We have instilled the value of resilience in our family, nurturing our daughters to become strong and resilient individuals from a young age.

What qualities do you believe make a good police officer?

A good police officer should be caring, compassionate, passionate about their work, and able to remain calm under pressure. They must also work effectively with their team and be willing to seek help when needed. As a role model for the community, officers should be mindful of their actions and the influence they have on others. It is crucial to uphold the values represented by the uniform they wear.

As a retired law enforcement officer, what advice do you have for women interested in pursuing a career in this field?

My advice is simple: go for it! Surround yourself with supportive and inspiring individuals, seek out challenges that will keep you motivated, and always treat others with kindness and respect. Remember to support your colleagues, share your knowledge and experience, and most importantly, have FUN!

Since Troup 17, the RCMP has made a tremendous amount of progress in creating a diverse and inclusive workforce. Veteran Lucie Dubois encourages those interested in a rewarding career to explore the various opportunities available in the RCMP.

If you would like to learn more about the history of Troup 17, visit [Trials and Training: Life at Depot for Troop 17](#).



March was Fraud Prevention Month, but scammers can strike at any time!

This year marked the 20th anniversary of Fraud Prevention Month with the theme "20 years of fighting fraud: From then to now."

While many solicitation methods used by fraudsters today existed 20 years ago, their tactics have evolved. Some of the top methods include:

1. **Telephone:** The telephone remains a top method for fraudsters based on reports received in 2023.
2. **Cyber-enabled fraud (Email, internet, social media, and text messages):** Fraudsters now utilize social media platforms to target victims through fraudulent ads, compromised accounts, and bots to collect personal information.
3. **Mail:** Fraudulent mail can include fake inheritance or prize letters that require payments for fees or insurance.
4. **Door-to-door or in-person:** Fraud initiated in person is similar to 20 years ago, with fraudulent contractors offering services with little value or using high-pressure sales tactics for home improvement services.

The RCMP in New Brunswick recently issued a warning about a financial fraud scheme in the province. Scammers are posing as police officers and contacting victims, claiming that a family member is in custody and demanding money for their release. This scam primarily targets seniors who do not have internet access.

To protect yourself and your family from fraud, remain vigilant. Stay informed about current scams by visiting the [Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre](#) and sharing this information with others.

Throwback to 1979

On Wednesday, May 9, 1979, members of the Riverview RCMP Detachment were featured in a local newspaper as part of Canadian Police Week.



The article reads as follows:

Next Week is police week

THE WEEK OF May 13 to 19 has been set aside as Canadian Police Week, a period when police forces will attempt to make the public more aware of the preventive rather than the enforcement aspect of their work. In Riverview the RCMP detachment has planned a breathalyzer and radar display to be held at the Riverview Mall Thursday, May 17 from 2 to 10 p.m. There will also be school visitations and school library displays.

Pictured are members of the Riverview detachment, from left (front), Cpl. Robert Good, Cst. Joanne Boucher, Staff Sgt. Stan Merrithew, Cst. Greg Ferguson, Cpl. Dwight McCallum, (rear) Cst. Brian Williams, Cst. Richard Ross, Cst. Gary McNeill, Cst. Al Grant, Cst. Bill Trewin, Cst. Bruce Robichaud and Cst. Dave Dunphy. Absent are Cst. Diane Santerra and Cst. Clive Vallis. Tours of the detachment can be made by appointment.

Events

MEET THE VETERANS NIGHT AT THE MESS

On February 22, 2024, J Division organized a special event called "Meet the Veterans Night" at the MESS to allow attendees to meet, engage with, and establish new connections with our veterans.

Former Southeast District Commander, Superintendent Ron Desilva was also honored with a retirement gift during the event.

APRIL 20, 2024 – POLAR PLUNGE FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN (LETR)

Tracy, an Administrative Assistant in Federal Policing at J Division, is dedicated to making a positive impact in her community. Her commitment has earned her the Law Enforcement Torch Run Award of The Year from Special Olympics New Brunswick.

Join Tracy and Team Icicles at the next LETR Polar Plunge on Saturday, April 20, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Killarney Lake | 1600 Saint Marys Street | Fredericton, NB

MAY 10, 2024 – SOUTHEAST DISTRICT REGIMENTAL BALL

The Southeast District Regimental Ball is taking place at "Le Pays de la Sagouine" in Bouctouche on Friday, May 10, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

This formal event will start with a complimentary cocktail and cash bar, leading to a savory four-course dinner followed by music and dancing. The theme of the occasion will be the 150th anniversary of the RCMP.

Tickets can be purchased by e-transfer to SEDBALL_BALDSE@rcmp-grc.gc.ca at \$140 per ticket. Please include the names of the guests, meal choices, and any seating requests in your email.

MAY 25, 2024 – SPRING MEETING AND DINNER

Join us for the RCMP Veterans' Spring Meeting and Dinner on Saturday, May 25, 2024, at the Royal Canadian Legion, 3842 Main Street, Belledune, NB.

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Meeting
4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Meet and greet with a cash bar
5:00 p.m. Dinner

Menu and cost:

Enjoy a turkey dinner with all the trimmings, dessert, tea, or coffee for \$25.00 per person. To RSVP, please email your payment to Ross White at rosswhite2097@gmail.com. Please include the names of the attendees and specify if they are your spouse or guest.

Executive members and Directors

Have questions? Require assistance? Reach out to someone today! Your executive members, support directors, and area directors are there to help.

Executive

President	Ross White	506-292-0372	rosswhite2097@gmail.com
First Vice President	Jean-Marc Collin	506-758-2265	jmcollin@rogers.com
Second Vice President	Lucie Dubois	506-440-4183	luciedanny@msn.com
Secretary	John Jurcina	506-461-2273	secretarynbvets@gmail.com
Treasurer	Seth House	506-567-9158	nbvets.seth@gmail.com
Past President	Keith Morris	506-453-7015	morris4015@rogers.com

Support Directors

Bursary Coordinator	Gerry Belliveau	506-351-3133	belliveaug57@gmail.com
Communication	Brian Griffiths	506-476-4241	nb.directorcommunications@rcmpva.org
Division Advocate	Joe MacLoughlin	506-538-7387	macloughlin@xplornet.ca
Grave Site Inspection Coordinator	Roger Gillies	506-471-7567	rogergillies23@icloud.com
Membership	Lorne House	506-454-3381	lhouse@nb.sympatico.ca
Member Management System Liaison	Etienne Boudreau	506-531-7433	eb46418@gmail.com

Area Directors

Southeast Region	Rollie MacNeil	506-863-4742	roland.macneil@gmail.com
Codiac Region	Ed Brinton	506-854-6411	loredbri@aol.com
Northeast Region	Gilles Turgeon	506-545-7951	denise12@rogers.com
Miramichi Region	Tim Hoban	506-773-5071	
Northwest Region	Vacant		
River Valley Region	Len O'Halloran	506-328-8036	lenohalloran@gmail.com
Fredericton Region and J Division Liaison	Brian Griffiths	506-476-4241	nb.directorcommunications@rcmpva.org
Fredericton Region	Don Hulsman	506-444-1513	donhulsman@gmail.com
Southwest Region	Neil Walker	902-999-1332	hp0646@gmail.com
Saint John Region	Ron Gosselin	506-738-0009	Elaine.gosselin@bellaliant.net
Sussex Region	Fred Fearon	506-433-4400	fgfearon@rogers.com

Around the Division: Please contact your Area Director for more information about monthly gatherings in your region. If you know of a veteran member who is ill or hospitalized, please inform your Area Director.

Treasurer's notes



Membership in the Association provides access to our network of information and shared experiences, enabling members to gain a better understanding of life after the RCMP and make informed decisions for their futures.

Membership dues

Membership dues are crucial for funding our operations. Timely payment of dues is essential to support our planned projects.

To pay your dues, visit the National RCMP Veterans' Association [Memberships](#) webpage and click on the [membership renewal](#) button and login to complete the payment process.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If online payment is not possible, you can send an e-transfer of \$65 to nbvets.seth@gmail.com, specifying the member's name. Alternatively, payment by personal cheque or money order payable to **RCMP Veterans' Association** can be mailed to:

Seth House
11 Barbara Drive
Sussex Corner, N.B.
E4E 2S9

For any questions, contact Seth House, Treasurer of RCMP Veterans NB Division, at nbvets.seth@gmail.com or **506-567-9158**.

Seth House, Treasurer
RCMP Veterans NB Division

Items of interest

New Record of Service Card for Regular and Civilian Members who leave the RCMP

The RCMP introduced a new [Record of Service Card](#) to replace the Retired Members ID Card. This card will recognize the service of regular and civilian members and help identify them as Veterans of Canada. The card is optional for departing members, and those with a Retired Members ID Card do not need to return or replace it.

Applying for a card:

Departed members interested in obtaining the new card can email RCMP.RetiredID-IDRetraite.GRC@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.

Pension and Benefits – Contacts

Pertains to	Website	Contact	Details
RCMP Pension administered by: Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC)	https://www.rcmp-grc.pension.gc.ca/ https://www.canada.ca/en/government/publicservice/pay.html	1-855-502-7090 (all ranks other than below) 1-855-502-7088 (for levels EX01-C/Supt. & above) 1-800-561-7930 Public Servants	Have the Pension number and/or HRMIS number available
Veteran's Affairs Canada (VAC)	www.veterans.gc.ca Select My VAC Account Select Sign In Sign-in Partner or GC Key Input Username & Password	1-866-522-2122	Have the CSDN – "K" Number available
Canada Pension Plan (CPP) Old Age Security (OAS) Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) Survivor's Benefit Disability Payments	www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/publicpensions.html Select language of choice Select Benefits Select Pensions	1-800-277-9914	Have the Social Insurance Number (SIN) available
RCMP Group Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plan Administered by SEB Administrative Services	For information or to make changes to your group life insurance coverage, please 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	1-877-778-8084	Have Pension number and/or HRMIS number and/or other personal information available
Public Service Health Care Plan – PSHCP (Canada Life)	Canadalife.com/pshcp and Public Service Health Care Plan - Canada.ca Each member's Contract number depends upon the month of birth (dependent's contract number is 52115) The certificate number remains as before. Effective July 1, 2023 – Now administered by CANADA LIFE	1-855-415-4414	Have individual Group Contract Number and Certificate number available

Pertains to	Website	Contact	Details
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 The 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)	https://www.veterans.gc.ca/ https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/veterans-rights/how-to-appeal	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	Provide your SIN
GST Office	https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/corporate/contact-information.html	1-800-959-8281	
VAC ASSISTANCE SERVICE	24/7 PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT FOR VETERANS AND FAMILIES	1-800-268-7708	NO FEE

Veterans Affairs Canada (RCMP)

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/rcmp>

Tel: 1-866-522-2122

TDD/TTY: 1-833-921-0071

The VAC Assistance Service can provide you with psychological support. It is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The service is for Veterans, former RCMP members, their families, and caregivers and is provided at no cost. You do not need to be a client of VAC to receive services.

VAC Assistance Service Tel: 1-800-268-7708

TDD/TTY: 1-800-567-5803

This, that, and the other thing...

Stay in the loop



- **April 14 to 20** is National Volunteer Week.
- **May 6 to 12** is Mental Health Week. The theme for this year is “**A call to be kind.**”
- **May 12 to 19** is National Police Week.
- **May 23** officially marks the 50th anniversary since women joined the RCMP.
- **June 9 to 15** is National Public Service Week.
- **September 30** is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Did you know?

June 7 is National Doughnut Day and October 1 is International Coffee Day.

Rumour has it that RCMP members don't necessarily need a “special occasion” to enjoy this tasty treat, but on Friday, June 7, why not join the rest of Canada in celebrating National Doughnut Day?

Did you know that coffee not only tastes delicious but also offers certain health benefits? Research shows that drinking coffee at least once per day may lower your risk of throwing things at people. So, on Tuesday, October 1, why not enjoy an extra cup to “perk up” your day?



Join our Facebook community!

Join our [RCMP NBVETS](#) Facebook Community. Click [Join group](#) to request access to this private group.

Membership

Visit the [Royal Canadian Mounted Police Veterans' Association](#) webpage to become a member, renew your membership or update your membership profile.

If you have any questions or need assistance with the system, please contact the Member Management System Liaison, Vet. Etienne Boudreau, at **506-531-7433** or by email at eb46418@gmail.com.





Advertising

Anyone interested in advertising in our bi-annual CONNEXION newsletter is encouraged to contact Brian Griffiths, at nb.directorcommunications@rcmpva.org.

Thank you!

Thank you to all contributors for submitting photos and articles for this issue. To suggest a story idea, contact our Editor, Jennifer LeJeune, at Jennifer.lejeune@rogers.com.



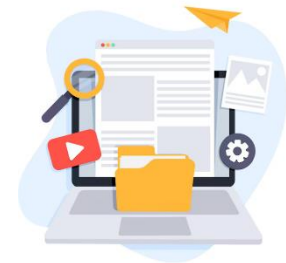
Thanks to our supporters!

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Looking for more information?

Check out the [Resources & Support](#) webpage on the RCMP Veterans' Association website. There you'll find information on:

- [Support and Advocacy](#)
- [Memberships](#)
- [Pension](#)
- ... and so much more!



The CONNEXION newsletter may contain or reference links to Websites. These links are provided as a convenience only and the use of these Websites is at your own risk. CONNEXION is not responsible for the content found on these Websites, or any link contained in said Websites.



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When I was on the road I dealt with other insurance companies regularly for work related matters and I have to say, the service at Higgins Insurance is untouchable. I'm so glad that for my personal insurance I have the quality and service that Higgins Insurance gives me each time I call!

Thank you Higgins Insurance for all you do for the RCMP members whether it be their personal insurance or the education you provide through presentations.

Cpl. Ryan Lewis

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