



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER




Edmonton Division, RCMP Veterans' Association

Hi Everyone,

Yes, it's that time of the year when we come together to "Remember Them". Each year, our Division used to lay a wreath on behalf of the RCMP Veterans' Association at the Ceremony held at the Butterdome in Edmonton, but when that came to an end, that tradition stopped. **I am now asking if there are any of our members interested in laying a Wreath in your community or where you normally celebrate this event? We are prepared to pay for one Wreath a year at a cost of around \$100.00.** Let me or any of our Executive Members know if you are interested keeping in mind, you don't necessarily have to be in uniform to lay a wreath. I will compile a list, and will pick a different location each year. Locations already interested are Beaumont, Stony Plain and Spruce Grove, I am sure there will be many more. Another tradition I am sure you all agree with and never see changed is that "a Poppy is Red, and only Red!"



On the 17th of October, several members from Edmonton Division Vets attended the Funeral of Bridgette Hardy-Crytes, as noted to the right. Bridgette was a civilian member of the Strathcona County Detachment. She was also in the RCMP Regimental Pipes and Drums for over 25 years as a Piper, one of its senior members, sat on the Band's Executive in many positions and was an integral



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piece of the band in many ways. Bridgette was also the beloved Barney the Bear at the Detachment and attended many schools, events during her career. Her mission in life was to make someone's day better and that she did. Although this young lady didn't belong to the Veterans' Association, her contribution to the Band and the community will be sorely missed!

CFL Grey Cup Tour

RCMP continues its ongoing recruiting partnership with the Canadian Football League, collaborating on RCMP-CFL themed events. The Alberta RCMP, Warrant Officers were asked by the CFL to assist with the planning of two Grey Cup Tours in our communities.

The Fort Heritage Precinct is a historic North West Mounted Police (NWMP) Fort which holds over 150 years of history and significance to the Alberta RCMP. This history combined with The Fort's location in the City of Fort Saskatchewan made this location an ideal place to host this event.

On October 19th, along with taking in the historic sites of The Fort, guests saw a variety of showcases from the RCMP, including ERT, PDS and Remote Pilot Systems along with our Recruiting Unit, and of course all



Marg Elliott talking about the transition of head wear in the Men's quarters some of the Elks Cheerleaders looking on



S/M Leilani Collins, Kim Bechtold, Linda Plomp, Marg Elliott & Sgt. Courtney McCarron standing with the CFL Grey Cup

were able to have a photo taken with the Grey Cup.

Guests were also able to purchase a favorite RCMP item, such a stuffed moose or a toy RCMP vehicle, from the Veterans' Gift Shop right while on site.

Members of the Edmonton Elks Cheer Team and CFL Alumni representation were also in attendance. It was a fantastic afternoon of activities enjoyed by all, highlighting our rich RCMP history that parallels with the history and culture of the CFL.

We had another great General/Dinner Meeting on October 29th with "92" in attendance – WOW! There is something to be said about having good guest speakers and we certainly had one this evening. Kevin O'Connell, the former Global TV weatherman. I would say he is as down to earth a person anyone could meet. Kevin is the son of Reg. #19652, Cpl. Thomas James O'Connell who served in F and HQ Divisions from 1956 to 1978, 22+ years service. He spoke about the many communities his Dad served in while in F Division and also a short stint in Ottawa. Most stays in these communities were about 18 months to two years in duration. They were small detachments with his Dad often being the only member working. As result, most of the photographs he showed were of his Dad in uniform. The



photograph to the upper right is Kevin preparing the slide presentation and to the left Tom Burkett presenting Kevin with a gift in appreciation for attending.



The theme for the October dinner was Octoberfest and Hallowe'en with Costumes encouraged. And I must say, those who dressed up, pulled out all the stops. Some of the costumes were extraordinary and blew me away. By far, in my opinion, the best costumes we have ever had. With Octoberfest



Accordion player, Bert Cerninara

theme in mind, we had someone playing the accordion as people were gathering for the evening. Unfortunately he was unable to stay for dinner, but the music was special.

Below we have Pumpkin Head (Dave) trying to keep things together with Scare-crow (Sue) amused.



We also have Kees wearing a cap displaying the winner of the 2024 Presidential election with Life Member Rob Bacchus.



Below we have a picture of all those who dressed up; impressive everyone, great job! That is followed by the first, second and third place finishers for best costumes.



FIRST PLACE: Marg Elliott, Wendy Allen, Erin Benedict, Issac Verbaas, Peter & Bev Fullbrandt



THIRD PLACE: Zachary Sayers, Joanne Morrison



SECOND PLACE: Kathy Kutryk, Kathy Van Keimpema, Bob Bilodeau, Petra Herrmann, Dave & Sue Mitchell

We also had two strays from a local farm crash our event as noted on the left! (Jerry & Pat)

We welcomed "first time" attendees, although we regrettably missed a few last month. This month we had Tom and Christine Erickson, Petra Herrmann plus Dennis and Maureen Perka. By all accounts, they enjoyed the evening with Petra dressing for the occasion.



Christine & Tom Erickson



Maureen & Dennis Perka



Petra Herrmann



Kees and Barb Stewart on Wednesday, 9th October



Kees and Pat Harrish at the Dinner Meeting

I was honoured to present two more Veterans' Association Challenge Coins celebrating 50 years of Females in the RCMP to the ladies on the right, Barb Stewart and Pat Harrish.

At the end of each year, the Treasury Board Secretariat provides the information on the pension indexing increase that is effective January 1 for federal public sector pensions.

The pension indexation rate effective Jan. 1, 2025, is 2.7 per cent

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Miscalculation of Disability Pensions Class Action Settlement

Are you a current or former member of the Canadian Armed Forces or **Royal Canadian Mounted Police, or their spouse, common-law partner, survivor, dependent or executor of their estate**, who received disability benefits from

Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) between 2003 and 2023? If so, you may be a Class Member and qualifiable for compensation from a class action settlement related to alleged miscalculations of disability pensions and benefits.

Class Members with an existing payment relationship with VAC will automatically receive the compensation for which they are qualifiable through the usual payment process. These Class Members do not have to submit a claim form to receive payment.

Class Members who do not have an existing payment relationship with VAC must submit a Claim Form or they will not receive compensation.

The deadline to submit a claim form is 19 March 2025.

[What is the Miscalculation of Disability Pensions Class Action?](#) Click on this line and you will go straight to the KPMG website.

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Below is the proposed 2025 Budget which will be up for ratification at our November Annual General (Dinner) Meeting. **If you are unable to attend and have questions, please contact me or Linda prior to the 26th November, 2024!**

RCMP Vets Edmonton Division - Budget 2025

Income	2025 Budget
Advertising Revenue	
Donations/Assistance Grants	
Gift Shop Insurance Payment	\$ 1,250.00
General/Dinner Meetings	\$ 20,000.00
Membership Dues Current Year	\$ 25,480.00
Money from Operating Reserve	\$ 23,658.00
Vets Gift Shop (Donation)	\$ 10,000.00
Total Income	\$ 80,388.00
 Expense	
AGM Expenses	\$ 3,500.00
Bank Service Charges	\$ 500.00
Donation Gifts/Funds	\$ 20,000.00
Executive Meetings	\$ 500.00
Inter Divisional Meetings	\$ 250.00
Meals and Travel (on Vets Business)	\$ 1,000.00
Members' Dinner Meetings	\$ 20,000.00
RCMP Vets National Members Dues	\$ 22,680.00
Remembrance Day	\$ 250.00
Office Supplies	\$ 2,000.00
Gift Shop Insurance	\$ 740.00
Social Events	\$ 7,500.00
Wall of Honour	\$ 500.00
Web Site(s)	\$ 968.00
Total Expenses	\$ 80,388.00

Welcome Amber, Tom, Taylor and Richard as our new members. Everyone but Richard has already joined us at one of our events and we hope all of you find the time to join us in the future.

If anyone has any questions or concerns or if there is something you would like to see in the Newsletter, please let me know.

Stay warm everyone,

Kees Kikkert, President
president@edmrcompvets.ca

New Members Edm Division October 2024

Amber Duda, Reg. 27287A, Spruce Grove
Thomas Erickson, Reg. 29400, St. Albert
Taylor Boulton, PSE, Sherwood Park
Richard Graydon, Reg #39509, Stettler

November Annual General (Dinner) Meeting Tuesday, November 26/2024

**Woodvale Community Facility, 4540 – 50 St. Edmonton, AB
Meet and Greet - 5:00 P.M. Dinner - 6:00 P.M.**

Menu:

**Chicken Stir fry, Sweet and Sour Pork on Jasmine Rice
Roasted Almonds and Green Beans, Roasted Potatoes
Chef's Choice Salad, Caesar Salad, Fresh Vegetable Tray
Fresh Fruit, Dinner Buns, Butter, Assorted Squares, Coffee & Tea**

**Guest Speaker - Stacy Talbot – Topic – NED'S WISH Charity
Supporting the medical needs of retired Police Service Dogs**

**Please advise when registering of any allergies or sensitivities
you may have so we can notify our caterer**

**Cost per plate \$30.00 (includes meal, gratuity, and GST)
Payment at the door – cash, cheque, debit or credit card.
Cash Bar**

Short Annual General Meeting

**Contact Linda Plomp to register by Friday, November 22, 2024
Email: lfplomp@hotmail.com or phone or text cell: 780-238-7606**

**If you have registered and are unable to come, please call Linda
ASAP to advise. We are obligated to pay for the number of people
we have registered and have advised our caterer.**

We are also including the Menu for the Christmas Dinner & Silent Auction in December as we need to know sooner than later item(s) you may wish to donate towards the Silent Auction!

Christmas Dinner / Silent Auction

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

Woodvale Community Facility, 4540 – 50 St., Edmonton, AB

Meet and Greet - 5:00 P.M. Dinner - 6:00 P.M.

**DRESS CODE: SEMI-FORMAL/RED OR BLUE
BLAZERS/BUSINESS SUITS
NO JEANS**

MENU

Roast Turkey with Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
Honey Mustard Glazed Ham, Cabbage Rolls, Perogies
Caesar Salad, Tossed Salad, Coleslaw, Marinated Pasta Salad
Chef's Choice Salad, Greek Salad, Raw Vegetable Tray with Dip
**Garden Fresh Steamed Vegetables, Assorted Pickles, Fresh
Fruit**

**Assorted Tortes, Cheese Cake, Pastries, Dinner Buns, Butter,
Coffee & Tea**

**PLEASE REGISTER BY EITHER: EMAIL – JPLASTOW@SHAW.CA OR
PHONE OR TEXT: 780-499-3235 BY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024**

**RESERVED SEATING: PLEASE INDICATE WHOM YOU WISH TO SIT
WITH AT YOUR TABLE**

**GUESTS/FRIENDS ARE ALSO WELCOME. PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR
GUESTS' FULL NAMES
FOR THE TABLE PLACE CARDS.**

PLEASE ADVISE OF ANY FOOD ALLERGIES OR SENSITIVITIES.

COST PER PERSON - \$45.00

PAYMENT AT THE DOOR – CASH, CHEQUE, DEBIT, OR CREDIT CARD

**SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS:
IF YOU WISH TO DONATE AN ITEM FOR THE SILENT AUCTION,
PLEASE INFORM LINDA PLOMP AT
EMAIL: lfplomp@hotmail.com WITH A PHOTO OR A DETAILED
DESCRIPTION OF THE ITEM.**

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR ITEM ARRIVES AT WOODVALE BY 5:30 PM

***A friendly reminder: PLEASE NOTIFY JERRY - JPLASTOW@SHAW.CA -
ASAP as we are obligated to pay for the number of people
registered.***

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**Edmonton RCMP Veterans' Executive Meeting Minutes October 24/2024
Woodvale Community Centre, Edmonton**

Meeting called to order: 10:00 am

Members Present: Kees Kikkert, Jerry Plastow, Elaine Schnepf, Barry Callbeck, Jim Medley, Nick Taylor, Dave Mitchell, Bruce Allen, Eric LaFoy, Carol Blannin, Chuck Neher, Isaac Verbaas, Linda Plomp

Unable to Attend: Randy Montgomery, Dianne Lehman, Shane Ramteemal, S/M Leilani Collins .

Barry Callbeck, Secretary:

- Motion for acceptance of minutes for September 19/2024 Executive Meeting as published in the October Newsletter; Seconded by Dave Mitchell, Carried.

Kees Kikkert, President:

- The Association Council next meeting is November 05/2024; Kees will join the meeting via Zoom.
- Kees has questioned the interpretation of the policy within the RCMP National Compensation Manual with respect to the possibility of a pensioned member claiming payment for a non-regimental headstone, marker, or niche marker in the amount of \$220.00 prior to that member's passing. The Force interpretation is the benefit can be claimed only after the pensioned member passes away. The policy appears now to have been amended allowing the claim to be made prior to the pensioned members death. The matter has been referred to Ottawa for their guidance.
- Final report for the AGM has been sent to the Associations CAO on October 1/24 and we are still waiting for a response.
- The ID card used by Cypress Hills was discussed. All agreed, it is much too labour intensive for a Division like ours with so many members.

Bruce Allen on behalf of Linda Plomp:

- 2025 Budget: Bruce presented the budget and following a healthy discussion:
 - Bruce moved the budget be approved for presentation at the October 29th General meeting and for ratification at the November 26th Annual General Meeting, Seconded by Dave Mitchell, Carried

- Financial update:
 - Chequing Account \$15,719.80
 - Total GIC's \$105,968.76

Dave Mitchell, 2nd Vice President:

- Dave advised that we are still waiting for National to upgrade their system so we can move forward to the File Management Services system.

Jerry Plastow, Past President:

- One request was received for help for a members travel expenses for a serving member to attend a funeral service of his Troopmate. \$500.00 was given and a letter of thanks was received from the member.
- Items for the Silent auction in December have been received from family members.
- Jerry has recommended an accordion player for the upcoming dinner meeting at a cost of \$150.00.
 - Dave Mitchell motioned we cover the cost of the Accordion player and include covering his dinner; Seconded by Isaac Verbaas; Carried.

Elaine Schnepf, Boost Co-ordinator

- Boost has been busy sending several cards again this month to those hospitalized and having surgeries and treatments.

Jim Medley, Director, Gift Shop:

- Jim advised the Gift Shop donated \$5,000.00 to our Division and sent the cheque to Linda with the hopes of more coming in the near future.

Carol Blannin, Director Membership:

- Membership numbers: Active 403. Associate 207. Unpaid 23 (Paid: 380)

Nick Taylor, Director, Valour Place:

- Nick advised his last meeting with the Valour Place board will be on December 12th and that Chuck Neher will be taking over his position effective January 2025.
- Approximately \$50,000.00 was raised at this year's Walk for Valour.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:25 AM

Next Executive meeting: @ Woodvale Community Facility November 21/2024

Barry Callbeck, Secretary

**EDMONTON DIVISION GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Woodvale Community Facility – Tuesday, October 29/2024**

Meeting Called to Order at 6:02 PM by President Kees Kikkert:

Barry Callbeck, Secretary:

- Barry motioned the minutes as published in the October Newsletter from the General Meeting of September 24/2024 be accepted, Seconded by Eric LaFoy, Carried.

Linda Plomp, Treasurer:

- Linda advised everyone a copy of the proposed budget was placed on everyone’s table and asked that they review it. This budget will be included in the November Newsletter and presented for ratification at Edmonton Division’s Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, November 26.

Carol Blannin, Membership Director:

- Pins and Bars were presented to the following members:
 - Randy Rechner - 5 year pin and bar, Mike Aftergood, - 10 year bar & Wally Husky - 35 year bar.



Meeting adjourned at: 6:07 PM

Barry Callbeck, Secretary

Edmonton Division’s Annual General Meeting, Tuesday, November 26/2024

Christmas Dinner and Silent Auction Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2024

Commanding Officer’s Message

As we move into winter, and prepare for a busy holiday season, I look back on the work and successes of our organization this fall. Over the past month, I have had the opportunity to attend a variety of award ceremonies and events across the province. Seeing our members awarded for their bravery, professionalism, and commitment to their communities reinforces what I already knew - that the members of the Alberta RCMP are the best at what they do. It is a privilege to be the Commanding Officer of such exceptional employees.

November is a time of reflection, not just for the armed forces but for the RCMP as well. Many of the Veterans and members, myself included, have served in the armed forces, and have friends, family, or peers who continue to serve. During November, we take the time to reflect on those who have lost their lives in the line of duty, making the ultimate sacrifice to ensure the safety of others. Please join me in remembering those who have served before us, and who we continue to honour by safeguarding the values they fought to protect.

Respectfully,
Rob
Deputy Commissioner Rob Hill
Commanding Officer of the Alberta RCMP

Alberta RCMP receive Decorations for Bravery

On October 24, nine officers from the Alberta RCMP were proud recipients of Decorations for Bravery from Her Excellency, the Right Honourable Mary Simon. This medal recognizes an ultimate act of selflessness and sacrifice, honouring individuals who have demonstrated outstanding courage in the face of dangerous circumstances, putting their life on the line to protect others.



When faced with adverse conditions, these individuals did not choose the path of least resistance. Instead, they selflessly put the safety and well-being of others before their own in order to save lives. We thank them for their courage.

International Association of Chiefs of Police Awards

Congratulations to S/Sgt. Ray Savage, who was awarded the 2024 International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) award for Excellence in Law Enforcement for his development of the National Reintegration Program (NRP). This officer-led, peer-driven program was developed by S/Sgt. Savage in 2015, and became a national RCMP program in 2021.

The NRP is an interactive program dedicated to ensuring officers are provided the support they need to confidently return to operational duties after a serious injury, incident, or extended leave. Since its inception, the NRP has emerged as a standard of support for all RCMP officers.



Commanding Officer's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Leadership Award

This month marked the inaugural Alberta RCMP Commanding Officer's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Leadership Award presentation. The award is presented to an individual or team that shows a personal passion for achieving EDI in their workplace or community, outside of their regular mandate.

This year's award was presented to Cpl. Nader Khalil for his outstanding achievements in promoting an environment that is welcoming, supportive, and nurturing of cultural, ethnic, racial, gender, sexual orientation, and other human differences. From his work as a Peer-to-Peer Coordinator, to building trusted relationships with newcomers to Canada and providing them with support, EDI is a guiding principle in all he does.

We are proud of the exemplary work of officers like Cpl. Khalil and the many others that make up our Alberta RCMP.



MADD Calgary & Area Launch Annual Project Red Ribbon

On November 1, as part of an initiative to educate the public on the importance of a safe and sober holiday season, the Mothers Against Drunk Driving organization launched their annual Project Red Ribbon campaign. The project runs until January 6, with red ribbons displayed to symbolize the importance of not driving while impaired and in remembrance of those whose lives have been impacted by impaired driving. Some of our Southern Alberta District members attended the launch in Calgary to show their support, and members will be sporting the red ribbon to help raise awareness about the issue of impaired driving.



Alberta RCMP Receive Historic Donation

A piece of history was donated to the RCMP when the great, great granddaughter of Colonel James McLeod, Commissioner of the North-West Mounted Police (NWMP) in the 1800s, donated an original pay box. The pay box was used to pay the troops, keeping their funds secure while they were maintaining public safety in western Canada.

Thank you to the McLeod family for their donation. They were escorted to Depot to deliver the pay box, alongside RCMP dignitaries. We are grateful for their generous donation, and we recognize the significant place it holds in our history.



THE LAST POST

Reg #	Name :	Date of Death:	Passed &/or from
19964	Cphoon, Gregory Donald Joseph	2024-10-01	Moncton, NB
21077/0.1442	Cronan, Allan James	2024-09-20	Comox, BC
22032	Lalancette, Gerard	2024-09-29	Brossard, QC
26787	George, Robert James	2024-10-02	Corner Brook, NL
C/2323	MacAulay, Peter James	2024-09-22	Halifax, NS
17822	Provost, Wilfred Clare	2024-09-26	West Kelowna, BC
21830	Trepanier, Adrian Joseph	2024-09-30	Grande Prairie, AB
20725	White, Robert "Glen" Glenwood	2024-09-30	Squamish, BC
20427	Haagenson, Maurice Sydney	2020-02-07	Gresham, OR
35181	Lebel, Sylvain	2024-09-20	Gatineau, QC
21770	Ball, James Murray	2024-09-27	Brockville, ON
43350	Parno, Robert E.	2024-09-09	Maple Ridge, BC
C/2195	Armstrong, Janet I.	2024-09-02	Surrey, BC
Piper	Hardy-Crytes, Bridgette B.	2024-10-05	Sherwood Park, AB
S/0194	Tilley, John Edgar	2024-10-09	Marmora, ON
31657	Nippard, Harold Samue	2024-10-13	Lewisporte, NL
28642	Gibbins, John Walter "Rusty"	2024-10-08	BC

28031	Gorsline, Harvey Grant	2024-10-12	Kelowna, BC
23097	Kereliuk, Anthony Andrew "Tony"	2024-09-18	Calgary, AB
23680	Roberts, Peter Charles	2024-10-10	Grand Manan, NB
19131/0.863	MacGibbon, Richard "Sandy" Alexander	2024-10-14	Maxville, ON
21300	Johnston, Barry Douglas	2024-10-04	Comox, BC
C/3843	Hunter, Linda Sophia	2024-09-22	Lacombe, AB
22995	Krevesky, Michael Leonard	2024-09-27	Kelowna, BC
45007	Van Imschoot, Christopher Robert	2024-09-30	Stony Plain, AB
S/0766	Paries, Emil Thomas	2024-10-16	Olds, AB
30711	Edwards, Trevor Andrew McDonald	2024-09-30	Ottawa, ON
17047	Annand, George Hector	2024-10-18	Ottawa, ON
20604	Buchanan, Herbert	2024-10-18	Airdrie, AB
37250	Bush, Gary Irvin L.	2024-08-25	Surrey, BC
18954	Kathol, Edmund "Ed" A.	2024-10-09	Lethbridge, AB
24353/0.1452	Ferguson, Stanley Allister	2024-09-09	Halifax, NS
24158	Cole, Eugene	2024-10-23	Carbonear, NL
25273	Kuzik, Dennis Richard	2024-09-28	Chilliwack, BC
39747	Roussel, Francois	2024-10-24	Ottawa, ON
17309	Wells, Lloyd William	2024-10-27	London, ON
15184/0.868	William, William "Verne"	2024-10-18	Kamloops, BC
28270	Hoskins, Gary C.	2024-10-26	Moose Jaw, SK
18154	Whetstone, William Carl John	2024-10-27	Edmonton, AB
20538	Todd, Frederick Henry "Hank"	2024-06-01	Peterborough, ON
PSE	McCormick, Mary Anne	2024-10-13	Ottawa, ON
C/M	Mills, Arlington Smith	2024-10-24	Ottawa, ON
A/Cst.	Targett, Arnold John Paul	2024-10-28	Moncton, NB
23327	Whitehead, Donald H.	2024-09-19	Vernon, BC
25969	Peacock, Richard Alexander	2024-11-01	St. John, NL
C/1767	Lagace, Denise Alice	2024-10-23	Regina, SK
20178	Smith, David William	2024-10-30	Courtice, ON
46506	McDonald, Earl A.	2024-10-30	Moncton, NB
33160	Donnelly, Brian James	2024-10-23	Rocky Mountain House, AB
16069	Stacey, William John Robert	2024-10-09	Langley, BC
40501	Filiatrault, Jean-Luc	2024-06-18	Saint-Eustache, QB
17362	Heapy, Gerald Edgar	2024-10-30	Hamiota, MB

May they rest In Peace

Should anyone wish more information on anyone on the list you can go to the National website at https://www.rcmpvets.ca/last_post.php and/or the RCMP Graves site <https://www.rcmpgraves.com/index.html>