



Scarlet and Gold

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Veterans Association, Vancouver

October, 2012

THINKING "OUTSIDE THE BOX"

By Ed Hill

Most of you reading this article will be of a vintage that harkens back to "the good old days" as we go about whatever retirement has brought to us. We're living now through a time when the RCMP is coming under such scrutiny, right or wrong, as to make any of us who wore the red serge perhaps a bit uncomfortable as we read the papers, listen to the radio or watch the nightly news. At such times I think it's important for all of us to recognize that we made our own decisions, some decisions better than others, during our own tenure on the job. Through the magical mirror of time, it's always easy to look back with clarity at the good decisions and the not so good decisions. I just want to take a minute here to recognize one of those times in the past when decisions were made and the good results have lived on and grown, even as we ourselves grow older and wiser in our "golden years" of retirement.

In doing so I want to recognize three people who took a chance all those years ago. They were willing to think outside of the box, to take that chance and to trust. These decisions didn't involve memorandums of agreement or policy matters. Their commitment wasn't focused on a particular crime family or specific criminal issue. These three people weren't focusing on problematic personnel or staffing issues in

these deliberations. No, they made a decision to put RCMP members in canoes for a paddling journey each year. Even as you read this, some of you will remember those days and perhaps even now you may miss the point of those decisions made so long ago. These three people didn't miss the point at all and they made decisions at the time that continue to make a positive impact even today. They made those decisions in spite of some wondering out loud what Mounties in canoes had to do with good police work.

Phil Murray was the Commissioner of the day when in 1997 the VisionQuest canoe journey plied the Skeena River and ocean waters from Hazelton to Victoria. Organized by the RCMP this journey was a first and it only happened because Phil Murray "got it". Criticized on some fronts, perhaps even by some of you reading this article, he stood his ground and supported the initiative. That 1,600 kilometers of RCMP members paddling ocean-going canoes with First Nations people has made a lasting and positive impact. It has changed lives and indeed in some instances changed the relationships between the RCMP and the First Nations people of British Columbia forever. It was the beginning of a healing and mending and its legacy will outlive all of us.

Out of VisionQuest was born an annual canoe journey called PULLING TOGETHER. While



PULLING TOGETHER 2012 CREW - Saltery Bay, Upper Sunshine Coast, July 9th, 2012

VisionQuest originally had a focus of highlighting the need to deal with matters of addiction in our society, its ancillary benefit was one of repairing our relationships with the First Nations community here on the West Coast. PULLING TOGETHER recognized that need of improving relationships and now annually a canoe journey takes place somewhere in the Province of British Columbia. These journeys, both VisionQuest's journey of 1997 and the PULLING TOGETHER annual canoe journeys, could not have happened without the initial foresight and support of the Commanding Officers of the day here in "E" Division. Both Larry Proke and Bev Busson were people of vision in their undying support of these journeys. I write this short article as a vote of thanks and recognition to these three people.

VisionQuest (www.visionquestsociety.org) has quietly gone about its business for all these years since 1997. No longer involved in canoe journeys, VisionQuest has several Recovery Houses opened in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia. Originally, VisionQuest was touted as being a crime prevention initiative as well as one designed to improve relationships. It was created to focus not just on the First Nations people but on all people and their problems with addiction. Today there are hundreds of people who are living and working in our communities who have gone through the VisionQuest recovery program. Many are clean and sober. They are productive members of society today and all because of the vision and support of the RCMP and their unique initiative of putting people in canoes in 1997.

So too, PULLING TOGETHER has worked its own unique magic over the years (www.pullingtogether.ca). The RCMP spearheaded and organized the first PULLING TOGETHER journey. It was the Force's vision and support at the time that

made it happen. Since 2001 PULLING TOGETHER has grown. The original journey involved 5 canoes as it left the shores of Yale on the Fraser River. Now, in 2012, the fleet can number up to 300 people at times. Those ranks have swelled to include municipal police forces from all over the Lower Mainland. We've even had the Ontario Provincial police involved and a PULLING TOGETHER journey took place in Ontario in 2004. Our travels have taken us from Yale to Gibsons, from the Port Mann Bridge to Victoria, from Powell River to Vancouver and even to Okanagan Lake. Each year as those canoes explore new waters we create new friends and positive relationships. PULLING TOGETHER leaves in its wake a legacy of newfound respect and trust. Our ranks have now included Department of Fisheries, the Canadian Navy, CN and CP Police, Coast Guard and many other Public Service departments. Civilians too, young and old, just members of society, find their way into our canoes. PULLING TOGETHER has made a huge difference as these magical canoes and the journeys they embark on have developed life-long friendships. PULLING TOGETHER is a good news police story at a time when good news is needed.

This coming summer you'll no doubt hear or read the media reports about the PULLING TOGETHER canoe journey on Shuswap Lake as it plies the waters of the Thompson River to Kamloops. Know that it all began with the trust and vision of three RCMP bosses. Without their support and blessing in the first instance VisionQuest or PULLING TOGETHER would not have been born all those years ago. I've not mentioned rank in this narrative. Rather, I've spoken about the person. Phil Murray, Larry Proke and Bev Busson – thank you. I hope you can now look back on those "outside the box" decisions and know that they were good ones. Those decisions made a difference.



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From the Pen of the President, Dick Hawkshaw

From the Pen of the President,

October 2012



Forget? Do you tend to **forget** things so they become **forgotten** until some stimulus brings them to mind? I sure do. The old memory bank can certainly be cavernous and full of cobwebs. Just the other day I happened upon a couple of pictures of troop mates - "G" Troop 1959-60. Good Lord, were we ever young, fighting trim, smartly decked out in uniform and good looking. How the years have changed us. Now we are pensioned Veterans and dare I say senior citizens. On reflection maybe **forgetfulness** isn't all that bad.

While on the subject of being **forgetful** please note (you can always tie a string around your finger) that Vancouver Division does not have a meeting this month opting instead to bus it down to Leavenworth, WA to take in the Oktoberfest celebrations. We will let you know how that went in next month's *Scarlet and Gold*. Providing I don't

Also, not to be **forgotten** is that our regular meeting in November will be held on Wednesday the 21st at Rancho Caterers in Abbotsford. It is a luncheon starting with a social hour at 11 am and the meal at 12 noon. This is an important meeting for we will be holding our annual elections plus presenting the **Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal** to Bill McCheyne and Bob McKee. Please mark it down or you can always do a second string on the finger.

The luncheon format will also be used for our meetings in February and March 2013 with the venue being in the Langley area. Stay tuned. What has prompted this is a recommendation from the *Membership Revitalization Study*. We are hoping that the luncheon format will take hold by promoting and enhancing attendance at our Winter meetings. Not many of us like to drive at night and especially not in the Winter months.

It is very important that if you plan on attending any meeting that you let our Secretary, Mert Rowden, know along with telling him if you need a ride. **Ph. 604-434-0424.**

When at the meeting I would recommend that if you have a hearing problem please move to a table nearer the front. We want everyone to hear what is being said as it is important to know what is going on. Besides, if you hear something then you can legitimately say later you **forgot** about it but if you can't hear it then there is nothing to **forget**. Where's the fun in that!

Something else that needs to be highlighted is **Vancouver Division** turning **100** on May 19th, 2013. This is an **unforgettable** milestone that has led to us putting together a **Centennial Celebration** Committee. If you are interested in taking part or have a suggestion or two as to possible worthwhile events, please let the Executive know.

In ending, I don't want to **forget** to mention that we are still in need of a Division Advocate. While this is an important position having benefit for the Division, it is not an onerous one, so please volunteer. Advocacy can be very rewarding.

Remember this is the month of Halloween and self-induced sugar highs.

That is it for now. Meanwhile, I have something I must do for Mary but darn if it doesn't escape me.

Dick



President
Dick Hawkshaw 604-824-8464
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Bill Craig 604-858-2298
Larry Proke 604-501-4824
Carl Anderson 604-943-3456
Bill Duckworth 604-948-9928
Jane Hall 604-534-3456

Division Historian
Bob McKee 604-885-6372
Caring Committee Chairperson
Frank McLeod 604-542-0897
Honor Guard Coordinator
Dan Lemieux 604-988-7421
Merchandizing
Ron Budd 604-535-5960
Newsletter Editor
Peter Bond 604-740-9962
Presidential Appointee
Arnie Atkin 604-535-9811



Treasurer's Report by Ben Gwaltney

Recently, our Members have queried how our funds are spent? In answering I have broken our income into two categories. First is the income/expenses directly related to our per capita dues from 360 Active Members and 40 Life Members. Secondly is the annual income/expense arising from our day to day operations and not directly related to our per capita dues.

Revenue

Dues Revenue	360 x \$60.00 =	\$21,600.00
Non-Dues Revenue		
Donations Received		\$ 280.00
Sale of Kit & Accessories		\$ 2,333.00
Advertising Sales		<u>\$ 1,475.00</u>
Total Non-Dues Revenue		<u>\$ 4,088.00</u>
Total Revenue		\$25,688.00

Expense

Per Capita Expenses:		
National Per Capita Dues	360x \$22.00 =	\$7,920.00
Insurance Premium	400x \$ 3.00 =	<u>\$1,200.00</u>
Total Per Capita Expense		\$ 9,120.00
Annual Expenses:		
Honorarium Editor =		\$2,400.00
Honorarium Web Master =		\$2,400.00
Honorarium Padre =		\$ 500.00
Newsletter Printing 9 issues x160 =		\$1,440.00
Newsletter Envelopes/Postage 9 issues x240 =		\$2,160.00
Ladies Aux News Support 9 issues x75 =		\$ 675.00
Annual Website Hosting		\$ 140.00
Annual Domain Registration		\$ 30.00
Sponsoring our AGM Representative		\$2,500.00
Net cost for PRDA Horse Sponsorship		\$1,200.00
Dinner Meeting shortfall		\$ 500.00
Division Telephone		\$ 75.00
Stationery/Office Supplies		\$ 400.00
Purchase Kit/items for sale		<u>\$1,147.00</u>
Total Annual Expense =		\$15,567.00
Total Expenses =		<u>\$24,687.00</u>
Net Income (Loss) =		\$ 1,001.00



In preparing this report it was necessary to couple our previous year's experience with our year to date information. In this illustration, we ended with income exceeding expenses. Of course the final result from year to year will vary. For example, our statements just received from our accountant for the years 2010 and 2011 show that revenues exceeded expenditures by \$1,009.00 in 2010 and by \$806.00 in 2011. We will not have the actual final figure for 2012 until early 2013.



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Guard Report by Director Dan Lemieux

The 15th Annual Police & Peace Officers' Memorial Service was held in Stanley Park, Vancouver on Sunday, Sept. 30th, 2012. Approximately 600 police and peace officers have died in performance of their duties since Confederation. Many police and peace officers including Washington State Troopers took part in the ceremony. Sheldon Boles, Laurier Cadieux and Dan Lemieux represented the RCMP Veterans. On Saturday, November 3rd, RCMP Veterans in red blazers will join the RCMP Honour Guard at BC Place Stadium to honour military veterans during a brief ceremony at half-time during a BC Lions – Saskatchewan Roughrider game. On Nov. 11th, 2012 a contingent of RCMP Veterans will gather at the Cenotaph in North Vancouver City for Remembrance Day Ceremony. Those interested in attending either event can contact Dan Lemieux at deebeel@telus.net or 604-988-7421. Dress – Red Blazers for BC Place Stadium. Dress for Nov.11th, in North Vancouver City is optional. Bring raincoats. We are driven to the Cenotaph, but the return march to Fell armoury is one mile.



Photography by
D. Laird Allan



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New members Len Hall, Keith
Price and Dennis Ratcliffe

President Dick Hawkshaw
With Guest Speaker Trent Rolfe



Minutes from September 19, Mert Rowden, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 1810 hours by the President, Dick Hawkshaw. Following the singing of the National Anthem a moment of silence was called for fallen members. Padre Frank McLeod gave the blessing for the meal. The Life Members led the way for a baron of beef and/or chicken dinner prepared by Donna and Shawn.

President Dick recalled the meeting following dinner and announced that Life member, Bob Miller, celebrated his 88th birthday on the 9th and was present with his son, Dan.

New members Len Hall, Dennis Ratcliffe, and Keith Price were called forward, introduced, and inducted.

Guest Speaker: Inspector Trent Rolfe who is in charge of Surrey Major Crimes was introduced and spoke on his time in the Force including his initial years in Coquitlam and his time in various investigation sections of the Force. Inspector Rolfe spoke and responded to a number of questions on the various Gangs, including their inter-relationships and conflicts.

President's Report:

. Dick reviewed the resolution that is being proposed for a National amendment to the By-Laws so that Divisions are limited to a life membership list that is not greater than 10% of paid up members. Dick advised on the Jubilee Medals presentations. Dan Lemieux will be having his presented along with the "E" Division presentation on October 30th while Bill McCheyne and Bob McKee will have theirs presented at our November lunch meeting.

A Division Advocate is still needed.

The Executive Committee will be researching involvement in more benevolent activities.

Committee will also be taking action on the report on membership and recruitment. That Committee will again be meeting on the 28th. Advised the membership that the Executive had approved an Honorarium for the Webmaster of \$200.00 a month. A motion to approve this expenditure to the membership was made by Arnie and seconded by Ed and Carried.

Reminder of the Oktoberfest trip.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Ben Gwaltney reported that finances are as reported in the newsletter. Current Bank Balance is \$30,711.05. 360 members have paid 2012 dues and some have paid 2013 dues. Ben moved his report be accepted, seconded by Murray McLaughlin and Carried.

Membership: Director Carl Anderson was away, but Ben submitted his report on a new applicant John Peter McTiernan, No. 33927. John served in H and E Divisions and retired as a S/Sgt.

Health and Welfare: Director Ron Budd reported on the Tax rebate for members with disabilities. Contact Revenue Canada for the forms. Form No. 2201.

Golf: Director Bill Duckworth spoke on the dwindling numbers of members interested in Golf Tournaments. There was no interest in a Fall tournament this year.

Social: President Dick spoke briefly on the Oktoberfest plans for October 6th and the December 12th Levee. Plans are being considered for our 100 Anniversary on May 19th. The Division was formed May 13th, 1913. A committee will be struck to plan something in the way of a celebration.

Force Liaison: Director Larry Proke spoke of the new E Div. H.Q. building that will likely be finished in October with the Force taking over on the 22nd of December. The move-in will take place during the following four months. Confirmation has been received that we have an area designated outside of the security area. It is to have three work stations. Larry and Sheldon are part of a building

committee for the Force.

Housing Foundation: Dick spoke on the Housing Committee made up of Chair, Bill Neil, and members Bill Schindeler, Bill McCheyne, John Hooper, and Dick Hawkshaw.

Ceremonial Guard: Squad Leader Dan Lemieux spoke on the attendance of the Honour Guard at BC Place for Veterans' night, and on the Remembrance parade in North Vancouver on November 11th. Dan explained the protocol for each event. Let Dan know if you can participate.

Website: Director Sheldon Boles spoke on the upgrade to the web-page during the summer months and is popular with almost 52,000 hits since March. He spoke on the popular reaction to the stories. The email communique is also very popular across Canada and in the US, however the limitation of numbers sent at one time makes it time consuming to send.

Sheldon thanked the members for their contribution of jokes, photos, stories and other material used in the Communique and Web-page.

Wayne Ryan was introduced.

Adjournment: President Dick reminded everyone of the Oktoberfest, and the November lunch meeting and election. There being no further reports or business the President adjourned the meeting at 2032 hours.

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Vancouver Meetings: Fairmont Barracks, 11 AM 3rd Tuesday in February 3 rd Tuesday in May Spring Golf Tournament Fall Golf Tournament	Vancouver dates for 2012 February 21st May 15 May 17, Kings Links, Delta September 12, Delta G.C.	Abbotsford Meetings: Rancho Caterers, 5 PM 3 rd Wednesday in March 3rd Wednesday in June 3 rd Wednesday in September 3 rd Wednesday in November Spring Social Octoberfest Levee	Abbotsford dates for 2012 March 21st June 20th September 19th November 21st, Lunch, 11AM April 21st Rancho October 6th, Rancho December 12th, Rancho
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Drinking, Gambling and Golf

A man was walking in the city when he was accosted by a particularly dirty and shabby bum who asked for a couple of dollars for dinner.

This man took out his wallet, extracted five dollars and asked, "If I gave you this money, will you take it and buy whiskey?"

"No, I stopped drinking years ago," the bum said.

"Will you use it to gamble?"

"I don't gamble. I need everything I can just to stay alive."

"Will you spend the money on greens fees at a

golf course?"

"Are you NUTS! I haven't played golf in 20 years."

The man said, "Well, I'm not going to give you five dollars. Instead, I'm going to take you to my home for a terrific dinner cooked by my wife."

The bum was astounded. "Won't your wife be furious with you for doing that? I'm dirty and I probably smell pretty bad."

The man replied, "That's okay. I just want her to see what a man looks like who's given up drinking, gambling and golf."



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Ladies Auxiliary

October 4, 2012 Auxiliary Luncheon/Meeting:

We had 37 in attendance, and thanked our Caterer, Mrs. Shan Lum, for serving such great meals by presenting her with a potted chrysanthemum. Our Guest Speaker was scheduled to be Ms. Gaye Monkman from the "Elizabeth Fry Organization," which is the newest recipient of our Outreach Funds. Unfortunately, Gaye was detained at work due to unforeseen circumstances, so she will be re-scheduled as a Guest Speaker for a future date. Nine afghans/blankets were donated by Auxiliary members this date which will be greatly appreciated by the "Variety Club." They are always in need of these items for distribution to hospitals and other health institutions around the province.

Condolences: The Auxiliary extended condolences to Vancouver Auxiliary member, Mrs. Phyllis Gillespie, and her family, on the recent tragic passing of her eldest son, #34140, R.C.M.P. S/Sgt. Russell Gillespie, of Edmonton, Alberta, at the age of 55, as the result of an accidental drowning. Russell, married with a family, who recently retired to pension from the Force in July 2012, was an experienced diver who was on a recreational scuba dive (testing diving equipment) with a member of the Force, at Twin Lakes, Alberta on Saturday, September 22. A funeral service, with Honour Guard, was held in Edmonton on Saturday, September 29th. Russell's father, retired R.C.M.P. S/Sgt., #16942, Bernie Gillespie (deceased) had spent part of his service locally at Chilliwack and Langley



detachments in the 1950s.

Annual Auxiliary Christmas Luncheon, December 6, 2012: A reminder to call Auxiliary President, Kathy Turnbull (778-292-1864), regarding this annual event. Attendance is by RESERVATION ONLY, and the cost is \$33.00 PER PERSON, gratuities included. Please see advertisement below.

Nominations for Executive Committee

Positions: The 2-year term for the present Executive of the Women's Auxiliary will terminate at the end of this year, December 2012. Nominations are being accepted for the next 2-year term for the years 2013 & 2014. The Nomination Committee will be phoning Auxiliary members in this regard. Please note that all nominations

must have the consent of the person nominated to be valid. The election process will take place at our regular November 1st Luncheon/Meeting. For further information, please phone Past-President, Dorothy Martinson, (604) 261-4630. Raffled Gift Baskets/Christmas Luncheon: A reminder that the next Luncheon/Meeting on November 1st, will be the last time for Auxiliary members to contribute items for these baskets which are raffled off to those attending our Christmas Luncheon on December 6th. Cash donations may be submitted for purchasing gift items. The proceeds from this draw go toward the Auxiliary's Outreach Projects.

Dorothy Martinson, Past-President
(604) 261-4630

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Phone Kathy Turnbull, Pres. 778-292-1864
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husbands/partners/widows/guests



White Rock Koffee Klatch

ABC Restaurant on King George Hwy.
10:00 AM, Second Tuesday of Every Month

Abbotsford Koffee Klatch

Roseland Family Restaurant, 5 Corners
33550 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford
10:00 AM, last Wednesday

Richmond Koffee Klatch

Minoru Seniors Centre, Minoru Blvd and Granville Ave., 9:45 AM, 4th Thursday of every month

Friday Lunch Crew

Every Friday at 11:00 AM at the Legion in Ladner.

Chilliwack Vets & Ladies Coffee Klatch

Pantry Restaurant, 45466 Yale Road, Chilliwack
Just off the Freeway by the Travelodge Motel
2nd Monday each month, 10 AM

North Shore Koffee Klatch

The Mosquito Grill & Bar, Westview Shopping Mall,
11:00 AM, 1st Tuesday of every month

Vancouver Koffee Klatch

White Spot Restaurant in Oakridge Mall
Second Thursday each Month, 10 AM
Call Herb Martinson, 604-261-4630

Coquitlam Koffee Klatch

Coquitlam Grill on the Barnet Hwy.
3rd Tuesday of each month at 10:30 AM

Maple Ridge Coffee Crew

ABC Restaurant on Lougheed Hwy. at Dewdney Trunk Road. Every Sunday morning at 9:30 AM

Langley Koffee Klatch

Langley Golf Centre, 21550—44th Avenue, Corner of 216th Street and 44th Avenue, Langley 9 AM, first Tuesday of the month.

The RCMP Vets Vancouver Division newsletter is produced monthly, July, August and December excepted.

Vancouver Division Governors

W.F. (Bill) McCheyne	(604)535-9670
J.E. (John) Hooper	(604)538-9333
D.C. (David) Turnbull	(778)292-1864
G.J. (Jim) Druchet	(604)536-1925
W.L. (Les) Holmes	(604)298-7517
W.H. (Bill) Schindeler	(604)590-3975
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NCOs' Mess Meetings

Cpl. Mike STANFORD, 604-598- 5687

E Division Combined NCOs' Mess

2012 GOLF TOURNAMENT

RSVP to Nancy So (Nancy.so@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)



Dinners Call Secretary Mert Rowden at 604-434-0424 three days prior to meeting to ensure a meal will be available for you. In Abbotsford the bar opens at 5:00 PM and dinner is at 6:00 PM. In Vancouver the bar opens at 11:30 AM, lunch is at 12:00 NN.

Are you shut in? Would you like a visit from a fellow vet? Call Jim Druchet at (604)-536-1925.

Dues The dues for the Veterans Association at \$60.00 per year and are due on January 1 of each year. Funds should be forwarded to the Veterans Association office using our mailing address.

Our Address

RCMP Vets Association, Vancouver Division
657 West 37th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1K6

www.rcmpveteransvancouver.com

Newsletter Editor

Peter Bond,
6394 Gale Avenue North, Sechelt V0N 3A5
Tel: (604) 740-9962
Email: bondsechelt@dccnet.com

Rides to Vet's Meetings Don't drive at night? Don't drive in the rain. Don't drive at all but want to go to a meeting? Call Larry Proke at 604- 501-4824 or Carl Anderson at 604-943-3456. Larry or Carl will arrange transportation for you. If you're willing to provide a ride for a fellow vet to a meeting please call Larry or Carl.

Sick Parade



If you know of someone who is ailing please advise Dick Hawkshaw at raphawk@shaw.ca or by phone at 604-824-8464

Last Post

#33217 Alfred (Fred) ELDER
#16534 Glenn Alvin BASSETT



Important Phone Numbers and Website Links

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- Veteran Affairs (DVA) for Hearing Pensions 1-866-522-2122
- B.C. Health Care Plan (MSPBC) Vancouver 604-736-2033
- Old Age Security (OAS) & Canada Pension Plan (CPP) 1-800-277-9914
- RCMP Veterans' National Association: www.rcmpvetsnational.ca

