



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE.



Greetings from the golf course in Newfoundland! As we enter into summer our meetings will be on hiatus until the fall. Members can still contact us through our e mail address rcmpvancouver@gmail.com.

Stop press addition.

Recent Police shootings.

We can't forget of course that while assembling this newsletter and during our Presidents absence, 2 RCMP members are shot and critically injured in a shooting incident in Melville, Saskatchewan on June 21st 2026. We all think about what their families are going through and we all give them our kindest wishes in helping these two members get through this. We can only imagine what the future will be like for the members; and all over a neighbor's dispute over a garden shed. Tragic. As we consider this, we also must remember the Montreal Police Officer who was shot dead the following day. His critically injured colleague is in hospital also and a member of the public, an innocent bystander, also a fatal casualty of the incident. The suspect was shot dead. Our same condolences go out in this case as the families of the injured and innocent bystander deceased who must be going through equally or worse times of it. Again, our kindest wishes go to these folks. The video

released by the media shows what happened and it is a vulgar reminder of the tragic deaths at Moncton years ago with an individual dressed and equipped to kill and maim others. Two further police officers were shot and killed on June 9th and June 11th. Constable Marc Piniizzotto in Toronto and Constable Tarun Bali of the OPP. Many of our members have experienced such incidents at close hand and It's at these times often think of our family members who are still serving, friends and colleagues in one and then dangers they face in most dangerous, yet rewarding and honorable occupations. — *Editor for our President.*

IN THIS ISSUE

	Page
Presidents Message	1
General Meeting April	2
General Meeting June	3
VAC Presentation	3
Vets in Community	3
News from the Force	4
Pension Surplus Issues	4
UK Passports	5
Joe Atherton	
Final Chapter	6
Historical Corner	6
Photo Gallery	7
Last Post	9
New Members	7

General Meeting April 16th, 2026, Cloverdale Legion.



Our Guest Speaker at this event was Assistant Commissioner Adam Plamer who served with the Vancouver Police for 38 yrs retiring in 2025 and the last 10 of which were Chief Constable.

The Vancouver Police Department is the third largest in Canada. Following his retirement, he was appointed Assistant Commissioner in the RCMP and took charge of the National Recruit Transformation Project. Following his appointment, he asked to attend Depot Division, though he was told he was not required to do so, in the Experienced Officer Program and was there for 5 weeks. (The writer badged over in 2003 from the VPD and attended the same program) This helped him understand the training regime for which he would be later preparing applicants to attend. Privately he told the writer that he learned much about the RCMP he hadn't been familiar with. ACC Palmer spoke of his great respect for the RCMP and at one time dreamed of becoming a Mountie. During his tenure as Chief, it was very important to have good relations with the RCMP in addition to the other Municipal Forces in BC. He met Gary Bass at the Pacific Coliseum who made a great impression on him. Former DCC Bass was at this presentation. ACC Palmer has a great relationship with DCC Dwayne McDonald. His new job is about improving recruitment for the RCMP and overcoming some bad statistics. Right now, the Force is working on renewing 2032 policing contracts for municipalities across the country. This, plus the Federal and Provincial sectors demand a huge amount of recruitment, which the present system doesn't seem to be serving well at all. For example, the force receives 20,800 applications a year of which around 2000 are accepted. Currently it

takes up to 446 days to hire a new Mountie! Many applicants would simply go somewhere else, for example the OPP who take 3 months to hire a new recruit with acceptable background checks and fitness. The RCMP system, until recently and before changes introduced by ACC Palmer many applicants were not approved for the background check process to begin until almost the end of that 465-day period. This background check would often show convictions for B and E or extreme violence and even gang activity. These checks should have occurred at the beginning of the hiring period not at the end which is now being done.

Another issue being resolved is that during this lengthy period of processing these applicants rarely if ever speak with a regular member. Consequently, when they arrive at Depot very quickly, they realize this is not what they expected or wanted and self-remove from the training. This happens all too often, and Mr. Palmer's staff are working to resolve this. Fitness has also proven to be an issue. Fitness levels for recruits were very low in that they have been barely making it through the fitness tests. So now recruit applicants are told they must be in a good state of fitness before they reach depot so their overall fitness when there can reach a much higher level. Too many recruits with below level of fitness were injured early on in training resulting in temporary or permanent removal. The PARE is no longer part



of this and has been replaced by another system known as the PFA and is completely different from PARE. To prepare recruits in BC at Green Timbers fitness practice sessions and instruction are now

being given to recruits BEFORE they take the entry fitness test.

Lastly the AC explained about the hunt for experienced police officers.

He works from an office at Green Timbers, but all his staff are based in Ottawa. For this he often travels to the national capital as well as the usual video call meetings from his home



office. Photo shows writer presenting the speaker with a copy of the History of the RCMP's Marine Division, Canadas First Navy.

Over 80 members attended the meeting and

one member, Jane Hall was awarded the Kings Coronation medal. Photo shows medal presentation by President Ray Power.

New Members were sworn in see photo.



General Meeting June 18th, 2026, Cloverdale Legion.

This meeting took place with over 70 attendees. The Guest Speaker was Superintendent Nav Hoti, OIC of E Divisions Forensic Services. Nav gave an interesting talk on the very latest advancements in the world of Forensic Identification and Crime scene examination. It is also notable that Nav's office was involved in the recovery of Joe Athertons remains from beneath the flagpole at Heather Street

Barracks. We have no photos of this general meeting, your editor was unable to attend, and none were received prior to publication of our newsletter. -Editor

Veterans Affairs Canada Disability Claims and Appeals.

The Veterans Affairs Canada, Disability Claims and Appeals presentation was held in Chilliwack on Tuesday June 9th, 2026. Chris McNeil, the Chair of the VAC Appeals Board, delivered a two-hour presentation and was very well received. There were a total of 77 attendees comprising of Veterans, their spouses, and serving members. I received a significant number of attendees expressing their appreciation for the presentation being organized and found it to be very informative. They all left, having been enlightened and taking away some important information!

Photo #1 The Planning Committee Inspector Jeff Bowerman I/c UFVRDRod Clemons – Veteran Chris McNeil – Presenter, Catherine McConnell – Veteran Murray Macham - VVA - Support & Advocacy Photo #2 Paul McCarl - a local veteran who carved a whale which was presented to Chris McNeil by Murray Macham on behalf of the Vancouver Veterans Association as a gift in appreciation for his presentation. Photo #3 Chris McNeil – Presenter Photo #4 Attendees listening intently to Chris McNeil. – Catherine McConnell Director RCMPVA Vancouver Division (all photos are in Photo Gallery later in this issue)

RCMP VETERANS Active in the Community.

Sea Cadets

The Annual Ceremonial Review of the Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps (RCSCC 105 Lonsdale) took place on Wednesday June 10th. 2026 at the J.P. Fell Armory, Forbes Avenue, North Vancouver. Invites were sent to our Division to attend and Bob Underhill and Laurier Cadieux stepped up and volunteered to attend. The photos show the assembled cadets

and the Commanding Officer Lieutenant Commander Jessica Cano Escamilla wearing white summer dress.



Dan LEMIEUX, RCMP VA member 98 yrs.

Your Editor and Bob Underhill visited Dan at the Care Facility, Edgemont Village, North Vancouver. Dan is in good shape and very appreciative with visits by anyone. Our last issue gave details of Dan's career with the Mounties and some photos of him in his surroundings. Any member wishing to visit Dan will be made welcome with coffee and snacks all provided by staff. 3225 Highland Blvd. North Vancouver, BC. Phone 604 929 6361. See photo next page.



NEWS FROM THE FORCE

Message from the E Division, Commanding Officer.



Join us to celebrate 75 years of policing British Columbia during a season in which Nat Bailey Stadium is also celebrating its 75th anniversary!

Everyone one is encouraged to head down to the game on

**Sunday August 16th, 2026, at 1pm,
Nat Bailey Stadium,**

4575 Clancy Loranger Way, Vancouver, BC.

to watch the Vancouver Canadians, host the Tri City Dust Devils!

We will have a large BC RCMP presence, displays from various units, as well as Proactive Recruiting efforts to highlight [Project Red Serge](#).

Ceremonial highlights will include our members singing the national anthem, throwing out the first pitch, and Sgt. Bison racing the Sushi Rolls! There will also be a special RCMP game giveaway to the first 500 fans.

RCMP employees have access to tickets for this game. The ticket price is \$21 (\$18 plus tax).

To purchase tickets please visit:

<https://mlb.tickets.com/schedule/?agency=MIL>

[B MPV&orgid=57029#/sales_group_code;salesGroupid=14581](https://www.mpv.orgid=57029#/sales_group_code;salesGroupid=14581)

There is no limit on tickets, so bring friends and family.

Hoping you can join in on this unique celebration!

Dwayne

D/Commr. Dwayne McDonald

Commanding Officer, "E" Division RCMP

FEDERAL RETIREES

Pension surplus issues.

We received a call from a Director of the Vancouver office concerning the pension surplus payments and what the Federal Government is doing in terms of raiding those funds. The whole story is set out in the Sage Magazine and I'm including the links to this. The Federal Retirees are challenging the Governments' actions in taking surplus funds for civil service early retirement initiative allowing civil servants without their time in to retire early and the rest of us pay for it. Another issue is that these surplus funds are supposed to, but not required by the legislation, to give pensioners a holiday on such payments as dental and medical. It is fair to say also that the surplus is required to alleviate the employer's contribution so as to reduce the taxpayer's burden. This has not happened, say the Federal Retirees. So, what are these surplus funds? The Sage explains better than I, but basically the accrued cash in the fund that pays our pensions occasionally, through good investments, produces cash over and above the money placed in it by contributors, both employee and employer. How much cash is involved? Estimates are that \$3 billion is the amount of surplus. For the full story, in case like me you missed it in the sage the details are recorded here. [Pension Fund Surplus](#) / [Retirement Income Security](#).

DRUG SQUAD REUNION

The above event took place at Green Timbers, and the many photographs are published on the [MP MATES FACEBOOK SITE-DRUGS SQUAD REUNION](#). Just click this active link to have a look (if you are a Facebook user that is and are a friend of MP MATES)

UK PASSPORTS FOR DUAL CITIZENS.

Our members who hold dual British and Canadian citizenship will be familiar with the changes in UK border restrictions in that British Citizens living abroad are advised to apply for or hold valid British Passports if they intend visiting the UK. This has resulted in a glut of applications from Commonwealth countries including Canada. Personally, Carol and I have always held UK passports in addition to our Canadian ones and recently renewed both. Also be cognizant that if you are a dual citizen of UK and Canada (and some other countries) and you have children born in the UK they and their children can now directly apply for British Passports. Details in the link below on applying for UK passport.

The good thing is that these applications can all be done online and you can, if you wish, take your own photographs with a cell phone. The online system verifies the quality of your photo before acceptance and later verifies it's a true likeness from your guarantor. This will be of interest to our members who wish to visit the UK. Canadian passport holders who do not have dual nationality will have to apply for an ETA (Electronic Travel Authorization) before embarking for the UK. For full details explore these links. [British Passports for Dual Nationals](#) / [British Dual Nationality/Electronic Travel Authorizations](#) / [UK Passports apply online](#)

HISTORICAL CORNER**The Final Chapter.**

The re-interment of the remains of Joe Atherton, RCMP, Superintendent. (retired)

This is the 3rd entry in our Scarlet and Gold about the location and exhumation of the remains of



Superintendent Joe Atherton. See previous issues December 2024-Vol 2 Issue 4 and October 2025 – Vol 3 issue 4.

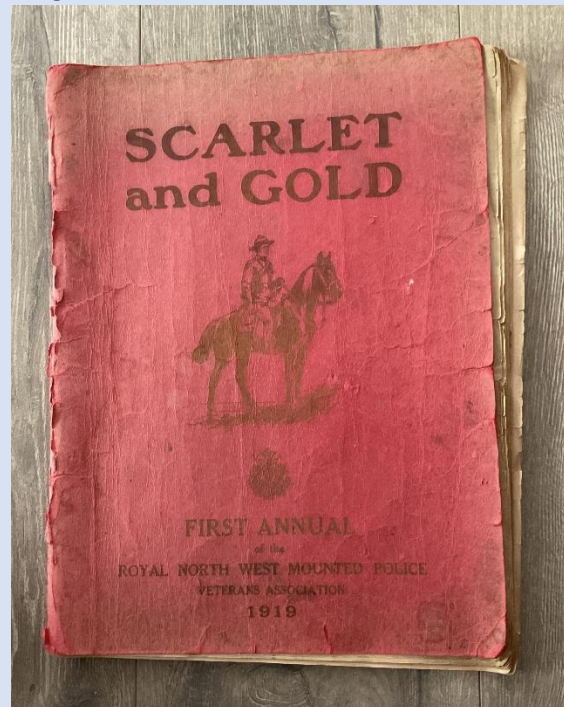
On Saturday, May 31, 2026, Supt. Atherton was finally laid to rest in a columbarium at the Depot Cemetery in Regina. Several members of Supt. Atherton's extended family were located, and a number of those relatives attended the reinterment ceremony. Vancouver Division Director Donna Morse attended the ceremony, along with "E" Division representatives, D/Comm. Dwayne McDonald, Insp. Veronica Fox and Sgt. Major Nathan Olson. The Atherton family expressed deep appreciation that the Veterans and RCMP took on this quest and saw it through to completion. Through the stories shared over the weekend, we came to know a little more about Joe Atherton himself. As his nephew, Tony Atherton, fondly recalled, "Uncle Joe was quite a dapper guy and would meet us at the Vancouver train station wearing his tweed blazer and ascot." One can only imagine. This final chapter brings long-awaited closure - to the family, to the Veterans who championed the search, and to the legacy of a Mountie whose resting place might otherwise have been lost beneath the redevelopment of Heather

Lands and the passage of time.

**SCARLET and GOLD FROM YESTERYEAR.**

Ric Hall reports.

I was cleaning out a bunch of "stuff" in my storage room and found a container with a bunch stuff collected over the years. In it I found the first edition of the Scarlet and Gold Magazine dated December 1919. It has been



ridden hard and put away wet. I recall over the years getting phone calls from business owners asking if I knew whether people trying to sell advertising space in S&G magazine were legit. At the bottom there is an advert from the CNR using the image of a RCMP member. I don't think back then the Force rec'd any

compensation for the use of images of the Force. Not to be out done the CPR also used the image of the Force. I have a poster sized version of that poster, that I picked up in the Empress Hotel in Victoria, hanging in my basement. Copy of that one is the last image in this message-*Ric*

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED

CAMERON Anthony Reg No 44321 ROD Corporal Divisions E, D, A, service dates Dec 17th, 1992, to Dec 31, 2025

ELLIOT Robert Reg No 36070 ROD Staff Sergeant, Service Dates June 6, 1980, to Jan 14th, 2014. Divisions E, F G A and O.

CROSS Donald Dean Reg No 31841 ROD Corporal. Service Dates Sept 20th, 1974, to Sept 21, 1999. Divisions E.

ARVANETES Kosta, Reg No 45298, ROD Sergeant. Service Dates May 21, 1996, to May 21, 1995. Divisions E and K.

ZALYS Bradley Reg No 32669 ROD Staff Sergeant, June 28th, 1975, to August 20th, 2012. Divisions E.

SCOTT Jeff, Reg No 46018, O.3415 ROD Inspector, Service Dates May 26th, 1997, to October 17th, 2024. Divisions E O and V.

SIELSKY Terry Reg No 48788, ROD Corporal, Service Dates July 9th, 2001, to July 6th, 2026. Divisions E.

PAULSON Donald Reg No 30559, ROD Corporal, Service Dates June 11th, 1973, to April 29th, 2009, Divisions E.

MacDONALD Frederick J. Reg No 18818 ROD Constable, Service Dates Feb 15th, 1955, to February 15th, 1956. Divisions D.

FLEMING Damian Reg No 51085 ROD Constable, Service Dates April 5th, 2004, to July 30th, 2026. Divisions E

SIMPSON James Reg No 60478 ROD Still serving Corporal. Joined May 27th, 2013. Divisions E

SPORTS

The world cup is in full swing and many of our members will have visited the venues to watch games. The RCMP for the first time in my experience are involved in uniformed presence in the City of Vancouver alongside the Vancouver Police Department. If any of our members have stories or observations on policing the events, please don't be shy in sending them along for our newsletter.

PHOTO GALLERY

General Meeting April 16th Cloverdale Legion.



Ray Scheller and Lorne Zapoticny



Stu Cameron, Andy Lucko, John Sherstone and Bob Briske.



Orv Nickel, Shawn Brownrigge and Lorne Zapotichny



1 ex Mountie and 4 ex VPD former colleagues of the guest speaker on April 16th. From Right Adam Palmer, Eric Borglund, Brian McNulty and Dave Reece.

Veterans Affairs Canada Presentation

Please refer to text above.



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4

TRACING FORMER FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES

Rick McPhee is trying to trace John Ellis. If any of our members can help, Rick can be reached at rickmacphee66@gmail.com.

LAST POST**Vancouver Division Members.**

HAMELOCK Edward F. Reg No 16798, ROD Staff Sergeant. Died 2026 aged 93 at Port Coquitlam BC. Years of Service 1951 to 1975. Divisions E.

KINNELL Wayne Alexander Reg No 23997 ROD Sergeant. Died 2026 aged 83. Years of Service 1965 to 1986. Divisions E. Service with Canadian Armed Forces PPCL 1960 to 1964.

Other former colleagues.

WILLIAMS Ian Ronald Reg No 27140 ROD Corporal Years of Service 1968 to 1993 Died aged 76 Divisions E - Burnaby, Coquitlam and Langley.

BOYNTON David Brian Reg No 41508, ROD Constable, died 2026 aged 68. Years of Service 1989 to 2020. Divisions E, North Vancouver, Abbotsford (Auxiliary Service), Richmond (YVR Det) Deas Island Hwy Patrol, VICLAS, Provincial Traffic Section and VIP/Consulate Section. Previous Service with the Royal Canadian Navy Primary Reserves aboard HMCS Cowichan in Victoria, BC and HMCS Provider. (The new HMCS Provider is under construction at Seaspan shipyards in North Vancouver. -Ed)

MAITLAND Ross Pelham, Reg No 29250 ROD Staff Sergeant. Died 2026 aged 74. Years of Service 1971 to 1998. Divisions K, Musical Ride and E. Last posting was E Div Commercial Crime.

HELLOFS William John Reg No 20953 ROD Sergeant. Died 2026 aged 86 at Langley, BC. Years of Service 1959 to 1985. Divisions E including Burnaby and Vancouver.

WESTMAN James Cameron Reg No 25300, ROD Staff Sergeant. Died 2026 aged 80. Years of service 1966 to 1999. Divisions E and A. Including Surrey, Burnaby, Coquitlam and Coordinated Law Enforcement Unit (CLEU)

MULLOCK Robert Norman, Reg No 16112/0.743, ROD Chief Superintendent. Died aged 94 at Langley, BC. Years of Service 1950 to 1985. Divisions D, E, K and HQ. In 1965, then an Inspector, was the lead investigator of the fatal crash of a Canadian Pacific Airline flight in July 1965 near 100 Mile House, B.C. The cause was determined to be homicide via a bomb smuggled onto the aircraft.

GALLOP William Albert Jackson Reg No 33261 ROD Corporal. Died 2026 aged 78 at Victoria BC. Years of Service 1976 to 2005. Then served as Reservist till 2012. Divisions E. Agassiz, Burnaby, Whistler and Vancouver Island. Served on UM Missions and also in the Canadian Forces RCAF.

RIDDELL Robert Edward Reg No 30145 ROD Sergeant, Died 2026 aged 77. Years of Service 1972 to 2006. Divisions E including Coquitlam Maple Ridge and ended in Coquitlam in 2006.

ROCKWELL Glendon Hugh "Rocky" Reg No 26617 ROD Staff Sergeant, Died 2026 aged 78 at Surrey BC. Years of Service 1968 to 2005. Divisions E mostly in LM.

Please note in this issue it was not possible to format the Last Post Section as previously- Editor