



Hi everyone,

It has been a while since the last Newsletter. I hope the festive season treated you well. Over all, the weather has been rather mild other than that nasty cold spell and as you can see here on the left, it was -43C on the 19<sup>th</sup> January with a high of -33C in Spruce Grove. Let's hope we don't have to endure something like that again this Winter.



### **CHRISTMAS HAMPERS - 2023**

*Thank you to everyone who donated items for the Silent Auction and cash donations to make the Christmas Hamper program a positive effort!*

*The Hamper shopping was done at Save on Food Stores in Grande Prairie and St. Albert with store Managers providing discounts.*

*The excellent assistance provided by the RCMP in Grande Prairie and Evansburg made this effort a wonderful experience for all and re-enforced why the*

*Edmonton Vets have been doing hampers for approx. 10 years.*

*Dec 21, 2023*

*Three Christmas Hampers were delivered.*

#### **Grande Prairie**

*Shane Ramteemal proceeded to Grande Prairie joining up with Edmonton Division Veterans residing in Grande Prairie; Brian Boyer and Glen Olson along with Cst. Gavin Ool and S/Sgt Dave Gallant. A family of six, Mom, Dad and four children, were provided with a hamper. The family were extremely appreciative and overwhelmed by receiving it.*

#### **St Albert and Evansburg**

*The Shoppers, Jim and Stella Medley, Leilani Collins, Elaine and Jerry met at the Village Landing Save on Foods in St Albert at 8 am to purchase food for the hampers. After which one hamper in St. Albert was delivered to a family of six. This family was very surprised and in tears. We all then proceeded to Evansburg RCMP DET and Meet with Sgt. Jeff SUTHERLAND. The Christmas Hamper was delivered to a family of five, Mom and four boys. The father passed away about two months earlier. The surprise and appreciation shown by the family re-enforced the benefit of our efforts. Evansburg RCMP Det and another organization joined forces to provide gifts for the family.*

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## GENERAL/DINNER MEETING – JANUARY 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The guest speakers this evening was our own Jim Medley accompanied by C/M Rtd. Tim Whiting and his assistant and wife, Cindy. They came to speak about the Alberta RCMP Regimental Pipes, Drum and Dancer's Band who celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary last year. Jim gave a brief history of the Band which was originally called the Alberta RCMP Regimental Pipes and Drum Band but since then they have added the Dancers ten or so years ago.

Tim Whiting, the Band's Historian, with Cindy Whiting's assistance, gave a PowerPoint presentation with pictures of the Band's travels overseas. I have included some of these pictures below with Tim's explanations.

Although Jim gave a very brief history about the Band, he did not elaborate about the Band's accomplishments as he did at the Regimental Dinner last November. Hopefully in the next assistance of Jim, I hope to put something together in the next few months and I will then include it in a Newsletter. The accomplishments by this Band are truly astonishing and deserve to be shared.

**Here are a few pictures sent by Tim and his comments explaining their content.**



*In preparation for the trip to the 9th Annual South American Highland Games, the Band arranged with the Canadian Embassy in Montevideo, Uruguay, to perform at a local State-run School.*

*These particular schools have very reduced funding, and it was suggested that our band could put on a performance for a school selected by the Canadian*

*Ambassador. Our band raised \$2000.00 in requested scholastic materials which were taken with us to Uruguay and were presented to the school on the day of our performance.*

*The three images above show various shots of the band with the school students and the Canadian Ambassador.*





These images are of the full band posing with the President of Uruguay and the Canadian Ambassador in front of the Jose Artigas Montevideo City Statue. Artigas was the founder of Uruguay and the RCMP Alberta Regimental Pipes, Drums and Dancers Band performed to honor the memory of Artigas for the assembled dignitaries.

Following the presentation, Jim and Tim were both presented a token of our appreciation as noted to the right.

This year will be an exciting and busy year for this Division with the Association's AGM coming up from the 6<sup>th</sup> June through the 8<sup>th</sup> June. I sincerely hope many of you will join us, if not for the entire event, please consider joining us for the Gala evening on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> June. We have some exciting entertainment happening and more information on this is to follow.

The Registration Form and Registration Instructions should be arriving in your email boxes any day now and quite possibly before this Newsletter arrives.

Please remember all our Friends and their families who have passed and all who are managing health concerns. Take the time to reach out to others as so much is happening in people's lives, and I know a call from a friend certainly goes a long way!



Jim Medley, Kees Kikkert & Tim Whiting

On behalf of the Executive, I wish you all a great **Valentine's Day** and a safe and healthy New Year.

Kees Kikkert, President  
[president@edmrcompvets.ca](mailto:president@edmrcompvets.ca).

### **New Members – December / January**

Grant THOM	49518	Beaumont, AB.
Dennis McLEOD (reapplied)	40764	Morinville, AB.
Landon KING	55691	Yellowknife, NT.
Raymond CARDINAL	25176	Wetaskiwin, AB.
Patricia HARRISH	36497	Parkland County, AB.
Keith DURANCE	41444	Leduc County, AB.



ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE Box 100  
Two Hills, Alberta  
T0B 4K0 – Phone: 780-657-2820  
[Trish.proznick@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:Trish.proznick@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)



February 13, 2024

Dear Veterans,

### **TWO HILLS DETACHMENT 41st ANNUAL REGIMENTAL DINNER – APRIL 11, 2024**

Two Hills Detachment is again hosting their 41st Annual Regimental Dinner. I would like to extend an invitation to attend this event. This function is for members of the RCMP, retired members and a few invited guests.

The Dinner will be held at the **Two Hills Centennial Hall** commencing with cocktails at 6:00 p.m. to be followed by Dinner at 7:00 p.m. The cost will be \$65.00 per person prior to March 12, after, \$75.00. This is also a community fund raiser for our Detachment. Dress is semi-formal attire (suit and tie) and is a stag affair. Edmonton Police Service, Chief Dale McFEE, has kindly consented to be our guest speaker for the evening.

We are looking forward to having you attend our 41st Annual Regimental Dinner and hope you will be able to accept our invitation for **April 11**. We hope to hear from you prior to April 1, 2024, to confirm your attendance. E-transfer payable to [trish.proznick@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:trish.proznick@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office (780) 657-2820.

Sincerely,

(David HENRY) Sgt.  
Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge Two  
Hills Detachment

**Social Committee Meeting - Tuesday, February 6th, 2024**  
**At the home of Jerry Plastow & Elaine Schnepf**

Attending: Jim and Stella Medley, Tom Dunlop, Wendy Allen, Elaine Schnepf and Jerry Plastow.

Regrets: Tom and Denise Burkett, Marg Elliott, Bruce Allen, and Kees Kikkert.

- The Committee selected the menus, themes, and ideas for our 2024 RCMP Veterans' monthly dinner meetings. With Chef Mann and Manager, Cindy, at Woodvale Community Facility, new menus were selected which allow us to choose from a wider range of entrees while maintaining the same costs.
- We now have added dishes to reflect various seasonal Traditional meals such as German dishes for October (Oktoberfest).

Jerry Plastow  
Social Committee Chair

**Edmonton RCMP Veterans' Executive Meeting Minutes January 25/2023,**  
**Woodvale Community Centre, Edmonton**

Meeting called to order: 10:00 am

**Members Present:** Kees Kikkert, Jerry Plastow, Elaine Schnepf, Barry Callbeck, Jim Medley, Eric Lafoy, Dave Mitchell, Tom Dunlop, Bruce Allen, Tom Burkett, Denise Burkett, Nick Taylor, S/M Leilani Collins.

**Unable to Attend:** Linda Plomp, Shane Ramteemal, Dianne Lehman, Randy Montgomery.

**Barry Callbeck, Secretary:** Motion for acceptance of minutes for November/ 11/23, seconded by Dave Mitchell, Carried

**Kees Kikkert, President:**

- The challenge coin requires changes as the translation of Veterans' in French was incorrect. The cost being split with the design company will be an extra charge of \$75.00 to the association.
- The next AGM Planning meeting will be Feb. 10 at 10 AM at Woodvale.
- Kees will be visiting the Newly Institute in Edmonton on Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> Feb and meet with the owner and one of the sponsors of the AGM, Sat Parhar for a tour of the Institute. Tom Dunlop offered to come along.

**Jerry Plastow, Past President:**

- The Donation Committee has issued a total of \$3000.00.
- Jerry will be meeting with Woodvale to confirm the dinners for the rest of this year.
- The silent auction was a great success with \$1,100.00 given in cash towards the Christmas gift baskets.
- 2023 Christmas Hamper Report. Please note, the report is in the February Newsletter.



**Elaine Schnepf, Director- Boost program:**

- Elaine mentioned it has been very busy of late indicating seven members have passed away recently and four with illness and hospital trips.

**Bruce Allen, Director, Website:**

- Our web site is not for commercial operations so will possibly show as not secure, however, Bruce indicated there has been no problems with it.

**Jim Medley, Director, Gift Shop:**

- The gift shop has been closed for all of January so Kim can work on the new Website.

**Tom Burkett, Director Membership:**

- We have 402 active members and 206 associate members for a total of 608.

**Kees Kikkert on behalf of Linda Plomp:**

- Financial update  
Chequeing Account \$39,251.43  
Total GIC's \$103,424.80

**Tom Dunlop, Director, Hospital Passes:**

- The parking passes are being well accepted, just suggested when handing the passes out to remind the people they should be returned as soon as possible, unless they have a need for them immediately.

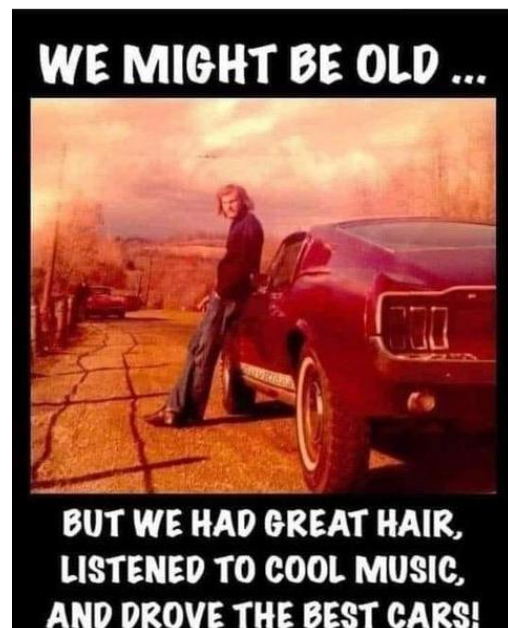
**Eric Lafoy, Director:**

- Eric has been given video tapes from the Ship St. Rock, he will contact the curator in Vancouver or Regina if they have interest in adding them to their museum pieces.

**Meeting Adjourned at 11:25 AM**

**Next Executive meeting: @ Woodvale Community Facility January 25/2024 at 10:00 AM**

**Barry Callbeck, Secretary**



## EDMONTON DIVISION GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

### Woodvale Community Centre -Tuesday, 30 January 2024

**Meeting Called to Order at 7:14 PM by President Kees Kikkert:**

**Barry Callbeck , Secretary:** No meeting minutes to approve as the Exec meeting minutes will be posted in the February newsletter.

**Kees Kikkert, President:**

- Kees explained that there was a spelling error with the French word for Veterans' on the Challenge coin. This mistake had to be correct but will cost us \$75.00, which is half of the total cost to remake the die.

**Jerry Plastow, Past President:**

- Jerry said there was a request for the Alberta Police Golf Association, also there will be a gift to be determined for the CO's retirement, also to be determined.
- Jerry presented the 2023 Christmas Hamper Report as noted in the February Newsletter.

**Tom Burkett, Director of Membership:**

- Services Pins and Bars for January 2024: 10-year bar – Dayle McKibbon, 15-year bar – Ken Fuhrmann



Tom Burkett presenting Dayle McKibbon his 10-year Bar with Kees Kikkert

Tom Burkett presenting Ken Fuhrmann his 15-year Bar with Kees Kikkert

Meeting Adjourned 7:25 PM

**Next Dinner Meeting Tuesday, February 27, 2024**

**Secretary, Barry Callbeck**

## CO'S MESSAGE:

Even though January has quickly come and gone, I want to start off 2024 by wishing everyone a happy new year and introducing myself as acting Commanding Officer of the Alberta RCMP. This year has already brought about change for the organization and it promises more exciting things to come.

I would like to wish Deputy Commissioner Curtis Zablocki the very best as he undertakes his new role as Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Security Division, Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services for the Government of Alberta.

As interim Commanding Officer, I look forward to working together with our employees and community partners across the province to remain focussed on doing what we do best – keeping Albertans, and Canadians, safe. It is an honour to have the opportunity to lead the Division and serve our communities in this new capacity.

Thank you.

Trevor Daroux, O.O.M.

Assistant Commissioner

Acting Commanding Officer



## **Former Alberta RCMP Commanding Officer, Deputy Commissioner Curtis Zablocki, announces retirement**

After 34 years in a career that has given me more opportunities than I could ever imagine, I have decided to retire from the Alberta RCMP. It isn't a decision I made easily. I have been fortunate to serve in Alberta for almost all of that time, and ending my career as the Commanding Officer here is a privilege and an honour.

Thank you to the citizens, community leaders and elected officials of Alberta. You have collaborated closely with us on many issues, and I am thankful for the strong relationships we've created and built upon. Together we have worked to ensure the Alberta RCMP is responsive to your needs, and that Albertans have a voice in how their policing services are delivered. Your support has been a large part of the successes we have shared in keeping your communities safe.

The Alberta RCMP is made up of talented and professional employees who are dedicated to making this province safer. That doesn't just happen in a police car on the road, in a detachment taking a call or during regular working hours. Policing is a calling, and it is often happening behind the scenes or after hours, and Alberta RCMP employees answer that call each and every day. I am grateful to Alberta RCMP team for their dedication and commitment to keeping Albertans safe.

I am grateful to have had the privilege of being the Alberta RCMP's Commanding Officer.

Thank you,

Former Commanding Officer, Deputy Commissioner Curtis Zablocki





## Former Chief Financial Officer charged after misappropriating more than \$6 million in company funds

The Alberta RCMP's Provincial Financial Crime Team charged a Strathmore resident with seven criminal offences relating to fraud and making false entries.

Between May 2010 and July 2017, the accused is alleged to have misappropriated more than \$6 million in unauthorized wire transfers, payments and bonus cheques to himself while working as the Controller and later as the Chief Financial Officer for Thompson Bros. (Constr.) LP.

On Jan. 17, 2024, a 49-year-old resident of Strathmore, was arrested and charged with:

- Fraud over \$5,000 contrary to section 380(1)(a) of the *Criminal Code* (x6); and,
- Making false entries contrary to section 397(1) of the *Criminal Code*.

They are scheduled to appear in Stony Plain Provincial Court on Feb. 14, 2024.

"An intensive investigation uncovered a complex fraud which caused significant financial harm to a company who employs more than 1,000 individuals and, by extension, threatened the economic integrity of Alberta's construction industry," says Sgt. John Lamming, Provincial Financial Crime Team.

"The RCMP remains committed to ensuring the diligent investigation of these crimes and the mitigation of their impact to the financial security of Canadians."

## Alberta RCMP and law enforcement partners launch Operation Cold Start

As the temperatures dropped, the Alberta RCMP once again joined law enforcement partners across the province for Operation Cold Start.

From Jan. 8 – 12, 2024, officers were checking unattended, idling vehicles to see if the keys were left inside and whether or not they were properly secured. Officers also participated in educational efforts to teach the public ways to keep their property safe.

"Warming up your vehicle briefly before your commute might seem convenient, but this convenience can turn into a serious problem when your vehicle is stolen. Vehicle-related crimes often occur due to opportunistic situations," says Cpl. Mike Fulton of the Alberta RCMP's Community Safety and Well-being Branch. "In 2021, 8.3% of vehicles stolen in Alberta RCMP jurisdiction were left idling. The goal of Operation Cold Start is to reduce crime by educating Albertans on steps they can take to help keep their property safe."

This year, 38 detachments participated in the campaign, checking a total of 1,842 vehicles. Of those vehicles, 521 were unlocked with the keys inside and 855 were locked with the keys inside. Officer had 373 interactions with vehicle owners to educate them on auto theft prevention and best practices, as well as distributed 100 steering wheel locking devices.



## Piikani Nation RCMP focuses on reconciliation and community engagement

The Alberta RCMP is actively involved in the ongoing reconciliation process, dedicated to building trust and collaborative relationships with Indigenous community members across the province. Sgt. Vince Bacon, Detachment Commander of Piikani Nation RCMP, and his team are committed to doing just that. "Our history has left generational scars on the lives of many. I know that we are just at the beginning of a long journey, and to rekindle that trust and to strengthen relationships will take time," says Sgt. Bacon. "At first glance, policing a rural community versus an urban center would seem as different as the landscapes themselves, but no matter the size of the community, we have a responsibility to those we serve. Part of that is actively participating in the healing process."

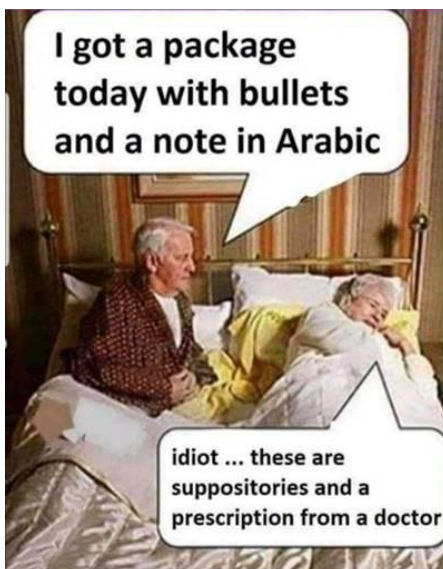
Recognizing the significance of community involvement, detachment officers are encouraged to participate in traditional Indigenous events and ceremonies to enhance their cultural understanding. "One of the best ways to build relationships, is to meet face-to-face with Indigenous leaders, Elders, and community members as much as possible. This allows us the opportunity to listen, to learn, and to set priorities based on feedback from the community, as they teach us traditional Indigenous values that are unique to them."

Sgt. Bacon added that all detachment vehicles have a Blackfoot Piikani decal as a sign of integration within the community. The detachment also recently finished a mural wall with symbolic Blackfoot Winter Count imagery. It serves as a pictorial calendar representing significant community events chosen by community leadership and Elders.

This past year, Piikani First Nation presented the detachment with a golden medallion gifted by the Elders as a token of appreciation for its dedication to learning about the community's culture and history.

"We must be open to listening," says Sgt. Bacon. "It is the little things that make a significant impact."

Trevor Daroux, O.O.M.  
Assistant Commissioner  
Acting Commanding Officer



**Did you know you have the right to remain silent even when you're not being arrested?**

**95% of electric vehicles are still on the road. The remaining 5% made it all the way home.**

### Quote That Will Help You Conquer Fear

Winners embrace hard work. They love the discipline of it, the trade-off they're making to win. Losers, on the other hand, see it as a punishment. And that's the difference.

— Lou Holtz

# THE LAST POST

<u>Reg #</u>	<u>Name :</u>	<u>Date of Death:</u>	<u>Passed &amp;/or from</u>
15158	Preston, William Hamilton	2023-12-23	Surrey, BC
18323	Poytress, Charles Alfred	2023-12-22	Lethbridge, AB
144763	Coleman, David Allison	2023-12-25	Amherst, NS
C/M	Gruson, Geoffrey	2023-12-19	Ottawa, ON
C/128	Lutley, Gerald Patrick Euclide	2023-12-26	Ottawa, ON
17839	Forbes, James Grattan	2023-12-23	Edmonton, AB
57702	Lahoda, Amy M.	2023-12-08	Two Hills, AB
19359	Grandison, Reginald David	2023-12-12	West Vancouver, BC
17079	West, John Louis	2023-12-19	Calgary, AB
43763	Cosgrove, Jeffrey Graham	2023-12-25	St. John, NB
14974	Marois, Joseph Hector Robert	2023-12-16	Brossard, QC
32906	Connor, Robert Michael	2023-12-14	Vancouver, BC
28820	Matchett, Frederick Leslie	2024-01-03	Saskatoon, SK
20078	Kelly, Francis Bernard Joseph	2024-01-03	Regina, SK
21019	Elmose, Svend Dan	2023-12-17	Ottawa, ON
15867	Smith, Ernie Joseph	2023-12-15	BC
C/3139	Collins, Michael Joseph	2023-12-21	Newmarket, ON
22083/0.1424	Netherway, Peter George	2024-01-03	Kamloops, BC
18827	Brownlee, Thomas Keith	2024-01-06	Ottawa, ON
17748	Trace, John Arthur	2024-01-07	Spruce Grove, AB
19056	Johnson, Glen Henry	2023-12-27	Calgary, AB
18903	Grunert, Ronald Joseph	2024-01-07	Kelowna, BC
37610	Chasse, Jean Maurice	2024-01-12	Windsor, NS
A/Cst.	Gieselman, Robert A.J.	2024-01-08	Cache Creek, BC
26254	Diack, James Ernest	2024-01-11	Qualicum Beach, BC
20654	MacDonald, Roderick Bailey	2024-01-11	Stony Plain, AB
C/2439	Homeniuk, Catherine Ann	2023-12-23	St. Albert, AB
43140	Bursey, Wallace S.J.	2023-12-15	Castlegar, BC
18952	Ross, Norman Walter	2024-01-17	Ajax, ON
19842	Wershler, Darcy Perry	2024-01=12	Winnipeg, MB
17986	Yoblonski, Mike Artier "Joe"	2023-12-04	Acton, ON
15910	Carroll, Kenneth Aubrey	2024-01-13	Halifax, NS
41005	Melanson, Jacques Josheph	2023-05-12	Ottawa, ON
36584	Melanson, William Richard	2023-02-10	Victoria, BC
18718	Pierson, J.T. Denis	2024-01-07	Vernon, BC
30040	Miller, Glenn C.	2024-01-20	Russell, ON
15372/0644	Godin, Joseph Louis de Gonzaque	2023-03-09	Prevost, QC
C/101	Barclay, Marjorie Marie	2023-03-17	Ottawa, ON
22320	Bernier, Constan	2023-12-22	Chateauguay, QC
46771	Walker, Graham Stewart	2024-01-22	Moncton, NB



24377	Glencross, Parker J.	2024-01-14	Bedford, NS
C/M	Robichaud, Eric	2024-01-22	Moncton, NB
23720	Keough, Derek Joseph	2024-01-22	Kitchener, ON
C/2666	Barry, Wayne Thomas	2024-01-20	Scarborough, ON
22344	Ferri, Ronald Anthony	2024-01-24	Victoria, BC
15525	Stone, Edward Henry	2024-01-16	Kelowna, BC
A/Cst.	Dryden, John Leonard	2024-01-16	Fredericton, NB
18232	Greiner, Raymond Alfred	2024-01-25	Etobicoke, ON
43009	Collins, Michael D.	2024-01-28	Edmonton, AB
C/3337	Rudolphi, Carl Edward	2023-12-23	Surrey, BC
21549	MacEdward, John William	2024-01-21	Victoria, BC
25831	Hearn, Thomas James	2024-01-27	Prince George, BC
23121	McPhail, Peter Allen	2024-01-27	West Kelowna, BC
24305	Glenney, Robert Wayne	2024-01-31	Martensville, SK
35773	Wilson, Warren Scott	2024-01-23	Vancouver, BC
21288	Storr, Lloyd Donald	2024-01	Mahone Bay, NS
18868	Eberley, Bernard D.F.	2024-01-25	Ottawa, ON
18819	Rodger, Earl Gordon	2024-01-29	Winnipeg, MB
18632	Reinhardt, Arther Richard	2024	Saskatoon, SK
16987	Barrett, George Augustus "Gus"	2021-02-28	Port Alberni, BC
26645	Thomson, Norman McLaren	2024-01-31	Nipawin, SK
27783	Roy, Paul Joseph Albert	2024-01-12	Winnipeg, MB
17622	Rishel, James Archibald	2024-01-01	Surrey, BC
C/4047	Renaud, Lorraine Marie nee Dumoulin	2024-01-31	Ottawa, ON
22099	Leppard, Peter Francis	2024-01-31	Dartmouth, NS
26135	MacDonald, Jurgen Thomas "Tom"	2024-01-28	Sydney River, NS
23851	Sundquist, Hugh Arnold	2024-01-23	Port Moody, BC

## *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](https://www.rcmpvets.ca/last_post.php) and/or the RCMP Graves site <https://www.rcmpgraves.com/index.html>