

RCMP Veterans' Association, Edmonton Division May 2023 NEWSLETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Good Day Everyone:

As you are aware, the RCMP lost another member in an horrific traffic accident in the County of Strathcona in the early hours of April 10th. The tribute below for Constable Dhami was located at K Division Headquarters beside the Wall of Honour.



## Constable Harinder (Harvey) Singh Dhami Regimental Number: 65876



*Constable Dhami, age 32, worked at the Strathcona County Municipal Detachment since 2019, the entirety of his 3 years and 7 months of service with the RCMP.* 

At approximately 2am on Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Constable Dhami was involved in a single motor vehicle collision while responding to assist Members with a call to service. Despite the efforts of the Members, emergency responders and civilians present, Constable Dhami succumbed to his injuries.

Harvey was known to be a team member who was compassionate, caring and very community oriented.

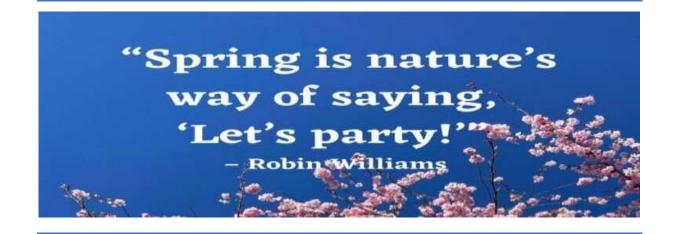
Harvey is survived by his wife, Ravinder, as well as his mother, sister and brother.

To Harvey's wife, family, colleagues, friends and loved ones, you have our deepest condolences. Please know your police family will always be there for you.

A few more pictures are located further on in this Newsletter.



# M&Y HE REST IN PE&CE!



My goodness summer arrived like gang-busters, or should I say like a "flame thrower." It seems like every time I listen to the news, there is another report of a community having to be evacuated. Please stay safe, use only your propane or gas barbeques, no charcoal or camp fires and for gosh sakes don't

P Dan Ma Colk

foolishly throw you cigarette buts away. Extinguish them before completely before placing them in a trash barrel or on the ground.





As most of you are aware, we are in the planning stages for the 2024 AGM and held our last meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Matters we are

looking into are bus transportation, fundraising, businesses that may wish to set up a Kiosk during the event, possible guest speakers and the list goes on. Should anyone have any information or ideas on these topics or anything else you think might be of interest to our Committee, please contact Kees at: <a href="mailto:president@edmrcmpvets.ca">president@edmrcmpvets.ca</a>

A few "Thoughts on Aging" are included in the Newsletter by people you may remember. "I'm so old that my blood type is discontinued." - Bill Dana

On April 17<sup>th,</sup> the I met with Presidents from Lethbridge, Calgary and Red Deer along with a few other Vet members who came together in Red Deer for an Inter-Divisional meeting. We have had these meetings before, but this was the first since the pandemic and probably the most important we have ever had. The meeting resulted in the production of a document showing our concerns, suggestions, and recommendations and subsequently forwarded to the President of the Association for consideration by the entire Board of Directors.

In a nutshell, we are all genuinely concerned with the financial direction and liquidity of the Association to the point some Divisions are considering their future and whether it be with or without the Association.

The Association provides the strength of numbers; however, it must also be financially stable to remain an entity. All those who attended the meeting believe it is vital the concerns we expressed in this document be discussed at the 2023 Ottawa AGM! I will report on this issue in our June Newsletter.

I enjoyed our last General / Dinner meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup>. There was no guest speaker, and the vibe was very relaxing, at least it was for this lad.

Barry and I spoke about the Snider-Enfield MARK 2 \* rifle which is being turned over to us for safe keeping by a fellow from Las Vegas. The Chief Provincial Firearms Office Agent has informed us his investigation determined the rifle is an antique as defined in the RCMP Firearms Reference Table and Criminal Code of Canada regulations. We are now waiting for the Agent's final report so it can be provided to the present owner as it will be required when he transports the rifle into Canada.

Dianne Lehmann, our Support Advocate, has worked hard to produce our MISSION VISION & VALUES STATMENTS and they were read out by me and warmly accepted by those in attending our dinner meeting . They are included in the Minutes of the Executive Meeting below. They will be added to our Division Profile on the National website in due course. Excellent Job by Dianne!

#### "The older I get, the more clearly I remember things that never happened. Mark Twain

Now a few pictures of some who attended the meeting.



First time attendees J.P. (Jean-Pierre) and Elizabeth Houle

Marilyn & Bruce Comeau



Tom & Denise Burkett to the left and three distinguished old chaps, Gerry Tetzloff, Ross Hogg and Bill Donahue to the right.





Linda Plomp and Elaine Schnepf

I wanna be 14 again and ruin my life differently. I have new ideas.



Three beautiful young ladies, Faye Plomp, Pat Donahue and Anita Tetzloff



Tom Dobbie and Jerry Forst



Chaplain Cyril Gowler



Myrna and Bob McDonald



Linda Bowzaylo and Myra Fedoriuk

Wendy Allen and Jacky Moore



Don and Sandy Leier

Tony and Shirley Taylor



Nick Korejbo and J.P. Houle

Wendy and Shaunda Farquhar

"To get back to my youth I would do anything in the world, except exercise, get up early, or be respectable." - Oscar Wilde



Jim Medley with Paul and Barbara Warenchuk



Susan and David Mitchell with Nick Taylor



Bruce MacBean and Joe Collinson

Lauren Cherdarchuk and Rosaline Solomonson



Another wonderful meal served up by the staff at Woodvale. Here we have from L to R, Norma Martin helping Don, Randy Montgomery with Gerry Keane looking over his shoulder, Bob and Myrna MacDonald, Rob Bacchus and Manny Langman starting the parade.

Calgary Division asked we include this information about their Challenge Coin. I have been told it's selling like hotcakes.

Calgary RCMP Veterans 150 Year Anniversary Coin

The Calgary RCMP Veterans have designed a unique coin to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the RCMP. It celebrates all who are serving and those have served Canada in the Force from 1873 to 2023. The front of the coin

features a raised Crest of the Force representing both serving Members and Veterans. This front will be raised as will the back of the coin. It shows a Member and a Veteran shaking hands under the banner of 'Proudly Serving Canada 150 years and the words Member & Veteran on the bottom. These words reflect all Members/Employees who are serving or retired from the Force. The cost of the coin is \$20 and \$5 for shipping anywhere in Canada. Larger orders may require a nominal increase in shipping costs. **The \$5 for mailing applies only to those outside of the immediate Calgary area**. To place your order please include Name, address, phone number, number of coins & Regimental Number to be inscribed on coin to <u>oldmanhenry77@gmail.com</u> or <u>bob\_ellergodt@telus.net</u>

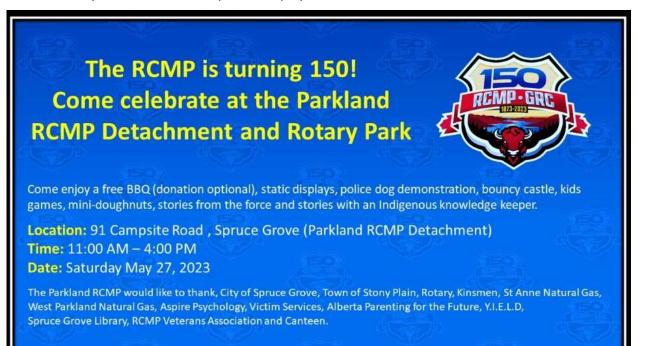
Payment must be made by E-Transfer to invoicingcalgaryrcmpvets@gmail.com and please put 150 coin in the comments. This account is set up as auto deposit so a question/password in not required. Once we start putting in our orders we expect delivery

from the supplier to us will take 6-8 weeks.

Thank you, Bob Ellergodt



This is the only RCMP 150 Celebration we are aware of within northern Alberta. Some of our Vets are involved so if you have some time, please drop by.



### Job Opportunity for Retired RCMP Members

Contract Instructor Opportunity Retired RCMP members

Thinking Driver is Western Canada's foremost corporate driver training and fleet safety organization. Based in Surrey BC, we have a rich 20+ year history of serving major corporations and government



agencies such as BC Safety Authority, Fortis, TELUS, BC Hydro, Metro Vancouver, Western Canada Marine Response Group, WorkSafe BC and many, many others. We are the provider of driving instructor training to the BC School Bus industry, with a nationally accredited and provincially approved curriculum and we supply government approved courses to other provinces. More can be learned about Thinking Driver by visiting our website www.thinkingdriver.com. We also work with the public and teach new drivers.

Our instructional team consists of a combination of Industry experts, retired or semi-retired law enforcement members and driver training specialists. Team members work as contractors on an as needed basis when they are available and provide training throughout BC.

We are currently seeking individuals interested in joining our instructor team.

Instructors deliver corporate training and driver evaluations in-vehicle and on public roads and off public roads in closed areas typically teaching backing and trailer towing.

Instructors are paid by the day or half-day for training with half days paid at 2/3 of total day rate. Instructor rates are negotiable based on qualifications starting at \$350 daily.

The majority of our activity is focused in the Lower Mainland, but travel can be expected. Travel arrangements when needed are handled by our administration and instructors are provided with detailed itineraries. Travel time to teach in other cities or towns is paid.

This opportunity may suit retired or retiring members.

Experience as a driving instructor at Depot and/or other type of instructor experience is desirable, but we value attitude and motivation as much as experience. Other useful experience includes traffic enforcement, accident investigation/reconstruction training. "Presentation Skills" course is a particularly valuable qualification.

You must be able to pass a criminal record check and have a good driving record. To apply send your cover letter and resume to <u>smcdonald@thinkingdriver.com</u> Attention Spencer McDonald

### **Blue Sunday Mass**

On Sunday, May 7th, a few of our Vets attended Blue Sunday Service at the St. Albert Catholic Church. It is an opportunity for the public to show their appreciation and support to the police and firefighters. Below are a few pictures from that day.



Names of members in red in this picture are as follows – L to R – First fellow in uniform is a member of the congregation, name unknown, Robert Bacchus, Cyril Gowler, Don Watson, Eric Lafoy, Joe Collinson,

Gerry Keane, Jim Medley with the pipes and Rob Lutz.

To the left are our members, Joe and Aggie Collinson, Eric Lafoy, Robert Bacchus, Don Watson and Julian Fedoriuk.

Thanks to all who attended, hope to be there again next year.



## New Members April 2023

1) Ric Suleman, Reg #44898, Sherwood Park

2) Robert Vieville, X1537, Lac Ste Anne County

3) Peter Verge, 46703, Lac Ste Anne County

4) Rudy Parenteau, S2792, Frog Lake

Welcome to the new members and hope you find the time to join us at our General / Dinner Meetings.

## I GOT IN TOUCH WITH MY INNER SELF TODAY

THAT'S THE LAST TIME I'LL BUY 1 PLY TOILET PAPER AT THE DOLLAR STORE. As you will notice to the right, we have added something new to our Newsletter and I thank Chaplain Gowler for coming forward with this and offering his service.

Today my wife asked me to help her with her diet...

So I've hidden her deeth!

## **Chaplains Corner**

As result of the recent deaths of police officers which caused an inquiry by one of our Vet Members, our Chaplain, Cyril Gowler, advises should any Veteran experience difficulty with PTSD / OSI and wish to talk with someone, he is available should they wish to talk with him. Please note one may think seeing the word "Chaplain" you may immediately think "religion." Cyril wants people to know it's always about their personal challenges and he would NOT be responding to them with the motive of "preaching" at them.

If they understand this reality he can easily approach them if they contact him.

Cyril has an extensive network, so he is able to direct people to resources or handle their challenges "in-house" himself or whatever they choose.

As time goes on we hope to add people to the help list, especially female chaplains so they are offering equal opportunities. Cyril's contact information is as follows.

Cyril M. GOWLER Chaplain Services Police, Corporate & Community Email: <u>cmgowler@icloud.com</u> Phone: 780-446-5033

Below are a few more pictures of the Dhami Funeral. And again if you have any questions, concerns, please contact me at: <a href="mailto:president@edmrcmpvets.ca">president@edmrcmpvets.ca</a> Stay well everyone and have a wonderful Mother's Day.

Kees Kikkert, President













RCMP Veterans' Association, Edmonton Division Annual General Dinner Meeting - Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Woodvale Community Facility - 4540-50 St. Edmonton, AB.

Meet and Greet has been moved back to help with parking congestion

## Meet and Greet – 5:15 PM Dinner – 6PM

Dinner Menu Tandoori Chicken, Ginger Beef, Basmati Rice, Bow Tie Pasta w/Mushroom Cream Sauce Mixed Vegetables. Penne Pasta Salad with Dill Sauce

**Caesar Salad, fresh vegetable Tray** 

Dinner Buns and Butter Assorted Squares, Fruit, Coffee and Tea.

Cost per Person \$30.00 (includes meal, gratuity and GST) PAYMENT AT THE DOOR – CASH,CHEQUE OR CREDIT CARD

Register by Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023, with Linda Plomp, e-mail <u>lfplomp@hotmail.com</u> phone 780-238-7606

**Casual Dress** 

## A FRIENDLY REMINDER THAT THE ASSOCIATION MUST PAY FOR MEALS FOR THOSE WHO REGISTER AND FAIL TO COME TO THE MEETING.

Book and Puzzle exchange – bring an item or two and take an item or two!





## Edmonton RCMP Veterans' Executive Meeting Minutes April 20/2023, Woodvale Community Centre, Edmonton

Meeting called to order: 9:55 am

**Members Present**: Kees Kikkert, Jerry Plastow, Elaine Schnepf, Barry Callbeck, Jim Medley, Eric Lafoy, Tom Burkett, Denise Burkett, Bob Bacchus, Dianne Lehman, Nick Taylor, Joe Collinson, Roger Goulet.

**Unable to Attend:** Randy Montgomery, Linda Plomp, Bob Stewart, S/M Leilani Collins, Bruce Allen.

#### Barry Callbeck, Secretary:

- Moved the minutes from March 23 /2023 meeting be adopted as published in the Newsletter, Seconded by Rob Bacchus, Carried.
- Barry gave a short update on the information package the Chief Firearms Office Agent is putting together regarding the .577 rifle being turned over to the Edmonton Division Vets.

#### Kees Kikkert, President:

- As result of a lengthy discussion regarding the Vice President's responsibilities, a motion was made and seconded to remove the current Vice President of his duties. The position is now vacant.
- Kees advised that as result of Cst. Havinder Singh Dhami's death, there will eventually be a ceremony to honour the member and his name will be placed on The Wall of Honor at "K" Division Headquarters. Jim Medley indicated he would look after ordering the bronze plaque from Behrends Bronze.
- Kees advised he along with Jerry Plastow and Don Belke attended an Inter-Divisional Meeting at Red Deer on April 17. Further information on what transpired is forthcoming.
- Kees reminded everyone of the Red Deer Division Luncheon being held on May 18, if interested let Kees know.

#### Kees on behalf of Linda Plomp, Treasurer:

- Financial update on Linda's behalf:
  - Chequing Account \$51, 621.69
  - Total GIC's \$101,291.36

#### Jerry Plastow, Past President:

- Jerry has sent a \$300.00 donation to the International Police Women's fund for the Conference in New Zealand. however, should this trip not happen, the donation will be returned to us.
- Jerry advised that a "Go-Fund-Me" fund has been set up for the family of Cst. Dhami. As we do not normally donate to people through a "Go-Fund-Me," Jerry motioned to give a cash donation to Cst. Dhami's family up to \$500.00. Seconded by Dianne Lehman. Carried.

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

- Elaine indicated she has been quite busy with the passing of two of our Veteran members and the many other cards she has been sending to other members and families.
- Elaine advised the cards she uses are in short supply, so she has ordered two hundred cards for \$80.00 from funds in her budget.
- Elaine made a motion to order Mourning Pins for handout / sale at Dinner Meetings. Seconded by Jerry. Carried.

#### Dianne Lehman, Support Advocate:

• Dianne advised she has finally completed the Mission, Vision and Value statements and asked for the Executives approval. They read as follows:

#### **MISSION VISION & VALUES STATEMENTS**

**OUR MISSION**: Our mission is to unite and support the wellbeing of Royal Canadian Mounted Police Veterans, former employees and their families through invaluable social connections, information and advocacy.

**OUR VISION**: To Build Such Incredible Membership Value That Countless RCMP Veterans Become Loyal Members To Feel Empowered To Live Their Best Life.

\_\_\_\_\_

**OUR VALUES:** We Are Devoted Compassionate Veterans, Helping Veterans Who Pledge To Enrich And Support The RCMP Culture And Wellbeing Of Our Veterans Through Long-Lasting Relationships.

The statements were gladly accepted by all in attendance and will be added to our Division's Profile on National's website.

#### **Eric Lafoy, Director:**

• Eric advised there have been no RCMP 150 meetings in over a month. Other than the celebrations taking place by Parkland Detachment he knows of no other events.

#### Tom Burkett, Director Membership:

• Tom reported we have 600 members, 391 being active members and only 35 unpaid this year.

#### Nick Taylor, Director- Valour Place:

- September 17 is the date for the Walk for Valour, and he asked for 6 to 8 volunteers.
- Valour Place has had the mechanical systems upgraded and everything is working well.

#### Joe Collinson, Honour Guard:

• Joe is asking for a younger member to assist with and hopefully take over the Honour Guard duties. Joe also felt it would be helpful to have a list of about six or eight names of individuals that can be called for Honour Guard duties when required.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:30 AM

Next Executive meeting: @ Woodvale Community Facility May25/2023

Barry Callbeck, Secretary

#### EDMONTON DIVISION GENERAL/DINNER MEETING MINUTES

Woodvale Community Facility - Tuesday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Meeting Called to Order at 7:00 PM by President Kees Kikkert:

#### Barry Callbeck , Secretary:

- Moved the minutes for the General Meeting March 28/2023 be approved as published in the newsletter, Seconded by **Joe Collinson**, carried.
- Barry advised he received an update on the paperwork to transport the Snider-Enfield MARK 2 \* .577 rifle from the Alberta Chief Firearms Office Agent indicating the rifle has determined to be an antique in Canada. We asked for some changes to be made to the document and we are now awaiting the final version.

#### President Kees Kikkert:

- Kees mentioned another Planning meeting for the 2024 AGM was held on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.
- Kees spoke of the Inter-Divisional Meeting he attended in Red Deer on April 17<sup>th,</sup> with Presidents from Lethbridge, Calgary and Red Deer along with other Vet members. All in attendance expressed their concern with the financial direction of the Association. As result a message was sent to the Association President for the attention of the Board of Directors expressing our concerns and the need they be discussed at the 2023 Ottawa AGM.
- Kees and Bob Bacchus will be attending a Luncheon in Red Deer on May 18, if interested in going let Kees know.
- Kees read out the **Mission and Values** statement put together by Dianne Lehman.
- Joe Collinson is planning on retiring and needs someone to take over the **Duties** of Honour Guard, the person does not need to be on the Executive but just assume the role, Joe will provide all assistance needed to get the individual up to speed.

#### Jerry Plastow, Past President:

- Jerry told all that the Executive had passed a motion to give the family of **Cst. Dhami** for \$500.00.
- Jerry advised he has a sample for viewing of a new Retired Member Challenge coin now available at the Gift Shop.

#### Jim Medley, Director, Gift Shop:

• Jim explained the RCMP Pipe Band has been asked to march in the Calgary Stampede Parade and at a few other communities in southern Alberta. While on tour, the Band wishes to sell some shirts to cover some of their expenses and has asked if Edmonton Division might donate some money to cover some of the costs of the shirts. As result, Jim made a motion to give the Pipe Band a Donation of \$1000.00 to cover expenses and to purchase shirts to raise funds. Motion Seconded by Joe Collinson, Carried.

#### Tom Burkett, Director of Membership:

• Services Pins and Bars for April 2023: 5- & 10-year bar and pin for Bruce Comeau, 10-year bar for David John Mitchell and Tom Burkett.



Bruce Comeau & Kees Kikkert

David Mitchell, Tom Burkett and Kees Kikkert

Meeting Adjourned &:30 PM

Next Dinner Meeting Tuesday May 30, 2023, at Woodvale

Barry Callbeck, Secretary.

## **The Last Post**

Reg #	Name :	Date of Death:	Where Passed &/or from:
21280	Smith William Hugh	2023 Apr 02	Calgary, AB
26262	Houston, Charles Garry	2023 Apr 04	Melville, SK
25435	Hornseth, Russell David	2023 Apr 08	Owen Sound, ON
65876	Dhami, Harvinder Singh	2023 Apr 10	Strathcona County, AB
20802	Langkammer, Eugene Peter	2023 Apr 05	Calgary, AB
31635	Morse, Gerald Ivan "Jerry"	2023 Mar 30	Leduc, AB
36646/0.2316	5 Kenny, Samuel Francis	2023 Apr 12	Fredericton, NB
25783	Anstis, Timothy John	2023 Apr 09	Ottawa, ON
21329/0.885	Warren James (Jim) Stanton	2023 Apr 12	Cumberland, ON
30129	Morrison, Gregory A.	2023 Apr 10	Gander, NL
41506	Thibault, Jocelyn	2023 Apr 03	L'Ancienne-Lorette, QC
27782	Bergerman, Louis Stephen	2023 Apr 06	Surrey, BC
17424	Laliberte, Jean-Louis	2023 Apr 06	Edmonton, AB
23392/0.1350	) Ross, lan Hannay	2023 Apr 11	London, ON

18313	Sim, George Keith	2023 Apr 07	Abbotsford, BC
22926	Petko, John George	2023 Apr 07	Sarnia, ON
19044/0.1011	Miller, Earl R.J.	2023 Apr 11	Truro, NS
26284	Byrne, James Allen	2023 Apr 10	Lethbridge, AB
38486	Cribb, John Raymond	2023 Apr 15	St. John's, NS
21187	Noiles, Blennis Wooten	2023 Apr 06	Ottawa, ON
19181/0.1078	Dick, Heinrich "Henry"	2023 Apr 13	Ottawa, ON
37270	Harink, T. Alan	2023 Apr 10	Brooks, AB
C/3536	Simms, Eric William	2023 Apr 15	Spencer's Island, NS
19821	Michelsen, Sirn Morris	2023 Apr 05	Langley, BC
35465	Portelance, Luc	2023 Apr 19	Ottawa, ON
15985	Martinson, Herbert Edwin	2023 Apr 15	Vancouver, BC
25848	Bates, Edward "Ted" 2023 Mar 15 Vancouver, BC		
17238	Dirk, Albert Philip	2023 Mar 28	St. Paul, AB
18697/0.566	McHaffie, Alexander Taylor	2023 Apr 22	Ottawa, ON
21390	Miller, Ian R.	2023 Apr 15	Ottawa, ON
C/881	Lunn, William Norman "Bill"	2023 Apr 18	Sackville, NS
20248	Freeman, Raymond Daniel	2023 Mar 04	Australia
15758	Oxley, George Marion	2023 Apr 01	Oshawa, ON
34861	Leet, Gerry Edwin	2923 Apr 20	Halifax, NS
20624	Creek, Harvey Allen	2023 Apr 18	Langley, BC
S/0785	Ainsworth, Herbert George Cyru	s 2022 May 20	Surrey, BC
C/1951	Burnett, David	2023 Apr 01	Ottawa, ON
22351	Beauker, Jan Harry	2023 Apr 24	Innisfail, AB
19884	Collard, David Allen	2023 Mar 03	North Vancouver, BC
28694	Ruud, Allan Thorval	2023 Apr 25	Fort Qu'Appelle, SK
21309	Smith William (Bill) Warren	2023 Mar 19	St. John's, NL
18914	Sherwood, Richard Blaxland The	lwell 2023 Apr 29	Tillsonburg, ON
21704	Cull, Sr., Gord B.	2022 Dec 30	Duncan, BC
40773	Plourde, Norman	2023 Apr 27	Rivière-Verte, NB
17875	Woods, Charles Ernest	2023 Apr 05	Victoria, BC
17426	Denis, Frank Joseph	2023 Apr 24	Langley, BC
A/Cst.	Hucik, Peter Andrew	2023 Apr 28	Pincher Creek, AB
18217	Colliar, John "Jock" Irvine	2023 Apr 07	Duncan, BC
42987	Ferguson, Michal Gerald	2023 Apr 26	Vernon, BC

## May they rest In Peace

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