



RCMP Veterans' Association, Edmonton Division – October 2023 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Good Day Everyone,

When I started this Newsletter the funeral of Cst. Rick O'Brien was a few days away, so I decided to start with whichever event happened first that I wished to report on, that being the presentation of the Third Guidon. The information below was taken from the [RCMP Website](#) but altered slightly for this Newsletter.

Presentation of the Third Guidon to the RCMP, September 8

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police was presented with a new Guidon on September 8, 2023, at the RCMP Academy, Depot Division.

The Guidon is one of the most recognizable symbols of Royal Canadian Mounted Police's participation in armed conflict alongside the military. It bears the Corps Operational Honours detailing the many campaigns members of the Mounted Police have fought and died in around the world.

The first RCMP Guidon was consecrated in 1935. It was retired in 1973 when a new Guidon was presented in Regina, Saskatchewan, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the RCMP by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, then Honorary Commissioner of the RCMP.

The new Guidon includes the addition of Afghanistan 2003-2014 to the honours, the change of Europe 1939-1945 to Second World War 1939-1945 and the return of the Provost Corps badge. More



Quick facts about the Guidon

- Historically, special flags known as "Colours" marked and provided a rallying point for army regiments in the line of battle. Today, they are no longer carried in action or held by a unit in a theatre of war. They continue, however, as visible symbols of pride, honour and devotion to Sovereign and country. As such they are an organization's most prized possession.
- Unique among police organizations, the RCMP possesses its own Colour. Following the traditions of light cavalry, the RCMP's Colour is known as the "Guidon".
- The term "Guidon" comes from an old French word, "guy-d'homme", which refers to the flag carried by a cavalry leader.
- The first Guidon was presented to the RCMP by His Excellency, the Earl of Bessborough, Governor General of Canada in Regina, Saskatchewan, in April 1935.



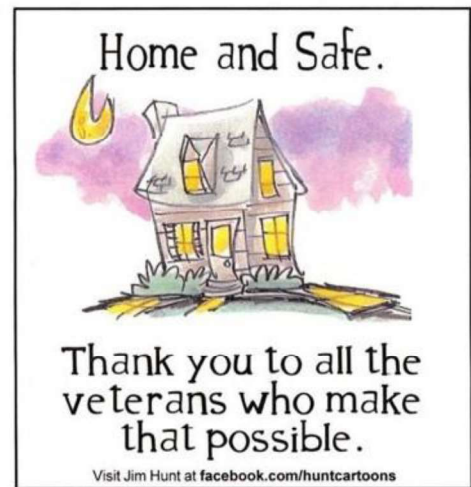
The Corn Maze event on Saturday, 16th Sept was a smashing success and even Main Stream Media indicated there was almost no hint of controversy the design attracted earlier this year. As S/M Leilani Collins so apply described, "It is a very historic organization over many years, but really what we are now is a modern police force," she said. "So that's what we're here about today, to showcase those things." Not only were the Vets well represented, but the Force had members from tactical, canine, drone and water rescue teams, as well as recruiters. Kim from the Gift Shop was also there assisted by Linda Plomp, and from all accounts, did very well. The crowd in attendance was estimated at 4,000.



Dayle McKibbin, Barry Callbeck, Eric Lafoy, Jerry Plastow and Richard Bates. Missing from picture: Vern Colley



On Sunday the 17th September Valour Place held their annual Walk for Valour at Sir Wilfrid Laurier Park. The Vets volunteered with Linda Plomp and Eva Chalmers shown above and Leilani Collins, Nick Taylor, Ross Hogg, Simon Chance and Kees Kikkert to the right. Valour Place they had more walkers then ever before and exceeding the goal of \$50,000.00 by approx. \$8,000.00.



On the 21st September the Wall of Honour Ceremony took place at “K” Division HQ’s to add the plaque for Constable Harinder (Harvey) Singh Dhami, Regimental Number: 65876 to the Wall. A few photo’s from that day are as noted:



Mrs. Ravinder Randhawa-Dhami arriving at Divn HQ and met by the CO, D/Commr. Curtis Zablocki



The Piper was Tim Whiting and the Bugler, Dave Guy, can be seen over Tim’s left shoulder. Sorry, that is the only photo we go of Dave.



Mrs. Chhindo Dhami, Harvinder’s mother touching the plaque with Ravinder Dhami standing beside her.



Vet Volunteers Jerry Plastow, Jim Medley, Kees Kikkert & Dianne Lehman



From all accounts, the Dhimi family and friends who attended this ceremony were very pleased and appreciative with the ceremony.

An interesting side note, also in attendance was the owner of Behrends Bronze Inc., Gen Russo, and his assistant, Karen Fraser. The Wall itself was constructed by Behrends Bronze Inc. and installed in the "K" Division front lobby back in the year 2000 and every plaque on the Wall plus the two bronze statues on either side and the four Force Crests above the Wall were all manufactured at Behrends Bronze. This was the first time Mr. Russo attended at a Wall of Honour Ceremony and it was the first time he had seen the Wall since it's construction. Mr. Russo has fond memories of when the Wall concept was put forward and still recalls the many interactions he had with Gordon Greig and Neal Stanley.

To the left we have Mr. Gen Russo, Karen Fraser and D/Comr. Curtis Zablocki.



On the 22nd September, Joe Collinson attended the Memorial Service for Sgt. Rtd. Dave GINGARA, Reg. 16009. Joe provided the picture to the left:

The picture depicts the following:
Seated from the Left:
Aggie Collinson, Ralph and Evelyn Redford:

Standing from the Left: Joe Collinson, Jennifer HARBIN (daughter of Stan HARBIN (S/SM Rtd. deceased), Sharon (Daughter of Dave GINGARA)

RANDOM THOUGHT:

LET'S STOP SENDING MONEY TO OTHER COUNTRIES AND LET THEM HATE US FOR FREE.

On the 26th September, we had our Appreciation Night Dinner Meeting with approximately 112 in attendance. Prior to eating, Jerry described the table with the single place setting where, "*We Honour Our Fallen Members*".

WE HONOUR OUR FALLEN MEMBERS

The small table -

set for one - symbolizing the isolation of the absent Members. The table is round, to show our everlasting concern for our fallen Members

The white tablecloth -

symbolizing the purity of their intentions to respond to their country's call to duty.

The single red rose -

reminds us of the life of each of our fallen, the blood they shed, and the loved ones and friends who miss them each and every day.

The vase is tied with a red ribbon -

a symbol of our continued determination to remember our fallen Members,

The slices of lemon -

on the plate is to remind us of the bitter fate of the missing.

The salt -

represents the tears shed by families and friends.

The inverted wine glass -

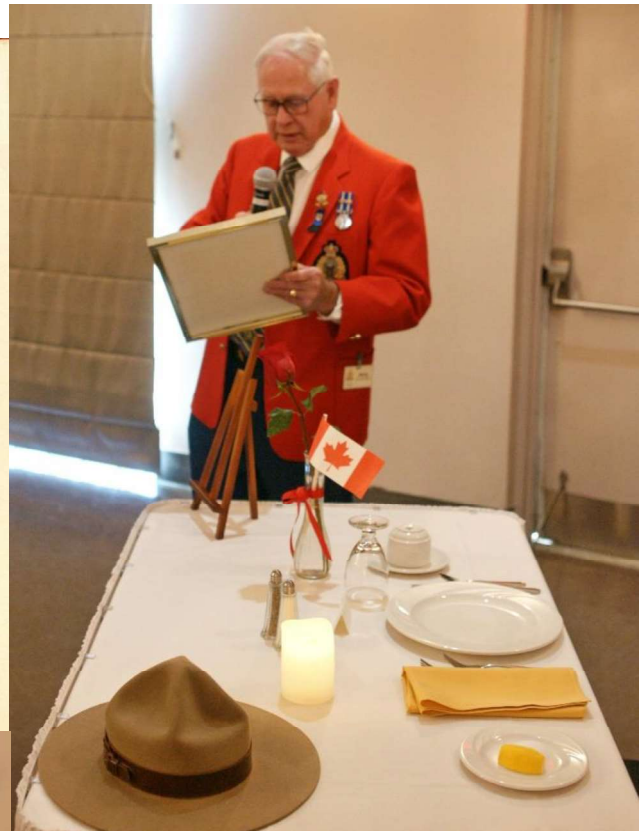
they cannot toast with us at this time.

The empty chair -

they are no longer with us.

The candle -

is reminiscent of the light of hope which lives in our hearts to illuminate their way home.



Once the formalities were completed, everyone enjoyed the Prime Rib roast with Yorkshire pudding plus Salmon coulibiac and the extras as shown to the left and below. I was told by a very trustworthy individual the sweets below were all very healthy, although I am still wondering how honourable that individual was.



The Appreciation Dinners started many years ago to honour the widows of RCMP members who belonged to the Association. We wanted to show our appreciation for everything they did to support their husbands and their community while their husbands served in the RCMP. In many cases these ladies were the 2nd man or support person at the Detachment taking phone calls, providing nursing care, dental assistant care, matron duties and meals for prisoners. They worked the police radios, took written complaints and passing on the information to their husbands on the road via the police radio, and even at times, provided transportation for the wounded to local hospitals or Doctors. Without their continued support and volunteer contributions of their time and caring, policing detachment areas would not have been as timely nor complete. Tom Burkett gave the toast to all these deserving ladies who also received a small gift from us to show our appreciation. **Kathleen Davis as shown to the right**, responded to the toast in a touching presentation, explaining all she and so many other ladies went through plus all the things the wives and children went through when their husbands were transferred.



Manon Schamuhn-Wilkins, Kathy Kutryk, Cathy Bush, Peggy Duncan, Betty-Lee Rivers, Joyce Nadwidny, Wendy Farquhar, Dorothy Picton, Jeannie Munroe, Marie Macdonald, Margaret Squair, Fay Plomp, Pat Leary. Missing: Kathleen Davis.



Paul & Joyce Gagne



Anita & Gerry Tetzloff



Last month I inadvertently forgot to introduce Larry Willson as a first-time attendee to one of our Dinner Meetings. He is the one to the left and Tom Pickard is the fellow to the right. Tom has had a very busy summer dealing with flooding, forest fires and finding places for people to stay while their communities were under evacuation notice. Tom happens to be the Mayor of Whitecourt and it was great to see he was able to join us.



Not only did we have these two handsome young gentleman, but we had a strong representation of serving members of the Force. They are shown in the picture below along with two of our Chaplains. I hope I got all the names in the correct order. The location where all of them are presently serving is mentioned below.



Chaplain George Madden, Cutis Zablocki, Cheri-Lee Smith, Chris Spence, Shyla Delowski, Brandon & Jennifer Humbke, Craig Schnablegger, Chaplain Elizabeth Melvin, Leilani Collins, Brent Meyer, Kevin McGillvray, Stephanie & Shane McLaughlin.

Thoughts on Aging..... **“Birthdays are good for you. Statistics show that the people who have the most live the longest.”**

- Larry Lorenzon

SERVING MEMBERS OF THE FORCE WHO JOINED US

D/Comr. Curtis Zablocki, Commanding Officer, Alberta RCMP
S/M Leilani, Collins, Sergeant Major/Warrant Officer, Alberta RCMP
S/Sgt. Brandon Humbke, Central Alberta district office
S/Sgt. Brent Meyer, Central Alberta District Office
PSE Stephanie McLaughlin, Central Alberta District office
Insp. Kevin McGillvray, OIC Parkland Detachment
Cst. Craig Schnablegger, Parkland Detachment
Cpl. Cheri-Lee Smith, Leduc Detachment, Media Liaison/Community Policing
Cpl. Andrea Hack, Beaumont Detachment
Sgt. Colin Hack, Parkland Detachment, PDS with Police Dog "Jock"
Cst. Shyla Delowski, Beaumont Detachment
C/M Chris Spence is the Assistant Director of the K Division OCC Program

An interesting result of having these members join us, Brent Meyer, who was just recently transferred to Alberta recognized Bev Greig as being his Grade 4 teacher when he attended Graminia School, south of Spruce Grove.

Following the introductions I thanked all of them for their service. Policing today is certainly different than when most of us served and we wish them all to remain safe. All the members and their spouses received a small gift from us in appreciation for their service.

Deputy Commissioner Curtis Zablocki then gave us an excellent presentation on the many things happening within the Division and the RCMP as a whole.

For quite some years now we have had many volunteers giving of their time to serve in many aspects and support our Division. There are many who do countless hours of volunteer work to whom we ALL owe a huge "Thank You". This evening, we chose a few of our members to show our appreciation for the all the work they have done and continue to do. The first couple we honoured were Tom & Denise Burkett.



Kees Kikkert, Elaine Schnepf, Jerry Plastow, Denise and Tom Burkett



D/Comr. Curtis Zablocki

This couple have belonged to our Association for 10 years. During this time, they both have volunteered many hours of their time in several ways. They are valued members of our Executive, the Social Committee and the 2024 AGM Committee and are often called upon to help in many ways like setting up for the silent auction at our Christmas dinner, making some BOOST deliveries. As the Membership Coordinator, Tom receives many phone

calls and emails from individuals with queries of all kinds, and both he and Denise attend to these individuals and if they can't help, direct them to the proper person or website to assist them in their search. You will see this team at the door as you walk into the hall, usually wearing their Saskatchewan Roughrider jerseys with smiles on their faces selling the 50/50 tickets.

Marg Elliott was the second to be 'Thanked' for all she does for our Division. She has belonged to our association for 13 years and serves on the Social Committee and the 2024 AGM Committee. We can always count on her help with events and activities our Division is taking part in. She is often the first to arrive to our dinner meetings to help with set up and is one of the last to leave to make sure all is taken care of. She has accepted the duties of purchasing the door prizes for our meetings over the last few years and finds the most interesting and useful items. She is one of the smiley faces to greet people when they arrive at our Dinner Meetings. She also volunteers for many events at Ft. Saskatchewan including the Museum and works at the old Fort. Her relationship with the City of Fort Saskatchewan has helped her as part of the 2024 AGM festivities will be there and she has organized the entire event. She also regularly volunteers at the RCMP Medal Ceremonies.



Elaine Schnepf, Marg Elliott and Jerry Plastow



Kees Kikkert, Elaine Schnepf, Linda Plomp and Jerry Plastow

Linda Plomp was the third person we 'Thanked'. She has been with our Association for 11 years, serves on our Executive, is on the Social Committee and the 2024 AGM Committee. She is the other smiley face at the door to greet you taking your money for the dinner meetings. She has been the Division Treasurer for several years and keeps exemplary records which is appreciated by our Division and National. She is our "candy lady" as she always ensures some sort of candy is placed at each place setting for every meeting.

She volunteers to help whenever possible and is often found helping the Manager, Kim, of the Gift Shop on special occasions such as recent Corn Maze Celebration of the RCMP 150 event near Spruce Grove and the following day at the Walk for Valour for Valour Place and at other 150 events. She also holds a fulltime job and still makes time volunteering for our group and also the Firefighting group which has gathered and sent firefighting equipment and clothing to Ukraine's Fire Departments.

The operation of this Division would be hard pressed were it not for these wonderful Volunteers!

Thank-you for all you do!

RANDOM THOUGHTS:

- ***RESPECT YOUR ELDERS. THEY GRADUATED FROM SCHOOL WITHOUT THE INTERNET.***
- ***I'VE DECIDED I'M NOT OLD. I'M 25 — PLUS SHIPPING AND HANDLING.***

Here are a few more pictures from this evening.



Barry Callbeck surprised Fay Plomp,
hence, the smiley faces



These three all worked together in St. Paul, Malcolm
Mackinnon, Kees Kikkert and Nick Taylor

To the right we have Deb & Curtis
Zablocki. Below we have our Chaplain,
Cyril Gowler plus Chaplain Liz Melvin
and George Madden.





Richard Kulchyski & Pat Leary



Joe & John – you caption it!

The 217 photos from this event have been uploaded to the link listed below. Les Wiszowaty, the Photographer, says everyone can access the photos. The photos can all be downloaded to your computer by selecting the download icon **under the larger photo** and there is no charge for the photo. Thank-you Les, very much appreciated!

<https://whitebeard.smugmug.com/Events/Veterans-Appreciation-Dinner-2023>

Les Wiszowaty, Independent Business Owner, Whitebeard Photography

www.whitebeard.smugmug.com



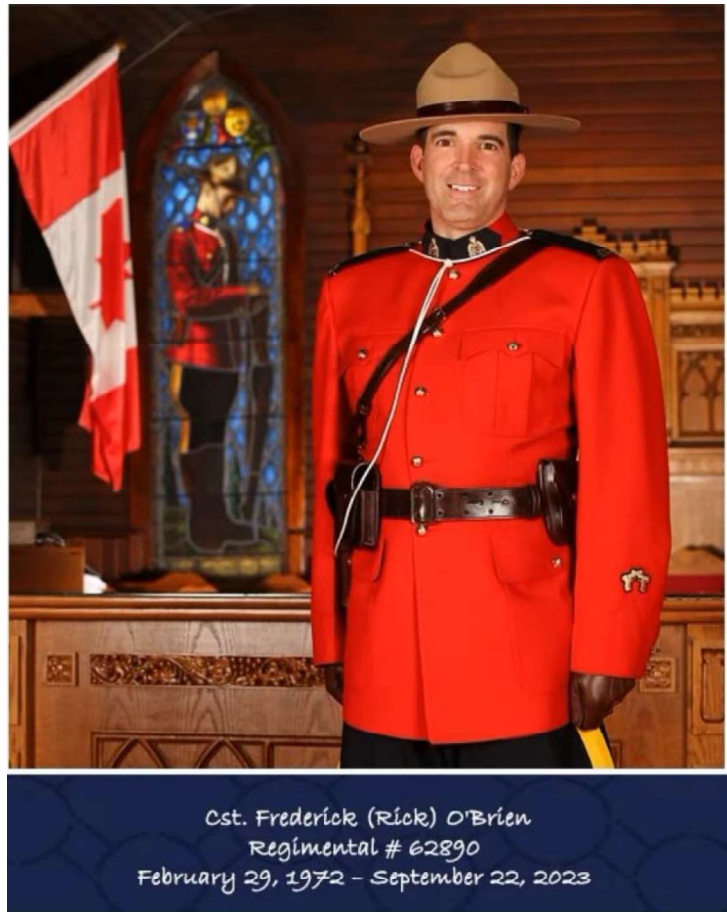
On the early morning of Thursday, 28th September, myself and Barry Callbeck headed to Regina to present the antique rifle we received from Bill Schoening in June to the RCMP Historical Collections Unit. We arrived at the RCMP Heritage Centre that afternoon and met Jodi Ann Eskritt, MA, Curator, and Shannon Cunningham, Conservator / Collections Manager of the Unit and suffice to say, they were more than excited to receive this historical rifle. Jodi commented she was literally shaking when we handed it to her. Jodi advised she has already researched this type of weapon and believes there is a

serial number, however, when these firearms were made the serial numbers were hidden. Her research has located some potential serial numbers so once she has the time to properly examine this rifle the potential is there to learn a great deal more about it. So the story may have another chapter and Jodi said she will keep us informed of her findings.

On October 4th, the BC RCMP held a Regimental Funeral for Constable Frederick (Rick) O'Brien at the Langley Events Centre in Langley, BC. Constable O'Brien was stationed at Ridge Meadows Detachment and was shot to death in Coquitlam, BC on the 22nd September. He was remembered as a dedicated member, a loving husband and father who loved working with children — and as a hero!

Cst. Rick O'Brien Death And Obituary

Constable O'Brien, 51, tragically passed away while carrying out a drug-related search warrant at a Coquitlam, British Columbia, home. O'Brien, who joined the RCMP in 2016, had given seven years of committed service before this tragic loss occurred. His dedication to his profession was seen in all his positions, especially his support of young people with mental health issues. In the neighborhood of Ridge Meadows, Rick O'Brien left a legacy beyond his work as a police officer. He was well-known for participating in neighborhood schools, interacting with youngsters, offering support for various causes, and participating in neighborhood gatherings. The Ridge Meadows RCMP Detachment's Superintendent, Wendy Mehat, stated O'Brien's death had a profound effect on his family and the neighborhood. All those who knew him, from coworkers to the larger community will feel the tremendous gap left by his departure and his memory will endure thanks to the helpful things he did throughout his lifetime.



A few more pictures of the funeral are as follows.



MAY HE REST IN PEACE!

As you can see, September was a very busy month and October is shaping up that way as well.



I know many people are having issues with Canada Life and at times I wish I had a direct line into their office people, but I don't. In any event, there is now something else all of you should be aware of if you travel "Interprovincially", not just "Internationally". Suffice to say, it is best to be prepared before you travel outside the Province.

On July 1, 2023, Canada Life became the PSHCP administrator. It has subcontracted the administration of the **Out-of-Province** Benefit for members with **Supplementary coverage**, and the out-of-country coverage for members living outside of Canada (Comprehensive coverage) to MSH International (MSH).

NOTE: Supplementary Coverage is your Alberta Health Care coverage & Blue Cross and any other private health coverage you may have.

The following website explains the coverage and how to access the coverage - including how to create an MSH account, via web links which leads you to the appropriate website especially the MSH PSHCP Member Portal:

https://pshcp-msh.ca/?utm_source=ens-aug-23-24&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=tbs-sct-ens-23-24&utm_content=MSH-portal-aug-2023

New Members – September 2023

Ric Henderson Reg. #32670, Edmonton
Sonya Henderson Reg. #32670A, Edmonton

Ric & Sonya recently transferred in from Calgary Division. Welcome you two and hope you can join us at one of our Dinner Meetings.

This is a friendly reminder our Dues for 2024 are now \$70.00, due by the end of December 2023. If you have any questions please contact our Membership Coordinator, Tom Burkett at viflyguy@shaw.ca.

Again, if anyone has any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at president@edmrmpvets.ca

I have been asked to submit the story about the antique rifle to the Quarterly for possible inclusion into the magazine. Now I'm at a quandary if I should submit it now or wait for the results of the Collection Unit's investigation. I hope I have more information to pass on next month.

Hope you all enjoyed Thanksgiving, stay safe and stay well.

Kees Kikkert, President

CO's Message

Fall has arrived, and with it comes back-to-school, chillier weather, and the Thanksgiving season.

Over the past months, our staff had the chance to participate in a number of events across the province. Celebrations commemorating the RCMP's 150th anniversary were in full swing, with many detachments and veterans taking part in the fun with their communities at parades and barbeques. One of the larger events I attended was the RCMP Day at the Maze, which took place at the Edmonton Corn Maze and had a great turnout from staff, veterans, and community members.

I also spoke at the Wall of Honour Ceremony on September 21st, and I attended the Memorial at Depot in early September, and the Alberta Peace and Police Officer Memorial Day on September 24th. Both ceremonies were poignant, given we added our own member, Constable Harvinder "Harvey" Singh Dhami. It has been a difficult year or policing in Canada, with the loss of 11 officers in the line of duty.

Lastly, on September 30th, we acknowledged and participated in different events across province the recognizing the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation.

Your commitment to the community, participation in events such as the memorials, and your assistance at the multitude of events that are hosted and supported by Veterans, are very much appreciated! Thank You all!

Back to School

September saw youth from across the province head back to school. An invaluable resource to schools, School Resource Officers assist school administration in ensuring a safe place of learning for students and staff. They educate youth on safety issues, foster positive relationships between youth and police, increase awareness among youth of an individual's responsibility to the community, and they provide youth with the knowledge/confidence needed to make safe and responsible choices.



Our members also engaged with several classes at Lethbridge College to share what it's like to have a career with the RCMP. Meeting with students when they are in university is a great recruitment opportunity, as they are at a pivotal moment in choosing their future careers.



Community Events

On August 24th, on Youth Donut Day, Wetaskiwin RCMP members were at Holey Grail Donut and Bakery in Pigeon Lake to hand out donuts to youth, and to teach them what it's like to be a police officer first hand.



Celebrations commemorating the RCMP's 150th anniversary have continued to take place across Alberta. Drumheller RCMP held an RCMP 150 barbeque on September 1st in partnership with Drumheller Victim Services, where a tactical armoured vehicle was on display.

On September 2nd, the town of St. Paul hosted their annual rodeo parade. Each year, the city chooses a different theme. This year's theme was RCMP 150, in recognition of the work that the RCMP has been doing for the past 150 years.

On September 7th, Smoky Lake RCMP hosted an RCMP 150 barbeque in partnership with Lac La Biche Victim Services with supporting units, including Redwater Traffic Services, Capital West Traffic Services, Recruiting, and Community Policing. Smoky Lake members gave out detachment trading cards, which were a hot item to get that day.

On September 16th, Fort Saskatchewan held a barbeque at the Fort Heritage Precinct to mark the 150th anniversary of the RCMP. Museum exhibits were on display, and Police Dog Services did a demonstration for the public.

Community events offer opportunities to connect and engage with the people we serve. Engagement helps strengthen our ties with communities as we continue to build upon the good relationships we have with citizens and leaders across the province. We look forward to participating in more events with employees and veterans for the rest of the RCMP's 150th year.



RCMP Day at the Maze



One of the biggest events that took place in September was the RCMP Day at the Maze at the Edmonton Corn Maze, held to commemorate the RCMP's 150th anniversary.

In addition to navigating the maze, shaped as a Mountie saluting, the community got to witness demonstrations from the Alberta RCMP's Police Dog Services and Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (drones). A tactical armoured vehicle, police vehicles, jet boats, and quads

were all on display for the community to explore, with folks from the Alberta RCMP Recruiting Unit, Operational Communications Centre, and Veterans' Association present to answer questions. Thanks once again for your support at this event!



In Memoriam

On September 21st, Constable Harvinder “Harvey” Singh Dhami was added to the Alberta RCMP’s Wall of Honour. The Wall of Honour was established in recognition of those members who lost their lives while on duty in Alberta Territory since 1876. This project was jointly funded by the RCMP Veterans

Association of Alberta and the March West Committee to honour members of the Northwest Mounted Police, Royal Northwest Mounted Police, and RCMP who sacrificed their lives in the performance of their duties, while serving in this province.

The ceremony and the refreshments which followed were opportunities to honour Constable Dhami’s memory together as family, friends, and colleagues.



On September 24th, we stood side-by-side with our partners in law enforcement to honour the peace and police officers who have tragically lost their lives in the line of duty for Alberta Peace and Police Officer Memorial Day.



Names of fallen members are added to the Pillar of Strength monument at the Legislature grounds in Edmonton each year as a permanent reminder of their ultimate sacrifice. This year Cst. Dhami was added to the monument.

Careers in law enforcement are essential to keeping our communities safe and protecting the people of Canada. Honouring those who selflessly gave their lives in the line of duty is of utmost importance to ensure their service and sacrifice are never forgotten.

Truth and Reconciliation

September 30th is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. It's a day for all Canadians to acknowledge the unfortunate legacy of the residential school system.

On this day, we honour the resilience and strength of survivors, acknowledge the intergenerational trauma still affecting Indigenous peoples today, and remember the thousands of children who never came home at all.

Wearing orange on September 30th raises awareness of the intergenerational impacts of residential schools and promotes the concept that "Every Child Matters." The orange shirt is a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom, and belonging experienced by Indigenous children over generations.

The Alberta RCMP held a virtual workshop, "Why we wear orange," for employees that explored the history of the residential school system and looked at the impacts on Indigenous communities and people.

We remain committed to giving these communities a voice by acknowledging the legacy of residential schools, and we are proud to serve them every day. We know that there is still much more to be done, but we greatly appreciate the guidance and support of our Indigenous Elders and look towards the future with optimism.

Thank you for your contributions to the events that have taken place across Alberta, and for your continued support throughout September. I wish you and your families a wonderful Thanksgiving season.

As always, take care and stay safe.

Curtis

Curtis Zablocki, M.O.M.

Deputy Commissioner

Commanding Officer Alberta RCMP

Tuesday, October 24, 2023, Dinner Meeting

Woodvale Community Facility – Millwoods Golf Course

4540 -50 St. Edmonton, AB.

Meet and greet – 5:00 P.M.

Dinner 6:00 P.M.

DINNER MENU:

Southern style meat loaf

Baked Macaroni & Cheese

Garlic Mashed Potatoes

Mixed Vegetables

Penne Pasta Salad with Dill Sauce

Pickled Vegetable Salad

Caesar Salad, Fresh Vegetable Tray, Dinner Buns, Butter

Assorted Squares, Fruit, Coffee, Tea

Please advise of any allergies or sensitivities

CONTACT: LINDA PLOMP TO REGISTER **by Thursday, October 19, 2022**

Email: lfplomp@hotmail.com Phone: 780-238-7606

Cost per plate \$30.00 (includes meal, gratuity, and GST)

Payment at the door - Cash, Cheque, or Credit Card

Cash Bar - Door prizes and 50/50 draw.

Halloween costumes encouraged for a chance for a prize.

Bring your Books and Puzzles for exchanging.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER: THE ASSOCIATION MUST PAY FOR ALL WHO ARE REGISTERED. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU NEED TO CANCEL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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

Meeting called to order: 10:00ke am

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

Unable to Attend: Linda Plomp, Bob Stewart, Denise Burkett, Randy Montgomery.

Barry Callbeck, Secretary:

- Move the minutes from the August 24th, 2023, Executive Meeting be adopted as published. Seconded by Jim Medley. Carried.

Kees Kikkert, President:

- Wall of Honour ceremony for Cst. Dhami, Thursday September 21/23.
- A motion has to be made to at the September 26/ 2023, Dinner meeting asking for funding to purchase 400 Challenge Coins.
- The Alberta Police and Peace Officer Memorial Day will be hosted at the Alberta Legislature on Sunday September 25/23.
- An RCMP Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, November 1/23 at Redwater, AB. Marg Elliott and John Griffiths have volunteered to help.
- The Rifle that was turned over to us by Mr. Bill Schoening will be taken to Regina on Thursday September 28 by Kees Kikkert and Barry Callbeck.
- Possibility of Vet ID cards will be discussed at a future Executive Meeting.
- Kees and Gordon Greig will be attending the AB RCMP Regimental Pipes, drum and Dancers Band Annual Mess Dinner on November 18.

Kees on behalf of Linda Plomp, Treasurer:

- Financial Update:
 - Chequing Account \$41,740.02
 - Total GIC's \$102,004.92

Kees for Dianne Lehman, Director, Support Advocate:

- Dianne is working on Advocacy updates, networking with other organizations, as well as looking into the development of Business and Strategic Planning for the organization.

Jerry Plastow, Past President:

- The Donation Committee has had one request from the Leduc Detachment, which will be followed up on for further details.

Elaine Schnepf, Director- Boost program:

- One active member and one associate have passed away recently.
- Elaine is busy with responding to calls and has made home visits to some members.

Bruce Allen, Director, Website:

- Bruce is following up on changes needed to clean-up the website.

Eric Lafoy, Director:

- The Corn Maze was well attended by members from the Vets and were in several photo ops taken by visitors. Note comments below by S/M Collins.
- Eric also mentioned the idea of dues for Associate members, mainly for accountability, as when they move or change phone or email we have no way of contacting them. This matter was tabled and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Jim Medley, Director, Gift Shop:

- Kim from the Gift Shop had a table set up at the Corn Maze assisted by Kim's daughter and Linda Plomp and they were very busy.

Tom Burkett, Director Membership:

- We have 396 Active members, 207 Associate members.

S/M Leilani Collins, Force Liaison Member:

- Thanked all who attended the Corn Maze, the day was very successful with approximately 4000 visitors.

Tom Dunlop, Director, Parking Passes:

- The passes are going out regularly but need to be returned, do not keep them if needed in a couple of weeks, call for a card and return as soon as possible.

Nick Taylor, Director, Valour Place:

- The walk went well other than conflict with other events in the city which may have had some effect.
- Valour Place itself is very busy and approximately 30 % using the facility are RCMP Members and Veterans.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:15 AM

Next Executive meeting: @ Woodvale Community Facility Oct.19/2023

Barry Callbeck, Secretary

EDMONTON DIVISION DINNER MINUTES - GENERAL MEETING Woodvale Community Centre – Tuesday September 26 ,2023

General Meeting - Start Time: 8:00 P.M.

Barry Callbeck: Secretary:

- Barry motioned to approve the minutes of the June 20th Dinner Meeting as published in the September Newsletter, seconded by Nick Taylor, carried.

Jerry Plastow, Past President:

- Jerry advised we would like to have Challenge Coin made as a fundraiser for the upcoming AGM and therefore; Motioned for the approval of \$4,000.00 to purchase 400 challenge coins as a fundraiser to assist with the 2024 AGM. Seconded Don Martin, Carried.

Tom Burkett, Membership:

- Presentation of Service Pins and Bars: 5-year Pin and Bar for Al Rybka and Darlene McKibbon and 15-year Bar for Bruce Allen, Bruce Comeau and Malcolm MacKinnon.

NOTE: The 5-year Pin and Bar was inadvertently presented to Darlene's husband, Dayle McKibbon – OUR APPOLOGIES!



To the left receiving their 15-year bar presented by Tom Burkett: Bruce Allen, Malcolm MacKinnon and Bruce Comeau.

While attending this function, we received word the Manager of Woodvale, Margaret Tokaryk, is retiring as of Oct. 1, 2023,

after a career here for over 30 + years. We will certainly miss her. We wish to convey our Congratulations and best wishes for a great retirement, well deserved.

Next dinner meeting Tuesday, October 24, 2023 – Hallowe'en Theme, Costumes encouraged for prizes!

Edmonton Division Annual General Meeting - Tuesday, Nov. 28th, 2023
Christmas Dinner and Silent Auction Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2023

Meeting adjourned at: 8:20 P.M.

Barry Callbeck, Secretary

The Last Post

Reg #	Name :	Date of Death:	Where Passed &/or from:
22534	Seper, Joseph Stephen	2023-09-01	Steinbach, MB
PSE	Muise, Pauline Theresa	2023-09-01	Yarmouth, NS
38387	Chisholm, Robert Joseph	2023-09-01	Antigonish, NS
17556	Mascotto, Lino John	2023-09-02	London, ON
19027/0.843	McLeod, Allan	2023	Medicine Hat, AB
38846	Thomas, Eva Jean	2023-09-04	Shellbrook, SK
19822	Geddes, Herbie Nelson	2023-08-04	Medicine Hat, AB
21837	Gabb, Kenneth C.	2023-08-16	Whitehorse, YT
Lab Tech	Vincent, Patricia Jean	2023-09-06	Nelson, 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 and/or the RCMP Graves site <https://www.rcmpgraves.com/index.html>