



RCMP VETERANS' ASSOCIATION VANCOUVER DIVISION



WEBSITE: <http://www.rcmpveteransvancouver.com/>

JUNE 2020

GENERAL MEETINGS:

In normal times, we would not hold Division General Meetings in the months of July, August and September, so you could say that we are back to normal for the next three months. We are still hopeful that under the phased approach to reopening, being taken by Provincial Health Authorities, we will be able to resume our General Meetings in some form in October.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



These past few months have been a big challenge to all of us. Our whole way of life has basically changed. We now have to take huge measures to protect ourselves from a virus that could take our lives. I know when I make my weekly trip to the grocery store that I will see seniors not practicing social distancing. It concerns me when people don't listen to the experts in doing something that is so simple. To this end I hope all of our members are taking these precautions and as our Chief Medical Officer says, "Be Safe, be careful and be kind". To protect our members, the association has suspended our regular lunch meetings until such time as they can be done in safety. We will review this decision again in September and adhere to the advice of our Chief Medical Officer Bonnie Henry. The world itself has been turned upside down with the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

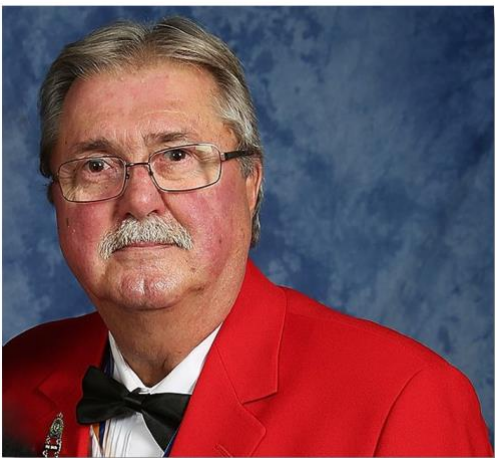
I would not have thought for a minute that an incident in the US could so profoundly affect our country. The Prime Minister has branded the RCMP as an organization with systemic racism. I don't know where this came from. It seemed he was using this for some political gain, but I am not sure how. The Commissioner, who we must remember is at a Deputy Minister level within the Government, first came out expressing support of the Force and its members only to change that the very next day to support what the Prime Minister said. This may have been her downfall. Time will tell. I know that the members on the street are having to deal with all this. It is not easy for them. The minority of citizens, who criticize the police, are quoted by all media sources. The silent majority are being bombarded by this on a daily basis. Unfortunately, the pro police side the silent majority, are not heard from in an equal or balanced way. So, when you are out and about please make sure that if you see a member on the street doing their job to the very best of their ability

that you thank them. It goes a long way to help balance the negativity that they are now facing. I know that John Sherstone has been in touch with a number of our members who have needed the Associations assistance in these trying times. If you need help in any way then please get in touch with John, or any member of the Board, so that we can help. Please stay safe.

Bob Underhill, President
RCMP Veterans' Association, Vancouver Division

NATIONAL PRESIDENT:

Sandy Glenn was recently elected as the new National President of the RCMP Veterans' Association. Sandy is a member of the Nova Scotia Division. Attached is his inaugural letter to the members of the association. For information on the new Board of Directors, please use the following link: <http://www.rcmpveteransvancouver.com/welcome-a-board/>



Greetings:

This message is going out to our full membership. By now most of you have learned I have had the honour of being elected as President of the RCMP Veterans Association and indeed, it is an honour.

I want to reach out to all of you with this message and I promise there will be more to come. My history with the Association includes a term of Secretary, 1st. Vice President, President and Immediate Past President of the Nova Scotia Division, where we have in excess of 800 members.

I must confess I had little knowledge of the National office structure until about two weeks ago but in the very short time I've been involved I learned there are many positive actions being undertaken on behalf of the overall Association.

It is my intention to apprise our respective Division Presidents of the efforts we are taking on your behalf. I also intend to introduce important topics that impact all of us in hopes of finding and implementing solutions to ensure the Association is there to serve you.

My experience as President of an 800+ Division clearly showed the importance of good governance and especially transparency and responsiveness. I intend to continue using those sound principles.

Unfortunately, the Covid-19 situation has caused this year's National AGM to be postponed. This is especially disappointing for our Regina Division who no doubt put endless hours of hard work organizing the event that would have seen the highest attendance in many years. We are working with the appropriate government department with respect to the AGM postponement since we do fall within the legal parameters of the Canada Not for Profit Corporations Act. You will be apprised of further developments as they occur, either directly or through your respective Presidents.

I had hoped I would have had the opportunity to meet many of you in person and to listen to your concerns and suggestions face to face. Instead, this will have to be done using available technology, an unfortunate sign of the times.

In the interim, I assure you I, along with all our Board of Directors will be working hard on your behalf. I also look forward to meeting with every Division President either by Zoom, Google Meet, or some other electronic means in the near future. Because of the relatively large number of Presidents, I am guessing I will have to approach this in a Geographical Region approach.

On a final note, the accumulation of so many high stress events and situations has no doubt caused a great deal of anxiety with all of us. Like you, I feel stress every time I turn on the TV news only to hear about complaints and ridicules remarks and suggestions relating to claims of police brutality. I'm reminded of the criticism and hostility many of our older Veterans faced during the late sixties and early seventies. One very good suggestion coming out from the current Nova Scotia Division President is to simply press the "Mute" button on your remote. I now do that, and it works. We know the truth about our own actions and those we worked with so the noise coming from an extremely bias press does not have to be listened to.

A thought came to mind and I have seen this many times, especially as of late. The excellent work done by Divisions to help their local communities proudly show the good things the Association can do and this reflects positively on the RCMP. The NS Region of the Annapolis Valley Associate members were part of a group that produced many thousands of Covid-19 protective face masks recently. That same Region has produced many hundreds of receiving blankets, fidget vests for those suffering from Alzheimer's, bibs for seniors and numerous other helpful items resulting in positive recognition of the RCMP and the Veterans Associations. Another great example is the highly successful Food Bank challenge that originated with John Keddy of Golden Horseshoe Division and quickly caught fire across our Association, and the wonderful efforts to assist women's shelters within a number of Divisions' areas. What a great way to shine a positive light on the RCMP. I'm sure everyone feels good when they hear about these wonderful contributions and they certainly give our morale a needed boost. With this in mind, please share your positive messages with me and through the talents of our Director of Communications, James Forrest, the news will be spread all across the Association. We need this.

Until then, best wishes to all and stay safe and well.

Sincerely

*A.P. (Sandy) Glenn, President
RCMP Veterans' Association
Veterans Helping Veterans and their Families*

A RESPONSE TO ACCUSATIONS OF SYSTEMIC RACISM IN THE FORCE:

The Vancouver Division has received numerous messages since the Prime Minister made his announcement the there was "systemic racism" in the Force. Not surprisingly, the theme of these messages from serving and retired members of the Force and others in the law enforcement

community was their disappointment and sense of betrayal by our Government as well as the Commissioner and Senior Executive Committee of the Force. We can only hope that the serving members receive the support of Canadians as they continue to provide excellent service through these troubled times.

Below is the statement released by RCMPVA National President, Sandy Glenn on June 13, 2020. A sampling of other messages and links are appended to this newsletter.



The RCMP Veterans' Association is extremely disappointed in the failure to support the Members of our National Police Force, The Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

To make sweeping generalization statements about any group of people is always unfair and in the case of a senior executive member, singularly inappropriate and inaccurate. Thoughtless statements from our political leaders put frontline Members of the RCMP at risk.

It is the job of that senior executive to support and, if necessary, guide the nation's federal agencies of which the Royal Canadian Mounted Police is an integral one.

It is not the task of that senior executive to denigrate all the members of a particular organization numbering in excess of 30,000 individuals.

Not for a moment do we deny that there are anomalies in the National Police Force. It will happen in any organization and the RCMP is no exception. But the anomalies are not the rule and to paint the entire organization with the same brush is to deny the dramatic role that the Force has played in the establishment of this country and in continuing over many years to ensure peace in Canada for all our citizens. Not some of our citizens – all of our citizens regardless of race, creed, colour or gender.

The Members of the RCMP are not from some distant land. The Members are the kids from a small Newfoundland community struggling to make ends meet due to the collapse of the fisheries, the prairie farm boy or girl driving their dad's farm combine dreaming of what is beyond the horizon, the young graduate with thoughts of making lives safer, and even the young daughter of a first nations elder who has suffered the hideous legacy of boil water advisories and who wants to believe things will get better.

They found their way to the red serge, each with their own hopes and goals. But now, along their way through their career, they have changed. They have responded to calls for help where a child has been beaten by an abusive family member, a spouse beaten to death by a drunken partner, a horrific crime scene where bodies, or in recent times, multiple bodies lie on front yards or in burning houses. In far too many situations they have been met by a gun- or knife-wielding suspect yet are expected to and except in the rarest of circumstances indeed do act with prudence and composure.

Members of the Force are trained to deal with violent situations and are trained to use force, within the bounds of reasonably necessity – not as the default response. And, I assure you, they deal with these situations every day and especially after dark. It's natural for the Member to rely upon instincts, fed by experience and yes, some will have bias.

Race is not necessarily one of those biases. Indeed, if an officer is frequently called to a particular area or neighborhood, they are aware of what may be expected upon arrival. Although there are hopes all will be well or the situation can be diffused using their skillset and training in various means of peaceful crisis intervention, sometimes firmer steps become necessary. This is especially so if the people begin to act in such a manner that causes the Member to believe there is a risk of grievous bodily harm or death, not only for innocent people, but for the Member as well.

I do not believe racism is systemic within the RCMP or any other Canadian police agency. Having said that, there are Members who, after far too many similar situations find their frustration overcoming their normal restraint. Unfortunately, this, sometimes, is a consequence of excessive exposure to difficult situations. A Member who is overstressed by the personal workload caused by staffing shortages or frustrations from witnessing all too frequent anti-social behaviour from individuals or from within a specific neighborhood may reach the end of the ability to tolerate these events. Yes, these frustrations can cause overreactions where the amount of force is not warranted but the root cause is not “systemic” racism.

Alexander (Sandy) P. Glenn
President
RCMP Veterans' Association

CHALLENGE COINS:



As you know from our last Division Bulletin at our January meeting the purchase of Challenge Coins for our division was approved. They arrived this spring. The executive decided that each member of the Vancouver Division would be given a coin at no cost to individual members. The caveat being that the coins would not be mailed out due to the cost involved and that they would be provided to members at General (luncheon)

Meetings in order to entice members to attend. Then Covid-19 struck and meetings were cancelled. I volunteered to coordinate the distribution of our coins...why do I do this to myself? I would still like to stick to the plan of handing out the coins at our General Meetings when they commence, hopefully, in the fall. Rules are often broken. I know that we have many members that have belonged to our division for many years but due to their, or their spouse's, health issues are unable to attend our meetings. I would like to be able to give them personally, or by the proxy of a friend, or by mail, their Challenge Coin. If you fall into this category, please let me know how we can get you your Challenge Coin. Challenge Coins have become very collectible. I have received many requests for additional coins so that members can pass them onto friends. If you wish an additional coin the cost is \$15.00. If it has to be mailed there is an additional cost of \$2.00. Postage increases with the number to be mailed.

Questions? I can be contacted at bootsandspurs65@gmail.com or 604-853-5500 (Abbotsford)

Ric Hall
2020-6-20

PILLARS OF THE FORCE:

Vancouver Division sponsored a brick on the Princess Walk at the RCMP Heritage Centre in Regina as part of the Pillars of The Force initiative. Covid-19 forced the cancellation of the RCMP Veterans' Association 2020 AGM which was to be held in Regina. The official unveiling of the Pillars of The Force was to be included in the AGM program but has been delayed by COVID-19. We would like to thank Regina Division President, Bob Smart who installed the Vancouver Division brick, the first Veterans Division brick to be laid, on behalf of our Division.



For further information on the Pillars of The Force, please follow this link:
<https://www.facebook.com/pillarsoftheforce>

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The annual membership dues for Active Members of the Vancouver Division of \$65 were due on January 1st. As at June 23, 2020, a total of 347 members have paid their dues for 2020. There are still 41 members who have not paid. The policy of the Vancouver Division is to strike members from our Division roster if they have not paid their dues for two consecutive years.

Payments to our Division can be made in three ways:

1. Interac e-Transfer. Log into your financial institution's online or mobile banking and navigate to Interac e-Transfer. Select the account you would like funds transferred from. Fill out the email address for the Vancouver Division which is rcmpvetsvan@shaw.ca. If your financial institution requires a contact name, use RCMP Vets Vancouver.

2. Sending a cheque to:

RCMP Veterans' Association
Vancouver Division
Mailstop #1004
14200 Green Timbers Way
Surrey, B.C.
V3T 6P3

3. Cheque or cash paid when attending a Division function.

All cheques must be made payable to "RCMP Veterans' Association – Vancouver"

If you have any questions about the status of your membership dues or renewal, you can email me at: bullock2@shaw.ca or phone: 604-533-5354.

Rupert L. Bullock, Treasurer
RCMP Veterans' Association
Vancouver Division

<http://www.rcmpveteransvancouver.com/rcmp-veterans-association-vancouver-division-2020-membership-dues/>

EXECUTIVE POSITION VACANCIES:

If you would like to become more involved in the Veterans Association, there are still openings on the Executive that may be of interest to you. The terms for some of the Director positions on the Executive will be up at the end of 2020. Positions that are currently vacant or will become vacant are:

1. Director Ceremonies and Memorabilia (term 2020/21)

2. Vice President (term 2021/22)

3. Secretary (term 2021/22)

4. Honour Guard Coordinator

Further information on how to become involved is contained in the website posting:

<http://www.rcmpveteransvancouver.com/vancouver-division-needs-your-help/>

or contact Past President Donna Morse for more information

AGM 2021 VANCOUVER:

Vancouver Division is still scheduled to host the National AGM for 2021. Our Vice-President, Gord Cave, is chairing our AGM Committee and advises that it will be the mini AGM format. Volunteers are needed for the planning committee and to assist at the event. If you are interested, please contact Vice-President Gord Cave at: jag140@telus.net.

LADIES' AUXILIARY:

COVID-19 has had a similar affect on the Ladies' Auxiliary as it has had on the Veterans' Association. Restrictions put in place by Provincial Health Authorities has forced the cancellation of meetings. Like the Vets, the Ladies' Auxiliary are awaiting the phased lifting of restrictions to resume their meetings.

FAIRMONT BARRACKS LEGACY PROJECT:

A Special Newsletter pertaining to a Fairmont Barracks Legacy Project was sent out on May 28, the contents of which are noted below. The newsletter was posted on our website, subject of a National bulletin and circulated in Frank's Facts & Funnies. To date, there have been approximately 40 responses. If you trained, lived or worked at Fairmont Barracks and would like to share your memories, please send them to Donna at fairmontlegacy@gmail.com.

May 28 Newsletter: Further to our Vancouver Division's May newsletter which included an article on the future of Fairmont Barracks. I have continued to attempt to contact the Vancouver City Planners regarding any update on proposed timelines for the development of the Fairmont Lands, but responses have not been forthcoming these past few months. To be fair for the last couple of months this may be in part due to the layoff of many City of Vancouver employees during the Covid-19 crisis.

My last contact with City Planners was in October 2019 when the city representatives expressed some hope that Fairmont Barracks might be able to be saved and moved to another location within the City of Vancouver. Unfortunately, with the impact of the pandemic on City finances, I am speculating that the pandemic will, no doubt, negatively affect any support there was from the city with respect to saving and the moving of the Fairmont building. Further discussion is warranted, though, to ensure that our division is updated on any future timelines and decisions relating to the future of Fairmont. I will continue to attempt contact with those handling the Fairmont portfolio and I will provide updates on any information if and when received.

Since our May newsletter was published, some veterans have contacted me with their personal memories, thoughts and stories about Fairmont. From this came an idea which could “Save the History of Fairmont” and could be done in conjunction with any ongoing talks with the city as to the future of the building.

As such, I would like to determine if there would be any interest from our membership and others from across the country who may have trained at Fairmont Barracks “back in the day” to provide stories and memories of Fairmont. We may not in the end be able to save the building, but we could compile a written history to ensure the legacy of Fairmont is not forgotten.

Any venture into the documenting and the compiling of stories would be dependent on how many of our Veterans’ Association members, retired and serving members and employees would be willing to put “pen to paper” and share a memory or story of their time at Fairmont. Just a couple of examples that could be used as building blocks for stories: stories from members who participated in the raising of the new Canadian flag in 1965; life in the barracks, there has to be stories to be told as Rudyard Kipling famously said: “single men in barracks don’t grow into plaster saints.”; is there anyone still alive that recalls the stables attached to Fairmont Barracks?

To the best of anyone’s knowledge there is no written history, only “barrack room tales”, of Fairmont Barracks dating back to 1920 when the RCMP acquired the building as “E” Division Headquarters.

This project could only go ahead if people were willing to document their stories and share any pictures. There is a long way to go to what could become a document (or perhaps a book) which would preserve the legacy of the RCMP’s history with Fairmont Barracks.

Before this project can move forward, I would like to determine if there would be an interest and who would be willing to contribute a story (or stories) to this endeavour. If you are interested, or can assist with this project in any way, please advise me via fairmontlegacy@gmail.com.

Thank you.

Donna Morse, Past President
RCMP Veterans’ Association, Vancouver Division

RCMP VETERANS BADGE:



Vancouver Division receives numerous inquiries about the availability of a “Veteran” badge. This badge is sold exclusively by the Quebec Division and further details on how to acquire one are available on their website.

<https://grc-rcmp-vets.qc.ca/en/who-are-we>

UPDATE ON VANCOUVER DIVISION CHAPLAIN JIM TURNER:

As you may or may not be aware, our Division Chaplain, Jim Turner, has been hospitalized for the past few weeks with a serious medical condition. Jim's wife provided this update on June 19, 2020. We wish Jim the best on the road to recovery.

"Jim had a red-letter day today. Catheter out. Central line out. Passed the swallow test. Feeding tube out. Lots of tears of joy. Lastly a meal tray of delicious hospital food. Bits of chicken, pears and a ginger ale. He's in heaven"

Previous updates from Jim's family, detailing his condition, can be found at this link:
<http://www.rcmpveteransvancouver.com/update-on-vancouver-division-chaplain-jim-turner/>

HEALTH, WELFARE AND ADVOCACY:

Director John Sherstone advised that he has dealt with approximately ten requests for assistance. John indicated that dealing with the various agencies has been more challenging as many of the staff at these agencies have been working remotely. However, all requests were dealt with to the satisfaction of the parties involved.

VANCOUVER DIVISION SERVICE BAR ELIGIBILITY - as at 2020-01-01:



The following members of Vancouver Division may be eligible for service pins / bars as noted. Please contact Membership Director Ray Power (rayjpower@yahoo.com) to confirm your eligibility and for further details on how to receive your service bar.

SURNAME	FIRST NAME	REG. #
50 Year Service Bar		
STACEY	William J. (Bill)	16069
ADOLPH	Norman Allan	15934
40 Year Service Bar		
TAPLEY	Laurence Edward	16849
BERROW	Leland Wilfred	14922
WEYS	Victor Karl	22020
MACGREGOR	Leo Wilfred	15089
BOWYER	Hugh Dickson	17909
LIVINGSTONE	Donald Wallace	15817
SEMENOFF	Walter Fred	17803
IRVING	Victor	17484
35 Year Service Bar		

BUDD	Ronald Myron	18240
MACWHIRTER	Billie Burton	17521
MEIKLEJOHN	Hugh Harrison	18856
WHETSTONE	Harold Alfred	15355
MCCHEYNE	William Frederick	15156
DOANE	David Keith	19415
HOLOTUK	L.F. Stephen	20167
HAWKSHAW	Richard Alan Parry	21132
FINCH	Harvey William	20416
PATTON	Edwin John	19036
FORTEMS	Vernon Bernard	19434

30 Year Service Bar

ZERR	Philip Raymond	17602
ANDERSON	Kenneth Robert	16820
HEWAT	Michael Leo	22165
GORKOFF	Koozma	23715
ALEKSICH	Alan Michael	23265

25 Year Service Bar

BROWNELL	Lane	26688
ERICKSON	Alfred J.	21108
MCLEOD	Donald Frank	21420
CRAIG	William Samuel	18475
CURRIE	Ronald D.	22073
GIESBRECHT	Arthur R	20699
SKOLROOD	Robert Wayne	19733
RILEY	James Smith	18411
KIRK	Alexander Frederick	20439
CHURCH	C. David	20710
MARTIN	Gerald Kenneth	17533
BRUCKER	Robert A,	20973
DRUCHET	James G.	19656
LEISHMAN	R. Keith	22222
PACHAL	Fred Clifford	16737
QUILLEY	Thomas Marvin	19526
KIELAN	Raymond Rodger	22396
GILHOLME	James Robert	19061
WALLACE	Harry G.	20869
STAREK	Hank	18362
RANDLE	John Thomas	19593
RICHARDSON	Ross I	17817
REYNOLDS	Donald B.	25752
WILSON	Edward Russell	18942
PATERSON	John Kenneth	24696
NIELSEN	Harry Gustav	21717
KELLEY	Frank P.	21040
DEROON	Ronald Martin	20617
COLLIS	Robert E	19303
BENNINGTON	Robert Morley	20156
BERKEY	Donald J.	15676
TOWNSEND	John Ross	19584
VIRGO	Edwin J	20705

BRAMHILL	James	17848
WILSON	Donald K	20143
VIKANES	Garry B	27035
HOLMES	William Leslie	19209
EWING	James David	19399
RICHERT	Karl Herman	19180
KOROLEK	Mervin	27726
MCKAY	J.R. Sandy	23343
PILOT	Robert (Bob)	17873
HOLMBERG	Kenneth James	25834
HALE	Robert George	23514
GARRETT	Dennis	22625
MOORE	Joseph Louis	20545
STUBBINGS	Robert William	31877
BOND	Peter E	21843
ZWICK	Edward I.	19258
ROTH	Michael Ronald	22598

20 Year Service Bar

VADIK	Joseph T	22873
MACKENZIE	Everett B	20328
BRADLEY	Barry F	21523
HOIVIK	Arthur Melvin	20714
WARBURTON	James Berry	25209
STARK	Siegfried E	22248
PARROTT	William Clarence	20251
MEDLEY	Norman John	21875
VAN'T SLOT	Willem H.	23979
CHERSAK	John P	28436
BORYS	Russell L. Robert	22487
JEFFREY	John Douglas	26713
HUPKA	Dennis Michael	24120
KILPATRICK	Donald Brian	23950
PEARSON	Donald K	23704
WHITAKER	Joseph Lee	22827
YARD	Gilbert Fraser	21890
GILLESPIE	James Dalton	21181
BODDY	Peter Arthur	30954
NIMCHUK	Wallace Donald	20370
SINGER	Daryl William	23583
GWALTNEY	Ben	23351
GULKIEWICH	George Donald	23625
ROSS	Barry James	23222
ROWE	Peter Robert	24935
DOUGLAS	Brian Robert	27703
KELLS	David L.	34285
THOMSON	Donald M	24460
OLFERT	Leonard	21473
DONNACHIE	Jean Agnes	AF1936
KENDEL	Lynn Fred Walter	23861
SKARBO	Terrance Murray	25994
SCHAUFELE	Blair Thomas.	25688

JOHNSTON	Murray James	22865
CONVEY	Robert J	29260
HOMENIUK	Allan	32299
WHEELER	Eric Rankine	25035
MCCARTNEY	David J.	35455
ROSS	Murray	27303

15 Year Service Bar

BROWN	Robert Clayton	28311
DUCKWORTH	William Clinton	21008
BROMBALE	Lou	27646
TURNER	David C.	29127
MACMILLAN	Ian Donald	25285
HOVEN	Brian William	25531
BIRD	Peter Malcolm	26530
JANSEN	James Bernard	24674
CHARLTON	Walter	32024
MCAREE	David Alan	26130
SEMPLE	Robert John	24117
DOUCETTE	Charlie	29512
TIESSEN	Ted William	26604
GIFFIN	Paul	27129
ATKINSON	Larry L	29582
ELLIS	John	24386
CHAN	Henry	35407
LAMON	James Ernest	C01958
BREDENHOF	Lloyd Henry	27603
WAITE	Bruce	26443
CAMERON	Stuart R.	26873
GERTZEN	Richard William	22221
MEAGHER	John Patrick	33467
BERGERMAN	Michael Leo	25576
LAWRENCE	Richard F.	27387
KELLY	Compton S.	S00036
GRATTAN SR.	Gerald R	26829
GLAS	Michael Martin	27611
FORBES	Gary	27738
MALONE	Ernest	29963

10 Year Service Bar

DAUK	Murray Walter	28106
HALL	Ric	24394
MACDONALD	Clifford Carl	25084
WHITTA	Robert Bryan	24063
ROSS	Eric Victor	28447
PAUQUETTE	Dave Russell	35850
DOP	T.M. Jack	28945
LONG	Frank L	18918
KOTT	Ernest John	27170
DEANS	E.B, (Elton)	24413
JEFFREY	David Wayne	24079
JEFFERY	Wayne K.	C00811
MOORE	James Arthur	28426

DINWOODIE	Richard J.	32427
ALLAN	D. Laird	28821
JONES	Kenneth Allan	C02000
BROUSSEAU	Paul	28539
WILKINSON	Larry Raymond	31705
MORSE	Donna Irene	31800
KRAEMER	Geoffrey C.	29738
MURDOCH	Dave	27934
MORSE	Ronald Irvin	30980
ANGELL	Ronald Arthur	29852
DAVIDGE	Neal C.E.	26547
WILLIAMS	David George	X01499
SILCOX	Don Gregory	28828
STENE	Daniel Inglis	21664
PROVOST	Edward James	29456
BENNIE	Raymond Gemmell	32265
HALL	Jane	34023
PAYSEN	Ronald Boyd	29133
SCHMIETENKNOP	Carl George	29013
MCRAE	Gordon C	27145
BROWN	Robert Sheffield	21771
WOOLF	Carolyn	42667
BENT	Richard	31650
BRASNETT	Brian Hugh	33183
SCHNEIDER	John E.H.	30678
POWELL	Robert Edwin	32628
NICKS	Fred	33916
VAN OVERBEEK	Theodore Henry	34170
OLFERT	Edward I	18876
HUNDT	Randolph Otto	29996
MACALPINE	Richard A	C01125
KRATCHMER	Patrick John	31565
MACHAM	Murray Frederick	26613
MORRISON	Glen Alexander	27520

NEW MEMBERS – VANCOUVER DIVISION:

Vancouver Division would like to welcome the following new members to the Association.

Reg Number	Name
29201	Alistair (Al) MacINTYRE (A/Comm.)
C4782	Debi LETKEMAN
34693	Roland PIERSCHKE (Sgt.)
28000	Daryl KUZIK (Sgt.)
40724	William (Bill) SALHANY

LAST POST:

The following members who were listed as having served in “E” Division have passed away in the past few months. Information is provided to our Division from HQ and other sources and may not be received in a timely manner. For the full list of Last Post, please go to:

<https://lastpostrecent.rcmpvets.ca/>

Reg Number	Name	Rank (Ret'd)	Date Passed
Auxiliary 20482	Wilbert Benfield GLADDISH	Aux/Cst.	2020-06-13
16884	Robert James AIRD	S/Sgt.	2020-05-30
22533	Robert Winston HOBSON	Sgt.	2020-05-25
16010/O.705	Robert G.W. SCORY	Cpl.	2020-05-21
18371	Florian SCHMIDT	Supt.	2020-04-13
	Donald WEBER	S/Sgt.	2020-06-14

UPDATES TO GUIDES:

The RCMP Veterans’ Association has now published the 2020 edition of the “National Survivor’s and Executor’s Guide” which can be accessed at this link:

<https://rcmpva.org/ottawa-association-en/resources-ottawa-en/survivors-and-executors-guide-en/>

Please feel free to share this and other pertinent documents with all former and retired members of the Force.

This Information should be Shared and Retained by Family Members prior to the illness or passing of a Serving or Former Member of the RCMP.

For many years, the Nova Scotia RCMP Veterans’ Association, through the Executive and the Support and Advocacy Committee, has been assisting family members following the passing of their loved one. However, it is difficult to provide timely assistance when the surviving family members do not have at hand the vital information that must be provided to agencies when reporting the passing of the individual. These elements are also critical when attempting to quickly transition pensions without overpayments to a qualified surviving spouse.

The Executive and Support and Advocacy Committee strongly recommend that each member document the following numbers and provide them to their family members and/or retain them where they are easily retrieved following death.

1. RCMP Regimental Number
2. RCMP Pension #

3. Veterans Affairs Canada K#

4. Social Insurance Number #

In addition, it will be important that documents such as marriage certificates and birth certificates for both the member and the surviving spouse are readily accessible as copies will be immediately required by some of the agencies when transitioning the pensions to the survivors. If you do not have these numbers and documents, then now is the time to apply for them through Vital Statistics in the province of birth/ marriage and through the various government agencies.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

Morneau Shepel (RCMP insurance plan)

RCM Police Group Life, Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plans

C/O Morneau Shepel 1060 University Street

9th Floor, Montreal, Quebec H3B 4V3,

Telephone: 1-800-661-7595 - 7:30 a.m. to 7: p.m. (ET) Monday to Friday,

Fax: 1-514-395-7404 www.pbs-sra.ca

Public Works and Government Services Canada (RCMP work pension) Government of Canada Pension Centre – Mail Facility PO Box 8500 Matane QC G4W 0E2

Telephone: Toll Free: 1-855-502-7090

Note - for Executive Services use: 1-855-502-7088 (C/Supt, EX-01 and above).

Monday to Friday: 8:00a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (your local time)

Outside Canada and the United States: 506-533-5800 (collect call accepted).

Monday to Friday: 8:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. (Atlantic Time)

Telephone Teletype (TTY) 506-533-5990 (collect call accepted).

Monday to Friday: 8:00a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Atlantic Time)

Email: pensioncentrercmp.centredespensionsgrc@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca

Website: www.rcmp.pension.gc.ca The RCMP Pension and Benefits Web site, hosted by PWGSC, has detailed information on all aspects of pension administration.

Service Canada - CPP and OAS benefits

www.servicecanada.gc.ca Note: If there is any doubt about the eligibility for this or any Federal pension call: 1- 800- 277-9914.

Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC Disability Pensions)

Veterans Affairs Canada, PO Box 7700, Charlottetown, PEI, C1A 8M9

1-866-522-2122 www.vac-acc.gc.ca

<http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca/providers/sub.cfm?source=salute/july2004/fund>

Supporting Veterans in Need - 24/7 counselling services -

Veterans and their immediate families can access free, short-term, confidential and professional counselling services. If you are experiencing work-related issues family or marital problems, or high levels of stress or anxiety, call 24/7 Veterans Affairs Canada Assistance Services at **1-800-268-7708**.

EXECUTIVE – 2019/2020

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Presidential Appointments & Governors:

<http://www.rcmpveteransvancouver.com/about/executive/>

STAY HEALTHY, STAY SAFE AND STAY IN TOUCH:

Just a reminder that the print edition of Scarlet & Gold is no longer being published. To stay up to date, please visit our Division website.

VANCOUVER DIVISION WEBSITE: <http://www.rcmpveteransvancouver.com/>

RCMPVA NATIONAL WEBSITE: <https://rcmpva.org/>

We would also like to thank our Vancouver Division Website Administrator, Bev Bullock, for her work in keeping our website up to date.



Ron Morse, Secretary
RCMP Veterans' Association - Vancouver Division
Mailstop #1004
14200 Green Timbers Way
Surrey, B.C. V3T 6P3
Website: www.rcmpveteransvancouver.com

APPENDIX – “SYSTEMIC RACISM” CORRESPONDENCE:

Attached is a sampling of the correspondence received on this issue. These are the thoughts and opinions of the contributors and are being provided for your information.

C.A.C.P. PRESIDENT:



Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police

Safety and security for all Canadians through innovative police leadership

CACP statement - The death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA

June 10, 2020

The CACP and police leaders across Canada are deeply saddened and disturbed by the tragic death of Mr. George Floyd at the hands of police in Minneapolis. We want to see the officers involved held accountable for their actions. We also want peace, justice, and healing, not only for Mr. Floyd's family and friends, but for everyone who has been hurt and impacted by this. Racism is painful, inexcusable, and cannot be tolerated.

Canada is not immune to racism. We live in a great country but as great as it is, racism is an insidious part of Canada's history and it continues to be a reality in our communities today. We are listening to the voices of Black, Indigenous and other members of our community as they peacefully rally and demonstrate across our country. This racism and hatred was recently brought to the forefront due to the increase in the number of anti-Asian hate crimes and hate-related incidents reported in a number of communities since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This powerful moment we are experiencing has culminated after more than a century of systemic racism in Canada. It is time for change in all aspects of society. Tackling racism requires a response from the entire community, including the police.

Many people are hurt and angry right now and police are at the forefront of this conversation. While police have developed many strong relationships in our communities over the years, this is a time for us to listen closely and learn. Please know that we are your brothers, sisters, neighbours, coaches, volunteers, sons and daughters, who serve proudly on the frontlines under very challenging circumstances to keep our communities safe. We all want a better Canada without racism.

It is important to understand that Canada and the United States are distinct in many ways, including our approaches to policing. Canadian police services have, for many years, focused their approach on community engagement and well-being, and proactive crime prevention.

As the frontline public safety response, police are required to step in 24/7 when no other help is available. This means that officers are routinely trying to find solutions for people in crisis where significant gaps in other services exist and long-term solutions are simply not available. These gaps are consistent across the country. Services for mental health, homelessness, and substance use are woefully lacking. Police leaders share this concern and have also advocated for better support and proper resources for people in need.

Police training and civilian oversight in Canada is among the best in the world. Officers are carefully selected and provided with extensive training that goes well beyond basic police skillsets. It includes a wide range of cultural awareness, sensitivity and de-escalation training. Once officers are hired and trained, they have more independent civilian oversight and accountability than almost any other profession. We whole-heartedly support this oversight given the extraordinary powers granted to police by law.

The recent movement to “defund the police” is increasing in prominence across North America and around the world. As police leaders in Canada, we welcome thoughtful and constructive discussion on possible reform to our public safety systems, but that discussion needs to be informed and evidence-based with police at the table.

Policing in Canada is dependent on the trust, accountability, and support of the community – it is a cornerstone of our profession. Your Canadian police community wants to listen to you and work with you, and various levels of government, to find opportunities and solutions that work for the people of Canada. This is our commitment to you.

Chief Constable Adam Palmer, Vancouver Police Department

President, CACP

PRESIDENT – RCMP VETERANS’ ASSOCIATION:

This message is one of thanks as well as an apology.

Thank you for the overwhelming letters of agreement and support, but I must apologize for not responding to each and every one we have received, numbering in the hundreds. It’s virtually impossible for me to get back to all of you.

Last night I answered and thanked around 75 out of about 150 folks and awoke this morning extremely pleased to see well over a hundred more in my Association as well as personal email inboxes with many more continuing to arrive. Late last night I was advised by our Executive Officer, Dr. James Evans we received over tens of thousands of social media hits on Saturday. With this in mind, we intend on issuing a formal press release later this week.

I believe I am speaking on behalf of our Association Executive when I thank you for those wonderful messages. It's clear you believe and are concerned wrong and inaccurate accusations have been made.

Although I personally have not witnessed any acts of racism during my uniform service I cannot by any means deny they have not occurred, albeit in isolated circumstances. It simply is not a common occurrence and to even suggest it's a Force wide issue is not supportable.

I have received so many messages in which contained a variety of definitions for the word "Systemic", but regardless, I fear the public is not concerned with the word or definition. Rather, they may now believe the RCMP is a racist organization, which is incorrect, and this places our serving brothers and sisters in jeopardy.

If any group of people or an individual believe they have a history of abuse by the RCMP, then the statements by senior government officials could cause increased violent reactions towards an approaching or arresting police officer. This may already be happening, and I fear more situations could take place where our officers will be forced to take an increased level of preventative and protective responses.

It is so important we support our brothers and sisters who work tirelessly to make this country and its communities safe. We once walked beside them and now we must walk with them in spirit. We were there and were asked to do things nobody should ever be asked to do, and we've seen things nobody should ever have to see. That hasn't changed and will never change. They need our support.

Thank you for being a part of this very important Veterans Association. We can help

A.P. (Sandy) Glenn, President
RCMP Veterans Association

PRESIDENT, NATIONAL POLICE FEDERATION:

Brian Sauvé, NPF President has released this statement regarding respect for Members.

Video can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/1097840090260804/videos/a-message-from-brian-sauv%C3%A9-on-respect-for-members/268418111071137/>

Transcript:

I'm speaking directly to you today because I don't want what I have to say to get diluted or edited by media or other special interest groups.

Let me be very clear: The National Police Federation and all of our Members believe that all Canadians deserve to be treated with respect, equality and fairness. This applies equally to our own Members and all police: now more than ever.

This past week, the National Police Federation's Directors and I have been receiving a flood of emails and phone calls from RCMP Members and their spouses of all genders, races and cultures

including First Nations Members telling us how demoralized and disrespected they feel. Some are literally being harassed and spat on in the street.

The ongoing anti police narrative from some of our highest political leaders and some media outlets is disrespectful, degrading and destroys public trust in you, our Members, who are there to protect and serve communities, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. This has a direct impact on community safety.

This is disgusting and, as the President of the RCMP union, I'm here to say that this needs to stop.

To our Members: Over the last 90 days, in the middle of a global pandemic, you have shown up for work on the front lines, without question and without leave, often with the additional complication of being unable to be with or care for your own families due to isolation requirements.

You showed up to work after the worst mass shooting in Canadian history, where we lost one of our sisters.

And you showed up, and continue to show up, during a time where the police are being made to be the scapegoat for all of the challenges that have existed, and continue to exist, in our Canadian society.

You deserve better than this. It needs to stop.

I am here today asking for just that. Our Members have all signed contracts with Canada that could ultimately be paid for with their lives. Give them the respect they deserve. To paint all with the same brush of an anti-police narrative is simply wrong and grossly unfair.

Policing in Canada is not policing in the United States. Members of the RCMP are dedicated, professional, community focused and widely recognized internationally as some of the best cops in the world.

There are multiple layers of oversight for police actions in Canada. All complaints need to be investigated fully, fairly, transparently and in a timely manner – based on all available evidence and perspectives.

Any allegations of wrongdoing by Members of the RCMP should not be judged through sensationalized media reports and speculation.

To RCMP Management: As you know, being a Member of the RCMP goes to the heart and core of each individual Member and it makes up a large part of who they are.

Front-line Members need you to keep this in mind when you make public statements and comments. They wear the identity of the RCMP on the streets and feel it to the core when broad generalizations are made. Our Members are the RCMP and the RCMP is its Members.

Does racism exist in society? Sadly, Yes.

Is it pervasive and accepted in the RCMP? No.

Can we all do better? Yes.

In closing, to our Members: You are the backbone of the RCMP. You keep this ship afloat. You have been out there during floods, fires, major events, and pandemics always doing more with less. You go without question and you protect and serve the public without fear, favour or affection. That needs to be commended and recognized.

Your story needs to be heard and we will continue to tell it to the public you protect each and every day, answering their call, many times in their darkest hours. And we will continue to stand up for you.

To Canada and all Canadians, we are better than this. Let's work together and focus on the future to ensure all Canadians, including our Members, continue to live in diverse, safe and respectful communities all across our country.

COMMANDING OFFICER, "E" DIVISION:

A message to "E" Division Members:

This continues to be a challenging and difficult time, for our profession, our organization, and our people.

I wanted to let you know that I and your senior leaders here in BC have heard your concerns and value your engagement and feedback. I have read inspirational personal experiences from colleagues on social media platforms and your divisional communication team will share them and I encourage you to do the same. I am also encouraged by the outpouring of support to individuals and detachments from the public.

We will continue to engage in learning conversations about "systemic racism". We have a responsibility to fully understand what it means in the context of our society and by extension, the RCMP. That work is underway for our organization and we will share the results.

I understand that this term may hit you hard because of all the incredible work you do and the extensive effort you put in. This is not a slight to your personal work and actions. This is not a direct attack calling you racist.

This is about looking at internal and external systems and processes that place some individuals or groups at a disadvantage. Your messages have rightfully pointed out that BC RCMP employees should not be defined by any failure of organizational systems, processes and societal issues. We know that there is incredible work being done, which better represents who we are and what we do. It is important for all of us to recognize that daily and keep it front and centre in all our communication, internally and externally.

We fully support you. We have no intention of being silent and it is time to have a positive impact, not being seen as defensive or insensitive. We are blessed to work with many amazing RCMP ambassadors here in "E" Division and we will find the right people, the right opportunities and ways to get our messages out. In the meantime, we need to move forward by continuing to have the difficult conversations, listening to all views and experiences and incorporating that feedback into a positive way forward. We can continue to be an excellent organization, while being accountable, transparent and continuing to improve.

I remain committed to ensuring our people, our organization, and our force does everything necessary to combat racism, bias, and discrimination. However, this should not come at the expense of you individually or your reputation.

Be well.

Jennifer

Deputy Commissioner Jennifer Strachan
Commanding Officer, "E" Division

RETIRED MEMBER:

From: Patrick J. KOKESCH Staff Sergeant (*retired*)
Reg# 35265 (November 1978 - November 2012)

To whom it may concern: I hope you and your families are doing well during these difficult times! In the past few months and then the last few weeks I've seen "the best of people" and also "the worst of people" with COVID -19 and the recent mess in the U.S.A etc.

RCMP Commissioner Brenda LUCKI waffled on the question of 'Systemic Racism in the RCMP' and then betrayed the Force and the 99.9% of patriotic/dedicated members 'Past & Present' by kowtowing to her politic masters (*the Prime Minister's Office and the Liberal Party of Canada*) by providing lip service that so called "systemic racism" DID exist in the RCMP! Hot on the heels of that K-Division Deputy Commissioner Curtis ZABLOCKI jumped on the bandwagon with a similar statement!!

I was saddened and heartsick that the Force's current leadership lacked the '*guts*' to stand up for the proud traditions, service and reputation of the RCMP during its 147-year history! Painting us ALL with the same brush of those that overstep their authority or overreact to situations is unconscionable!

I will NOT engage in political rhetoric but suffice to say that many politicians will '*pander*' to any trend or situation in order to endear themselves to potential voters often at the expense of "Law Abiding Citizens" (*OIC Gun Ban Issue*) and now "manipulation" of the 'Black Lives Matter' (BLM) to fit the sensationalist sentiments of the Canadian Federal Government! Apparently, Commissioner LUCKI was pressured (*and cajoled*)...and ultimately sold ALL of us out with her statement.

Despite some problems within the RCMP over the years I can honestly say that in my 34 years of service (2 of which were First Nations policing in "G" and "E" Division) I did **NOT** witness anything near what is being touted as "*systemic racism*"! In fact, it was quite the opposite for most members! We typically enjoyed "*our time*" in those communities and developed friendship & mutual respect for the citizens we served!

Certainly, there were situations were 'violent calls' called for a harder/safer response (*to protect members & the community*). Many members (*myself included*) were injured "*in the performance of our duties*" a reality that was often part of the long hours/long distances and lack of manpower we worked.

I hope that the RCMP Veteran's Association will take a tougher stance on this matter and **NOT** *'let it lie'*! Being lumped in with a few bad apples and sold out by weak leadership has tarnished the image of the Force and the **PRIDE** which most of us served!

If you have any questions/comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly at any time!

Respectfully,

Patrick J. KOKESCH S/Sgt (*retired*), Reg#35265

PETER CROSS – RETIRED MEMBER AND FREELANCE WRITER:

<https://behindtheyellowtapeca.wordpress.com/2020/06/22/bowing-to-ignorance/>

BOWING TO IGNORANCE

Posted on [June 22, 2020](#) by [Pete Cross](#)

It was hard not to feel sorry, or a better word may be uncomfortable for the beleaguered Commissioner Lucki, or maybe even the befuddled Deputy Commissioner Zablocki. These two individuals have risen to the upper echelon of the Mounties and have been drinking in that rarefied air, playing to a political agenda in relative peace and harmony. But here they were, in the last few days, cornered and out-gunned by the more politically correct, the masters of appeasement. Even they could not have imagined this looking glass world of righteous indignation which was being thrust upon them with increasing ferocity.

Through their careers they have been promoted and extolled for their adherence to the themes of diversity and inclusion, and in many cases had to abandon ethics and principle. They were required to chant in unison the mantra of the enlightened progressives. Go along to get along would have been their placard as they eyed and encircled that executive corner office. In this and that environment there was absolutely no tolerance for dissension or counter-point. Similar minds were recruited and pulled up the ladder by the other similarly minded.

Say nothing offensive, say nothing for which you could later be held accountable. Job experience or the position that was held was a distant second to conforming to "the system". Pandering to those favoured interest groups and following the progressive line has been "systemic" for a number of years.

But in the last number of weeks, we reached a point of significant accounting, a "crisis" if you prefer the new word for news. Of course, I am referring to this newly professed outrage of police brutality and rampant racism in the RCMP, all of which had been ingrained by some sort of conspiratorial process.

The force of the cable news pushed Ms. Lucki out of hiding. Most of all the throngs were demanding acquiescence. Like the Papal blessing from the Vatican, they wanted the head of the RCMP to publicly acclaim their beliefs and proclamations of "systemic racism".

So, she consented to do an interview with that bastion of special interest bias, the [CBC](#), to be conducted by the “Senior Political correspondent” Rosemary Barton. Ms. Barton, who no doubt feels that she is the epitome of the probing journalist, is well connected to Justin Trudeau and the inner Liberal sanctum. Ms. Lucki must have believed or may have been comforted in the fact that she was in normally friendly territory.

Throughout this interview, it was clear that Ms. Lucki was referring to her notes when she was being pressed on the terminology of “systemic racism”. Finally, Ms. Barton pushed, so “you didn’t answer the question, do you believe there is *systemic* racism in policing organizations, including yours in the country?”

What followed was an inept stumbling meandering response to that “interesting question”. Clearly, Ms. Lucki knew it was coming, clearly it was the thematic background for the entire interview. It was also equally clear that the CBC was pressing to have Lucki admit on camera to “systemic” racism. The masses demanded it. Ms. Lucki was not ready.

Ms. Lucki chose to respond by saying that she was confused by the many definitions of “systemic racism”. One had a mental picture of Ms. Lucki surrounded by Funk and Wagnalls, Oxford English, or Miriam-Webster dictionaries desperately thumbing the pages trying to gain some insight. But it was all to no avail apparently, frustrating she said, as there were so many “versions” of it.

It should be noted that the interview with Ms. Lucki was a day or so after the interview given by Mr. Zablocki— who in after an apparent dose of sodium amytal stated that there was no “systemic” racism in the RCMP. Unfortunately, the dosage wore off a few hours later.

Still struggling, Lucki looked down at her notes to say “if you mean *unconscious bias*” —then she would admit that the RCMP was guilty as charged.

The interview painfully continued, and Ms. Barton opined at one point that in this country “people feel scared calling the police”. Even this outrageous comment did not force the docile, pliant Commissioner to react in defence. She trotted out her tested and true response: “We need to get better”...“my expectations are high”. She went on to agree to review the carotid hold, which was still in use, to bring better accountability through possible use of body cams, as that was part of her “digital policing strategy”. After all, “we need to get better”.

The interview concluded with the Commissioner inappropriately telling Ms. Barton “thanks for your respectful questions”. She was clearly relieved; but this too would be short lived.

A day or so later, Trudeau threw them all under the bus.

Of course, there is systemic racism in the RCMP according to Trudeau. It was everywhere.

No one missed the irony that this was coming from the three times “black face” Prime Minister, the white privileged Prime Minister.

Shortly thereafter, predictably, Ms. Lucki turtled, fell into the prone position, hands over her head and ears, instinctively warding off the blows of the persistent masses. Through the safety of a press release said:

“...I did not say definitively that systemic racism exists in the RCMP...I should have”.

So, given this state of confusion, this intrepid blogger feels obligated to help these poor confused mandarins of the RCMP.

“System”, from which the word systemic originates, is referred to as the “structure, organization, order, complex, administration” etc. If one stretches the definition and refers to “the system” in the modern vernacular, one could be referring to “the ruling class, the regime, bureaucracy”.

Sod follow along you poor, confused, Mountie managers, if one is claiming “systemic racism” one is claiming that the bureaucracy, the administration, the laws of this country, the structure of the RCMP, is in fact racist. Systemic racism to exist and meet the definition, must be built into the rules and the structure of the organization. Miriam Webster says that “systemic” means that it is “fundamental to a predominant social, economic or political practise”

Does anybody inside the RCMP believe that to be the case?

Of course, you are allowed to have that opinion but, there is a convincing argument to be made that in the last twenty or thirty years that the administration and the bureaucracy, and the management of the RCMP organization has in fact been the exact opposite.

Affirmative action hiring, recruiting, promotion, transfer policies, have in fact been tailored to meet the demands of the growing multi-racial society of Canada. Community policing, school liaison programs, Youth Intervention, and the like have all been tailored to meet the growing demand of diversity and inclusion. (How successful they have been is quite another matter.)

Nevertheless, the Commissioner of the RCMP (and there have been no dissenting voices among the other RCMP managers) has now implied that everyone and everything in the Mounties is racist. The entire system.

This charge is absolute nonsense. But, no one is daring to step in front of the stampeding herd. The herd has declared it to be, therefore it is. Celebrities and sports figures joined in.

It should be noted that when we go to these protestors, or their talking heads and seek specific examples of this systemic racism none are proffered.

Chief Allan Aden of the Athabaskan Chipewyan First Nation in Alberta stated, “If a white man is denying systemic racism, that is systemic racism”. This is the level of intelligent debate in this country. If I deny I am a sexual predator, I am therefore a sexual predator.

This very same logic was used by the minority leaders of the Opposition NDP who has never missed a cause or a bandwagon on which to jump. So, he was poised for this latest cause. He proposed a “unanimous consent” bill, for all parties to agree, that the RCMP was systemically racist and that RCMP officers were killing the Indigenous and blacks in this country. It was clearly an act of grand-standing, and after making his support speech, he pompously sat in his seat, assuming all would agree.

All political parties voted for it, a disturbing lack of support for the police to say the least, but one single member of Parliament, [Alain Therrien](#) for the Bloc PQ, said no.

NDP leader Jagmeet Singh, jumped up, clearly upset. He then called the Member of Parliament a “racist” for not going along with the bill.

He was a racist according to Mr. Singh because he didn’t agree with Mr. Singh. The same logic as the Chief.

Justin Trudeau went further and refused to criticize Mr. Singh, despite Mr. Singh having been removed from the Commons for the day for his “un-Parliamentary” comments. His justification was that Mr. Singh was a “racialized” leader and therefore it was forgivable.

These last few days, the seemingly endless accusations continue to be stoked by the irresponsible of this country. It is discouraging and is tearing at the very fabric of this country. The lack of informed narrative, and the often-ridiculous proposals to counter this ill-defined problem have left many parts of this country speechless. The pundits and media commentators in this progressive world have gone from being expert on the coronavirus to experts on policing with often comedic speed. A quote from Oscar Wilde resonates, “by giving us opinions of the uneducated, journalism keeps us in touch with the ignorance of the community”.

Where will it all end? When will reasonable dialogue return? It is difficult to say. This blogger never imagined a time when political dialogue in this country was so blatantly biased and absent of substance. The level of this demand for conformity rivals any historical third world despot.

The tearing down of statues and the rewriting of history, the calls for defunding the police, and the chants for a revamping of the RCMP will one day run into the wall of reality. These protests and cries for reformation are not based on any intimate knowledge of policing, they are based on slogans. The day when the social worker arrives at the domestic dispute or to deal with the mental health patient instead of the police, is a very long way off.

When someone can actually point to systemic racism with an objective rationale, then we can begin to address it. The danger now is knee-jerk policy to appease the masses and Trudeau is already floating trial balloons. Most will end up meaningless, a let them eat cake moment and of no intrinsic value.

As for the Commissioner and the rest of the Executive of the RCMP. Maybe they should consider that now is the time to fade into the night. Their time to show leadership arrived and they shrivelled before your very eyes. They should be bowing their heads in shame.

Someone should also wake up the National Police Federation from their slumber. Although willing to speak out about the formation of a Surrey Municipal Force, they have now conveniently lost their voice, when their officers are being slandered, ridiculed, and even endangered in the heat of these protests.

Maybe, it’s time for the police of this country to march on Ottawa. Maybe it’s time that the ground level police nationally form a strong and singular political voice. It may be time for their protest. And if I was planning the parade route, it would definitely go by Mr. Trudeau’s “cottage”, and end by occupying Mr. Singh’s office.

I wonder who they would call to remove these 68,000 blue uniformed protestors? Maybe a social worker

SOCIAL MEDIA POST – SERENA WILLIAMS (PROFESSIONAL TENNIS PLAYER):

This social media post speaks for itself.



Serena Williams

Sunday at 10:46 AM · 🌐

I'm sick of COVID-19. I'm sick of black vs. white. I'm sick of Democrats vs. Republicans. I'm sick of gay vs. straight. I'm sick of Christians vs atheists. I'm REALLY sick of the media. I'm sick of no one being allowed to think what they want & feel what they do without offending someone. I am sick of the nosey ass people who call the cops when anyone does anything they don't approve of. I am sick of blaming the whole for the sins of a few.

We're one race—the human race. You want to support President Trump? You do you. It's your choice. You want to support Biden? Fine... also your choice! You want to believe in God? Okay, believe in God. You want to believe in magical creatures that fly around & sprinkle fairy dust to make life better? Awesome... you do you.

BUT stop thrusting your beliefs on others & not being able to deal with the fact that they don't have the same exact mind-set as you. Having our own minds is what makes us all individual and beautiful. If you can't handle the fact that you may have a friend that has opposing views as you, then you are not any better than the bigots and the racists. I don't have to agree with everything you believe to be a decent human being & your friend ❤️