



RCMP VETERANS' ASSOCIATION VANCOUVER DIVISION

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

FEBRUARY 2021

DIVISION PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



Welcome to February everyone! One month closer to our immunization shot and hopefully an easing of restrictions. I am surprised with myself in how I have missed face to face interaction.

Speaking of face to face, I had the opportunity to meet virtually with the national president and the other division presidents this last Monday. We used the Microsoft Team App which was very successful. The theme was "what's in it for me", a common question the association hears, especially from non-members. The purpose of the meeting was also to test the efficacy of the meeting app.

One of the biggest advantages to being in the association is members helping members and their families. This has always been the way while we served in the Force and it continues within the association.

There are presently around 7000 members of the association. The ability to speak nationally with one voice carries much greater weight when speaking to the government. The chirping of an isolated voice in the social wilderness has little clout. I believe it is naive to think the government will always respect our pensions and the benefits we earned with our long service to this country. Imagine the national strength we could have if all retired members joined the association.

The enforced isolation of the last year has brought home to me how much I miss meeting my friends and acquaintances. While the coffee klatches are great too, I do enjoy something a bit more organized that the monthly meetings provide.

I am heartened to see that throughout the association we are all trying to put even more value in belonging to the association. The meeting on Monday allowed me to hear of the various programs the rest of the divisions are engaged in. Lots of ideas are there.

So, until we can meet in person again, we will carry on carrying on. Take care of yourselves and your loved ones.

Stay safe, please.

Gord Cave, President
Vancouver Division

VANCOUVER DIVISION:

As Gord has mentioned in his message, the Provincial Health Orders, currently in place, preclude any in person gatherings for the foreseeable future. We are hopeful that with vaccinations being rolled out that we will be able to resume our activities at some point during the coming year. In the mean-time, please stay safe and stay healthy.

NEW DIVISION EXECUTIVE:

The new executive for Vancouver Division has now taken office. Gord Cave is our new President and Bob Underhill has moved to Past President. Donna Morse has left the Board and is now a Governor. Ron Morse was elected Vice President. We welcome Karen Frost as the new Secretary and Murray Macham as the Director of Ceremonies and Memorabilia. Karen has also taken over as the editor of the newsletter. All other Officers and Directors remain the same. For roles and email addresses of the Executive Board, please see the section at the end of this newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT – DUES 2021

IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR PAYING ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, ALL MEMBERSHIP DUES MUST BE PAID TO THE RCMP VETERANS' ASSOCIATION, NATIONAL OFFICE IN OTTAWA, ONTARIO SINCE THE ADMINISTRATION OF MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION HAS NOW BEEN CENTRALIZED.

There are three ways to pay your dues:

1. **Online (credit card):** Members can pay online on the National RCMPVA website by going to: <https://rcmpva.org/> "Log in" and click on "Memberships" and on the far right of the page click on the "Renew" option and pay by credit card.
2. **Cheque:** Members wishing to pay by cheque may do so directly to the National association office. ****Please provide your name and contact and clearly indicate which division and which year you would like funds applied to**.**

NOTE: All cheques must be made payable to "RCMP Veterans' Association".

Please send the cheque to:

RCMP Veterans' Association
P.O. Box 8900 Canadian Police College
1 Sandridge Road
Ottawa, Ontario
K1G 3J2

***** NOTE: Any cheques that have been sent to E Div HQ in Surrey will be mailed back to you, as they are payable to Vancouver Vets and will have to be corrected.**

You will have to redo the cheque, and send it to the Ottawa address.

- 3. E-Transfer:** Members who choose to pay by E-transfer may do so by sending to the contact below:

ATT: Chantal Renaud - by e-Transfer: chantal.renaud@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

Please note that our Vancouver Veterans membership in 2020 was 365 members. To date, only 198 have renewed.

We request those outstanding members, please refer to the a/n process to renew your 2021 Vets Association Membership.

If you have any questions about the status of your membership dues or renewal, please contact our Division Treasurer, Rupert L. Bullock: email: bullock2@shaw.ca or phone: 604-533-5354.

RCMPVA MEMBER LOGIN

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

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE:

I am honoured to serve as the Secretary of the Vancouver Veterans' Division for the next term and trust that I can live up to the expectations and duties of my Predecessor, Ron Morse.

For those who do not know me very well, I served 25 years with the RCMP, 15 of them in Alberta and my last 10 years in the Lower Mainland (2 years in Coquitlam and 8 years with Vancouver IPOC). After retiring in 2005, I worked 2 years as Security with Princess Cruises, 2 years as an Investigator with the UN in Lebanon and Security with the Vancouver 2010 Olympics with Contemporary Security Canada. Since 2010, I have worked on Contract in the capacity as a Private Investigator/Security, and as an Invigilator for the BST Course through JIBC. I volunteer as a Stem Cell Courier, at Honour House and have been a member of the International Police Association since 1993.

I have been a member of the Vancouver Vets since September 2011. In early 2013, I was asked to assist as “Tour Leader”, for the Vets Okanagan Winery Tour in September 2013. It was an absolute BLAST connecting with the Members and their spouses and I still have fond memories of the Bus trip to and from Penticton.

In 2019, I took on the role as Organizer of the RCMP Vets AGM, which was to take place in Vancouver in May 2021. Due to Covid Restrictions, this event was Canceled. Prior to its cancelation, I dealt at length with the Vancouver Vets Executive and the Sheraton Guildford as a venue for the AGM, social gatherings, Banquet and accommodation for our Delegates.

Although we were told “life would get back to Normal in 2021” this seems may not be the situation for the foreseeable future, as Covid cases across BC and the Lower Mainland rise.

I encourage our members to keep in contact with each other, and offer assistance when needed be it a phone call or a “social distance” meeting within “Their Bubble” (where possible).

Karen Frost, Secretary
RCMPVA.- Vancouver Division

HISTORY OF THE RCMP VETERANS ASSOCIATION SILHOUETTE

The silhouette the member used by the RCMP Veterans’ Association and is retired Supt John BILINSKI. It was taken on November 11, 1977 at the Ottawa Cenotaph. John had illustrious career and is now living the life of a happy retired member in Ottawa.

John recalls “the weather on that day was unbearable cold. Once the ceremony ended, I remember looking up and seeing my mother who was a WWII refugee survivor, standing there with tears running down her cheeks. She is gone now, but the memory still affects me greatly”.



DIRECTOR OF HEALTH & WELFARE – ADVOCACY:



I had a number of Vets contact me regarding assistance with medical claims, and follow up on their pensions. In January, I dealt with 11 Assistance files with retired members and their families, 3 still remain open for additional enquiries and follow up.

The recent National Bulletin regarding the absence of the COLA clause on Medical pensions, and the proposed catch up naturally raised a number of enquires that were resolved.

I have recently developed a number of contacts that I can now deal with direct, as a number of employees both RCMP Pension Division and the Veterans Affairs Branch are working from home, and undoubtedly a number of phone calls go directly to voice mail at these branches. A lot of the staff with these agencies are going the extra mile to assist during these difficult times.

Ruby BURNS, the National Advocacy Director has stepped down. She has done an excellent job and her shoes will be hard to fill. Mike Duffy from Lethbridge RCMP Vets has been named as her replacement. Mike recently completed a revision of the Advocates Manual, bringing it up to date for 2021. The manual has been retitled 'Guide to Health Benefits Services 2020' and is available on the Association website: <https://rcmpva.org/advocates-en/>

John Sherstone, Director
Health, Welfare and Advocacy

HONOUR HOUSE – A PLACE FOR THOSE IN NEED



Honour House is a refuge, a “home away from home” for members of our Canadian Armed Forces, Veterans, Emergency Services Personnel and their families to stay, completely free of charge, while they are receiving medical care and treatment in the Metro Vancouver area. These brave individuals, along with their families, sacrifice so much on a daily basis to protect our freedom and our everyday way of life. Honour House allows us the opportunity to show them that we care and

how much we appreciate all that they do for us.

Through this Pandemic, Honour House has remained open to those who need to travel to Vancouver for Medical treatment, and is occupied more often than you could imagine. Since opening in 2010, Honour House has provided more than 10,000 nights of free accommodation. Dedicated volunteers have continued to clean the Rooms, tend to the Grounds and offer financial support. Honour House has a reputation for being a Safe Haven for those First Responders in need, which include our RCMP Family (both Serving and Retired members).

Honour Ranch – Psychological Support

Honour House Society's second major project, **“Honour Ranch”**, is based just outside of the village of Ashcroft, BC. The ranch provides support and a place of solace and calm for those dealing with the debilitating effects of Operational Stress Injuries. Ten private cottages and one spacious lodge sit on a beautifully secluded and peaceful 120 acres, amongst old growth forest, overlooking the South Thompson River Valley, which held its official opening on October 5, 2019.

Volunteers continue to invest their time and dedication to travel from the Vancouver area to Honour Ranch to renovate and repair the site, and update each Cottage and the Main Lodge in preparation for those First Responders in need.

We add a shout out to our Veteran Colleagues who live near Honour Ranch. If interested in helping at Honour Ranch, please contact Craig **Longstaff**, Honour House Manager at craig@honourhouse.ca for more information.

HONOUR HOUSE WEBSITE

RCMP ANNUAL PENSIONER'S STATEMENT



By now, most members should have received their RCMP Annual Pensioner's Statement from Public Service and Procurement Canada. After reviewing the document, one of our members writes:

"I was reviewing my recently received statement and make the following observation. On page 5 they outline the Public Service Health Care Plan. We have the opportunity to select Level 1,2 or 3 and this is associated to maximum hospital benefits. For many years I had selected and paid for level 3. I wondered what the difference was as our experience with hospital stays is that you are placed in a ward and room based upon your health need. In other words, a level 3 does not ensure you have your own room, at least not in B.C.

I called the number provided, 1-855-502-7090 and confirmed the following. The deductions we have under PSHCP provides coverage on prescriptions, which for me is important with the normal reimbursement of 80%. That coverage is provided whether you pay for Level 1,2, or 3. I wonder how many members are choosing level 2 or 3 thinking they are receiving better coverage?

In B.C. it really is only necessary to pay for the level 1 coverage, we have no say in what hospital room one will be placed. Hope this makes sense. Some Vets' may be able to save a bit of money. In my personal case I am deducted \$122.05 (one dependent) for level 1, but would be paying \$151.42 if I chose level 3."

To check your coverage level, check your most recent pension pay statement (Pay stub).

The attached link provides an overview of coverage available under the Public Service Health Care Plan:

<http://www.pshcp.ca/coverage.aspx>

ALBERTA EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL:



It has been brought to our attention that some of our members who may have served in Alberta (“K” Division) may qualify for the Alberta Emergency Services Medal. The Alberta Emergency Services Medal (AESM) honours emergency services personnel who are involved in supporting emergency prevention, preparedness and response in Alberta, and who have committed 12, 22, 32, 40 years of service. To be eligible for the medal, personnel must have been serving on or after **January 1, 2000**, in a sector of the Alberta emergency management system. Full details concerning the medal can be found by following the link below:

[ALBERTA EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL](#)

VANCOUVER DIVISION CHALLENGE COINS:



At our January 2020 meeting the purchase of Challenge Coins for our division was approved. 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 have been suspended.

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. 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 \$20.00 which includes postage.

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

Ric Hall

FEBRUARY 2021 – FAIRMONT BARRACKS/LANDS UPDATE.



As many of you are aware, Fairmont Barracks and the surrounding lands are being redeveloped. Since 2017, and on behalf of Vancouver Division Veterans, I have been in discussion with the City of Vancouver regarding the redevelopment plans for the Fairmont building and the need to protect this historical site. In the past couple of weeks, I have spoken with a City Planner who is overseeing the development and was pleased to hear that the City is still looking into the possibility of moving the Building.

Canadian Development Corporation (CDC) have offices within the Fairmont Building and both CDC representatives, and City officials, are aware of our concerns with the building. They are also aware there are the buried remains of one of our own under the flagpole in front of Fairmont. Last year, in speaking with an archeological company completing an archeological assessment of the lands, I was informed there was a good possibility that the urn that was buried could still be intact and recovered.

Further to this, some of you may recall that a request was sent out last year for stories to be submitted relating to memories of Fairmont Barracks. I am pleased to advise that over twenty stories were received and will be published in a book "Memories of Fairmont Barracks". I would like to thank the RCMP Heritage Centre for supporting the publishing of this book and all that entails. Also, a thank you to "E" Division NCO's Mess for their donation towards any copyright fees that will be necessary for including several historical news articles and photos in the book.

Updates will be provided as received from the City. Also, stay tuned for the 2021 release of "**Memories of Fairmont Barracks**".

Any questions or input regarding Fairmont, please advise me directly at donna.morse@shaw.ca

Thank you.

Donna Morse, Governor, Vancouver Division
RCMP Veterans' Association

PILLARS OF THE FORCE:



The Friends and RCMP Heritage Centre are proud to announce the Global Launch of the Pillars of the Force which was held on December 24, 2020. "No One Left Behind" honors those who have Fallen in the Line of Duty, unknown family members, or those experiencing challenging life circumstances.

Donations towards both the Nameplate and Walkway Bricks are fully Tax Deductible.

You now have the opportunity to get caught up on the stories and journeys of other old friends, family members, and acquaintances whose stories are posted on the Virtual Pillars Wall:

<https://mpvirtualpillars.ca/>

The launch included nearly 200 stories and stories will continue to be posted in the coming months and years as they are received and reviewed. You can stake your claim at:

<https://rcmphcfriends.com/pillars-of-the-force/>

CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES:



The Canadian Blood Services has been running an advertising campaign to encourage registration for the stem cell donor program. Registration for this life saving program has dropped dramatically during the pandemic and the need for donors is greater than ever. While

most of us are not likely eligible to donate, younger family members or friends may be. We would ask that you bring this information to their attention so that they may consider registering as potential donors.

Through the Bruce Denniston Bone Marrow Society, many of our Veterans and other retired members are or have been volunteer couriers for the program, travelling to locations around the world, where a match has been found for a local patient. Again, the pandemic travel restrictions have greatly impacted this program as well.

Without the ability to travel the Globe to pick up Matching Stem Cells or Bone Marrow, those in need who live here, we must rely on Local Donors. Someone in your Bubble or group of friends has the capacity to Save A Life.

Vancouver Division created a video (**HAVE YOU GOT A MATCH**), that is available on YouTube, which tells the story of a retired RCMP member who received this life saving treatment, which came from Europe!! CLICK on the links below to access the video, the Canadian Blood Services site and the Bruce Denniston Bone Marrow Society site:

[HAVE YOU GOT A MATCH](#)

[CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES STEM CELL PROGRAM](#)

[BRUCE DENNISTON BONE MARROW SOCIETY](#)

FRANK'S FACTS AND FUNNIES/FFF:

Many of our members receive Frank Richter's informative newsletter, "Frank's Facts and Funnies". During this Pandemic, FFF is another way to keep in contact with our Friends.

Update: As some of you know I experienced computer problems in early November which ultimately ended up **deleting my entire Address Book**. I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your support. I currently have over 200 FFF readers on my new distribution list which is a very good start. I will be asking our readers to let me know if they also wish to continue to receive the FFF newsletter. **All you need to do is to send me an email at frank.richter@shaw.ca and I will put you on my new distribution list.**

Thanks again.

Cheers.

Frank

NEW MEMBERS – VANCOUVER DIVISION:



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

37284	John Ibbotson
42848	Baltej Dhillon
23960 / O.1517	Ron Dicks
27809	Ken Kantola
24146	Russell Ayerst

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



Several members of Vancouver Division have been awarded service pins / bars and many more are eligible to receive these awards. If you have been a member in good standing of RCMPVA Vancouver Division for ten or more years, please [CLICK HERE](#) to access the September 2020 Newsletter to confirm that you are listed as an eligible recipient.

If you are eligible and would like to receive the award, please contact Membership Director Ray Power (rayjpower@yahoo.com) for further details.

Service Bars awarded since the January newsletter:

10 Year	28539	Paul Brousseau
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LAST POST:



The following members who were listed as having served in "E" Division or as serving members have passed away since the publication of our last newsletter. 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 click [HERE](#):

LAST POST

Reg Number	Name	Rank (Ret'd)	Date Passed
22837	WHITAKER, Joseph Lee	Cpl.	2021-01-21
31836	BROWN, William Arthur	Cst	2020-06-30
C1593	Van Der HORST, Jay	CM	2020-06-28
20653	McANDREW, Robert "Bob"	Sgt.	2021-01-13
O.1203	CANNING, David Ralph	Supt.	2021-01-12
18686	ZURKOWSKI, Melvin R. (Stern)	Sgt.	2021-01-07
14639	DECKER, J.E. "Jack"	Cpl.	2021-01-14
27870	KEDDY, Jack Norman	S/Sgt.	2021-01-22
20836	MARSHAL, Robert Lawrence	Sgt.	2021-01-23
37286	BEATTY, Walter John	Cst.	2021-01-12
62358	FALEBRINZA, Amber Lynn	Cst.	2021-01-13
23734	BEAZLEY, Ronald G.	Sgt.	2021-01-28
18638 / O.894	STEWART, James T.A.	Insp.	2021-01-26
15934	ADOLPH, Norman A.	S/Sgt.	2021-02-10

Norm Adolph was a member of Vancouver Division for 45 years.

RCMP VETERANS IDENTIFICATION CARDS:

As a reminder, RCMP ID coordinators in the divisions are no longer processing these cards and National Compensation is currently reviewing the national rollout of this program to determine the most efficient process for distributing identification cards to former employees.

As you can appreciate, it will take some time to identify all those who are eligible to receive a retirement ID card. To aid in this process could you please provide the following information:

Your name:
Rank at retirement:
Division at retirement:
Years of Service:
Date of Discharge:

Regimental number/HRMIS number:
Contact info: (email address and home address)

Additional information pertaining to the process for receiving your card will follow in the coming months.

Thank you for your patience.
RCMP Member Benefits Unit
RCMP.RetiredID-IDRetraite.GRC@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

RCMP VETERANS BADGE:



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

Click [HERE](#) for further details and purchase information:

CANADIAN FORCES MORALE AND WELFARE SERVICES:



Active and retired members of the RCMP are eligible to apply for the CFone card. There are a number of services, rewards and discounts available to former members of the Force through this program. Attached is the link to apply for a CFone card.

[CFONE Card Application](#)

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION:



The Royal Canadian Legion offers currently serving and retired Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP members a free, one-year membership to welcome them to the Legion!

Your support helps the Legion make a difference for Veterans and their families in need, and helps ensure Canada 'never forgets'.

If you are not a yet member, join online through the Veteran Welcome Program and get to know your Legion.

JOIN ONLINE TODAY

VETERANS DISABILITY PENSION INDEXING ERROR CLASS ACTION:



Dear Members of the Association,

Jan and Vic Gorman of Nova Scotia Division have provided a link to a public announcement by the law firm Murphy Battista of British Columbia that they are launching a class action lawsuit (Manuge v. Her Majesty The Queen: Federal Court: T-119-19)

From the Notification,

“Murphy Battista LLP has filed a proposed class action against the Government of Canada concerning an error that was made in the calculation of Veterans Affairs Canada Disability Benefits payable for the period 2002 to 2010. The error was allegedly discovered by the Government in 2010, but not disclosed to veterans until 2017 as a result of a report by the Veterans Ombudsman. The Government of Canada has admitted there was an error and that \$165 million dollars is owed to the affected veterans. The Government of Canada has advised they will pay out the money in 2020 without interest.”

The link to view the announcement follows. It is also noted that if you wish to receive information about the progress of the court process you may find out how to do it through the announcement.

Earlier messages have discussed this situation and that discussion is available on the Association website and may be viewed by clicking [HERE](#).

The Murphy Battista announcement, which follows is only available in English.

James Forrest
Director of Communication

MURPHY BATTISTA CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT

VAC TREATMENT BENEFITS PROGRAM – COVID 19 SUPPLIES:



Dear Members of the Association,

Chief Advocate Ruby Burns and Nova Scotia Division members, Vic and Jan Gorman have provided the following information regarding the availability of COVID-19 supplies to certain recipients of VAC benefits.

The information follows. Unfortunately, we do not have a French version of the order form referenced in the message and linked at the end of the message.

James Forrest
Director of Communications

VAC Treatment Benefits Program – Covid 19 Supplies

During this National Covid 19 pandemic, VAC has made some temporary changes, including paying for masks and sanitizers if required for personal treatments and if the member/veteran is receiving a pension from VAC.

As for limits of supplies and applicability, the member/veteran should confirm with VAC (1-866-522-2122) before purchasing .

Please click on this link to learn more about this issue.

<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/help/faq/info-veterans-covid-19/treatment-benefits>

Personal Protective Equipment

Q: I need personal protective equipment to attend my health appointments. Will VAC pay?

A: Yes, you may be covered if you need to wear personal protective equipment such as non-medical masks and/or gloves to receive treatment. Additionally, if you need an escort OR family member to attend your appointment VAC authorized treatment with you, their personal protective equipment will also be covered.

What type of personal protective equipment is covered?

VAC will reimburse the cost for personal protective equipment including non-medical masks and/or gloves, if your health professional requires you wear personal protective equipment. The current year is \$200.00/CY – Benefit Code 400935

How do I get reimbursed for personal protective equipment?

You can use your VAC Health Identification Card to purchase personal protective equipment. You can use this card with VAC registered health care providers such as your local pharmacy or treating health professional. They will bill VAC directly so you do not need to pay out of pocket.

If you are unable to use your VAC Health Identification Card, please complete a VAC 918 Client Reimbursement Claim Form and submit to Medavie Blue Cross by mail to:

- National Reimbursement Centre
- PO Box 6700
- Moncton, NB E1C 0T8

You will need to submit your proof of payment (original receipt or invoice) that shows:

- the date you received the benefit or service;
- the name of the benefit or service;
- the amount you paid; and,
- the name and address of the provider.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| ○ Prescriber Required | No |
| ○ Recommender Required | No |
| ○ Preauthorization Required | No |
| ○ Limit | \$200.00/CY |
| ○ Frequency | N/A |
| ○ Negotiated Fee | N/A |
| ○ Provincial Coverage | No |

Comments

For specific information on pricing and availability, please contact the Regional or District Office in your area. Get help if you have questions about your health coverage or about VAC's treatment benefits program, visit any VAC office or call them 1-866-522-2122. You can also contact Medavie Blue Cross.

The attached document can be printed off by Veterans who qualify for this program and present it to your pharmacy.

FORM – VAC PROGRAM OF CHOICE (07) MEDICAL SUPPLIES

VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA:



Veterans Affairs
Canada

Anciens Combattants
Canada

The attached link may be of some assistance to members who are submitting claims to VAC. It would appear that this booklet was compiled by an independent body in 2017, however, there are links to the current VAC website. This information is being provided for your information only and the accuracy of the information posted therein has not been verified.

<https://www.multibriefs.com/briefs/rcaa/vacdisabilityawards.pdf>

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL RETIREES:



National Association
of Federal Retirees
Association nationale
des retraités fédéraux

The National Association of Federal Retirees (Federal Retirees) is the largest national advocacy organization representing active and retired members of the federal public service, Canadian Armed Forces, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and retired federally appointed judges, as well as their partners and survivors. The site contains a great deal of information that you may find useful. [CLICK HERE](#) to access the NAFR website.

A newly released "**You and Your Survivors Guide**" has been published by the National Association of Federal Retirees in partnership with Arbor Memorial Services.

The book is 58 pages. By [CLICKING HERE](#) you will be taken directly to the "document and workbook". Once completed, you may wish to have it printed in order to have a hard copy of the document for your records.

UPDATES TO BOOKLETS AND GUIDES:

The RCMP Veterans' Association has now published the 2020 edition of the "**National Survivor's and Executor's Guide**" which can be accessed on the National website. [CLICK HERE - SURVIVORS & EXECUTORS GUIDEBOOK.](#)

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.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

Below is a list of the many frequently used services for veterans. For a more complete list of links, please visit the RCMPVA National website by [CLICKING HERE.](#)

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**.

Public Service Health Care Plan

<http://www.pshcp.ca/#>

Medoc Travel Insurance

<https://www.federalretirees.ca/en/my-health/insurance/medoc-travel-insurance>

R.C.M.P. VETERANS' LADIES AUXILIARY (Vancouver Division):

BI-MONTHLY REPORT- December 2020/January 2021

Well, here we are, entering a New Year, 2021, and still in the COVID-19 Epidemic! It is frequently difficult to realize that it is almost a year since we held our last luncheon/meeting, and that most of us have not seen each other for a full year. Hopefully, this will change by the summertime and we can plan for getting back to some sense of normalcy. Obviously, our planned Fashion Show for March 2021 will not take place but we are still looking forward to staging this event at our luncheon/meeting in October 2021. So far, we have not heard of any of our Ladies Auxiliary members contracting the virus, or having passed away from it.

Condolences:

We sadly report that the husband of Ladies Auxiliary Member, Edna Barr, Retired RCMP Veteran, #18984, Sgt. James (Jim) McMillan Barr, passed away in Delta, B.C. on December 4, 2020 at the age of 84. He is also survived by a son and daughter, and their families. Condolences have been sent to Edna and her family, and, due to the COVID-19, a celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Vancouver Division's Ladies Auxiliary's 85th Birthday/Anniversary:

On February 26th, 2021, our Ladies Auxiliary officially celebrates its 85th year. For some who may not know our history, in 1936, the President of the Vancouver Division of the RCMP Veterans' Association asked a few of the Veterans' wives to form a Ladies Auxiliary to assist with the Veterans' in their social activities, outreach projects, etc., and this auxiliary would consist of the wives and daughters of the R.C.M.P. Veterans.

In more recent years, the granddaughters of the Veterans were also included, as they are today. This was the first R.C.M.P. Veterans' Ladies Auxiliary officially formed in Canada. Today, since 2018, all current members of the Vancouver Division of the Ladies Auxiliary are now also officially Associate Members of the Vancouver Veterans' Division, although we still maintain our own Executive and luncheon/meetings, and financial status.

Documentation of RCMP Wives' Stories:

Over the years, the Executive of the Auxiliary has been asking its Ladies Auxiliary members to consider contributing their stories of their lives as RCMP wives, living in remote detachments, overseas, Northern postings, etc., This can be in form of short story, essay, poem, or however one wishes to tell their story. I am sure that those wives who have received awards for being "the second man" would have some great stories to share. We have to remember that what we did 20 or 50 years ago will be "history" to those living as RCMP wives today, and in the future, and time has made many changes!!

Hopefully, all of our Auxiliary members will be receiving their inoculations with one of the available vaccines in the very near future, and Spring and Summer can't arrive too soon!!

Dorothy Martinson, Past President
R.C.M.P. Veterans' Ladies Auxiliary
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VANCOUVER DIVISION EXECUTIVE – 2021:

The new Executive for the 2021 term took office on January 1, 2021. Formal "swearing in" ceremonies will be conducted as soon as Health Orders permit.

President	Gordon CAVE	jag140@telus.net
Past-President	Robert R. "Bob" UNDERHILL	runder@telus.net
Vice-President	Ron MORSE	rimorse021@gmail.com
Treasurer	Rupert L. BULLOCK	bullock2@shaw.ca
Secretary	Karen FROST	kosovok2002@yahoo.ca

DIRECTORS:

Strategic Planning	Eric ROSS	evross@telus.net
Ceremonies & Memorabilia	Murray MACHAM	mmacham@telus.net
Health, Welfare Advocacy	John SHERSTONE	sherst01@telus.net
Membership	Ray POWER	rayjpower@yahoo.com
Liaison to The Force	Ric HALL	rshall69@shaw.ca
Social	Dorothy A. MARTINSON	demartinson@shaw.ca

Presidential Appointments & Governors (Click on Link below):

<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/>

If you would like to receive updates to the website as they are posted, scroll down on the right side of the homepage and enter your email address.

Obtain notice of website updates

Enter your email address to receive notice of updates to the website. No membership required and no other messages will be sent to you.

Email Address



And finally, over the course of our careers, who could resist lawyer jokes.

ATTORNEY: What was the first thing your husband said to you that morning?

WITNESS: He said, 'Where am I, Cathy?'

ATTORNEY: And why did that upset you?

WITNESS: My name is Susan!

ATTORNEY: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?

WITNESS: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.

ATTORNEY: Are you sexually active?

WITNESS: No, I just lie there.

ATTORNEY: What is your date of birth?

WITNESS: July 18th.

ATTORNEY: What year?

WITNESS: Every year.

ATTORNEY: How old is your son, the one living with you?

WITNESS: Thirty-eight or thirty-five, I can't remember which.

ATTORNEY: How long has he lived with you?

WITNESS: Forty-five years.

ATTORNEY: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: And in what ways does it affect your memory?

WITNESS: I forget..

ATTORNEY: You forget? Can you give us an example of something you forgot?

ATTORNEY: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?

WITNESS: Did you actually pass the bar exam?

ATTORNEY: The youngest son, the 20-year-old, how old is he?

WITNESS: He's 20, much like your IQ.

ATTORNEY: Were you present when your picture was taken?

WITNESS: Are you shitting me?

ATTORNEY: So the date of conception (of the baby) was August 8th?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: And what were you doing at that time?

WITNESS: Getting laid

ATTORNEY: She had three children , right?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: How many were boys?

WITNESS: None.

ATTORNEY: Were there any girls?

WITNESS: Your Honor, I think I need a different attorney. Can I get a new attorney?

ATTORNEY: How was your first marriage terminated?

WITNESS: By death..

ATTORNEY: And by whose death was it terminated?

WITNESS: Take a guess.

ATTORNEY: Can you describe the individual?

WITNESS: He was about medium height and had a beard

ATTORNEY: Was this a male or a female?

WITNESS: Unless the Circus was in town I'm going with male.

ATTORNEY: Is your appearance here this morning pursuant to a deposition notice which I sent to your attorney?

WITNESS: No, this is how I dress when I go to work.

ATTORNEY: Doctor , how many of your autopsies have you performed on dead people?

WITNESS: All of them. The live ones put up too much of a fight.

ATTORNEY: ALL your responses MUST be oral, OK? What school did you go to?

WITNESS: Oral...

ATTORNEY: Do you recall the time that you examined the body?

WITNESS: The autopsy started around 8:30 PM

ATTORNEY: And Mr. Denton was dead at the time?

WITNESS: If not, he was by the time I finished.

ATTORNEY: Are you qualified to give a urine sample?

WITNESS: Are you qualified to ask that question?

And last:

ATTORNEY: Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for blood pressure?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for breathing?

WITNESS: No..

ATTORNEY: So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: How can you be so sure, Doctor?

WITNESS: Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar.

ATTORNEY: I see, but could the patient have still been alive, nevertheless?

WITNESS: Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practicing law.