



EDMONTON DIVISION

PRESIDENT'S CORNER – NOVEMBER 2021

Happy Halloween Everyone:

I hope this letter finds you and your family safe and healthy. Wendy and I had a very quiet Thanksgiving at home by ourselves this year. We of course called all our families to spend some quality Facetime with the grandkids. We are again playing it safe due to Covid, but hopefully this will be the last year we will need to take these precautions.

Your Executive has been working hard to keep the business of our division going. We have continued to meet virtually to discuss important issues concerning such things as Budgets, Dues, Gift Shop and Donations. The minutes of the Executive meeting held on October 22nd, are attached.

We have again approved next year's (2022) budget with only one change from last year, and that is to **increase the dues payable for 2022 to \$60.00 per Active Member**. I have attached a copy of the budget.

Your Executive reviewed our finances and decided we could not absorb the new increase in dues from our national office, within our existing budget. Therefore, we passed a motion to increase our dues from \$50.00 to \$60.00, which provides \$45.00 for National and \$15.00 for our division. This is an increase of our division's dues of \$2.00, while the National portion has been increased by \$8.00. We have not increased our dues for many years and have absorbed the last two increases from National, without an increase to our membership. Our dues are still amongst the lowest charged across Canada.

The Commanding Officer has provided his November Alberta RCMP Highlights, which I have attached to this letter. This provides some interesting reading.

The Police Officers memorial has taken place on September 26th and a wreath was placed at the cenotaph on behalf of the Edmonton RCMP Veterans' Association. Normally I would have placed the wreath, however, this year's ceremony was scaled back due to Covid. It was broadcasted on the Government of Alberta channel.

As we move into November, Remembrance Day is again scaled back, as it was last year. The information we have as of writing this letter is that the public is not encouraged to attend. We will of course advise our membership if this information changes.

The 87th Alberta Police Officers Golf tournament was a great success. We received a letter of thanks from their organizing committee, as we had donated to this worthy cause. Several of our members traveled to Radium Hot Springs, to play in the tournament. The committee advises that \$7,700.00 was raised and donated to the **Children's Make a Wish Foundation**. Members of the RCMP organized this year's event. A copy of the thank-you letter from Dallas Traill, is attached.

We are still looking for help with the Newsletter!

Bob Stewart our Newsletter Editor has retired from the Editor's position, and we are looking for someone to help with this important position. **Bob is willing to train anyone interested in volunteering.**

If you are interested in helping, please contact me at the email below or give me call.

Please stay safe and healthy,



Bruce Allen, President
Edmonton Division
RCMP Veterans' Association

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Alberta RCMP highlights – November

Alberta RCMP mobile response team for mental health support

The Regional Police and Crisis Teams (RPACT), a collaborative partnership with Alberta Health Services (AHS), have been expanding their work in response to Albertans

experiencing mental health crises. Recognizing the importance of providing appropriate and timely care, RPACT provides a mobile crisis response team that is able to intervene, assess, and work to stabilize individuals in the community. RPACT teams are comprised of an RCMP officer and a Mental Health therapist from AHS, who respond together to mental health calls in the community. This combination of law enforcement resources paired with mental health expertise ensures that an appropriate response is delivered, while safeguarding public safety.

According to the Canadian Mental Health Association, in any given year, one in five people in Canada will personally experience a mental health problem or illness. In 2020, there were over 20,000 files in Alberta RCMP jurisdiction related to the Mental Health Act. From January to September 2021, the Alberta RCMP have created a phased implementation plan that will have RPACT available to all Alberta RCMP detachments over the coming three years.



RPACT began operating in the Edmonton area in 2011 and has grown to include teams in Red Deer, Grande Prairie, and Airdrie. Currently, Regional Police and Crisis Teams cover 14 RCMP detachments. The three-year phased

implementation plan will include five new teams in the first year, which will provide RPACT coverage in a total of 58 detachments and by the end of the second year there will be RPACT coverage for 110 detachments.

RPACT assesses clients and conducts community interventions when possible, aiming to connect clients with community resources and divert service delivery from hospital emergency departments when appropriate. Through a coordinated response to mental health situations in the community, RPACT provides timely interventions and reduces the burden on the health care system.

The Alberta RCMP are committed to providing appropriate mental health supports that will enhance public safety and community wellbeing throughout the province.

Work with Indigenous communities



On September 15, the Canmore RCMP detachment hosted Elder Jackson Wesley who is also an RCMP Chaplain from the Stoney Nakoda First Nations. Elder Wesley's family were also in attendance and graciously performed a smudge and Eagle Feather blessing at the detachment. RCMP officers along with support staff took part in the ceremony and learned about some of the culture, traditions, and history of the Stoney Nakoda Nation.

On September 29, members of the Alberta RCMP, including Deputy Commissioner Curtis Zablocki, joined community members from the Treaty 7 territory in a small gathering outside the Duncan building in Calgary for the Treaty 7

Land Acknowledgement.

Historically, Treaty 7 was signed by five First Nations and the Government of Canada on September 22, 1877. A Land Acknowledgment ceremony in 2021 is a chance to celebrate and reaffirm a commitment to working with, and proudly serving the Indigenous Peoples of the Treaty 7 territory.

Treaty Land Acknowledgments have now been sent to all RCMP detachments across Alberta. This is a step in our path to reconciliation to help with healing as we move towards establishing and maintaining respectful relationships and partnerships with the Indigenous communities and people in the province.





On September 30, Deputy Commissioner Curtis Zablocki, Commanding Officer of the Alberta RCMP, alongside other members of the force, signed the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police Pledge of Reconciliation in commemoration of Canada's first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Alberta RCMP issued more than 2,000 traffic safety tickets in support of Operation Impact 2021

In October, police forces across Canada led Operation Impact, an annual initiative organized by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police to encourage safe driving behaviours. Over the course of the Thanksgiving long weekend, Alberta RCMP issued 2,270 tickets in support of the campaign and traffic safety enforcement. Between October 8 - 11, there were four fatalities as a result of motor vehicle collisions across Alberta RCMP jurisdiction. Another 17 motor vehicle collisions resulted in injury.

Alberta RCMP members patrolled provincial roads and highways, issuing tickets for traffic safety offences including 1,151 speeding charges, 18 excessive speeding charges (more



than 50 km/h over the posted limit), 53 driving without a seatbelt charges, and 46 distracted driving charges. Additionally, 38 impaired drivers were removed from the roadways.

Thanks to the help of Albertans, the RCMP received 67 calls from the public notifying them of dangerous or suspected impaired drivers. Twenty-one of these reports resulted in officers locating the vehicles, confirming that the drivers were in fact impaired, and then removing them from the road.

Edmonton RCMP Veterans' Executive Meeting Minutes October 22/2021 Virtual Online

Meeting called to order: 11:00 AM

Members Present: Bruce Allen, Roger Goulet, Bob Stewart, Barry Callbeck, Kees Kikkert, Tom Burkett, Denise Burkett, Tom Dunlop, Nick Taylor, Jerry Plastow, Elaine Schnepf, Jim Medley,

Unable to Attend: Bob Bacchus, Joe Collinson, Neal Stanley, Randy Montgomery, Linda Plomp, S/M Leilani Collins.

Barry Callbeck, Secretary:

Moved that the minutes from September 23rd, 2021, be accepted as published on our web page, Seconded by Kees Kikkert. Carried.

Bruce Allen, President:

Bruce attended an online meeting with National and all the other Presidents. The main topic addressed the issuance of the Association Membership cards.

Examples had been sent out to all Division's to review and return comments. The consensus of our Division, was that one was not needed. Most of the remaining Division's in Alberta, Manitoba, and BC were not in favor of the card. The cost to the Division's was a main concern. Especially the smaller Division's.

The National Sub Committee responsible will take all comments into consideration to determine whether to proceed.

National has stated that the dues for 2022 will be **\$45.00** which is an increase from \$37.00.and will be adopted by National. Along with the change, no grace period will be provided for those who have prepaid their dues.

A letter will be sent out to those who have prepaid. The details of the letter will be published in the **Presidents Corner** of the newsletter.

The **Division Operations Manual** needs to be updated to include the changes made by National. Bob Stewart has the initial rewrite process underway. He has asked for assistance from the subject matter experts for membership and finance. They too are helping to update the manual.

Old Business:

President Bruce Allen asked for a motion to be put forward to increase in dues for 2022 to \$60.00, Motion made by Bob Stewart, Seconded by Gerry Plastow. Carried

A motion was also requested for approval of the 2022 budget which reflects the increase in dues to \$60.00. Motion made by Bob Stewart. Seconded, Roger Goulet. Carried

Jerry Plastow, Vice President:

Correspondence

Jerry received a thank you letter from the **Alberta Police Golf Association** for our donation for the 2021 tournament, with **proceeds of \$7,700.00 to the Make A Wish Foundation**. Their letter will be attached to the October President's Corner.

Donations

Jerry Plastow advises that the Division provided a \$25.00 credit to the Gift Shop, to provide pins for **K Division United Way drive**. The drive is being run by one of our members and he wished to have a token of appreciation given to the outstanding participants of the HQ United Way program.

We received an Email from Edmonton Vet Vern Colley, who would like to donate two beautiful quilts to the Division, to raise money for our operations. Jerry has contacted Vern and will determine the best way to proceed with this thoughtful donation.



Social Committee

Jerry advises that due to Covid our normal monthly meetings will be cancelled at Woodvale until further notice. Once things have normalized, we can begin planning for the upcoming year.

Tom Burkett, Membership:

Report on Membership – We have a total of 589 members of different categories, 364 Active, 212 Associate, and 13 Life Members.

Tom opened a discussion about how to notify the membership who provided prepaid dues that we hold in trust for future years. The problem is that they have paid their dues at the \$50.00 rate and the new rate for 2022 is now \$60.00. The total cost deficit to our division would be \$300.00, should the members not pay the \$10.00 owing.

A general discussion began with a motion from Tom Dunlop, seconded by Roger Goulet to waive the increase in dues to those who have already prepaid for future years. The motion was not carried.

Upon further discussion it was suggested that we send the Prepaid Membership a letter explaining the situation and ask them to voluntarily pay the additional \$10. This was not a motion but a recommendation. An email will be prepared and sent to those concerned.

Linda Plomp, Treasurer:

Linda was unable to attend but sent in her report as follows.

Chequing Account **\$28,909.66**

GIC's

\$51,197.81... Savings for future AGM 2024
\$10,945.81... Wall of Honour Reserve for Expenses
\$22,065.83... Vets Gift Shop Operating Reserve
\$41,042.81... Edmonton Vets Operating Reserve

Total GIC' s \$125,252.26

RCMP Vets Edmonton Division - 2022 Budget

Income		2022
	Advertising Revenue	\$ -
	Donations/Assistance Grants	
	Gift Shop Insurance Payment	\$ 1,181.00
	General/Dinner Meetings	\$ 21,000.00
	Membership Dues Current Year	\$ 21,960.00
	Membership Dues Previous Years	\$ 900.00
	Social Events Other Revenue	\$ 150.00
	Money from Operating Reserve	\$ 20,000.00
	Vets Gift Shop	\$ 10,000.00
Total Income	\$	75,191.00
Expense		
	AGM Expenses	\$ 3,000.00
	Bank Service Charges	\$ 500.00
	Donation Gifts/Funds	\$ 19,244.00
	Executive Meetings	\$ 250.00
	Inter Divisional Meetings	\$ 400.00
	Meals and Travel (on Vets Business)	\$ 1,000.00
	Members' Dinner Meetings	\$ 21,000.00
	RCMP Vets National Members Dues	\$ 17,055.00
	Remembrance Day	\$ 600.00
	Office Supplies	\$ 1,000.00
	Gift Shop Insurance	\$ 1,892.00
	Social Events	\$ 9,000.00
	Web Site(s)	\$ 250.00
Total Expense	\$	75,191.00
Net Surplus (Deficit)		\$0.00

Jim Medley, Chair of Gift Shop Committee:

Jim attended but could not unmute his microphone due to technical difficulties. President Allen provided the following information.

This report is from the **Gift Shop Executive** meeting held on October 20th, 2021, online.

Minutes were taken for the **3rd quarter virtual meeting**, this being the first meeting since incorporation on July 21, 2021. The minutes were certified correct and will be held on file. The minutes covered the following topics:

- **Insurance** for the Gift Shop was purchased through Dyck Insurance, for Officers and Directors Insurance, which came to \$600.00 for the first year. This will be added to the Fire and Theft insurance which the Gift Shop pays for its Inventory, **totaling \$1,181.00.**
- The new **Gift Shop budget** will be created by Kim and Jim for the upcoming year and presented at the division AGM. This will take place the first week of March 2022.
- Current Chequing Account Balance is **\$36,672.97** as of (2021-10-21)
- A **New GIC** was purchased to support a new purchasing Visa card for \$3,000.00
- Jim will be working on a **new contract** for the Manager for 2022

Kees Kikkert, Director:

Kees gave a brief update on the grave site for **William Henry White** and his wife at the **RCMP Ft. Sask. cemetery**. The concrete that covers the grave site has sunk into the ground away from the headstone's base. Kees contacted a couple of firms that do concrete work/toppings and after viewing our photo of the site, suggested the concrete appears to be in very poor condition and not suitable for this type of repair. **The City of Fort Saskatchewan** is not interested in removing the concrete that is there now. Kees still must discuss this with **S/M Collins** to get Force approval for any action we may suggest. An action plan may be recommended sometime next spring.

Kees has made available the **Guide to Health Benefits** which is now posted on both our websites.

Elaine Schnepf, Boost:

Elaine is busy keeping in touch with members with health issues as well as sending condolences. She gave a big thank you to Kees and Tom for their assistance delivering

Boost program gifts. She has sent out 5 sympathy cards and 1 card for someone having surgery.

Nick Taylor Director:

Nick reported that Valor Place is doing well. He also mentioned the **Edmonton Veterans Food Bank**, which is available to military and RCMP members in need of assistance. Their address is **17218-107 Ave**. Their phone number is **833-422-8387 ext. 2** *(As a side note, they are always looking for volunteers to help in the warehouse. Last Christmas the Division donated \$500.00 to this foodbank.)*

Bob Stewart, Director:

Bob is working on Web Site Development with Kim Bechtold to possibly upgrade the Gift Shop web site for full online purchases.

He is also working on the review and rewrite of our **Division's Operations Manual**. Bruce will collaborate with Bob to come up with a draft to present to the Executive for feedback.

Tom Dunlop, Director (Parking Permit Program):

Tom advises the program is very popular and is in use by many of our Division Members. The following statistics were provided for the meeting.

Year to date:

Number of individual Pickups -	28
Number of days used -	406
Number of permits presently in use -	5

S/M Leilani Collins:

S/M Collins was not available for the meeting but provided a short report for the meeting.

She advises that **SSM Andrew Hobson** has joined the team within the S/M office. Andrew comes from varied background and is currently i/c K Division Operational Readiness. He had been on assignment with the Warrant Unit from November to April.

S/M Collins is meeting with FRAMS (**Friends of the Royal Alberta Museum**). They are currently working on a project to develop a display of **NWMP/RCMP memorabilia**. The collection was acquired through an estate of a collector. They are looking for financial assistance for the delivery and setup of this display.

A short discussion about this topic determined that it did not fit into our existing financial mandate of supporting our membership. Jerry Plastow advised that there may be funds within the **RCMP Veterans' Foundation** to support this type of request. He will investigate and get back to S/M Collins with an answer.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:00 PM

Certified Correct

Barry Callbeck, Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Allen".

Bruce Allen, President



Dear Edmonton Division – RCMP Veterans Association,

The RCMP organizing committee would like to thank you for your continued support of the 87th annual Alberta Police Golf Association golf tournament and our charitable donation to the Children's Make A Wish Foundation. Because of the generous donation from yourself and many others, we were able to raise \$7700.00 towards making multiple young child's wishes come true.

Make a Wish Canada is on a quest to bring every eligible child's wish to life as a wish is an integral part of a child's treatment journey. This quest hits home for many, but especially police officers as the foundation is founded on the wish of a small child in 1980 who wanted to become a police officer.

As I have come to learn, more than 35,000 wishes have been granted to children across Canada. It is with the help of generous supports like yourself that more life-changing wishes will continue to be realized.

As the RCMP organizing committee hands the reigns to the Edmonton Police Service for the 88th annual APGA golf tournament, we look forward to your continued support.

Thank you again for your generous donation to the APGA and Make a Wish Foundation.



EST. 1934

Sincerely,

Dallas Traill
Alberta Police Golf Association 2021
Tournament Chairperson