



**THE CANADIAN GUARDS REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,**  
**HELD IN THE FOX AND FEATHER PUB, OTTAWA**  
**AT 1100 HOURS, 13OCTOBER, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER**

1. The President called the meeting to order at 1100. There were 19 members present which constituted a quorum.

**REMEMBRANCE**

2. Gerry Wharton gave the Regimental prayer.

3. John Barclay read the Roll of Honour which contained 40 names. A minute of silence followed.

**WELCOME**

4. The President welcomed the members present and noted the sad passing of those named on the Roll of Honour. He reminded members of the contribution Bill MacIver had made to the Association through his advice and counsel over the life of the Association.

5. The President announced that on Saturday, 20October, 2012 a dedication of the new cenotaph will take place in Brighton. Among the dignitaries will be a sergeant recently decorated for actions while serving in Afghanistan.

President`s Note. Sgt Drinkwater of 3 RCR did the dedication. A third generation volunteer and three tours in Afghanistan with a decoration on his last tour, he was just the sort of dedicator needed. It is interesting to note that 3RCR has kept up the Guards drill among other traditions and his halt would have made JJT beam with pride.

**MINUTES**

6. The minutes of the 2011 AGM were reviewed and it was moved by Myles Gregg and seconded by Ambrose Dwyer that the Minutes be adopted as read.

**CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

7. There was no business arising from the Minutes.

## REPORTS

8. a. President's Report.

(1)The President thanked all Board members and Branch Executives for their work over the period stating that their efforts keep the Association running smoothly and steadily, making his job as President so much easier.

(2)He noted that the list of fallen comrades is a reminder that members of the Association are not getting any younger and the day will come when dwindling membership and the resulting lack of volunteers will necessitate dissolution of the Association. He hastened to add that no such action is eminent but suggested that it would be prudent to start thinking about preparing plans for taking the necessary steps for the orderly winding down of operations particularly with respect to the Association's financial assets. Discussion ensued with examples of plans of like organizations such as 1Can Para Assoc and KVA being highlighted. The President encouraged members to send ideas and suggestions to the Secretary as a way of starting the planning process.

b. Financial Report

(1)The Secretary/Treasurer presented the financial report. The Association finances are summarized as follows:

|                                       |               |                |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| A. BALANCE AS AT 31AUGUST, 2011       |               | 6553.51        |
| B. REVENUE                            | 3182.34       |                |
| C. EXPENSES                           | 3070.15       |                |
| D. TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENSES (B-C)   | <u>112.19</u> | 112.19         |
| E. BALANCE AS AT 31AUGUST, 2012 (A+D) |               | <u>6665.70</u> |

### ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

| <u>ASSETS</u>     |                 | <u>LIABILITIES</u> |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Investments (BMO) | 16060.82        | Accounts Payable   | 0.00            |
| CFCF Acct         | 10503.30        |                    |                 |
| Bank Balance      | 6665.70         | Members' Equity    | 33229.82        |
| Total Assets      | <u>33229.82</u> |                    | <u>33229.82</u> |

(2)It was noted that a onetime withdrawal of \$1000.00 was made from the CFCF investment account and deposited into the Association operating account.

**It was moved by John Barclay and seconded Gerry Den Hartogh that the Financial Statement be adopted as read.**

## **CARRIED**

### c. Membership

JAS Haley reviewed the membership statistics report. The Association has 635 members in good standing but 14 of those have not paid dues since 2010. In 2012, eight members bought life memberships. He noted that surviving spouses of members in good standing are made paid up life time members with full voting privileges. Approximately 19% of the membership falls into this category.

### d. Museum Report

Gerry Wharton introduced Norman McBride, who provided a detailed report, a copy of which can be found at Annex A. Norman pointed out that with DND being concerned about financial belt tightening, the support for the Museum may come under pressure. The President stated that he has talked with LCol (ret'd) McBride, former Base Commander and member of the Museum Board/Council, who said there may be hard times ahead but he remained optimistic. Norman went on to state that the Canadian Guards Collection contains the largest compilation of Guards' regimental memorabilia in existence and that he hoped it will remain in place long after the last Guardsman has passed on. The question was then raised about who would look after the collection once the Association was dissolved and volunteers were gone. Much discussion ensued. It was pointed out that there is a Museum Board or Council and that the minutes of council/board meetings could record the wishes of the Association. Steve Gannon stated that since he volunteers in the DND office that is responsible, inter alia, for military museums he would investigate this matter further.

### e. Guards Help

Percy Price was attending the Atlantic Branch AGM in Bathurst, NB. The Secretary read Percy's report which is summarized as follows:- "He continues to deal with a number of cases with reasonable success and had assisted in 18 cases over the past year. He receives two or three calls a week asking for advice. He reported that VAC is becoming more open and helpful in dealing with individual cases since the Minister's announcement concerning cutting "red tape". The President thanked Percy, in absentia, for the excellent support he continues to provide to our former servicemen and their families.

### f. Communications

(1) Website - Gerry Heffernan stated that the website was running well with many hits being recorded and a good amount of material being submitted for posting. He stated that the service provider contract had been renewed for an additional three years, hence the increase in website expenses this year. He also reported that a Guards' Facebook link has been added to the website and seems quite popular. He added that there is no charge for this feature and it provides a very fast way to post notes and notices of events and meetings. Al Johnston added that a number of new members joined as a result of the information found on the website.

(2) Guards Net – JAS Haley reported that the net is working well with 409 addressees on the list.

(3) Newsletter - John Barclay reported that since the last AGM, two Newsletters had been issued; 550 copies of each were mailed. He stated that the winter publication would be issued in January, 2013 and the deadline for submissions is 15 December. John Hunter asked that the 2014 centennials of the PPCLI and R22eR be mentioned in the Newsletter.

#### g. Pembroke/Petawawa Branch Report

President Ambrose reported on the recent Branch executive meeting. He reported that the Branch membership remains unchanged over the year and that the Branch finances are in good shape. He provided details of the annual fall AGM and dinner which will be held 27 October, 2012 in Branch 72 Royal Canadian Legion, Pembroke.

#### h. Atlantic Branch Report.

Secretary's note. Terry Dexter sent a report following the Branch AGM and Reunion 12-14 October in Bathurst, NB. There were 115 members and wives registered. According to Dan & Wilma Murphy, they had sent several registrations back due to either illness or people who were unable to attend due to other urgent matters at the last minute. The AGM began at 1330 hours with the normal general business being conducted. The new Executive for the coming year is:

Past President-Dan Murphy-by virtue of stepping down;  
Atlantic President-Leo McManus;  
NB Vice President-Bob Christenson;  
NS Vice President-Ralph Currie;  
Atlantic Secretary/Treasurer-Terry Dexter; and  
Atlantic Web Master-Mary George (Remaining)  
Wellness Member Chris Beattie-Stepped down-no replacement at this time.

Next two Reunions:

a. 2013-St John's Nfld-Hosts Jim & Margaret King & Committee; and

b. 2014-Either Oromocto or Woodstock NB-Location & Hosts to be confirmed Will be forthcoming after the Branch AGM and attached as an Annex.

### **Other Old Business**

9. There was no old business.

### **New Business**

10. Memorial Tree in the National Military Cemetery. Gerry Wharton introduced this subject by stating that he has investigated the matter of the Association dedicating a tree in the Military Cemetery. He went on to explain that an existing oak tree, near the central monument, was available for such a dedication. "The Canadian Guards Memorial Tree" as it would be known, would have at its base, a bronze plaque mounted on a natural stone, with the inscription,

"Dedicated to the memory of  
the Officers, Warrant Officers,  
Non-Commissioned Officers and Guardsmen  
who served in The Regiment of Canadian Guards  
A Mari Usque ad Mare"

The tree, stone, engraved bronze plaque and perpetual care would cost approximately \$3500.00 He then proposed a motion that **The Association purchase, in the National Military Cemetery, a memorial tree, a stone, an engraved bronze plaque, and perpetual care of the Memorial at a sum not to exceed \$3500.00.** Myles Gregg seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued. The presentation package was passed around. It was suggested that a maple tree would have been more appropriate but none was available. There is no requirement for a bilingual inscription since Beechwood headstones and memorials can be in any language the donor chooses. The memorial tree is available now. A dedication ceremony would be held at an appropriate time to be decided. Members voted.

### **CARRIED**

11. The new Canada Not-for Profit Corporations Act. The Secretary/Treasurer briefed the meeting on the Act and its impact on the Association. In essence, the Association is required to replace its letters patent by submitting articles of continuance to obtain a Certificate of Continuance and creating and filing new by-laws which need to be approved by Industry Canada. Failing to do so by 17 October, 2014 would lead to the Association no longer being incorporated. After much discussion, it was decided that the Association will not apply for continuance.

12. The Canadian Forces Central Fund Investment. The Secretary/Treasurer announced that the Board of Directors had decided to close out the CFCF investment account. The account was closed out in September, 2012 and the funds totaling \$10,544.51 were deposited into the Association's operating account held in the Bank of Montreal.

13. Election of the Board of Directors. Pursuant to Article 130.6 of the By-Laws of the Canadian Guards Regimental Association, the following are nominated for election to the Board of Directors. Each candidate has agreed to let his name stand:

John Barclay, Henry Campbell -Petawawa, Dave DeClerq, Ian Douglas, Terry Dexter - Atlantic, Ambrose Dwyer -Petawawa, JAS Haley, Gerry Heffernan, Al Johnston, Norman McBride -Petawawa, Dan Murphy -Atlantic, Howard Pierce, Percy Price and Gerry Wharton.

The Nominees were elected by acclamation. The Executive remains unchanged.

### **Appointment of Auditor**

14. Myles Gregg was appointed auditor for 2013.

### **Other Business From the Floor**

15. There was no other business.

### **Adjournment**

16. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1214 hrs.

A.S. Johnston  
Secretary/Treasurer

I.C. Douglas  
President

## Annex A: Museum Report

### ANNEX A - MUSEUM REPORT

The museum once again has a fulltime curator. Ainsley Christensen was hired for the position early this summer. She has about 3 years' experience working with Ann, the previous curator and is very well qualified for the job. However, she will be going on maternity leave in February 2013 for a year, and her replacement will hopefully be Rachel Fricker. Rachel has been a volunteer student at both the Champlain Trail Museum in Pembroke and at the Base Petawawa Museum for the past three years and a half years while studying Museumology at Algonquin college.

The new B1 for the Museum is Major Tessier. She has been on the job for about three months and has been given an array of other assignments as well as the museum. The museum Council has not met as of this date, but we expect to hear soon that there will be a meeting. The staff will notify us as to when and where.

The museum continues to be a popular attraction. From early June to mid-September about 5,000 visitors have visited and make comments. Most visitors are former military or military, however, there is a fair number of civilians that stop in. People find the museum via road signage and word of mouth.

I was able to do a few minor things for the Guards collection this summer. Ed Theoret offered to replace the plexi-glass windshield for the Jeep with lexan. With the permission of the curator I brought the windshield to him here in Ottawa.

Recently, Bob Harnish and I cleaned, repaired and replaced a new display case in our room to hold a Bass drum and a Side drum, along with the Drum Major's cane.

For the past year or so there was no curator or B1 in place. Very little work was done in the museum. Slowly, with the appointment of Ainsley as curator, things are beginning to take shape. It is hoped that once the Council meets with the B1, plans can be made and acted upon.

I respectfully submit this report.

Norman McBride