



Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians)

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

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HOW CAN I BETTER SUPPORT MY REGIMENTAL FAMILY AND THE ASSOCIATION?

Please allow me to shed some light on an issue that concerns many of us. That is the growth and perpetuity of the Regimental Association.

Simply stated your Association established in 1974 is comprised of over 300 past serving Strathconas of every "retired" rank from Major General to Trooper and with varying amounts of time in uniform. The "Old Guard" represents experiences ranging from WW 2, Korea to Afganistan and most operations in between.

The sad fact is that our numbers are declining as our members are aging and fewer retired and released soldiers are joining our ranks.

To the point. I was once asked, and I must admit I have asked myself, why should I officially join the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) Regimental Association when in truth, without being a cardholder I will always belong to a Family of serving and retired Strathcona's. Without being a member I can attend the Reunions (albiet at a slightly increased cost). No one has denied me access to any special function. My family and I can participate in local chapter golf tournaments, Moreuil Wood functions supported by the Association and, I also have access to the on line Association Newsletter.

In fact to date, the only record of my enrolment in the Association is with the 5 member executive and a small none plasticized membership card. (I think I have lost mine)

Some may not be aware that this membership (\$20.00/year) not only provides us with this small none plasticized card but our funds and much appreciated donations goes towards supporting six Cadet corps. Our Regimental Association also gives donations to assist Loops for the troops. We support localized gatherings, casual luncheons, special events such as Melfa River crossing dinners, and of course our reunions. These Association contributions represent what our giving and supportive nature as Strathconas is about. Obviously with more we could do more.

I feel strongly that our official membership numbers could double if every retired or released member submitted a membership application and asked for that official none plasticized card and pitched in to truly support our Regimental Association. Hey, if it's about the "ol guy blazer" that's optional.

In the end we will always be Strathconas and a part of a lifelong brotherhood, however, with very little effort we could do more to support our Regimental Family and ensure this fine Association lives on for generations to come.

Peter Wonderham