

**Minutes of
The Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians)
Association Meeting
Held on May 15th 2013
St Albert Legion, St Albert, Alberta
At 7:00 p.m.**

In Attendance – 7

Agenda Item

1. **Opening Remarks.** The President welcomed those in attendance and noted that this was the first meeting of the Association under the new leadership team of:
President - Ian Barnes
Vice - Jim Merritt
Sec/Treas - Mike Hogan
Membership - Rick Dennis
2. **Fallen Comrades.** In the absence of Padre Dave McLeod, Ian Barnes led a period of silence for Darryl Prosser and Joan Blanchard.
3. **Quorum confirmation.** The President noted that the members present did not meet the minimum requirement for a quorum in accordance with the bylaws. But as they are out of date and in the process of being amended he made a **motion** that a majority of those present constitute a quorum in order that business can continue. **Seconded** by Al McBride. **Carried**
4. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved by a show of hands.
5. **Treasurer's Report.** The treasurer, Mike Hogan, reported that a bank account had been opened at the Scotia Bank in St Albert and that the current balance was \$4,883.00. He also reported that GICs were held at the Royal Bank in Calgary and they would be moved to St Albert as they mature. He noted that the previous Executive had paid a number of bills in the past month involving travel to Edmonton (two trips), a contribution to the Society for the Strathconian and a startup fee for the Calgary Chapter. He asked for a motion to approve the signing authority for cheques drawn on our account in the Scotia bank (any two of Ian Barnes, Mike Hogan and Rick Dennis). A **motion** was made by Dave Biener and **seconded** by Al McBride. **Carried.**
6. **Executive Report.**
 - a. The President introduced the executive and reported that they had held two meetings and would continue to meet monthly throughout the year.
 - b. Association Officers. He mentioned that the Executive was in the process of appointing others officers of the association. To date they were, Padre Dave McLeod (Padre Green will remain as the Association's Honourary Padre), Grant Lee – Publicity, and Michelle Gallagher – Legal counselor.

- c. Bylaws. He reported that the bylaws were out of date and that he would attempt to update them for presentation at the next meeting and approval at the AGM.
 - d. New Business Topics. He introduced the two topics; membership dues and benevolent fund. It was agreed by all to discuss these topics under new business.
7. **Membership.** Rick Dennis, the Membership representative, reported that there were currently 306 Ordinary Members, 11 Honouraries, 7 Lifetime, and 36 Associate for a total of 360 of which the ordinary and associates are paying members.
8. **Old Business.**
- a. **2015 Reunion.** Ian Barnes reported that the dates 11 to 14 June 2015 had been coordinated with the Regimental Second in command and that notices had appeared in the last two editions of the newsletter. He said that he had obtained quotes for 5 hotels in the area. He introduced a draft itinerary which received much comment and input. Changes that were being considered from previous years are, Memorial Service to be held on the Friday, the parade and visit to the Regimental lines would be held on the Saturday as it would allow families to attend and an Association meeting would be held on the Sunday following breakfast, activities for the spouses would be included and a series of history lectures would be offered on the Friday. A summary of the major themes is; Thursday June 11 – golf tournament and evening meet and greet. Friday June 12 – History presentations (WWII, Korea, Sinai and Afghanistan) would concentrate solely on the Regiment’s involvement. Veterans where practical would be involved in the presentations. He reported that he would redraft the itinerary based on the input. Ian noted that the cost for the hotels were at least 20% higher than 2010 so he had expanded the selection to include other hotels. The five hotels being considered are, Mayfield, River Cree, West Edmonton Mall Fantasy Land, St Louis and the Ramada Inn. Dave Biener reported that the Association fee in 2010 was \$150.00 and he felt that our membership would not tolerate much more than that. To keep the price down we might have to look at fewer meeting rooms, less expensive meals and possibly less activities. Dave Biener mentioned that the 2010 reunion had received a considerable amount of cash donations that helped keep the cost down. It was agreed by all that the reunion fee cost should be kept at \$150.00.
9. **New Business.**
- a. **Web Page.** Ian reported the need to update the web page. (Secretarial Note. – Ian has contacted Kathy, the Society Secretary and she will make whatever changes we wish. The executive will undertake this task. **(Secretarial Note – this has been completed)**).
 - b. **Membership Dues.** A long discussion was held on the membership dues. It had been reported that many members were curious about the fee and questioned the value they received for their money. Ian reported that he had been informed by the 2i/c that the cost of the Strathconian (\$13) must be now borne by those receiving it. It was agreed that we had to be more transparent about our expenditures and this would be included on the web page. It was also agreed that the annual membership would remain at \$20.00 a year and that the annual membership form would have a space to indicate

those who wished a copy of the Strathconian and that they would have to include \$15.00 with their membership fee in order for it to be mailed to them.

- c. **Benevolent Fund.** Ian introduced the concept of a benevolent fund being established that would be used to assist where necessary those retired members of the Regiment who were in some form of financial jeopardy due to illness or other unforeseen problems. He indicated that a committee was being considered that would include representatives from the various Chapters across Canada headed by the Association Padre. It would adjudicate requests and allocate funds as necessary. To start the process once approved it would be seeded with \$10,000.00 from the Association's finances. It was agreed that this was a credible idea and its further development supported. Approval would be sought at the AGM.

10. **Next Meeting.** The next Association meeting will be the fall - date TBA.

11. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Prepared by Ian Barnes