



# ANAVETS

Issue 1/07

Dominion Command Newsletter, Ottawa, Ontario

April 2007

**Special Points:**

- Vimy Rededication
- Our new Deputy Minister
- 18 Units increase membership

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

**Inside this issue:**

Rededication of the Vimy Monument by Queen Elizabeth II	1
New Deputy Minister	2
Annual 'Friends of the Veteran' Reception	2
President's Message	3
Insurance Coverage	3
In Memoriam	4
Canada presents Valour Awards	5
48th Biennial Dominion Convention	6
Notice for Naval Veterans	7
18 Units increase Membership 2006	7
2006 Cadet Medal of Merit Recipients	8
CWM display on Bomber Command	9
Secretary-Treasurer's Notes	10
Dominion Finance Report	11
ANAVICUS News	12

PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT NO. 40007186  
 RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO  
 ANAVETS  
 6 BEECHWOOD AVENUE, SUITE #2  
 OTTAWA, ONT K1L 8B4

## Vimy Ridge 90th Anniversary Reconstruction Unveiled for Rededication Ceremony

Thousands of Canadians attended the rededication ceremonies in France this Easter Monday, April 9th. The restoration of the Vimy monument was the signature undertaking of the Canadian Battlefield Memorials Restoration Project and has taken well over 2 years to complete. Work started in December of 2004 to repair damage caused by severe weather, water damage and erosion over time.

Veterans Affairs expected tens of thousands of people to attend the ceremonies in France and over 5000 Canadian Youth traveled to learn about the battle that "Made Canada a Nation."

The official Government of Canada delegation included a number of ANAVETS members, Dominion President, John Thompson and Honorary Dominion President, Gerry Wharton were joined by ANAVETS WWII Veterans; Alitha Florence Riddell of Moose Jaw Unit #252; John Colton of Lennoxville Unit #318; Eldon McCallum of Woodstock Unit #95 and Don White of Lethbridge Unit #34 (all shown to the right, in front of the memorial)

For more information on the restoration and rededication of the Vimy Monument and for info on the Battle of Vimy Ridge, visit the Veterans Affairs website at [www.vac-acc.gc.ca](http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca)



Left, damage caused by water prior to restoration project, late 2004

Left: installation of lighting for wall. January 2007  
 Right: stones are re-laid with precision. December, 2005

Photo Credits: P. Frutier  
 Government of Canada

## New Deputy Minister of Veterans Affairs Suzanne Tining

Suzanne Tining was appointed Deputy Minister of Veterans Affairs Canada as of January 22, 2007. Prior to her appointment, she was Associate Deputy Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and the Executive Director and Deputy Head of the Office of Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada.

From 2003 to 2004 she was a Visiting Executive with EnCana Corporation, Canada's largest oil and gas producer, through an innovative public-private sector exchange initiative. From January 2002 to December 2003, she worked with Canada Economic Development Agency for Québec regions as the Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy, Planning, and Information initially and then Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations.

She is looking forward to serving the veterans community in her new role as Deputy Minister.



New Deputy Minister, Suzanne Tining (centre) with Senator Michael Meighan (left) and Dominion President of the Royal Canadian Legion, Jack Frost (right) at the ANAVETS recent "Friends of the Veteran" Reception and Lunch.

## AGENT ORANGE UPDATE

Veterans Affairs Canada has set up two special units to help process disability claims for exposure to Agent Orange at CFB Gagetown June 1966 and June 1967. Other herbicides have also been used at the base since the 1950's.

Agent Orange is known to cause the following illnesses and medical conditions: (as concluded by the IOM) soft-tissue sarcoma; non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL); Hodgkin's disease; chloracne; respiratory cancers; prostate cancer; multiple myeloma; Type 2 Diabetes; porphyria cutanea tarda; acute and sub-acute transient peripheral neuropathy.

If you were exposed to Agent Orange and suffer from any of the above medical conditions we suggest that you contact Veterans Affairs Canada at 1-866-522-2122.

You may be eligible for a disability claim if:

- are a Veteran who served at CFB Gagetown when Agent Orange was used;
- can provide credible evidence that you were exposed to Agent Orange in a way likely to be a risk to your health; and
- have one of the medical conditions outlined by the IOM.

For more information visit the Veterans Affairs Website at [www.vac-acc.gc.ca](http://www.vac-acc.gc.ca) and click on the Agent Orange box.

## ANAVETS' annual 'Friends of the Veteran' reception

President John Thompson, Vice-President George Beaulieu, Secretary-Treasurer Lorne McCartney, and Administrative Assistant Deanna Fimrite, hosted over 60 members of the veterans' community and government at the Army Officers' Mess on 13 February, 2007. The ANAVETS annual *Friends of the Veteran* reception is our way of kick-starting the new year with an informal mingling of like minded people representing Veterans, cadets and related government and affiliate organizations. This also provides a forum to allow us to thank the veterans' community for their support throughout the year. Among those present was the Minister of Veteran Affairs, the Honourable Gregory Thompson, new Deputy Minister, Suzanne Tining, Senators Meighan and Atkins. Representatives attended from other veteran groups such as The Royal Canadian Legion, The Air Force Association, The Association of Veterans in United Nations Peacekeeping, The Korea Veterans Association, The Canadian Peacekeeping Veterans Association and the Gulf War Veterans Association. All of the Cadet Leagues, Veterans Affairs Canada, National Defence, the Canadian War Museum and many others were also in attendance. This year was again a huge success.

Top Left: President Thompson and girlfriend Lorraine in discussions with Air Force Association President, Ted Mahood.

Top Right: Members at Large, CWO (Ret'd) Smokie Leblanc (left) and Gen (Ret'd) Paul Manson (right) talk with Brad White, Director of Administration for the Legion (centre)



Bottom Left: Dominion Vice President George Beaulieu (left) and President Thompson (right) enjoy a conversation with Senator Michael Meighan, Chair of the Senate Sub-Committee on Veterans Affairs.

## President's Message



Comrades, I want to thank you all so very much for allowing me to serve as your president. What a great honour it is for me.

I have only been president for 6 months but already I have represented our interest with the American Legion "Winter Meeting" in Washington in March,

at our annual 'Friends of the Veteran' luncheon in February, and Laying a wreath at the National War Memorial for Remembrance Day.

Wherever I go, and whatever events I attend, people come up to me and tell me how much they appreciate the input of ANAVETS in the many committees and advisory groups that we participate in. Our ideas aid in providing solutions

to the many problems that are faced in providing the best support possible for our Veterans.

As you are reading this, I will probably be over in France at the ceremonies commemorating the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle for Vimy Ridge, and the rededication of the restored Vimy Monument. Our Honorary President Gerry Wharton will be along with me as a result of his valuable contributions to Veterans Affairs Canada over the many years. I must say how very proud I am to be representing you all at this wonderful event.

Being your president is very rewarding from a personal level as well. We are involved in formulating and interpreting legislation at the national level to support our veterans; our units are doing wonderful things to help in their local communities; and our members have friendly clubs to relax in and pass the time with their friends. We are all so very lucky to be doing these great things and having fun at the same time.

Yours sincerely,

Dominion President

## Insurance coverage for ANAVETS Units

Comrades,

We are happy to report that BFL Canada is coming through as promised. Read what President Rick Tait of York Unit 383 and Nick Valletta First Vice/Sec of Brantford Unit 341 have said about their dealings with Lawrence McMullan of BFL Canada. This process was agreed to by all commands at convention.

York Unit 383 in Toronto is in the process of purchasing a new building and relocating. We contacted BFL to see about them possibly insuring our new building. They provided us with a quotation for both the new building and our existing operation. For the existing operation, they were able to save us over \$1,300 per year and when we add the new building at a later date, the potential annual savings will be about \$3,000.

Lawrence McMullan at BFL was very helpful and we strongly urge all units to contact BFL to see if they can help them save much-needed dollars. All they have to do is send Lawrence a copy of their existing coverage. If we can get more Units on board, we can potentially all save more dollars.

Rick Tait, President, York Unit 383

Dear Lorne,

**I can't say enough good things about Lawrence McMullan. He did exactly what he said he would do and that was save us money on our insurance. But what really made him special was his professional prompt timing through the whole process.**

**I highly recommend Lawrence to deal with your insurance needs and he will not disappoint you.**

**I have never met him but I know from dealing with him that he is an honest and trustworthy man.**

**Truly Yours, Nick Valletta First Vice/Sec.**

Comrades, these are not paid announcements. BFL Canada had the following to say.

"We are interested in further publicizing this facility amongst ANAVETS units. Further rate reduction and coverage enhancements are available if we can make this a truly national program. And Signed by Lawrence McMullan (613) 722-7798" **Be a money saving hero at your unit and call today**

**In Memoriam**

**Victor (Lloyd) Clemett** (Feb. 22, 2007)  
Canadian World War I Veteran

**Richard Allan Griffen** (April 26, 2006)  
Member, Assiniboia Unit #283

**William (Bill) Crighton Duncan**  
(May 17, 2006) Member S. Vancouver Unit #26

**Michael Blaine Nykiforuk** (May 5, 2006)  
Member, Assiniboia Unit #283

**Douglas Wood** (June 5, 2006)#  
RCN 1943-1946; Member, Assiniboia Unit 283

**Brian Butler** (June 2006)  
Member, Victoria Unit #12

**Gord Hunter** (June, 2006)  
Member, Steveston Unit #284

**Clifford Jackson Roe** (June 6, 2006)  
Member, S. Vancouver Unit #26

**Edward "Teddy" Osborne** (June 13, 2006)  
Member, Steveston Unit #284

**William Grant Morrison** (June 21, 2006)  
Member S. Vancouver Unit #26

**Alan Lewis Vickery** (July 7, 2006)  
Member Assiniboia Unit #283

**Roland William, MM** (August 8, 2006)  
Member Penticton, Unit #97

**Stephanie Hope** (August 2006)  
Member Victoria Unit #12

**Robin Reid** (August 2006)  
Member, Victoria Unit #12

**Ollie Hill** (August 4, 2006)  
Member, Penticton Unit #97

**Frank Helden** (September 2006)  
Member Kingsway Unit #100

**James McKenzie** (September 26, 2006)  
Signal Corps 1940-1945  
Member Assiniboia Unit #283

**Eric Clifford Hodgson** (September 28, 2006)  
R.C.A.F. 1939-1945  
Member Assiniboia Unit #283

**Edward James McNeill** (October 1, 2006)  
R.C.A.F. 1942-1945  
Member Assiniboia Unit #283

**Frank McBride** (October 8, 2006)  
PPCLI 1939-1945  
Member, Assiniboia Unit #283

**Carol Noble** (October, 2006)  
Member, Victoria Unit #12

**WE SHALL NOT FORGET**

**John Jack Collinson** (October 25, 2006)  
RCACS 1956-1964  
Member Assiniboia Unit #283

**Jessie (Hazel) Sansome** (November 5, 2006)  
Member Assiniboia Unit #283

**Jonas Driaunevicius** (November 5, 2006)  
Lithuanian Army 1938-1940  
Member, Assiniboia Unit #283

**Edward Thornhill, CD** (November 8, 2006)  
R.C.A.F. 1937-1967  
Member, Assiniboia Unit #283

**Andrew Boersma** (November 14, 2006)  
Member, Assiniboia Unit #284

**Tod Hunter** (December 2006)  
Member, Steveston Unit #284

**Bonnie Yvonne Leiper** (December 22, 2006)  
Member, Assiniboia Unit #283

**Jim Look** (December 25, 2006)  
Member, Assiniboia Unit #283

**Nicholas Millinchuck** (January 1, 2007)  
Canadian Army 1943-1946  
Member, Assiniboia Unit #283

**Charles Goodwyn Creagh Duncan**  
(January 16, 2007) R.C.A.F. 1940-1969  
Member, Assiniboia Unit #283

**Robert A. Gallaher** (January 16, 2007)  
Canadian Navy 1948-1949  
Member, Assiniboia Unit #283

**Rose Hillier** (January 19, 2007)  
Wife of Past Provincial President and Dominion Officer, Noel Hillier  
Member, Bras D'Or Unit #381, Dartmouth Unit #349 and Citadel Unit #373

**Gordon Buchan** (January 24, 2007)  
R.C.A.F. 1952-1965  
Member, Assiniboia Unit #283

**George Wood** (February 21, 2007)  
Charter Member, Sidney Unit #302

**Dave Searle** (February 22, 2007)  
Member, Sidney Unit #302

**ATTN: ALL UNITS**

The Royal Canadian Naval Benevolent Fund is always willing to help eligible ex-naval personnel and their dependants in distress or time of need. Please pass their number on to all ex-naval members and dependants. For more information go to their website at [www.rcnbf.ca](http://www.rcnbf.ca) or call toll free 1-888-557-8777

## Governor General Presents the First Canadian Awards for Valour

Governor General and Commander-in-Chief, Michaëlle Jean presented Canada's first decorations of military valour in a ceremony at The Chateau Laurier Ballroom, February 19, 2007. At the same ceremony she also presented 33 Meritorious Service Decorations (Military Division).

Major William Hilton Fletcher, S.M.V., C.D. of St. Albert, Alberta and Sergeant Patrick Tower, S.M.V., C.D. of Sidney, BC were both presented with the Star of Military Valour, second only to the Victoria Cross in the Military Valour Decorations.

Medals of Military Valour, the third Canadian Military Valour Decoration, were presented to: Sergeant Michael Denine, M.M.V., C.D. of Shea Heights and St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador; Mater-Corporal Collin Fitzgerald, M.M.V. of Trenton and Morrisburg, Ontario; Private Jason Lamont, M.M.V. of Greenwood, Nova Scotia and Captain Derek Prohar, M.M.V. of Avonlea, Saskatchewan.

Medals of Military Valour have also been cited on Corporal John Makela, M.M.V. of Ottawa, Ontario and Major Michael Wright, M.M.V., C.D. of Oakville, Ontario and will be presented at a later date.

At the same ceremony the Governor General presented 6 meritorious Service Crosses to: Col Stephen Joseph Bowes, M.S.C., C.D.; Col David Allison Fraser, O.M.M., M.S.C., M.S.M.; CWO Michael Lawrence McDonald, M.S.C., C.D.; Col Steven Patrick Noonan, M.S.C., C.D.; CWO Randy Allan Northrup, M.S.C., C.D.; LCol Michael Robert Voith, M.S.C., C.D.

There were also 27 Meritorious Service Medals presented including one to our very own Member-at-Large, CWO (Ret'd) Joseph Oswald À Maurice Paul LeBlanc, M.M.M., M.S.M., C.D. or as we call him, Smokie Leblanc. To read all of the Citations for the recipients' you can visit the Governor General's website at [www.gg.ca](http://www.gg.ca) Choose "media" from the horizontal listing and then clicking on Honours News Releases from the vertical list. The press release is dated February 15th, 2007.



Back (l to r); Mater Corporal Collin Fitzgerald, M.M.V.; Captain Derek Prohar, M.M.V.; Sergeant Michael Denine, M.M.V., C.D.; Private Jason Lamont, M.M.V.

Front (l to r) Major William Fletcher, S.M.V., C.D.; CDS General Rick Hillier, Her Excellency, Michaëlle Jean and Sergeant Patrick Tower, S.M.V., C.D.

Photo Credit: Cpl Issa Paré, Rideau Hall

### Interested in becoming a Member of the Veterans Review and Appeal Board?

Members of the Veterans Review and Appeal Board are appointed by the Governor in Council to adjudicate review and appeal applications which may provide financial compensation to eligible veterans, civilians, Canadian Force and RCMP members as well as their dependants for death and/or disability related to war, peacekeeping or peacetime service. Members are also required to interpret and apply *The Pension Act, Canadian Forces Members and Veterans Re-Establishment and Compensation Act*, and other related statutes. All members are appointed for fixed terms of varying lengths.

If you are interested in becoming a Member of the Veterans Review and Appeal Board, please forward your application to VRAB. All applications received will be maintained in an inventory for consideration in upcoming selection processes.

For more information go to: [www.vrab-tacra.gc.ca](http://www.vrab-tacra.gc.ca)

### Operational Stress Injury Social Support (OSISS)

The mission of the Operational Stress Injury Social Support (OSISS) program is to establish, develop and improve social support programs for CF members, veterans and their families affected by operational stress; and provide education and training in the Canadian Forces community to create an understanding and acceptance of Operational Stress injuries.

Is there a DND-VAC OSISS Peer Support Network in your Community. How can you help?

Visit the OSISS website at [www.osiss.ca](http://www.osiss.ca) for more information on who they are, what they do and get contact information to discuss how you and your Unit can assist.

## 48TH BIENNIAL DOMINION CONVENTION

The 48th Biennial Dominion Convention of the Association was held in Winnipeg, Manitoba from Sept 16-21, 2006.

We would first like to extend our gratitude to Manitoba & NW Ontario Command, all the Winnipeg Units and Comrade Syd Stamper (Convention Chair) and his wonderful committee members who took on all of the hard work to put together a great Convention.

We would also like to thank all of the delegates that attended the Convention for their time and energy in providing the decisions that will guide our Association into the future.

There were many great memories made in Winnipeg this past fall and it would be hard to list all of them, but here is a highlight of activities and programs from the ANAVETS Convention.

- John Thompson was elected Dominion President for the ensuing term. Congrats Comrade Thompson!
- The following Comrades received the Associations' highest honour, the Award of Merit: Comrades Chuck Byron (ON), Noel Hillier (NS), John Thompson (MB),

David Shaw (NS), Norman Briscoe (BC) and Elaine Drysdale (BC). Congrats to you all.

- New members elected to the Board of Directors' are Comrades Rev. Canon Thomas McKnight (AB), Peggy Lee Lavallee (SK) and Ron G. Smith (MB & NW Ont.)



48th Biennial Dominion Convention  
Winnipeg, September 17-20, 2006

The Dominion Command still has a few of the Convention photos (shown above) available for purchase at \$10.00 each, they are 8x10 and come in a stand up folder frame.

## COMMAND & UNIT NEWS



Ontario Command Units presentation of \$16,000.00 to Parkwood Hospital 29 March for the 'Veterans Bed' project. From left Sue Hardy Hospital Foundation, Al Ouellette President Unit 393, Charles Albers President Unit 265, Bob Cassels Provincial President, Deb Wiltshire from the Hospital Veterans wing, Paul Hooper Provincial Vice President, Peter Young Unit 261, Shirley White L.A. President Unit 261, and Peg Cook L.A. Unit 261.

The special beds were purchased for use in the Veterans Wing of the Parkwood Hospital and will make the lives of

Veterans residing there a lot more comfortable. The specialty beds cost over \$4000.00 each and Units in Ontario donated funds to the Ontario Command for the project. They are hoping to continue raising funds in order to purchase more specialized beds for the wing in the future.

.....

Selkirk Ladies Auxiliary #151 will be celebrating their 75th Anniversary on June 3, 2007. Congrats to all the ladies in Selkirk and keep up the great work!

.....

Vernon Unit #5 took home 1st place, again (7th year running), in the Vernon Winter Carnival for best decorated pub or lounge. This years theme was the "South Pacific." Congrats to all

the members of the Decorating Committee for all of their hard work and hours of dedication to get the club room in blue ribbon shape!



## Important Notice to Naval Veterans

### Did you serve onboard Royal Canadian Navy ships between World War II and 1970?

#### If so...,

- You are among an estimated 18,000 at risk servicemen who were exposed to unusually high doses of asbestos onboard naval ships.
- Any amount of asbestos can cause or contribute to the development of lung cancer many decades later.

#### Did you know? ....

- the Department of Veterans Affairs is taking responsibility of ex-servicemen/women who are presenting fighting lung cancer as a result of exposure to asbestos;
- you may be eligible for up to \$250,000 in disability compensation;
- you may be eligible for extended health coverage and other supports such as a house cleaner, hospital bed at home, etc.
- a surviving widow may be eligible for disability compensation

#### As a precaution you should...

- Contact your Doctor immediately and explain to him/her that you have a history of asbestos exposure
- Give your doctor a careful history including any shortness of breath
- Ask for a thorough physical examination - make sure your doctor assesses your lungs and looks for signs of clubbing
- Arrange for an assessment of lung function
- Demand a chest x-ray to determine if there is any evidence of asbestos-related disease.
- If the chest x-ray shows abnormalities, various diagnostic procedures may follow to establish a diagnosis  
If the chest x-ray is clear, it should be repeated annually, to screen for any changes that may develop.

Contact Veterans Affairs Canada, toll-free, at 1-866-522-2122

### Searching for a Comrade

Searching for Davies, William (Bill), RCAF who was stationed in London, Ontario in 1941. Last heard from him in 1942. Favorite song was "I'll be with you in Apple Blossom Time." Seeking family or comrades who may have any information about Bill. LAC Don Purdy, RR#5, Unit #233 Stratford, ON N5A 6S6 or email: [dpurdy@quadro.net](mailto:dpurdy@quadro.net)

### The following 18 units increased their membership in 2006.

Congratulations and well done to all of you. You're obviously working hard at your membership and it is paying off! Take a bow! :)



#### Unit Name & Number

#### City, Command

#### **Pacific Unit #280**

Ucluelet Unit #293

Chilliwack Unit #305

#### **Montreal East Unit #308**

Lennoxville, Unit #318

Lethbridge Unit #34

Portage La Prairie Unit #13

Rockwood Unit #303

Duke of Edinburgh #201

#### **Simcoe Unit #255**

Guelph Unit #344

#### **Lambeth Unit #345**

#### **Martello Unit #377**

#### **York # 383**

#### **Orillia, Unit #400**

New Waterford, Unit #217

Citadel, Unit #373

Bras D'Or, Unit #381

Woodstock, Unit #95

Vancouver, BC

Ucluelet, BC

Chilliwack, BC

Montreal, QC

Lennoxville, QC

Lethbridge, AB

Portage La Prairie, MB & NW Ont.

Winnipeg, MB & NW Ont.

Belleville, ON

Simcoe, ON

Guelph, ON

London, ON

Kingston, ON

Toronto, ON

Orillia, ON

New Waterford, NS

Halifax, NS

Bras D'Or, NS

Woodstock, NB

Units in **Bold** were on last years list as well. **DOUBLE CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU! ALSO A BIG CONGRATS OUT TO NOVA SCOTIA COMMAND WHO INCREASED THEIR MEMBERSHIP OVERALL IN 2006.**

We hope to see the name of YOUR Unit on this list next year, so get involved and see what you can do to increase awareness and membership in your community. Remember that many hands make light work.

### Attention all Canadian Veterans of the Persian Gulf War

(2 Aug 1990 - 27 June 1991)

The Embassy of Kuwait has commenced the distribution of the Liberation of Kuwait medal. To determine if you qualify for the medal and to complete the application form, visit [www.embassyofkuwait.ca](http://www.embassyofkuwait.ca) and fax or email application and proof of service to: Embassy of Kuwait, 333 Sussex Dr. Ottawa ON K1N 1J9 fax: 613-780-9999, email: [info@embassyofkuwait.ca](mailto:info@embassyofkuwait.ca)

## ANAVETS CADET MEDAL OF MERIT 2006 RECIPIENTS

<u>Cadet Names</u>	<u>Cadet Corps/Squadron</u>
Francis Trudeau	2938 RCACC
Mykola Lenchuk	2736 RCACC
Maxymilian Olszewski	2824 RCACC
Eric Elloway	121 RCACS
Ranlogan Sowamber	176 RCSCC
Kachinga Sipula	25 RCSCC
Victoria Bartlett	249 RCSCC
Claire Pascoal	33 RCSCC
Erin Mercer	205 RCACS
Ethan Kendrick	386 RCACS
Jason Berndt	2328 RCACC
D. Avery	219 RCACC
M. Robinson	1859 RCACC
A. Ormsby	2562 RCACC
Y. Messiaen	3006 RCACC
A. Boutin	2820 RCACC
C. Smith	2355 RCACC
James Powell	598 RCACS
David Brosseau	151 RCACS
Alexander Matchem	237 RCSCC
Alexandre Gareau	537 RCACS
Candace Whitway	774 RCACS
Johnathon Dunphy	236 RCSCC
Adam Biggs	40 RCSCC
Dane Sackney	113 RCSCC
Myles Hewitt	152 RCSCC
Kyle Sulz	93 RCSCC
Kathleen Walls	169 RCSCC
Steve Blaney	2820 RCACC
Aphelie Pare	2820 RCACC
Janie Desrosiers	2446 RCACC
Fabio Pinzon	2725 RCACC
Maxime Patry	743 RCACC
Daniel Maillet	51 RCACS
Lucas Bourdeau-Spallanzani	67 RCACS
Olivier Albert	776 RCACS
Francis Lacelle	230 RCSCC
Martine Desrochers	287 RCSCC
Olivier Matte	170 RCSCC
Jacques Bergeron	247 RCSCC
Jessica Lapointe	245 RCSCC
Christian Perron	894 RCACS
Etienne Mottet-Desilets	894 RCACS
Alexandra Blackburn	2820 RCACC
Daniel Major	1292 RCACC
Anna Bachmier	1726 RCACC
Blythe Heywood	3063 RCACC
Brandon Zehanoviz	2422 RCACC
Harsimranjeet Bhatia	2824 RCACC
Joseph Afonso	2833 RCACC
Cassandra Harpe	2915 RCACC
Christine Kicinko	1913 RCACC
Ka-Hei Chan	351 RCACS

Emma Louth	62 RCACS
Alcyia Kosterman	755 RCACS
Mark Redekop	702 RCACS
Court Herron	22 RCSCC
Anthony Everitt	744 RCACS
Christine Eisner	110 RCSCC
Sophie Tesfaye	614 RCSCC
Cam-Tu Tomkins	40 RCSCC
Terry Morin	40 RCSCC
Douglas Carlson	84 RCACS
Lawrence Lau	810 RCACS
Shamus Rainford	2309 RCACC
Wesley de Leeuw	RCACS

RCSCC= Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps  
RCACC= Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps  
RCACS= Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron

Right, Comrade Syd Young, Alberta Past Provincial President, presents Pipe Major, Cadet Wesley de Leeuw with the ANAVETS Cadet Medal of Merit for Music Training at the Penhold Air Cadet Summer Training Centre.



Below, Comrade Neil McKinnon presents ANAVETS medals to the best overall cadets in CLI (Cadet Leadership Instructor Courses) at Blackdown Summer Training Centre, Base Borden, ON



Left, BC Provincial Past President Don Mann presents ANAVETS Cadet Medal of Merit to Cadet F/SGT Erin Mercer as best cadet in the new ANAVETS medal category of the Power Pilot Scholarship Course

Right, Don Mann presents to Cadet SGT Jason Berndt who was the best overall cadet in the Glider Scholarship Course at the Regional Gliding School (Pacific)



## Museum Display on Bomber Command

Comrades,

It seems wherever one looks nowadays someone has an opinion on the Bomber Command display at the Canadian War Museum (CWM). ANAVETS is a representative on the Veterans Liaison Committee of the museum, along with the RCL and NCVA and have spoken on this issue on two occasions.

We do not agree with the one panel entitled "Strategic Bombing" under the general heading "AN ENDURING CONTROVERSY". The reason is not in the historical facts. We know that war is amoral, that cities and industry were bombed, and that many Germans died. We do not wish to rewrite history and change the facts, for it is only through truth that we will learn. The objection that we have is in the implication of the wording, for it is misleading and not a fair representation of the truth.

Firstly, the panel talks about an enduring controversy but then doesn't explain what the controversy is about. So what specifically was the controversy about? Was it that:

- Cities should not be targeted in war even though they may help to weaken the enemy's morale and destroy strategic links and manufacturing facilities? or
- Aerial bombing wasn't very effective against targets and that Bomber Command resources could have been used elsewhere to more effectively benefit the war? or
- War is amoral?

For all three of these issues are **controversial** but are not specifically identified as the actual issue, or given a balanced discussion or any discussion for that matter.

IN FACT THERE IS NO DISCUSSION on the issue. It is just **editorializing** pure and simple, with a few numbers on deaths and wounded thrown in for credibility.

In an effort to defuse the situation, the CWM contracted with 4 noted historians to analyse the display and render an opinion. Two of the historians clearly understood the situation and recommended adjusting that portion of the display, or removing it entirely as the subject was covered almost identically on another panel. The other two historians looked at the total display, considered it balanced and backed the museum. They did not address the particular panel that, if read on its own, is a very biased portrayal of events.

In any event, the Museum of Civilization, the overseer of the CWM decided in favour of the museum, thus protecting their own interests but not necessarily the best interest of history.

The result is a very awkward situation. The CWM has painted itself into a corner. For if they adjust the display in any way, even if it is to clarify history, then they will be accused of bowing to special interest groups at the expense of history. Even though it is their portrayal of history that we want to correct.

Following are the feelings of Retired F/O Don Currie who agrees (the relevant parts of two emails shown below).

From: Donald M Currie  
Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2007 10:32 PM  
Subject: War Museum

Hi - I'm sure I am not alone in objecting to the wording on the plaque for the Bomber Command exhibit at the Canadian War Museum.

I remember singing "Don't Let's Be Beastly to the Germans" during the war. This looks like another attempt to be politically correct, while **writing off the deaths of 10,000 RCAF as being wasted on killing German civilians.**

*And in a further email dated 23 March, he stated:*

"Certainly you may quote me. I feel that the holdover from the "Valour and Horror" continues to colour a lot of people's thinking. **Innocent people die in wars, it happens in every war. To continue to perpetuate the thought that the killing of German women and children was the purpose of Bomber Command is the ultimate in re-writing history.**

**I was an Observer/Navigator in 635 Squadron, and our last raid of the war was on Bertchesgaden.**

Sincerely Don Currie ex F/O 635 Sqdn, PFF"

For those who haven't yet seen the offending panel, we have included a photo of it below.

Lorne McCartney,  
Dominion Secretary-Treasurer

## Strategic Bombing

Mass bomber raids against Germany resulted in vast destruction and heavy loss of life.

The value and morality of the strategic bomber offensive against Germany remains bitterly contested. Bomber Command's aim was to crush civilian morale and force Germany to surrender by destroying its cities and industrial installations. Although Bomber Command and American attacks left 600,000 Germans dead, and more than five million homeless, the raids resulted in only small reductions in German war production until late in the war.

Left, The controversial panel in the Bomber Command Display at the Canadian War Museum. ANAVETS believes that it is the only panel that needs to be removed or reworded with a more balance photo display to ensure that the facts are fairly represented.

### SEARCH FOR PHOTO

A retired Queen's Own Rifles person would like to a graduation picture of 67 Platoon. If you have such a picture please contact Alex McGreal via email at: [alfay@quickclic.net](mailto:alfay@quickclic.net) or by telephone at (905) 679-1218.

# Secretary-Treasurer's Notes

## Web Master

We recently went out to our local Community College and hired a part time Webmaster. So Teuila should be improving things in that area shortly.

## Wedge Caps

We have now chosen a supplier and have gone out to Units through their commands with measurement instructions and asking units to combine their orders and send them to Dominion Command by 30 April.

Once we have the number of Wedge Caps required, we will have to go to the Crest provider and the Canadian flag providers and order the required numbers of product. Once received these will be sent to the manufacturer for the production of the final product.

Once we receive the product, we will immediately send them out to the units. We would like units to pay for their orders in under the 30 day receivable window if possible. This will enable us to pay for the large order without having to dig into our bank account which costs money.

We also ask that units and individuals not call to hasten the order or their part of it. All orders will be handled at the same time with equal priority.

## Regalia: Support our Troops magnetic ribbons

Comrade Lavallee, chairman of the Publicity and Public Relations Committee came to us with a request that we produce some magnetic bumper stickers for "Supporting our Troops". We have developed 2 styles, and have gone out for quotes.

Peggy Lee is working through her committee to determine demand so that we can place our order.

These bumper stickers will provide a little money for operations; and bring some positive Public Relations which should help improve membership.

## Awarding the Victoria Cross to our Unknown Soldier

The position of ANAVETS is that we should not award the Victoria Cross to the Unknown Soldier for two principle reasons:

- First, contained in clause 12 of the Royal Warrant of 5 Feb 1856 authorizing the medal, it states that the medal may not be awarded "without conclusive proofs of the performance of the act of bravery for which the claim is made." And since it would be difficult, if not impossible to ascertain this information, then the Unknown Soldier does not qualify for the medal; and
- Secondly, when the Unknown Soldier was brought back to Canada the project working group, comprised of senior governmental officials from VAC, DND, NCC, PWGSC, PCH, RCMP, CWM and the Canadian Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the three main veterans organizations (ANAVETS, RCL, and NCVA) as well as others unanimously agreed that the Unknown Soldier should not be elevated in any way above his fallen comrades therefore, **"The Victoria Cross or other military honours would not be considered for the Unknown Soldier"**

## Cadet Educational Bursary

The \$1000 Colonel Frank R. Kossa Commemorative Bursary was initially designed to provide support to RMC Cadets who had to pay their own tuition. This program has been cancelled and we are now working to provide this ANAVETS Kossa bursary to the Cadet Leagues. The qualification being that you had to be an *ANAVETS Medal of Merit* recipient.

This will be great for the Cadet movement which is an excellent program for our youth. Further it will advertise and highlight ANAVETS and our prestigious medal.

Units or individuals are encouraged to provide additional funds so that we can expand this very worthwhile program.

## Bursary for direct descendants of ANAVETS members

ANAVICUS, our American unit has come through again. They are working on providing a \$1000 bursary to any direct descendant of an ANAVETS member entering their first year of a registered Canadian College or University. You will be kept advised as the negotiations continue. The estate of the late Judge Foley will be funding this program.

## Improving ANAVETS

For large issues involving the direction of our great association it is important that we all participate at convention. There are, however, issues that would improve many aspects of the association that could be discussed and implemented without having to wait for the next convention. Even if there is a requirement for a final vote at a convention, the staffing and preparation could be done well before.

So if individuals or Units have an idea that would improve ANAVETS, talk to your comrades, write up a business case for your idea: the benefits, and possibly some of the potential downsides then staff it to your Provincial Command for input and support. By handling improvements as we go along, we will have better formulated ideas and solutions, that can be implemented sooner. This will also free up more time at convention for discussion, training, etc.

## VETERANS' WEEK 2007 (5 to 11 November)

Again this year, all Units and Commands will be able to post their local events on the VAC web site. From last year, there were a lot of favourable comments about being able to nationally advertise local events.

As well, for those Veterans going to schools to talk to the children, this year there will be 2 training packages, the first for K to 6, and the other 7 through high school. These will be geared towards these specific age groups and are available from VAC. They include DVDs Historical newspapers and other training aids. These can be ordered directly from VAC, or through the school. All schools have at least one sample of the package.

In addition, DND has prewritten (prepared portions to add to your own message) speeches that may be of use to those addressing audiences. We will send relevant info out to all Units and Commands through e-mail when it becomes known.

*S-T Notes Cont Next page...*

## S-T Notes Continued

Or, if something comes up where you would like a canned speech, (last year they came in various lengths), then just send me an email, giving your audience size and composition, and how long you wish the speech to last and we'll send you one.

---



---

### *Where Poppies Grow*

*In Afghanistan where poppies grow  
Our soldiers fight a vicious foe  
They're over there for you and me  
Fighting for democracy*

*They come from the east and they come  
from the west  
Our Canada sends the very best  
They're fighting there in the blazing sun  
And they won't come back 'til the battle's  
won*

*There are some like you and some like me  
Some disagree and some agree  
It may be wrong it may be right  
But our soldiers stay and proudly fight*

*In Canada our life is free  
While others live under tyranny  
We're over there to answer the call  
Freedom....for one and all!*

*Bernie Smith - 2007*

### REPORT OF THE DOMINION FINANCE CHAIRMAN

In February, I spent three days at the Dominion offices in Ottawa. During that time, as chair of finance, I reviewed the annual audit done by Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton along with Dominion President, John Thompson, Lorne McCartney and Deanna Fimrite. Finances are holding, but the decline in membership continues to be our biggest problem. This affects us at all levels, Unit, Provincial and Dominion. It is a problem that has to be solved.

I attended the annual Dominion Command Luncheon which was a huge success with over sixty people in attendance. They were representatives from different levels of government (M.P.s, Senators, Minister of Veteran Affairs), retired generals and all the heads of veteran organizations.

While in Ottawa I did some research, with the help of Lorne and Deanna, on the costs of convention and pre-convention meetings. I will continue to work on this issue and will report findings and recommendations at the pre-convention meeting in Lethbridge in September 2007.

George L. Beaulieu  
Vice-President, Chair of Finance  
Member of the Executive Management Committee

### **Be proud of our heritage.**

Not only have we had members from the first and second World Wars, Korea, the UN Peace Keepers and NATO, consider the following:

We were founded in 1840 by veterans living in Canada at that time and therefore safe to assume that our founding comrades were veterans of **the War of 1812** and the **Napoleonic Wars**. Because we were the only veterans organization in Canada, there is a strong probability that we had members who had served in the **1837 Rebellion** which took place a scant 3 years before our founding and in **the Nile Expedition** of 1884 four years after our formation. The same premise applies to veterans of **The Fenian Raids** which were between 1866 and 1870, the **North West Rebellion** of 1885 and **The Boer War** of 1899-1902. We must also have had veterans of the dozens of little wars fought throughout the Empire during Queen Victoria's reign who subsequently emigrated to Canada.

Be proud of our heritage. Strive to ensure its perpetuation.

### **Honorary President's Corner**

I would like to remind all units that I sit on the Veterans Affairs Canada review panel for the *Cenotaph/Monument Restoration Program*. We review and approve the applications for maintenance funds for war monuments throughout Canada.

We have included a brochure on this government program in this newsletter. VAC will fund 50 percent of all restorations up to a maximum of \$25,000. The process is fairly easy and the resultant improvements to our military monuments makes it well worth it. Usually cities chip in a substantial amount as well.

If you have any questions, please give me a call through the Dominion office or check out the VAC website.

Yours in Comradeship,  
Gerry Wharton



Newsletter Editor  
Secretary-Treasurer Lorne McCartney

**THE ARMY NAVY & AIR FORCE  
VETERANS IN CANADA ASSOCIATION**

6 Beechwood Ave, Suite 2  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1L 8B4

Phone: 613-744-0222  
Fax: 613-744-0208  
Email: [anavets@storm.ca](mailto:anavets@storm.ca)



**ANAVETS**



**WE WOULD LIKE YOUR HELP**

The Dominion Staff needs your help !

We try to publish a newsletter that would be of interest to the members of the Association. It takes a great deal of time and expense to publish this newsletter. Much of this time is as a result of having to retype articles and scan in pictures because they are not in electronic format.

It would very much help us if you could possibly provide your articles and supporting photographs in electronic format.

Thank you very much, Lorne and Deanna

**AERO MODE CLOTHING COMPANY**

Offering good quality, well priced uniforms for all of our members. Blazers, flannels, short and long sleeved shirts available.

Order forms available in the back of the Regalia Price list or by request from the Dominion office.

**ANAVICUS NEWS**

Dominion President John Thompson and his lovely girlfriend Lorraine flew to Washington, DC in early March to attend the American Legion, Washington Meeting and to induct 13 new members into ANAVICUS.

The ANAVICUS induction breakfast took place early Monday morning with President Thompson assisting ANAVICUS President, Jake Comer in inducting the newest members of the United States Unit of our Association.

After the induction ceremony there was the annual wreath laying at the grave of Gen. Hershey in Arlington National Cemetery. (right, above: (l to r) Jake Comer, Lorraine and President Thompson arriving at Arlington Cemetery. Right, below: Dominion President, John Thompson and ANAVICUS President, Jake Comer laying the wreath at the gravesite of Gen. Hershey.

The next induction of members into ANAVICUS (Our United States Unit) will be in late August at the American Legion National Convention in Reno, Nevada.

