



ANAVETS

Issue 1/04

Dominion Command Newsletter, Ottawa, Ontario

March 2004

Special Points:

- 60th Anniversary of D-Day and Battle of Normandy
- ANAVETS' 47th Biennial Convention
- Budget 2004
- Leadership

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CANADA TO HONOUR D-DAY & BATTLE OF NORMANDY VETERANS EARLY IN 2004

The 60th Anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy will be marked by the Government of Canada with commemoration ceremonies in France and throughout Canada during the first half of 2004. Canada suffered 18,444 losses in this battle.

The scope of the activities associated with the "Return to Normandy" overseas event is unprecedented, and is unlikely to be repeated. This event is expected to attract a larger number of Canadian veterans than any other overseas event planned by Veterans Affairs Canada. In Canada, there are events and ceremonies being planned for Ottawa and each Provincial Capital and many other locations. **See attached VAC update article for more details.**

CANADA TO HONOUR CANADIAN VETERANS OF THE ITALIAN CAMPAIGN DURING FALL OF 2004

Although the program has not yet been completely worked out at Veterans Affairs Canada, there will be significant ceremonies to commemorate the many heroic actions of our troops in Italy during the Second World War. Options are being considered and we can expect to hear more on the events and activities surrounding Canada's participation in Italy. I anticipate that there will be an overseas event in Italy and that Veterans' Week 2004 will focus mainly on the Italian Campaign. Let us not forget that Canada's over 5,900 identified war dead in Italy are buried mainly in 17 Commonwealth War Cemeteries or commemorated on the Cassino Memorial. **Look for more news on this commemoration in the coming months.**

ANAVETS Preparing For 47th Biennial Convention in Saskatoon

Everywhere throughout the Association people are busy preparing for what promises to be an another interesting, memorable and enjoyable convention in beautiful Saskatoon, SK, 11-15 September, 2004, at the Sheraton Cavalier Hotel. Planners at the Dominion, Provincial, and Unit 38 level are working hard to make this convention another huge success. To Wayne Bourget, the Convention Organizing Chair and his committee, we offer our best of luck. See page 14 for further details.

MEMBERSHIP - STILL ANAVETS' TOP PRIORITY

The following 30 units increased their membership in 2002. 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
Victoria Unit #12	Victoria, BC
Steveston Unit #284	Richmond, BC
Ucluelet # 293	Ucluelet, BC
Pompier Unit #314	Burnaby, BC
Matsqui, Unit #315	Mt. Lehman, BC
Maple Ridge # 379	Maple Ridge, BC
Alexander of Tunis, Unit #2	Calgary, Alberta
Sir Winston Churchill #3	Edmonton, AB
Grande Prairie, Unit #389	Grande Prairie, AB
Saskatoon #38	Saskatoon, SK
Prince Albert, Unit #222	Prince Albert, SK.
Yorkton #1103	Yorkton, SK
Fort Garry, Unit #60	Winnipeg, Manitoba
Thompson, Unit #388	Thompson, Manitoba
Duke of Edinburgh, Unit #201	Belleville, Ontario
Kitchener, Unit #247	Kitchener, Ontario
St. Mary's, Unit #265	St. Mary's, Ontario
Owl's Unit #306	Toronto, Ontario
2/10th Dragoons #341	Brantford, Ontario
Guelph #344	Guelph, Ontario
Lambeth, Unit #345	London, Ontario
Martello # 377	Kingston, Ontario
York # 383	Toronto, Ontario
London # 393	London, Ontario
Ottawa Valley, Unit #396	Carleton Place, ON
Orillia, Unit #400	Orillia, Ontario
Magog, Unit #203	Magog, Québec
Montreal East, Unit #308	Montreal, Québec
Montreal North, Unit #348	Montreal, Québec
Citadel, Unit #373	Halifax, NS
Pictou Co # 395	Pictou, NS

Let's all agree to follow the example of the above units and work diligently and effectively to incorporate the idea of increasing membership as our number one priority in our volunteer work and play at ANAVETS.

YOU CAN DO IT !

Paying special attention to first year members can convert them into productive lifetime members

Since the fall of 2001, membership has been ANAVETS number one priority and it is paying off. Thanks to the good **work** many of you are doing, ANAVETS mem-

bership has stopped the major downward landslides of the 1990s and overall reduced our reductions to a trickle in comparison. The 2004 membership results are in and they confirm what was agreed upon at Convention 2002; i.e., that membership must remain ANAVETS' number one priority or we will cease to exist in the future. Overall, in 2004 ANAVETS' membership dropped **585** or **2.8%**. This is a considerable improvement over the 7-10 % drops of the 1990s, but not as good as last year when we only lost 2.2 %. Executives and members at all levels must continue taking appropriate (read more aggressive) action to improve our membership numbers. We know that there is nothing we can do to stop aging and dying and that we must continue to renew our Association without forgetting our past. Therefore, it is obvious that our future lies with Canada's younger folks, getting them to join our Association and just as important, **retaining them** as productive lifetime members.

The mantle of Vice President Membership has been passed to 1st Vice-President Ken Henderson. He cannot do it alone. There are some tough choices ahead if we are to walk that fine line between maintaining traditions and becoming a more progressive organization that will appeal to today's and tomorrow's youth. We do not have a monopoly and the younger generation has other veteran associations to join if we do not meet their needs. We need to remember and respect our past, but not be stuck in it to the detriment of the Association and its members. We need to adapt to the changes going on about us. We made big strides towards this end at our last Convention. It would be great if we could increase our membership by having other veterans groups join ANAVETS, but the likelihood of this happening is very low. Maintaining or **retaining** or better yet, increasing membership is vital to our survival. To do so, we will have remove or soften what may be seen as "barriers" to our membership growth.

Where membership has increased in the past year, it is because of the leadership and an aggressive approach to membership. Every meeting by leaders at all levels must involve membership discussions and actions. Are you doing that in your Command and Unit? Poor leadership and disharmony in a unit can greatly damage membership levels. Are you doing all you can to create a vibrant and harmonious unit? Involve and engage all members.....make them feel important and wanted.

SPEAK OUT ! Let's hear from you on this issue.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As you are aware, I represent ANAVETS on the Canadian Forces Advisory Council. On March 17th, 2004, we released a discussion paper "*Honoring Canada's Commitment: Opportunity with Security*" for the Canadian Forces Veterans and their families in the 21st Century, as well as a reference paper entitled: "*The Origins and Evolution of Veterans Benefits in Canada 1914-2004*". The discussion and reference papers completed by the council over the past year outline veterans' benefits for today's Canadian Forces Veterans and their families. The following are six-points from that paper: a complete overhaul of the way Canadian Forces Members and Veterans are compensated for injury; the development of a robust program of transition benefits; the development of policies to better support spouses and children within military families during transition; expanded Canadian Forces Veteran Health Care Benefits, including a more comprehensive mental health strategy and new approaches to rehabilitation and retraining; acknowledgement of the government's duty to accommodate disabled CF Veterans through an enhanced priority for Public Service Employment; and the provision of equitable access to funeral and burial benefits.

It is imperative that the men and women of the Canadian Forces be assured at all times that the country has a comprehensive, coor-

ordinated and easily understood plan for their future (all of the Command's will receive copies of the discussion paper).

You will remember in the last newsletter that, at the Board Meeting, we talked about change in the Association Dress, i.e.: Ties and Hats. We have a sample of each that you will see at your next meeting. The tie covers the three armed services: maroon for the Army, blue for the Navy and sky-blue for the Air Force. The proposed new hat is wedge style, dark blue in color with gold piping, affixed with the ANAVETS crest on the left hand side and embroidered with the word "ANAVETS". We would like each Command to approve the new hat and tie at your meeting, so that we can place the orders to have them available this spring.

The re-write of the By-Laws is not going as well as we had hoped, due to the lack of input from some of the committee members, i.e.: Dominion Command Officers and Provincial Command representatives. The Chairman hopes to have the Dominion Section completed for your approval.

I look forward to seeing you at our Biennial Convention in September of this year (we will be making some very important decisions and directions that ANAVETS should be doing to keep this great Association going strong!).

Bob Cassels

Dominion Command Holds Annual Reception In Ottawa

President Bob Cassels, ably assisted by Honorary Dominion President John Hardy, Vice-President Ken Henderson, Vice-President Chuck Byron and his wife Maryan, Secretary-Treasurer Jack Arseneault, and Administrative Assistant Deanna Fimrite, hosted 60 members of the veterans' community at the Army Officers' Mess on Thursday, 12 February 2004. The purpose of the gathering is to allow the President of ANAVETS to thank the veterans' community for their support throughout the year. It also provides an informal setting to discuss many of the issues with which all members of the community are dealing. Among those present was Minister of Veteran Affairs, John McCallum, VAC's Parliamentary Secretary John O'Reilly, VAC's Deputy Minister, Jack Stagg, Verna Bruce, Bob Mercer, plus a few

others from VAC. Present from DND was the Parliamentary Secretary, **David Price (a 35 year ANAVETS member from Lennoxville #318!)** and VCDS Lieutenant-General McDonald. Senator Michael Meighan (Chair of the Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs), many MPs including Elsie Wayne, Legion President Allan Parks, and Legion Secretary Duane Daly. Representatives attended from other veteran groups such as two of the Peacekeeping Associations, the RCAF Association, All of the Cadet Leagues, Commonwealth War Graves Commission, and Canadian War Museum. The atmosphere was cordial and it was apparent that everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Our reception in February has become a "sought after event" **See pictures located later in this paper.**

Regalia News - NEW HEADDRESS & TIE ?

The biggest news is that the Board of Directors have been attempting to improve our appearance in uniform and are examining a dark navy blue wedge cap with gold piping to replace the purple beret and a tri-coloured tie (Navy Blue, Maroon & Sky Blue - representing the three services) to replace the burgundy one we now have.

Samples are being forwarded to each Board member for demonstration purposes. You can see a picture of

the proposed new cap & tie in the attachments. The reaction from those who have seen the samples to date are very positive.

Until a formal decision is made on the new proposals, we will not be ordering any more berets or old ties. Also, the new advertising brochure is being held up until we finalize our new uniform.

For a complete list of all of our inventory and prices, please go to on our web site at www.anavets.ca

In Memoriam



WE SHALL NOT FORGET

It is with deep sadness that I inform you of the passing of the following members of ANAVETS:

Joan Masters (28 Oct 2003)

(WRCNS 1943-45) Assiniboia Unit #283

Margaret Appleby (1 December 2003)

Member Assiniboia Unit #283

Richard Hewitt (1 December 2003)

1946-56 RAF; 1956-71 RCAF

Member Assiniboia Unit #283

Alvin E. Thomas (9 December 2003)

Member Assiniboia Unit #283

Bob Valiant (23 December 2003)

Member-Steveston Unit #284

John Kaiser (5 January 2004)

Member Steveston Unit #284

Raymond C. Anderson (8 Jan 2004)

Member Assiniboia Unit #283

Edward A. Robson (14 January 2004)

RCN 1952 - Member Assiniboia Unit #283

Henry (Hank) Ford (21 January 2004)

Unit Past President Belleville Unit #210

Ontario Provincial President

Served as Dominion Vice-President

Russ Miller (21 January 2004)

1942-45 Queens Own Cameron Highlanders

Member Assiniboia Unit #283

Mae Khan (24 January 2004)

Provincial 1stVice President - Nova Scotia

Wife of Vice President Akmal Khan

Helgi Christiansen (26 January 2004)

1941-45 RCNVR

Member Assiniboia Unit #283

Cec Rosger (27 January 2004)

1939-45 PPCLI

Member Assiniboia Unit #283

Maureen Thompson (25 February 2004)

Member Assiniboia Unit #283

Wife of John Thompson - Dominion Vice President

Fidell Gillis (23 March 2004)

President Glace Bay Unit #246

Leadership Elections At ANAVETS' 47th Convention

The Board of Directors has discussed and are considering changes to the way we elect or select our Dominion leadership. If some of the changes are approved at the Pre-Convention Board meeting in Saskatoon, the Convention delegates will be presented with resolutions to approve the recommended changes.

In the past, a member was appointed to the Dominion executive from his Provincial Command. The newest member became the 7th Vice-President and in theory, was to move from 7 to 6 to 5 to 4 and so on until after 12 years, he was to become the President. In short, the present system is built on seniority. The Board is considering recommending to the convention delegates that we change to a system of merit. Another idea under consideration is to have the elections for President based on a secret ballot. Since most of you do not have the opportunity to really get to know who you are electing to lead your Association as Dominion President, it has also been recommended that those executive officers interested in running for President, will be required to appear before each Provincial caucus to talk about himself, what he would do if elected for the members and the Association, and answer any and all questions placed before him by the delegates.

With such a system, it will be possible for the delegates to elect the best person to be President at the convention. "Best person" at one time and under certain circumstances does not mean "best person" all the time. The qualities and attributes of one person may better suit the office of the President during one period and set of challenges facing the Association and those same qualities could make him the wrong person at another time. We have all heard that cliché: We want the right person in the right job at the right time. The system under consideration would permit us to do that in ANAVETS.

President Cassels has made it clear at this time that he will be seeking the office that doesn't involve getting elected again: Past President! Thus, as a delegate, your most important role could be electing the right executive officer to become your next Dominion President!

**See a related article reprinted
LEADERSHIP — A MATTER OF
CHOICE— THE MEMBERS'
CHOICE !**

LAST POST FUND ONTARIO FIELD OF HONOUR DEDICATION CEREMONY

AT MEADOWVALE CEMETERY, BRAMPTON
ONTARIO

SUNDAY - 02 MAY 2004 at 15h30

Recently, the Ontario Branch of the Last Post Fund made the decision to establish a Field of Honour at the Meadowvale Cemetery in Brampton, Ontario. The Last Post Fund (LPF) is a non-profit organization and registered charity whose purpose is to ensure that no eligible Veterans are denied a dignified funeral and burial for lack of sufficient funds. The Field of Honour will provide affordable plots for Veterans and their spouses in the Greater Toronto Area. The section selected at Meadowvale Cemetery for this purpose is adjacent to the National Korean War Veterans Memorial.

The Ontario Branch of the Last Post Fund will be dedicating its newly opened "*Ontario Field of Honour*" on 02 May 2004 at 15h30. The ceremony will take place at Meadowvale Cemetery. The Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Ontario, as the official Patron of the Ontario Branch, will officiate at the ceremony.

If interested in attending, we would be happy to provide any additional information or detail on the ceremony by contacting the Acting Manager, Jaime MacKinnon at 1-800-563-2508, Extension 27 or by replying to this e-mail.

Long-Term Care Symposium

Veterans Affairs Canada is responsible for providing institutional care for eligible veterans and civilians. Long term institutional care may be provided in VAC's only remaining departmental facility, Ste. Anne's Hospital, Ste. Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec, or in designated veterans' beds in provincial or community-based facilities. As part of its responsibility for long term care for veterans, VAC is holding another National Long-Term Care meeting to share best practices and advances in elder care in the areas of dementia, palliative and respite care. The symposium is being held in Halifax on 3-5 May 2004. Representatives attended from the provincial ministries of health and the major veterans' organizations. Vice-President Ken Henderson will be attending on behalf of ANAVETS and we look forward to his report in the next newsletter.



D-Day & Battle of Normandy 2004



"Return to Normandy"

The 60th Anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy Schedule of Events for Normandy, France June 2004

Friday, June 4

AM - Cavalcade of Veterans along the Normandy coast with an opportunity for local communities to greet Canadian Veterans.

Saturday, June 5

15:00 - Government of Canada ceremony and wreath laying at the Canadian War Cemetery, Beny-sur-Mer.

Sunday, June 6

10:30 - Official Government of Canada ceremony and events at the Juno Beach Centre.

Visitation to beach: Canadian Veterans and their families who have returned to Normandy will be welcome to visit Juno Beach. High tide is estimated to be at 14:30.

15:30 - International Ceremony at Arromanches (Will be broadcast for general viewing at Juno Beach Centre).

Monday, June 7

14:00 - Canadian Battlefields Foundation ceremony and wreath laying at the Caen Memorial Garden.

15:30 - Canadian Battlefields Foundation ceremony and wreath laying at la Place de l'Ancienne Boucherie.*

16:30 - Canadian Battlefields Foundation ceremony and wreath laying in memory of those who were executed within the walls of the Abbaye d'Ardenne at St Germain la Blanche Herbe.*

Tuesday, June 8

10:00 - Government of Canada ceremony and wreath laying at the Bretteville-sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery, Cintheaux.

P.M. - Short historical visits at St. Lambert sur Dives and Verrières Ridge hosted by the Canadian Battlefields Foundation.

Please note, this schedule is subject to change.

**Space is very limited at these ceremonies.*

In-Canada Ceremonies

The in-Canada 60th D-Day & Battle of Ceremonies, being lead by Veterans Affairs Canada in cooperation with all levels of government and veterans associations, will be held in each Provincial Capital City in Canada for 2004 as a minimum. To obtain more information as to what specifically is happening in your area, you can call a toll free number as follows:

1-800-443-0394

(This number can also be used to find out additional information for the Normandy events also)

The organizing committees in each province are hard at the final details of planning and are intend on ensuring our Battle of Normandy heroes are properly commemorated, perhaps for the last time. The activities are varied across the country and include such events as a Royal visit to Regina, a 1000 troop march in Toronto, Gardens of Remembrance in the Atlantic Provinces, Theatrical Productions in BC, and Ceremonies of Remembrance throughout Canada. The Lieutenant-Governors and Premiers will also be involved and will host receptions in each province. More information is available in the attachments.

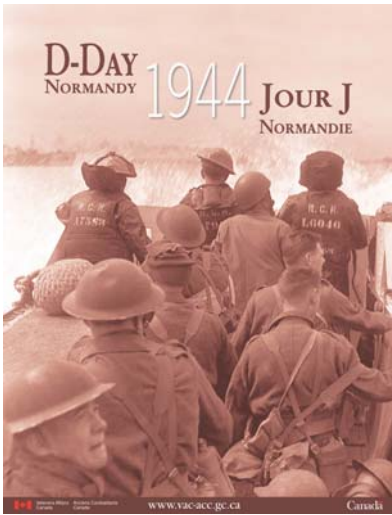
On 29 March 2004, the Royal Canadian Mint unveiled a Commemorative Coin in honour of our D-Day & Battle of Normandy heroes at Pier 21 in Halifax. This is the pier where most of troops sailed away from on their journey to defend Europe.

The Minister of Veterans Affairs launched the 2004 in the Hall of Honour in the Parliament Hill main building. Present along with the veterans of Battle of Normandy were most MPs and Senators. Mr McCallum unveiled the D-Day 2004 poster.

Find out what is happening in your area and participate or attend this historic commemoration in Canada's history.



Canada Remembers D-Day Veterans



Ottawa - Today (30 March 04), the Honourable John McCallum, Minister of Veterans Affairs, launched the Government of Canada's commemorative activities to mark the 60th anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy. The Minister, accompanied by Second World War Veterans, unveiled the official D-Day poster commemorating this historical event. The Royal Canadian Mint

was also present to display its new D-Day coin.

"This year marks the 60th anniversaries of significant military engagements of the 20th Century, including the historic D-Day landings and the Battle of Normandy which led to the end of the Second World War," stated Minister McCallum. "We encourage Veterans, their families and Canadians—especially young Canadians—from coast to coast, to participate in the upcoming ceremonies and events that recognize these anniversaries."

Commemorative ceremonies and events will be held across Canada and in France leading up to and on June 6, 2004, which marks the 60th anniversary of D-Day. As well, the Government of Canada will launch a series of events and educational products to publicly mark the 60th anniversary, including a Remembrance Poster, a coin and a stamp. On Sunday, June 6, a ceremony of remembrance will be held at the National War Memorial in Ottawa at 11 a.m. and in each provincial and territorial capital to commemorate the anniversary of D-Day and the Battle of Normandy.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Veterans Affairs 60th Anniversary of D-Day Advisory Committee for their help and guidance in planning this special anniversary," said Minister McCallum. The Committee is chaired by Major-General (Ret) Richard Rohmer, a D-Day Veteran, and includes representatives from major Veterans' organizations.

Canadians who are also planning to travel on their own to France for the D-Day commemorative events are encouraged to download the online Veterans Affairs Canada Travel Questionnaire (www.vac-acc.gc.ca) to ensure their access to overseas events. <mailto:communications@vac-acc.gc.ca>,

A video of the 60th Anniversary of D-Day was played during

the ceremony. An electronic copy of the Poster of the 60th Anniversary of D-Day can be downloaded from www.vac-acc.gc.ca.



A D-Day veteran and an Army Cadet unveil the 2004 D-Day Poster on Parliament Hill with Minister McCallum looking on.



Prime Minister talks to ANAVETS at unveiling. L to R: Member at Large Gerry Wharton, Dominion Honorary President John Hardy, PM Paul Martin and Secretary-Treasurer Jack Arseneault

FEDERAL BUDGET 2004 ANALYSIS

CDA IS ENCOURAGED BY THE NATIONAL SECURITY THEME THAT IS RESIDENT IN THE 2004 BUDGET

Ottawa, ON. The Conference of Defence Associations (CDA), is encouraged by the Honourable Ralph Goodale's announcement of enhancing national security through national preparedness and international engagement. The Ministers responsible for preparedness, security, foreign affairs, defence, and development are to be congratulated for revisiting national fundamentals. The 2004 Budget takes a long-term approach by assessing that an uncertain future requires more financial options, and sets a goal of significant debt reduction.

The CDA notes that some of the issues raised in the joint Queen's University-CDA Institute study entitled *Canada without Armed Forces?* are being addressed. The Budget reconfirms the government's plan to establish a National Security Policy. In spite of having to wait another year for full defence policy disclosure, the budget does reveal that defence will be more closely integrated with development and the two fronts of national security - preparedness at home, and forward engagement.

This budget sets aside non-budgetary resources to allow the Department to move the acquisition of fixed-wing Search and Rescue aircraft forward in time without displacing other planned capital investments. This measure will allow DND to spend an additional \$300 million on capital in 2005-06 and similar amounts in subsequent years until this procurement is completed. In addition to the \$300 million for ongoing peace and stability operations, the door is left open for additional funding for other operations. Although not clearly stated in the 2004 Budget, existing financial-management tools allow DND to shift unspent monies totalling \$350 million to the next fiscal year. Service personnel on high-risk operations will be heartened to hear that their earned incomes, up to the maximum salary of approximately \$75,000, will be tax exempt. The budget notes the need to finance **several major** acquisition projects, including the maritime helicopter (The Sea King replacement) project.

The CDA is encouraged by Budget 2004 and looks forward to a full foreign and defence policy review that hopefully will be founded on a new National

Security Policy. It would appear from this budget that the Paul Martin government is intent on enhancing Canada's international profile through adequately funded defence and development policies that are in line with Canadian interests.

In summary:

- CDA is encouraged by Minister Goodale's budget, as it relates to defence, and by Minister Pratt's successful articulation of immediate defence needs.

- The \$950 million in new and advanced monies for the next two years signal the government's intent to reconstitute today's force. The indeterminate money allocations for new equipment indicate a willingness to build a future force. Both of these are welcome signs.

ANAVETS is a member of the Conference of Defence Association (CDA) and supports the above position.

New Horizons for Seniors

This budget recognizes the contribution that is made by seniors and seniors' groups to their communities. It provides \$8 million in 2004-05 and \$10 million annually thereafter to fund a New Horizons for Seniors Program. This program will support a wide range of community-based projects in all areas of Canada that enable seniors to participate in social activities, pursue an active life and contribute to their community.

CANADA IS ONE OF VERY FEW COUNTRIES WITH A SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PENSION SYSTEM

Although public pension systems around the world differ greatly, Canada is one of very few countries with an actuarially balanced public pension system. As a result of reforms in 1997, which increased the degree of pre-funding of the CPP/QPP and improved stewardship and accountability, the CPP/QPP is now actuarially sound for at least the next 75 years.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON FEDERAL BUDGET 2004

The Importance of Health

Highlights

- Confirmation of an additional \$2 billion for the provinces and territories for health, bringing to \$36.8 billion the funding provided under the February 2003 First Ministers' Accord on Health Care Renewal.
 - Establishment of a new Canada Public Health Agency as a focal point for disease control and emergency response.
 - Immediate funding of \$665 million in this fiscal year and over the next two years to improve Canada's readiness to deal with public health emergencies.
 - Improved tax fairness for Canadians with disabilities and caregivers.
- Increased funding of \$30 million annually to support employment assistance programming delivered by provinces and territories for Canadians with disabilities.

Inclusion of Persons With Disabilities

The Government of Canada views greater inclusion of Canadians with disabilities as a national priority. Greater inclusion contributes not only to the well-being of persons with disabilities themselves, but also to the life and economy of the country through the contributions citizens make as they learn, work and volunteer.

Improving Tax Fairness for Persons With Disabilities and Caregivers

The Government is committed to improving tax fairness for persons with disabilities and those who care for them. In recent years a number of tax measures have been enhanced to recognize that persons with disabilities and those who care for them face extra non-discretionary costs that reduce their ability to pay tax. Since 1996 tax relief for persons with disabilities or above-average medical expenses and those who care for them has more than doubled from \$600 million to more than \$1.2 billion annually.

In the 2003 budget the Government established the Technical Advisory Committee on Tax Measures for Persons with Disabilities to advise the Minister of Finance and the Minister of National Revenue on tax issues affecting the community of persons with disabilities. The Technical Advisory Committee comprises members of organizations representing persons with disabilities, medical practitioners and private sector tax experts. It is scheduled to report in the fall of 2004. The 2003 budget also set aside \$25 million in 2003–04 and \$80 million annually, starting in 2004–05, to improve the fairness of the tax system for persons with disabilities and those who care for them, based on the findings of the committee. The \$25 million set aside for 2003–04 has been reprofiled to future years.

This budget acts on an early proposal by the Technical Advisory

Committee to provide better tax recognition of disability supports expenses, and improves the tax recognition of medical expenses incurred by caregivers on behalf of dependent relatives.

Better Tax Recognition of Disability Supports Expenses

Based on its work to date, the Technical Advisory Committee has proposed that the Government address concerns raised by the community of persons with disabilities regarding the recognition of the costs of disability supports required for employment or education (for example, sign language interpreters and talking textbooks). Currently such supports are recognized under the medical expense tax credit (METC), which can result in income-tested benefits such as the goods and services tax credit being reduced and tax being paid on the income (including government assistance) used to purchase disability supports. The budget proposes to create a new deduction for disability supports, which will allow expenses in respect of disability supports to be deducted from income if they are incurred for education or employment purposes. As a result, income used to pay for these expenses will not be taxed and will not affect income-tested benefits.

This measure will be effective as of the 2004 taxation year. It is estimated to cost \$15 million annually and will be funded from amounts set aside in the 2003 budget.

Better Tax Recognition of Caregiver Expenses

This budget also proposes a measure to better recognize expenses incurred by caregivers. Many Canadians provide care and support to adult family members, particularly elderly parents or grandparents or adult children with disabilities. Through measures such as the eligible dependant credit, the infirm dependant credit and the caregiver credit, the personal income tax system currently provides tax relief in recognition of the extra basic living expenses associated with providing support or care.

However, in many cases, caregivers incur medical and disability-related expenses, in addition to basic living expenses, for a dependent relative. While taxpayers paying such expenses for a spouse (and, in most cases, a minor child) can generally claim these expenses under the METC, the ability to claim medical expenses incurred for other dependent relatives under the METC is very limited.

To address this issue, this budget proposes to allow caregivers to claim more of the medical and disability-related expenses they incur on behalf of dependent relatives. The amount of this claim will be capped at \$5,000. This measure will better recognize the costs of caregivers and ensure they receive fair recognition under the income tax system for medical and disability-related costs they incur on behalf of dependent relatives.

This measure will be effective as of the 2004 taxation year and is estimated to cost \$20 million in 2004–05 and \$25 million in 2005–06.

Dominion Command Holds Annual Reception In Ottawa



Pictured above L to R: DND Parliamentary Secretary David Price (a 35 year member of ANAVETS from Lennoxville!); President Bob Cassels; and Vice-Presidents Ken Henderson and Chuck Byron.



L to R: MP Elsie Wayne; DND's VCDS LGen Macdonald; Minister of VAC, John McCallum; MP Peter Stoffer, Legion Grand President Charles Belzile; and Senator Michael Meighen.



ANAVETS Adm Asst Deanna Fimrite; MP Claude Bachand; and Katie Martin Asst to Elsie Wayne



Dominion Secretary-Treasurer Jack Arseneault shares a laugh with Secretary General Brad Hall of CDN Commonwealth War Graves Commission.



President Cassels addresses the gathering from the head table.



L to R: Legion President Allan Parks; ANAVETS Honorary Dominion President John Hardy and VAC DM Jack Stag.

March 29, 2004

ROYAL CANADIAN MINT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA UNVEIL D-DAY COMEMORATIVE COIN AND MEDALLION

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA - The Royal Canadian Mint unveiled today a 2004 Sterling Silver collector coin commemorating the 60th anniversary of D-Day today with Veterans Affairs Canada.

Beverley Lepine, Chief Operating Officer of the Royal Canadian Mint, was joined by the Honourable Senator Alasdair Graham, on behalf of the Honourable Stan Keyes, Minister of National Revenue and Minister of State (Sport) and the Honourable John McCallum, Q.C., M.P during an event held at historic Pier 21 in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

"This coin is a fitting tribute, on this 60th anniversary of D-Day, to Canada's distinguished Veterans and their families and to all those who have fought for our freedom", said Senator Graham. "The 2004 Silver D-Day Coin continues the Royal Canadian Mint's proud tradition of commemorating significant moments in the life of our nation."

Designed by a former chief engraver of the Royal Canadian Mint, Mr. Thomas Shingles, the 2004 sterling silver five-cent piece reprises the original "tombac" five cent coin design that was issued between 1943-1945. The 2004 coin features the legendary 1942 Torch and V design, which was derived from Churchill's famous "V" sign, and serves as both a symbol for victory and the denominational value.

In keeping with the original design, an international code message of bars and dots along the rim of the coin spells out: "We Win When We Work Willingly". The obverse features the portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II by Canadian artist Susanna Blunt.

"Standing at historic Pier 21, for our 2004 D Day coin unveiling is particularly fitting," said Beverley Lepine, Chief Operating Officer of the Royal Canadian Mint. "Almost half a million Canadian service personnel left Canada through Halifax's port during the Second World War, and to this day, it continues to serve as one of this nation's military transport hubs.

"Close to sixty-years ago, Canada and its allies sustained one of the greatest seaborne invasions in history. There are few military events in the life of this country that evoke the degree of emotion as does D-

Day," said the Honourable John McCallum, Minister of Veterans Affairs Canada. "I am extremely proud to participate in unveiling this historic coin, and salute the brave men and women who have honoured our nation with their heroism."

This Sterling Silver five cent coin, available in Proof finish, contains 92.5% silver, 7.5% copper and is available for \$29.95 CDN with a limited mintage of 20,000 worldwide. To honour the important anniversary, the Royal Canadian Mint has struck a companion bronze medallion, which depicts the same tombac design, but features the effigy of the original 1944 five cent piece. It is the portrait of His Majesty King George VI, Canada's celebrated Monarch who took a symbolic stand with Winston Churchill during "our finest hour" by refusing to leave Buckingham Place. The commemorative set also includes a CD with highlights of Canadian events leading up to the D-Day invasion.

All Royal Canadian Mint products and individual coins are available directly from the Mint at 1-800-267-1871 in Canada, 1-800-268-6468 in the US, or on the Internet at <http://www.mint.ca/>. The coins are also available at Canada Post and the Royal Canadian Mint's global network of dealers and distributors.



Mr. Roy C. Rushton, President of the Normandy Veterans Association joins members of the Halifax Boy's Honour Choir to unveil commemorative coin.



The nickle



The Medaillon

A BIT OF HUMOUR

Some Humour for the "Older Folks"

ROMANCE

An older couple was lying in bed one night. The husband was falling asleep but the wife was in a romantic mood and wanted to talk. She said: "You used to hold my hand when we were courting." Wearily he reached across, held her hand for a second and tried to get back to sleep.

A few moments later she said: "Then you used to kiss me." Mildly irritated, he reached across, gave her a peck on the cheek and settled down to sleep. Thirty seconds later she said: "Then you used to bite my neck." Angrily, he threw back the bed clothes and got out of bed. "Where are you going?" she asked. "To get my teeth!"

DOWN AT THE RETIREMENT CENTRE

80-year old Bessie bursts into the rec. room at the retirement home. She holds her clenched fist in the air and announces, "Anyone who can guess what's in my hand can have sex with me tonight!!" An elderly gentleman in the rear shouts out, "An elephant?" Bessie thinks a minute and says, "Close enough."

DRIVING

Two elderly women were out driving in a large car - both could barely see over the dashboard. As they were cruising along, they came to an intersection. The stoplight was red, but they just went on through. The woman in the passenger seat thought to herself "I must be losing it. I could have sworn we just went through a red light." After a few more minutes, they came to another intersection and the light was red again. Again, they went right through. The woman in the passenger seat was almost sure that the light had been red but was really concerned that she was losing it. She was getting nervous. At the next intersection, sure enough, the light was red and they went on through. So, she turned to the other woman and said, "Mildred, did you know that we just ran through three red lights in a row? You could have killed us both!" Mildred turned to her and said, "Crap, am I driving?"

Some Humour to Enjoy Over A Drink

After the North American Beer Festival, all the brewery presidents decided to go out for a beer. The guy from Corona sits down and says, "Hey Senor, I would like the world's best beer, a Corona." The bartender dusts off a bottle from the shelf and gives it to him. The guy from Budweiser says, "I'd like the best beer in the world, give me 'The King Of Beers', a Budweiser." The bartender gives him one. The guy from Coors says, "I'd like the only beer made with Rocky Mountain spring water, give me a Coors." He gets it.

The guy from Molson sits down and says, "Give me a Coke." The bartender is a little taken aback, but gives him what he ordered. The other brewery Presidents look over at him and ask, "Why aren't you drinking a Molson's?"

The Molson president replies, "Well, I figured if you guys aren't drinking beer, neither would I."

A Canadian is walking down the street with a case of beer under his arm.

His friend Doug stops him and asks, "Hey Bob! Whacha get the case of beer for?" I got it for my wife, eh." answers Bob. "Oh!" exclaims Doug, "Good trade."

Did you hear about the war between Newfoundland and Nova Scotia?

The Newfies were lobbing hand grenades; the Nova Scotians were pulling the pins and throwing them back.

In Canada, we have two seasons...six months of winter and six months of poor snowmobiling.

One day an Englishman, an American, and a Canadian walked into a pub together. They proceeded to each buy a pint of Labatt Blue. Just as they were about to enjoy their beverages, three flies landed in each of their pints. The Englishman pushed his beer away from him in disgust. The American fished the offending fly out of his beer and continued drinking it as if nothing happened. The Canadian picked the fly out of his drink and started shaking it over the pint, yelling, "SPIT IT OUT, SPIT IT OUT YOU BASTARD!!!"

A Quebecer, staying in a hotel in Saskatoon phoned room service for some pepper. "Black pepper or white pepper?" asked the concierge. Toilette pepper!" yelled the Quebecer.

LEADERSHIP — A MATTER OF CHOICE— THE MEMBERS' CHOICE !

At the forthcoming Convention, there is going to be an election of Dominion Officers and in particular, a **new Dominion President**. Therefore, I thought I would reprint an article on leadership to generate some discussion and thinking throughout ANAVETS about what type of leaders we want and need at the Dominion level at this crucial time in our history.

Selecting a leader is not an easy decision. It should not be a popularity contest. Deciding who would be best, given the particular situation the Association is facing at this time, is a serious responsibility for all members. Nominating a friend or the most senior may not do the individual or the organization any good, if he/she is not capable, committed, a leader, or not the right person for the job. Nominate a person who you think is competent, has the professionalism, decision-making ability, desired personal values, demeanour, training, background, knowledge, commitment, desire, time, ability to communicate, and will work as a colleague in an executive group for the betterment of "all" members. Different type of leaders should be elected when their style of leadership best fits the situation at hand. There are no cookie-cutter solutions to leadership challenges, and there are no shortcuts to success.

What is a leader? There are many definitions, here is but one. **Leadership** is **influencing** people—by providing purpose, direction, and motivation—while **operating** to accomplish the mission and improving the organization. Leadership starts at the top, with the character of the leader. In order to lead others, you must first make sure your own house is in order.

Influencing means getting people to do what you want them to do. It is the means or method to achieve two ends: operating and improving. But there's more to influencing than simply passing along orders. The example you set is just as important as the words you speak. And you set an example—good or bad—with every action you take and word you utter. Through your words and example, you must communicate purpose, direction, and motivation. Purpose gives people a reason to do things. When providing direction, you communicate the way you want the mission accomplished. You prioritize tasks, assign responsibility for completing them (delegating authority when necessary), and make sure your people understand the standard. People want direction. They want to be given challenging tasks, training in how to accomplish them, and the

resources necessary to do them well. Then they want to be left alone to do the job. Motivation gives subordinates the will to do everything they can to accomplish a mission. It results in their acting on their own initiative when they see something needs to be done.

We should want to be led by leaders of character who are good role models, consistently set the example, and accomplish ANAVETS' mission while improving the Association at all levels. We should want a cohesive organization of high-performing units characterized by the warrior ethos. ***A good leader will strive to create a climate in which each member can find personal meaning and fulfillment.***

Competent, confident leaders tolerate honest mistakes that do not result from negligence. The pursuit of excellence is not a game to achieve perfection; it involves trying, learning, trying again, and getting better each time. This in no way justifies or excuses failure. Even the best efforts and good intentions cannot take away an individual's responsibility for his actions.

The leader of character and competence acts to achieve excellent. He/she should have the following **values**: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honour, integrity & personal courage. **Attributes** required are: mental, physical & emotional. **Skills** necessary include: interpersonal, conceptual, & technical know-how. The leader must be able to **Influence** (communicate, decision-making, motivate), **Operate** (plan, execute, & assess), and **Improve** (develop, build & learn). ANAVETS needs good leaders at this critical stage in its history. **It is up to you members to do your part...elect the best overall leaders !**

*Just as the diamond requires three properties for its formation—carbon, heat, and pressure—successful leaders require the interaction of three properties—**character, knowledge, and application**. Like carbon to the diamond, character is the basic quality of the leader. But as carbon alone does not create a diamond, neither can character alone create a leader. The diamond needs heat. Man needs knowledge, study, and preparation. The third property, pressure—acting in conjunction with carbon and heat—forms the diamond. Similarly, one's character, attended by knowledge, blooms through application to produce a leader.*

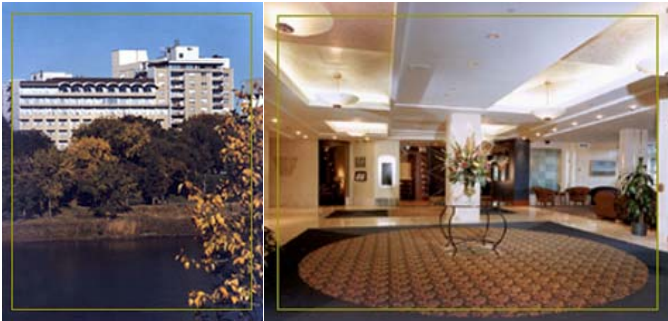
Best of fortune members.....the selection of the next ANAVETS' Dominion President is in your hands!

ANAVETS' 2004 Convention Information

Date: 11-15 September 2004

Location: Sheraton Cavalier Hotel, 612 Spadina Crescent East, Saskatoon, SK, S7K 3G9

For Making Reservations: 306-652-6770



Ideally located downtown in the heart of Saskatoon's business and shopping districts, the Sheraton boasts a beautiful view of the South Saskatchewan River and lush surrounding parks. Local attractions include the University of Saskatchewan, Ukrainian Museum of Canada, Wanuskewin Heritage Park and Western Development Museum.

The Hotel is near theatres, shopping centres, walking trails and surrounding parks. Guests will also enjoy our dining diversity and, most of all River Country. River Country is a twisting, turning adventure in water featuring two giant indoor waterslides, a large main pool, children's pool, two hot tubs and a poolside licensed snack bar.

Host Command: Saskatchewan Provincial Command

Host Unit: Saskatoon Unit 38

Principle Organizers:

Dominion: Jack Arseneault Secretary-Treasurer

Convention Chair: Wayne Bourget, Unit 38

Registration forms and brochure prices have been sent to each unit and Command. **Registration forms must be submitted to Hotel NLT 1 July 2004. Brochure Ads & Honour Roll in by 1 June 2004.**

All delegates arriving by air will be met at the airport by host Unit and transported to Hotel.

Registration:

1200-2000 hrs Saturday 11 Sept 04

1000-1400 hrs Sunday 12 Sept 04

Highlights:

Parade: 1500 hrs Sunday 12 Sept 04 - Forming up in front of Hotel (Units are to bring flags)

Opening Ceremonies: Assembly 1730 hrs

Business Session Commences - 0900 Monday

Sports Afternoon - Tuesday

Wednesday - Elections & then Closing Banquet

Unit 38's L.A. will be serving breakfasts & lunches in Unit's Ensign Room. There will be entertainment nightly.

Unit 38 is planning tours for the ladies.

In the Service of Canada

Ottawa - The Honourable John McCallum, Minister of Veterans Affairs, today invited Canadians to help Veterans Affairs Canada create a seventh Book of Remembrance. This new Book of Remembrance, entitled *In the Service of Canada - The Seventh Book of Remembrance*, will recognize members of the Canadian Forces who died in service to their country since October 1, 1947. It will be added to other Books of Remembrance, currently displayed in the Memorial Chamber of the Peace Tower in the Centre Block of the Parliament Buildings. The existing six Books of Remembrance commemorate those Canadians who lost their lives during the First and Second World Wars, the Korean War, the 1885 Nile Expedition and the South Africa War, as well as Merchant Navy and the Newfoundland Forces.

Veterans Affairs Canada is asking Canadians to forward any information they may have regarding servicemen and women who have died since October 1, 1947, and whose death is attributable to their military service - exclusive of those commemorated in the Book of Remembrance - Korean War. This would include the name of the member, service number and date of death.

"The Books of Remembrance are symbols of Canada's pride and appreciation towards the Canadian Forces. This Book will continue this tradition and ensure that Canadians always remember those who have given their lives to protect others," said Minister McCallum. "Any information Canadians can give us will help ensure the complete accuracy of the Seventh Book of Remembrance."

A National Advisory Committee for the Seventh Book of Remembrance Project has been formed to provide guidance and advice for the creation of the book. "This project will greatly benefit from the wealth of knowledge and first-hand experience of the dedicated committee members," said Minister McCallum. The committee is comprised of representatives from the **Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada**; the National Council of Veteran Associations in Canada; the Royal Canadian Legion; the Canadian Peacekeeping Veterans Association; the Canadian Association of Veterans in United Nations Peacekeeping; and the Gulf War Veterans of Canada, as well as the Department of National Defence.

Canadians can forward any information by email to commemoration@vac-acc.gc.ca or by mail to: <mailto:lauren.nicholson@vac-acc.gc.ca>

Veterans Affairs Canada
Canada Remembers
Seventh Book of Remembrance Project
12th Floor, Room 1208
66 Slater St., Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0P4

ANAVETs is represented on this committee by the Dominion Secretary-Treasurer Jack Arseneault.

Due to the amount of research and work to be accomplished, it is not expected that the 7th Book will be completed before 2005.

10 Seconds Longer

The concept comes from Walt Disney World's Guest Relations. Take a few extra seconds to find another way to help the member (guest), then you improve their experience and level of satisfaction.

We can do the same with members calls. Before hanging up... practice taking just 10 seconds longer to ask them a satisfaction-question.

- "Is there anything else I can help you with today?"
- "Did you receive the most recent newsletter?"
- "Are you planning to attend the upcoming conference?"
- "Can I help you with any other membership questions?"
- "Would you like to speak with anyone else in the office?"
- "Would you like me to confirm your address, telephone, fax and e-mail address while you are on the phone?"
- "Do you need any membership applications or other materials?"

"If you do need anything else, please call me back (my name is _____)."

Remember – We are all Member Service Representatives in customer relations!

Command and Unit News — “Making a Difference”

Thank you once again to those who have shared their news with the Association. See attached the clippings that we have received about the wonderful things you great people are doing out there to “make a difference” and to make your communities a better place to live. Thank you also to those many units who sent us their latest copy of their newsletter. It is so great to for us at Dominion Command to have an understanding at what is going on out in the “field” at our units. A huge thank you from Deanna and me.

Since we have a scanner and computer it would be appreciated if you send in copies of the original photos. It makes for much better reproduction. Many did, thanks!

Our people do so much to make a difference. Please let us know of their outstanding work so we can share it with the whole Association. They deserve recognition.



Ontario Provincial Secretary Ken Barnett present the Frank Kossa bursary of \$1000 to Cadet Jamie Higgs at Royal Military College - Oct 2003



Jack Gregg, Secretary-Treasurer of Windsor Unit 30 presents George McMahon of Windsor Air cadets a cheque for \$500 with President Norm Hall looking on.



11 Nov 2003 Remembrance Ceremony in Windsor, Ontario. At the podium is ANAVETS' Life member Canon B.A. Silox with Colour Sgt Ian Hunter.



ANAVETS' Unit 342 in Cornwall, ON held its Children's Christmas Party on 14 December. 52 Kids receives gifts, hotdods, juices, candy canes, books, and crayons.

See the newspaper articles attached that came in from various units. It is great to see such stories and of what and how the ANAVETS' Association is doing for veterans, Canadians and communities across Canada. Well done to you all! Bravo Zulu!

“Making a Difference”



Dominion President Bob Cassels MC'd the ceremony around the release of the CF-VAC's Advisory Cttee report entitled "Honouring Canada's Commitment: 'Opportunity with Security'" for CF Veterans and Their Families in the 21st Century. Seated at the table is the Chair of the Cttee Dr Peter Neary of Western University and LGen (Ret'd) Romeo Daillaire. See attachments for a copy of the Executive Summary.



There were 21 members of the DF-VAC Advisory Cttee that met twice a year over the past two years to provide the report. Pictured above are members of the veterans' organizations that contributed. L to R: ANAVETS Bob Cassels; Legion's Pierre Allard; CAVUNP's Don Ethell; CPVA's Harold Leduc; Gulf War VA's Bob McKinnon; and Air Force Association's Bob Tracy.



On 25 Oct 03, AB Provincial President Syd Young, presented a new unit charter to Hank Penner, the first President of Strathcona Unit 99. L to R: Rev Canon Tom McKnight, Past President of AB Comd & acting Sgt-At-Arms for this occasion, Syd Young, MC & Provincial 1st Vice President Warren Hennigar, and Hank Penner.



Above Provincial 1st Vice-President Warren Hennigar proceeds with the roll call of the new members as part as the "chartering of the new Unit 99.

On the right, chatting and enjoying the "afterglow" for the Chartering of Unit 99 was L to R: Dominion Vice-President Sam Crowshaw; Unit 99 President Hank Penner; Provincial President Syd Young; and Provincial 1st Vice President Warren Hennigar.



Newsletter Editor
Secretary-Treasurer Jack Arseneault

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ANAVETS



ANAVETS' WEB SITE — www.anavets.ca —

Visit us....

We continue to try to provide an informative and interesting site for ANAVETS members and potential members. To date, there has been over 11,000 hits on our web site. We have received inquiries from potential members thinking of joining ANAVETS. We send them information on how to contact the unit in their vicinity and a few, not near any of our units, have joined as Members-at-large. Other individuals, particularly from United States, England and Australia, contact us as a result of finding about on the web site to seek information about their veteran family members or to obtain information on a family member who served in the military. We do what we can to help them all.

Included in the site are news & views which contains a link to our newsletters, purpose, history, organization, membership with reasons why one should join ANAVETS, links to veteran related sites, a kitshop page complete with a listing of regalia store items and current prices, and a printable form for ordering regalia. Use it as a publicity tool by viewing it or sending potential customers to see who we are and what we are all about.

I want to continue to urge all Commands and Units to get on the net, create a web site and make maximum use of email. President Cassels has become a big user of email....so can you !

ANAVICUS NEWS

President Bob Cassels and his wife Lise travelled to Washington, D.C. for the American Legion's Annual Washington Conference held in early March, 2004.

Each year a selected group of American Legionnaires receive an ANAVETS Honorary Life Membership and it is considered a very prestigious award. In a breakfast ceremony held on Monday, 8 March, President Jake Comer assisted President Cassels in inducting 17 new members into ANAVICUS.

For those of you unfamiliar with ANAVICUS, it stands for Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans in Canada— United States. Our close association with the American Legion goes back to 1948 when ANAVETS President at that time, Jack Wickens, was invited to their convention in Miami. The Americans most responsible for bringing us together was General Frank Schwengel and Past National Chaplain Reverend Father Frank Harrington. "Shoulder to Shoulder" relationships developed and quickly assumed important portions. Each year a selected group of American Le-

gionnaires receive an ANAVETS Honorary Life Membership and it is considered a very prestige award. John F. Kennedy and former President George Bush have been inducted into ANAVICUS. To date, over 900 members have been so inducted.

Each biennial convention, selected members of ANAVETS receive the coveted American Friendship Award.

These awards mean so much to the recipients because of our nation's shared history and camaraderie, in the wars our veterans fought "Shoulder to Shoulder" by side to protect the freedoms we enjoy today.

Many of you will recall meeting the new President of ANAVICUS at our 2002 Convention. He is John P. (Jake) Comer from Quincy, Massachusetts. He is a Past National Commander of the American Legion. The 1st Vice-President is Dan Ludwig, another Past National Commander of the American Legion. We hope to see them in Saskatoon.