

## C.A.V./V.A.C. STRENGTH AND HONOUR CONTRACT INITIATIVE

**September 2009**

1. It has been my Honor to Witness, literally, the birth of the CAV/VAC - from the humble beginnings in 2003 to the 6th Riding year we now experience with Units spread out across this great land of ours. During this time we have ALL witnessed the many lessons learned, giving our organization the tools to cement our mission of 'Ride and Have Fun While Helping Others' - into a proud future.

2. This, our 6th riding season, has seen two critical steps occur. First introduced and discussed at the May 2009 CAV/VAC Spring National in Gaagetown, NB - then accepted and voted into action at our 2009 National Rendezvous in Kenora Ontario.

These 2 Steps were:

- a. The adoption of a National CAV/VAC organization insurance program; and
- b. The legal establishment of the CAV/VAC organization, encompassing the Kitshop and Riding Organization as a "Not For Profit Incorporation" - into a single legal entity.

These two steps alone have changed forever the level of our organizations existence - and therefore the level of commitment that our membership must recognize.

3. With Legal Status as a Not For Profit Incorporation, Fully Insurable as "CAV/VAC Canadian Army [Navy, Airforce] Veterans Motorcycle Units/Organization" our membership now face serious liability Issues - **IF THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP DOES NOT ADHERE TO CAV/VAC STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR IN FOLLOWING THE CONSTITUTION AND CAV/VAC MISSION/SPIRIT, THEN WE FACE A LEGAL LIABILITY ISSUE THAT WE WILL NOT TOLERATE. As a veteran organization that has sworn to uphold the meaning of strength and honor, this cannot be allowed to happen.**

4. In accordance with this liability issue - individual, Unit, Formation and National Membership MUST continually observe the character and commitment - of the membership, in accordance with our Constitution. Infractions or discipline related situations - even behavioral issues that shed a negative light on our organization - **MUST BE ADDRESSED IMMEDIATELY IN ORDER TO REMOVE OFFENDERS.** We now face a liability of association with other organizations intent on negative drama at the least, or outright defiance of our Organizations aims at worst.

**5. The 'CAV/VAC STRENGTH AND HONOUR CONTRACT' will be our best tool in outlining our continuing persistence to make CAV/VAC Time - positive quality time. it is the intent to have this contract signed annually, every November by each member.**

6. Each November - at Unit level - every single new member and renewal, will be interviewed and briefed fully on the CAV/VAC Constitution and any amendments. New members will detail why they wish to join our family, renewals will detail their continuing pledge to support the CAV/VAC Mission. As Before - no set number of rides or meetings are standard; however, reasonable effort must be made by members to participate, particularly in events that are considered such as those that the Unit, Formation, or National recognize as "their" event, i.e. the Tony Stacey centre ride, the Ride For Dad, etc. A Veteran or Supporter who cannot attend rides can volunteer for other organizational tasks; ie Phone

networking, safety vehicle, advertising, donation organizing, especially Unit Executive Positions, or any other pre or post ride day taskings. The member will sign the contract, with the Unit President or Sgt at Arms countersigning, showing the Unit's acceptance of the member in question. Final acceptance of the member will be at the discretion of the Formation and National HQ. Members then 'In Good Standing' will be issued a 'CAV Year pin'-showing current status as a full member, and the applicable year bar, along with a 'CAV Annual Newsletter'.

7. In addition, serving and retired military members or those supporters in distress need our help, often more than we need theirs. In keeping with this spirit, Units and members must be able to recognize this and keep in close contact with the CAV organization. CAV Members unable to undertake day to day riding can use their positive by providing outreach to other Veterans and Supporters as their own unique contribution of "CAV Spirit" by wearing our identity proudly and exhibiting CAV spirit by attending other organization's events - Bike Shows, Military Support Events, etc.

8. Our Veteran based organizations focus is FULL recognition of the sacrifices of the past, present and future - members MUST respect this aspect of our role as a CAV/VAC family. Unit and membership must do everything possible to respect and support each other - thinking 'outside the Box' in order to 'Harvest' the True CAV/VAC Spirit. New members will be presented the 'Winged Wheel Crest' on completion of the established Unit Standard of Riding/Membership ability at a Unit Event. Unit Presidents will outline infractions to Formation - National will be consulted on advisories or dismissals.

9. The CAV/VAC organization will never again accept negative behavior - if new members or renewals do not follow, or wish to respect, our CAV/VAC Mission of 'Ride and Have Fun While Helping Others' they will be directed to consider joining other positive riding organizations that we support, as we ourselves move forward on our own positive riding path.

10. Existing among the CAV/VAC organization are several support elements in place to aid those in need who wish the help of our family in order to heal and learn the 'CAV Spirit'.

- Our National CAV/VAC Padre, alongside other Padre's riding with our Units nation wide;

- A National mentoring "CAV/VAC Rider Support Program" set in motion by our 3rd CAV Rider in Chief, Lucky Larry;

- Our "CAV/VAC Old Guard" - ably headed by Lewis MacKenzie and staffed by powerful experienced mentors nationwide; and

- The "CAV/VAC Skirmishers" headed by 'Cold Steel' Barr - a national element that exists solely to protect the CAV Constitution.

11. All in all it's been a banner year for the CAV/VAC Motorcycle Units/Organization - the critical steps of forming a National "Not For Profit Incorporation" - encompassing the KitShop and the riding organization as one entity, plus the acquiring of Group/Organizational Insurance - has forced our family to step up to the next level! Sadly - some will not feel the same commitment to the higher standard. To those few - we wish nothing but the best. To those great Canadian patriot riders who remain - nothing for you has changed, only the fact that you now belong to a world class organization - built on a strong foundation.

12. The upcoming Spring National Meeting in Gatineau Quebec will be attended by our

National Leadership - having as guest speaker the Canadian representative of HUB international - he will detail fully the actual logistics of our National Organization Insurance, explaining all levels and coverages of the Group/Executive Coverage - even offering individual insurance packages. I look forward to seeing as many of our Leadership as possible in May 2010 at this Historic Meeting in LaBelle province!

13. I welcome you ALL to the 'New' CAV/VAC future - a future building on many great past memory's and rides - promising many more positive powerful days in the future. Welcome aboard one and all !!

Trapper Cane CD  
National President  
Co-founder  
The CAV/VAC.