

**CANADIAN ARMY VETERANS MOTORCYCLE UNITS**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING**  
**WOLSELEY BARRACKS, LONDON, ONTARIO**  
**MAY 14, 2014**

**NATIONAL RIDE ELEMENT ATTENDEES**

National President – Earle “Grizzly” Eastman

National Vice President – Derrick “Maddawg” McClinchey

1<sup>ST</sup> CAV Formation President – William “Wild Bill” Hoskins

1<sup>ST</sup> CAV Formation Vice President – Gary “Cool Papa” Armstrong

1<sup>ST</sup> CAV Ops Officer – Clint “Pookie” Partridge

2<sup>ND</sup> CAV President – Tom “Ironside” Skelding

2<sup>ND</sup> CAV Vice President – Chris “Red” Hatton

3<sup>RD</sup> CAV President – Mike “Iron Mike” Lacharite

**CAV DIRECTORS**

CAV Ambassador – Paul “Trapper” Cane

1. The meeting opened at 1000 hrs with the National President welcoming everyone on attending the meeting and congratulated those from 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> CAV on making the trip from their perspective areas of Eastern and Western Canada.
2. The next order of business was the agenda of the meeting itself to which was read and the question posed if it was understood and if there was any amendments required, to which there was none. The National President reiterated that the meeting will follow “Robert’s Rules of Order and Edict” and all potential issues will be resolved by these means. A motion from 2<sup>nd</sup> CAV President and seconded from the 1<sup>st</sup> CAV President that the Business Meeting agenda be accepted as read.

**All were in favour & none opposed – MOTION PASSED**

## OLD BUSINESS

3. With that, the National President proceeded with his presentation starting with a memorial tribute to our CAV members who have passed on since our last meeting. A request went out to the membership in January, through the Formation Presidents, to forward any pictures and short bio of people who passed on from their Units to the National President so he could compile these for a tribute. The National President stated that this would become the normal for each AGM in the future and proceeded to go through the members that he had received.
4. The next order of business was a brief outline of what the CAV Directors have been up to and a proposed schedule of event leading up to the "Not For Profit/Charitable" application to the Federal Government. The outside time frame should have everything in place before the end of 2017, however that date could move forward if our application gets fast tracked by the administration. National President reiterated once again that this is just info only to the membership as the charitable side and what the CAV Directors are doing does not affect the Riding Element of the CAV in any way, so all is good.
5. The CAV Ambassador then took the podium to give everyone an idea on what his adventures have been during the 2014 season. He presented an analogy between the CAV, present and in the future and how, as a co-founder, tried to mirror the CAV organization based upon the American "Rolling Thunder" model, helping Veterans in need. Trapper also went into more depth with regards to the Director's mandated mission. 3<sup>rd</sup> CAV President asked for clarification between "Not For Profit" and "Charitable" classification to which it was explained that the CAV application needed to be funneled through the "Not For Profit" process first before we can apply for the "Charitable" side of things and that CAV qualified for both areas. The major difference was that the "Charitable" entity of the process would give us the right to issue out tax returns so that sponsors could write off their donations, making much more attractable to do the donation.
6. The meeting then proceeded with the National President moving on with the 2014 CAV Operations, Leadership and Communications. In this area, the National President broke it down into two categories that had significance in the 2014 season and these were as followed;
  - A. CAV Directors who ride, and
  - B. National Beret Vote.

With regards to CAV Directors who ride, the National President went on to explain that there had been some confusion on where these people fit within the National Riding element, to which some members thought it would be prudent to bring up personal issues

to them for clarification or ruling and not fully understanding what the Directors are all about within the CAV. The National President went on to say that there is still confusion within the membership and wasn't quite sure why as this has been explained publically many times and that it just could be a "communication" issue to which these members either did not get the initial briefing, read the website or just decided to ignore what had transpired in the past year and are now waking up to the fact that the CAV has reorganized for the future. He went on to say that to make the explanation as simplistic as possible is to reflect on the Directors who ride as in the same category as a "Rider At Large". They can show up at any Unit ride, participate in the Unit functions, however, have no "say" in Unit politics or direction, along with no input to Formation or National issues or mandate. They are just there to "Ride, Have Fun. While Helping Others", nothing more, nothing less. Please ensure that the Formation membership makes them feel welcomed to participate as much as they can, as they are still part of the CAV organization and provide a great service in their role for the CAV.

Next topic was the National Beret Vote and the reasoning behind the vote itself. As explained, when there is an issue within the CAV that is notable within all three Formations, National Executives then looks at this area, decipher the issue with research and determines if it needs to be brought to the membership for their decision on whether or not the issue should be adopted or extracted from the CAV organization. National HQ needed to accomplish this as democratically, and as transparently as possible so the membership as a whole can see and know what they have decided was a total consensus amongst them. With that, the Beret vote was initiated by first informing the membership, 5 months in advance that there would be a vote process on whether the CAV would let Supporters have the right to wear a beret while they participated in CAV functions as a CAV member. This was followed up with simplistic question from National HQ to all members through their Formation Presidents of "Would you support the idea of CAV Supporters being granted the right to wear a beret on CAV attended functions? – Yes or No". This was given to the Formation Presidents to drill down to the Unit Presidents to pass on to their members with a return date no later than (NLT) 01 Mar 2014 with the direction that the vote needed to be held so that it was autonomous and the results needed to be funnelled to the Formation President so he could put the Formation statistics together and pass them up to National HQ.

All in all, the vote proceeded as planned and the results were tabulated to which was presented in a "Pie Chart" during the National President's presentation. The main concern identified as that 32% of the membership did not participate in the vote process and he indicated that there was no one factor that indicated why such a high number didn't vote. In moving forward on any future votes that may be required, three main factors must be taken into consideration;

- a. The voting question must be simplistic and understandable with a yes/no answer as much as possible;
- b. Autoimmunity must be given to every member to vote his/her own decision and not hounded or chastised for the decision they made; and
- c. The vote must be held in a timely fashion with a hard end date

All follow up on the results will always be posted on the "Member's Only" page of the CAV Website as soon as the results are done and tabulated.

National President directed the Formation Presidents to ensure that in the future that their Unit member are aware of these guidelines and adhere to them to the fullest.

7. With that issue done, the National President went on to the subject of CAV Dramas that transpired over the last 12 months to which he touched on 5 different areas in where the membership needed to improve upon.
  - a. **Rumours** – Started by individuals (usually ex-CAV members), posted on social media sites or verbally transferred to cause dissention or anguish within the CAV and CAV members get caught up into these events and unwittingly participate in the problem by repeating the rumour or taking it as fact without doing research to see if it is in fact true or not. When in doubt, talk to Unit President and he will confirm with Formation Executives to get to the bottom of it.
  - b. **Misconceptions derived from assumptions** - Members get caught up into the void by first not understanding direction given to them or try to get Formation Execs contradict National Execs direction so that they can personally benefit from the confusion caused. This always turns out bad for the members who play this game because Formation or National will track down the route of the issue and harshly deal with it. Formation Execs talk to National Execs almost daily, so don't get caught up into this trap thinking you can "out manoeuver" their ability to keep a lid on things.
  - c. **Lack of Information** – Formation Rallies are the venue to keep the Units informed on what the CAV organization is up to. Encourage your Units to at least send a representative to these venues so that the word can get past along on what has been transpiring within the CAV for the past 12 months or more. Social media though the CAV Facebook sites & website only goes so far, so make these rallies as informative as possible.
  - d. **Reading the Constitution** – Everything you need to know on how the CAV operates is in the Constitution. It is a living document, however major amendments need the majority vote of the Formation & National leadership to change the document at any time. If you are not certain on something within this document, see you're Unit President, and if he/she is not certain, they will contact the Formation President who will clarify the question at hand or will research it further to produce the answer. The

major problem usually arise when people forget the read this document, so start there in your guidance to those members; and

- e. **Not wanting to completely follow or understand direction handed down by Formation or National Exec** – Far too often if something has gone wrong and ends up at the Formation or National level, it can be usually traced back to an individual who has decided to ignore the advice or direction given. Formation & National Execs do not go out of their way to give you bad information or guidance, so pay attention to what is being said and use the rule of “common sense”, if you feel it is not right on what you are about to do, DON'T DO IT as it probably not right.

If we can improve on these five issues, the daily dramas will cease to exist which will free up a lot of more time to “Ride, Have Fun, While Helping Others”.

8. The National President moved on to give an intelligence briefing of Outlawed Motorcycle Clubs (OMC) and how these clubs could affect the CAV. The information for this segment was derived from the CF Military Police who gathered their intelligence from the law enforcement network though out Canada and it focused on Veteran Based (V-B) motorcycle clubs and some of their connections to the OMC world. The National President explained how CAV as a Riding Club do not want to be perceived as having any affiliation with a V-B who are hanging out with an OMC and in order to make the lines very clear where the CAV leadership stands on this issue, the following direction was given and will be adhered to;
  - a. If you are currently a CAV member who feels the need to have the thrill of hanging out with the OMC groups with your CAV vest on, please do us the courteous favour and resign from the CAV,
  - b. Any CAV member who is singled out by law enforcement as an OMC “hang around” will be dealt with by the CAV disciplinary system laid out in the Constitution and will receive a registered letter informing you that you are no longer a CAV member and to turn in your crest.
  - c. If a CAV member is seen with any affiliated OMC logos or patches on their CAV vest, they will be instructed to remove them immediately. If it is witnessed that this was not done within 24 hrs timeframe, the CAV disciplinary system will be used to remove the member from the CAV forthwith.

This is serious business, so don't take it for granted that you are innocent because you have done nothing illegal. Hanging around and affiliating yourself with these clubs makes it non-conformance with our CAV policies & mission, therefore you are guilty by “association” and the CAV organization will not be perceived as a V-B OMC.

9. The next item on the agenda was the subject of CAV Dress and Department. The National President went on to explain that because the CAV organization is a widely known entity through-out Canada that we need to start adhering to some of the traditional values, especially when we are representing the CAV in National venues such are Remembrance Day events and other high profile ceremonies which the public is viewing the CAV as a Veteran based organization.

In the CAV Bi-Laws, we needed to give a description of ourselves and what we were all about. It reads as follows;

How you will recognize us as CAV, each element of our “uniform” is symbolic

- a. The crest symbolizes the individual who used to dispatch mission critical communications in both world wars, the motorcycle and rider played a vital role in our history,
- b. The black vest symbolizes a debt owed that we cannot repay, we wear black to honour our fallen,
- c. The red shirt symbolizes that as the veterans served our nation, at home or away, we wear red in support of our deployed troops and their families, and
- d. The unit names / battle honours is in tribute to the veterans who returned home and in recognition of Canadian service around the world.

The National President explained that in order to bring some uniformity so that we are all looking the same and representing the traditional values, there will be a dress and department manual drafted up before November the 11<sup>th</sup> for members to be able to see what is expected of them for CAV dress, and information on how we will collectively gather at venues that require us to parade or stand in a formed group. He promised that all would be pretty simple and easy to follow and that the dress code required for certain events would not be too taxing for members to adhere to.

10. The next area on the agenda for discussion was the CAV Ride Manual. The National President informed everyone that a new National Road Captain was appointed in December (Al Murray) and was given the task to review and amend the CAV Road Capt Manual and bring up to today’s provincial laws and safety standards. He put a lot of hard work and effort into this document, reaching out to the Formation Road Capts to assist and recommend to him changes that needed to be done. One of the most significant changes within the document is the new proficiency scale that is going to be used to ensure we have proficient riders within the CAV organization before we award them with their “Wing Wheel” patch. The standard is set within the ride manual for all to see and Unit Road Capts will be responsible to ensure these members who join the CAV are supervised and

ultimately competent to ride as a CAV member. The manual is self-explanatory and the direction is easy to follow.

11. In keeping with the National Road Capt venue, the National President explained that another one of his tasks was to reinitiate the Riders Assistance List that has been dormant for several years and highly out of date. He started by reviewing all of the membership renewal & new members forms to see who was willing to go on this list to potentially help those CAV members who broke down in Canada and was away from their home base. Although this task was massive, Al achieved his aim and put together a list so that the CAV has a current up to date list.
12. The National President then went on to explain the CAV's role within the Federal Veterans Affairs Summit meetings and the Royal Canadian Legion Dominion Command round table talks to which falls under the National Executives mandates. He explained that the CAV is the only motorcycle Veteran Based organization to be welcomed into these discussions which say a lot to how we are respected as an entity that is providing outreach for Veterans. By sitting at the table on these meetings, we have an in-put on the direction Veterans Affairs Canada is taking in helping our Veterans. It is a great honour to be offered a seat at the table and between the National President, National VP and the CAV Ambassador, someone from CAV will always be there to participate and add assistance when we can.
13. This was the conclusion of the National President's presentation of old business and turned the meeting over to the National Vice President to speak on the following;
  - a. Membership issues,
  - b. CAV SUPPLY & Services, and
  - c. CAV Finances
14. The National VP ensured everyone that the membership process was good and had very little issues. Main point for improvement was that Unit Execs proof read the membership form prior to submitting it to the Formation Membership Coordinator as a lot of times pertinent information is missed or Unit Execs signatures are missing, hence slowing down the administration process of adopting a new member within the CAV. The current new membership form is on the website and is the only one to be used for either renewals or new members joining. It comes with an instruction form, so please read it before filling the form out.
15. On the CAV Supply & Services, the National VP explained how the CAV Kitshop Inc., was being dismantled as such and that the CAV was getting out of holding stock, tying up the CAV finances in stagnant inventory. However in keeping with this, the National VP also assured the Formation Leadership that the CAV has adopted a plan in place that the

membership can still use to order CAV clothing & items that have the CAV trademark on them. This is a Supply & demand method of securing these items, so please direct your personnel to see your Formation Membership Coordinator for required items and they will walk CAV members through the process.

16. Also under the Supply & Services mandate, the National VP explained on how new ideas on CAV related items can come about and benefit both the Unit and the CAV membership as a whole. If there are any ideas out there on items a CAV member would like to see, please pass on those ideas to your Formation Execs for their next AGM Business meeting to be voted upon by the Formation Leadership. If an item is selected to become a recognized CAV item for the membership, the CAV Supply & Services will purchase said item from the Unit who forward the idea for whatever the requested cost is and the CAV Supply & Services will sell it for the same amount to recuperate the cost. Any monies made by the Unit on item markup is to be collected and directed to a charity of their choice by that Unit.
17. On CAV Finances the National VP did his presentation which enlightened everyone on how the CAV spends its Operational Funds. He went on to explain that measures have been taken to streamline expenses in all areas which frees up funds for special events such as bereavement donations. As seen on the presentation slides, the biggest expenditure of the Operational funds is the HUB Insurance policy that we must have and Supply & Services which provides CAV stock for the membership. National VP went on to display a breakdown of what the \$35.00 renewal fee is spent on by percentages to which he said it was the cost of doing business, and like it or not, the CAV is a business.

The National President asked if there were any questions from the floor which there were not and then requested that a motion to accept the CAV Financial Statement from the floor to which a motion came from 1st CAV President and seconded from the 3rd CAV President that the CAV Financial Statements be accepted as read.

**All were in favour & none opposed – MOTION PASSED**

18. It was now that the Formation Presidents presented their Formation Reports of 2014 which briefed everyone on their membership numbers, old Units that have stood down due to membership depletion, new Units that stood up, yearly rides attended and accomplishments on CAV sponsored events. All three Formation Presidents presented this in a slide show and can be viewed on the National Website under the AGM page.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. In new business, 1<sup>st</sup> CAV President posed the question with regards to the Formation Executive positions and length of time that these people can remain in the position as nothing was mentioned in the Constitution on this. The National President explained that there was no time frame on the Formation Executive positions as of yet due to the fact that



a formula was being developed to ensure that the CAV expertise remained in the leadership role in that mid-management field so that a pool of people is developed to step into the National roles once the National President moves on. He also explained that more would be forthcoming on the big picture once he discussed some Constitutional amendments later on in new business. 1<sup>st</sup> CAV President was fine with the answer given.

2. 2<sup>nd</sup> CAV President then got up and gave a presentation on AGM 16 which will be hosted in St. John's Newfoundland from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> of June 2016. The presentation covered a brief description of the area and went into the Ferry schedules and accommodation factors and why the spot was selected for the AGM, as it will be the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, to which is a great honour to those Newfoundlanders who fought and died in this event. As the event dates grow closer, a more detailed schedule will be produced for all CAV members to view.
3. 3<sup>rd</sup> CAV President explained that he had no new business to discuss mainly because he just took over the role as Formation President and is still getting his bearings on his Formation membership.
4. CAV Ambassador then proceeded to give an in-depth description with regards to Vimy 100 project and the background towards the initiative. Ron Content, a CAV member, is the OPI for the initiative and will give a presentation package to put up on the National Website so that all of the membership can see what the project is all about and view the information.
5. National President then handed out a copy of the Constitution to everyone in order to go through areas that needed to be amended and open for discussion. He reminded everyone that this was a "living document" and can be changed at any time with the majority approval of the Formation leadership. The areas in question were as follows;
  - a. **CAV Terms of Reference** – National VP, the addition of his appointment of the CAV Financial Officer for the Operation Budget of the National Riding Element was added and a description of what that entailed.
  - b. **Unit Appointments and Elections** – A description was added with a hard date in which the transition of the new president is to take place.
  - c. **National Appointments and Elections** – A description was added with a hard timeframe on how long a National President holds his position within the CAV and the introduction of "Succession Planning" of his/her successor.
  - d. **Past National Presidents** – This is a totally new addition to the Constitution that describes where past president fit within the CAV structure once they have completed their term as National President.

- e. **Unit Formation or National Flag, Ride and Dress Protocol** – A paragraph was amended to give a description on acceptable headdress now that the beret vote indicated that supporter could not wear a beret at ceremonial events.
- f. **CAV Operational Fund** – In keeping with the amendment to the National VP TOR, an in-depth description on how the fund will be managed and dispersed to the Formations for their Annual Formation Rallies was added. Also a new inclusion on how the CAV Riding Element bank accounting is to be done, including future rotations of the National leadership on their departures from the position of National President or National Vice President.
- g. **Operational Fund Expenditures** - This is a totally new addition to the Constitution that describes where funds are spent annually. It also give parameters on what can be spent with regards to the National President’s authority.
- h. **Annual General Meeting Expenditures** - This is a totally new addition to the Constitution that describes how funds are being spent in order to gather representation from the Formations to hold an Annual Business Meeting. The framework for this addition came from the approved minutes of AGM 15.

This concluded the Constitutional amendments and the National President asked if there was any questions from the floor, to which there were none. He then requested that a motion to accept the CAV Constitutional with the amendments from the floor to which a motion came from 1st CAV President and seconded from the 2 CAV VP that the CAV Constitutional with the amendments be accepted as read.

**All were in favour & none opposed – MOTION PASSED**

- 6. At this point of time with the business concluded, the National President asked if there was anything else to be discussed and was given the indication by all that the meeting was complete. The National President thanked everyone for their participation in the dialogue and recommendations to make the CAV organization a strong entity within the Nation by serving our membership and our Veterans to the fullest by being strong leaders and mentors. He then requested that a motion to close the AGM Business Meeting 2015 from the floor to which a motion came from 2nd CAV President and seconded from the 1st CAV President that the CAV AGM 15 be closed.

**All were in favour & none opposed – MOTION PASSED**

**Time was 17:55 hrs**

**NOTE** – National President and VP sat down at this time and decided on the CAV Bursaries recipients of 2015. These are as follows and will be presented to the Formation Presidents to be delivered to the individuals during their Formation Rallies;

**CAV National Recipient** – Amber Lee LaBonte (1<sup>st</sup> CAV area)


**1<sup>st</sup> CAV Recipient** – Rachel Proto

**2<sup>nd</sup> CAV Recipient** – None submitted

**3<sup>rd</sup> CAV Recipient** – Dennis Browett

Earle "Grizzly" Eastman

CAV National President



Signature

Derrick "Maddawg" McClinchey

CAV National Vice President



Signature

Date 20 May 2015