

# Commissionaires

## *The Corpsrespondent*

~ Newsletter of Hamilton Division—Summer 2006 ~

### NEW CHAIRMAN CONCERNED FOR THE FUTURE OF THE CORPS — Cdr Robert Williamson, CD



**Desecration of the National War Memorial** on Canada Day is the first headline I received upon taking over as Chairman of the Hamilton Division Board of Governors on July 1, 2006. I observed the same telltale puddle stains at the base of a Scottish Regiment's monument in Quebec City after St. Jean de Baptist Day in June during the Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires. Is this lack of respect for veterans just isolated incidents of uncouth revelers or a sign of the times?

Dedicated to the support and employment of Canadian veterans, the Board of Governors learned in Quebec that consideration towards veterans employed by the Corps of Commissionaires is declining at the highest levels. The Corps veterans have inherently had preferred treatment on overnment controlled contracts, a privilege known as the **Right of First Refusal (RFR)**.

In recent years, for various reasons, the national average of personnel employed by the Corps of Commissionaires who are veterans has fallen below 50% (Hamilton's average is 70%). This has caused the government to review its RFR policy encouraged by the lobbying of large security companies, some even based offshore. Our Board of Governors is working diligently to protect the Corps' RFR for our veterans.

Closer to home, on July 5, 2006, the Spectator reported that Montreal-based **Garda World Security Corporation has taken over 100 security jobs in Hamilton**. This is Garda's second incursion into the Hamilton job market this year. This large for-profit corporation and other organizations do not share the Corps' philosophy of entitlement for veterans. They are interested only in getting a larger share of the economic pie and labour market. The Board of Governors will do all it can to protect the contracts of the Hamilton Division on behalf of our veterans and loyal employees.

On a positive note, the National Office of the Corps, in cooperation with the RCMP is taking aggressive action to corner the market on the **latest technology in finger printing**.

The next few years are going to be as challenging for the Corps and me as they were for our last chairman, **Cmdre Ross Bennett CMM, CD, for whom I must make the greatest commendation**. He completed his watch with diligence in the face of our Commandant's serious health problems, while encumbered by major health issues of his own. As a volunteer, he spent many hours lending support and direction to our office staff. That kind of dedication illustrates that there are some of us who firmly believe in the mandate of the Corps of Commissionaires and still value the worth of our veterans.

## COMMANDANTS MESSAGE - Cdr. Fred Lee, OstJ, CD

At the time of preparing this message the Corps in Hamilton is in good condition having just completed another fiscal year. This time of year is particularly busy for the office and the Board since not only is this our year-end but it is also the same for the Corps nationally. We are also conscious of the fact that summer brings some additional activity in our business and our increased experience with another kind of weather. You will note some other changes that have occurred as reported in this edition of *The Correspondent*.

We have a new Chair of the Board in the person of Cdr. Williamson. He has been on the board for a number of years and is well aware of the workings of the Corps. We are also very grateful to the retiring Chair, Cmdre Bennett who gave so much of himself and his knowledge and abilities over particularly trying times in the past 2 years.

The operations of the Hamilton Division have been very satisfying over the past year as we continue to perform the jobs for the clients. Our annual report on activities and financial matters shows that we are performing the jobs we have well. Some of our positions are found working for Departments of the Federal government. The Chair has referred to the situation in that field of work. We have gained some new commercial contracts over the past year and the work ethic and abilities of our Commissionaires has shown to our advantage. The results of works done for the Municipal and Provincial governments is the same. The Annual Reports of both our Division and the National picture show the successes of the Commissionaires in a business sense as well as at the working level.

We are grateful to our Commissionaires in the Hamilton Division.

In the fall of 2005 our employees at the City of Hamilton who perform By-law Enforcement work for the City voted to be represented in matters of their employment by a union rather than dealing directly with the division as has been the case for many years.

As a result negotiations with the union representatives commenced and continued until an agreement was reached on 4 July 2006

## Commissionaires - Hamilton Award Finalist

For the second year in a row Hamilton Division was nominated for a **2005 Hamilton Chamber of Commerce Business Achievement Award** under the Not-for-Profit category. Of the many worthy institutions also nominated only four were selected as finalists. They were Bell Canada, Theatre Aquarius, North Hamilton Community Health Centre and The Canadian Corps of Commissionaires -Hamilton.

The awards were presented at a special dinner event held on March 29th.

Founded in 1845 (one year prior to Hamilton becoming a city) The Hamilton Chamber of Commerce has been an active advocate for the business community for over 160 years. The **Business Achievement Awards** were instituted in 1983 as a means of recognizing those who excel in providing exception quality service to their clients.

The fact that Commissionaires - Hamilton was nominated (let alone a finalist) is a tribute to the individual and collective effort of all members of this Division and the excellent manner in which you deliver top quality service to our customers. Congratulations to all for making the award possible. Its achievement was a collective effort.



Cdr. Fred Lee and  
Capt. John Livingstone with  
Chamber president Len Falco



Cpl. Sid Milani receives  
Commendation from Cdr.  
Fred Lee and Security  
Director  
Gary Nicholls,

## A Special Commendation for Cpl. Sid Milani

There are situations that we all hope we will never encounter but we pray that, if we ever do, we will be prepared to act properly. Such a situation arose on April 30, 2006 at approximately 1:20 a.m. Corporal Sid Milani was on patrol on Glenridge Avenue in St. Catharines. He came upon a serious two motor vehicle collision that appeared to have only recently occurred. No emergency services personnel had arrived on scene and a passing motorist was just in the process of calling 911. All five occupants of both vehicles were injured in what was a horrific collision of these vehicles. Assessing the situation quickly Cpl. Milani began to administer first aid to one of the injured persons appearing to be the most in need of immediate medical assistance.

Cpl. Amanda Anderson arrived at approximately 1:25 a.m. to assist Cpl. Milani who continued to assist paramedics when they arrived on scene. Tragically two persons involved in this collision, one of them being a former Brock University student succumbed to their injuries.

On May 2nd 2006, Cpl's Milani and Anderson received letters of commendation from Director Gary Nicholls of Brock University Security Service.

On May 25th, 2006 Cpl. Sid Milani was awarded a Commandant's Commendation from the Corp of Commissionaires for his efforts.

Our congratulations to both of these officers who performed their duties professionally in a tragic situation.



## SUPPORT OUR TROOPS MWO Ken Brady, SBStJ, CD

These “SUPPORT OUR TROOPS” magnets are selling like hotcakes all across Canada and they are now available through our QM Stores. This is a great way for Canadians to show their support and appreciation to our military members. The cost of these magnets is \$3.00.

The money raised goes to the London Military Family Resource Centre to support programs for families of deployed members of the Canadian Forces.

Contact me at Division Headquarters (extension 26) and I’ll be happy to get one (or more) out to you.

## APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

**Comm. Jim Wilkins** was recently appointed Detachment Commander at the new UPS site in Burlington. He is shown (right) being promoted to Sergeant by CEO Cdr. Fred Lee.



**To Sergeant - Cpl. Sid Milani** (Brock University)

**To Corporal - Comm. George West.** Cpl. West has been appointed Detachment Commander of TDL Group in Oakville.

**Sergeant Charles MacKinnon** has received a letter of Commendation from MaryLynn West-Moynes, President of Mohawk College on the subject of his example to Mohawk staff of “exemplary Customer Service.” To quote the president... *“I asked one of our student leaders what made them choose Mohawk College. The students family lives in Toronto and I was intrigued about the decision to move here for postsecondary education. The student told me a story of traveling out to Mohawk on a Saturday to see the campus. When they got here they [found] to service areas closed for the weekend. The student told me that you (Charlie) offered to tour the student around and in fact stated clearly ‘the reason I came to Mohawk was I thought that if everyone was as helpful as Charlie it was the college for me.’*

*It is this type of commitment to our students that will truly make Mohawk the Best College in Canada. Congratulations Charlie for your stellar commitment to our mission that students and learning are the heart of all we do.”*

We agree and need say nothing more. Well done Sgt. MacKinnon.

Congratulations to: **Sergeant Wally Trapler, Headquarters Dispatcher**, who has recently completed a two-day *Talk-Techniques Instructors* course held at the Corps of Commissionaires National Office in Ottawa .The course teaches the art of ‘gentle persuasion’ in tense situations. Sgt. Trapler is now qualified to pass on his knowledge and skills to members of Hamilton Division.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY - MWO Jim Farrauto, CD**

This is a reminder for all personnel to be extra careful during the West Nile months. Insect repellants and clothing will help protect you from the “pesky critters.” We also need to protect ourselves from the damaging rays of the sun. Proper headdress and sunscreen while on duty as well as frequent stops in shaded cool environments will make your working conditions more comfortable. Drink plenty of water. Heat exhaustion and sunstroke can be deadly. We have had very few accidents or incidents so far this year. Keep up the good work. All of you are important to us.

**URGENT!** - If you do happen to have an accident/incident, no matter how small, **it is an absolute must that you report it to your Detachment Commander and this office as soon as possible.** Something that you think is minor or insignificant may turn out to be a more serious injury down the road. It is our duty and responsibility as well as our **legal requirement** to report any injury to W.S.I.B. as soon as possible. There are new Form 7s and Form 6s. All detachments should now have these in their possession. If not, they can be downloaded off the WSIB website. Any questions, feel free to call me directly at H.Q.

## **TRAINING- MWO Jim Farrauto, CD**

Training is an ongoing activity and is vitally important in order for us to carry out our duties in the professional manner in which we are accustomed. A reminder for all Detachment Commanders to ensure that their personnel are up to date with their First Aid qualifications and that all new personnel are

C.Q.C. qualified as soon as possible within the three week period from TOS date. The C.Q.C., as you know, is a prerequisite for employment. Keep up the good work.

## **POLICY FOR PRESENTATION OF MEDALS AND AWARDS HAMILTON DIVISION - Cpl Rick Gallant, CD**

**Distinguished Service Medal** - presented in recognition of service beyond the call to duty. This medal is awarded through the Division by the National Office. The National Office decides whether or not to award the medal upon recommendation of the Division. Presentation is made at the Division.

**Long Service Medal (LSM)** - awarded by the National Office upon the recommendation of the Division for twelve years of service in the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires wherever and whenever served. For each additional five years of service a bar to the medal is awarded. The medal will be awarded when the service is completed and the certificate will be presented at the Annual Awards Ceremony.

**Other Service Awards** - Service of 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years in *the Hamilton Division* is rewarded with a monetary sum presented together with an appropriate pin upon completion of the service in Hamilton Division.

**Please note that the policies for these medals and awards are set by the National Office.**

Since the last newsletter the following personnel have been, or soon will be, presented the award as follows:

**First Bar to the Long Service Medal:** BGen Len Salmon, CD, Capt. Bob Begin, CD

**Long Service Medal:** Lawrence Perry, William Dorks, Tom McVey, Sid Brougham,

**Ten Year Pin (\$200):** Kevin Taylor, Tom Paterson,

**Five Year Award (\$100):** Bob Fanning, Thomas Misick, Wayne Stephenson, Louis Peters, Denise Showkenik, Derek Mills, Nenad Mladjenovic, Ken Clarke, Patrick Steinoff and Abbas Motala

## Board of Governors

### *Past Chairman*

**Cmdre. R.T. Bennett, CMM, CD**  
Chairman

**Cdr. R.J. Williamson, CD**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairman

**LCol. P.P. Garrick, CD**

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairman

**Maj. R.W. Nuttall, CD**

Secretary

**BGen. L. Salmon, CD**

Treasurer

**Maj. J. Petozzi CD**

Members

**Col. F.T. Bailey, CD**

**Capt. D.R. Begin, CD**

**LCol. J.A. Evanoff, OSTJ**

**Col. James Forsyth, CSTJ, CD**

**LCol. G. Frid, CD, PESM**

## Headquarters Staff

Commandant & CEO

**Cdr. Fred Lee, OSTJ, CD**

Director of Operations

**Capt. John Livingstone, CD**

Manager of Operations

**CWO Tom Lee, CD**

Training Manager

**MWO Jim Farrauto, CD**

Dispatcher

**Sgt. Wally Trapler, PESM**

Finance Manager

**Patricia Bachor**

Administration Manager

**MWO Ken Brady, SBStJ, CD**

Fingerprinting Manager

**Sgt. Bill McBride SBStJ**

Administration Clerk

**Cpl. Rick Gallant, CD**

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Is the Newsletter of

### **The Commissionaires**

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Editor **Sgt. Bill McBride SBStJ**

## LAST POST

We are saddened to report the passing of Commissionaire Richard McMillan on 20 June 2006. Comm. McMillan served in the Canadian Army as a Rifleman in the early 1950's. He had just completed nine years of service with Hamilton Division. Our deepest sympathies are extended to the McMillan family.

## WELCOME ABOARD

We are pleased to welcome the following new Commissionaires who have joined our ranks since the last newsletter:

**Rick Smith, Sharon Richards, John Ing, Catherine Wheaton, Clint Holmes, Kirk Miller, James Auty, Rob Klodt, Allen Kitchen, George West, Aaron Vanderlip, Roy Vaillancourt, Robert Young, Robert Hicks, Stu McKerell, Terry Steen, John Snowball, Matt Braun, James Russell, Warren Roberts, John Allan, Jan Lorenz, Deanna Harris, Jim Caron, Matt Rogerson, Mike Sutherland, Connie Singh, Jeanette Young, Christian Garner, Madelynn Powell, David Lewis, Matthew Royds, David Lalonde, Martin Johnson, Frank Reid and Joe Beharry**

## DAVE JOHNSON RETIREES

Congratulations and best wishes to Comm. Dave Johnson on the occasion of his retirement from Hamilton Division. Dave served in the Royal Canadian Navy as a stoker from 1957 to 1962 following which he worked in a variety of industrial and business fields.

Dave joined the Corps of Commissionaires in April 1995 and completed his service at the WSIB office in Hamilton. We wish Dave Johnson a long and healthy retirement.



Dave Johnson receives congratulations from Cdr. Fred Lee, Sgt. Wally Trapler and Mr. Paul Richard, WSIB.