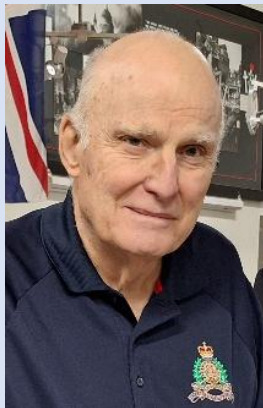




Presidents Message



Another year has almost gone by, and we have provided many meetings and luncheons both in Cloverdale and Chilliwack. We have now arranged a number of meetings for the upcoming year 2026, with one in March, May and September for the coming year. We hope to have some excellent speakers and presentations.

These luncheons will now be supplemented by \$25 for those members who have paid up and registered with the Association. We have arranged for some excellent speakers for the November 20th Luncheon. We have also arranged for some excellent speakers for those meetings in the coming year.

To this end I would like to thank the executive and Murray for all their support this past year. I have had some serious health issues this past year and consequently have been unable to attend functions that I should have in my role as president. My health issues were unavoidable and of course unacceptable on my part.

I have therefore decided to step aside as president for the upcoming year, and Ray POWER has now accepted the role effective January 1st, 2026. I will however continue as a

Division Advocate provides support to all those requiring assistance.

I wish you all good health and look forward to seeing you in the coming year, all the very best.

John Sherstone
President and Division Advocate
Vancouver Veterans Association
604 315-4199

LAST POST



GORGOPA Wally Reg No 14955
ROD Staff Sergeant Died 2025
aged 98. Years of Service 1947
to 1974. Postings E, F, L and E.
WORLD WAR II VETERAN
served in Canadian Infantry

Corps. Of Russian and Ukrainian descent his family had a proud history of Russian military service going back to Czar's. His [FULL OBITUARY](#) is attached just click on the link. It reads like a James Bond plot!



KLIMEK Merril Murray Reg No 22362 ROD
Sergeant Died 2025 aged 84. Served from 1962
to 1986. Divisions E, HQ and K.

PARROTT William Clarence, Reg No 20251 ROD
Sergeant. Died 2025 aged 84. Served from 1957
to 1993. Divisions E, A and HQ. RCMP
VETERANS' ASSOCIATION VANCOUVER
DIVISION MEMBER.

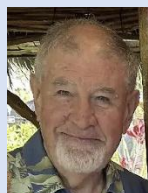
ROSSANDER David Peter Reg No 22485 Died 2025 aged 85 at Richmond, BC. Years of Service 1962 to 1985. Divisions E. Most of service was as a Forensic Identification Officer.



SPEARNS Jack Reg No 552626 ROD Constable Died 2025 aged 51. Years of Service 2005 to 2025. Postings E Div.



STROUD Maxwell "Max" Glen, Reg No 20098, ROD Sergeant, Died 2025 aged 86. Years of Service: 1957 – 1980 Postings: E and K Divisions. Served in Chilliwack where he met his wife, Jacquie. Passed away in Lethbridge where he had been since retiring.



POTTER Philip Arthur Reg. No 25489 ROD Corporal Born 1948 – Died 2025 aged 77, Years of Service: 1967 – 1979 Postings: E Division. Following resignation in 1979 he and his wife, Marlene ran the Moonraker Pub in New Westminster, BC for 30 yrs retiring in 2009.



NAAYKENS, Eduardus Laurentious, Reg No 16923, O.828, Rank on Discharge Superintendent, Died 2025 aged 94. Years of Service 1951 to 1989. Postings E Div.



PREBUSHEWSKI William John Reg No 26559, ROD Constable, died 2025 aged 78. Years of Service 1968 to 1976, Postings E Division.

WOLSEY John Joseph, Reg No 18933, ROD Staff Sergeant died 2025 aged 89. Years of Service 1955 to 1979. Postings E and G Divisions.

TWEED, Frederick Treleaven, Reg No 17708/0.767 ROD Superintendent. Died 2025 aged 95. Years of Service 1952 to 1985. Postings



E, F, HQ, J and H. His last post was Officer i/c RCMP Forensic Laboratory Services H Division.

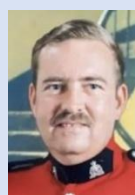
MOULTON Donald Bruce, Reg No 32321, ROD Constable, died 2025 aged 74, Years of Service 1975 to 2003. Postings E Division (Pt Alberni, Nelson and Lillooet).

GALLIFORD Catherine A.

Reg No 43390, ROD Corporal, born 1966 Died 2025 aged 58. Years of service from 1991 to 2016. Divisions K and E. link to [FULL OBITUARY](#)



SHEFFIELD Elwyn Ron



Reg No 22169 ROD Staff Sergeant Died 2025 aged 83. Years of Service 1961 to 1996 Postings E Division (Multiple loc including Cranbrook and Chemainus)

KOVALICK John Reg No 20006 ROD Staff Sergeant, Died 2025 aged 87. years of Service 1957 to 1993. Postings E Div (Vancouver Drug MCS and Richmond)



ENGLISH Richard Byron, Reg No 25069, ROD Constable, Died 2025 aged 81. Years of service are not known. Divisions E (Cranbrook and North Vancouver)



REIGER Charles Edward Reg No 22294 ROD Corporal, Died 2025 aged 85 at Nanaimo. Years of Service are not known. Postings E Div (Mainly VI)



NIKAIIDO Hiroshi Civilian Member
N C/2086 Died 2025 aged 90.
Years of Service 1982 to 1997.
Postings E Div. Born in Ruskin, BC,
He endured the Tashme
Internment Camp during WWII.
He later served in the military and RCMP.



McCOLLISTER Wesley Crawford
Reg No 34566, ROD Constable.
Died 2025 aged 67. Years of
Service 1978 to 2008. Postings E
Div (Multiple Locations incl Alexis
Creek and the Elk Valley)

McBRATNEY William H. Reg No 26512 ROD
Sergeant, Died 2025 aged 79 at Parksville, BC.
Years of Service 1968 to 2000, Divisions E
(Mission and Victoria)

MARTIN Patrick George Reg No 43385 ROD
Sergeant Died 2025 aged 66. Years of Service
1990 to 2014. Divisions E (Prince George Fort
Babine, Smithers and Moricetown.)

STARK Barry W. Reg No 28322 ROD Corporal,
Died 2025 aged 76. Years of Service 1970 to
1999. (Maple Ridge and Surrey) Service with BC
Transit Police.

LINDSAY John Everett Reg No 32005 ROD
Constable, Died 2025 aged 71 Years of Service:
1974 - 1975 Postings: E Division (North
Vancouver)

BEWCYK Nina Maria Civ Mem.
C/2106 Died 2025 aged 70. Years
of service 1977 to 1999. Div E
(Maple Ridge)



NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED

JUTRAS Mario (J.J.) Reg No 37566 ROD Sergeant
Service Dates 1982 to 2017. Divisions E.

FIELDING Robbie Reg No 30737 ROD Corporal
Years of Service 1973 to 2008 Postings E

PETERS Montgomery Reg No 20142 ROD Staff
Sergeant Years of Service 1957 to 1994

DEZIEL Debbie (widow of S/Sgt Gilles Deziel)
Special Constable 38617A

ING Jason Reg No 47826 ROD Constable Service
Years 2000 to 2025 Postings E (Includes PDS)

EAGLES Steven Reg No 39754 ROD Staff
Sergeant Service Years 1987 to 2025 Postings E

BARKASE David Reg No 51290 ROD Constable
Service Years 2004 to 2025. Postings E, F, K O
and CPC.

RISLING Kelly Reg No 46568 ROD Corporeal
Service Years 1998 to 2022. Divisions E and F.

BUGLE CALL

NOTICE of GENERAL MEETING

RCMPVA Vancouver Division
Thursday November 20th 11.00 am
Royal Canadian Legion Branch # 8
17567 57 Ave, Surrey, BC

Guest Speaker

Dave Lee, CIM, CFP, FCSI
Senior Wealth Advisor Scotia Wealth
Management

ESTATE PLANNING

Lunch to Follow from Branch #8s Regular

Menu.

No Host Bar.

**Please note that attending members MUST
SIGN IN at the door (Legion Branch Rules)**

RCMP VETERANS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON **2025**

Monday, December 1, 2025, 1100 – 1500 Hrs.
CHILLIWACK CURLING CLUB – North Ballroom
45550 Spadina Avenue, Chilliwack, BC

BUFFET – Cost \$50. Per Person

**NOTE – If you are a paid-up member of the
Veterans Association or Associate Member,
your meal will cost \$25. PAY WITH CASH UPON
ENTRY We are unable to accept debit or credit cards.**

GUEST SPEAKER is Bill ASHBEE, Division Chaplain.

Roasted Turkey /w stuffing, gravy & cranberry sauce. Carved Honey Glazed Bone-In Ham
House Made Vegetarian Lasagna Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes Seasonal Vegetables Organic Mixed Greens with Dressings Black Bean & Sweet Corn Salad /w Lime Cilantro Dressing Assorted Cheese Tray Roma Tomato and Bocconcini with Fresh Basil Rolls and Butter Dessert Station Coffee and Tea Station

CASH BAR

Donations of Food and/or Toy for the local bank would be gratefully accepted.

PLEASE REGISTER ASAP WITH DOROTHY MARTINSON AT

demartinson@shaw.ca or 604 261 4630

RCMPVA Vancouver Division Annual LEVEE

Planning is well under way for this event which will be held at the NCOs Mess at Green Timbers January 10th 2026 noon to 5pm. Please continue to check our [WEBSITE](#) and your e-mails for details of this great event. The LEVEE will be funded and the organizers will require registrations ahead of the event. Details to follow.

LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL CHURCH PARADE AND MARCH PAST.

On Sunday 28th September 2025 I attended this event after a 5-year gap. It certainly was an eye opener at the attendance overall. As well as the RCMP contingent there were peace officers from all over BC and too numerous to count an estimation was close to 1200 to 1800. All the Municipal Police Departments were represented as well as the Canadian Armed Forces Military Police, BC and Federal Corrections, CBSA and many United States police officers in full uniform. The padre officiating invited speeches from Provincial Government Ministers and the new Chief of the Victoria Police Department. Fiona Wilson.

Deputy Commissioner Dwayne Macdonald took the salute at the march past at the parade's conclusion.



L to R Your Editor, Hunter MacDonald (seated) Rosie Bowman, Lorraine Cormie.

On first arrival our son Constable Paul Reece and I spotted the assembling veterans and headed over to meet and greet them in front of the Empress Hotel. It was a dry day though cloudy and a bit breezy. From the photos you will see all of the attending RCMP Veterans who made themselves known by taking part in the parade. Rosie Bowman, President of Vancouver Island Division, Lorraine Cormier and Hunter MacDonald who is disabled but had use of a scooter all took part in the parade. One notable person from the photos was retired Commissioner Giuliano Zacardelli.



Previous page L to R Rosemary Bowman, Ret Commissioner Giuliano Zaccardelli, Chief Superintendent Bruce Singer, Island District Commander (recently transferred from LMD District)

Meeting him was quite a surprise as I had no idea he was there until a few minutes before we formed up. He was in full Ceremonial Order with Stetson and stated he was marching in the parade with us veterans. He positioned himself alongside us. I chatted with him before we stepped off, and he told me that he had recently moved to Victoria and was living near the Inner Harbour. He stated after retiring he had taken a post with Interpol based in Lyon, France where he enjoyed living there very much. He also stated he had joined the RCMP Veterans and was active with Vancouver Island South Division and after the parade he was going to visit one of their members who was seriously ill in Hospital in Victoria. I introduced him to a couple of regular members in our troop and one of them said to Mr. Zaccardelli "We have heard of you and a lot of stories about you." Cheerfully Mr. Zaccardelli replied, "Well they are not all true." Continuing on with our conversation Mr. Zaccardelli remarked with sadness and regret that seventeen RCMP members were killed on duty during his tenure as Commissioner.



L to R Gord Condie North Vancouver Det. Lorraine Cormie, Rosemary Bowman, Your Editor, Constable Paul Reece Unknown bystander!

After the marchpast we all assembled in front of the Legislature for photos. The Vancouver Island Veterans had departed for the hospital at that time. I approached DC Dwayne MacDonald and after usual greetings and handshakes I asked him if he knew we had a former Commissioner on parade with us. Dwayne replied, "Yes I did know, he was here last year too".

For further details on the parade please refer to [BC Law Enforcement Memorial](#). (As of going to press this year's parade image gallery had not been entered on the website)

See our Photo gallery at end of Newsletter.

TWO FRIENDS REUNITED IN MEMORIAM

Joe Atherton continued



A new chapter in "The Mystery of a Mountie Buried Under an Ocean of Stone", written by Superintendent Joe Healy (Ret'd), has come to light. What began as a tale of intrigue has now turned into one of lasting friendship.

"A few weeks ago, I received an email from Debbie Walden, daughter of the late Deputy Commissioner Don Wilson, regarding the interment of her father's remains at the RCMP Depot Cemetery. Debbie and the Wilson family were deeply moved to discover that Superintendent Joe Atherton's plaque was located in the same row as her father's—just two spots away.

During their years of service, Superintendent Atherton and Deputy Commissioner Wilson had been close friends. D/Comm'r Wilson had also been aware of Superintendent Atherton's remains having been buried beneath the flagpole in front of Fairmont Barracks"

Many will recall Superintendent Healy's article, "The Mystery of a Mountie Buried Under an Ocean of Stone", (2015) which told of the efforts to locate Superintendent Atherton's final resting place: [STORY LINK](#)

This story of the search is further explored in the book "Duty Done, Memories of Fairmont Barracks" (2021) edited by Donna Morse and Ric Hall.

As previously reported, Superintendent Atherton's remains were located by the RCMP on June 25, 2024, beneath the flagpole at Fairmont Barracks.

In Debbie's words (September 28, 2025):

"Our whole family—minus our mom, who was there in heart and spirit—visited Depot this weekend to place my dad's remains in the RCMP Cemetery Columbarium. It is a beautiful spot, and we had a lovely ceremony with 'F' Division Chaplain Les Kingdon officiating.



Supt. Joe Atherton. We know that Dad worked with you on the effort to locate his remains under the Fairmont flagpole. It seems fitting that they are 'together' again.

We were also fortunate to have a gracious and kind veteran from F



Division, Sgt. Roger Burns, attend and stand at attention to salute—a touch of 'Pomp and Circumstance' our dad would have absolutely appreciated." Sincere thanks to Debbie and the entire Wilson family for sharing this meaningful connection.

The story, however, is not yet complete.

Superintendent Joe Atherton's remains will be re-interred at the RCMP Depot Cemetery on Saturday, May 30, 2026. His plaque—already in place—stands in quiet anticipation of that day, when this story will reach its conclusion and two friends, once united in service, will rest near each other once more.

Donna Morse
Former President
Vancouver Division.

FROM NATIONAL OFFICE

RED BLAZERS by Bob Byers

Option for Red Blazers During the recent Association Council meetings consisting of the Division Presidents and the Board of Directors as part of the 2025 Gimli AGM, there was a discussion about red blazers. There are several options available for obtaining a red blazer and all are of the members' choice. The goal of the Association is to identify options for our membership to procure a well-fitting blazer at reasonable price wherever you are located in the country. For some background, my wife Deb and I own and operate the Medicine Hat Fabric land franchise. Deb has been with Fabric land as an employee, manager and owner for the past

40 plus years. We considered providing an option to obtain a red blazer a few years ago but didn't want to be in competition with other suppliers; however, as a result of the Association Council discussion, she provided an option that is now available to Association members. Some Association members have been paying over \$1,000 to have a blazer made with some taking over a year to construct with varying degrees of satisfaction being realized. The retail markup for fabric and related materials is substantial, and Deb can source most of this at wholesale. She will provide fabric, crest, buttons, lining, hair canvass, interfacing, shoulder pads and construction in an inclusive package that is considerably less than the retail price charged by various suppliers. She has retained a former Fabric land employee that is a talented tailor who owns a sewing business called Sew Necessary in Medicine Hat and has designed a measurement sheet with 13 measurements required to make a blazer. She just completed a test case for a Lethbridge Division member who was more Royal Canadian Mounted Police Veterans' Association/ Association des veterans de la Gendarmerie royale du Canada than pleased with the quality, price and timely production of the blazer. Deb is running this off the corner of her desk and is not wishing to make any profit from Association members. She can produce a tailor-made blazer for a total of \$525, GST included. There is no sales tax in Alberta, but shipping and further alterations are the responsibility of the member. Anyone wanting a blazer can send an email to Deb at sewinglady913@hotmail.com. She can also be contacted on her cell at 403 315 0232 for consultation. She will provide a measurement sheet via return email. Upon receipt of an E-transfer of \$525 Deb will then provide the sheet to the tailor and she will construct the blazer with an approximate 6–8-week turnaround time. When the blazer is complete Deb will

contact the member respecting shipping costs and send the blazer to them. Any inquiries on this can be provided directly to Deb at the email and phone number noted above.

NEWS FROM THE FORCE

NORTH VANCOUVER NEW OIC

Inspector Peri Mainwaring has been promoted to Superintendent and appointed OIC of the North Vancouver RCMP Detachment. Peri has over 30 yrs of RCMP service which includes Commercial Crime and GIS Economic Crime. Peri served in North Vancouver and is currently at Burnaby Detachment before being promoted. Her work in Detachments was focused on building and strengthening relations with diverse communities in her areas. Superintendent Mainwaring is also passionate about mental health and crisis intervention and has initiated mobile crisis intervention teams in both North Vancouver and Burnaby



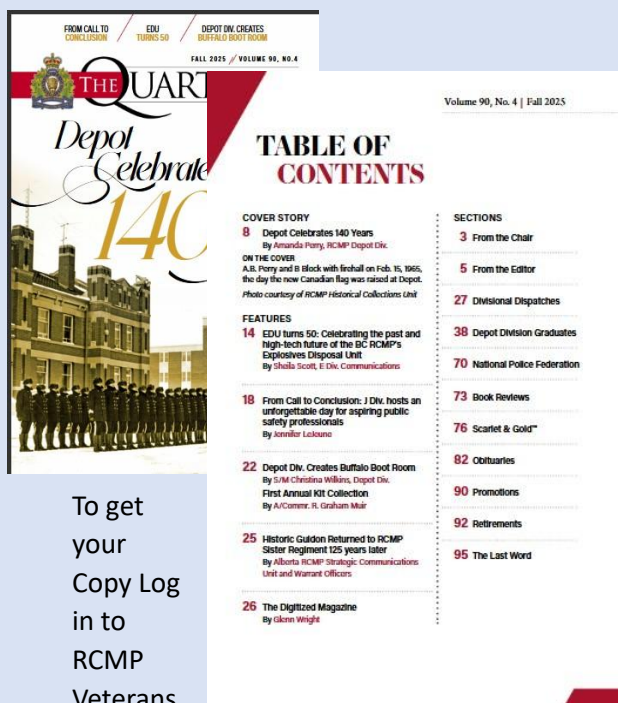
Detachments. She is a firm supporter of RCMP Veterans Groups.

The new OIC in North Vancouver is a welcome change and has already received many congratulatory notes from around the LM District. On behalf of the RCMP Veterans Association, Vancouver Division, we congratulate Supt Mainwaring and wish her all the best for the future.

BOOK & PUBLICATION REVIEWS

RCMP QUARTERLEY

The Fall Digitized Edition is now out. If you don't subscribe here is the contents to see what you're missing. Some excellent reads here.

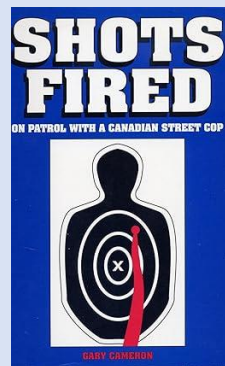


To get your Copy Log in to RCMP Veterans

National Website, click on quarterly and subscribe \$45.

SHOTS FIRED by Gary Cameron former Constable

Vancouver Police Department. (Next Page)



A vivid and blow by blow account of Barys exploits over a 12-year period is a good read. He pulls no punches and also speaks with affection on the public, suspects and accused and colleagues and supervisors. In Garys highly professional way he

mentions no names other than his own and freely admits his own shortcomings. I served with Gary in my VPD years, and he was a genuine down-to-earth hard-working policeman. I had great respect for him. In his last year or so of service he was a lucky lotto winner and his jackpot set him up for early retirement. The book was published in 1997 so is most likely out of print. I came across a copy while visiting friends in the Okanagan over Thanksgiving. Sadly, Gary is no longer with us he having passed away of cancer in 2017. It is recommended reading for anyone, but I especially found it of great interest. [OBITUARY](#)—David Reece Editor.



JAMES (JIM) TOMSHEK SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE US SECRET SERVICE. BORN 1952, DIED 2024.

Does anyone recall when former US President Bill CLINTON came to Vancouver to meet

former Russian President Boris YELTSIN - April 1993. Your editor worked on the preparations for that visit as part of assessing risks associated with crowds and demonstrations as did many of us at the time. We met many American law enforcement people including US Secret Service Special Agent James Xavier TOMSHEK, who I learned only recently had passed away of

Parkinsons disease. We kept in touch over the years, and I have to say it was very saddening to see him go so young at 73. During the Presidential visit Jim came to dinner at our invitation, and we had long and happy hours of conversation. He was a true all-American gentleman with impeccable manners and great understanding of his work. At that time, he was quite junior so was working entirely on Counterfeit Currency cases. As you will see he went on to be a senior agent on the Presidential Detail. I would dearly love to have heard what he had to say about the present President. Somehow, I think he would be just as well-mannered on that subject as he was on everything else. For more details here is a link to his [OBITUARY](#).

And last of all....

CENTURY OLD MESSAGE in a BOTTLE

(courtesy of the BBC October 29th, 2025)

This sad but at the same time heartwarming story came to light which has absolutely nothing to do with RCMP Vets but everything to do with veterans!

"Messages in a bottle written by two Australian soldiers in 1916 have been found more than a century later on the country's south-western coast.

The cheerful notes were penned just a few days into their voyage to join the battlefields of France during World War One.

One of the soldiers, Pte Malcolm Neville, told his mother that the food on board was "real good" and that they were "as happy as Larry". Months later, he was killed in action at the age of 28. The other soldier, 37-year-old Pte William Harley, survived the war and returned home. The letters have been passed on to their descendants, who have been stunned by the discovery.

The bottle was found earlier this month on the remote Wharton Beach, near Esperance in Western Australia, by local resident Deb Brown and her family.

She was visiting the beach with her husband and daughter on one of their regular quad bike trips to clear up litter, when they spotted a thick glass bottle in the sand, she said on Tuesday.

"We do a lot of cleaning up on our beaches and so would never go past a piece of rubbish. So this little bottle was lying there waiting to be picked up," Ms. Brown told the Associated Press news agency.

Though the paper was wet, both letters were still legible, so Ms. Brown began tracking down



the soldiers' families in order to pass them on.

Ms. Brown located Pte Neville's great-nephew, Herbie Neville, by searching for the soldier's name and the town he was from online, as his mother's address was included in the note.

Mr. Neville told ABC News the experience had been "unbelievable" for his family, especially for Marian Davies - Pte Neville's niece - who remembers her uncle leaving to go to war and never returning.

The second letter, written by Pte William Harley, was addressed simply to whoever found the bottle. His mother had died years earlier. Pte Harley's granddaughter, Ann Turner, told ABC she and the soldier's four other surviving grandchildren were "absolutely stunned" by the message.

"It really does feel like a miracle, and we do very much feel like our grandfather has reached out for us from the grave," she said.

"I feel very emotional when I see that the other young man had a mother to write to, and that message in the bottle was to his mother, whereas our grandfather long ago had lost his mother so he just writes it to the finder of the bottle."

The bottle was thrown overboard "somewhere in the Bight", Pte Harley's letter said, referring to the Great Australian Bight off the country's southern coast.

An oceanography professor told ABC it may only have been in the water for a few weeks before it landed at Wharton Beach, where it may have remained buried for 100 years.

Ian Aikman and Elletra Neysmith British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC)

TWO FRIENDS REUNITED (Contd)

F Division Veteran Sgt. Roger Burns (re'td) stood by at the Plaque dedication.



PHOTO GALLERY



RCMPVA-Vancouver Division Executive at Work

From Left Laurier Cadieux - Director Mess Liaison, John Sherstone-President, Merv Bayda (behind Laurier) Murray Macham - Vice President, Murray Clarke - Director IT Services and webmaster, Bud Cramm – Director Treasurer, Ray Power -Director Membership, Dorothy Martinson Director - Social Program, Karen Frost Director=Secretary, Ric Hall - Division Historian, David Atfield- Director Honour

LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL

Inspector Dave Staples RCMP (retd) Giuliano Zaccardelli, Rosemary Bowman visiting Dave at Royal Jubilee hospital Victoria. After the Parades conclusion.



*Acting
Division
Sergeant
Major
Nathan
OLSON,
Author and
Constable
Paul Reece,
North
Vancouver
Detachment*



E Division representation at the event.