

# FRIENDLY NOTES

Friends Of The Mounted Police Heritage Centre

Les Amis Du Centre Du Patrimoine De La GRC

# NOTES AMICALES

VOLUME 24

ISSUE 1 WINTER 2014

## 8 MORE HOURS

**PROUD  
SUPPORTERS  
OF/FIERS  
D'APPUYER**

**R C M P  
HERITAGE  
CENTRE**



**LE CENTRE  
DU PATRIMOINE  
DE LA GRC**

**RCMP  
HISTORICAL  
COLLECTIONS  
UNIT**



**GROUPE DES  
COLLECTIONS  
HISTORIQUES**

*The following story relates closely to the many critical and hazardous decisions that were often made, as a matter of course, in the life and work of a Mountie stationed at remote Northern Detachments. The dangers and life-threatening decisions were accepted in the line of duty, relating to the oath of Service, "without fear, favour or affection", and often were repaid in the realm of appreciation shown by the recipients, the people and families under his charge. – Editor*

It's far from pleasant out,  
But the house is modern and warm  
And the howling wind can scarce be heard  
Over the sweet music of the stereo.  
For they have electricity there now  
And all the comforts that come with it.  
A toaster and waffle iron and radio,  
But not TV, because it's out of range.  
But there's the Northern Lights  
That can be seen on a clear night  
Through the frosted thermo-pane.  
But not tonight!

*continued on page 2*



*Only grip of hands on handlebars...touch with reality...*

## 8 MORE HOURS *continued from page 1*

Not tonight, 'cause it's winter and it's cold!  
Not tonight, 'cause the fury of the wind  
Lays hold the frozen snow  
That fails in its task of covering the lake ice  
And the natives mongrel dogs.  
Not tonight – when up and down are both alike  
Outside.

He didn't ask to come here, not directly...  
He asked ten years ago when he signed his name  
And dared a country take him on and try his  
mettle.

His spouse across the room, curled up in cozy  
comfort, travelling abroad in pleasant places,  
Warm hands upon the feathery pages...

And then – the door speaks with a hollow knock.  
One glance across the room,  
One perceptible sigh, as paper falls...  
and book laid down... he walks to the door...  
and she goes to check the children.

The tranquility of the interior is attacked...  
Momentarily... by raging wind and swirling snow!

But quick closed door... and heavy breathing  
Announces the arrival of a young woman  
Whose haste is borne of fear.  
As she stepped into the light, she looked too thin  
But strong enough to brave the hopeless night...  
for help.

Her hair adorned with ice...  
tinkled round the wind-burned face,  
intermingled with the rabbit fur of her parka hood  
in black – white  
Similarity to the winter night.  
And garb... ill-fitting spoke of generous  
contributions... from some church bazaar...  
In southern places.

Her words were brief and to the point:  
The water on her cheek now... not tears...  
But melting ice.  
“Old Man Smoke... he came today across the lake  
From mile 1 cabin he came.  
Old Man Smoke... he not much strong...  
To help a man... so he come tell me...  
My man he's at the cabin.  
He's trapper on the Turner Lake Line.  
Him not due back 'til before break-up.”

“He must have make it to cabin mile 1...  
There Old Man Smoke find him...  
While coming through from visit his people for  
Christmas there.  
Old Man Smoke... say my man... he too weak to  
walk... maybe die there... him not know why...”  
The beads of light that were her eyes  
In hollow face... dropped to the floor and begged  
no more...  
He knew the ball was his to throw...  
And no receivers were in reach...  
With open hands...

The hour was late, and with the sun on the other  
side of earth...  
The trail would be doubly hard to follow.  
A simple calculation said that...  
Old Man Smoke... would take two days to reach  
this place... across the ice from mile 1 cabin.  
“What matter 8 more hours?”

“What matter 8 more hours.”  
8 more hours to light...  
And maybe even then the storm snake...  
Would draw up its whipping tail...  
To follow its head.

“What matter 8 more hours?”  
He tried to reason with himself...  
And keep his sanity...  
As he drove snow-mobile into space.

No up... or down.  
But whirling mist of earthly weightlessness...  
All life remote!  
Only grip of hands on handlebars...  
touch with reality.

He has no doubt about the trail,  
Whose landmarks have stood silent...  
and watched him pass this way before...  
And only death awaits an error in judgement.

The 'where' he knows.  
The 'why' he cannot answer.  
He stands to lose so much!  
And chuckles to think that he once fancied  
himself a fair gambler!  
His thoughts go to an empty dent in feather  
pillow... next to another feather pillow...  
Where the curls of his warm wife lay.

His thoughts go to the questioning eyes of little  
people...on early mornings... who,  
With thumb in mouth ask, "where is Daddy?"  
Then take up their spoons... with Mother's  
re-assuring smile and answer...  
But miss her furtive glance to frosted window...  
Where daylight oozes through the storm...  
Where eyesight fails to follow.

But... think ahead... a year – perhaps a hundred.  
To when this place will be the past...  
And only the memory... will be carried in some...  
poor head... son or grandson...  
Who will tell his kin the tale... beside the fire –  
Of how the Mountie saved their father...

By starting out against all odds...  
In dead of night  
And how... old doc, who pulled the sick man  
through...  
Said he'd never of lived...  
8 more hours.

*B.F. Nowell, February 1971*

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## NOTICE OF FRIENDS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 24th Annual General Meeting of the "Friends" of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre will take place on Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at the RCMP Heritage Centre, 5907 Dewdney Avenue, Regina, Sask. Enclosed herewith is a notification of Meeting with Proxy and postage paid return envelope, if you are unable to attend. Please indicate your choice of Proxy and return your reply in the envelope forthwith.

# NEW CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

*The Board of the RCMP Heritage Centre and the “Friends” Board of Directors have developed a Corporate Membership Program to create an opportunity for the business community to become actively involved in supporting and sharing in the legacy of the RCMP tradition. The following outline of the program and the details required to become involved are presented to the Membership of the Friends and RCMP Veterans to promote this unique Corporate Membership Program.*

*Membership application forms can be emailed to: [info@rcmphc.com](mailto:info@rcmphc.com) or faxed to 306-522-7340.*

Corporate Membership provides unprecedented access and opportunity to share a legacy experience, unique to Saskatchewan, with your employees, visitors and guests. Home of the Mounted Police since 1882, Regina has functioned as the headquarters for the NWMP, RNWMP and the RCMP. The site now houses the only national training centre for Cadets who graduate to serve communities all across the country. We welcome visitors from around the globe to our superb flagship facility, on the grounds where the Tradition begins and continues to live at the RCMP Heritage Centre. This is our story, help share it, become a corporate member.

<b>BENEFITS/CATEGORY</b>	<b>PIPER</b>	<b>DOG HANDLER</b>	<b>SHARPSHOOTER</b>	<b>ROUGH RIDER</b>
ANNUAL FEE	\$250.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,500.00
Free admission passes (one time use)	10	20	40	60
Employees purchasing an annual pass receive an RCMP Heritage Centre gift card for an equal amount	X	X	X	X
VIP corporate card providing unlimited access for duration of membership	2	4	6	8
Acknowledgment in Annual Report and on website	X	X	X	X
Invitations to recognition receptions			X	X
Boardroom rentals		1/2 day free	1 day free	1½ days free
Complimentary multi-function room with ample free parking				1 Heritage Room rental
VIP viewing of feature exhibits	X	X	X	X
VIP “Behind the Scenes” tour				X

# CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

## LEVEL:

We wish to become Corporate Members at the contribution level indicated below. Please select one:

	<b>1 Year Membership</b>	<b>2 Year Membership</b>	<b>3 Year Membership</b>
<b>Piper</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$450 (\$50 savings)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$675 (\$75 savings)
<b>Dog Handler</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500	<input type="checkbox"/> \$900 (\$100 savings)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,350 (\$150 savings)
<b>Sharpshooter</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,800 (\$200 savings)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2,700 (\$300 savings)
<b>Roughrider</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500	<input type="checkbox"/> \$4,500 (\$500 savings)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6,750 (\$750 savings)

## CLIENT INFORMATION:

Company/Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Employees: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual named as "Friend" of the Mounted Police: \_\_\_\_\_

## METHOD OF PAYMENT:

Cheque payable to the Mounted Police Heritage Centre

VISA     Amex     MasterCard

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

# LIFE MEMBERSHIP PRESENTATIONS

On May 3rd. 2013 at the Nova Scotia Division of the Veterans Association dinner Meeting, President Ian Atkins presented RCMP Veteran Mr. Durward da Silva a Life Membership Plaque and Pin on behalf of the Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre. The presentation was in appreciation of Mr. da Silva's Service and generous contributions over the years.

*Photo: Ian Atkins.*



On May 15, 2013 at a meeting of the Halifax Nova Scotia Veterans Association, President Ian Atkins presented Veteran William J. Smith with a Life Membership Plaque and Pin, on behalf of the "Friends" of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre.

The presentation is in appreciation of his service and generous contributions over the years.

*Photo: Ron Yeomans.*



On November 10th. 2013, following the Remembrance Day Parade by the RCMP Veterans Association – Quebec Division, President Robert Boivin presented a Life Membership Plaque and Pins to Richard Boucher, Montreal, and his wife, Monika Zoltowska, on behalf of the Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre. The plaque was in appreciation of their service and generous contributions over the years. Also presenting is Constable André Carle from the Ceremonial Troop.



*Photos: Richard Boucher and Monika Zoltowska.*

## DONOR WALL OF APPRECIATION

The following changes/additions to the “Donor Wall” have been made since our last issue:

### \$500.00

Lawrence Furlonger, Schreiber, ON  
Mrs. Sylvia M. Molson, Edmonton, AB  
Ray Nesbitt, Abbotsford, BC  
Janet K. Zorena, Balcarres, SK

### 275 English Pounds

Archibald Copland, Kent, ENG

### IN MEMORIAM

\$200.00 – Carolyn Ledwon  
– in memory of #21576 Erick Ledwon

## FRIENDLY NOTES BY E-MAIL

Would you like to receive the *Friendly Notes* electronically? This e-mail delivery allows you to view the *Friendly Notes* online rather than through the mail. If so please provide your email address to **bnowell@accesscomm.ca** and your e-mail address will be added to the mail-out list. The *Friendly Notes* will be sent in the Adobe Acrobat pdf format.

The benefits of taking advantage of this include:

- convenience and timely access to the *Friendly Notes* – you receive the *Friendly Notes* a week to ten days earlier,
- environmentally friendly, and
- reduces costs of printing and mailing.

It's easy! All you need is access to the Internet and an electronic mail address.

Thanks to those Members of the *Friends* who have already indicated they would like to receive the *Friendly Notes* electronically.

## PRESENTATION

*Friends'* President R.T. “Bob” Smart presents Heritage Centre CEO, Al Nicholson with oversize cheque on January 17, 2014.

Since originally founded by the RCMP Veterans' Association a quarter of a century ago, the *Friends* have been providing volunteers and financial assistance to help preserve and celebrate the unique RCMP story. To further this support to the RCMP Heritage Centre and Historical Collections Unit, a new program – the “*Friends* Matching Gift” program has been created. Under this program, corporations or individuals can make a five year pledge to match dollar for dollar what the *Friends* contribute to the Heritage Centre and Historical Collections Unit, to a maximum amount per annum. The Mosaic Company played a lead role in helping to establish this program and for 2013 their match has resulted in the *Friends'* \$35,000 contribution



being worth \$60,000.00! Overall, Mosaic has pledged \$220,000 over five years.

The *Friends* and the Heritage Centre are very grateful for Mosaic's leadership in helping to establish this new program and are excited about working with the folks at Mosaic.

More on Mosaic can be found on their web site: [www.mosaicco.com](http://www.mosaicco.com)

*Photo by Bob Cocks*

# MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

A warm welcome to the following persons who have become members of the Friends:

Carol Spencer, Willowdale, ON

Norma C. Law, West Vancouver, BC

## FRIENDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

President	Bob Smart, RCMP (Rtd.)
Immediate Past President	Bill Greenslade, RCMP (Rtd.)
Past President (ODS)	Tom Light, RCMP (Rtd.)
Secretary	Ron Ostrum, RCMP (Rtd.)
Director	John Hodgson, RCMP (Rtd.)
Director	John Worthington, RCMP (Rtd.)
Director	Steve Smedley, RCMP (Rtd.)
Director	Bob Cocks
Director	Barrie Nowell, RCMP (Rtd.)
Force Observer	Supt. Gerry Gourlay, RCMP
Historical Collections	
Unit Observer	Rhonda Lamb
Heritage Centre Observer	Al Nicholson
Historian Committee	Kenn Barker, RCMP (Rtd.)
Membership Committee	Ron Ostrum, RCMP (Rtd.)
Newsletter Editor	Barrie Nowell, RCMP (Rtd.)

### YES! I WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A MEMBER/RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP WITH THE FRIENDS OF THE MOUNTED POLICE HERITAGE CENTRE

Membership  One Year (\$35)  Three Years (\$90)  
 Life Membership  \$1,200 single payment or cumulative over several years to \$1,200 level. Existing members will have past membership payments credited towards the \$1,200 level.  
 Donation  \_\_\_\_\_ (Any amount is eligible for a Canada Customs and Revenue Agency tax receipt. Canada Only)

American residents please add \$5.00 extra per year and international residents please add \$10.00 extra per year, to cover postage costs.

Total Enclosed Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Prov./State \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

My membership/donation will be paid by:

Cheque/check (payable to the Friends of the Mounted Police Museum)

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ (Visa, Master Card or American Express) Expiry \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

#### Return by Mail:

Friends of the Mounted Police Heritage Centre, 5907 Dewdney Avenue, Regina, Saskatchewan Canada S4T 0P4

#### Join or Renew Your Membership Online:

Purchase your membership of the *Friends* with a simple, secure, on-line transaction using Pay Pal. When we receive your payment, a receipt will be sent to you by mail. Visit our website at <http://www.rcmpheritagecentre.com/home/about-the-centre/friends-of-the-rcmp-hc> and click on "Join the Friends" at the bottom-left corner.