

## THE BULLETIN

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VOLUME 4, NUMBER 3

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### *THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE OMMC, INC.*

#### ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

**I**t is a great honour for me to be given the opportunity to write this message to you as your third president. My first priority is to say how much I appreciated Jack Pike's thoughtful management of the hand-over between us. But that has been the hall mark of Jack's three year tenure as President. That, and careful planning.

I am well pleased at the state of the organization. We have a committee of dedicated volunteers prepared to devote time from their busy schedules on your behalf. We have the support of professional staff in DND's Directorate of History & Heritage (DHH), who have indicated that those programs applicable to us, will continue for the foreseeable future. We have a knowledgeable and hardworking staff, who are prepared to ensure that the programmes we develop on your behalf will be carried out to the best of their ability.

And in that regard, you have seen the OMMC, Inc. progress in five short years from a disinherited organization, determined not to die, to the point where now we have under consideration an education bursary programme that will help not only members already in the military museum system, but also those who

will be entering the system in the future. In addition, this year the Board will prepare a Business Plan to guide operations of the OMMC, Inc. over the next five years.

I felt that the course in Esquimalt this year had much to recommend it to the members. There has been a concerted effort of late to include more topics of use to museum curators and administrators. Certainly the all too short panel discussion on marketing raised some very controversial points for us to ponder. Is this approach to your liking? Are there subjects which you would like to have included in future courses? As the incoming Course Director, I need your input. Future courses can be made more relevant to you only if you make your wishes known, and all that it takes is a short note, fax or telephone call to any one of the staff or the Board.

Finally, David Ruddy's introduction and explanation of the OMMC Inc.'s coat of arms sparked much discussion about our perception of the organization. All of the comments will be taken under advisement. The Board believes that the spin-offs from the selection of a suitable design, in the form of plaques, blazer crests and flags, etc, will result in enhanced recognition for the OMMC, Inc. and will be a cohesive influence for our members.

I am looking forward to the next two years, I hope that they will be as rewarding for you, as I expect them to be for me. Keep in touch!

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**T**he assessment of applications for organizational membership is on-going. To date, 7 organizations have submitted the information requested, in order to clarify their status as organizational members. Work in this area will continue. At the 30 Sep 97 Executive Meeting, it was moved and carried that applications from Parks Canada sites would be accepted for organizational membership without further consideration.

**1997 ELECTIONS** Elections were held during the 1997 AGM, Monday 18 August 1997, Esquimalt BC. The new members of the Executive and the Board are as follows:

President: LCol (Ret'd) Don Carrington  
Vice President: LCol Dan Mackay  
Secretary: Maj (Ret'd) Vince Brown  
Directors: Maj (Ret'd) Joel Clarkston  
Ms. Jodi Ann Eskritt  
Mr. Denis Lavoie

**COURSE CO-ORDINATOR - 1998** The position of Course Co-ordinator was advertised in the previous edition of The Bulletin. A number of applications were received and evaluated. At Executive Meeting 7/97, 30 Sep 97, the Executive offered the position to Mr. Dan Potvin.

**MEMBER-AT-LARGE 1998 NOMINATING COMMITTEE** At the 1997 AGM, Mr. Maurice Doll was elected to be the Member-at-Large for the 1998 Nominating Committee.

### **THE ORGANIZATION OF MILITARY MUSEUMS OF CANADA, INCORPORATED (OMMC, INC.)**

mailing address: P.O. Box 26106  
72 Robertson Rd  
Nepean, Ontario  
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#### **Executive Committee**

President  
LCol(Ret'd) Don Carrington  
(613)733-8740 FAX 733-8730

Vice-President  
LCol Dan Mackay

Secretary  
Maj(Ret'd) Vince Brown

Treasurer  
LCol(Ret'd) Gilles Bissonnette

#### **Directors**

Ms. Jodi Ann Eskritt

Maj(Ret'd) Joel Clarkston

LCdr(Ret'd) Frank J. Dunbar

Mr. Denis Lavoie

Mr. Wayne H. Moug

**Executive Director**  
Maj(Ret'd) R.K. (Dick) Malott

**DND Liaison Officer &  
1998 Course Co-ordinator**  
Mr. Dan Potvin

**1998 Course Host**  
17 Wing Winnipeg  
Maj Eldrin Thuen



## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS - 1998 ELECTIONS

Nominations for the open positions on the Board of Directors are being accepted by the 1998 Nominating Committee. All positions are for a two year term. The positions open for election in 1998 are:

Vice-President (current incumbent LCol Dan Mackay)  
Treasurer (current incumbent LCol (Ret'd) Gilles Bissonnette)  
Board Member (current incumbent LCdr (Ret'd) Frank Dunbar)  
Board Member (current incumbent Mr. Wayne H. Moug)

As in previous years, nominations must be made by an OMMC, Inc. member and include the written consent of the nominee, as well as a brief biography and current picture. Further details and reminders will be included in the next issue of The Bulletin.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1997

The 1997 AGM was held at CFB Esquimalt, in the HMCS Venture Mess, on Monday 18 August 1997. Approximately 70 members were present. The Treasurer presented the financial Report for the year ending 31 December 1996, which was adopted. The auditor for fiscal year 1997 will be Schwartz, Levitsky and Feldman. The outgoing President, Jack Pike, presented his report and received a vote of appreciation for his contributions as President over the past three years. The Executive Director presented his report of activities since the 1996 AGM. Elections for the Board of Directors and Member-at-Large to the Nominating Committee were conducted. The location of the 1998 Course was confirmed.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Work on the 32nd annual OMMC Inc, Museology Course has started. As previously announced, the 1998 host will be 17 Wing, Winnipeg. The course will be held from **10 - 14 August 1998**. The on-site coordinator is Maj Eldrin Thuen. The Executive Committee and the Course Co-ord conducted the pre-course recce during the week of 10 Nov 97. More information on the 1998 course may be found in this issue, in the Course section.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES** Just a friendly reminder - if you haven't already paid your dues for 1997, please do so as soon as possible. The Executive Director would be pleased to receive your 1998 dues at the same time. A form for your 1998 membership is enclosed with this issue. As ever, your early submission would be appreciated.

**NEW MEMBERS** Since the last issue of "The Bulletin", we are pleased to welcome the following new members:

### Individual Members:

BISHOP, Mr. Aurthur, Toronto, ON  
COOPER, Mr. George A., Gibsons, BC  
DALLISON, Mr. R., Fredericton NB  
DAVIDSON, Mr. William H., Toronto, ON  
HOUGHTON, Mr. Thomas, Vancouver, BC  
JOHNSTON, Col(Ret'd) Murray, Ottawa,  
JUDSON, Mr. George, Calgary, AB  
MacKAY, Mr. Bill, Regina, SK  
MacKAY, LCol Dan, Ottawa, ON  
McCULLOCH, LCol Ian, Ottawa, ON  
TOYE, Mr. Keith, Wingham, ON

### Organizational Members:

Fort Rodd Hill National Historic Site,  
Victoria, BC (representative: Dale Mumford)

Revenue Canada bulletin (IT-11OR3) provides information for museum memberships which are classified as tax-deductible. Under this rule, museum memberships which are under \$50.00 can be claimed as a tax deductible expense when no other benefits are received. The OMMC, Inc. annual membership fee of \$35.00 is considered to qualify, so be sure to claim this expense.

**OMMC, INC. DATA BASE** A bilingual information sheet was included with the last mailing of The Bulletin, to assist with the development of our new data base. So far, only about 50 forms have been received. Another copy is enclosed with this issue, so please complete it and forward to the Ex Dir by the end of January 1998.

### ***1997 MUSEOLOGY COURSE REPORT***

**T**he 1997 OMMC Course was hosted by CFB Esquimalt, HMCS VENTURE and the Esquimalt Naval Museum. Judging from the comments received in the course critiques (59 received and analyzed), overall the course was a success, with the largest dissatisfiers being the accommodations and meals on-site. To the extent possible, the recommendations received will be actioned. These comments dealt mainly with course topics, the inclusions of workshops and the provision of more background information on course presentations and additional time for questions during lectures.

The Course Co-ord wishes to thank the Esquimalt staff who provided support and assistance during the course. In addition, special thanks to the course volunteers who helped out throughout the course, particularly Sue & Foster Dennison, Peter & Betty Pym-Hember, Paulette Weber-Potvin, George &

Dora Parry and last (but not the least) the provision of special transportation by Maj (Ret'd) Keith Inches and his Prairie Schooner (GO - CHEVY - GO !!!)

### ***1998 OMMC, INC. MUSEUM COURSE***

**A**s announced at the 1997 AGM, the 1998 OMMC, Inc. Museum Course will be held 10 - 14 August 1998, at 17 Wing Winnipeg. The course recce trip in Nov 97 was very successful and the recce team wishes to thank Maj Eldrin (ET) Thuen and his planning committee for their enthusiastic support and co-operation. Our congratulations go out to ET on his recent appointment to the position of ARAF (Air Reserve Augmentation Flight) Flight Commander.

In response to membership requests, the 1998 course will try to include more workshops. At this time, the proposed course schedule will include workshops on Photo Conservation and Display Case Construction, as well as Marketing for Non Profit Organizations. The proposed tours will include a visit to the Western Canadian Aviation Museum, CFB Shilo & GATES (German Army Training Establishment), the Fort Garry Horse and the Royal Winnipeg Rifles Museums.

On the accommodation side, we are pleased to make available several rooms with private bath for singles, in a smoke-free environment. The Course Co-ord is also pleased to announce that your 1998 Course registration fee payments may now be made by VISA. Further details about the 1998 Course will be included in the March 1998 issue of "The Bulletin".



## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**I**f you served in the ICSC or the ICCS (Vietnam Service 1954 - 1973), you might be interested in the new book by LCol John De Dominico, *Land of a Million Elephants*. This book is available from General Store Publishing House, 1 Main Street, Burnstown, Ontario, K0J 1G0, (613)432-7697 or (800)465-6072, or FAX: (613)432-7184, at a cost of \$18.95 plus \$4.50 for GST and shipping. An interesting and humanly presented story awaits you. The book will be a worthwhile addition to anyone's military library.

**F**or aviation enthusiasts, Doubleday Canada has published Wayne Ralph's book, *Barker VC*. This enticing story is priced at \$34.95 plus shipping, handling and applicable taxes. It may be ordered by calling 1-800-414-0484.

**A**nother useful reference book is *Abandoned Military Installations of Canada, Vol. I: Ontario*. This book is a guide to every military base in Ontario used during or after the Second World War and since closed. Included are Army basic training centres, RCAF pilot schools, radar and radio stations, internment camps, supply depots, etc. The book is available from Paul Ozolak, P.O. Box 20009, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 9N5, at a price of \$18.88 plus \$4.00 for shipping costs. Next year, Vol II on Québec will be released.

**T**hree flyers are included with this package on books available from the Canadian Government Publishing Division of Public Works and Government Services Canada. For further information on these publications and to order them, telephone 1-613-998-8501 or FAX 1-613-947-6949. The

books highlighted in the flyers are: *The Canadian Military Experience 1867 - 1995: A Bibliography*; *Dishonoured Legacy: The lessons of the Somali Affair*; and *Canada and the Battle of Vimy Ridge, 9 - 12 April 1917*.

**A**ny member museum who has artefacts donated to them which require an evaluation for income tax receipt purposes may submit the data to the Executive Director, OMMC, Inc., for a free evaluation. The Executive Director is recognized as an evaluator by the Canadian Movable Cultural Property Heritage Branch, 15 Eddy Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Hull, Québec, K1A 0M5.

**M**embers are also advised to check the enclosed book brochures from Stephen Pallas of Pallas Books, Purveyors of Military History Books, 17 Ella Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1S 2S3 (Tel: 613-238-1067 or FAX: 613-238-4661) and from Larry Milberry of CANAV Books, 51 Balsam Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M4E 3B6 (Tel: 416-698-7559 or FAX: 416-693-4344). Both Stephen Pallas and Larry Milberry are OMMC, Inc. members and both offer an excellent range of military and aviation books.

**A**nother member, Guthrie Woods of Woods Manufacturing Company (Ottawa) Ltd., has produced on both disc and cassette tape, an exceptional recording of five Canadian bands comprised of 230 musicians at the Canadian Forces Massed Bands Beating Retreat 1997 on Parliament Hill. See the enclosed data for ordering this excellent military music.

**B**y now most people are aware of the auction of the medals and military memorabilia of LCol John McCrae, in which bureaucratic procrastination and indifference

almost resulted in the loss of these medals to a foreign buyer. Thanks to the patriotic action of Mr. Arthur Lee of Scarborough, Ontario, who paid the \$400,000 hammer price, plus the auctioneer's 10% commission, as well as 7% GST, the medals were retained in Canada and donated to the McCrae House Museum in Guelph, Ontario. Hopefully, the Federal Government is now aware that the ordinary Canadian does care about Canada's military history, its veterans and the importance of remembering those who died in the service of their country.

**A**nd in the National Capital, there is a great controversy over the inclusion of a Holocaust exhibition hall in the soon-to-be-expanded display area of the Canadian War Museum. Some of our members are involved in the controversy. Members who operate military museums are encouraged to take advantage of this situation and voice their opinions, while at the same time, draw attention to the existence and services of their own military museums. Many people in your community may not be aware of your museum. The current debate could provide an opportunity to raise public awareness of your museum through letters to local newspapers, interviews with local radio and TV stations, and so forth.

**C**live Law, President/Editor of Service Publications, c/o P.O. Box 33071, Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 3Y9 (Tel: 613-820-7350 or FAX: 613-820-1288) will be publishing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of his *Canadian Militaria Dictionary & Sourcebook, 1998-1999*, in January 1998. The 1<sup>st</sup> Edition is now a collector's item. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition costs \$14.95, is slightly larger and will contain more names and addresses of Canadian military museums, collectors, researchers, suppliers of

military goods and services, dealers and auctioneers. In addition, OMMC, Inc. members may find Clive's other publication, *Military Artefact*, a quarterly newsletter for military museum curators and collectors of military artifacts from the Crimean War to the Korean War, a useful resource. The subscription rate for Canada and Canadian Forces personnel any place in the world is \$12.00 (Cdn) per year for the four issues.

**O**n a more whimsical note, if you require toy soldiers for a display, or for your own private collection, contact Dick Malott (Malott's Aerophilatelic and Militaria Consultant Services, 16 Harwick Crescent, Nepean, Ontario, K2H 6R1 (Tel: 613-829-0280). An extensive range of Britains Toy Soldiers is available at reasonable prices. The 1998 Britains Toy Soldier catalogue will be available in early January 1998 at a cost of \$8.00 per copy. The current price list of hundreds of toy soldier sets is available free upon request.

**T**he Executive Director has received a request for information from Mrs. Helen Youngson of Nepean, Ontario. Mrs. Youngson is seeking information on uniforms made by Mr. William Thompson and his partner, James Brotherhood, during the period 1900 - 1914, while they were making uniforms for RMC. She is seeking knowledge of any uniforms extant, or records of any business transactions related to the uniforms. Any member with uniforms or records which may relate to these tailors is asked to contact the Executive Director.

#### EDITOR'S ENDNOTES

**I**n closing, on behalf of the Board and staff, best wishes of the season to all!