



COMMISSIONAIRES

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The Corpsrespondent

~ Newsletter of Hamilton Division - Spring 2010 ~



Comm. Dan Garvey enjoys a moment with the Olympic Torch. The lady in red is a Coca-Cola Hostess

2010 Olympic Torch Relay

The Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympics Winter Games truly are Canada's Games as the 2010 Olympic Torch Relay became the longest in history to be contained within the Host Country.

Canada is full of inspiring stories as are Canadians. These unique and motivational stories have been shared in the months leading up to the relay, and during the time Canadians transported the Olympic Flame from Athens, Greece to Vancouver.

The 2010 Olympic Torch Relay, presented by Coca-Cola and RBC, has inspired and engaged Canadians from coast to coast to coast as it traveled along the path of northern lights the route the Olympic Flame illuminated as it traveled towards the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

The 2010 Olympic Torch Relay in brief:

- Over 100 days in length.
- Over 1,000 communities and places of interest where torchbearers carried the Olympic Flame.
- Nearly 200 celebrations hosted by communities in every province and territory.
- Approximately 90 per cent of Canada's population were within a one-hour drive of experiencing the Olympic Flame.
- Over 45,000 kilometres were travelled (more than equivalent to around the world)
- Extensive tour of the North including visits to Alert, Nunavut, the northernmost permanently inhabited community in the world.
- 12,000 people had the honour of being an Olympic Torchbearer who helped carry the flame to Vancouver, a majority of whom were selected through public programs.
- Presenting partners Coca-Cola and RBC lead the public torchbearer application process and invite Canadians to share stories about how they are building healthier individuals and create a stronger Canada.

The 2010 Olympic Torch Relay began in Canada on October 30, 2009 and concluded at the Opening Ceremony signalling the start of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games on February 12, 2010.

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Commandant's Message - Cdr. Fred Lee

My message at this time is more pointed and is a little shorter than it might have been. As you will have become aware the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services has recently provided us with the means of support to the training standards and testing requirements to supplement the Private Security and Investigative Services Act. We have all become accustomed to the licensing requirements for Security Guards and others. We knew that the training standards and testing methods would come to us and now they have, with some time limits with which we must all comply. Please understand the timings as they may affect each of you. You will note also that we will be reminding everyone on a regular basis of the need to complete any steps which apply.

We have summarized the material for your information both within this Newsletter and by separate mail out to all our Commissionaires. We cannot emphasize too much that you should read and understand the material since it effects your work and our ability to provide work for you. For those who may have to obtain training and be tested we will provide as much help as possible. If you have questions, the ability to answer them can be found in our office. Please do not hesitate to ask any questions from time to time. There will be some who have fear of testing. Let us encourage you to have no fear of this since many of you have been doing work for us for some time and already have the knowledge to be successful to the standards required. Again you are reminded that we are here to help each of you and encourage you not to hesitate to ask for help.

Change comes to all of us and we should not be apprehensive but look forward to what will inevitably help us all. Your dedication and knowledge of your work has always been very good and we have confidence that there will no trouble in continuing.

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Is the Newsletter of

Commissionaires - Hamilton

151 York Blvd., Suite 208

Hamilton ON L8R 3M2

Ph: 905 527-2775 Fax: 905 527-9948

Email cccham@on.aibn.com

Chairman's Message - LCol. Paul Garrick

My tour as Chairman of the Board of the Hamilton Division is soon to end and I will hand over to my successor Major Robert Nuttall on 1 July. I am taking this opportunity to tell you of some of the things that have happened in this last two years.

Our Board has changed. Three long serving members, BGen Len Salmon, LCol Jack Evanoff and Capt Robert Begin retired after many years of loyal service. Col Thomas Marlor resigned for personal reasons. To fill these vacancies and one other that had not been filled previously, five new governors joined the Board. LCdr Glenna Swing and Capt Linda Murdoch-Furchner joined the Board as the first female members and they were followed shortly by Col Gary Burton and LCol Michael McKay both from the Guelph area and Maj John Richmond from St Catharines. As you are aware Board members serve the Corps as volunteers in their various positions and have a great interest in the service provided to the client but most importantly are interested in the opportunity through employment afforded to our major asset, the Commissionaires. All Hamilton Board members are former serving members in the Canadian Forces both regular and reserve. They are all very interested in the efficient running of the business and take particular interest in the ongoing health and welfare of the Commissionaires. As a result of this they discuss with the CEO on an ongoing basis the accidents, slips and falls and other occurrences that put Commissionaires at risk of injury and possible loss of wages with an eye to improving the workplace.

It is not news but for the first time Hamilton Division has cars to be able to meet the requirements of the City of Hamilton By law enforcement contract. The need for more cars looms in the near future.

In June just past Hamilton Division hosted the Annual Meeting of Divisions and the Annual General Meeting of the Corps at the Sheraton Hotel. Several Hamilton Division Commissionaires worked as security, drivers and in hospitality. They did an excellent job and received many accolades from the visiting CEO's and Governors.

As a Division we are showing moderate growth. The recent contract with Niagara College was secured because our other post secondary education clients were happy with our efforts on their behalf and said so when asked. This type of advertising from a satisfied client goes a long way in helping to secure future contracts.

I will close now with my wish to each and every one of you for good health and happiness in the years to come.

Health and Safety

Now that the winter season has turned to spring we tend to let down our guard regarding safety. We have a spring in our step and as we observe nature coming to life we stop observing the surfaces we walk upon. The melting of the snow uncovers a host of dangers. Free from ice we forget about the cracked and broken concrete sidewalks, the crumbling asphalt and the potholes lying in wait for us. The majority of the accidents suffered within the Division are slips and falls. While you may think this is natural since our prime function involves patrolling by foot there is no reason we should accept these injuries to ourselves. Almost without fail our accidents are preventable. Care and attention to the surfaces we are walking and driving on is important and can only be accomplished by one person. You.

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Private Security and Investigative Services Act (PSISA) Update

What does it mean to me? That was the question on every-one's lips as the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services announced the training and testing regulation in the Act that governs all security guards and private investigators in the province of Ontario.

The ministry's basic training can only be offered by:

- a. a public university or a community college;
- b. a private career college (PCC), as part of a program approved under the Private Career Colleges Act, 2005;
- c. an agency licensed under the PSISA to sell security guard and/or private investigator services;
- d. a business entity registered under the PSISA that employs its own in-house security personnel (Note: registered business entities can only train their own employees).

This Regulation requires that all security guards and private investigators in Ontario be trained and tested to a common provincial standard. There are four possible scenarios that will fit all Commissionaires and applicants and these are explained below along with the action you must take in each of the examples.

If you are a Commissionaire:

- a. presently licenced under PSISA;
- b. qualified Commissionaires Qualifying Course/Commissionaires Security Guard Course (CQC/CSGC); and
- c. with a renewal date after 15 July 2010.

You must pass a provincial exam consisting of 60 multiple choice questions covered in the ministry's training curricula before your licence may be renewed.

Successful completion of the exam means you will not be required to complete a basic training course nor will you have to write the provincial exam again.

Testing will be conducted at driver training facilities (more details to follow).

Testing will cost **\$60.**

Licencing renewal costs **\$80.**

If you are a Commissionaire:

- a. presently licenced under PSISA;
- b. qualified Commissionaires Qualifying Course/Commissionaires Security Guard Course (CQC/CSGC); and
- c. with a renewal date between 15 April and 15 July 2010.

(Cont'd on page 5)

(PSISA Cont'd)

You will not be required to pass a provincial exam consisting of 60 multiple choice questions covered in the ministry's training curricula until your licence must be renewed between 15 April and 15 July 2011.

Successful completion of the exam means you will not be required to complete a basic training course nor will you have to write the provincial exam again.

Testing will be conducted at driver training facilities (more details to follow).

Testing will cost	\$60.
Licencing renewal costs	\$80.

If you are a Commissionaire not presently licenced

under PSISA (for example a bylaw officer) who wishes to obtain a security guard licence after 15 April 2010 you must:

- a. complete a 40 hour classroom based basic training course;
- b. pass a provincial exam; and
- c. be licenced by the Ministry before any security work can be undertaken.

Basic training course may cost	\$1,000.
Testing will cost	\$60.
Licencing costs	\$80.

If you are a new applicant to the Commissionaires you must:

- a. complete a **40 hour** classroom based basic training course;
- b. pass a provincial exam; and
- c. be licenced by the Ministry before any consideration can be given to their applications.

Basic training course may cost	\$1,000.
Testing will cost	\$60.
Licencing costs	\$80.

Those are the four possible scenarios and we ask you to see which one you fit into and begin to prepare for the actions you must take.

The Div HQ is currently compiling a study guide to assist Commissionaires in their preparation for the provincial exam. It is expected to be available shortly. The most thorough study program though is successful completion of your CQC/CSGC qualification. Any Commissionaires who have yet to complete this important requirement are strongly encouraged to schedule a test now. Finally, the Div HQ is aware of the financial impact of this regulation on all Commissionaires and is presently studying a way to minimize that impact.

For more information please visit:

http://www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca/english/PISG/private_inv_sec.html

(Cont'd from page 3)

Please remember it is our duty under the law to work in a safe manner. This includes recognition of hazards and taking appropriate action to avoid or lessen their potential impact. Enjoy the spring, the flowers blooming and the birds singing but remain aware of your surroundings. Don't spend this beautiful time of year injured and unable to enjoy it.

If you do have an accident/incident no matter how small, it is an absolute necessity that you report it to your Detachment Commander immediately. Something you pass off as minor may turn out to be more serious down the road. **It is the duty and responsibility as well as legal obligation of all of us to report all injuries and accidents.**

Spring's beauty holds another hidden danger for us. The sun which we welcome so eagerly after the winter's darkness brings dangerous UV radiation and the terrible consequence of skin cancer. As in the past it is recognized that Bylaw Officers are at risk. The wide brimmed Stetson style hat was developed as and has been recognized as a piece of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). All Bylaw Officers **must** wear this piece of equipment in the performance of their duties effective 1 May -1 October. Detachment Commanders will make an announcement prior to the start date and it is necessary for any Bylaw Officer without this safety equipment to acquire one before the start date. It is important to remember that as a piece of safety equipment **work shall not be undertaken without this item.** Detachment Commanders where work is primarily accomplished outdoors may contact Division HQ to have this safety equipment issued at their worksites. Any Commissionaires who feel at risk may express their concerns to their Detachment Commanders who shall inform CWO Farrauto at the Division Headquarters. Bylaw Enforcement Detachment Commanders will shortly receive a training package relating to Heat Stress. All Bylaw Officers who undertook this training last year will receive a refresher and all Officers new to the Detachment will receive training in this hazard.

Serco DES Inc. Awarded Examination Hosting and Invigilation* Services

The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services is committed to professionalizing the private security industry and increasing public safety by ensuring that practitioners are fully qualified to provide security guard and private investigator services.

As part of this effort, the ministry has selected **Serco DES Inc** as the successful bidder to provide examination hosting and invigilation services for candidates seeking licenses to work as security guards or private investigators. This follows a thorough evaluation of proposals submitted in response to the ministry's call for bids.

Serco, a global player in the provision of public sector services, is also under contract to the Ministry of Transportation to operate the DriveTest program in Ontario through 56 driver examination centers across the province.

Serco offers convenient locations, including 20 remote Northern Ontario communities, with the ability to support the testing of security guards and private investigators.

The Ministry will continue to provide the private security industry and all other interested parties with advance notice of new regulations and requirements.

This information relates to the vital **PSISA up-date** outlined on pages 4 and 5. You are urged to read these pages carefully as the information presented is very important.

***Invigilation— A monitored test.**

Some Useful Information from Canada Revenue

Every once in a while the federal government, through Revenue Canada, introduce changes to income tax rules that actually benefit taxpaying seniors. There are some recently passed changes that we thought you might like to hear about. For detailed information we suggest that you browse several well prepared websites available on the internet.

Here is one bit of welcome news for those Commissionaires who are approaching the age of 60 and who wish to collect the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) benefits early. Currently, you are required to reduce your income for the months prior to and following the month you start collecting CPP. Beginning in 2012 the requirement will be waived—Good news for those of you in your late 50's.

The information below was copied from **Canada Revenue Agency**. For more information look up www.cra.gc.ca

Do you qualify to split your pension income?

You (the Pensioner) and your spouse or common-law partner (the Pension Transferee) can elect to split your eligible pension income received in the year if you meet the following conditions:

- you are married or in a common-law partnership with each other in the year and are not, because of a breakdown in your marriage or common-law partnership, living separate and apart from each other at the end of the tax year and for a period of 90 days or more commencing in the year (see the note below); and
- you are both resident in Canada on December 31 of the year; or
- if deceased in the year, resident in Canada on the date of death; or
- if bankrupt in the year, resident in Canada on December 31 of the year in which the tax year (pre- or post-bankruptcy) ends.
- you received pension income in the year that qualifies for the pension income amount

Note

You and your spouse or common-law partner will still be eligible to split pension income if living apart at the end of the year for medical, educational, or business reasons (rather than a breakdown in the marriage or common-law partnership).

Eligible pension income can only be split between you (the Pensioner) and your spouse or common-law partner (the Pension Transferee).

You are not prevented from splitting your eligible pension income because of the age of your spouse or common-law partner.

Promotions

Promotions are always a cause for celebration and two recent well deserved advancements in rank are no exception. At right Headquarters receptionist **Heather Brady** receives her sergeant's chevrons from her co-workers MWO's Bill McBride and Ken Brady. Sgt. Brady's duties in the headquarters are many and varied, all of which she carries out with great dedication and efficiency.



Promoted to Corporal at the Canada Centre for Inland Waters (CCIW) is **Comm. Roger Brazier**. He receives his badges of rank from CCIW detachment Commander WO Ian Robertson.

Our congratulations to both Heather and Roger and best wishes in their new situations.



An Extra Effort...

above and beyond the normal call of duty has become the norm for two Commissionaires in the Kitchener office of the Canada Revenue Agency.

Corporal Ron Kauth and **Commissionaire Terry Steen** have not only been working many extra hours but also keeping things well organized in what has been an ever changing situation.

In recognition their individual efforts Ron and Terry have recently been presented with certificates of appreciation by Account Manager Capt. Tom Lee.

