

COMMISSIONAIRES NOVA SCOTIA *Corps Rapport*

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A Game Changer: CNS Achieves Healthcare Security Certification

See story on Pg 3

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CEO's Corner...

The New Year is now well upon us with hopes for bigger and better things. It is worth reflecting on 2014, however, as it was both interesting and tumultuous. We had many successes, including:

1. The awarding of the multi-provincial RCMP Detention Guard contract;
2. Renewal of significant contracts with the Halifax Port Authority, the Sydney Airport Authority, and our longstanding contract with the Halifax Harbour Bridges as they ramp up for their "Big Lift";
3. Winning many wind turbine site security contracts and others;
4. In December, the Chair of the Board of Governors, the Chair of the Veterans' Support Committee and I were privileged to present to the Provincial Government's Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs. This has opened the door to a dialogue with the government, which we are pursuing as a means of potentially securing more provincial contracts. As we continue to focus on our mission, "to seek employment for veterans," all efforts are being expended to place CNS at the forefront in competing for the best contracts;
5. Once again, CNS has been able to give back to those veterans less fortunate than others and provided donations and volunteer work to an array of worthy initiatives (more details to follow throughout this issue);
6. As well, we had the honour of welcoming thousands of visitors to Nova Scotia as the first point of contact via land, air and sea.

Our success is a direct result of commissionaires in the field and you are all to be congratulated for your efforts representing CNS and being excellent ambassadors of Nova Scotia. I have set the following priorities for CNS staff and supervisors: First, we need to look after our people; Second, ensure we are meeting (exceeding) our clients' requirements; and, Third, grow CNS in both size and business lines. With the opportunities that exist in Nova Scotia, it is possible to grow our employee base to 2,000.

The past year was not without its disappointments and challenges. There were contracts we did not win; more cuts at federal sites (which we believe are now over); staffing challenges both in the field and at HQ; one of our own commissionaires whose family lost their home and possessions to fire; and, dealing with all the normal day-to-day issues that a large company faces.

However, 2015 holds much promise with potential to expand our health care security, non-core policing, and marine security services as well as capitalize on large projects in the energy sector. Your continued efforts will help hold CNS as the largest security company and private employer of veterans, as well as help us become the best and only choice for premier security services in the province. Thank-you for all you do.



Commodore Bruce W. Belliveau (Ret'd)

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A Game Changer: CNS Achieves Healthcare Security Certification

Commissionaires Nova Scotia (CNS) is upping its game when it comes to specialized security training for healthcare settings.

Commissionaires across the province are becoming certified by the International Association for Healthcare Security & Safety (IAHSS), positioning themselves as choice security professionals for healthcare services in Nova Scotia.

To-date, 30 commissionaires have received their certification, and there will be many more in the near future. The basic course exceeds current industry requirements and prepares security workers for a healthcare environment, but some commissionaires have taken it upon themselves to further their training in the advanced course and, most recently, at the supervisor level.

Mike Jay, Site Supervisor of 35 commissionaires at the Colchester East Hants Health Authority (CEHHA), has just graduated at the highest supervisor level of certification – the first field commissionaire in the province to do so. CEOs from the CEHHA and CNS were there to congratulate him, and present his pin and certificate.

“Hospitals aren’t like other businesses when it comes to security,” said CEHHA CEO Peter MacKinnon. “We have critical relationships with our patients and their families, and unique safety requirements for our staff. This demands an excellent duty to care and communication, and that’s exactly what commissionaires do best – it’s an invaluable service.”

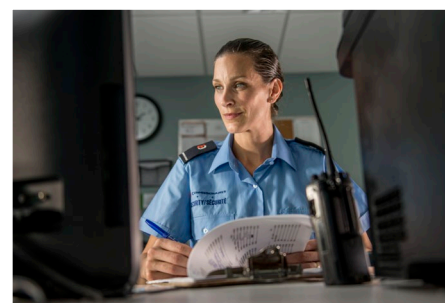
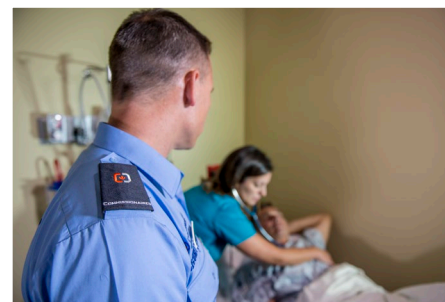
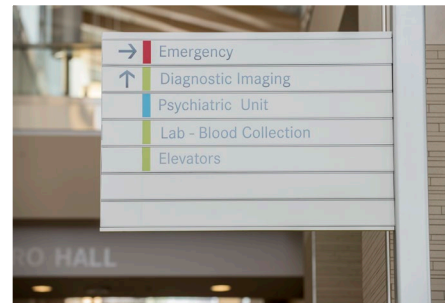
Mike Jay has inspired the majority of his staff to undergo the certification process and it has already yielded noticeable results. “CNS is a learning organization. Today is an illustration of our commitment to continual improvement through training,” said CNS CEO **Bruce Belliveau**. “Mike has set an example that will impact thousands across the province, both commissionaires and the patients, families and staff they help.”



*Above Photo L-R: CNS CEO Bruce Belliveau, Mike Jay, CEHHA CEO Peter MacKinnon
Right-side Photos: Commissionaires performing their broad range of duties at CEHHA*

While IAHSS certification is currently not a requirement to work as a security professional in healthcare facilities, CNS is proactively preparing for changes in the provincial healthcare industry that may sprout from the new amalgamated health authority and employment opportunities that may arise.

CEO Peter MacKinnon adds, “Mike, your leadership of a dedicated group to regularly go above and beyond for us confirms how Commissionaires aligns with our hospital’s vision and the way forward for healthcare security in the province.”





Board of Governors Spotlight

Chair, CNS Veterans' Support Committee

We introduce **LCdr Heather Mackinnon**, MSM, CD, MD (Ret'd), who is the new Chair of the CNS Veterans' Support Committee. While a serving volunteer member of the CNS Board of Governors for over four years, this past October she began her new role as Chair for this important committee of the Board.

LCdr Mackinnon had a distinguished military career serving as a medical officer for 12 years, six of which as the Fleet Support Medical Officer. Today, LCdr Mackinnon operates a special medical practice in Halifax focused on serving military and RCMP veterans. She is a passionate advocate for the fair treatment of veterans in a multitude of avenues.

This past fall, after being nominated by MP Peter Stoffer (a strong political voice for veterans in our province), LCdr Mackinnon was selected as a recipient of the Veterans Ombudsman's Commendation. This prestigious award is given to individuals and groups who work courageously and tirelessly to identify and advance issues on behalf of veterans of the Canadian Armed Forces and the RCMP and their families. LCdr Mackinnon was presented the award by CWO Guy Parent, Veterans Ombudsman, in Ottawa on November 5, 2014. LCdr Mackinnon was specifically acknowledged for diligently pressing the federal and provincial governments for improvement in healthcare programs to better serve the needs of veterans and their families.

What better representative to lead our Veterans' Support Committee than LCdr Mackinnon? We thank and congratulate you on your steadfast efforts for CNS and the broader veteran community.

Paying it Forward to Nova Scotia Veterans

Commissionaires Nova Scotia (CNS) launched the season of giving by supporting two important initiatives for veterans; Paws Fur Thought and The Royal Canadian Legion Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command's Benevolent Fund.

On December 1, 2014, CNS was host to a rather "furry" guest, Thai the service dog, who brought along her owner, Medic Cousineau, founder of Paws Fur Thought. Thai has been professionally trained to help Medic deal with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). In the two years they've been together, Thai has had a transformative impact on his life, so much so that Medic knew he had to share it with others.

"I started Paws Fur Thought to raise awareness about PTSD and help pair other veterans with service dogs," says Cousineau, a retired Air Force Captain. Specially-trained service dogs assist their owners with symptoms such as depression, night terrors, panic attacks, addictions, and anxiety. "The intensive training can cost between \$3,500-\$10,000 per dog, so that's why we're here - to help provide the funds," explains Medic.

CNS wanted to help too, so CNS Veterans' Support Committee Chair, **Heather Mackinnon**, and CNS CEO, **Bruce Belliveau**, presented a donation to Medic that will assist Paws Fur Thought reach their goal of providing 50 service therapy dogs for 50 veterans living with PTSD.



Photo L-R: **CEO Bruce Belliveau**; Ron Trowsdale, President of the Royal Canadian Legion Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command; **Heather Mackinnon**, Chair, CNS Veterans' Support Committee; Medic Cousineau, Founder of Paws Fur Thought; Thai the Service Dog

The healing effects of dogs reaches beyond military members. Twenty-year-old Benjamin Gray, the son of **Sarah Gray** (member of the CNS Veterans' Support Committee), was diagnosed with Post-Concussion Syndrome (PCS) two years ago after numerous hockey-related concussions. His condition was exacerbated by the delivery of this diagnosis and what it meant for his future career in hockey. Benjamin experienced post-traumatic stress symptoms, going through bouts of depression, anger, and anxiety.

"While the journey is far from over, I have been making big strides. What helped me the most, aside from my family and friends, was my dog, Sky, my parents gave me when it all happened," explained Benjamin.

Medric reached out to Benjamin in 2012 when he read his story in the local newspaper. Benjamin said, "He offered his service dog knowledge and any assistance we needed to make application to this type of medical need. When I heard my mom's company was going to donate to Paws Fur Thought I said, 'Count me in!'" Ben, too, made a contribution at the presentation that day indicating, "part of my journey to wellness is paying it forward."

The second initiative CNS supported was the Royal Canadian Legion NS/Nunavut Command's Benevolent Fund. CNS' donation provided assistance to veterans in need over the holidays.

The NS/Nunavut Command is also a partner of Paws Fur Thought. "There are a lot of positive connections and alliances represented here today," announced Ron Trowsdale, President of the Royal Canadian Legion NS/Nunavut Command. "We are exponentially more effective when we work together," he proclaimed, "and that is exactly what we have done here today."

CNS CEO Bruce Belliveau expressed, "We feel so fortunate to be able to allocate financial resources for various local veteran initiatives, year after year, especially as a not-for-profit. This comes from our success as a company and from our clients choosing to employ Commissionaires as their preferred security provider." Sixty-five percent of commissionaires are highly experienced and skilled veterans of the Canadian Forces and RCMP. Belliveau stated, "This is veterans giving back to veterans."

Corps-porate Raiders Just Playin' Around for a Good Cause

On November 22, 2014, seven CNS HQ staff and one brave spouse participated in Sport Nova Scotia's 2nd Annual Corporate Games at the Canada Games Centre in Halifax. The self-titled "Corps-porate Raiders" participated in a series of sports challenges with much heart and enthusiasm. Through a series of fundraising activities, the small CNS team contributed just over \$1,600 of the total \$35,000 raised to help support Sport Nova Scotia in the delivery of their programming, including KidSport and Parasport programs. Funds will be used to help offset costs for registration and equipment for children in financial need, as well as purchase equipment and deliver programs for individuals with disabilities.

"We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing."



Photo L-R: **CEO Bruce Belliveau**; **Ron Trowsdale**, President of the Royal Canadian Legion Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command; **Heather Mackinnon**, Chair, CNS Veterans' Support Committee



Photo L-R Back: **Teresa Yetman**, **Wendy Bensted**, **Heather d'Entremont** (spouse), **Bill Brydon**. L-R Front: **Jerry MacAlpine**, **Anne James**, **Cristal Boudreau**, **Eric d'Entremont**



**CLIENT
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POINT-OF-VIEW

“His action may have prevented a much more serious incident.”
– Lonnie Ratchford, Security Manager, Saint Mary’s University



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CBC FEED NOVA SCOTIA Day

CNS HQ staff volunteered during CBC’s FEED NOVA SCOTIA Day on December 12, 2014. During this one day event, a grand total of \$95,322 was raised! The amount will distribute enough donated food to feed 5,100 families of four for a week. In addition, 3,200 kg of food was donated – enough to feed another 60 families for a week. Thanks to **CEO Bruce Belliveau, Jerry MacAlpine, Anne James** and **Bernie Quigley** for helping to feed Nova Scotia.

Bernie Quigley (right photo) jams with Charlie A’Court at the Maritime Centre and Jerry MacAlpine (left photo) weathers the slush to seek donations at the Sackville Bus Terminal.



Six Students Presented CNS Educational Awards

In August 2014, CNS' Board Chair and CEO hosted an Educational Award gathering to present six students with \$1,500 scholarships to assist with their education goals in time for the fall semester. Congratulations to the following children and grandchildren of Nova Scotian commissioners!

Nicolas Davis, a fourth year student at Saint Mary's University; Allie-Olivia Dorrington, a first year student at Acadia University; Taylor Dulmage, a fifth year student at University of Maine at Presque Isle; Morgan Garnier, a first year student at Université Sainte-Anne; Reid Janssen, a third year student at Dalhousie University; Tyler McDougall, a first year student at NSCC Waterfront.

The CNS Educational Awards is an annual program that to-date has provided \$74,000 to deserving students based on scholastic achievement, community service and extra-curricular activities.



Photo L-R: Reid Janssen (grandson of **John Lorne McIntosh**, Coast Guard Base); Allie-Olivia Dorrington (daughter of **Charla Dorrington**, HQ); Taylor Dulmage (daughter of **Melissa Taylor**, HQ); Nicolas Davis (son of **Michael Davis**, RCMP HQ); Tyler McDougall (grandson of **Thomas Haight**, Carleton Centre). Absent from photo is Morgan Garnier (son of **Jason Garnier**, DPW Procurements Data Centre).

Commissionaires Learn New Languages through the CNS Academic Upgrading Program

CNS is a learning organization; we value continuous learning and training. Internally this is demonstrated by required refresher training, but commissionaires are also encouraged to seek outside educational opportunities that contribute to current areas of expertise or that build new skill-sets. CNS has an academic upgrading program where all serving commissionaires may apply for up to a 75% reimbursement of eligible course fees.

To-date, fiscal year 2014/2015 has seen two commissionaires take advantage of this benefit. **Jim Stallard** from the Museum of Natural History wanted to become more proficient in French and took his third French course, French Alter EGO+, at the Alliance Française this past year. **Cindy Penny-White** from the Halifax Stanfield International Airport sought to learn a language as well; Italian! Cindy successfully completed an Italian language course through the Italian Canadian Cultural Association of Nova Scotia.



Photo L-R: CEO **Bruce Belliveau**, **Cindy Penny-White**

Congratulations go to these commissionaires who have taken on new studies while serving the Corps full time. Cindy and Jim's newly learned languages will help them communicate better with tourists and travelers at their respective work sites. All CNS employees are encouraged to find out more about this program if they are interested in furthering their skills through outside education.



"Great job and extremely well led"
– **Derek White, Cerescorp**



CNS Long Service Awards

Commissionaires Nova Scotia puts great value on loyalty and long service to the Corps. We pride ourselves on industry record-low turnover rates and a history of dedicated employees. This formula has yielded a higher level of consistency and quality service to our clients, and ultimately the success of CNS.

We honour long serving members each year through our unique awards program. The Commissionaires' Long Service Medal is awarded for 12 years of service with the Corps. A silver bar is added at 17, 22 and 27 years and all are replaced with gold bars at 32, 37 and 42 years. Silver and gold rosettes are added to the ribbon bar at the same milestones. Accompanying the award at 12+ years is a certificate and cheque representing \$10 for each year of service.

The award year ran from October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014. During that time, 86 commissionaires achieved long service milestones; a demonstration of dedication and loyalty by so many this year! Numerous recipients were presented their awards at the CNS Annual Awards Dinner, and others chose to attend a district function or receive their medal, certificate and cheque at their worksite. The following pages review the commissionaires who received their awards across the province for this past awards year; congratulations to you all!

Annual Awards Dinner

On Saturday September 27, 2014, a crowd of commissionaires and guests gathered for the 22nd Annual Awards Dinner at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront. CNS graciously welcomed special guests of the evening, His Honour Brigadier-General the Honourable J.J. Grant, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, and Her Honour Mrs. Joan Grant. It was an enjoyable night of recognition and celebrating the year's achievements with a three-course meal and many excellent door prizes donated by our generous sponsors (see below). Also, see Pg 15 for Governor **Col Curtis'** heartfelt toast to the Corps.

The photos of commissionaires on the following page attended the Awards Dinner to receive their awards. The list of additional long service awardees were presented outside the Awards Dinner.

Door Prize Sponsors and Winners: *Purveyors of Fine Wines & Spirits – Assortment of promotional gifts (Maggie Hanlon, Paul Jefferson, Jim Neville, Shirley Inglis, John Martin, Palmira Hamilton, and Paul Sims); Murphy's the Cable Wharf – Tall Ships Cruise Tickets (James Paul); Saltscapes – One year subscription (Bob Green); Desjardins – \$50 Canadian Tire gift card (Joe LeBlanc) and a \$50 The Keg gift card (Marilyn Keddy); CNS – Philae Shriners Magic Show Tickets, WD Play TV Media Player and assortment of family items (Maurice Dumas); CNS – Portable Phone Set (Thomas Donovan); Lyreco – Assortment of stationery (Robert MacQueen); Halifax Marriott Harbourfront – \$75 Harbourstone Sea Grill & Pour House gift card (Ed Hogan); Ritch Durnford Lawyers – Gift Basket (Jacques Lemire); Courtyard Marriott – Skybox tickets to Mooseheads Hockey Game (Donald Eisan); Enterprise – Weekend Car Rental and Courtyard Marriott – One night stay & breakfast for two (this grand prize winner was John Mills).*





Above Photo L-R Back: **Leonard Benson**, 12 years; **Donald Eisan**, 27 years; **Ray Donovan**, 17 years
L-R Front: **Mike Paul**, 12 years; **Samuel McFadden**, 22 years



Above Photo L-R: **Wayne Gillies**, 12 years; **Wilfred Wheten**, 12 years; **Jim Neville**, 17 years; **Floyd Rushton**, 12 years



Above Photo L-R Back: **Paul Jefferson**, 12 years; **John Mills**, 12 years; **Robert MacQueen**, 22 years
L-R Front: **Jim Johns**, 27 years; **Gerry Parris**, 12 years



Above Photo L-R Back: **Donald Hynes**, 22 years; **Yves Letourneau**, 22 years; **Craig Finlay**, 17 years
L-R Front: **Terrance Mumford**, 27 years; **Stephanie Bell**, 12 years

Additional Long Service Awardees:

27 Year Bar

Ronald Chafe
George Layes
Donald MacEachern
John Miller

22 Year Bar

William Bowers
Ian Crockett
Bryan Dixon
Theodore Duffy
Warren Ferguson
Richard Gammon
Thomas Hogan
Mervyn Oickle
William Timbury

17 Year Bar

Keith Allan
Daryl Bass
Christian Beuckx
Winston Brooks
David Caldwell
Phillip Corlett
Timothy Crandall
Alfred Cyr
William Durling
Martin Letourneau
Michael MacCallum
Brian Matheson
Danial Rollings

12 Year Medal

Krista Baigent
Charles Bennett
Bruce Blandin
Yvon Bourque
Kenneth Briggs
Paul Brook
Charles Burrell
Alfie Burt
Raymond Cameron
Cecil Carr
Gary DeMont
Shawn Dockrill
Joseph Doiron
Barbara Foster
Gary Goodwin

Lawrence Greene
Stephen Height
Gerald Hopkins
Lloyd Hughes
Lorne Joudrey
Ileen Kane
John MacKenzie
Raymond Muise
Bruce Murray
Robert Nicholson
Dale Parker
Daniel Peori
Kevin Podgursky
Susan Pottie
Cyril Richards

George Ross
Jerry Tobin
Joe Vallis
Jason Wadden
Hector White
Gerald Whitman
Frank Woodward
Melvin Zilkowsky

Long Service Award Qualifiers & Recipients

5 Years *	12 Years**	17 Years**	22 Years**	27 Years**	32 Years**
July 2014					
Driscoll, Keith Forrest, Dean Hennigar, Nelson Hines, Christine London, James Morrison, James Scanlan, Ronald Williams, Ashley	Carr, Cecil Dockrill, Shawn	Allan, Keith Beuckx, Chris Finlay, Craig		Miller, John	
August 2014					
Brown, Alan MacKinnon, George Marshall, Sally Moulton, Rose Pond, Richard Rogers, Dorothy Rose, Patsy Sherring, Ross	Singer, Karen Storey, Laverne Thibeau, Mark Totten, Joseph Woodrow, Patrick	Blandin, Bruce Mills, John Ross, George Vallis, Joe	Bass, Daryl Brooks, Winston	Duffy, Theodore Letourneau, Yves	Layes, George
September 2014					
DeBaie, Janet Hiltz, Shirley Pearcey, Judith Pierre, Charles	Joudrey, Lorne			Mumford, Terrance	
October 2014					
Belanger, Susan Gardner, Phillip Harnish, Beverley Hynes, Janet Landry, Alphonse McQuaid, Louis Payn, Raymond Rapin, Norman	Ronan-Saunders, Debbie Sangollo, Paul Saunders, Jack Simpson, Kelsea Taylor, Cyril Warren, Gordon	Chatterton, Sandra Moore, Dennis Smith, Donald		Gabriel, Ronald	
November 2014					
Johnson, Brittany MacQueen, Ian McGowan, Brian Parker, Newman Potter, Holly Proctor, Ronald Tardieu, Paul Randall, Terry	Jenkins, Charles Massey, Alan	MacDonald, Robert			Burke, Lester Gallaher, William
December 2014					
Methot, Guy Nauss, Stuart	Beggs, Warren Burns, Rick Jones, Wynn MacDonald, Willard	Harrison, Gordon			

* Awarded monthly.

** Awarded at the September Awards Dinner in the commissionaire's qualifying year. The award year runs from October 1 to September 30.



One Million Numbers

What's in a number? For most, numbers are a common denominator in our daily lives; they connect us, allow us to derive conclusions, and they drive our economy. For Commissionaire **Danny Johnson**, numbers are a commitment to helping those in need.

In 1999, Danny embarked on a mission that most would call boring; some daunting. At first Danny even thought so himself; however, he said, "Once I got started, it became more and more interesting." His task? To type out the numbers one to one million, in written form, to raise money for blind children. Danny got the idea for the project from the Guinness Book of World Records: an Australian man by the name of Les Stewart had done this unthinkable task over 16 years, with the use of just one finger. Inspired by Helen Keller, the first deafblind person to graduate from college, Danny followed in Stewart's tracks and set out on what he titled the "Millennium Typing Project".

Danny started by typing for 700 consecutive days! Unfortunately this resulted in him having to undergo carpal tunnel surgery on both of his wrists, causing his work to be put on hold for several months. Realizing he needed to pace himself, Danny slowed down (a bit) and began typing anywhere from 30 minutes to 5-6 hours per day, depending on his work schedule. 12 years, 13 electronic typewriters, 53 kilometers of typewriter ribbon and 20,000 pages of paper later, Danny's "Millennium Typing Project" was complete in May of 2011.

A typewriter, which lacks the convenient function of a backspace key, resulted in Danny's work having errors, thereby his efforts did not qualify for the Guinness Book of World Records. Not about to give up, Danny commenced on yet another project in June 2011. This time, Danny would type the written form of numbers backwards, starting at one million and going down to one. Using a laptop instead of a typewriter, Danny hopes to beat his previous time and make it into the Guinness Book of World Records. This project is being dedicated in memory of Holly Bartlett, a blind college graduate whom Danny met at a typing fundraiser. Having reached the 500,000 mark (halfway point) shortly after the New Year, Danny expects to finish this endeavour by 2018.

Danny's dedication to charity work began in 1980 in Northern Ontario. While positioned at a station near Sudbury when Terry Fox ran through, an inspired Danny went door-to-door raising funds for the Marathon of Hope. Shortly after, he was introduced to the Military Police Fund for Blind Children and Danny began competing in typing marathons to raise funds for the organization. These first bouts of charity work motivated Danny to start a project of his own. Throughout his journey with the "Millennium Typing Project", Danny has been a dedicated supporter of numerous charities including the Terry Fox Marathon of Hope, The Military Police Fund for Blind Children, and Sir Frederick Fraser School in Halifax. His dedication of both time and energy has raised over \$350,000 in funds for these charities.

Danny became a commissionaire after a 30 year career in the Canadian Armed Forces. He is now working in Dartmouth at the CNS Ops Centre. We wish him all the success in completing his current number-typing challenge!

IT'S ALL IN THE FINE PRINT

Danny:

- Has raised over \$350,000 for various charities
- Holds the Canadian Marathon Typing Record for typing 50 hours and 11 minutes straight
- Was presented the 2012 Caring Canadian Award by the Governor General; the only Nova Scotian to receive the award that year
- Currently averages typing eight pages a day at ten minutes per page



Artistic Expression Takes-Off at the Airport

Commissionaire Connors Plays Mr. December in Airport Calendar Contest

Kevin Connors plays an important security role at the Halifax Stanfield International Airport (HSIA). As part of the management team, his job ranges from coordinating security programs, to teaching classes, to conducting investigations and everything in between.

In his personal time, Kevin is also a talented photographer, but he says, "I wouldn't call it a hobby" as he simply takes photos to capture the memories. This past fall, HSIA held an annual photo contest for its Environmental Calendar. Kevin decided to submit a few photos he had shot in the summer, and lo and behold, he submitted a winner! His photo appears in the 2015 edition of the calendar on December's page.



The winning photo (see image above) was taken by Kevin on July 1, 2014 at Grand Lake River near West Pennant. Laughing humbly he says, "I was taken to the pretty river and I snapped a picture; it's nothing more grandiose than that."



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A Perfect Platform for a Painter

It has been said that, "The supreme accomplishment is to blur the line between work and play," and Halifax Stanfield International Airport (HSIA) Commissionaire **Duane Van Meer** does exactly that.

Duane joined the Commissionaires airport team ten years ago after a successful career in the RCMP. Not long after spending backshifts patrolling the airport, he founded the Artport Gallery. At the time, Duane had been showing his work in many different galleries and he thought to himself, "It's a shame that the airport doesn't have one, considering how many people flow through the airport on a daily basis". The gallery started as a kiosk Duane staffed whenever he could. It grew into the Artport Gallery when Duane recruited other artists after seeing the success he experienced.

Located in the arrivals area of HSIA, the Artport Gallery displays the work of local artists and is run as a profitable co-op between participating members. Duane is currently an active contributor and features his oil paintings. He is often found there on his days off from his airport security duties.

How did it all start? Duane began painting at a young age in Kingston, Ontario, gaining many of his skills through correspondence. Though mainly self-taught, Van Meer attended courses at the Famous Artists School in Westport, Connecticut where he received guidance from talented American illustrators. His work today is still influenced by the teachings of the late Norman Rockwell, Dong Kingman, Robert Fawcett, and Albert Dorne.



Duane paints everything from portraits and character studies to landscapes, seascapes and still life. He uses four different mediums to create his work: oil, watercolour, gouache, and acrylic. His mainstay is oil paint, which was his first love, and falling closely behind is watercolour.

When asked how long it takes to create a piece, Duane chuckled explaining, "It all depends on size and the subject matter, but it can take anywhere from a few hours to a few days". Stop by the Artport Gallery to check out his remarkable work!

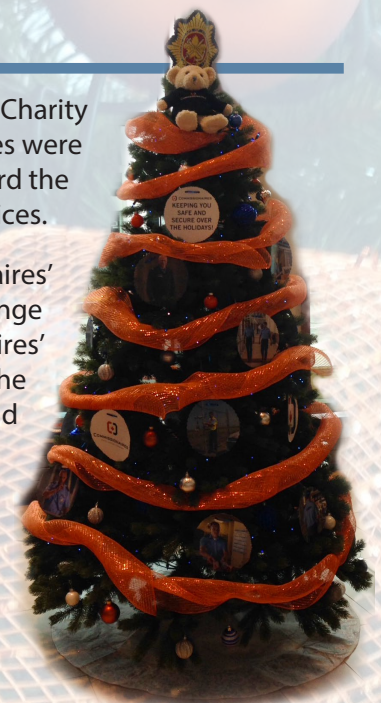


Crafty Commissionaires Christmas Tree

In December, Commissionaires Nova Scotia made its debut in the Trim a Tree for Charity contest held at the Halifax Stanfield International Airport (HSIA). Seventeen Christmas trees were decorated by airport vendors and groups to compete for a winning prize: a donation toward the group's chosen charity. CNS' selected charity was the Veterans Emergency Transition Services.

The CNS tree donned eye-catching blue and orange decorations true to Commissionaires' colours. Photo ornaments were hung depicting commissionaires performing their broad range of duties around the airport; protecting its people, property and information. Commissionaires' tree decorators were **Mona Quann, Maureen Brown** (who painted an assortment of the bulbs and sewed the teddy bear's uniform), **Laura MacGregor, Ruth Spatz-Klubi** and **Joanne McInnis**.

The public was then invited to vote for their favourite tree via Facebook during the month of December. Our tree dazzled its way into fourth place against well-established international competitors. Considering we relied solely on commissionaires spreading the word and the public's support of our organization and chosen charity, we can be very proud! We will be back bigger and better next year!



In Memoriam

We announce with regret the passing of the following commissioners:

Grant Josey, Lower Sackville, August 25, 2014. Grant joined CNS in 2009 and worked at the Halifax Stanfield International Airport. Prior to joining the Corps he was a teacher at various schools in the HRM area and also taught English in Korea.

Paul Boudreau, Kingston, December 23, 2014. Paul joined the Corps in 2005 and worked at 14 Wing Greenwood. Previously, Paul served in the Air Force from 1966 to 1996.

We are also sorry to advise that the following former commissioners have passed away:

Brian Abrahams, Dartmouth, October 19, 2014

Allain Robichaud, Halifax, December 17, 2014

Thomas White, Dartmouth, October 23, 2014

Peter Foster, Halifax, December 23, 2014

Marc Gendron, Eastern Passage, November 4, 2014

COMMISSIONAIRE

POV

POINT-OF-VIEW

“The thing that makes me proud to be a commissioner is when I put on my uniform I feel part of the team, knowing I can help others and advance in training. I enjoy showing people that commissioners are here to be trusted everyday, everywhere.”

– Thomas Cullen, DND Dockyard

Commissionaires Medallion

Every commissioner is required to go through comprehensive training by taking the Commissionaires Security Officer Course (CSOC) held at the Commissionaires Training Atlantic Campus (CTAC) in Dartmouth. During each course there is an opportunity to be chosen by peers as a recipient of the Commissionaires Medallion; an award presented to individuals for significant accomplishments worthy of special recognition. One medallion per course is presented to a student for their outstanding contributions and assistance to others during training.

The following commissioners received medallions for courses conducted from July - December 2014:



Roland Wink
Sean Downie
Liette Arseneault
Fred Fraser
Ross Stewart-Rankin

Doug Langevin
Don R. MacIntyre
Brennan Pryor
Micheal Forhan



We Will Never Forget

In the late summer we commemorated the 100th anniversary of the beginning of the Great War.

Excerpt from the Annual Awards Dinner – Governor Col Gary Curtis (Ret'd) makes a Toast to the Corps



"This year is the 100th anniversary of the start of the Great War. The upheaval and the depression that followed created significant unemployment and anxiety among the veterans of the Great War. Recognizing an opportunity and the need, a group of visionaries organized the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires.

Although there has been much change in the world in the last 100 years, the reason for the Corps of Commissionaires has not changed. We continue to seek employment for veterans of the Canadian Forces and the RCMP, and others who share in our desire to serve. We have grown to be the largest private security company in Nova Scotia because of your professionalism, your training and the sense of duty you bring to our clients.

A century after the start of the Great War we are faced with ever-increasing change and uncertainty. There is one thing has not changed: the fact that our clients and the general public continue to rely on our ability to protect them. This trust is earned everyday and everywhere you serve on or off the job. Please rise and join me in a toast to the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires."

November 2014's Remembrance Day was particularly significant as we recognized the sacrifices of WO Patrice Vincent and Cpl Nathan Cirillo, whose lives were taken by senseless acts of violence last year. Across the province we paid homage to these serving members and to those who went before. Commissionaires laid wreaths at a variety of community cenotaphs, Legion functions and church services. In particular, the CNS' Veterans Support Committee made a donation to the WWII Annual Remembrance Church Service Association and members attended the special service at St. Agnes Church in Halifax.

On Remembrance Day, **CEO Bruce Belliveau** discussed the history and purpose of

Commissionaires Nova Scotia on CTV Morning Live. He also shared Commissionaires' annual national Nanos survey, which captured Canadians' overwhelming support for veterans as they make the challenging transition from military life to a civilian career. The vast majority of Canadians believe we have an obligation to ensure veterans find meaningful employment after their military service. The exact number has hit an all-time high of 96%, up from 94% last year, and 90% in 2008.

The views of Atlantic Canadians are closely aligned with those of Canadians in general, according to the survey. One interesting variance, however, is that nearly 75% of Atlantic Canadians surveyed are in support of honouring the milestone anniversaries of World War I and World War II, indicating it is 'important' in sustaining the public's attention on veterans' issues. This is the highest score across the country, significantly more than the national average of 62%.

"We're not surprised Atlantic Canadians are very grateful to veterans for their service to our country," noted CEO Belliveau. "We'd like to see that strong support translate into more jobs for veterans in the region, as they embark on second careers."



Chair's Corner...

After returning from the airport and admiring the Commissionaires Christmas tree dedicated to the Veterans Emergency Transition Services program, it struck me that, as a family of veterans, we look after each other by employing the largest number of RCMP and military veterans in any company in Nova Scotia.

This issue of *Corps Rapport* has featured those commissionaires who received awards over the last six months. Well done to all of you and on behalf of the Board of Governors – hearty congratulations! Whether for long service or exceptional effort, you really make us look good!

This edition also featured one of our dedicated volunteer governors, **LCdr Heather Mackinnon** (Ret'd). She is Chair of the CNS Veterans' Support Committee and was recently awarded the Veterans Ombudsman's Commendation for her work supporting veterans in health care. In December, LCdr Mackinnon joined the CEO and I in briefing the Nova Scotia Government's Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs. Our provincial government is the only province in Canada to have such a committee. Bill 24 was recently passed, which gives preference to veterans when hiring for the public service. As part of our presentation, we recommended the government go one step further by recognizing the unique composition of Commissionaires Nova Scotia and afford us the same right of first refusal the federal government provides the Corps for national security contracts. We will be pursuing this approach with the provincial government in 2015.

The CNS division continues to be a frontrunner nationally for Commissionaires Canada. Five of our

governors and CEO serve on National Committees, including Chair positions for the Commissionaires Atlantic Council (soon to be the Commissionaires Eastern Council) and the National Board Advisory Committee. We are the lead division on the newly awarded multi-provincial RCMP Detention Guard contract due to our extensive non-core policing experience. Nova Scotia was also selected to host a National Commissionaires photo shoot in August, utilizing Nova Scotia commissionaires at CNS client sites. The footage is now being implemented in national marketing campaigns. We are truly ambassadors for Nova Scotia on many different levels.

The CNS Governors and Leadership Team will be participating in a full-day workshop early in the year on how to improve the CNS Strategic Plan. It is critical to review the components that set a realistic, achievable and successful path ahead to make our business and organization Trusted, Everyday, Everywhere.

I want to thank the great team of volunteer Governors, the incredibly hard working Leadership Team and Headquarters staff, and especially the individual commissionaires who make Commissionaires Nova Scotia the best security business in the Province. It is an honour and a privilege to be Chair of the Board. All the best for 2015.



**Vice Admiral Duncan
"Dusty" Miller (Ret'd)**

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