



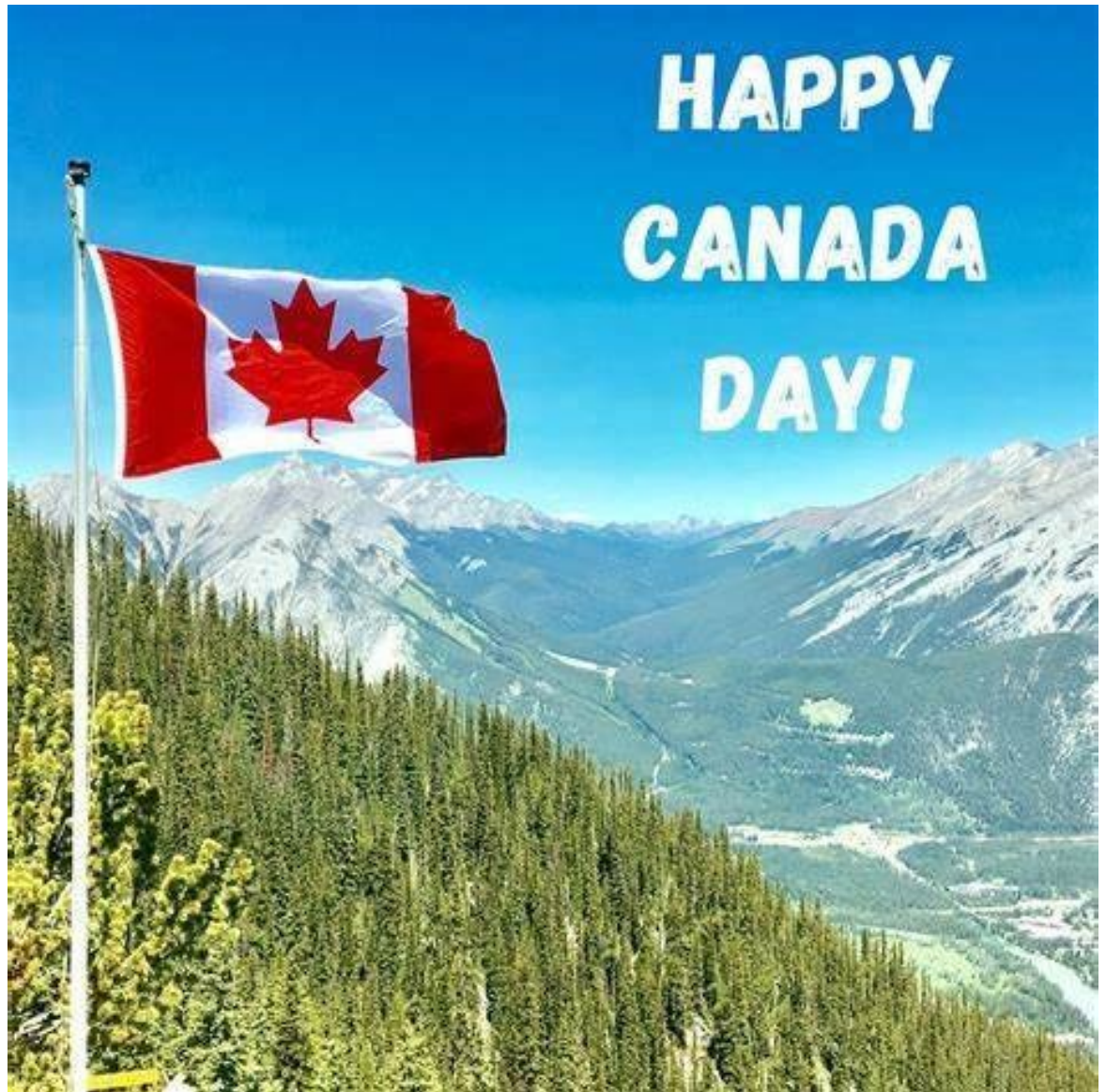
The Corpsrespondent

NEWSLETTER OF THE HAMILTON DIVISON

SUMMER 2022

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From the
Chair

The beginnings of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires/Le Corps Canadien des Commissionaires go back to 1925 when the government of the day attempted to provide employment for the thousands of First World War veterans who had returned home to find their country had drastically changed. The Corps began as an employment agency. Our mandate has changed very little over time with our vision still being:

“To promote the mandate of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires (Hamilton) by the creation and provision of meaningful employment opportunities for former members of the Canadian Forces and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and others who wish to contribute to the security and well-being of Canadians. [Source – Policy and Procedures Manual revised 2009]”

Along with our Vision statement comes a strong desire of the Board for us to become a modern, professional and inclusive organization while meeting our mandate.

I'm pleased to thank those Chairs who have gone before me, knowing that the foundation of our Corps has been led by strong and focused leaders. I give a special thanks to Colonel Michael McKay for his leadership and business acumen over the last three years and to the entire board for their commitment and passion for this organization.

I give thanks for this country of ours – how lucky and blessed we are! I hope this summer affords you all a time to relax and refresh! Happy Canada Day to one and all!



The CEO's
Desk

Summer is finally here! And what a beautiful time of year this is for fresh starts, innovative growth, and the pursuit of new opportunities. As your CEO, it is my honour and responsibility to ensure that I provide every opportunity for us all to be successful together. More importantly, I want you to know how much I appreciate all of the positive feedback and well wishes that I have received from you over the last month. It has given me a renewed sense of purpose and pride in what we do, and how we do it. I am looking forward to the challenges that await us, and I welcome your feedback on how we can continue to make this organization the best in the industry. You may not be aware, but Commissionaires Hamilton has won the Consumer Choice Award 7 years in a row (!) as best in class for the security services industry, based on feedback from the public. This recognition has been earned by you with every interaction you have with a member of the public, so I would like to take this opportunity to applaud your professionalism and your service mindset. It is noticed, and results in Commissionaires being highly regarded in the community.

I also wanted to share some even more positive news, as after a two-year hiatus when we were unable to provide a dispersal to you due to the effects of COVID on our clients and their needs, I am happy to report that we will be providing a dispersal to our employees at the end of September. This distribution of surplus funds is more than merely money; it is validation of your hard work, commitment and time, as the distribution formula is calculated on the number of hours that you have worked over the previous fiscal year. I know that going to work can sometimes be an effort, but this is where all of that effort literally pays off. For those of you who came to the rescue time and again by working extra shifts, staying late, coming in early, and generally being available when our clients needed you, you have my profound thanks. I do hope that this dispersal is able to provide you with some tangible support, and I look forward to hearing your stories of how you were able to buy something or do something you might not otherwise have been able to.

In closing, I want to wish you all a safe and happy summer, and I look forward to speaking with you in person over the next few months, as we work together to improve our proud organization. Always remember; we are more than security.



Mr. Gary Burton (former Chair) received a national chair's commendation for his work on behalf of the National Honours & Awards Committee.



On May 10, a delegation from Commissionaires Hamilton attended the Police, Fire and Safety Career Expo in Vaughan.

Representatives from each of these disciplines from as far away as Calgary were present to speak with event attendees about career opportunities.

Commissionaires had a booth at this event staffed by representatives from Hamilton, Toronto and Ottawa, and spoke with many attendees, most of whom were job seekers from security and LEO university and college programs.

Pictured from left to right are: John Atkin (CGL) Tommy Zasucha, Victoria Sita, Don Thompson and Gerry Fraser.

The Battle of Gapyeong was fought during the Korean War between United Nations Command (UN) forces - primarily Canadian, Australian, and New Zealand - and the Chinese People's Volunteer Army (PVA). The fighting occurred during the Chinese Spring Offensive and saw the 27th British Commonwealth Brigade establish blocking positions in the Kapyong Valley, on a key route south to the capital, Seoul. The two forward battalions - the 3rd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (3 RAR) and 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (2 PPCLI) - were supported by guns from the 16th Field Regiment (16 Fd Regt) of the Royal Regiment of New Zealand Artillery along with a company of US mortars and fifteen Sherman tanks. These forces occupied positions astride the valley and hastily developed defences. As thousands of soldiers from the Republic of Korea Army (ROK) began to withdraw through the valley, the PVA infiltrated the brigade position under the cover of darkness and assaulted the Australians on Hill 504 during the evening and into the following day.

Although heavily outnumbered, the 27th Brigade held their positions into the afternoon before the Australians were finally withdrawn to positions in the rear of the brigade, with both sides having suffered heavy casualties. The PVA then turned their attention to the Canadians on Hill 677, but during a fierce night battle they were unable to dislodge them. The fighting helped blunt the PVA offensive and the actions of the Australians and Canadians at Kapyong were critical in assisting to prevent a breakthrough against the UN central front, and ultimately the capture of Seoul. The next day the PVA withdrew back up the valley in order to regroup. The Canadian and Australian battalions bore the brunt of the assault and stopped an entire PVA division during the hard-fought defensive battle. Today, the battle is regarded as one of the most famous actions fought together by the Australian and Canadian armies in Korea.



Our Scheduler Tommy is seen here at the Korean War Veterans Appreciation Luncheon honouring Korean War Veterans.

Editor's note: The lower left background photo is of a former Hamilton Commissionaire. Morley Balinson was a Commissionaire from 1989 to 2008.

Awards & Recognition



Since her selection as the unit 2 I/C in Niagara Falls By-Law, Sergeant Marcella Monte has demonstrated initiative and exceptional site awareness. She has designed greater administrative efficiencies in the unit while also enhancing the relationship between the City of Niagara Falls and Commissionaires through her positive work ethic and dedication to her duties. Sgt Monte was also instrumental in the preparation and delivery of training to Summer Student training in support of the City program. In recognition of her hard work, dedication and leadership, Sergeant Marcella Monte is presented the Commandant's Coin.



On Tuesday, June 22, CEO Don Thompson presented the Perfect Attendance Award to Flight Sergeant Ellard of 80 Squadron (Royal Canadian Air Cadets) in Kitchener as part of their Annual Cadet Review.

Over 40 cadets were on parade as part of the squadron's 80th anniversary celebrations.

Don has been employed with the squadron as a Civilian Instructor since February, and is in the midst of re-enlisting in the CAF as part of the Cadet Instructor Cadre.

Meet the Newbies



Our new Chair has been on the Board for more than 13 years. A former Naval Reservist and Commanding Officer of HMCS STAR, Glenna is also involved with the Senate of the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry as their Honorary Lieutenant Colonel where is actively promotes women in the military. Lieutenant-Commander Swing resides in Ancaster, Ontario with her husband Steven. Both Glenna and Steve (but mostly Glenna) are actively trying to retire. She and Steven have two sons, Scott and Simon and are the proud and indulgent Grandparents of 2 year old Brady and two month old Sloan. Glenna is very involved with volunteer work within her community and very active with her Church.



General Accountant

Obi Nwanguma recently joined Commissionaires as the General Accountant, having spent the last 10 years working at the United Nations in different capacities. She is obsessed with telling 'number stories' that demonstrate absurd success! When she is not working, she can be found dancing around with her three little munchkins.



Finance Assistant

I grew up in Grimsby, Ontario. I have raised 2 wonderful children with my husband of 33 years. I love to travel and experience different cultures with my family and friends.

I went to mohawk college to study Finance and accounting. I started my accounting/finance career 30 years ago. I have worked in many industries and have enjoyed my accounting career. I am new to the Security Industry and am enjoying working at Commissionaires Hamilton. The staff are friendly, and very professional. I look forward to the years ahead with my new work family.



ID Services Assistant

My name is Jamie Bishop, I am 38 yrs old and a single mother of two boys. My kids Isaac and Caleb are 9 and 7 yrs of age. I am a Law Clerk graduate and have been in the legal world for 3 yrs now. Before I decided to put myself back through school I worked as a hairdresser, and still occasionally enjoy doing my family and friends hair. I am enthusiastic about the outdoors, camping, paddle boarding and enjoying time at the beach on my days off with my children. I am excited about starting this new journey with all of you and I hope to become a great asset to the team. I look forward to what's to come.

Awards & Recognition continued



While performing his duties at the St. Catharines Transit on March 26, Commissionaire Brandon Maniaci stepped forward to deal with an individual in distress. The individual was looking to be violent towards one of the bus drivers, and Cmre Maniaci was able to successfully de-escalate the situation and remain in control until police arrived on scene. Cmre Maniaci is presented this Certificate for his professional demonstration of his non-violent crisis intervention skills that served to prevent harm coming to everyone involved in the tense situation



Commissionaire Vince Grady and Phil Williams were presented Certificates of Appreciation for being, according to accounts from the Juravinski Cancer Clinic where they are employed, 'outstanding'. Their demonstrated empathy to the patients at the Cancer Clinic is unwavering and, they make 'life a little more tolerable' by their presence and actions. From these accounts, 'the company is fortunate to have them working for us', and this is a sentiment Commissionaires Hamilton heartily shares

Heat Stress occurs when our body's cooling system cannot efficiently function due to high temperature, humidity, physical activity, fatigue or loss of fluids. This stress may lead to heat related illness, disability and even death. You may eliminate heat stress by taking a few simple precautions. Wear a hat while in the sun. Take frequent breaks in a shaded area and remove your hat while out of the sun. Drink water and fruit juices. Coffee and carbonated beverages will not replace fluids lost by sweating. Move more slowly during periods of high heat. Take your lunch in the heat of the day.

Ultraviolet Radiation overexposure shows itself as a tan or sunburn, wrinkling of the skin and skin cancer and cataracts. Some forms of skin cancers occur in individuals who are exposed over long periods of time. Melanoma, a more serious form of skin cancer, has been linked to intense short term periods as well as lifetime amount of sun exposure. Some simple measures to reduce this exposure are slip on clothing to cover your arms and legs, wear a wide brimmed hat and apply a sunscreen with SPF #15 or higher.

Recognition of Service

5 Years Service: Fred Thompson.

10 Years Service: Sara Moodie, Don Koropatnicki, Chris Meloche

Last Post

It is with a sad heart that we announce the passing of the following Commissioners:

Commissionaire Anthony Cadilha; Commissionaire Cadilha came to us from Commissionaires Victoria in February of this year. Unfortunately Tony passed away suddenly in March

Commissionaire John McPherson; John started in the Division in December of 1998 after serving 30 years in the Military followed by working as a civilian employee for DND. John worked at the Parking lot for Medical Arts Building then moved to Niagara Falls By-law eventually becoming the Detachment Commander. John passed away in January of this year after a lengthy illness.



Shown above is Account Manager Victoria Sita presenting Sergeant's rank to Sharon Gionomo at the Supervisor's Seminar held at CCIW recently. Sharon is the Detachment Commander at Cogeco Main Office.

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