

THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 854, New Westminster, B.C. V3L 4Z8



CAPT. W. M. KEDZIORA,
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NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.
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RETURN
REQUESTED



The GROUND SHEET

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

104th - 47th - 131st - The Royal Westminster Regt.

Dedicated to the Ideals and Comradeship We knew in Two World Wars

VOL. 32, NO. 4 BOX 854, NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. V3L 4Z8 SEPT. - OCT. 1983

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and

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Pat. Dec. 10, 1983

Constitution & By-laws

PREAMBLE

It was the intention of the Association to recommend to its members various amendments to the Constitution and By-laws at the March 1983 Annual Meeting. However, because insufficient time was available for adequate notification, the subject was withdrawn from the meeting agenda for consideration at the March 1984 Annual Meeting.

All members received a copy of the currently approved Constitution and By-laws in Vol.31, No.1 of the Jan.-Feb, 1982 Groundsheet. What follows below is the Board of Directors' recommendations for changes to the document as approved at their September 1983 meeting. Please refer to your copy of Vol.31 for comparison.

We earnestly request any written comments you wish to make prior to the 1984 meeting. These will be consolidated and presented at the Annual Meeting next March 1984.

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

OF

THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

- I. The name of the Society is:
THE ROYAL WESTMINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION
- 2. The purpose of the Society is to band together all former members of the Regiment and those members of the Active Regiment who wish to participate to:
 - a. Ensure that the contribution of the Regiment to its City, County, Province and Nation is preserved in perpetuity by the operation of a Regimental Museum, and the publication of a written history of the Regiment and its antecedents dating from 1863;
 - b. Ensure the integrity of the documents, memorabilia

- and artifacts belonging to the Association without division and preservation thereof;
- c. To promote the welfare of the active Regiment and to give what support possible subject to the requirements of a. and b. above;
 - d. To meet as occasion demands in a fraternal manner and to offer by example the need for stable, patriotic and contributing individuals in an orderly society.

BY-LAWS

Here set forth, in numbered clauses, the by-laws providing for the matters referred to in Section 6(I) of the "Societies Act" and any other by-laws.

PART I * INTERPRETATION

- I. (I) In these by-laws, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - (a) "directors" means the directors of the Society for the time being;
 - (b) "Societies Act" means the Societies Act of the Province of British Columbia from time to time in force and all amendments to it;
 - (c) "registered address" of a member means his address as recorded in the register of members.
- (2) The definitions in the "Societies Act" on the date these by-laws become effective apply to these by-laws.
2. Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa; and words importing a male person include a female person and a corporation.

PART 2 - MEMBERSHIP

3. The members of the Society are the applicants for incorporation of the Society, and those persons who subsequently have become members in accordance with these by-laws and, in either case, have not ceased to be members.
4. (I) Membership in the Society is open to anyone who has

at any time served with or has been attached to the Royal Westminster Regiment or its predecessors regardless of duration. The Society does not grant Honorary or Associate Memberships.

(2) Any person of good standing, covered by the conditions of the preceding sub-section, wishing to become a member of the Society, shall submit his name in full, name of Unit, Regimental Number, rank, present address and occupation, in writing on the form supplied by the Society.

5. Every member shall uphold the constitution and comply with these by-laws.

6. The annual dues of the Society for its various categories shall be as follows:

(a) General Membership	\$5.00
(b) First World War Veterans	Free
(c) Serving Members of the Regiment	\$5.00
(d) Life Membership	\$50.00

- i. Life Membership funds shall be vested in a fund, the income only from such fund may be transferred to general income;
- ii. Such fund to be administered by the Trustees and such fund to be kept separate.

7. A person ceases to be a member of the Society:

- (a) By advising the Secretary in writing;
- (b) by his death.

8. All members are in good standing except a member who has failed to pay his current annual membership fee or any other subscription or debt due and owing by him to the Society, and he is not in good standing so long as the debt remains unpaid, except in cases of real hardship.

PART 3 - MEETINGS

9. The annual general meeting of the Society shall be held on the third Thursday in March in each and every year at 8 p.m., or at such time as may be decided by a previous general meeting.

10. Every general meeting, other than an annual general meeting, is an extraordinary general meeting.

II. Extraordinary general meetings may be called at any time by the President and may be called upon request of the Board of Directors or 15 members of the Society. Such request shall state the nature of the business to be transacted at such extraordinary general meeting.

I2. (1) Notice of a general meeting shall specify the place, the day and the hour of meeting and in case of special business, the general nature of the business.

(2) At least 14 days notice of an extraordinary general meeting shall be given either by circular letter, postcard or by publication in a Society bulletin.

(3) The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of a notice by any of the members entitled to receive notice does not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

PART 4 - PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

All meetings and procedures shall follow Roberts Rules of Order.

I3. The following shall be the order of business at general meetings of the Society:

- (a) one minute silence in memory of departed comrades.
- (b) roll call of officers of the Society.
- (c) reading of the minutes of the previous general meeting and confirmation of same by the meeting.
- (d) reading of the minutes of the directors' meeting for information only. Any point of business from the latter may be brought up later under New Business or Good and Welfare.
- (e) reading of correspondence and the disposal of same.
- (f) reports of standing and special committees.
- (g) unfinished business.
- (h) new business.
- (i) good and welfare.
- (j) The Queen.

I4. Fifteen members shall constitute a quorum at any general meeting, special or annual meeting, and no meeting shall be held unless a quorum is present

15. (1) No debate shall be permitted except on a motion regularly moved and seconded, unless the Chair shall otherwise rule.

(2) No member shall speak twice on the same motion except by permission of the meeting or by way of explanation, except the mover and the seconder of the motion by way of explanation or rebuttal.

(3) Questions of order arising at a meeting of the Society not provided for in the by-laws, shall be decided by the Chair.

(4) All questions shall be decided by a majority vote of those present and in good standing and the presiding officer shall have the casting vote in the event of a tie.

PART 5 - ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

16. (1) At the annual general meeting there shall be elected a Board of Directors which shall consist of a President, a Vice-President and eight(8) members. This Board of Directors shall remain in office for one(I)year or until their successors are named. All members of the Board shall be elected by ballot. The Past President shall be a member of the Board, ex-officio.

(2) The President shall, each year, appoint a Treasurer and a Secretary at the first meeting of the Board after the annual general meeting from the membership at large, subject to ratification by the Board. These appointees to have voting privileges.

(3) The Commanding Officer of the active Regiment, his representative, a representative from the Officers' Mess, and a representative from the Warrant Officers' and NCOs' Mess shall be members of the Board of Directors. The CO and his representative to have voting privileges.

(4) The Board of Directors may at any time appoint members to fill vacancies created by resignation, removal or death of any member except in the following cases:

(a) In the case of the President, the Vice-President shall become President, and

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- (b) an election shall be held for Vice-President. This election shall be held at the next general meeting or at a time designated by the President and he will hold office for the balance of the year.

PART 6 - ELECTION PROCEDURE

17. (1) Nominations for the offices of President, Vice-President and members of the Board of Directors shall be made by a member of the Society in good standing. Nominees must be present at the meeting or have given written consent and be in good standing.

(2) Prior to the election of officers, the President shall appoint three members to act as scrutineers, the first named to act as Chairman with power to add to his committee.

(3) In the event of two or more being ballotted upon to fill the office of President or Vice-President, the highest number of votes will elect. The members nominated for the Board of Directors receiving the highest number of votes will be declared the elected.

PART 7 - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

18. (1) It shall be the duty of the President to occupy the Chair at all meetings, to receive and put motions, to inform the Society of the proceedings since the last meeting and to cause the minutes and other communications to be read; he shall sign the former. He shall also inform the meeting of anything he thinks of interest to the members.

(2) The President, at any meeting, shall enforce order and strict observance of all Society by-laws. He shall have the right to decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the meeting sustained by a majority of those present and in good standing. He shall only vote in the case of a tie vote when he shall have the right of giving the casting vote.

" (3) It shall be the duty of the President to call special meetings of the Society at any time at the request of the Board of Directors or of fifteen (15) members of the Society, giving due notice thereof and giving notice of

the purpose for which it is being called, provided always that if the President or Vice-President be absent, any member of the Board of Directors shall be competent to call such meeting in the manner aforesaid.

(4) The President shall appoint the Chairman of all standing committees who will appoint their own committee members, both actions subject to the approval of the Board.

(5) The President shall be, ex-officio, a member of all committees and shall be notified of all committee meetings.

(6) The Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President, perform the functions that would otherwise be performed by the President.

(7) The Secretary shall keep all books, conduct all correspondence, retain copies of all official letters, present all official documents and attend and take minutes of all meetings. At any other time he is requested to do so, he shall perform such other duties as properly pertain to his office. It shall be his duty to give fourteen (14) clear days' notice of all regular meetings.

(8) The Treasurer shall have charge of all general funds belonging to the Society and shall deposit same in a chartered bank approved by the Board of Directors. Out of such funds he shall pay by cheque amounts directed by the Board of Directors and keep regular accounts of income and expenditures of the Society. He will present a balanced financial statement to the Board of Directors and the general meeting for approval. He shall sign all cheques, papers, documents, etc. to be countersigned by the President or Secretary.

(9) The Chairman of committees shall convene meetings of their committees from time to time and shall preside at all such meetings. They shall announce their committees and bring forward for discussion all of such matters and things as may relate to the object for which such committee was created. They shall attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and submit such reports and recommendations as directed by their committees and shall be responsible for the proper functioning of their committees. Committees do not determine policy but make recommendations to the Board.

(IO) The President, at any time, may appoint additional members to serve on the Board of Directors, subject to ratification by the Board. Such appointees do not have voting privileges.

(II) Should any member of the Board of Directors be absent from three(3) consecutive meetings of either the Board of Directors, general meetings or special general meetings without a reasonable explanation satisfactory to the other members of the Board of Directors, he shall, if a resolution to that effect is passed by the Board of Directors, cease to hold office.

PART 8 - SEAL

19. The directors may provide a common seal for the Society and they shall have power from time to time to destroy it and substitute a new seal in place of the seal destroyed.

20. The common seal shall be affixed only when authorized by a resolution of the Directors and then only in the presence of the persons prescribed in the resolution or if no persons are prescribed, in the presence of the President and Secretary.

PART 9 - BORROWING

21. In order to carry out the purposes of the Society the Directors may, on behalf of and in the name of the Society, raise or secure the payment or repayment of money in such manner as they decide and in particular, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, by issue of debentures.

22. No debenture shall be issued without the sanction of a special resolution.

23. The members may, by special resolution, restrict the borrowing powers of the directors but a restriction so imposed expires at the next annual general meeting.

PART IO - TRUST ACCOUNT

24. (I) The directors of the Society shall be empowered to set up and administer the Royal Westminster Regiment Association Trust Fund or its predecessor.

(2) Three Trustees shall be appointed by the Directors with full signatory powers for this fund. These Trustees, commencing with 1953, will be appointed for the following terms of office: one for 5 years, one for 3 years, and one for 2 years. All subsequent appointments of Trustees to be for a period of 5 years.

(3) No expenditures shall be made from this fund without full authorization by signature of all three Trustees.

(4) In the case of retirement or death of any Trustee the Directors are empowered to appoint a replacement for the unexpired portion of the term vacated.

PART II - AUDITOR

25. At the first general meeting held in each year, the Society shall appoint an auditor to audit the books of the Society. The audited statements shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting in March of each year.

PART I2 - NOTICE TO MEMBERS

26. A notice sent by mail shall be deemed to have been given on the second day following that on which the notice is posted and in proving that notice has been given it is sufficient to prove that the notice was properly addressed and put in a Canadian post office receptacle.

27. A notice may be given to a member, either personally, or by mail to him at his last known registered address.

28. Notice of a general meeting shall be given to:

- (a) every member on the register of members on the day notice is given, and
- (b) the auditor;

No other person is entitled to receive a notice of general meetings.

PART I3 - BY-LAWS

29. On being admitted to membership, a member is entitled to and the Society shall give to him, without charge, a copy of the Constitution and By-laws of the Society.

30. These By-laws shall not be altered or added to except by special resolution.

Finis

ROD

Literature abounds with examples of those famous personages who have made a major contribution to their society, even those whose infamy is known throughout history. But, major contributions have also been made by thousands of modest individuals whose contribution has never been publicized, nor have they sought the recognition so dear to the hearts of the publicity seekers.

Such a person was 'Rod' or Roddick, a First World War Veteran, and when I was a boy, caretaker of our Armoury, and Quartermaster Sergeant of our local Militia Regiment. He was a little man as far as stature went, but a giant in terms of his feelings for others particularly the young. Not only was he a musician of some skill, knew 'Quartermastering' backwards as the saying goes, but more important had a ready wit, and an understanding of others and what made them 'tick'. In fact far better than any trained psychologist or social worker I have known.

As one of those adolescents all sixes and sevens during the early years of the Depression, with nothing but time on our hands we often sneaked into the Armoury to play basketball on the drill floor. We did that is until Rod, his patience exhausted, finally issued an ultimatum, "Join the Regiment or get lost!". I am convinced, as are others, that accepting his demand was the turning point for many of us, as was his

guidance which followed.

He taught us that one could lead a life of happiness, contentment and contribution without affluence nor envy of those more affluent, that loyalty to Crown and Country was not anachronistic; that to reap benefits one must always contribute and that the end in the long term never justifies the means. In his own way, by example, he taught us that moral and value judgements must be and are made even by those who are most fanatic in their opposition to this tenet.

Thanks to his guidance and the training and character building we received in the Militia, we managed to survive those very difficult years, unlike so many adolescents and young men who succumbed to the erosion of the Unemployment Camps set up across Canada and the influence of older dissolusioned or radical occupants.

Those of us who were his band of 'Disciples' went on to make our mark in society in a wide variety of disciplines. Many years have fallen from the Calendar since Rod passed on, and all that remains in the physical sense is a small plaque on a display case in our Regimental Museum to record his contribution. Nevertheless, while others may have more pretentious epitaphs for having done far less, many of us have a respect for this little man that is far greater than, and more meaningful than any words carved on any large metal or stone monument.



In Memoriam

Lt.-Col.(ret'd)F.E.Eaton, WW 2
Vancouver, B.C.
July 14, 1983

D.A.(Danny)Parr-Pearson, WW 2
North Vancouver, B.C.
September 12, 1983

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I'm half way through my term of office so what better time to reflect on what has been going on. There was not the usual summer recess, this year, for the executive as two very pressing items had to be finished so we could get on with running the Association as a Fraternal Group. The Fraternity is, of course, all of us.

Problem one was the Museum; there was a school of thought that, because of our advancing years, steps should be taken to turn the Museum, and all that it embraces, over to the City. The Executive had an excellent report from a special committee; it included several options, but in the final analysis (three executive meetings) the matter was put to bed. The Museum will stay in the Armouries as long as it is available and there is a Regiment. Now we can get on with plans for expansion.

Problem two - it takes up nine pages of this issue. We got along for over thirty years without a "do all" "end all" document as the present Constitution & By-laws. This is also the product of a special committee; the product produced has been reviewed and revised by the Executive and is printed here for your study and comment. Now please take the time to read it. Your comments, pro or con, will be appreciated and will be considered fully at the time of the General Meeting in March/84.

The Christmas Draw is again with us. Until someone comes up with a better scheme to raise money, this is it. Of course you who live outside of B.C. can not help as sales in your area would be illegal. Everyone in B.C. has been mailed two books; all we ask is that you make an honest effort to sell them. I don't think this is asking too much. Consider, please, that every member of the Executive and Museum Committee get five books to sell in addition to their continuing activities on your behalf. If everybody just pitched in there would be no problem. Oh yes! the members of The Royal Westminster Regiment do their part - this year, for starters, they have 500 books. When I say everyone got two books, I mean just that - no exceptions. Our ladies, everybody.

The date for the Xmas Draw and Smoker is Saturday, December 10th. This year greater interest and participation with this activity is being taken by members of the Regiment. Regardless of whom is in charge - it will be an evening of fellowship.

Armistice Day - we had 29 on the Nov. 11th Parade last year. The same position in the Parade has been allocated to us this year; it would be a good show if there were 40 out this year. Berets and medals, please. Service in the Armouries at 10:20a.m., march to the Cenotaph (walk down but join us for the March Past). We do not, repeat not, march up 6th Street. See you all.

MUSEUM TOUR REPORT, SEPT. 21, 1983

The Museum tour was, in my opinion, successful. I gave those attending a brief outline of the history of the Museum, its purpose and operation, prior to the tour. The tour was rushed and there were too many at one time; several said they would be back.

All were most complimentary as to layout and content, particular comment being the Vimy picture and John Keirstad found two references to his family on the posters

I was later treated to the exposition of the re-enactment of the invasion of the San Juan Islands, which took place in August/83; first by tape (the history of the Pig War and then the verbal account) then, thanks to Channel 5, a video reproduction of the taking of Friday Harbour, following the invasion fleet's departure from Victoria

N. Scott

"Lest We Forget"

November 11th is Remembrance Day, a time and a date chosen many years ago by a concerned and grateful people to remember those Canadians and other members of the Commonwealth Forces who lie in military cemeteries or unmarked graves throughout the world, or who still lie in the wards of military hospitals in most of the nations of the Commonwealth.

In more recent memory, to those thousands upon thousands, we must also remember the untold and unknown number of innocent civilians who once lay beneath the rubble of their towns and cities in the United Kingdom, in Europe, in the Mediterranean and in the far East.

To-day, except for the veteran and those who understand the true purpose, the true meaning of Remembrance

Day, it seems to have become to the majority but another statutory holiday.

Veterans do not question anyone's right to use this holiday for whatever purpose he wishes, for to attend or not attend a Remembrance Day service is a private and personal matter.

Failure to attend does not necessarily signify indifference or disrespect, and the real concern is that all, particularly the young who have no experience of war, thank goodness, appreciate the purpose of the Day; that it is not to glorify war, nor to see only a seemingly pathetic band of aging, be-medalled veterans on their annual pilgrimage to the cenotaph, but to honour as we do, Andy Williams, 18, Tim O'Connor, 20, and Dad Knox, 40, (fictitious names) who left, never to return because in the final analysis democracies have to resort to war to protect freedom.

They left their home and family to do what their country expected of them; they defeated the tyrant of the day.

It would be sheer folly for us, now, to think that the defeat of Hitler signified the end of tyranny throughout the world, for tyranny increases and flourishes in many areas of the world.

The veteran accepts and understands the indifference and ridicule sometimes experienced on Remembrance Day, and he asks neither anyone's help or pity.

But there is one thing you can do to show you appreciate the true meaning of the day; go back to the old habit of years ago, stop whatever you are doing for just one minute, sixty seconds, and think, not about the surviving veterans, but about all the Andy Williams', Tim O'Connors', and Dad Knoxs' who will forever remain 18, 20 and 40, and give a thought to the Regular and Militia soldier. He deserves more than isolation and rejection.

Finally, in retrospect, we see that man in countless wars has proved that he possesses not only the human frailties of cowardice, greed, and bestiality, but in far greater measure the qualities of courage, charity, tolerance and above all, self-sacrifice.

Our failure, our tragedy, is that we have never been able in any great measure to carry these noble qualities out of wartime into peace and sustain them.

Perhaps those of us who meet on these special mornings in the cities and towns of this nation will re-dedicate ourselves to achieving such goals.

Courtesy the Delta Optimist
Nov 1982

What Became Of 'Kelly'?

L.D. Bailey	Lantzville
Frank Ball	Delta
J.D. Blair	New Westminster
R. Britton	New Westminster
Austin P. Byrick	Stratford, Ont.
John Clifford	Calgary
J.A. Danes	Vancouver
R. Dashwood	Nelson
G. Enright	Chilliwack
Peter Fraser	Matsqui
L. Gregson	Surrey
Larry Lepine	New Westminster
William M. Sargent	New Westminster
D.M. Shaw	Chilliwack
Wm.M. Sherwood	North Vancouver
Doug Watts	Vancouver

Groundsheet copies mailed to the above have been returned "unable to locate". Would anyone with information as to their current locations please pass it on to us? Thank you.

REQUEST

The Regimental WOs and Sgts. Mess are in need of a bar steward, on a volunteer, non-remunerative basis. Anyone interested please contact WO Knipstrom.

