

WHY JOIN THE CYPRESS HILLS VETERANS' ASSOCIATION?

People who join the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are generally those who feel a need to help others in a meaningful and significant way. They are individuals not dissuade by challenge or adversity. The deep-rooted fellowship developed during your service with the Mounted Police, may continue into retirement. The Association is made up of people who retain their rudimentary need to continue assisting others. Those you assist as a Veteran may be other retired employees or members of your larger community. Each time a younger Veteran joins the Association, it refreshes and strengthens our knowledgebase and functional ability to carry on the charitable works we are known for, such as;

- Continued camaraderie and fellowship through social & entertainment functions, sporting and recreational activities
- Confidential assistance with disability eligibility and applications, and other benefit entitlements
- Hospital visitations and comforts provided during times of illness & assistance to family
- Survivors' and Executors' Guide & Checklist that is updated annually and contains essential information needed by the spouse and family on a member's death
- Assistance to surviving spouse and family with funeral arrangements and advising survivors of the processes for continuing pension, insurance, and health benefits
- Spiritual comfort provided to member, and his/her family, by our Division Chaplin
- An opportunity each year to attend the Association's annual general meeting (AGM) in different geographic locations in Canada to meet and socialize with former colleagues
- Tremendous value for the minimal membership cost

Within Cypress Hills Division, you are provided timely correspondence containing minutes of executive & general meetings, information on members with illnesses, notice of deaths, communications from both the Provincial and National levels of the Association and social events on our Division website at www.cypresshills.rcmpvet.ca. Cypress Hills Division hold General meetings the second Wednesday of every month, except for July and August, alternating between the Redcliff Legion and the Brooks Legion. Our June and December meetings are Social evenings where spouses and potential members are invited. We are available to assist communities, in and around Redcliff and Brooks, when requested.

Membership in the association is open to former and serving members and employees of the RCMP. Membership is only available to a person of good character who has had his/her application reviewed and approved. **NOTE:** Anyone who was dismissed or discharged from the RCMP because of discreditable conduct is prohibited from membership in the Association.

There are two classes of membership:

Active:

Active members are **voting members** who pay annual association dues and division fees. The following categories of employees are eligible for active membership:

- a former member of the RCMP (RM) (CM);
- a former member of the RCMP Reserve;
- a former member of the RCMP Auxiliary, with minimum three years of service, and;
- a former member of the Federal Public Service (PSE) or a Municipal Employee (ME) who has worked in the employment of the RCMP for a minimum of five years.

Associate:

Associate members are non-voting members of the association who, in Cypress Hills Division, presently do not pay annual division fees. The following categories of employees are eligible for associate membership:

- a serving regular, civilian, reserve or auxiliary member, public service employee (PSE), or municipal employee (ME), with a minimum 10 years of service with the RCMP;
- a former Temporary Civilian Employee (TCE), with a minimum five years of service with the RCMP;
- the spouse/partner of an Active Member;
- any family member of a former member of the Association or former serving member of the RCMP;
- the widow/widower of a deceased serving or former member of the RCMP, or of a deceased member of the RCMP Veterans' Association, and;
- a person not otherwise defined above who is of good character, has demonstrated an affinity to the association, has been recommended by an Active or Life Member, and has been accepted for Associate membership by ordinary resolution at a division meeting. If you meet the requisite conditions for membership, you are cordially invited to complete a membership application (see below), and then send it to your applicable division.

On a National basis, the Association is responsible for:

- The RCMP Quarterly is published and distributed by the Veterans' Association and generates a profit to assist members with a variety of needs
- A National Office provides a point of contact for former Force members across Canada and abroad through its website: <http://rcmpva.org/RVA/> Phone: 1-877-251-1771, Email: contact@rcmpva.org
- The National Executive team and Executive Directors are fully engaged in establishing good relations with various responsibility centres within the Force; Government and Non-governmental organizations and other bodies, such as, FSNA, Royal Canadian Legion, CF1, etc.

These are just some of the programs, activities, services at the Division and National levels that serve the needs of former members.

This assistance wouldn't be available if it were not for many Association volunteers putting in countless unpaid hours to help fellow former members. There is little doubt that Association members receive tremendous value for the minimal annual membership dues.

A community of like-minded individuals can accomplish far more than can individual efforts and the RCMP Veterans' Association is proof of that fact. There is strength in numbers and the larger the membership becomes, the more impact and influence we will have on decisions effecting pension, benefits, and overall member welfare in retirement years.

The Veterans' Association has an important role in maintaining the historical significance of the Force; to contribute to the *Esprit de Corps* of serving members; to assist in strengthening police/community relations and where possible, to influence management and government decisions affecting the delivery of policing services by the RCMP.

Join today and add your voice and support to the Association!

HOW TO JOIN THE RCMP VETERANS' ASSOCIATION:

Complete a membership Application and include a cheque for the annual dues payable to ***Cypress Hills RCMP Veterans' Association***. Other forms of payment are available and should you require more information, please feel free to contact our Division Secretary, Cathy CROZIER, at 403-866-8536 or email at: bblue97@telus.net

“What do the Vets receive from the National Assoc.?”

All Divisions of the RCMP Veterans' Association pay \$37.00 to the National Office per member of a local Division. This money benefits all divisions. Your \$50.00 covers many of the functions and meetings members of Cypress Hills Division and the National Board of Directors attend on our behalf regarding the health and welfare of RCMP Veterans and serving RCMP members. The costs of travel and accommodations should not be expected to burden these Volunteers. *

Heinz J. HAUSER
President
Cypress Hills Division

*Cypress Hills Division deeply appreciates Edmonton Division for providing their letter for us to adapt and post.

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