

4020 – RCEME Corps (Corps Adjt)

26 August 2015

Distribution List

ROYAL CANADIAN ELECTRICAL AND
MECHANICAL ENGINEERS CORPS FUND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HELD
AT THE ROYAL CANADIAN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL
ENGINEERS SCHOOL CFB BORDEN 0900 HOURS 05 AUGUST 2015

Chairman: Colonel K. Hamilton, RCEME Corps Fund President

Members: Lieutenant-Colonel L.R. Dencsak, Administrative Committee Chairman
Captain G.S. Dzeoba, RCEME Corps Adjutant
Captain E. Sheinfeld, 5th Canadian Division Representative
Captain J.L.M. Trepanier, Acting 2nd Canadian Division Representative
Chief Warrant Officer D. Dubuc, National Capital Region (NCR) Representative
Chief Warrant Officer J. Saunders, Training Systems Representative
Chief Warrant Officer J.P. Richard, Acting Air and Navy Command Representative
Warrant Officer B. McKinnon, 3rd Canadian Division Representative
Corporal M.J.F. Brosseau, 4th Canadian Division Representative

Ex-Officios: Colonel (Retired) A. Nellestyn, RCEME Corps Colonel Commandant
Colonel (Retired) T. Temple, President EME Association
Master Warrant Officer (Retired) K. Osborne, Acting Representative RCEME Association

Attendees: Private S.M. Harloff, Apprentice Platoon, RCEME School
Private G.I. Honsinger-Lefebvre, Apprentice Platoon, RCEME School
Private J.J. Kurian, Apprentice Platoon, RCEME School
Private J.J.C. Larouche, Apprentice Platoon, RCEME School
Private M. McGovern, Apprentice Platoon, RCEME School
Private C.C. McNiven, Apprentice Platoon, RCEME School
Private R. Wasasiri, Apprentice Platoon, RCEME School

Absent: Major R.L. Gagnon, 2nd Canadian Division Representative
Chief Warrant Officer (Retired) E. Kish, President, RCEME Association

Secretary: Mrs. G. Somerton de Jimenez, Corps Adjutant Administrative Assistant

OPENING ADDRESS

ACTION BY

1. Colonel Hamilton welcomed everyone to the meeting and in particular, thanked the Apprentices from the RCEME School for attending. The RCEME Corps Fund is made up of serving Regular Force members, Reservists and retired members. He continued by stating that the young members of the RCEME Corps Fund are the strongest supporters and invited them to engage in the meeting by voicing their opinions during today's process.

DISCUSSION

2. Minutes. Captain Dzeoba asked for a motion that the minutes from both 24 February 2015 and 18 June 2015 be passed as read. A motion was made by Colonel (Retired) Temple and seconded by Chief Warrant Officer Saunders. The motion was passed. Corps Adjutant

3. State of the Fund. Captain Dzeoba provided the following RCEME Corps Fund membership numbers. The RCEME Corps has 4,282 members with 3,326 members belonging to the RCEME Corps Fund. Payment for these members is broken down as follows - 3,107 serving members paying via pay allotment, 22 serving members paying by cheque and 197 lifetime members (including 9 Honourary members). The RCEME Corps Fund membership represents approximately 78% of the RCEME Corps.

4. Budget. Captain Dzeoba presented the budget. At this time there are no concerns, however, the following items are to be noted:

- a. Captain Dzeoba designated a section of the budget labeled "Commitments", which includes the funds designated to the 75th Anniversary as well as to the RCEME Museum. It is likely that promotional materials may be the first expenditure that will be actioned sometime this fall or winter;
- b. the cohesion events amount has not changed and remains at \$233 for each of the nine represented areas.

5. VIP/Courtesy Gifts. The Chairman proposed that funds could be available for a courtesy gift for visiting international dignitaries, stating that this will happen infrequently. This proposal was supported by the Board of Directors members. Cmdt RCEME School will draft the appropriate inclusion for the Constitution. Chairman

ACTION. The Colonel Commandant, Colonel (Retired) Nellestyn offered to donate 50 copies of "Afghanistan: A Canadian Soldier's Story" for this purpose.

6. The 2015 RCEME Corps Fund bursary awards winners were announced. They are: Miss Taylor Gervais, Miss Lori Baril-Mailhot, Mr. Cameron George, Mr. Michel Leger, Mr. Adam Dencsak, Miss Patricia Northrup, Miss Miranda Hill, Miss Megan Fields, Miss Tyra Beaumont and Miss Jessica Viau. Corps Adjutant

ACTION. Letters will be prepared and forwarded to all applicants.

7. 5th Annual Artwork Contest. Captain Dzeoba stated that more effort should be made to promote this annual contest, which consists of providing a winning design for the anniversary pin, to all members of the RCEME Corps and not just members of the Corps Fund.

SECRETARIAL NOTE. Attending Apprentices proposed that the theme for the 5th Annual National Artwork Contest for the design of the 72nd anniversary pin be "Strong, Proud and United". Master Warrant Officer

(Retired) Osborne motioned and this was seconded by Chief Warrant Officer Saunders.

8. New RCEME Corps Fund Constitution. Both the English and French versions of the latest draft of the RCEME Corps Fund Constitution are now available for review. Lieutenant-Colonel Dencsak encouraged all of the Board of Directors members to take the time to review this very important document and forward any concerns or proposed changes to him no later than 30 September 2015. The date to finalize and distribute the final document for ratification is 1 November 2015.

Administrative
Committee
Chairman

9. The Colonel Commandant stated that the EME Association and the RCEME Western Association are having meetings this summer and fall and will vote on their approval of the Constitution. The RCEME Association in Kingston will have their general meeting in the spring of 2016 and are expected to vote on their approval of this document by 1 June 2016.

Info

10. Additional Board of Directors Positions. Four positions are to be added to the Board of Directors and these positions will be manned by retired members of the Fund. These positions are the Fund Deputy Chairman, the Fundraising Committee Chairman and two representatives from the LAD network - one Officer and one Non-Commissioned Member (who shall be Retired Ordinary Members of the Fund).

Colonel
Commandant

ACTION. Director RCEME will initiate communication announcing the additional positions and to determine interest for these two year term positions. Candidates will be reviewed by the Colonel Commandant, Director RCEME, the Corps Sergeant-Major, RCEME School Regimental Sergeant-Major and the Corps Adjutant (Secretary). Successful candidates will be announced by the end of November 2015.

11. Great Canadian Kit Shop and CANEX. The Great Canadian Kit Shop contract is to supply the Corps with various pieces of kit, etc. and will expire 31 December 2015. It was noted that the national retailer, CANEX, is also now selling RCEME Corps products. While the Great Canadian Kit Shop's performance has been mostly satisfactory, shipping costs are an issue with most members. CANEX offers both on-site and web-based purchasing options, with much lower shipping costs and a proven record of top quality merchandise. Lieutenant-Colonel Dencsak presented a comparison of the option to remain with the Great Canadian Kit Shop or go with CANEX. He asked for the concurrence of the Board of Directors to allow the Administrative Committee to complete the evaluation and make a decision on behalf of the Board of Directors. A motion to support this request was made by Chief Warrant Officer Richard and seconded by Warrant Officer MacKinnon.

Administrative
Committee
Chairman

SECRETARIAL NOTE. Pending a final decision by the Administrative Committee and out of respect for the current service provider, Director RCEME directed all Board of Directors members to treat this information on this potential change as confidential until an announcement is made.

12. Reflections from the Colonel Commandant. Colonel (Retired) Nellestyn has had the opportunity to visit many Corps units over the past ten months since his appointment. He is pleased to report that in addition to being strong, proud and

Colonel
Commandant

unified, RCEME is both respected and envied because of the sense of family and community.

14. Round Table:

All

- a. Corporal Brosseau suggested contacting CANEX to determine how much of the RCEME merchandise is being sold nationally so that there is an idea of what level of profit-sharing can be expected. Lieutenant-Colonel Dencsak will attempt to procure this information from the CANEX, but cautions that this might be "crossing the line" as to what a supplier is obligated to provide a client. All members present seem to be very pleased with the possible upcoming change to having the CANEX as a supplier;
- b. Chief Warrant Officer Saunders raised the concern of finding a diplomatic way of raising RCEME Corps Fund dues to the proposed \$2.00. Lieutenant-Colonel Dencsak will prepare a communiqué that will address this;
- c. Lieutenant-Colonel Dencsak reminded all Board of Directors members that meetings are scheduled twice a year, in February and August. Should they not be able to attend, it is important that a suitable representative attend on their behalf;
- d. Private Honsinger-Lefebvre felt that there was not sufficient information passed on at the Apprentice level regarding the benefits of joining of the RCEME Corps Fund and suggested that a new poster be developed;
- e. Chief Warrant Officer Dubuc stated the detachments need to invite their Apprentices to participate in Board of Directors meetings to witness first-hand the process of the meeting and the reinforcement of the ideals and benefits of being a Corps Fund member.

16. Closing Remarks. Colonel Hamilton thanked all Board of Directors members for attending and the administrative staff for coordinating the meeting. He commented on the courage required of the Apprentices to attend the meeting as well as making many valid points. He encouraged the Apprentices to get involved and make their peers who are not yet members, aware of the benefits of the RCEME Corps Fund such as the loans, the museum, etc., that will continue to reinforce the RCEME esprit de corps.

17. Colonel Hamilton also echoed the concerns of the Corps Sergeant-Major in the perceived lack of representation at the detachment level when there is only one person from the area present. He commented that he enjoys hearing different opinions on pertinent matters and while we may not always agree, we live in a democratic society and will continue to stress that additional personnel should be invited to engage in this process. Colonel Hamilton also agreed with Lieutenant-Colonel Dencsak that proper representation of individuals attending these meetings is vital, given the large areas and the number of members who are represented. In closing, the Director thanked the retired members who continue to contribute their

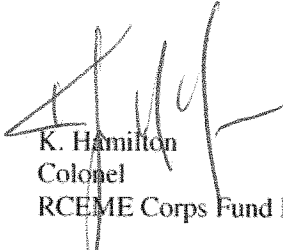
time to come to Borden. He is looking forward to the day when all the associations are under the RCEME Corps Fund umbrella. He concluded by wishing everyone a great summer.

ADJOURNMENT

18. The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled to be held at CFB Borden in February 2016 (firm date to follow).



L.R. Dencsak
Lieutenant-Colonel
Administrative Committee Chairman



K. Hamilton
Colonel
RCEME Corps Fund President

Distribution List

All members