

4020-RCEME Corps (Corps Adjt)

12 May 2014

Distribution List

ROYAL CANADIAN ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL
ENGINEERS (RCEME) CORPS FUND BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING HELD AT ROYAL CANADIAN ELECTRICAL AND
MECHANICAL ENGINEERS SCHOOL, CFB BORDEN
0900 HOURS 26 FEBRUARY 2014

Chairperson: Colonel S. Bouchard, RCEME Corps Fund President

Members: Lieutenant-Colonel J.D. Bower, RCEME Corps Fund Administrative Committee Chairperson
Major M. Tousignant, 2nd Canadian Division Representative
Captain G.S. Dzeoba, RCEME Corps Adjutant
Lieutenant T. J. Hallonquist, 5th Canadian Division Representative
Chief Warrant Officer R. Gilbert, National Capital Region (NCR) Representative
Chief Warrant Officer J.P.R. Dionne, Air and Navy Command (AirCom) Representative
Master Warrant Officer R.C. Waugh, 3rd Canadian Division Representative
Master Warrant Officer K. Osborne, RCEME Association Representative
Cpl M.J.F. Brosseau, 4th Canadian Division Representative

Mrs. G. Somerton de Jimenez, RCEME Corps Adjt Administrative Assistant

Ex-Officios: Brigadier-General (Retired) P.J. Holt, RCEME Colonel Commandant
Lieutenant-Colonel (Retired) Ken Jones, EME Association President

Absent:

Colonel (Retired) M.C. Johnston, RCEME Association President
Chief Warrant Officer J.A.L. Moreau, Canadian Army Doctrine and Training Centre Representative

Attendees:

Private Caron, Apprentice Platoon, RCEME School
Private R. Conlon, Apprentice Platoon, RCEME School
Private B. Beaulieu-Cyr Apprentice Platoon, RCEME School
Private M. Gomulkiewicz, Apprentice Platoon, RCEME School
Private R. Nadeau, Apprentice Platoon, RCEME School
Private A. Roy, Apprentice Platoon, RCEME School
Private M. St. Claire, Apprentice Platoon, RCEME School

OPENING ADDRESS

1. The meeting was called to order at 0900 hours, 26 February 2014 in the RCEME School conference room. The Chairperson welcomed all to the meeting, emphasised to our young soldiers in attendance that they are our "Ambassadors" for the fund. He also encouraged more attendance throughout the various divisions.

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

ACTION BY

2. Previous Minutes: The RCEME Corps Adjt asked if there were any points with regard to the previous minutes dated 7 August 2013. Motion was put forward to pass the minutes as stated. Motion passed.

All

DISCUSSION

3. Budget Review: The budget was presented for the Calendar Year 01 January – 31 December 2014. The budget was presented with the following benefits to members. The following points brought forward included:

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a. Artwork Contest: The prize amount for the annual artwork contest has been raised from \$100 to \$200;

b. Cohesion Events: Annual support to Regional Cohesion Events is set at \$303.00 per region. This may increase after a semi-annual review in July 2014;

c. Line Item – 75th Anniversary Fund: RCEME Corps Adjt raised the point of having the RCEME 75th anniversary as a separate line item in the budget. This will ensure that these funds are kept separate from the member's benefits.

Secretarial Note: 75th Anniversary fund raising activities have started, including the selling of T-shirts and ball caps out of Valcartier along with commemorative pens out of the RCEME School.

d. 75th Anniversary Documentary: The producer of this documentary, Mr. Rodrique will be donating up to \$25,000 towards this initiative. The RCEME Corps Administrative Chairperson raised concerns about tracking the funds given from the Corps Fund to the 75th Anniversary, for transparency, fiscal reporting etc. Chairperson concurred, adding that with respect to setting a contribution limit. This will need to be discussed with the BOD members, the RCEME Council and Colonel Benson, Chairman of the Heritage Committee.

Chairperson
All

Secretarial Note: Motion put forward for the RCEME Corps Fund to contribute \$5000 to the production costs of the 75th anniversary documentary. Motion passed.

All

4. State of the Fund: Presently, the RCEME Corps has 3,658 members. Out of this, 3,093 (84%) of members are paying into the fund by pay allotment, 171 are lifetime members and there are an additional 6 reservists paying by cheque. RCEME Corps Adjt feels we have to keep pushing the message out about benefits of being a fund member.

5. GCKS: With the new contract in place, changes include: Bulk shipping costs have been reduced from \$500.00 to \$250.00. A reminder to all, that the Administrative Committee is responsible to address any concerns anyone may have with the GCKS with respect to quality,

All

shipping issues, price etc. It was also noted that the GCKS has 30 days to address any concerns raised. It was also noted that each area having a display case must provide the name of the OPI in charge of the display case to Mr. Peckover.

6. CANEX Proposal: On behalf of the CANEX, Cmdr Watson presented a briefing to the Director of RCEME, noting that the CANEX is pursuing initiatives involving kitshop wears. Chairperson

Secretarial Note: The Chairperson will be sending out pictures of the displays, CANEX is proposing and will have option proposals, comparison etc. available at the next BOD meeting.

7. RCEME Journal Distribution: With respect to the publishing and distribution of the RCEME Journal, presently the RCEME Corps produces 2500 copies, the majority of which are sent to bases for regular force members as well as lifetime members to pick up. The RCEME Corps Adjt suggests that in light of any impending budget cuts, the Fund should set aside \$1000.00 to cover any future distribution costs that may arise. RCEME Corps Adjt

Secretarial Note: The website address for the RCEME Journal will continue to be available on the RCEME website. Distribution costs will be discussed at the next BOD meeting.

8. Slip-Ons/Tabs: The Corps SM advised that DEU RCEME/GEMRC slip-ons will be out shortly. Metal shoulder flashes and the CADPAT slip-ons are to be available through the system this August 2014. Once received, a communiqué will be forthcoming. Corps SM
Corps Secretariat

Secretarial Note: More direction via the Corps SM will be coming through the regional network prior to May 15, 2014.

9. National Artwork Contest: There were 11 submissions this year. The winning submission was "Sadie and the RCEME Horse at 70", sent in by Mr. Tim Relihan. Subsequent contests will also be advertised in both English and French editions of the RCEME Journal. RCEME Corps Adjt

Secretarial Note: Letters are to be sent to all artwork contest entrants, thanking them and also to encourage them to participate in all future artwork contests.

10. RCEME Bursary Submissions: Open to all RCEME Corps members in good standing for the past twelve months, including spouses, common-law partners, children from a previous marriage/relationship etc. Submissions must also be accompanied by proof of acceptance from a post-secondary institution. The rules, application and guidelines are posted on the RCEME Corps website, and this year's deadline is July 11, 2014. All

11. RCEME Corps Fund Membership: The RCEME Corps Adjt informed the BOD that there are 354 members whose fees will need to be increased. Valcartier proposed that the fees be doubled. The Col Cmdt commented that the fees have not increased since the inception of the fund 20+ years ago. 2 Cdn Div Rep

Secretarial Note: The Chairperson has assigned the task to 2 Cdn Div Valcartier to develop a marketing plan that will include a feedback loop.

12. Reservist Enrolment: Further to discussions regarding reservist enrolment in the Corps Fund at the previous BOD, Admin Cmte Chairperson had opportunities to speak with reservists and reported that a better job of educating/marketing the Fund to the reservists is necessary. Col Cmdt suggests it may be time to have permanent reservist representation on the BOD – this will be discussed at a further BOD meeting.

Admin Cmte
Chairperson

Secretarial Note: The Admin Committee Chairperson will invite both LCol Playfair and CWO Savoie to the next BOD with further discussion to be had concerning the addition of a reservist to the BOD.

13. Heritage Presentation: Col Cmdt introduced the RCEME Heritage Org Chart and the museum governance team. The museum in Kingston is due to break ground in May 2014 and be able to start receiving artefacts in November 2014. It was noted that there are three thrusts for the 75th Anniversary headed by the Heritage Committee. These include Commemorative products, headed by LCol Matsalla, the RCEME Monument expansion at CFB Borden by Maj Garrard, and Lt. Royal will be heading the celebratory activities.

Col Cmdt

14. 75th Anniversary Logo Contest: The proposed \$500.00 prize for the winning submission received unanimous approval from the BOD. In addition to the regional e-mail announcement, posters in both official languages will be provided and can be posted in the unit canteens and other accessible areas. The tentative contest dates are 30 March to 30 June 2014. Dates will be confirmed once the translation is complete.

All
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15. Honorary Member Submission: The RCEME Corps Adjt proposed a honorary member submission. He presented the criteria for an Honorary member submission, highlighting the nomination by their efforts and contributions and having brought honour to the RCEME Corps. The RCEME Corps Adjt asked for the BOD's endorsement to accept the nomination of Mr. Tim Relihan.

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Secretarial Note: The BOD unanimously endorsed the nomination of Mr. Relihan as an honorary member in the RCEME Corps Fund.

16. BOD Membership Criteria and Membership: The RCEME Corps Adjt raised the point again, that as a member of the BOD, it is expected that the serving representative of the various areas are themselves members of the RCEME Corps Fund. The Corps SM concurred, adding that it is "imperative" that all BOD members be Corps Fund members.

Corps SM
All

Secretarial Note: The Corps SM will contact the senior officers of each area to all BOD members are well supported and are given whatever time, means etc. available to do their job for the Corps Fund.

17. EME Guild Name Change: The new name of the EME Guild is now "The Guild of the Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Corps Charitable Trust. For contributions

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to the Guild through pay allotment, the pay allotment code will not change. If contributing through GCCWC, the registered charity number can be used and can be identified as "The RCEME Guild Charitable Trust" or "The RCEME Guild".

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18. Army Insignia and Army Secondary Badges: Further to the Chairperson's address on Badges, the Corps SM reviewed the changes to the badges that will be issued, starting with the CadPat badges being provided by the system by July 2014.

Corps SM

Secretarial Note: Chairperson added that an email will be sent out shortly with all the details on the changes to the mess kits.

19. Amalgamation of Associations: There are presently 3 associations linked to the RCEME Corps: EME Association, RCEME Association and the RCEME A from Western Canada. The Chairperson maintains three (3) associations are not needed and that the central fund would be better for all retirees, with advantages for both the associations and the Corps.

Chairperson

Two options were presented:

Option #1: To become a single association, merged into a new centrally managed entity that would decentralize activities using the current Chapter/LAD structure possibly by 2018, just prior to the 75th Anniversary.

Option #2: Strong Corps Fund: This option would merge the 3 associations into the RCEME Corps Fund.

20. All associations have been briefed and will be represented in a working group headed by LCol Paul Fuller, including the RCEME Corps Adjt and the Col Cmdt. Factors to be considered are the 4 existing constitutions, the governance aspect, the future constitution and future privileges and advantages of becoming part of the Corps Fund.

Secretarial Note: The Chairperson will brief RCEME Council in April, with a follow-up at the October BOD. There are two other organizations to be included and briefed, located in Atlantic Canada and Valcartier. Every effort will be made to contact these bodies before the next BOD.

21. Sponsorship: Brought up at the last BOD, the Chairperson had one proposal from a Corps member with regards to the RCEME Corps Fund sponsoring a race car. A proposal is being considered to sponsor one or two "teams" each year. An amount will be decided upon and this will be raised and voted on at the next BOD.

22. Round Table: Corps SM raised the subject of departure gifts for members leaving the Corps. Chairperson feels that this could be discussed further after the decision is made about the associations' merger. If Option 1 is chosen, then the departure gift could include a 1 of 2 year membership in the 3 association merger. If Option 2 is approved, then the

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departure gift would not be an issue, since a member maintains enrolment as a member, This can be revisited in one years' time, at the Spring BOD meeting in 2015.

23. Jiffy Jeep: The possibility of being able to purchase a second Jeep was brought forward, as Gagetown pers have located a possible prospect. Col Cmdt commented that the Heritage Committee is very concerned about the Jiffy Jeep situation and is also using some of its contacts to locate another. The Heritage Committee has accepted this challenge as part of their mandate.

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Col Cmdt

24. 75th Anniversary Planning: The BOD has now received an introduction to the plans for the 75th and now will need to look at the details concerning finance, structure, framework etc. and this will be discussed at the BOD this fall. RCEME Council will be briefed this April on the structure. Once received, the process of building the finance plan, funding etc. will take place and this will be reviewed at the August BOD.

25. RCEME Corps Adj advised that the loyalty coins ordered should be delivered in early March and requested help in their distribution. Corps SM asked how many coins from the previous order was left. Out of 1800 initially ordered, only 85-90 are yet to be delivered.

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26. The Air and Navy Command (AirCom) Representative inquired about the monument extension bricks being available. RCEME Corps Adj confirmed that this is being investigated.

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Secretarial Note: The RCEME Corps Adj will be going to CFB Trenton to do some research on their Ad Astra project and will report at the next BOD meeting.

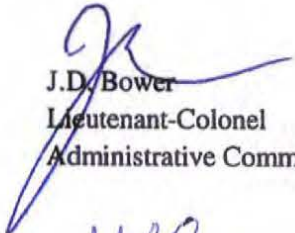
27. One of the junior rank attendees commented that the display case here at HQ is much better equipped with available items than the one display at Regimental Company.

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School RSM

Secretarial Note: The RCEME Corps Adj will ensure that both display cabinets carry the same display of available items.

28. Adjournment: Chairperson says this will be his last BOD as Director. He has been posted to another area, and will have to pass on his responsibilities to a new Director. Corps SM on behalf of all attendees thanked the Chairperson for his service for the past year. Chairperson thanked everyone for their participation and also thanked the craftsmen for their insight and for their participation. The meeting adjourned at 16:15 hours. The next meeting will be held sometime in August 2014. Location TBD.

Chairperson


J.D. Bower
Lieutenant-Colonel
Administrative Committee Chairperson


S. Bouchard
Colonel
RCEME Corps Fund President

Distribution List

All members

