



**Hong Kong Veterans
Commemorative
Association**

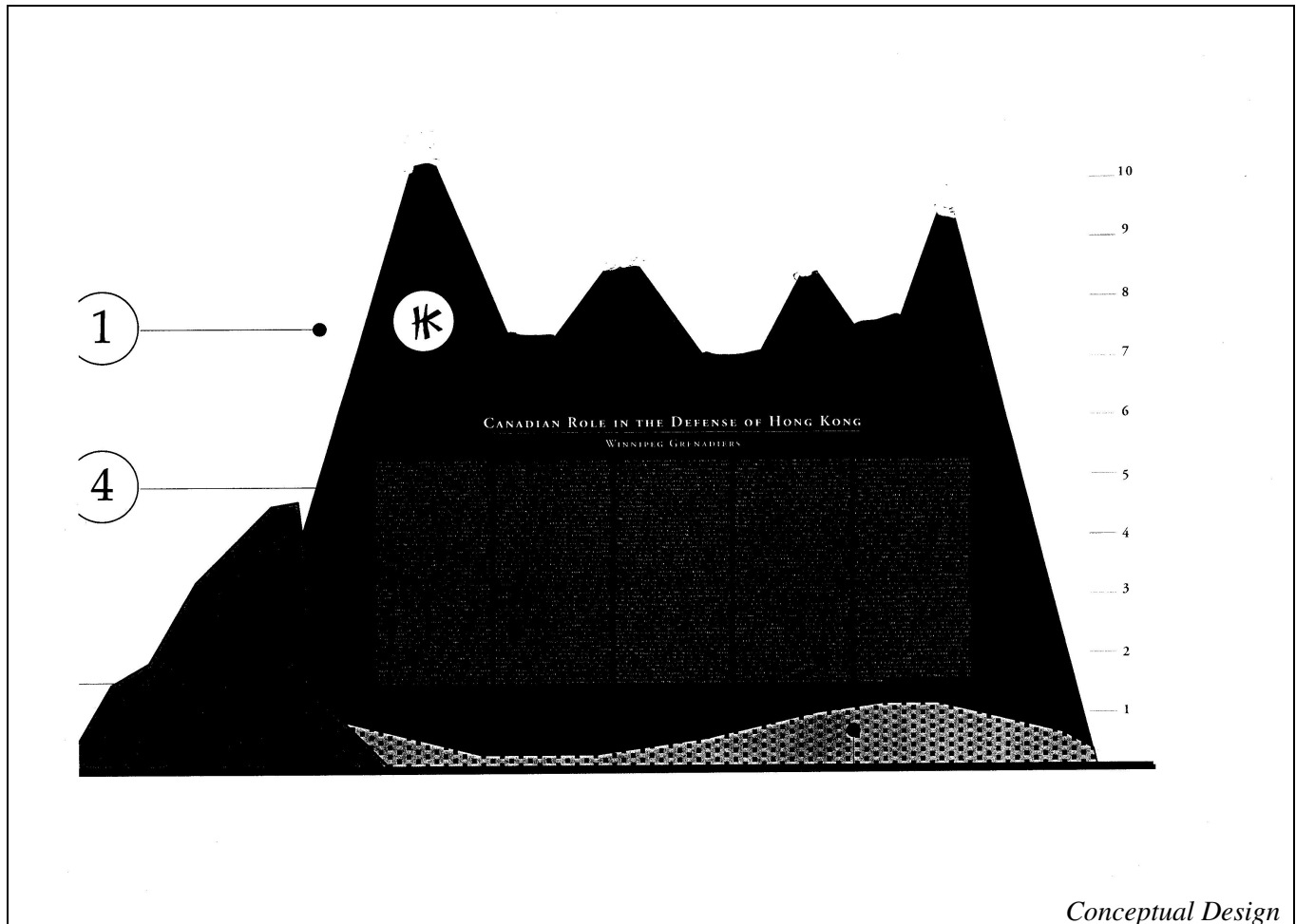
**MEMORIAL WALL
UNVEILING & DEDICATION
AND
CONVENTION 2009**

*THE WALL WILL BE A LASTING MEMORIAL TO THE 1,976 CANADIANS WHO
SAILED TO HONG KONG IN 1941 TO ASSIST THE BRITISH IN DEFENDING THE
COLONY AGAINST THE JAPANESE INVASION* □

**OTTAWA, ONTARIO
AUGUST 14 - 16, 2009**

THE MEMORIAL WALL UNVEILING & DEDICATION and CONVENTION COMMITTEE (2009) invite all Hong Kong veterans, families and friends, to join us in Ottawa, Ontario, from August 14 to 16, 2009 when our veterans will be honoured at the unveiling of the

Hong Kong Veterans Memorial Wall



The original design of the **Memorial Wall** has evolved over the two years since the Calgary Convention. As you will notice, there have been four mountains added on the top representing the four mountains in Hong Kong where Canadians saw battle. The Wall will be slightly larger to ensure its prominence as the focal point of the site. Ignore the “1” and “4” indicators. These are design note indicators for footnotes not included in this view.

The site will be landscaped to represent a Harbour concept. Surrounding the Wall will be grasses to link in the western Canadian contribution to “C” Force. The granite at the base of the Wall will come from Quebec to link in the eastern Canadian contribution.

There may be minor additional changes to comply with environmental and geophysical demands. A multi-dimensional display will be made available once the final requirements have been established.

CONVENTION – REGISTRATION FEE - \$ 175

The 2009 fee for the convention is \$175. This fee includes: Friday evening dinner and entertainment at the Dinner-Dance held at the Fairmont Chateau Laurier; Saturday Memorial Wall Unveiling & Dedication Ceremony, War Museum entry fee, War Museum lunch, Hong Kong Children's Symphony Orchestra concert, dinner and entertainment at the Dinner/Gala at the Westin Hotel; Sunday church service and luncheon at the Christ Church Cathedral, Monday farewell continental breakfast as well as entry to the Memorabilia Room Friday and Saturday and use of the Hospitality Room throughout the weekend. The convention will be held at the Lord Elgin Hotel. Everyone must register to attend the convention – please complete the Registration and Dinner Choices form included with this package.

~ **DEADLINE for REGISTRATION is JULY 10, 2009** ~

~ **DEADLINE for SPECIAL RATES at the LORD ELGIN HOTEL is also JULY 10** ~

Here are just some of the events we are planning:

Thursday ~

- At the Lord Elgin Hotel:
 - **Registration** starting at 3 pm - All registrants are asked to check-in and pick up their information package.
 - Commencing Thursday afternoon, the **Hospitality Room** will be available at various times **throughout the convention weekend.**
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Friday ~

- **Registration** - held at the Lord Elgin Hotel.
 - In the afternoon, join us at the **Annual General Meeting**, when Derrill Henderson and the National Executive will discuss current affairs and future directions for the HKVCA.
 - In the evening, the **Dinner-Dance** will be held at the **Fairmont Chateau Laurier**, 1 Rideau Street. This historic hotel, built in 1912 to resemble a Renaissance-era French chateau, is adjacent to Parliament Hill and across the street from the Rideau Canal. **Entertainment** will be provided by the band **Assembly Required**.
 - **Assembly Required** is a five-piece party band (each member sings and plays several instruments) that has been playing as a group since November 2006. The band has an enormous musical repertoire from the '50s to the new millenium. They perform popular music from many all-time favourite artists, such as: *the Beatles, Elton John, Eric Clapton, Doobie Brothers, Eagles, Dwight Yokham and Linda Ronstadt.*
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Saturday ~

- In the morning, join us for the *Unveiling and Dedication Ceremony of the Hong Kong Veterans Memorial Wall*, to be held at the monument site on Sussex Drive.

**Veterans Affairs Canada has graciously offered
to host the
Unveiling and Dedication Ceremony**

- After the ceremony, the public will be invited to *meet the Hong Kong veterans*.
 - A *Lunch* will be prepared and available for all convention registrants at the *War Museum*.
 - In the afternoon, at the Canadian War Museum, the *Hong Kong Children's Symphony Orchestra* will perform.
 - The Hong Kong Children's Symphony Orchestra was established by Dr Wai-hong Yip in Hong Kong in 1996. Members, aged from seven to 16, are recruited under highly competitive open auditions. The Orchestra has held many internationally acclaimed performances, including a concert in Bangkok in 2001 in celebration of the birthday of the King of Thailand; a performance in the 2nd International Children's Choral Festival in 2005; and demonstration performances at the 2006 International Society of Music Education Conference in Kuala Lumpur in front of music educators from all over the world. In the summer of 2007, the Orchestra toured San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland and Vancouver. The Orchestra and its members always play a role as cultural/youth ambassadors for Hong Kong. (The Orchestra is registered as a Non-Profit-Making organization in Hong Kong.) About 60 members of the Orchestra will be travelling to Canada this August, and will perform at the George Weston Recital Hall in Toronto on the evening of Saturday, August 8. Proceeds from that performance will go towards the Hong Kong Veterans Memorial Wall.
 - Arrangements have been made to hold the *Dinner/Gala* at the *Westin Hotel*, 11 Colonel By Drive. The luxurious Westin Hotel overlooks the Rideau Canal, and is one of Ottawa and Canada's national historic sites. *Entertainment* will be provided by *Roxy Swan*.
 - *Roxy Swan* is one of Ottawa's most intoxicating talents. Her voice can be heard throughout the city. Most recently she performed at "The Bell Sens Soiree" at the Hilton Lac Leamy and "The Fine Wine Evening" for the Canada Dance Festival. Music selections include a range of jazz standards and classics that span the decades from WWII to the millenium. Roxy performs great songs made famous by artists such as *Nat King Cole, Natalie Cole, Vera Lynn, the Andrews Sisters, Louis Armstrong, Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Elvis Presley, Patsy Cline, the Carpenters and more*.
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Sunday ~

- An Ecumenical **Service** of Remembrance and Thanks will be held Sunday morning at Christ Church Cathedral.
- A **Lunch** will be prepared and available for all convention registrants.
- The War Museum has an ongoing program called the **Witness to History Program**, whereby the Canadian public ask questions and interact with the veterans. If you are a veteran, and interested in participating, please sign up on the *Witness to History Program* form attached. For your information, the length of time per veteran will be approximately 15 minutes each.

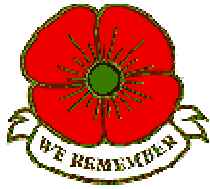
Other activities are planned but as yet to be confirmed.
Please check our website at hkvca.ca for updates.

Monday ~

- Join us in the morning for a **Farewell Continental Breakfast**, which will be held at the Lord Elgin Hotel.
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Notes:

- A **Medical Team** (supplied by Veterans Affairs Canada) will provide full medical support to serve the veterans 24 hours a day at the hotel and at all scheduled events.
 - **Bus Transportation** to all scheduled events will be provided by Veterans Affairs Canada.
 - Included in the **Information Package to be picked up at the Lord Elgin Hotel**, will be Name Tags (to be used for event entries), Dinner Tickets and a Detailed Itinerary.
 - We are looking for **Volunteers** to help out at the convention (in many different capacities); if you are interested, please sign up on the *Volunteers* form attached and a committee member will contact you.
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Memorabilia Room

As per previous conventions, a room will be set aside for a **Memorabilia Exhibit**, where registrants as well as the general public can view historical artefacts relating to “C” Force and the veterans experiences.

If there are any veterans or family members interested in bringing their photograph albums, scrapbooks or binders for display purposes, you may do so “at your own risk”.

Please contact:

Ron McGuire - *Telephone:* (613) 724-3223
485 Hillcrest Avenue
Ottawa, ON K2A 2M8

as soon as possible, with details and space requirements.

HKVA & HKVCA items and books will also be available **for sale** in the Memorabilia Room.





The Lord Elgin Hotel . . . an Ottawa Landmark

Over two hundred rooms have been reserved at the Lord Elgin Hotel for our convention. The Lord Elgin is ideally located in the heart of downtown Ottawa, directly across from Confederation Park and the National Arts Centre. The Lord Elgin Hotel is steps away from the War Memorial, Rideau Canal, Ottawa Congress Centre, Parliament Building, Rideau Shopping Centre and the ByWard Market.

Originally built in 1941, the Lord Elgin Hotel has a long association with the Hong Kong veterans. It was here that some of those assigned to “C” Force stayed while awaiting the arrival of the troop train travelling westward from Camp Valcartier in Quebec. It was also here, after the war, that the Executive of the newly-formed HKVA gathered as they presented the first of countless briefs to the Canadian government for better pensions for their members. It was here that Harry Atkinson stayed on his numerous trips to Ottawa (as did many of “C” Force whenever they were in Ottawa), fighting one battle after another for his comrades.

Hotel Accommodation

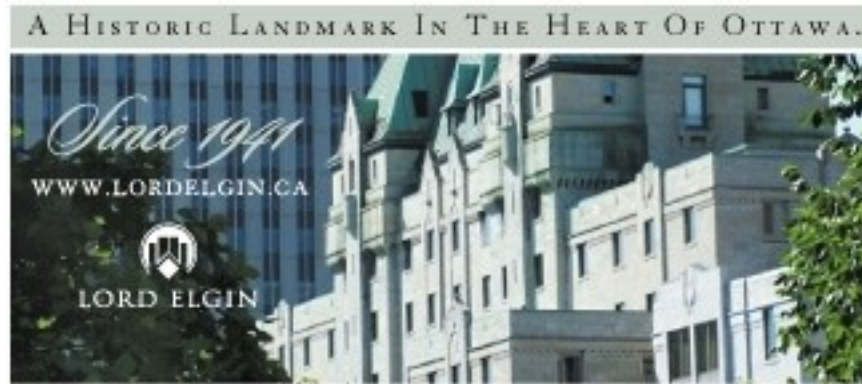
- Following are the *Special Convention Rates per night (including all taxes) – these rates are valid for reservations made before July 10, 2009* :
 - \$158.20 – Single or Double Occupancy
 - \$169.50 – Triple Occupancy
 - \$180.80 – Quadruple Occupancy
- When making your reservation, be sure to state one of the following codes:
 - If you are a **Veteran or Veteran’s Widow**, state code: **HKVCA-Veterans & Widows**
 - **All Others**, state code: **HKVCA-Others**
- To reserve your accommodations **at the Lord Elgin Hotel**, please **telephone the hotel at:**

613-235-3333 or 1-800-267-4298

Notes

- There are a limited number of connecting rooms.
- The Lord Elgin Hotel is wheelchair accessible.
- If you are NOT able to keep your reservation, please contact the Lord Elgin Hotel, as room charges will be deducted from your credit card for cancellations without reasonable notice.

Website - www.lordelgin.ca



100 ELGIN STREET, OTTAWA, ONTARIO K1P 5K8

DRIVING DIRECTIONS
to the
LORD ELGIN HOTEL

From Highway 417 EAST

- Exit the highway at Metcalfe Street
- Follow Metcalfe Street around the corner and past the Museum of Nature
- Continue on Metcalfe to Slater Street
- Turn right on Slater Street
- Turn right on Elgin Street
- An immediate right will take you into the hotel driveway

From Highway 417 WEST

- Exit the highway at Kent Street
 - Follow Kent to Slater Street
 - Turn right on Slater Street
 - Turn right on Elgin Street
 - An immediate right will take you into the hotel driveway
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NEED ASSISTANCE?

~ If you have any questions or comments or would like more information about the Memorial Wall Unveiling & Dedication and Convention to be held August 2009 - please contact:

Derrill Henderson	<i>Telephone</i> -	613-829-5033
	<i>Cell</i> -	613-601-5033
	<i>Email</i> -	derrill@sympatico.ca
