

November, 2001

An Update from the H.K.V.C.A.
B. C. Region

Hello to all Hong Kong Veterans, spouses, widows, Commemorative members, and friends. Firstly, we would like to thank Lionel Speller for allowing us to participate in his newsletter. Lionel has worked tirelessly over the years for the HKVA and we are honoured to be working with him.

As many of you are aware, the "passing of the torch" from the Hong Kong Veterans Association to the Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association took place at the National Convention held in Winnipeg last August. Linda Stewart, the Regional Director for the HKVCA in British Columbia was able to attend. Since her return, she has been working hard to establish an effective format for the HKVCA in this region. Our goals are best defined in the mission statement of the HKVCA, and are as follows:

This Association aims to perpetuate the memory of the surviving Veterans, Hong Kong Veterans of Canada, and to ensure the welfare of their spouses, and Hong Kong Veteran's widows by:

- Enrolling children, issuance, and friends of the Hong Kong Veterans in a nationwide organization
- Maintaining a comprehensive address database of the Hong Kong Veterans and widows
- Ensuring that regular, periodic, personal contact is made with these Veterans to establish the state of their well being.
- Developing relationships with the "Hong Kong family".
- Attending memorial services on the anniversary of V-J Day and Remembrance Day, wearing badges and orally proclaiming our links to the Hong Kong Veterans.
- Constantly reviewing and improving the network and procedures applied in the execution of our mandate.
- Careful planning and review, to ensure the realization of long term goals.

Attached to this newsletter, is an application form for new members who would like to join our Association. We would encourage you to pass it along to sons and daughters, grandchildren, spouses and friends of the Hong Kong Veterans. We would also encourage Commemorative members who have not paid their membership dues for 2001, to please do so. Veterans and HKVCA members will continue to be assessed \$15.00 per year for dues. The widows are automatically members of the Commemorative Association and have received a free lifetime membership.

The new Board of Directors for the British Columbia Region hopes to send out newsletters, starting in 2002 at least twice a year, and possibly quarterly. Everyone will receive these newsletters (and of course we will be asking Lionel for his help!) along with any National Commemorative newsletters that are sent out. We are also working on new membership cards. Everyone will also receive the new 2002 HKVCA decal. The new decals are very impressive and were designed by Barry Mitchell, the Treasurer for the HKVCA in Manitoba. We will be very proud to show our allegiance to the Hong Kong Veterans by placing them on our vehicles.

At this time, I think it would be appropriate to introduce you to the Board of Directors for the British Columbia Region. We encourage you to contact us. If you know of any Hong Kong Veterans, spouses, or widows that are in need of support, we are here for them. We are in the process of establishing a complete list of Hong Kong Veterans, widows and Commemorative members in our Region. Once we have established this, we should have Commemorative members close by at all times.

Linda Stewart

Regional Director: HKVCA, B.C. Region

Address: 320 - 252 Gorge Rd. E.
Victoria, B.C.
V9A 6W3

Phone: 1-250-480-0442

e-mail: lindaontheisland@shaw.ca

Heather MacPherson

Secretary: HKVCA, B.C. Region

Address: 302 - 102 Begin St.
Coquitlam, B.C.
V3K 4V2

Phone: 1-604-525-0690

Murray Doull

Treasurer and Membership: HKVCA B.C. Region

Address: 20138 Ditton St.
Maple Ridge, B.C.
V2X 9H4

Phone: 1-604-465-0579

e-mail: mdoull@shaw.ca

We look forward to hearing from you. If you have any news that you think should be in a newsletter, please let us know. I would again like to say that we are here for the Hong Kong Veterans, spouses, and widows. If we can help in any way, please contact us. Please visit our National web site at hkvca@hkvca.ca

There are sweatshirts and pins left over from the National Convention. The sweatshirts come in all sizes and are \$20.00. The pins are \$5.00. You can place your order by contacting Murray Doull. These items have to come from back east, so we will wait until it appears that all orders are in.

The following is a price list for other items that we can provide:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price</u>
Annual Membership dues	\$15.00
Crests (for Blazers)	\$20.00
Badges (for cemeteries)	\$50.00
Medals	\$65.00
Video	\$ 8.00
Gander Album	\$37.00
Book: "This Soldier's Story"	\$24.00
Book: "The Royal Rifles of Canada"	\$50.00
Donations:	Any amount is acceptable

Remembrance Day will soon be upon us. It is a time to reflect and remember those brave man and women who gave their lives, so that we may enjoy the freedoms we have in this country today. To them, we bow our heads in remembrance. To the surviving Hong Kong Veterans who fought valiantly, and suffered for years under unthinkable conditions in prisoner of war camps, we salute you. You are always in our hearts and souls. We assure you that HKVCA members will be in attendance at cenotaphs from coast to coast on November 11.

WASURERU-NAI
"Never Forget"

Warm regards,
Murray Doull
Treasurer and Membership
HKVCA, B.C. Region