

MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE & MUSEUM COMMITTEE MEETING 28 APRIL 2016
HELD IN THE C&E MUSEUM 1400 TO 1600 HRS
TO ASSESS THE HERITAGE THEME 2016 – UNITED NATIONS OPERATIONS

Dedicated to Signaller Philip Crouse and those who died serving Canada during UN missions.

The committee assessed activities that could still be achieved in 2016. Only items with an identifiable lead, and were "doable", were assigned follow-up action; all other ideas were deleted or held pending an action lead.

The committee understands that planning for 2017 and 2018 must start earlier.

Action: Jim to prepare a template outline plan for 2017 and 2018 for population at the next meeting in late May.

Context. The UN Operations theme was motivated by the 60th Anniversary of UNEF I and the incredible contributions by the C&E Branch, and founding elements, to peacekeeping, peace support and humanitarian missions. There is real potential to celebrate, preserve and educate our C&E heritage through the lens of Canada's UN operations.

Aim. To educate the Canadian public, and serving and retired military community, on the legacy of the C&E Branch in UN Operations, through commemoration of our heroes, investigation into their missions and telling of their stories.

Note: The Committee agreed that this aim and approach would be usable for future themes.

Concept. Some activities will be coordinated centrally by the Branch and through the Heritage Committee and Museum Director and staff. The main impetus, however, will be the generation of local and regional activities, under the UN theme, by Regular / Reserve Units and veterans Clubs / Associations.

Note:

The Branch Advisor and Branch CWO have agreed that the **Branch Office would lead the central activities such as C&E Week, PD symposium, Remembrance Day and National PK Memorial.**

The Regular & Reserve Unit Signal Command Teams were briefed on UN theme at the D Sigs conference in March. The Signallers Club was briefed at a meeting in April.

The **C&E UN Challenge** is intended to rally interest across the Branch and retired community to delve into our history and celebrate our part in making Canada world leader in peacekeeping and peace support operations.

Note: The Terms of Reference for a Heritage Award have been approved by the BAC and C&E Association in March. **The Branch Office will include the Heritage Awards in the call for 2016 as part of the family of Branch awards.**

BRANCH AND CENTRALLY COORDINATED ACTIVITIES

National Commemorations

- 7 Nov, commemoration of 60th Anniversary of the formation of UNEF I (or combined with 11 Nov)

Agreed to combine 7 Nov with special 11 Nov Remembrance Day at Vimy Gate with Museum Reception.

- 11 Nov, Blue Beret presence, or C&E contingent, at Vimy Gate or other Remembrance Day ceremonies

Action: Need to confirm with Home Station Cmdt / RSM and Branch Adjt for addition of UN theme.

- 9 Aug, C&E contingent at National Peacekeeping Memorial (Ottawa based Units and Associations?)

Action: Jim to liaise with Branch Office to confirm their organization of this event (Done. Spoke to CWO Boislard who will start coordination with Ottawa region organizers.) Intent is simply to have a special "C&E" presence and opportunity for UN veterans to gather.

C&E Week / Professional Development Symposium

- Central theme for 2016 PD Symposium including speakers, and workshop examination of lessons learned and case study experiences from C&E support in recent missions and application to future missions

Action: Done, Branch Advisor has already directed that the C&E Week PD Symposium will use the UN theme. Details

of the agenda, speakers and workshops still to be resolved. Jim will offer assistance to Branch Adjutant.

- UN Theme at Retired Officer's Annual Dinner, Branch Officers Mess Dinner and WO & Sgts Mess Dinner

Suggestion to invite LGen Thibault to Museum for a Reception 3 June.

Action: Jim to inquire through the Col Cmdt. (Done, inquiry made and VCDS is not available before the ROAD. However, Col Cmdt suggested that the post parade reception with the VCDS on 29 June be in the Museum.)

Museum Activities and Heritage Committee Support

- Special UN display in the Museum (photos, banners, paintings, loans from other Museums)

Action: Being done by Karen and Annette for UN display, banners and highlighting UN artifacts.

- Search for peacekeeping memorials (part of Memorial & Monuments Project)

Action: Tony Fequet and Tony Charters to continue the project as they are able.

- Interviews with peacekeepers on UN Operations (part of Oral History Project)

Action: Jim Hueglin offered to coordinate in interview of 3 or 4 local UN veterans with the assistance of Annette for interview procedures and Mike MacDonald from Base Video for technical set up and filming.

- Develop the Archives
 - republish articles on UN missions and extracts from Semaphore to Satellite
 - seek authors for historical accounts or stories from UN missions (Rwanda, Congo, Korea?)

Note: This is really ongoing as stories are gathered on UN missions and people.

- Complete the UN Honour Roll (and Graves of the Fallen Project)

Action: Peter Sheremata agreed to complete the list of UN fallen and **work with Karen** on how to honour them in the Museum (photos, small display, with other displays, etc.)

Note: Joe Costello has is completing the Graves of the Fallen work, plus posted several UN related items on rcsigs.ca

Education Program and Guest Speaker Series (at Museum or other venues)

- Guest speakers on UNEF I & II, Congo, Rwanda, Korea, Cyprus, UNIFIL etc. (potentially, Steve Hall, Eric Anderson, Romeo Dallaire, Lewis MacKenzie, Paul Rutherford, Clay Samis, Jim Holsworth)

Action: Jim Holsworth agreed to contact potential speakers for one or two Lunch & Learn or evening reception speaking events (potentially combining with monthly RHUKI speakers?).

- Collaborate with RKUSI, PSTC, Queens and RMC for UN-related lectures and research

Not happening, unless some late coordination can be made with RKUSI to have one of their monthly lectures.

- Vignette, or briefing package, on all UN missions and C&E involvement

Not happening, unless a researcher/writer can be found. Some material will be produced through the oral history video interviews.

- Potential CBC docudrama on UNEF I or C&E contributions (inquiry from the CBC producer)

Not happening, the original CBC proposal has shifted aim.

REGIONAL AND UNIT ACTIVITIES – “The UN Challenge”

To C&E Units and Staff Branches

- Find and visit peacekeeper graves (priority for Graves of Fallen Project)
- Displays / banners at entrances / common areas in unit lines or Messes
- Presentation, story or theme at TGIF, special gathering or PD session
- Research unit history, write articles on unit or individual involvement in UN operations
- Collaborate regionally between Regular, Reserve and Retired groups
- UN theme for Change of Command or other unit ceremonies

Action: The Branch Advisor already approached and agreed to promote Branch unit involvement but asked the Heritage Committee to draft the communiqué / letter for the Branch Leader. **Jim will coordinate this with the Branch Adjutant to prepare the letter and post a UN theme announcement on CMCEN.ca.**

To Veterans Groups and Associations

- Generating interest, enthusiasm and support for any number of local or regional activities

- Ken Lloyd and Dave Lawrence re-enactment groups to use UN operations
- Hamilton Association line truck and CRTTZ vehicle initiative
- Lineman (and other) Association take on project to capture 'line stories' from UN operations
- Honour individuals such as Signaller Philip Crouse

Action: Jim Holsworth will post on CMCEN.ca examples of UN related activities already being done (Hamilton CRTTZ, Newfoundland Junior Peacekeeper, etc.)

IMPLEMENTATION

Branch Initiative. Initiated through a letter from the Branch Leader, laying out the plan, requesting activity leads and giving the "UN Challenge" to all elements of the Branch. The Branch leadership will need to endorse the overall plan and ideally agree to use the UN theme for the C&E Week / PD Symposium.

Action: Already done in January when the 2016 plan was sent to the Branch Advisor and consideration by the BAC.

The UN Challenge. Introduction of the C&E Heritage Awards to units and individuals. (Separate approval and implementation of the C&E Heritage Award to be done.)

Action: Already done, Terms of Reference for the Heritage Awards sent to the C&E Association and the Branch Office and approved by the BAC for inclusion in this year's call for awards.

Peace Support Training Centre. The PSTC has offered assistance with research and collaboration in finding guest lectures, building briefing packages and completing the UN Honour Roll. We need to link in with CAVUNP and other peacekeeping / UN programmes and research UN-related websites.

Action: Not happening, too late for proper coordination (Jim will contact DCO PSTC just to confirm).

Activity Leads. Volunteers needed to coordinate tasks or assist the Museum staff, possibly: Ted Davidson, Jim James, Bill Fallows, Mark Brown, Vern Hayes, Gary Hayes, Roger Daigle, Liisa Denoble, John Moore, Louis Lapierre, Dave Lawrence. Others?

Action: Jan Hansen will ask Jim James and others from the Signallers Club to help with Remembrance Day ceremony.

Money. Need to identify costs for specific activities and include a budget in the Branch Fund Business Plan or Museum Business Plan, to enable the C&E Museum Foundation to facilitate support and fund-raising.

Action: Associated costs for the Museum activities will be included in the Museum Budget.

References/Websites

- <http://www.canadianfilmandphotounit.ca/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/People-serving-in-UNEF-in-Gaza-from-November-1956-to-June-1967-52228122847/>
- <http://www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/past/unef1backgr2.html>
- <http://southshorebreaker.ca/2015/05/12/dedication-ceremony-planned-in-liverpool/>
- <http://www.cavunp.org/>