THE GUILD OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN DRAGOONS

Record of Decisions Second Quarter Board of Directors Meeting for FY2022-2023 Held on 28 April 2023

By Video Teleconference hosted on MS Teams / In person CFB Petawawa

In Attendance:

Officers: Mr. D. Milner, President

Mr. T. Skelding, First Vice President Mr. N Forsyth, Second Vice President Mr. S. Boire, Secretary/Treasurer

Mr. P. Riganelli, Chief Financial Officer

Directors: Mr. C. Leblanc

Mr. J. Nickerson Mr. M. Frank Mr. B. Fulton Mr. J. Follwell Mr. K. Lee Ms. R. Williams Mr. J. Atkins

Mr. M. Aube (Regrets) Mr. R. Cameron (Regrets) Mr. A. Fenton (Regrets)

Scribe: Mr. J. Atkins

Guests: Maj Ring representing RFAC

Maj Lapointe, OC C Sqn

Ser	Discussion/ Decision	Action by
1.	Call to Order.	President
	The meeting was called to order at 1340 hrs.	
2.	Opening Remarks.	President
	The President opened the meeting reflecting on the good work of the Guild he has seen over the past two years as Colonel of the Regiment (COR). The excellent support to the Regimental family and quality of life was highlighted. Specific examples include the recent trip to Leeuwarden where together, the Guild and Association paid the travel costs for five serving RCD soldiers and the Guild supported soldiers' participation in the Spartan Races. While visiting the Y137 gym, many soldiers expressed appreciation for the Guild's provision of equipment.	

	Moving forward there is more work to be done and the President has confidence in the excellent Guild team. Guild planning should keep in mind future milestones including: 140 th Anniversary of The Regiment this year and the 125 th Anniversary of Leliefontein and 80 th Anniversary of Leewarden in 2025.	
3.	Review AGM 26 January 2023 ROD. No Discussion or questions. Motion to accept passed.	Motion Mr. Riganelli, Second Mr. Boire Passed
4.	Review 1st Quarter Meeting 26 January 2023 ROD. No discussion or questions. Motion to accept passed.	Unanimously Motion Mr. Nickerson, Second Mr. Forsyth Passed Unanimously
5.	CFO Quarterly Update. The CFO presented the 2 nd Quarter report (Attachment A). It was noted that the Guild finances remain in good shape. The in-year spending exceeds budget estimates since the funding for serving soldiers for the Leeuwarden trip was not budgeted for this FY. However, the budget compares well to previous years. Mr. Fulton inquired about donations collected last year for the Leeuwarden trip. The CFO stated that these funds were accounted for in last year's budget, however, in future he would consider restricting the funds if there is a similar situation. Motion to accept the Quarterly update passed.	Motion Mr. Boire, Second Mr. Leblanc Passed Unanimously
6.	Governance Update. Mr. Fulton commented on previous discussions to split the Secretary/Treasurer position. He stated that this would require a change to the bylaws. More investigation is needed on this issue. In the interim, Mr. Atkins will perform the secretarial duties IAW the Secretary Terms of Reference until such time that the bylaws are formally amended. There were no other governance updates.	Mr. Fulton
7.	Business Plan Update. Mr. Frank continues to work on the next business plan with a draft ready for BOD review in June and publication by end-	Mr. Frank

	Summer.	
	Mr. Frank presented an overview slide (Attachment B) of the draft Five-Year Strategic Outlook showing main pillars with significant events until 2027.	
	Mr. Lee asked that the 150 th Anniversary be added to the strategic outlook. He noted that there was about a two-year preparation to execute the 125 th event. It took time to source the required scarlets and accoutrements.	
8.	Quality of Life (QOL) Update.	Mr. Leblanc
	Mr. Leblanc stated the QOL budget will expend this FY except for the support to the fallen line item, which has not spent anything yet.	
	A sample of the new retirement coin and case was shown to the Guild board members. Everything is final except for the case' brass inlay, which will follow soon. The coin will be given to all Dragoons with at least five years of service upon retirement from the CAF. The retirement package instructions are almost done. The coin will be ready for first issue by 1 May 2023. Mr. Frank asked that the draft instruction be sent to the Guild board members for comment. The President thanked those who worked on this project.	
	A plaque will be placed at the gym noting the contribution by the Guild. A box will be nearby with Guild information pamphlets. The pamphlets will encourage donation through the Y007 account.	
9.	RFAC Update.	Motion Mr.
	Maj Ring stated that members of The Regiment appreciate the work and contributions of the Guild to QOL. However, the focus has been Petawawa, and more could be done for the soldiers at C Sqn Gagetown.	Forsyth, Second Mr. Nickerson Passed
	A proposal was presented to procure gym equipment for the C Sqn lines; to be set up in an unused tank bay. An initial estimate of \$15,000 had been rationalized to \$4,900 for a best value solution. Some discussion followed, since this is the first time the board has seen this proposal. Some thought the proposal should be reviewed and voted on at the next meeting. It was necessary that the equipment be portable, in case of a future move. It was noted that this expenditure was not in this year's budget. Options were to include in next year's budget or use some of this year's uncommitted QOL budget for support to the fallen.	Unanimously
	A motion was presented to procure the C Sqn gym equipment from this year's QOL budget, using \$5,000 of a planned budget	

	of \$10,000 from the support to fallen line item.	
10.	History and Heritage Update.	Mr. Skelding
	Mr. Skelding continues planning for an update to the RCD gallery at the CFB Petawawa museum. A brainstorming session was held with members of History and Heritage Committee and museum staff. A presentation on the concept for an updated RCD gallery was given by Mr. Skelding (Attachment C). The current RCD gallery was opened in 1992. This gallery is based heavily on photographs, with a small number of physical artifacts. A proposed floorplan for a new gallery was shown. The proposal included more display cases for artifacts, including a feature display for the four retired Guidons, Kings Colour and medals. It was noted that the Guidons and Kings Colour are not currently co-located, and this would be a separate effort with DND History and Heritage to bring them together. The next phase of work is to define the plan in more detail and develop cost estimates. Discussions favoured the effort so far.	Mr. Nickerson
	Mr. Nickerson updated the board on recently set up displays of Regimental trophies and historical weapons in Y137. There has been favourable feedback from the soldiers.	
	Mr. Nickerson stated that he is being posted and will resign from the board; this is his last meeting. The President and all board members thanked Mr. Nickerson for his excellent work with the Guild.	
11.	Fundraising Update.	Ms. Williams
	Ms. Williams is working on the Terms of Reference for the Fundraising Committee with the Coordinator.	
	Draft fund-raising plan is being developed.	
	A letter explaining donations to the Guild through CandaHelps has been drafted. The final version will be distributed soon to donors and through the association. The President stated that many are not aware of this donation method and that maximum distribution of the letter to the Regimental family is important.	
	Grants for the Guild are being investigated; potentially from VAC or History and Heritage Canada.	
12.	Awareness Update.	Mr. Follwell
	50% of budget is committed or spent.	
	Spartan Team participation is very popular with members of The Regiment; so far 60 pers are involved. Events include Mt. Tremblant, Calabogie and Toronto. The Spartan budget is fully	

	<u>, </u>	
	committed at present and a sitrep with new cost estimate has been requested.	
	The deadline for articles for the next edition of Springbok/Dragoon is 1 May 2023. The Guild will have a section. This year's edition will be sent to the publishers in June, with distribution in the fall.	
	The website and method of distribution of Regimental documents continues to be improved.	
	All board members are requested to provide updates on the task tracker before the next meeting.	
13.	Report on Leeuwarden Trip.	President
	A Regimental contingent consisting of the COR, Mr. Skelding, Mr. Follwell and five serving soldiers recently returned from a trip to Leeuwarden commemorating the wartime efforts of the RCD and assistance to the people of Holland. The Guild, supported by the Association, paid for the travel of five soldiers: Cpl Derek Edgell (A Sqn), Cpl Darnai Sukonthapanich (RHQ), MCpl Alexandra Brisson (RHQ), MCpl John Gaetz (C Sqn) and Captain Meredith Faulkner (HQ Sqn). The contingent followed the Holland route of the RCD and participated in many town and cemetery ceremonies. The trip was an outstanding success. The itinerary may be used again for the 80 th anniversary. The RCD flag that flew at Leeuwarden will be framed and presented to Don White; perhaps at his barbeque in July.	Mr. Skelding
14.	Op CONNECTION (Business/Prominent Canadian Connection with CAF units).	President
	The COR and CO are planning OP CONNECTION with the Patron. This will be linked to a Regimental training event, likely in September. Details to follow.	
15.	Upcoming Events.	
	Funeral – MWO (Ret) Carl Cox, 20 May, Beechwood Cemetery, Ottawa, ON	
	Funeral – Capt (Ret) William van Leeuwen, 20 May, Beechwood Cemetery, Ottawa, ON	
	Funeral – MCpl (Ret) Larry Welland, 25 May, Carleton Place, ON	
	Funeral – Lcol (Ret) John Beswick (WWII Vet), 25 June, Perth, ON	
	Armd Corps Barbeque, 29 July, Perth, ON	

16.	Closing Remarks.	President
	The President thanked everyone for their efforts. Continue the good work.	
17.	Next Meeting.	President
	The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for 26 July 2023.	
18.	Adjournment.	Motion to adjourn
	The President closed the meeting at 1526 hrs.	Mr. Forsyth, Second Mr. Lee
		D 1
		Passed
		unanimously

Attachments:

- A. 2nd Quarter FY23 CFO Report
- B. Guild Five Year Strategic Outlook

C. Guild Museum Rebuild Presentation

Mr. J. Atkins Acting Secretary

Distributed and Archived

Mr. D. Milner President

Approved – Yes No