

**MINUTES OF THE DOMINION COMMAND
DEFENCE AND SECURITY COMMITTEE**

23 September 2019

File 82-27

In Attendance:	Jay Milne	-	Chairman
	Bob Cl��roux	-	Member
	Brendan Heffernan	-	Member
	Carolyn Gasser	-	Coordinator
	Mike Smith	-	A/Coordinator

1. OPENING RITUAL

The meeting of the Defence and Security (D&S) Committee was convened at Legion House on 16 September 2019 at 1300 hours.

2. OPENING REMARKS

The new Chair of the D&S Committee, Jay Milne, welcomed a new member, Comrade Brendan Heffernan, and introductions around the table were made. Comrade Brendan brings a vast amount of experience first serving in the CAF as a Military Policeman and then for 27 years in various positions in the RCMP. He retired in 2017 as the Registrar and Director General of the Canadian Criminal Real Time Identification Services (CCRTIS). Upon retirement, he was appointed as the Chair of the National DNA Data Bank Advisory Committee (NDDB AC) and he continues to serve his community as a member of the RCMP Veterans Association and the RCL.

3. COMMITTEE REVIEW

The Chair opened the discussion by summarizing his July meeting with the President and Executive Director on reviewing the mandate, terms of reference, and focus of the D&S Committee. An initial review of the Committee's history and relevance to the Strategic Plan were provided to the members in late August. The Chair shared his vision and goals for the Committee and the following points relevant to the Review of the D&S mandate and operations were discussed:

a. Committee Membership

The Review will discuss the traditional approach of having all the various CAF elements and the RCMP represented, gender diversity, and the need for more representation, perhaps from the grass roots level.

b. RCL Membership

The Review will discuss statistics about membership to assist the D&S Committee making recommendations how the RCL can address increasing

and retaining the numbers of Ordinary Members. These may be of interest to the CAF or RCMP leadership and would help us contribute to the governance of the RCL/DEC.

The Chair will pay close attention to Membership issues and as Membership is everyone's responsibility, he encouraged members for their thoughts on membership data that would be useful.

ACTION: Committee Members

c. Veterans Benefits and Issues

The Chair expressed his dedication to ensuring CAF/RCMP members, Veterans and their families receive the benefits they are entitled to. Given the linkage to in-service benefits for CAF/RCMP members and post-service benefits for Veterans, the Review will explore a closer relationship with the VSS Committee.

The Chair requested a copy of the VSS Committee DEC Report and agenda for teleconferences and meetings. The Coordinator will discuss with the Director of Veterans Services who is the Coordinator of that Committee.

ACTION: Chair/Coordinator

d. Exposure of Brand

The Review will discuss how the D&S Committee will support this, what it is, and how the Committee fits in with the Strategic Plan for 2018-2026.

e. Conference of Defence Association

The Review will speak about the Committee's relationship with the CDA and our purpose within it. There was a brief discussion regarding the LOU between the Legion and the CDA and whether it is necessary at this time, given our membership status in the CDA/CDAI.

f. Nijmegen Application and Selection Process

The Chair questioned whether it should be this Committee's mandate to select the Legion participants or perhaps it would be best served by another Committee, eg Ritual and Awards, given the time required to review and select deserving representatives.

g. Resolutions

The resolution process and responses from the Government were described and information regarding several resolutions that have been brought forth for many Conventions were discussed.

h. Next Steps for the Review

The Chair will continue the Review of the D&S Committee and prepare a report and recommendations in October for the review of the members,

Executive Director, and President. The intention is to table the review and recommendations to DEC at the end of November.

4. NEW OR GENERAL BUSINESS

a. Afghanistan Memorial

Comrade Bob spoke of his attendance at the commemorative ceremony of the Afghanistan Memorial at NDHQ (Carling Campus) on the 13th of May 2019. He felt it honoured families' of the fallen wishes to participate in the ceremony.

b. DEC Report

The DEC report will be written and distributed secretarially closer to DEC.

ACTION: Chair/Coordinator

c. RCMP Veterans Advocates Workshop

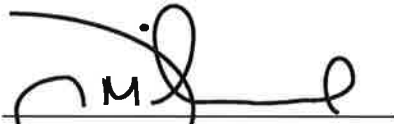
The Coordinator spoke of her attendance and presentation at the RCMP Veterans Advocates Workshop at the Depot Division in Regina.

5. FUTURE MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 23 November 2019 in Veterans Services at 0900.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1500 hours along with the proper closing ritual.



Jay Milne
Chair



Carolyn Gasser
Coordinator

Dated this day of 21st October 2019

DISTRIBUTION LIST

DEC
Defence & Security Committee
Dominion Past Presidents
Provincial Executive Directors
Directors
Committee Secretaries and Assistance Secretaries