



# The Canadian Military Engineers Association President's Report

29 November 2018

Col (Ret'd) Richard Dickson  
Vice-President



# Who Are We?

- ◆ A national organization of individuals dedicated to the support of the CME, it's people, history, heritage, and customs.
- ◆ Incorporated as a Not-For-Profit Corporation.
- ◆ Consist of a National Executive and 21 Chapters across Canada.
- ◆ Over 2300 Serving and Non-Serving Members



# Objectives

- ◆ 1. To facilitate the well-being of all members and respond quickly and with effect to assist the welfare of members and their families.
- ◆ 2. To encourage effective cooperation and close association among all members and former members of the CME, its predecessors, and its associated civilians and organizations.
- ◆ 3. To preserve CME History, honour its customs, traditions, and heritage, and commemorate its sacrifices and achievements.



# An Association of Chapters

- ◆ The Chapters are the “members”
  - Chapters have a vote
  - Chapter lead in supporting members
- ◆ Individual members are “Associates”
  - Enrolled/managed centrally....but
  - Ideally *all* associates belong to a chapter



# What Do We Do?

- ◆ **Communicate:** through an active, up-to-date website, weekly electronic newsletter, and via social media.
- ◆ **Support** regional Chapters: which serve as the focal point for members across the country.
- ◆ **Promote *esprit de corps*:** by supporting CME events, activities and initiatives, and by promoting CME history, heritage, customs and traditions.
- ◆ **Advocate** on matters that affect military engineering and the CME family in co-operation with the CDA
- ◆ **Assist:** CMEA members and members of the CME family through benefits programs, as well as emergency support in times of personal crisis.



# National Executive Committee

## Board of Directors

President: *Kevin Patterson, Ottawa*

Vice President: *Richard Dickson, Kingston*

Secretary: *LCol Renald Nelson, NDHQ*

Treasurer: *Gilles Guignard, NDHQ*

Registrar: *John MacPherson, Chilliwack*

Executive Director: *David Burke, Ottawa*

## Association Officers

VP Corporate Relations: *Dave Carney, Ottawa*

VP Communications: *Don Chipman, Port Alberni*

VP Engineer Veterans: *(Unfilled)*

VP History and Heritage: *Ken Holmes*

Past President & VP Chapter Liaison: *John Lesperance*



# National Executive Committee (con't)

## Advisers to the Board (Ex Officio)

Curator CME Museum: *Sandra Johnson-Penney,*  
*CFSME*

Colonel Comdt: BGen (Ret'd) Steve Irwin, Ottawa

Branch Adjutant: Major Mike Murray, NDHQ

Branch CWO: CWO Glenn Simpkin, NDHQ

Geo Representative: WO Terry Warner, MCE

Fire Services Rep: CWO Gerard Slaunwhite, NDHQ

Cbt Engr Rep: Capt Troy Chiasson

Res Rep: MWO Chris Lassalle



# Chapters

- ◆ Baggotville
- ◆ Calgary
- ◆ Chilliwack
- ◆ Cold Lake
- ◆ Comox
- ◆ Edmonton
- ◆ Gagetown
- ◆ Goose Bay
- ◆ Greenwood
- ◆ Halifax
- ◆ Kingston
- ◆ Montreal
- ◆ NCR
- ◆ Petawawa
- ◆ Quebec
- ◆ St John's
- ◆ Toronto
- ◆ Trenton
- ◆ Victoria
- ◆ Waterloo
- ◆ Winnipeg
- ◆ Members at Large





# The Way Ahead: 2015-2018

- ◆ **Growth:** Expand CMEA activities to more fully represent and serve the CME family:
  - A chapter wherever there is an engineer unit
  - Double the number of members (associates)
  - Create new programs to assist and attract members
- ◆ **Unity and Esprit:** Improve unity and esprit de corps across the CME family:
  - Improve recognition of individual and group achievement
  - Promote the history, heritage and customs of the CME Branch
  - Build CMEA into a unifying force
  - Achieve broader chapter participation in national governance
- ◆ **Management:** Improve CMEA governance, transparency, awareness, and interaction with members:
  - Enhance Communications
  - Improve association management
  - Develop coherent membership policies



# Progress

Year	2014	2018
Members	1478	2374
Revenue	\$45K	\$82K*
Dues	\$38K	\$48K
TD Meloche	\$5K	\$34K
Expenditures	\$46K	\$64K*
Bursaries	6@\$1000	8@\$1500

\*Year to date



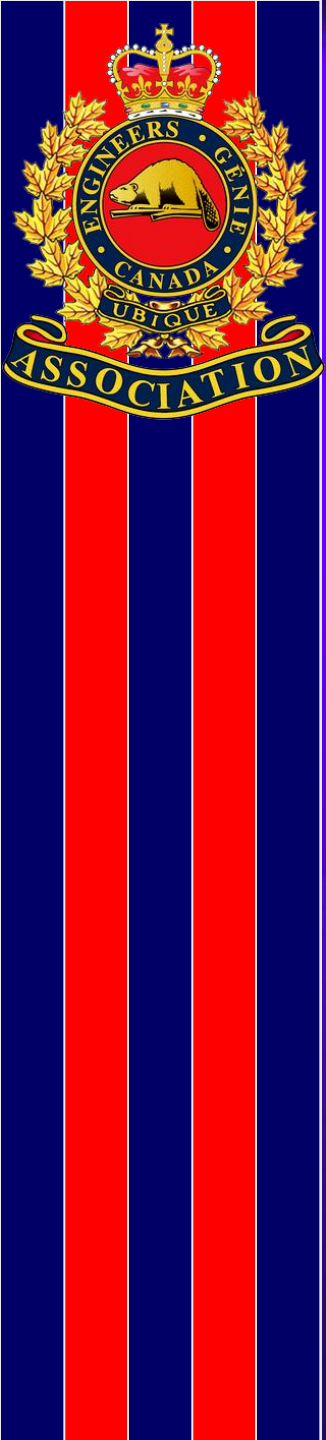
# Reserve Growth Initiative

- ◆ CMEA wants to represent all Engineers
- ◆ Approx 110 Reserve members; this is less than 5%
- ◆ Challenges:
  - Our programs do not necessarily benefit reserves
  - Seen to be in competition with Unit Associations
- ◆ Two options were put forward to the Reserves:
  - Each Reserve unit becomes a chapter at no cost; but individuals must join CMEA to access personal benefits;
  - For a flat rate each Reserve unit becomes a chapter AND every unit member becomes a full CMEA mbr enjoying full benefits.
- ◆ No Consensus; 3 (+) units interested in option 2
- ◆ Plan to proceed with those units as trial.



# The Future

- ◆ We are financially sound
- ◆ We are serving the needs of the CME family
- ◆ We are getting leadership from across the CME Branch: officers and NCMs, serving and retired
- ◆ We are providing leadership to other associations (Log , Int, Sigs, Gunners)
- ◆ We are growing, yet much more potential!
  - ◆ need to make inroads with parts of CME family
- ◆ We are YOUR Association
- ◆ We need your input & engagement



# Canadian Military Engineers Association

*“The voice of the Engineer Family”*