

Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund

Minutes of the Board of Trustees' Meeting 26 January 2023 By video conference at 1700 MST

Present:	
Mr. Dave Pentney	Chair / Treasurer
Mr. Paul Hale	Secretary / Fundraising
Mrs. Donna Campbell	Heritage / Veterans and Family
Mr. Derek Prohar	Educational Bursary
Mr Quentin Innis	Governance Chair
Mr Ernie Reumiller	Chief Financial Officer Designate
Absent / Regrets	
Mr Stan Stapleford	Trustee
Mr. Jamie Hamond	Cadets

Item	Discussion	OPI/Action
1.	Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1704 (MST) hours, with a quorum.	Chair
2.	Opening Remarks: Dave advised Board trustees that Chuck Reece resigned in December due to health reasons. We have a great deal of cover tonight and will do our best to cover everything as efficiently as possible.	Chair
3.	Approval of the Agenda: Motion for approval: by Paul Seconded by Derek. <i>Carried</i>	Chair
4.	Approval of minutes from 8 December 2022 Motion for approval: by Donna. Seconded by: Quentin. <i>Carried</i>	Chair

Item	Discussion	OPI/Action
	Financial Report (as per attached slide)	Treasurer /
5.	Dave reviewed the attached financial report. During 2022 our investments declined by 11.83% or \$121,356. We met our disbursement quota for 2022. Since we have almost One Million in assets it was recommended that we adhere to the 5% disbursement quota for 2023 which is \$49,882. CRA has raised disbursement quotas since a number of charities with significant assets who could do more. Accordingly the quota was raised from 3.5% to 5%. The disbursement quota is based on the average assets over the past eight quarters. Ernie reviewed the 2022 HGMF income statement and the 2021 comparison. The HGMH did very well due to a couple of estate bequests, resulting with an income of almost \$72,000. Next expenses were \$200,000 which includes the loss of \$121,356 in investments. The HGMF is in excellent shape and there are no concerns at this time. Ernie commented that GST rebates for 2020 and 2021 were not submitted to CRA. These have now been submitted and we have already received funds back. For info the HGMF receives a rebate for 50% of GST paid. Banking has been changed to Bank of Montreal which will result in reduced bank service charges and will allow etransfers direct to the HGMF. The Bank of Nova Scotia account will close once Casino funds have been received. Ernie has changed bank account information on Canada Helps and CRA websites. Funds are being deposited without issues and individuals can make donations direct to the HGMF via the Bank of Montreal Account and there are no additional charges for this service. Ernie advised that Canada Helps charges 4% for donations. But it does automatically issue tax receipts.	Finance Chair
	2023 Budget Revision	
6.	Dave reviewed the 2023 budget and updated portions. However; we need additional details ref income and expenses for the Sydney Frost Commemorative Tour. Paul will provide projected costs to Dave. Approx \$2,000 for the Leonforte Memorial and \$400 for Mike Bechtold design and work on the plaque. Second submission has been made to CRA ref fundraising for Cadet participation.	

Item	Discussion	OPI/Action
	Revision of Charitable Purposes Version 4	
7.	Dave advised that he had forwarded Version 4 to the PPCLI Foundation, Regimental Steering Committee, REC and Regiment Major. The comments received were from Erik Liebert and Past Colonel of the Regiment, Gen Kennedy. Adjustments were made based on comments. Unless there are any objections, Version 4 will be submitted informally to CRA for their comments and input. Once we have that, the intent will be to have Trustees vote on an amendment to our Constitution and then submit to CRA for their approval. There were no issues raised with Version 4. Dave will proceed as above.	
	Bursary Program Update	
	Derek provided a quick update. It was confirmed that \$30,000 has been allocated for bursaries in 2023. The intent is to continue with a smaller number of bursaries with larger amounts as was done in 2022. Everyone agreed.	
8.	Derek commented that the eligibility criteria for bursaries should be reviewed. For example the following areas require clarification total family income, family situation, student employment, Regimental affiliation and receiving bursaries for consecutive years.	
	Dave advised that we may have to a one issue meeting to deal with the issues raised by Derek.	
	Cadet Program Update	Cadet Chair
9.	Dave advised that the Cadet Crops Trophy competition has been initiated and letters have gone to the Cadet reference Financial Support from the HGMF.	
	Support to Veterans and Families Update	V & F Chair
10.	Donna briefed that the Atlantic Soldier On Golf Tournament is upcoming. It was suggested that we would support it for 2023. However once we have a broader mandate approved by CRA we would be adjusting our priorities accordingly. Dave suggested that we would be reviewing what we wish to support and how to fundraise accordingly. This would be a Board decision once we have a new Constitution.	

Item	Discussion	OPI/Action
	Heritage Update	Heritage Chair
	St Bartholomew's Stained Glass Window	
	Dave briefed that we have paid \$20,000 for the Stained Glass window and we would make the remaining \$5,000 donation when a suitable occasion has been identified. The Canada Helps line item for the Stained Glass Window will remain until we reach the goal of raising \$25,000.	
	2023 Sydney Frost Memorial Battlefield Tour	
11.	Paul briefed that the draft Brochure is almost finalized. Biggest issue is the confirming tour cost in particular with respect to hotel costs since we are 14 months from execution. The location for the Leonforte has not been confirmed. Steve Gregory is still in negotiation with City Officials. Design of PPLCI Memorial plaque will be synchronized with the Engineer Plaque, sine the intent is to have both in the same location. Next step is finalize wording for Hitler and Gothic Line Memorials.	
	Kapyong Commemorative Trail	
	Donna briefed that the Association intent is to present copies of a Korean poster that will be framed with plaque. Association has not requested funding and costs are relatively minor.	
	Support to Mersham Church	
	Dave briefed on the request from Gen Kennedy to provide a small donation to the Mersham Church where Lady Patricia and Her husband are buried for a three-year period. The funds would be used for maintenance.	
	Moved by Dave that the HGMF provide 50 pounds to the Mersham Church for the next three years. Seconded by Quentin. <i>Carried</i>	
	Governance Chair and Transformation Team Update	Governance
12.	Quentin advised that a detailed audit of Foundation books back to 2020 is in process. Once that has been completed the intent of the Transformation team is to contract with BDO on the best way to proceed. Quentin expressed his viewpoint that the Foundation is not able to sustain itself much longer.	Chair
	Dave commented that given the overall purposes the Transition Team needs to identify what is the best type of charitable structure that would suit our needs? Charitable Organization, Public Foundation or Private Foundation.	

Item	Discussion	OPI/Action
	The HGMF will continue to progress as planned.	
	Regimental Strategy	
	Erik and Quentin provided feedback to Ryan Jurkowski. The strategy is a general document. The portion about Strategic Activities has the most value to the HGMF and may help focus fundraising.	
	There was a side bar discussion on the 125 th . There are no indications that planning has commenced. Dave will bring this up to the Regimental Steering Committee	
	Communications Update	Comms Chair
12.	Paul advised that he has created a "What's NEW" page for the HGMF Website. Intent is to limit this page to three current items or topics. Dave will forward the HGMF Article drafted for the 2022 Patrician to Paul.	
	Fundraising Update	Fundraising
13.	A total of \$71,925 was donated to the HGMF in 2022. The results of the 107 th Anniversary Bike Ride were disappointing. Participation was significantly less in 2022 compared to 2021.	Chair
	We need to look at fundraising for the Sydney Frost Commemorative Battlefield Tour. If you have any suggestions for fundraising activities please forward to Paul.	
	Trustee Status Update	
16.	ave advised that the Stan Stapleford and Jamie Hammond do not wish to extend for another term.	
	Remaining trustees agreed to extend for another year. Dave and Paul will be commencing recruiting additional trustees.	
	Open Forum	
17.	Potential for a single issue meeting with respect to Educational Bursaries.	
	The HGMF AGM will be conducted in conjunction with the PPCLI Association AGM at Niagara on the Lake 12 – 14 May 2024. The HGMF AGM will be held on the morning of 13 May. There is a subsidy for Trustees to attend. \$6,000 has been allocated for trustees to attend the AGM. You can also attend virtually.	

Item	Discussion	OPI/Action
	Next Meetings	Chair
18.	AGM 1030 hrs (EST) Saturday 13 May 2023	
	Adjournment:	
16.	There being no further business or objections the meeting was adjourned at 1806 (MST) hours on a motion by: Paul.	

Paul Hale

Prepared by: Paul Hale HGMF Secretary 24 Feb 2023

Dave Pentney HGMF Chair 24 Feb 2023

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

31 December 2022

Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund (HGMF)

A summary of the HGMF portfolio performance for 2022 to date is as follows:

2022 Opening Balance	\$1,027,854
First Quarter	\$978,499
Second Quarter	\$877,478
Third Quarter	\$876,919
Fourth Quarter	\$906,498

Through to the end of the fourth quarter of 2022 the value of the portfolio decreased by \$121,356 or -11.83%.

The Disbursement Quota for 2022 was 3.5 % or \$33,915. This quota was met and was met.

Beginning 1 Jan 23, the Disbursement Quota has been raised to 5.0% for charities with investment assets over \$1 million. Since we are close to this threshold it is prudent for us to use this rate. The Disbursement Quota for 2023 is \$49,882. This is significant increase.

Dave Pentney Finance Chair

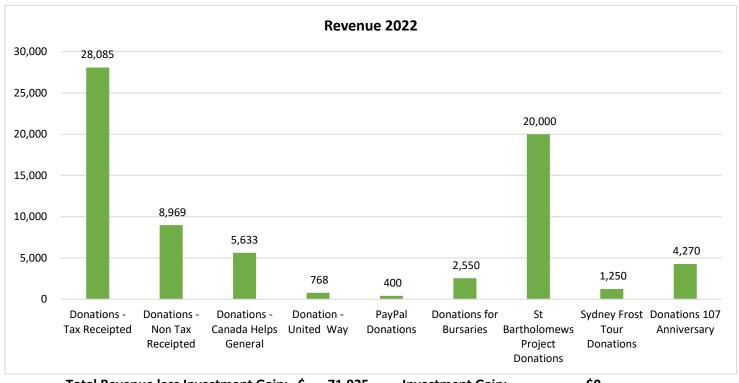
Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund Multi-period Balance Sheet

	Decemb	ber 2021		December 2022	
ASSET					
Current Assets Cash Bank NS Cash BMO Investment - Mutual Funds GST Rebate Receivable Total Current Assets	52,750.39 0.00 1,027,853.85 857.48	1,081,461.72	87.64 35,977.01 906,498.36 857.48	943,420.49	
Total Assets		1,081,461.72		943,420.49	
TOTAL ASSET		1,081,461.72		943,420.49	
LIABILITY					
Current Liabilities GST Paid on Purchases Current Liabilities total		0.00		-1,620.94 -1,620.94	
Liabilities St Bartholomews Project Deferred Total Liabilities		10,000.00		1,720.00 1,720.00	
TOTAL LIABILITY		10,000.00		99.06	
EQUITY					
Retained Earnings Fund Balance Current Earnings Total Retained Earnings		981,496.78 89,964.94 1,071,461.72		1,071,461.72 -128,140.29 943,321.43	
TOTAL EQUITY		1,071,461.72		943,321.43	
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		1,081,461.72		943,420.49	

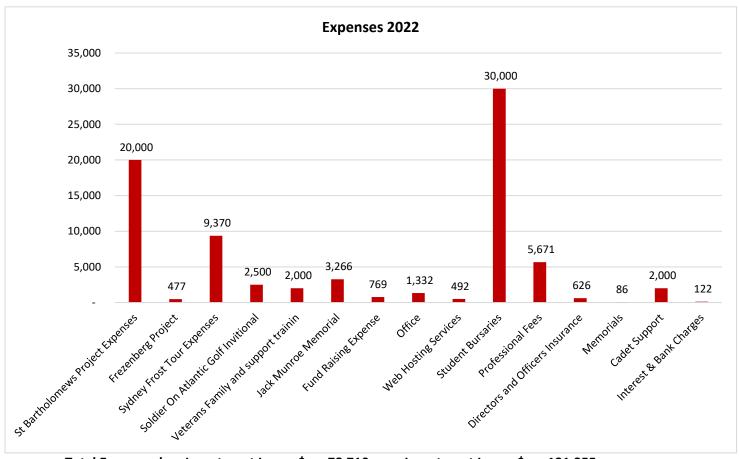
Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund Multi-period Income Statement

	01 Jan, 2021 to 31 Dec, 2021	01 Jan, 2022 to 31 Dec, 2022
REVENUE		
Revenue		
Investment Revenue	34,521.45	0.00
Donations - Tax Receipted	3,598.23	28,085.00
Donations - Non Tax Receipted	1,000.00	8,968.78
Donations - Canada Helps General	12,299.00	5,633.00
Donation - United Way	499.78	768.18
PayPal Donations	2,175.00	400.00
Donations for Bursaries	7,000.00	2,550.00
GST Rebates	406.22	0.00
Unrealized gain on secuities	51,660.68	0.00
St Bartholomews Project Donatio	0.00	20,000.00
Sydney Frost Tour Donations	0.00	1,250.00
Veterans/Family/Support Training	682.00	0.00
Jack Munro Memorial	11,169.00	0.00
Donations 107 Anniversary	14,792.80	4,270.45
Total Revenue	139,804.16	71,925.41
TOTAL REVENUE	139,804.16	71,925.41
EXPENSE		
Expense Accounts		
St Bartholomews Project Expens	0.00	20,000.00
Frezenberg Project	0.00	476.73
Sydney Frost Tour Expenses	0.00	9,369.96
Soldier On Atlantic Golf Invitional	2,500.00	2,500.00
Patricia Park	144.00	0.00
Veterans Family and support trai	0.00	2,000.00
Jack Munroe Memorial	3,753.63	3,265.65
Fund Raising Expense	1,098.74	768.72
Office	2,126.33	1,331.92
Web Hosting Services	1,091.88	491.88
Student Bursaries	25,000.00	30,000.00
Professional Fees	8,314.51	5.671.00
Directors and Officers Insurance	600.00	626.00
Memorials		
	0.00	86.00
Cadet Support	5,000.00	2,000.00
Travel	123.75	0.00
Interest & Bank Charges	86.38	122.35
Unrealized Gain/Loss-Marketabl	0.00	121,355.49
Total General & Admin. Expen	49,839.22	200,065.70
TOTAL EXPENSE	49,839.22	200,065.70
NET INCOME	89,964.94	-128,140.29

Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund Income and Expense Graphs



Total Revenue less Investment Gain: \$ 71,925 Investment Gain: \$0



Total Expenses less Investment Loss: \$ 78,710 Investment Loss: \$ 121,355

Hamilton Gault Memorial Fund Multi-period Trial Balance

		December 2021		December	2022
Ac	Account Description	Debits	Credits	Debits	Credits
1020	Cash Bank NS	52,750.39		87.64	
1021	Cash BMO	0.00	-	35,977.01	-
1120	Investment - Mutual Funds	1,027,853.85	-	906,498.36	-
	GST Rebate Receivable	857.48	_	857.48	_
2315	GST Paid on Purchases	-	0.00	1,620.94	-
2515	St Bartholomews Project Deferred	-	10,000.00	-	1,720.00
3550	Fund Balance	-	981,496.78	-	1,071,461.72
4100	Investment Revenue	-	34,521.45	-	0.00
4110	Donations - Tax Receipted	-	3,598.23	-	28,085.00
4111	Donations - Non Tax Receipted	-	1,000.00	-	8,968.78
4120	Donations - Canada Helps General	-	12,299.00	-	5,633.00
4125	Donation - United Way	-	499.78	-	768.18
4126	PayPal Donations	-	2,175.00	-	400.00
4135	Donations for Bursaries	-	7,000.00	-	2,550.00
4155	GST Rebates	-	406.22	-	0.00
4170	Unrealized gain on secuities	-	51,660.68	-	0.00
	St Bartholomews Project Donatio	-	0.00	-	20,000.00
4216	Sydney Frost Tour Donations	-	0.00	-	1,250.00
4421	Veterans/Family/Support Training	-	682.00	-	0.00
4445	Jack Munro Memorial	-	11,169.00	-	0.00
4446	Donations 107 Anniversary	-	14,792.80	-	4,270.45
5215	St Bartholomews Project Expens	0.00	-	20,000.00	-
5400	Frezenberg Project	0.00	-	476.73	-
5401	Sydney Frost Tour Expenses	0.00	-	9,369.96	-
5410	Soldier On Atlantic Golf Invitional	2,500.00	-	2,500.00	-
5420	Patricia Park	144.00	-	0.00	-
5421	Veterans Family and support trai	0.00	-	2,000.00	-
5445	Jack Munroe Memorial	3,753.63	-	3,265.65	-
5605	Fund Raising Expense	1,098.74	-	768.72	-
5610	Office	2,126.33	-	1,331.92	-
5612	Web Hosting Services	1,091.88	-	491.88	-
5615	Student Bursaries	25,000.00	-	30,000.00	-
5620		8,314.51	-	5,671.00	-
5621	Directors and Officers Insurance	600.00	-	626.00	-
5630	Memorials	0.00	-	86.00	-
5640	Cadet Support	5,000.00	-	2,000.00	-
5645	Travel	123.75	-	0.00	-
5655	Interest & Bank Charges	86.38	-	122.35	-
5660	Unrealized Gain/Loss-Marketabl	0.00		121,355.49	
		1,131,300.94	1,131,300.94	1,145,107.13	1,145,107.13

HGMF	Approved at 2022 AGM	Revised 26 Jan 23
Revenue		
Donations - Tax Receipted	35,000.00	30,000
Donations - Non-Tax Receipted (Note 1)	5,000.00	10,000
2021 Investment Income (Note 2)	43,000.00	43,000
Total Revenue	\$83,000.00	\$83,000.00
Disbursements		
Administration		
Transformation Expenses (Projected) (Note 3)	7,500.00	7,500
Office Expense	1,000.00	1,400
Accounting/Audit Fees (Projected)	4,500.00	5,700
Trustee Insurance (Projected)	1,500.00	700
Trustee Travel (Note 4)	6,000.00	6,000
Fund Raising Expense	1,600.00	750
Website Expense	1,500.00	500
Interest and Bank Charges	60.00	125
Sub-Total	23,660.00	22,675.00
Charitable Objects		
St. Batholomew's Stained Glass Window (Note 5)	11,500.00	5,000
Memorial Maintenance	1,000.00	1,000
Student Bursaries (Note 6)	30,500.00	30,500
Cadet Support (Note 7)	8,500.00	8,500
Sicily/Italy Memorials		2,500
Veterans and Family Support		
Soldier-On Atlantic Golf Tournament Sponsorship	2,500.00	2,500
Mental Health and Peer Support training (Note 8)	4,500.00	4,500
Donations to Qualified Donees (Note 10)		1,000
Sub-Total	58,500.00	55,500
Total Disbursements (Note 9)	\$82,160.00	\$78,175.00
Revenue over Expenditures	\$840.00	\$4,825.00

Notes:

- 1. Donation of \$5,000 to HGMF for Bursaries from PPCLI Association.
- 2. Unrealized gain from HGMF investments for 2021 was \$86,183. Proposed that up to \$43,000 from investments be used if required.
- 3. These are related to anticipated shared costs with respect to the creation of a single charitable entity.
- 4. Trustees will be reimbursed to a max of \$750 for expenses to attend the AGM. Receipts must be provided.
- 5. Commitment is \$25,000. \$13,500 have already been raised for this project.
- 6. \$30,000 for Bursaries and \$500 for admin.
- 7. \$1,000 top Cadet Corps and \$250 for keeper plaque, engraving, etc. \$7,250 Financial support for Cadet Corps outside of Alberta.
- 8. Funding to support conduct of ASIST training and support to two Compassionate Litening Skills workshops.
- 9. Disbursement quota will be \$50K.
- 10. New item. This amount may be adjusted to ensure that we meet the Disbursement Quota of \$50,000.

PROPOSED REVISION OF HGMF CHARITABLE PURPOSES

RELIEF OF POVERTY

Purpose

To provide emergency financial support to veterans and families by providing funds to assist in preventing evictions, provision of food cards, minor home repairs and accessibility modifications.

Activities in Support of Purpose

ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION

Purpose

To provide bursaries for post-secondary education to members of the PPCLI Regimental Family, defined as serving and retired members of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) posted to PPCLI battalions or Battle Groups (including reservists and support trades), members of the Loyal Edmonton Regiment (4 PPCLI), Titular and Honorary Patricia's, members of PPCLI affiliated Cadet Corps, and their respective families.

Activities in Support of Purpose

This is long-standing HGMF program, the details of which may be found on the HGMF website at this link: <u>Bursaries | HGMF</u>.

OTHER PURPOSES BENEFICIAL TO THE COMMUNITY

Purpose

To provide a public amenity by providing funding to support the development and maintenance of the PPCLI Regimental Museum and Archives.

Activities in Support of Purpose

The PPCLI Museum and Archives is located within The Military Museums in Calgary, AB (The Military Museums) and is operated by the PPCLI Regimental Headquarters in Edmonton, AB. Details may be found at Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI). From time to time the PPCLI Museum and Archives may seek funding from the HGMF in support of a particular museum project, for the purchase of a particular artifact or for volunteer staff training when other funds are not available.

Purpose

To protect and preserve significant heritage sites by providing funding to support the development, restoration, and maintenance of PPCLI Regimental monuments and memorials with a view to commemorating people and events and educating the public about them.

Activities in Support of Purpose

The PPCLI maintains and continues to develop a comprehensive Monument and Memorials Manual (Regimental Monuments and Memorials Manual « PPCLI) and will, particularly as part of significant anniversary events, seek to update and maintain these monuments or create new ones. The HGMF often takes the lead on the development of new monuments/memorials, including funding, and provides funds for the restoration of existing ones.

Purpose

To provide funding for training for Peer Support Volunteers.

Activities in Support of Purpose

The HGMF will provide funding for training programs and workshops to enhance the knowledge and skills peer support volunteers. This training will include mental health and suicide awareness; compassionate listening; applied suicide intervention skills training and similar programs.

Purpose

To promote the mental health of veterans and families by providing funding for alternate types of therapy.

Activities in Support of Purpose

The HGMF provides funding to qualified donees that operate these programs such as: Can Praxis https://canpraxis.com/; Wounded Warriors Canada - Equine, Youth camps; RC Legion - VetBuild and RC Legion Veterans' Village; VETS Canada - Guitars for Vets; True Patriot Love - Music and Art; the Ottawa Hospital Rehabilitation Centre and the University of Alberta - Virtual Reality; and Glenrose Hospital - CAREN and similar programs.

Purpose

To promote the mental health of disabled veterans by providing funding for specialized sports or safety equipment.

Activities in Support of Purpose

The HGMF will normally provide funding to qualified donees that support disabled veteran disabled athletes such as: Soldier On; and the Paralympic Foundation of Canada. The HGMF may fund specific requests for specialized sports equipment on a case-by-case basis when other sources of funding are not available for individuals identified through the PPCLI Association VPP or other agencies.

Purpose

To promote the mental health of veteran's family members by providing funding for services not covered or provided by others.

Activities in Support of Purpose

Veteran's Affairs Canada (VAC) has many excellent programs to support veterans and their families; however, there is little or no support for family members following a family break-up — an unfortunate outcome for families where the veteran is suffering from mental health issues. The HGMF will provide funding to provide veteran's families adjusting to a family break-up, on a case-by-case basis, for individuals identified through the PPCLI Association VPP, or other agencies, when other sources of funding are not available.

Purpose

To promote the mental health of isolated veterans by providing funding for the purchase, training and maintenance of communication equipment.

Activities in Support of Purpose

The HGMF will provide funding, on a case-by-case basis, for individuals identified through the PPCLI Association VPP or other agencies for the purchase and maintenance of pay-as-you go cell phones or other communication equipment when other sources of funding are not available. Donations may also be made to the Royal Canadian Legion and other qualified donees for this purpose.

Purpose

To promote the mental health and support for veterans who are long-term hospital patients, paraplegics, quadriplegics, or otherwise isolated veterans by providing funding for purchase, training and maintenance of communications equipment; access to education and recreational activities; and promoting interaction with others.

Activities in Support of Purpose

The HGMF provides funding to agencies which support Veterans with complex needs such as Sunnybrook Veterans Program; St Josephs Veteran Care Program (Parkwood Institute); RC Legion Veterans' Village; War Amps Canada and other qualified donees.

Purpose

To promote the mental health and well-being of veterans through the provision of Service Dogs by providing funds to accredited Service Dog providers.

Activities in Support of Purpose

The HGMF provides funding to accredited Service Dog providers who have a proven track record of providing Service Dogs to Veterans such as National Service Dogs, Kingston 4 Paws Service Dogs, Courageous Companions and Wounded Warriors Canada PTSD Service Dogs.

Purpose

To provide transition employment assistance to veterans by allocating funds to assist in procurement of equipment and for training and certification.

Activities in Support of Purpose

The HGMF provides funding to qualified donees that operate these programs such as: Wounded Warriors Canada; Veterans Transition Network; the True Patriot Love Foundation and other agencies.

Purpose

To promote the efficiency of the Canadian Armed Forces

Activities in Support of Purpose

By providing funding to PPCLI affiliated cadet corps to support cadet training for youth. The HGMF will provide grants to cadet corps; funding to facilitate the HGMF Cadet Corps Trophy Competition; and provide funding for the purchase of PPCLI Regimental accourrements. These are long-standing HGMF programs, the details of which may be found on the HGMF website at this link: Cadets | HGMF.

By sponsoring the participation of PPCLI affiliated cadets in significant PPCLI Regimental events, museum and memorial visits as well as battlefield tours of PPCLI operations. The eligibility, selection and process criteria will be posted on the HGMF website in advance of major events.

By providing funding to support publications / artwork / documentaries on PPCLI history.

By providing funding to public events that commemorate the history and heritage of the PPCLI.

Purpose

To receive and maintain a fund or funds and to apply all or part of the principal and income therefrom, from time to time, to qualified donees as defined in subsection 149.1(1) of the Income Tax Act (Canada).

Activities in Support of Purpose

This would be applied to donations, as approved by the HGMF Board of Trustees, made to qualified donees that support Veterans and their families and have compatible purposes such as Wounded Warriors Canada, Soldier On, the True Patriot Love Foundation and VETS Canada.

This would be applied to donations, as approved by the HGMF Board of Trustees, made to qualified donees that promote and celebrate the history and heritage of the PPCLI such as the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Fund.

BRIEFING NOTE

SUPPORTING THE CHURCH AT MERSHAM KENT UK

Situation

In 2019, the Regt contacted the eldest son of the 2nd Countess Mountbatten – Michael-John Knatchbull, about a memorial plaque or stone to recognize, in St John the Baptist Church, Mersham, his mother/our own Lady Patricia. Michael-John and his sister Joanna soon engaged a stone mason, and crafted wording for a stone tablet in the Brabourne/Knatchbull chapel at the Mersham Church that did recognize Lady Patricia's service. That stone tablet was installed in November 2021.

The family declined a contribution offer against that cost of manufacture and installation.

The inside plaques (the central one of Lady Patricia, also the one for Lord John who was a *de facto* honourary Patricia during his wife's service to PPCLI) and the gravesite outside for Lady Patricia and Lord John are part and parcel of the entry of this memorial in the RMMM. Picture of the main interior plaque below.

Purpose:

To propose some modest support for the maintenance of the memorial at Mersham Church.

Discussion

The Mersham Church is supported by The Friends of Mersham Church, a small group of locals who keep the church watertight and standing — with a 20 pound annual fee per member household (with a commitment for three years). PPCLI could agree to offer an initial three year commitment to support The Friends — perhaps at 40 or 50 pounds a year (about \$76-80\$CDN). Perhaps paid on Remembrance Day annually.

Doing this would help the local committee that manages the Church and its burial ground in terms of simple maintenance. *Inter alia*, this would protect the elements of the plaques and the headstone.

The Veteran's Component have undertaken to be the holder of the maintenance obligations for monuments and memorials.

Approach:

a. If it is agreed that supporting the Friends of Mersham Church is an appropriate way to help maintain the elements there of the memorial for Lady Patricia, then a letter to the Friends of the Mersham Church with a commitment for three years and a first

contribution should be undertaken. That could be done from the HGMF itself so that the line is direct.

- b. The annual maintenance stipend should be mailed on a specific date something that can be traced across the annual calendars. Perhaps 1 November annually.
- c. The Reverend Chris Denyer manages the church as Vicar (revchrisdenyer@gmail.com). The Friends of Mersham Churc group is run by Ms Gill Peterson, Church Close, Mersham, Kent TN25 6NR, United Kingsdom

Recommendations

- A. If approved, make the necessary notes to ensure the continuation of the gifting through the first three years. Review after that.
- B. Keep notes for a short piece in the Association Newsletter.
- C. Add details as needed to the Regimental Manual and like documents.





HGMF Fundraising Report 1 January – 31 December 2022

In 2022 a total of \$71,925.41 was donated to the HGMF as follows:

Tax receipted donations	\$28,085.00
Non Tax Receipted donations ¹	\$ 8,968.78
Donations Canada Helps	\$ 5,633.00
United Way	\$ 768.18
Pay Pal	\$ 400.00
Bursary Donations	\$ 2,550.00
St Bartholomew's Window	\$20,000.00
Sydney Frost Tour	\$ 1,250.00
107 th Regimental Bike Ride	\$ 4,270.45
Total	\$71,925.41

Total fundraising expenses were \$943.12. Canada Helps charged \$584.72 or 3.96%. Race Roster charged \$358.4 or 7.23%

Paul Hale Fundraising Chair

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¹ Donations from PPCLI Association Casino, Sask, Atlantic and Kingston Branches