

**L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE  
DES VÉTÉRANS DES FORCES  
DE PAIX DES NATIONS-UNIES  
(ACVFPNU)**



**CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF  
VETERANS IN UNITED  
NATIONS PEACEKEEPING  
(CAVUNP)**

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## **THE THIN BLUE LINE/SUR LA CORDE RAIDE EN BLEU**

**EDITOR: Ron Griffis  
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Sylvain Bouliane**

**Winter 2025/Spring 2026**

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – April 2026**

Dear fellow members of the Canadian Association of Veterans in United Nations Peacekeeping,

I bring you greetings on behalf of the Executive of our Association.

To begin this issue of the Thin Blue Line (TBL) I want to "THANK" our co-editor Sylvain Bouliane, for moving our Association to where we now have an "app" where our documents, including the TBL can be viewed in English or French by utilizing our translation "app" from our website located on the top right corner of the website — Thin Blue Line page.

I am pleased to report that our Association has received invitations from our colleagues to attend various conventions and meetings. They include:

- "The 13th annual Sam Sharpe Breakfast" located at the Sir John MacDona Id Building, Room 100 — Parliament Hill, 144 Wellington St., Ottawa, Ontario.
- An invitation to attend the Royal Canadian Legion's 50th Dominion Convention, 22 —26 August 2026 in Winnipeg, Manitoba.
- The ANAVETS 57th Biennial Convention, to take place in Vernon, British Columbia, 19 — 24 September 2026

#### **EMAIL ADDRESSES:**

As you have noticed, we are still collecting "email addresses" from our members to be able to send out our TBL and/or other documents to our complete membership at one time. We now have a substantial number of email addresses and when we reach all of our members, we will

send out documents under "Bcc" as opposed to two pages of email addresses. If you wish to participate, please send me your email address and it will be recorded immediately.

In conclusion I wish to "Thank" our CAVUNP Executive's and all CAVUNP members for their support as President. It is appreciated.

Ron Griffis  
CAVUNP President

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Chers membres de l'Association canadienne des vétérans du maintien de la paix des Nations Unies,

Je vous adresse mes salutations au nom du comité exécutif de notre association.

Pour commencer ce numéro de la Thin Blue Line (TBL), je tiens à "REMERCIER" notre coéditeur Sylvain Bouliane, pour avoir fait évoluer notre association au point où nous disposons maintenant d'une "application" permettant de consulter nos documents, y compris la TBL, en anglais ou en français en utilisant notre application de traduction disponible sur notre site Web, dans le coin supérieur droit de la page Thin Blue Line.

J'ai le plaisir de vous informer que notre association a reçu des invitations de la part de nos collègues pour assister à diverses conventions et réunions. Elles comprennent :

- Le "13e petit-déjeuner annuel Sam Sharpe" situé à l'édifice Sir John MacDonald, salle 100 — Colline du Parlement, 144 rue Wellington, Ottawa, Ontario.
- Une invitation à assister au 50e congrès Dominion de la Légion royale canadienne, du 22 au 26 août 2026 à Winnipeg, Manitoba.
- Le 57e congrès biennal des ANAVETS, qui aura lieu à Vernon Colombie-Britannique, du 19 au 24 septembre 2026

ADRESSES COURRIEL : Comme vous l'avez remarqué, nous sommes toujours en train de recueillir les « adresses courriel » de nos membres afin de pouvoir envoyer notre bulletin TBL et/ou d'autres documents à l'ensemble de nos membres en une seule fois. Nous avons maintenant un nombre substantiel d'adresses courriel et lorsque nous atteindrons tous nos membres, nous enverrons les documents en « Cci » plutôt que de montrer deux pages d'adresses courriel. Si vous souhaitez participer, veuillez m'envoyer votre adresse courriel et elle sera enregistrée immédiatement.

En conclusion, je souhaite « remercier » notre exécutif de la CAVUNP et tous les membres de la CAVUNP pour leur soutien en tant que président. Cela est grandement apprécié.

Ron Griffis  
ACVFPNU Président

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## **From the Web manager...**


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Dear Members,

We're always working to improve our cavunp-hq.ca website to better serve our members and visitors — and we'd love to hear from you!

A quick survey on the website content is in the making and will follow shortly and ask for your input. It will take just a few minutes to share your thoughts on what you'd like to see on the site. The survey will be sent via email to all members and can be answered by either your mobile phone or by your computer. For your articles that you would want to insert in the TBL, please send to Ron at [griffisgrove@gmail.com](mailto:griffisgrove@gmail.com) or to me at [cavunp.hq@gmail.com](mailto:cavunp.hq@gmail.com).

If you wanted to share your events or pictures from a Facebook account, please send us your FB account name. I probably could capture articles and pictures. Thank you for your input and continued support!

I have posted two articles on our website “Blog Posts” page for your viewing. For the French translation, please click on the  (yellow toggle switch) on every page of our website.

Sincerely,

Sylvain Bouliane,  
CAVUNP-HQ Web manager

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## **National Awards Committee-CAVUNP Honours and Awards**

As we try to recruit new members, we must also not forget recognizing our current members, either with CAVUNP awards or with awards from other places.

It is important that each Chapter let us know of any wards received by our members so we can update records and spread the great news amongst our association. One award many of our members have received is the “Sovereign’s Medal for Volunteers”. [www.gg.ca](http://www.gg.ca)

“Are you looking to celebrate great volunteers who contribute to your community by selflessly offering their time and effort? Do you know a friend, a co-worker or a member of your community who inspires you and who should be recognized? The Sovereign’s Medal for Volunteers honours the exceptional volunteer achievements of Canadians from across the country in a wide range of fields. To be eligible, volunteers need to have made significant, sustained and unpaid contributions to their community in Canada or abroad.

Why not nominate someone today? Anyone can do it, and there is no deadline for submissions.

1. Think of an eligible candidate and tell us why they deserve the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers. Be sure to provide details about the type of volunteer work accomplished, the names of any organizations involved, the dates and length of service, the candidate's paid occupation and the impact their work has had on the community.
2. Gather your candidate's contact information.
3. Provide two references who support the nomination and can describe the significant, sustained and unpaid volunteer work accomplished by the candidate.  
You are now ready to submit your nomination.

### **Ensuring Confidentiality**

Please do not notify the candidate about the nomination or initiate a letter-writing campaign. This avoids disappointment if the nomination is not successful. The Chancellery of Honours will keep nominations confidential. As part of this commitment, the Chancellery will respond to inquiries about the status of a nomination only to the nominator identified on the nomination form.

Please also note that the information you provide online is secure and will not be shared with third parties."

Please consider nominating someone today. More information is available on the website.

Thank you

Phil George  
National Honours and Awards Committee Chair

### **Regalia and other Items Available**

Spring is in the air and the need for Peacekeepers in our world is more prevalent. To grow our association, we need to make the younger generation aware of the comradery enjoyed by our members.

One way to advertise and display our existence is to proudly wear a uniform or unofficial regalia. We served on a mission of peace for our county so, be proud. The Kit Shop, a CAVUNP/ACVFPNU Association entity, has recently restocked much of the uniform regalia and is also offering other items like golf shirts and baseball caps.

Each Chapter should take the time to work with their members to ensure that our uniform is well displayed this August and at any other event. If a Chapter makes a group order to the Kit Shop, they could save money on the shipping cost.

We can direct you to the source of our light blue blazer and uniform shirts. Proper uniform is described in our Article of Continuance and General Bylaws. Many items are shown in the “Members Only” area of the National website

If you have questions or to order, please email [CAVUNP\\_Kit\\_Shop@yahoo.com](mailto:CAVUNP_Kit_Shop@yahoo.com)

Thank you,

Phil George  
CAVUNP Kit Shop Manager  
E: [CAVUNP\\_Kit\\_Shop@yahoo.com](mailto:CAVUNP_Kit_Shop@yahoo.com)

## **CAVUNP In-house Medal 2026**

CAVUNP AGM 13 (Sept 2010, Greenwood, NS) and AGM 14 (Sept 2012, Hamilton, ON) unanimously approved the wearing of a CAVUNP In-House medal as reported in the Minutes of both AGMs. The new Articles of Continuance & General By-Laws Dress Code (Articles 6.03 & 6.04) will be amended after CAVUNP membership ratification to permit the wearing of these items on the right side of the CAVUNP blazer/shirt together with the UN 50th Anniversary medal and the 1988 Nobel Peace Prize medal

The CAVUNP Regular medal, Miniature medal and the Undress Ribbon Bar is to acknowledge and publicly project the achievements of the CAVUNP member wearing the medal or the Undress Ribbon Bar.

These items DO NOT REPLACE but are in addition to the CAVUNP Certificate of Appreciation issued by CAVUNP HQ to Executive personnel when they leave office Or to those members who have been recognized by their Chapter for their extraordinary service.

Dave Diggs’ Motion at AGM 13, Greenwood, 2010 that a CAVUNP Award for issue to Executive Personnel and for Exemplary Service by Regular Members.

Originally, the CAVUNP in-house medal., CAVUNP in-house Miniature medal and the CAVUNP in-house Undress Ribbon Bar could only be purchased from the Cpl Albert Storm, CD (Niagara) Chapter.

Since his passing, The CAVUNP Kit Shop now holds the only inventory for these items. There are, no doubt, many members of the Association who have demonstrated exceptional skill and service at the National and/or Chapter level beyond Regular membership activity.

The only recognition they have for their contribution is a Certificate of Achievement or nothing at all.

It's the Chapter's decision to award:

- a. the CAVUNP In-House Regular medal.
- b. the CAVUNP Undress Ribbon bar; and/or
- c. the CAVUNP In-House Miniature medal

to those members who:

1. are not now in an Executive position; or
2. have continued their CAVUNP membership but are not currently active.

The presentation of the CAVUNP In-House medal to any member PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 2010 is a Chapter decision.

#### Chapter Bar

A plain, polished silver bar is attached to the top of the CAVUNP medal's ribbon complete with pins and clutches. It will be engraved with the:

Location (City) of the Chapter

#### Mid Bars

A plain, polished silver bar will be attached to the CAVUNP medal's ribbon midway between the top bar and the medal's claw. The mid bar will be engraved with the Executive position held by the member being awarded the medal

#### Exemplary Service Silver Bar

A plain, polished silver bar will be attached to the CAVUNP medal's ribbon midway between the top bar and the medal's claw. It will recognize Chapter personnel who have demonstrated a unique and generous contribution to the Chapter without seeking retribution. The mid bar will be engraved with: Exemplary Service

#### Medal Design

The CAVUNP medal and Miniature medal are polished silver with embossed lettering and logos. The Obverse depicts the United Nations (UN) logo with the word CANADA surmounted above the center top edge of the UN logo UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPERS is embossed around the inner edge of the CAVUNP medal & Miniature medal.

The Reverse depicts the CAVUNP hat badge with the acronyms CAVUNP and ACVFPNU embossed around the inner edge of the CAVUNP medal & Miniature medal.

A Miniature medal is available. The Miniature medal will have the same design on the Obverse and Reverse as the Regular medal.

The ribbon will be identical to the Regular medal. There are **\*\* NO BARS \*\*** associated with the Miniature medal. Replacement ribbon is also available

The above is a summary (updated slightly) from the original Don Bowman PowerPoint presentation.

These medals are available to National or any Chapter upon request by the President or Honours and Awards Chair. The respective area will be billed directly for the items they request plus shipping. It is suggested that requests be made at the same time to reduce shipping costs. The total cost will be related prior to any shipment. We are preparing an updated order form.

For now, requests can be made, by email, to the CAVUNP Kit Shop at [cavunp\\_kit\\_shop@yahoo.com](mailto:cavunp_kit_shop@yahoo.com)

Please indicate the number of:

Swing mount or court mount medals

The Executive Bars required (sate positions)

The Exemplary Service bars required

Miniatures

Undress Ribbons

Red Maple Leaf (The red maple leaf was not addressed in the original PowerPoint. It is available to be awarded in lieu of a second medal if that is a consideration.)

We realize that some medals may have been issued without the Chapter or Mid Bars so orders can be made for those items only.

The National Honours and Awards Chair would like the names of recipients so that the Association Service Record can be updated. It is unfortunate that this medal seems to have gotten lost in the mix, but it is never too late to do the right thing.

I look forward the hearing from you,

Phil George  
Kit Shop Manager

## **Chapters Reports**

### **Don Ethel Chapter, Calgary, AB**

The Calgary Chapter has had a busy year supporting Veterans and Veteran activities in Calgary both physically in our attendance and financially through our fundraising efforts. As we age, we have suffered losses in our members and their family members, which, although expected, is difficult. We have an awesome Service Officer, Don Lotzer, who is very diligent in visiting and assisting our members during their times of need.

Throughout the year the Chapter members have attended various activities in the city such as supporting the ANZAC community in their service in April.

The majority of our efforts are toward our Peacekeepers Day commemoration. The evening prior we have a “Meet and Greet” with the membership and their spouses with the Memorial Cross families. We are always pleased to have people attending from all walks of life including the Emergency services, politicians, members of the immediate community and the city of Calgary. We are especially grateful to have Peacekeepers, members of the military community and the Memorial Cross Families. In 2025 we had approximately 500 people in attendance! This includes the children and 4-legged friends who add so much to our service. We are always proud to have a guest speaker who adds so much meaning to why we do what we do. We have a 2-part commemoration- initially the service is at Peacekeepers Park followed by a second service in Buffalo Park.

November is a very busy time for our membership. Many of our members are asked to participate in speaking to various schools, scout troupes and nursing homes. We are always pleased to be invited to conduct a Remembrance Day service at a Long Term Facility in the community of Garrison Green, Garrison Green used to be the Lincoln Park PMQ area where all the streets are named after Peacekeepers (past and present) and where there are 3 parks — Peacekeepers Park, AD Ross Park and Buffalo Park. The Chapter holds a Remembrance Day service in Peacekeepers Park which started so our members didn’t have difficulties finding parking and it has “exploded” to now we have 2-300 people in attendance. Everyone participates including the children who will make their own wreaths to lay at the wall and make a poppy out of painted rocks.

The City of Calgary has a “Field of Crosses” to remember the southern Albertans who have lost their lives in service. Each morning and evening they raise/lower the flags in honour of those we remember. Each year the Calgary Chapter of CAVUNP are invited to raise the morning flags the day before Remembrance Day. Truly an honour for our members.

Throughout the year we have various guest speakers attend our monthly meetings. The windup of our year is a Member and Spouse breakfast in January.

Linda Wright  
Wed, Apr 15, 1:56 PM





## IN MEMORY



### **Stuart (Stu) MacKeigan**

January 19, 1947 - November 20, 2025



On November 20, 2025, surrounded by his loving family, Stuart David MacKeigan “Stu” at the Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital in his 79th year. Thoughtful and caring husband to Dianne. He had a loving and positive influence on his children, proud grandfather and Great grandfather.

He was a proud and active member of Ironworkers Local 736 for 45 years. Stuart was a regular member having served in CF, and particularly Cyprus.

Originally, Stuart was a member of the Tillsonburg Ontario Chapter, when it folded, he became a member of the Gerry Tremblay CD Central Ontario Chapter CAVUNP.

May He Rest in Peace

### **ACT OF REMEMBRANCE**

**They shall grow not old as we who are left grow old.  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
we will remember them.**

### **ACTE DU SOUVENIR**

**Ils ne vieilliront pas comme nous, qui leur avons survécu.  
Ils ne connaîtront jamais l'outrage, ni le poids des années.  
Quand viendra l'heure du crépuscule et celle de l'aurore,  
Nous nous souviendrons d'eux.**