



MARITIME AIR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

NAME and BACKGROUND

The name of the Association is the “Maritime Air Veterans Association”. The name was chosen at a formal meeting of the Founding Members of the Association on 28 November 2013 at the RCAF Officers’ Mess, Gloucester Street, Ottawa, Ontario. The Founding Members subsequently formed the Ottawa National Wing of the Association and elected the Wing Executive to double-hat as the first National Executive of the Association’s National Office. The National Office may be located as determined by the National Executive.

The “Maritime Air Veterans Association” may be incorporated as a National not-for-profit organization as necessary.

By definition, it was determined at the Founding Meeting that the term “Maritime Air Veterans” includes all retired Maritime Aviators and all retired military technical and support personnel who have contributed to the support and maintenance of Maritime Air operations and facilities.

An Association crest and pin have been developed as authorized by the National Executive and approved by the Founding Members.

MISSION STATEMENT

The role of The Maritime Air Veterans Association is to provide fraternal comradeship and support of veteran RCAF, RCN, and CF Maritime Air Veterans. The Association will also speak out and advocate to Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) and others on issues that are relevant to the support of Maritime Air Veterans.

OBJECTIVES

The following are the key aims and objectives of the Maritime Air Veterans Association:

- a. To provide fraternal comradeship and support of Maritime Air Veterans.
- b. To speak out as necessary to Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) and others on issues that are relevant to the well-being of Maritime Air Veterans.
- c. To establish and sustain close links with the RCAF and RCN leadership.
- d. To establish and sustain close links with the War and Aviation Museums and to assist in their operation and continuing development as able.
- e. To establish and sustain close links with the RCAF Association, RCN associations, CNAG, VPI and other Veteran organizations.
- f. To promote and perpetuate the proud heritage of Maritime Aviation.

MEMBERSHIP

Regular membership in the Association may be granted to retired Maritime Aviators from all sectors of the Maritime Air Operations and Support Environment and to all retired military technical and support personnel who have contributed to the effectiveness of Maritime Air operations and facilities.

Current serving RCAF Maritime Air aviators and associated military technical and support personnel shall be welcomed as full Regular members in the Association.

Associate membership may be granted to civilian personnel who have also contributed to the effectiveness of Maritime Air Operations, systems and equipment.

ORGANIZATION and FINANCES

The Maritime Air Veterans Association shall be composed of the National Office and as many separate and independent Wings as may be established. Wings shall be authorized by application to National Office and with a minimum membership of 25 Maritime Air Veteran members.

The Executive of the National Office shall be composed of a National President, National Secretary, and National Treasurer as a minimum. Other officers such as Vice President(s) and Membership Chairman may be nominated and elected to office at the discretion of the membership. Until such time as the Association expands in the number of Wings beyond the Ottawa National Wing, the Executive Officers of the Ottawa National Wing shall be "double-hatted" as Officers of the National Executive. The National Office shall organize an Association General Meeting at least once every 3 years. The format of the meeting and voting procedure shall be determined by the National Office.

National By-Laws may be developed as required.

Wings shall meet a minimum of twice per year and shall develop operating By-Laws in accordance with the provisions of the Association's Constitution. The quorum for a formal and legitimate meeting of a Wing shall be defined in the Wing By-Laws.

Each Wing shall elect an Executive to consist of the following offices as a minimum:

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Membership Chairman

Wings may charge an annual membership fee as agreed by the membership upon a majority vote of a quorum of members. Other fund-raising activities may be organized as appropriate.

A small fee per member, payable by the Wing to the National Office, may be authorized by a majority of votes at an Association General Meeting.

IDENTIFICATION

Upon joining a Wing of the Association the specific details concerning the member will be recorded by the Membership Chairman. A wing may choose to issue Membership Cards. An annual listing of Wing members is to be forwarded to the National Office.

Founding Members of the Association will be identified and recorded as such by the National Executive of the Association.

ASSOCIATION HONORARY PRESIDENT

The establishment of an Honorary President in the person of a respected and distinguished Veteran can add credibility to the Association and its activities.

The National Office of the Association may appoint an Honorary President of the Association for a Term of Office as may be determined.

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this constitution shall be made only with prior notification to the membership of at least 30 days. Such amendments will require a 2/3rd majority vote of members present at an Association General Meeting.

APPROVAL

Approved at a meeting of the Founding Members

Date: 28 November 2013

Location: Ottawa, Ontario

Signature: _____

National President

Signature: _____

National Secretary