

Minutes of the Maritime Air Veterans Association Informal Meeting

**Held at the Ramada Ottawa on the Rideau
Wednesday, 15 February 2017**

I. INTRODUCTION

Attendance was 33 persons including the guest speaker, Mme Karen McCrimmon, MP. She is the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport.

Following the initial 'meet and greet' between 1145 and 1215, the members present were served an excellent Herbed Chicken Supreme meal.

President Duane Daly welcomed everybody to the meeting

Following the luncheon, President Duane Daly, introduced the guest speaker, Mme Karen McCrimmon. She was the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Veteran Affairs and the Associate Minister of National Defence but her role recently change to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport. She talked about how her training and experiences in the military are helping her in her new role. She substantiated he talk with examples. She took the time to answer questions from the floor. The talk was informative and appreciated by all.

II. BUSINESS MEETING

The President advised the members that, in order to minimize meeting time, he would continue to follow an informal format for meetings as possible but that full minutes would be kept. He also indicated that the Exec members would provide reports in advance of the meeting and would be pleased to welcome any questions at the meeting.

A. Guest Speakers.

The President mentioned that our guess speaker Karen McCrimmon was invited to our meeting while she was still the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Veteran Affairs and the Associate Minister of National Defence. With her recent appointment as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport she advised that she would not be able to formally present items of a Veterans or Defence nature. However, she would be very flexible in answering questions.

B. Aurora Paper.

Over lunch Ms McCrimmon indicated full interest in our Aurora paper; particularly the

proposal that Bombardier produce an Aurora replacement based on the C-series airframe. She felt that she could become involved as relates to her current portfolio. She asked for another copy of the paper.

C. Survivor Pension.

The issue is not completely resolved as relates to the Phoenix situation. It is advisable that members provide enough accessible reserve for their surviving partner.

In light of the Phoenix problems, members are encouraged to pay close attention to their pension benefits.

D. PSHCP Level 3.

Jim McCutcheon mentioned that before his wife passed away, a year ago, he had changed his PSHCP (Public Service Health Care Plan), formerly GSMIP, to level 2. In retrospect he said that this was a bad decision. His wife required additional care and attention, costing about \$100.00 a day, which would have been covered by level 3. He strongly recommend that members review their PSHCP coverage and that the extra cost for level 3 is well worth it.

E. CFOne CANEX Card.

The president talked about the CANEX CFOne card which provide veterans access to many services such as travels discounts, free luggage with Air Canada and West Jet, free parking and admission at the Aviation and War museums, etc. He recommends that members should obtain it if they do not already have it. The CANEX web page <http://www.canex.ca/cf-one-faq> has more information and the application form.

F. Special Service Medal.

It appears that showing information from your log book qualifies as valid documentation for the application to the Special Service Medal.

G. MAVA Web Page.

Jeff Tasseron did set up a MAVA WEB page some time ago, unfortunately he did not have the time to maintain it. The page is now defunct. We are looking for somebody to create and support a MAVA WEB page. Jim McCutcheon is to look into getting some support.

H. Next Speaker.

LtGen Mike Hood has accepted to be our guest speaker at the next meeting.

I. Next Meeting.

The next general meeting is planned for the 17 May 2017. Some of the executive positions are coming to term but it appears that the current executive is keen to keep going. Volunteers are always welcomed.

J. Pre-Meeting Reports.

At the last executive meeting it was decided to try to publish pre-meeting reports to try to shorten the time taken by the actual meeting. Comments or questions on these pre-meeting reports will be welcomed at the following meeting. These reports are attached to these minutes

K. Meeting Location.

At the suggestion of many members, the executive, in particular Brian Wattie is looking into the Meeting Location situation. Jeff Tasseron is also looking at alternative places.

L. Closing comments.

The president said that he was very pleased with today's guest speaker candid comments and reminded MAVA Members that they are considered a privileged platform and that the information given should be treated as such.

M. 50/50 Draw.

Brian Wattie carried out the Draw. Hank Tourigny won the \$65.00 prize.

N. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 14:30.

(Original signed by)
Bob Blouin (Secretary)

(Original signed by)
Duane Daly (President)