**Record of Discussion**

**NCR Chapter Canadian Forces Logistics Association**

**General Meeting**

**17th November 2015**

1. The meeting once again took place at the Holland Armoury with the kind permission of the Commanding Officer of 33 Service Battalion.
2. **In attendance:**
   1. The turnout was gratifyingly larger than the September meeting, with just over 60 members attending.
   2. Both the Logistics Branch Advisor and Branch Chief Warrant Officer, Col. Angela Banville and CWO Pierre Coté were in attendance, despite the fact that this was a very busy week for senior serving members of the branch. Also in attendance, although arriving a little late due to traffic in Montréal, were Dr. Andrew Gregory, the curator of the logistics Museum in Montréal who was accompanied, some would even say chauffeured, by Mr. Michel Dagenais, a retired logistician ably representing our sister chapter of the CFLA in Montréal.
   3. The president noted that the program was once again abbreviated due to the sudden illness of BGen Matheson, DGCB. He also noted that at the time of the September general meeting we were embroiled in a federal election and at this time we were heavily involved in the stepped-up war on terror. Both of these events have and will have significant direct effects on both serving and retired logisticians.
3. **CJOC COS Sp Update:** Happily back from a one meeting hiatus, Col. Chuck Mathé, provided an in-depth view of logistics support to ongoing and immediately projected operations by the Canadian Forces. Understandably, the content was extremely sensitive and, because this ROD is communicated via our website which is in the public domain, no further details can be provided by this means. Suffice it to say that the audience was privileged to receive such current and relevant information and underlines once again what the Association can offer to all logisticians in the NCR. You do not have to be a member to attend our meetings so you literally have nothing to lose and everything to gain.
4. **Steward Trade Update:**  Carrying on one of our strategic themes of highlighting “Log” NCMS trades, the chapter welcomed CPO1 Doucet, the Occupation Manager and CPO1 Kircher, the Career Manager both representing what was introduced as The Lost Tribe of the Logistics Branch. What followed was an energetic, enlightening, and very thorough description of the Odyssey that the Steward trade has followed over the last 20 years. It went from its halcyon days of a strength of over 1200 to its current lean and mean hard see trade strength of just over 300. Along the way stewards have been asked to do a myriad of tasks both on land and at sea and have proven to be both versatile and valuable. There is no doubt that there is a significant amount of regret that they are no longer formally part of the Logistics Branch even though there are still some ties and even on board ship, they still fall under the supply officer as their divisional supervisor. CPO1 Doucet’s presentation is attached for more detail.
5. **Logistics Museum:** The presence of our curator, Dr. Andrew Gregory, gave us the opportunity to present a donation, in the amount of $300, from the NCR chapter to the Museum for use as they see fit. The presentation was made by Dave Evans, past president and currently our museum committee head. We know that Dr. Gregory and his team, along with excellent support from the Montréal chapter, have made excellent strides in continuing to improve this important part of our History and Heritage. As we heard from the LBA at the September meeting, the Museum is also the subject of a study about location and long-term support so they are busy folks indeed.
6. **NCR Chapter Update:** 
   1. The passing of Col. Robert Ford, a senior CF and RCAF logistician and former Commandant of our school in Borden, was recognized and discussed and our LWF committee led by Dick Duffield has posted his obituary on our website.
   2. The annual NCR Logistics Branch golf tournament will once again be organized by the NCR chapter of the CFLA on behalf of the LBA. The dates selected is Friday, 03 June 2016. We are awaiting confirmation from the Hylands golf club. Last year’s tournament sold out and we will be getting news out to logisticians in the NCR as soon as possible.
   3. Membership in the chapter is lagging slightly behind last year’s numbers, despite a relatively active program being offered. The ratio currently stands at approximately one third serving logisticians and two thirds retired. Of concern is that many of last year’s members who have not renewed our from the retired component. The chapter will be going out and surveying the folks who have not renewed to find out why and what we can do about it.
   4. Social media: the chapter will field Facebook and LinkedIn accounts no later than 01, December 2015. Information on how to use these communication tools will be following shortly to your inboxes.
   5. History and Heritage: this area is about to take off as our flagship. It is led by Sean McGrath. He has put together a large committee so that a wide range of input can be generated. 2 articles have been submitted to the branch newsletter for the December issue. There are approximately 20+ other articles ranging from World War I to Afghanistan ready to go and you’ll see them on our website. Any and all suggestions from our contact list are most welcome. We see this as a direct support to the Branch’s pillar of fostering pride amongst all generations of logisticians.
   6. Communications: under the leadership of Hal Pottle and Doug Hickey, we continue to provide timely and interesting information to members and contacts. The most recent “monthly blast” was very comprehensive and a good read indeed.
   7. RCASC Association: Les Corbett, a member of the RCASC Association as well, as well as being a former president of our chapter and CFLA national, spoke to the attendees of a situation whereby this former single service group is facing dwindling numbers and the possibility of some chapters disappearing. He proposed that there be an analysis of these groups becoming part CFLA with some guarantees of the ability to maintain their traditions and identity and funding while still participating in the larger logistics group. General feeling in the room was that anything that brings more Loggies or former Loggies into the fold is well worthwhile attempting. Les will be working on a proposal over the next few months, so expect to hear and see more about this.
   8. Finally, the chapter president announced that he had submitted his resignation to the president of the national Association. He will remain on an interim basis, while a replacement is sought. More to follow
7. **Adjournment**
   1. The next meeting will be held 16 Feb 2016. Meeting notices will be issued well in advance.
   2. The meeting adjourned at 2120 hrs.

Ian Nicholls

President NCR Chapter CFLA