



***“PORTFOLIO”
RCMP NATIONAL MEMORIAL CEMETERY
(RNMC)
POLICE SERVICE DOG MEMORIAL
PROPOSAL
31st March 2021***

“The fundamental objective of the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery (RNMC) is to honour our deceased veterans, members, employees and their families who dedicated their lives to the peace and security of Canada. We have a responsibility to protect, preserve and build on this legacy”

Michel Pelletier, Past President,
RCMP Veterans’ Association
Ottawa Division

RNMC Committee:
Kevin Mole, Chair

Roy Berlinquette
Suzanne Sarault
Louise Morel
Michel Pelletier



Portfolio developed by:
Gary Walkling
Suzanne Sarault

Photos compliments:
Gilbert Bouffard



Beechwood Funeral, Cemetery & Cremation Services was founded in 1873 just fourteen years after Queen Victoria selected Ottawa as the capital of the Dominion of Canada. It became a prime example of the type of rural cemetery that emerged in the United States and Canada in the 19th century characterized by winding roads, picturesque vistas, wooded groves, unique landscaping, as well as monuments and markers of considerable architectural and historical interest.

In the 1920s, an important construction project started at Beechwood: the erection of a mausoleum. Built in a Gothic architecture style, (first introduced to Ottawa when the Parliament Buildings were constructed) provided a final resting place for many important Canadians including Father of Confederation William McDougall. Forty years later, the lower level of the mausoleum became home to a crematorium. To meet today's needs, Beechwood constructed a new crematorium in 2014 on different area of the property.

Originally perceived to be the Anglo-Protestant cemetery of Ottawa, today Beechwood is a reflection of Canada's identity as a multicultural, multi-faith society with sections reserved for religious and ethno-cultural communities. This shift began in the 1920's when the Chinese community wanted to have a section within the cemetery. Beechwood, being one of the oldest and largest cemeteries in Ottawa, naturally was the perfect fit to be the final resting place for their community. It is designed according to Chinese religious principles, and distinguished by a Pagoda to honour the community's ancestors.

Beechwood is proud to now have sections set aside and specifically designed to meet the interment needs of the Chinese, Egyptian, Greek, Lebanese, Latvian, Muslim, Polish, Portuguese, Ukrainian and Vietnamese communities.

The Beechwood Cemetery Foundation was created in 2000 for the purpose of safeguarding the cemetery's future, and increasing public awareness of the cemetery and the important events of Canadian history associated with persons buried within it. Since then, Beechwood has grown in national significance, first becoming the home of the National Military Cemetery of the Canadian Forces, then being recognized as a National Historic Site in 2001 and finally by becoming the home of the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery in 2004. This culminated in 2009 with Beechwood's designation as the National Cemetery of Canada by way of Bill C-17, an Act of Parliament that received all-party support in the House of Commons. In 2011, Beechwood became the Ottawa Police Service Memorial Cemetery.

Today, due to a recent change in provincial regulations, Beechwood is a full-service provider in the bereavement industry. This means that together with the approximate 35 acres of undeveloped cemetery land



and their on-site crematorium Beechwood now also provides a broad choice of funeral styles, from catered receptions, life celebrations and memorial services, to traditional funerals. Being able to provide funeral, cemetery and cremation services all in a location of unparalleled beauty is a great service to the Ottawa community. With almost 400 famous burials, and over 82,000 total burials of people from all walks of life, Beechwood serves as place of national tribute and remembrance for all Canadians. [MORE HISTORY DETAILS CLICK HERE](#)

COMPLETED



2004



2004



2014



2014



2015



2017



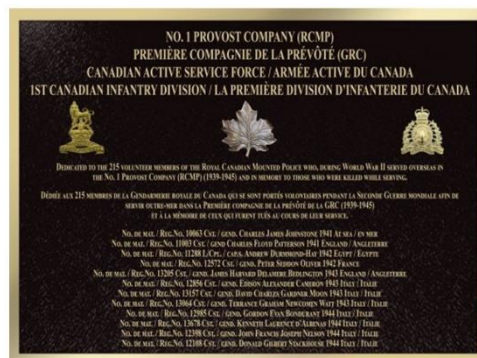
2018



2019



2019



2020

**INTRODUCTION TO THE RCMP NATIONAL MEMORIAL
CEMETERY (RNMC) AT BEECHWOOD**
“Canada’s National Cemetery ”
PREFACE

The concept of a veteran’s cemetery was inspired in 2000 by RCMP Veteran Bill Becker who posed the question to the RCMP Veterans’ Association (Ottawa Division) Executive Committee why the RCMP did not have a cemetery in Ottawa since the city is the home of the RCMP National Headquarters and, given the fact many serving and former members of the RCMP were located in Ottawa. Mr. Becker proposed Beechwood as the site of a veterans’ cemetery based on the historical significance of Beechwood that was founded in 1873 in the same year as the North-West Mounted Police (NWMP) was formed in Canada. It was indeed a natural choice for the future site of an RCMP Veterans’ cemetery. As the concept began to materialize however, it became apparent that the fundamental purpose of establishing an RCMP cemetery in Ottawa was to honour the members and their families who dedicated their lives to the peace and security of this country as the notion of the “police family” has always been a distinguishing characteristic of the RCMP. What began as a vision of a veterans’ cemetery quickly evolved and the concept of an RCMP National Memorial Cemetery unfolded as the true meaning of the RCMP family became the focus of the discussions. Regina, home to the RCMP “Depot” Division Training Academy, is the site of the RCMP Regimental Cemetery. The differences between this site and Beechwood are noteworthy as the latter presents a dignified alternative sanctuary that includes the families and dependents of all employees.

The vision of an RCMP National Memorial Cemetery officially began in 2001 as an initiative of the RCMP Veterans’ Association (Ottawa Division). Originally, the site was conceived for RCMP Veterans and it was named the RCMP Veterans’ Cemetery in a bilateral agreement signed on September 1st.

(L>R): Tim Graham, Beechwood Foundation;
RCMP Commissioner Guiliano Zaccardelli;
Mrs. Grete Hale, President of the Beechwood
Foundation; Al Haggerty, President, RCMP
Veterans’ Association (Ottawa Division)



Dedicated Veterans and representatives of the RCMP, in partnership with Beechwood Cemetery, successfully acquired a parcel of land at Beechwood to be the final resting place for deceased employees of the RCMP and their families. The site is immediately adjacent to the National Military Cemetery and strategically positioned within the grounds of Beechwood Cemetery.

The RCMP symbolizes Canada’s commitment to peace and security both domestically and internationally. It is a proud organization comprised of individuals who endorse this vision fully and who are profoundly committed to its achievement. However, this reality of service to the RCMP is not without personal sacrifice to the families of its dedicated employees.

PREFACE (cont'd)

The RCMP National Memorial Cemetery at Beechwood was created to recognize the significant contribution of the families of the members of the North West Mounted Police, (NWMP), the Royal North West Mounted Police (RNWMP), the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and employees of the RCMP.

The vision was realized with the official dedication ceremony at Beechwood on October 17, 2004 and the site was officially named the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery on January 11, 2006 in a Tripartite Agreement in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Tripartite Agreement / MOU

January 11, 2006

Signing the MOU L>R)
Chief Superintendent Al Rivard
(rtd), President of the RCMP
Veterans' Association (Ottawa
Division; RCMP Commissioner
Guiliano Zaccardelli; Mrs. Grete
Hale, President of the Beechwood
Foundation.



The Ottawa Division of the RCMP Veterans' Association is the driving force in actively promoting the creation and continued development of the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery at Beechwood as a legacy of the past and vision for the future.

The concept of the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery at Beechwood is unique in the sense that it was conceived for the exclusive use of all employees of the RCMP, regular members, civilian members and public service employees and their families. This is an important consideration as the unwavering support of the families of all employees has always been a distinguishing factor in their lives.

It is only fitting that Beechwood, the National Cemetery of Canada, is the chosen site as it is a beautiful public site where 300,000 visitors per year can pay their respects to those who have committed their lives to peace and good order on behalf of all Canadians.

The RCMP National Memorial Cemetery at Beechwood is a legacy to the Force's intricate role in the history of Canada from sea to sea to sea. It demonstrates the appreciation, respect, recognition, and unwavering commitment of the RCMP to its employees and their families.

The creation of the National Military Cemetery of the Canadian Armed Forces and the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery at Beechwood, with land shared for the internment of our partners of the Ottawa Police Service (OPS), and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), along with the opening of the Sacred Space inside the main building at Beechwood, make Beechwood Cemetery a place of honour for all Canadians.

RCMP POLICE SERVICE DOG MEMORIAL

Description:

The RNMC is a Family Cemetery to include all personnel in the RCMP Family: Members, Veterans, Civilian Members and Public Service Employees and their families. An element that needs recognition are the Police Service Dogs, who have so valiantly served and given their lives to save their handler and members of the public.

The bronzed sculpture reproduction will be made to last the test of time as a legacy for those that have passed on and those that will follow in the years to come.

Symbolism:

Concept will be an RCMP Police Service Dog monument with the names of all the dogs that have died in the line of duty. Canadians who witnessed the Moncton regimental funeral have an emotional connection to this particular scene - *Who can forget the image of the police service dog who recognized his master's scent on the RCMP Stetson during the funeral march in Moncton, N.B.?*

**** ORIGINAL CONCEPT**:** *RCMP Police Service Dog, life-size dog on his hind legs sniffing his master's Stetson ***



Estimated Costs:

- To be determined
- The concept of our *RCMP National Memorial Cemetery (RNMC)* at Beechwood “Canada’s National Cemetery” represents members from coast to coast to coast.
- Should costs be reasonable that, Newfoundland sculptor, Morgan MacDonald be selected to design this monument. **Email:** TheartofMorganMacdonald.com
- All of the RNMC monuments to date have been developed by the Alberta sculptor therefore it would be reasonable to select Morgan MacDonald of Newfoundland for this unique *RCMP Police Service Dog* monument.

Timeline:

To be determined, once funding has been secured.

Website links:

Donations accepted on line or by cheque; details for donations go to the following web links:

- Beechwood donation page - <https://beechwoodottawa.ca/en/donation>

Other Concepts:



Photo A

Memorial at Innisfail Alberta,
RCMP PSD Training Kennels



Photo B

US Military concept for
their service dogs

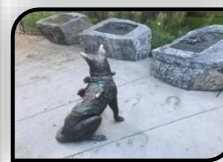


Photo C

Canadian Armed Forces police dog
memorial near the Rideau canal.

N.B. – Once the interest of the Committee and RCMP PSD Dog Masters has been determined, Final concept will be developed and approved by their Committee similar to Lady Justice Monument on the following page.



“Lady Justice”

The “Scales of Justice” pillar is representative of our “raison d’être” or “our reason for being”.

This unique monument was commissioned by the Women’s Troop 4 , 1982 in Celebration of their 35th Anniversary of their graduation from “Depot”.

Inscription:

“To honour the women with whom we trained, served, and the women who will follow in our footsteps”

[CLICK ON THIS PHOTO TO VIEW VIDEO](#)



RCMP Police Service Dog Memorial

The Police Service Dog Memorial will include:

- a police service dog
- the names and service numbers of all dogs that have been killed in the line of duty



A police service dog paying tribute to his handler's stetson.

[Click here to make a donation today!](#)