

HAMILTON VETERANS COMMITTEE



Presentation to
EMERGENCY & COMMUNITY SERVICES
October 19, 2011

2011 – 2014 Committee Membership

With this term of Council Veterans applied and were appointed through the City of Hamilton Citizen Volunteer Committee selection process.

Citizens must be a Veteran to apply for membership.

- John Clarke, Chair
- Harry McEwen, Vice-Chair
- Bill Eisan, Bob Fyfe, Gerry Rattray, David Steckham, Art Tompkins
- Councillor Sam Merulla, Councillor Bernie Morelli
- Fern Viola, Liaison, Department of Veterans Affairs



Mandate



- Advise Council on Veterans' matters that fall within Council's jurisdiction
- Liaise with the Veterans of the City of Hamilton on Veterans' matters as they relate to municipal operations
- Coordinate Remembrance and Memorial Services for the City of Hamilton
- Assist in the coordination of significant Veteran's commemorative events for the City of Hamilton
- Provide input on projects and issues that are of concern to Veterans, i.e. Veteran parking, Monuments and Cenotaphs and Veterans Field of Honour

Remembrance Day & Memorial Services



- Provide direction and coordination for the Hamilton Remembrance Day Parade and Service, and two Decoration Day Memorial Services
- Communicate with all Hamilton Veterans groups: the Order of Service, Parade Orders, volunteer dignitaries, i.e. Saluting Officer, Clergy, etc.
- Work with community citizens and local organizations as they assist in the coordination of Remembrance Day.

Assistance to Other Veterans Events



- Provide assistance (logistical, financial, etc.) to specific events, (e.g. Dieppe War Memorial Service, Royal Canadian Legion Drum Head Service, British Imperial Veterans Decoration Day Service)
- Liaise with United Council of Veterans and Presidents & Secretaries Association on any City-related Veterans issues
- Provide approval for any use of Hamilton Cenotaph

Previous and Ongoing Projects



- Advised community groups on plans to honour local veterans such as the renaming of Private Mark Graham Memorial Olympic Park
- Representation on the Gore Park Master Plan committee related to Gore Park, the Cenotaph and Veterans Place at Gore Park
- Created the guidelines under which Veterans may be buried in the Field of Honour
- Lobbied to allow Veterans immediate families to wear deceased Veterans medals at Remembrance Day Services
- Lobbied to have free parking for all Hamilton Veterans

2011 Initiatives

In addition to annual Memorial Services the Veterans Committee has:



- Initiated the Commemorative naming of James Street North and South as “Veterans Way of Remembrance”
- Initiated the review of the mandate of the Hamilton Veterans Committee
- Advocated for the retention of two World War I artillery pieces received by the City of Hamilton as War Trophies in 1920
- Investigated the possible use of the former Parks Canada Discovery Centre as an enlarged Hamilton Military Museum
- Participated in monthly Canadian Citizenship ceremonies

Future Goals



- To continue to work with all Veterans Clubs from across the City, in an effort to stand together as one collective voice representing all the Veterans of the City of Hamilton



To Succeed

- Need strong representation from Hamilton Veterans Committee members



Thank You.