



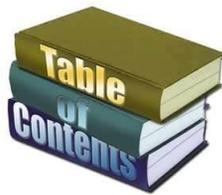
Newsletter



January 2014



Serving our Canadian Volunteers working together with Police and the Community



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CCOPA Newsletter Contact information:

- Bev Salomons - President
- Leona Gardecki - Newsletter Editor

Thank You ACOPA



Thank you to Alberta Citizens On Patrol Association for their very generous donation of \$5,000 to CCOPA. This donation will go a long ways to assist CCOPA in 2015. One of the projects that needs to be done is to create a website for CCOPA where contact information and newsletters will be posted.



What is Canadian Citizens on Patrol (CCOPA)?

In November of 2014 a letter was sent out to Citizens on Patrol Groups across Canada requesting consideration of a voluntary membership fee of \$1.00 per member to the National C.O.P. organization. While this was not mandatory, the National Board is more than pleased with the reaction from C.O.P. groups across Canada. Not only the donations of dollars that have been received, but the comments that have been received are both encouraging and so very much appreciated. A lot of questions were asked as to what CCOPA was all about and why it was formed.

In 2012 the President of the Alberta Citizens on Patrol Association contacted the Manitoba Provincial Coordinator, Tracey Proctor about the Manitoba Program. Tracey was invited to attend the Alberta Conference and discussion took place about the operation of the Provincial Programs. After that, contact was made with Nova Scotia, British Columbia and Prince Edward Island COP. They were all invited to attend the 2013 Manitoba COPP Conference to learn more about the Manitoba Program and meet members from across the Province.

After the conference, a meeting was convened with the visitors in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Concerns of all programs were discussed and it appeared that operational concerns were similar. It was then decided to form a National Association so that best practices and strategies could be shared to benefit all groups across Canada. It was agreed that this would strengthen and expand the impact and scope of the community safety goal of Citizens on Patrol.

An executive was appointed as follows: Bev Salomons, Alberta as President; Elsie Reid, Manitoba, as Vice-President; Betty (Elizabeth) Woolridge, Nova Scotia, as Treasurer; Brian Cornborough, British Columbia, as Secretary and Harry McLellan, Prince Edward Island, as Director at Large. It was decided that CCOPA would be composed of one representative from each Province who was a member in good standing of the COP Program.

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Requests for funding were sent to Governments, Government Agencies and Organizations and Law Enforcement Agencies. Encouraging responses were received but only minimal funding was raised. It was determined that until we were an incorporated entity we would be ineligible for funding from Grants, etc. The funds that we did receive from Manitoba COPP, ACOPA and PEI COP were sufficient to cover the cost of incorporating as a Federal (National) Association. We are now a National Association.

The mission of CCOPA is "to provide support and foster growth and development of all Citizens on Patrol Programs in Canada". All business for the 2013-14 year was conducted by e-mail and phone as no funds were available to pay for travel costs for personal meetings. After the 2014 conference a second meeting was convened with the out of Province visitors, the Manitoba Provincial Coordinator, the Manitoba Representative, Elsie Reid, a member of the RCMP and two guests from Alberta.

The President advised that she had meetings with Law Enforcement and had done newspaper and TV interviews in Charlottetown PEI while on a personal visit in May of 2014. Encouraging responses were received from that publicity. She had also been in contact with RCMP Depot in Regina. Further discussion at the meeting was raised as to the importance of the relationship of Law Enforcement with COP members across Canada. Many groups do not have a clear working relationship with Law Enforcement and RCMP Cadets and Recruits posted to some communities are not familiar with the COP Program. If appointed as an RCMP Liaison to a COP Group they are not aware of the goals of the Program. The RCMP Constable present at the meeting noted that she was unaware of COP when she left Depot. The President advised that when she had been in contact with RCMP Depot, an invitation was extended to CCOPA to attend and make a presentation to the Cadets and explain the Program and purpose of the COP Program.

This was discussed by the Executive and it was unanimous that when funds became available possibly two members of CCOPA could attend Regina to make this presentation.

The suggestion brought forward was that perhaps members across Canada might be willing to contribute \$1.00 per member as a membership fee to CCOPA. That was the letter of request sent by the President to all Groups in November of 2014. It is a voluntary contribution that would assist in the forward development of all COP Programs.

As noted earlier, we have had a mixed response from some COP groups as they did not know what the Canadian Citizens On Patrol Association was all about. Therefore, this information is to advise of the mission of CCOPA as noted earlier: The mission is "to provide support and foster growth and development of all Citizens On Patrol Programs in Canada".

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By contributing to the CCOPA you are assisting in sharing important community safety information across Canada and providing Law Enforcement with more information on the Citizens on Patrol program, thus helping to prepare the RCMP Recruits to be better prepared when they get the assignment to be the Liaison for the local Citizens On Patrol program.

The membership fees that COP groups contribute are greatly appreciated by the CCOPA Board. If you have further questions as to what the CCOPA Board is doing, please do not hesitate to ask.

Comments that have been received are both encouraging and so very much appreciated.

Written and submitted by: Elsie Reid, Vice President of CCOPA, from The Pas, Manitoba

Below are comments received that we would like to share...

Pembina Community Watch Patrol Society, Evansville, AB

We support the National Board in their efforts to promote the COP Program to the new recruits both at RCMP Depot and Police Academy.

Gull Lake North Citizens On Patrol Association, AB

Our GLNCOP members discussed some time ago about how to raise awareness of our COP groups with new recruits at Depot, however we could not come up with a plan to make it happen. We are thrilled this is now coming to fruition thanks to the efforts of the Canadian organization, and we are proud to financially support this initiative.

The Pas COPP, Man

We only have 18 members but CCOPA is a valuable asset to community safety so I have enclosed the cheque for \$100.00

Drayton Valley Citizen On Patrol Society, AB

Before the motion to donate \$1.00 per member could pass at our meeting, we included within the motion a request for a report in due course from CCOPA on the program. We will use this information to assess future requests for donations. A report on the program could be distributed to the Provincial Citizens On Patrol Association and included in each provinces regular News Letters to all groups.

Mannville, AB

Our membership is still small as we are just starting to get into the swing of things. I have been advised by our President that we can donate \$100.00 towards the education of RCMP recruits about COPS.

Cochrane Citizens On Patrol, AB

Please find enclosed Cochrane Citizens On Patrol cheque for \$20.00 to help promote the C.O.P. Program at the Regina Training Depot. We have 19 members.

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Didsbury Citizen On Patrol, AB

Cheque enclosed for \$23.00 one for each member in Didsbury to educate the RCMP recruits

Burns Lake Citizens On Patrol Society Burns Lake BC

We have 14 members. Our Staff Sargent donated to this cause for a total of \$30.00

North Whiteshell 300 Group, Seven Sister Falls, Man

We at North Whiteshell 300 Group celebrated the Holiday Season with our 14th Annual Dinner on the evening of December 1st, 2014. At this dinner, we invited our group members, the spouses and family along with residents of our North Whiteshell Provincial Park and the format is an organized "pot luck" supper.

This year, we ran a 50/50 Raffle in support of the CCOPA and we had raised a total of \$46.00 which was designated as proceeds to be remitted to your cause. However, the winner of the additional \$46.00 (the other half of the 50/50) decided to donate the funds back to us so that we could contribute more to your group. Our member, Mr. Bruce Howie, is to be congratulated and thanked for his generosity.

We hope that you would accept our donation of \$46.00 plus the donation from Mr. Bruce Howie of \$46.00 totalling \$92.00. This is quite a bit more than \$1.00 per member and we are only too happy to support the expansion of Citizens On Patrol across the country.



Visit to RCMP Headquarters in Ottawa

On January 5, 2015, President Bev Salomons and husband Henry had a meeting at RCMP Headquarters in Ottawa. The meeting was with Catherine Costain, Officer in Charge of National Crime Prevention. At the meeting as well was Louis Zuniga, National Youth Strategy Manager. The meeting was an opportunity to talk about the National Citizens On Patrol Association and the work that CCOPA will be doing. Catherine asked if there had been any evaluations on the C.O.P. program. Catherine was also asking why Citizens On Patrol, Rural Crime Watch, Neighbourhood Watch and Block Parents were not all one group. We explained the differences between each of those groups and why C.O.P. should remain as its own group. As well, the question was asked as to what involvement that RCMP Officers have with C.O.P.

The suggestion was made that it would be an advantage if CCOPA had a website where interested law enforcement could go for information on the C.O.P. program. A summary of how the five provinces are doing was given at the meeting. Since the meeting, information has been passed along from the RCMP Headquarters for a contact in each RCMP Division, so CCOPA can move forward in contacting the other provinces in regards to their C.O.P. program, or lack of.

DONATIONS TO CCOPA



C.O.P. Group	Donation
Grand Total	1032

Alberta	526
◦ Cochrane COP	20
◦ Nanton COP	20
◦ Didsbury COP Society	23
◦ Drayton Valley COPS	24
◦ Edson COP	10
◦ Gibbons COP	50
◦ Gull Lake North COPA	28
◦ Mannville, COP	100
◦ Olds COP	28
◦ Pembina Community Watch Patrol	20
◦ Pincher Creek COP	55
◦ Raymond COP	25
◦ Sexsmith COP Program	33
◦ St. Paul COP	20
◦ Taber COP AB	20
◦ Wainwright COPS	50

British Columbia	121
◦ Burns Lake COPS	30
◦ Ladysmith COP/Speed Watch	25
◦ Merritt COP	20
◦ Peachland Citizens Patrol	21
◦ Sydney/North Saanich COP	25

Manitoba	279
◦ East St Paul COPP	24
◦ Neepawa COP	21
◦ North Whiteshell 300 Group	92
◦ St. Clements COPP	17
◦ Tache Ward 6 Chapter	25
◦ The Pas Area COP	100

Nova Scotia	106
◦ Ardoise COP	20
◦ Dean COP	15
◦ East Hants COP	20
◦ Mount Uniacke COP	20
◦ Porter's Lake Off Road COP	6
◦ Tantallon COP	25