

**HKVCA Annual General Meeting  
Audio Conference  
May 6, 2025**

**Minutes**

President, Mike Babin welcomed everyone and gave brief information about the meeting and how it will be conducted.

**Board Members Present;** Mike Babin, Lucette Mailloux Muir, Mark Purrcell, Gerry Tuppert, Carol Hadley and Bernard LeBlanc..

Absent: Stephanie Mitchell.

**Guest::** Derrill Henderson.

**Members Present:** Approximately 15 members are present, including the BOD members. We have the required number of members to form a quorum.

- 1      The Meeting was called to order by Mike Babin at 2 pm ET.  
Welcome everyone.
  
- 2      **Waiver of reading of the Minutes of last AGM held on May 2024.** In order to dispense with the reading of them, be it moved that the reading of the minutes of the corporation's last Annual General Meeting held on May 7, 2024 be waved as they have been provided in advance to the attendees. Moved by Mike Babin, seconded by Bernard. Carried.
  
- 3      **Approval of Minutes of last AGM, held May 7, 2024**  
Be it moved that the minutes of the last AGM dated May 7, 2024 be approved as submitted. Moved by Mike Babin, seconded by Carol. Carried.
  
- 4      **Presentation of the 2024 Financial Statement:** I, Mark took over from Barry Mitchell as National Treasurer in April 2024. Mark. presented his detailed 2024 Financial Statement. Receiving no questions. Accepted. Mike thanked Barry for his devoted and hard work during the last 20 years as treasurer of our association for well and accurately maintained finances. Enjoy a well deserved, good and healthy retirement.
  
- 5      **Election of Directors - Derrill Henderson -** We are required by our by-laws to elect our Directors each year at the AGM. We solicited

nominations via our March newsletter. Should we receive less than eleven nominations, we are allowed by CRA Not-for-Profit regulations to present to the AGM a motion to install those nominated as Directors. We received fewer nominations than eleven, and so I am asking you to endorse the eight individuals I will name.

I move that the following be installed as Directors of the Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association effective immediately for a period of one (1) year.

- Mike Babin of Toronto, ON
- Carol Hadley of Winnipeg, MB
- Bernard LeBlanc of Arichat, NS
- Lucette Mailloux Muir of Granby, QC
- Stephanie Mitchell of Winnipeg, MB
- Gerry Tuppert of Duncan, BC
- Mark Purcell of Bradford, ON
- Judi Denison of Toronto, ON

Randy Wing seconded the motion. No vote against. Carried.

No questions at this time.

**6 Region Report:** (Reports have been provided on [www.hkvca.ca](http://www.hkvca.ca))

Our Regional Directors have the opportunity to speak to you about their region's activities.

Gerry Tuppert from BC Region presented his report.

Carol Hadley of the Prairie Region read activities held in their region.

Lucette Mailloux of Quebec Region gave her report on their activities.

Bernard LeBlanc of Atlantic Region presented his report.

Mark Purcell of Ontario Region, on behalf of Mike Babin gave the report on their activities.

7. **President's Report** – For the first time ever, last year we had no living veterans of the Battle of Hong Kong to help us remember the battle and the POW ordeal. But we will remember them.
- Across Canada the HKVCA has about 475 members, of whom 43 are widows of Hong Kong Veterans. Comparing this to our regular membership 10 years ago,

excluding Veterans and Widows, is about 120 fewer in number and it's not hard to imagine that in another 10 years we will not have enough members to maintain a viable organization. This obviously bears some thinking as to the future of the HKVCA, and it's a topic your Board of Directors will be concentrating on in the coming months. We will be looking for input from all members as we do this work.

A great deal of excellent work was done by our members last year to ensure that the legacy of our Veterans is not forgotten, and this is continuing in 2025.

The most significant is the work the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of V-J Day committee is doing under the Kathie Carlson's leadership. This hard-working group has been working for a year to plan a fabulous event in Ottawa this August. I hope you are planning to attend. It will be a weekend of commemoration, learning, exchanges of information and just plain enjoyment.

We are all volunteers in the HKVCA. I'd like to highlight just a few for their stellar work:

Pam Heinrichs who successfully petitioned the Manitoba Veterans Legacy Fund for a significant grant to enable us to research and document indigenous members of 'C' Force.

Lillian Randall and Lori Atkinson Smith, who contribute information about Veterans to our Facebook pages.

Derrill Henderson, who wears many diverse hats, among them representing the HKVCA on the National Council of Veterans Associations and researching and rewriting our elections procedures to ensure we are compliant with government regulations.

I am very proud that seven of our members have been recognized for their volunteering with the awarding of the King Charles 111 Coronation Medal. They are:

Lori Atkinson Smith

Kathie Carlson

Carol Hadley

Pam Heinrichs

Lucette Mailloux Muir

Barry Mitchell

Jim Trick

A medal was also awarded posthumously to Veteran Hormidas Fredette. Congratulations and thank you to all of them!

I must mention our other volunteers across the country and even abroad who have spent their time performing many commemorative and educational activities. Thank you all.

Let me finish by repeating my earlier comments about the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of V-J Day commemoration we are organizing for Ottawa this August. Registrations are open and you can find out everything you need at [www@hkvca.ca](http://www@hkvca.ca). Or ask your Region Director. Book your hotel stay soon to avoid disappointment. And a

reminder that the conference fee covers most meals during the event, and much more. It's a bargain!

I look forward to seeing you in August!

8. **Questions** - Receiving no questions or comments from members and at the end of our agenda., if you have no other business to be brought forward, I declare the meeting concluded at 2 h 36 ET.

Thank you for attending today.

I wish everyone a very safe and enjoyable summer.

HKVCA National Secretary

Lucette Mailloux Muir