



# LEGACY OF REMEMBRANCE

🇫🇷 FINAL COUNTDOWN TO THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF VJ DAY

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## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

### THURSDAY

Welcome & Registration

Meet & Greet

### FRIDAY AM

Commemoration Ceremony

@ National War Memorial

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Breakout Sessions

### FRIDAY PM

Movie Night

Free Time

### SATURDAY AM

Visit to Memorial Wall

### SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Canadian War Museum

### SATURDAY PM

Gala Reception & Dinner

### SUNDAY

Breakfast & Farewell



## Greetings and Welcome from the HKVCA 80<sup>th</sup> Reunion Committee.

Can you believe the Reunion is just around the corner?

We want to make the most of our last opportunity to provide information to you before we all reunite in Ottawa on August 14<sup>th</sup>.

First, a big "Thank You" to all 205 people who have registered for our very special weekend as we gather from coast to coast to coast to share stories, visit, see old friends, and make some new ones.

**Are you excited? We sure are! We are looking forward to meeting all of you in Ottawa.**

## WHAT TO BRING & WEAR

Ottawa in August is warm during the day with cooler evenings, so bring light, breathable clothing and a sweater or jacket for later events. Comfortable walking shoes are a must. Don't forget your HKVCA gear, sunscreen, water bottle, and phone charger to capture all the memories! For the VJ Day Ceremony, please wear respectful attire. For the Gala Dinner, dress in whatever makes you feel comfortable and celebratory—whether that's polished casual or your favourite outfit for a special night out.

## WELCOME & REGISTRATION - WHAT TO EXPECT

When you arrive, (hotel check in is at 3pm) head to the registration table on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor to check in for the reunion, pick up your welcome bag, name tag, and event schedule. Our team will be there to greet you, answer questions, and help you get settled. Reunion committee members will have a **GREEN** name tag, so you can always ask one of us if you have any questions along the way. Registration opens at 3:00 pm at the Ontario room 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. until 9:00 pm. There's a meet & greet Thursday night, and be sure to leave time to check out the memorabilia room and make room in your closet for the limited edition merch! —we can't wait to welcome you!

## TRANSPORTATION & GETTING AROUND

Pre-arranged buses will take you to all weekend events—just be ready at the designated times! We suggest choosing a “bus buddy” to help keep track of each other. If you could benefit from a bit of extra assistance during the weekend, kindly present yourself to a committee member at registration so we can help ensure your comfort and support. Planning extra outings? Call Blue Line Taxi at 613-238-1111. Let's travel together and make it safe, easy, and fun!



## BREAKOUTS - HOW IT WORKS

We are excited to offer 5 unique breakout workshops as part of this year's reunion programming.

You may attend up to 3 sessions, held at the following times:

🕒 2:00 PM 🕒 3:00 PM. 🕒 4:00 PM

Each session is approximately 1 hour long. Head directly to the appropriate room at the scheduled time.

Details of session time and place will be handy and available in your reunion programme.

Seating is limited to 60 participants per session, so we recommend having a backup choice ready in case your first option is full.

Sessions are offered more than once, so you'll have a second chance to attend if needed.

### Breakout Session Lineup:

- Dispatch of 'C' Force to Hong Kong
- Canadians Shipped to Japan
- Gander: His Legacy, Our Hero
- Métis Beading Workshop
- History of Indigenous Veterans



### **IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:**

...Things happen. We hope they don't but should anything at all come up and you need support, we are here; Contact Steph: 204-278-2543

## VJ DAY SERVICE - NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL

Buses will be leaving the hotel Friday at 10am & 10:15am to take us to the National War Memorial for the commemorative service from 10:45 AM to noon for the solemn VJ Day Memorial Service. Please dress respectfully and bring a water bottle (provided by the hotel). Umbrellas will be available for sunshine or rain. A full event program will be available via QR code in your reunion booklet. For those unable to attend in person, the ceremony will be live-streamed—visit [hkvca.ca](http://hkvca.ca) for the viewing link.

## MEMORIAL WALL VISIT

On Saturday, we gather for a more intimate and personal moment at the Hong Kong Veterans Memorial Wall. This reflective event offers space to honour and remember in a quieter setting alongside fellow families and friends.

If you would like to lay a wreath, we are creating a list of the name(s) of the Hong Kong Veteran and the name(s) of the family member laying the wreath in the program, so we ask you to **please provide this information to Ian Englehart** at [habs1993@rogers.com](mailto:habs1993@rogers.com) no later than Thursday August 7 2025.

Please dress comfortably and respectfully. Water bottles will be available from the hotel. This meaningful moment is not live-streamed, allowing for a private and heartfelt tribute to our loved ones. Space will be provided in your reunion programme to capture a rubbing of your loved one's name and take home the most personal of souvenirs, on this most historic of weekends.

## GALA RECEPTION & DINNER

Saturday night is set for a memorable Gala starting with cocktail hour at 6 PM, followed by dinner at 7 PM. Enjoy inspiring guest speakers, lively entertainment, and heartfelt moments. It's an evening to celebrate, connect, and create lasting memories with friends old and new. Dress to impress!

**ANY LAST  
MINUTE  
QUESTIONS?  
WE'D LOVE TO  
HELP!  
SEND ANY AND  
ALL QUESTIONS  
TO:  
2025REUNION@  
HKVCA.CA**



## THE POWER OF COMING TOGETHER

There is something deeply powerful about being in the same place at the same time, united by shared stories, memories, and purpose. As we gather in Ottawa to honour the legacy of the Hong Kong Veterans, we're not just remembering history—we're living proof of it.

We all carry powerful stories—of courage, connection, and remembrance. This reunion will offer a unique opportunity to share yours on Our Storytellers, a special podcast hosted by Riel Drury. If this sparks interest for you, prepare your story to lend your voice and preserve your story for future generations in this meaningful tribute to the legacy we all carry forward. More details available on site.

Every handshake, hug, and hello is a connection that bridges generations. It's a chance to meet those who understand your story without needing to explain it. It's an opportunity to pass on pride, resilience, and remembrance to the next generation, ensuring the courage and sacrifice of our loved ones is never forgotten.

This reunion is more than an event—it's a homecoming. A time to celebrate, reflect, and rekindle the sense of community that binds us together, no matter the miles or years between us.

From ceremonies that move the heart to moments of laughter over shared meals, you'll leave with renewed purpose and a full heart. Ottawa is waiting. So are your people. Come be part of something meaningful. Come to remember, to connect, and to celebrate the strength and spirit of the Hong Kong Veterans' community.

**We can't wait to welcome you!**