



FCPO - CANADA

The Peacemaker



August, 2026

[Version française](#)

From the President's Desk



As you open this issue of *The Peacemaker*, my hope is that you will find encouragement, strength, and a renewed sense of purpose in the stories and reflections shared. This edition brings together testimonies of God's protection, reminders of His faithfulness, and reflections on what it means to serve with courage, compassion, and Christ-centred conviction.

You will encounter accounts of officers who have walked through hardship and experienced God's sustaining grace - such as in Ernie Frers' testimony. You will also read thoughtful insights on living out our faith in challenging moments, serving boldly, and trusting God first in every circumstance.

Across these pages, you will see a common thread: God is at work in the lives of those who serve and protect. Whether through testimonies, devotionals, reflections on calling, or reminders of Christ-like leadership, each contribution points us back to the One who equips us for every assignment.

We are grateful for Jim Bontrager's generous invitation to Canadian peace officers to join him and his team at *Breaching the Barricade* and the *Officer Appreciation Day* in Indiana. I have attended these events, and they are fantastic - spiritually strengthening, professionally relevant, and deeply encouraging. If you

have never experienced them, I strongly recommend considering it this year.



We have just 14 FCPO - Canada challenge coins left. These coins are a meaningful way to support FCPO and an excellent conversation starter with colleagues, recruits, and members of the public. If you would like one, please reach out soon. Once they're gone - they're gone!

God bless,

Ron

 [Video](#)
[FCPO Prayer](#)

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My Testimony

Cst. Ernie Frers (Ret'd), Delta Police Department

Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice. Let your love and kindness be known to all, the Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God, and the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Phil 4:4-7.



I don't want my testimony to be about me - I want it to be about my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I want to tell people my story, and the great love of the Lord and how He takes care of us no matter what happens.

I am a retired police officer who loves the Lord. I pray that God will use me as part of the Great Commission of Mark 16. That I will go into the world and preach the Gospel.

On May 5, 1998, I was on duty on my motorcycle at the intersection of 72nd Street and Scott Road in Delta, BC. I was stationed there to watch for red light infractions, a place where I had worked for 2 years. (I have been riding a motorcycle for 30 years and took part in training others with our own department).

At about 4:30 p.m. I was about to chase a red light runner who also did a U-Turn in the middle of the intersection. I activated my

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lights and siren and slowly entered the intersection to make sure everyone was stopped. A van had stopped in front of me in the intersection and I couldn't see past it. As I inched my way out to look for oncoming traffic, a van I didn't see and who didn't see or hear me came through and hit me. My head hit the A pillar and cracked my helmet and sent me flying in the air. I received a cut on my forehead from the visor of the helmet, a separated shoulder, and cuts to my leg, and suffered a brain injury. I had amniotic fluid coming from both ears. I was knocked unconscious and did not wake up for 23 days.

Rob, a fellow officer I worked with then phoned everyone he could get a hold of and asked them to pray for me. That is when my prayer chain was started.

At the time of the accident I was the vice president of the Fellowship of the Christian Police Officers - Canada and president of our local chapter in Surrey/Delta, BC.

I made friends in the western world, through the FCPO. Many people knew me and could

put a face to the person they were praying for. I had e-mails from around the world to tell me they were praying for me.

James 5:13 talks about the power of prayer. Are any among you suffering? They should keep praying about it. And those who have reason to be thankful should continually sing praises to the Lord. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. And their prayers offered in faith will heal the sick and the Lord will make them well.

When I arrived at the Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster, BC I was rushed to emergency and examined by staff and a neurologist. I had stopped breathing at the scene and had to be intubated. Within an hour of arriving at the hospital I started breathing on my own. The neurologist told Janet, my wife, that when I arrived I was in a deep coma, and it was like an angel had lifted me out to a light stupor.

The second week in the hospital I contracted pneumonia and lost 25 lbs. The third week I got bacterial infections in a wound on my right leg.



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When I finally came out of the coma 23 days later, one of the first things I remember is hearing a voice saying "You have Christ in your heart and I am going to look after you".

A great peace flowed over me. I remember that part very clearly. There was a short time after that, I thought it would be nice for me to go home and be with the Lord. It would have been nice to see my family that had gone on before me. But I realized it was not my choice as God was not finished with me yet. I thought of my wife and 2 young daughters and all my family and friends who were praying for me. I thought how selfish to think about escaping when so many people cared for me and were praying for me and my recovery.

There was an overwhelming response to letters, cards, phone calls, visits, and emails, which was a great support to help in my recovery. I am very thankful for all the support I received.

I spent the latter part of my recovery in Eagle Ridge Hospital in Coquitlam BC for physical, occupational, and speech therapy rehabilitation. I still have some residual of the accident with my speech, dizziness and tiredness but God has given me the strength to carry on.

While in the hospital I would notice other patients and wondered how they could make it without Christ in their lives. They seemed so alone as hardly any visitors came to cheer them up. A lot of them couldn't talk or walk yet and were trying to communicate.

If you don't have Christ in your heart, where are you going to spend eternity?

God gave His son Jesus Christ to die on the cross for our sins. When we accept Christ He gives us eternal life as a free gift. John 3:16 God is alive and He is still on the throne, and I want to serve him wherever and whenever I can.

Since my recovery I wanted to be involved in serving God. I have been involved in different missions' trips and giving my testimony whenever I can. I am thankful for God's blessing on me with Love, Grace and an attitude of servanthood.

In Ephesians 1:7-8 It says God's grace is lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.



2026 Mission Fest BC. Foreground L-R: Ron, Janet & Ernie. In the background Russ Ideson, RCMP Chaplain, Upper Fraser Valley, BC.

In Memorium



Cst. Tarun Bali
End of Watch:
June 9, 2026



Cst. Marc Pinizzotto
End of Watch:
June 11, 2026



Cst. Mohamed Lamine
Benredouane
End of Watch:
June 22, 2026

The Power of Loving Your Enemy

Cpl Andrea MacLeod (Ret'd)

But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

Matthew 5:44



If I'm being truthful, I struggled with that verse for many years.

Growing up, I could never understand Jesus' command to love your enemies. My question was always the same: Why? How could anyone possibly love

someone who hated them, treated them poorly, or wished them harm? That was until one night in Northern Manitoba where God answered that very question in a way I could never have imagined.

I was 24 years old and only two years into my policing career with the RCMP. I was posted to a busy northern detachment. One afternoon I was asked to escort a recently arrested man from his cell to an interview room so he could contact Legal Aid. He was in his early twenties and had just been arrested on drug-related offences. It seemed like a routine case. The moment I opened his cell door, however, he unleashed a torrent of obscenities. Every insult imaginable came pouring out as we walked together down the hallway. He called me names I won't repeat, his anger filled the room.

Surprisingly, I never felt angry in return, as I normally might have. Instead, I felt something I couldn't explain at the time - an immense calm that washed over me and my entire body. Looking back now, I recognize it

as one of those moments when God quietly showed up. After taking a deep breath amongst the tirade of insults, I recognized that this young man's rage wasn't really about me. I didn't know his story. I didn't know the trauma he had lived through, the disappointments he carried, or the choices that had brought him to that jail cell. What I did know was that hurting people, hurt people.

When he finally ran out of insults, I looked at him and paused a few moments before speaking. "Listen, I don't know you," I said. "I don't know what you've done, and I certainly don't know where you've been or what you've been through! But you need to know that this isn't personal." "You look tired," I said. "Are you thirsty? Can I get you some apple juice? We have some in the fridge."

The transformation was immediate. His shoulders fell. The anger disappeared. It was as though he laid down an invisible sword he had been carrying for years. "Yeah," he answered quietly. I walked to the refrigerator and brought back two small cups of apple juice. He drank them as though he hadn't had anything to drink for days. Then I dialed Legal Aid, handed him the phone, and stepped outside to give him privacy.

When he finished, I returned. "All set?" I asked. "Yeah," he replied, almost shyly. As I escorted him back to his cell, I paused before closing the door. "This isn't the end of your story," I told him. "It's just an opportunity to turn the page and begin writing a different

chapter." He didn't say anything. He simply nodded.

Eight months passed. It was three o'clock in the morning during another busy night shift filled with domestic disputes, assaults, and bar fights. Suddenly, dispatch is on the radio – "Robbery in progress". A taxi driver had been robbed at knife point.

I was just down the street from our detachment, less than a quarter mile away. I jumped into my patrol car. It felt like only seconds had passed and I went screaming into the scene, lights and sirens still going. Immediately, I saw a man in the back seat of the involved taxi with a large knife pressed against the driver's throat. I exited my cruiser, my firearm now drawn, and I'm screaming, "Police! Drop the knife!" The suspect stepped out of the cab and walked toward the trunk. My heart pounded as countless possibilities raced through my mind. Would he charge at me? Would deadly force become necessary?

Under the glow of one streetlight, he stared at me, squinting as though trying to recognize my face. He then yelled at me, something that stayed with me my entire career. He fiercely pointed directly at me and screamed, "You're the apple juice lady!" Only then did I recognize him. It was the same young man. Without another word, he threw the knife to the ground as though he couldn't get rid of it fast enough. Then he threw himself face-down over the trunk of the taxi, put his hands behind his back, and waited for me to handcuff him.

There was no struggle. No fight. No violence. As I secured the handcuffs on him and began reading him his rights, he interrupted me. He kept saying "I only want to deal with you. I only want to talk to you - you're the apple juice lady".

I've often reflected on that night. People sometimes ask whether one small act of kindness can really make a difference. I know it can. Not because the apple juice changed his life. But because, for one brief moment, someone treated him with dignity instead of contempt.

As police officers, we regularly encounter people on their worst day. We witness addiction, violence, betrayal, mental illness, and despair. The worst humans have to offer. It is easy to become hardened. It is understandable to build walls around our hearts. Yet Jesus calls us to do something radically different. He calls us to see beyond the behaviour and recognize the person. To respond with compassion without compromising justice. To stand for truth while extending grace.

"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Romans 12:21

Loving our enemies doesn't mean excusing criminal behaviour or abandoning accountability. It doesn't mean ignoring justice or placing ourselves or others in danger. It means refusing to let hatred determine how we respond. It means remembering that every person we encounter—even the one wearing handcuffs, is someone created in God's image.

We may never know how one conversation, one encouraging word, one respectful interaction, or even one cup of juice might change the course of someone's life.

Editor's Note: Andrea was recently featured on the July 1st edition of the 700 Club Canada.



COPS BOLD for CHRIST

Police Lt. (Ret'd) & Chaplain MC Williams



Lt. MC Williams (Ret'd)

The wicked flee when no one pursues but the righteous are as BOLD as a lion!"
(Proverbs 28:1, added emphasis)

Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great BOLDNESS.
(Acts 4:29, added emphasis)

"Boldness" (to be bold). Now there is a concept that the leftist media hates to hear and see both in law enforcement and the ministry. It is right up there with "warrior" (they prefer "guardians"). But the context of Scripture is clear on this: God has called His faithful (Christian believers) and His warriors (police officers, protectors, sheepdogs) to be BOLD. While I've written on this several times before, Desiring God co-founder and theologian Jon Bloom does such a wonderful job with concept that I'm pressed to share his message with you all (I'll have some comments and additional application for us at the end). Click on: [Lord, Make Me More Bold](#)

There is so much here for us in Jon's message, but I'm pressed to add just a couple more thoughts. As police officers, or more correctly CHRISTIAN police officers, there has never been a time when Holy Spirit-directed and empowered boldness (which biblically comes with humility) was needed more.

Look first at Proverbs 28:1 above. This verse is found under one of the lions on the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington, D.C. The word "righteous" in the NKJV used here simply means "godly" - as in godly police officers. Friends, you can't be truly godly unless you KNOW the God part of godly (I prefer "Godly"). Do you? Are you serving under our King and Captain? As I share often, ours is a God-ordained profession (Romans 13:1-4) yet we are a true mission field in that great majority of us serving (past and present) are not Christians as God defines it (and thus my mission here - with a "Code 3" sense of urgency). Accordingly, three quick things here:

(1) Our solid biblical friends at Got Questions Ministries do a great job with the concept of Christian boldness: [What does the Bible say about boldness?](#)

(2) If you do know Christ as your King, Captain, Lord and Savior (meaning you're a Christian as God defines it), then ask Him to help you step out BOLDLY in living out your faith both on and off the job. This includes boldly sharing Him with others as the Lord leads and gives you opportunities (ask Him to help you do that -- he WILL).

(3) If you are reading this and have yet to surrender all to Christ in faith (meaning you're currently unsaved and lost), NOW is the time to do so. As I share often, we can't "badge" our way into Heaven (or out of Hell). "Repent and believe..." (Jesus, Mark 1:15)



[The Centurion Law Enforcement Ministry](#) is a non-denominational, evangelical Christian outreach by, for and about law enforcement (police, deputies, investigators, probation/parole, corrections, etc.) and military personnel. TCLEM provides Bible-based support, fellowship and accountability for officers worldwide. We also seek to infuse Christian servant-leadership into our profession and equip the Christian officer to boldly share and live the Gospel.

BELIEVE

S/Sgt. Steve Rowe (Ret'd)



If you ask someone 'What do you Believe?' you will get all kinds of answers/responses.

I am a golfer and find lots of golf balls. Over the past few years I have found coloured golf balls with the word **BELIEVE** on them and have saved them.

Recently I had the opportunity to give a **BELIEVE** golf ball to two friends of mine who are dealing with health challenges. I prayed with them and said **BELIEVE**.

My dentist who I have known for over 30 years is a believer and on the ceiling above his dentist chair are posters. I had the opportunity to give him a **BELIEVE** golf ball. So when a patient sees the **BELIEVE** golf ball and enquiries about it, he has an opportunity to start a faith conversation.

Mark5:36 says "don't be afraid, just believe".

As you are with the general public, colleagues, family and friends - may a **BELIEVE** golf ball idea inspire you to say **BELIEVE**!



Welcoming Arlene Omilian to the FCPO – Canada National Board



In June Arlene Omilian joined the FCPO – Canada National Board as a Director at Large, bringing with her more than four decades of frontline policing experience, a lifetime of service, and an unwavering commitment to Christ-centred policing.

Arlene has been a devoted member of FCPO – Canada since its inception in 1983, standing as one of the longest-serving and most steadfast members of the Edmonton Chapter. Her consistency, humility, and servant-leadership have shaped the chapter's culture for over forty years.

Her policing career is legendary within the Edmonton Police Service. As noted the [May 2021 Peacemaker](#), Arlene was celebrated as “the longest serving female police officer in the Edmonton Police Service’s history” and spent nearly her entire career exactly where she wanted to be - on the frontline, helping people and upholding law and order. In her own words: “I just like making a difference in people’s lives.”

Arlene entered policing in the late 1970s, a time when the profession was overwhelmingly male. She became one of the pioneer women who opened doors for generations to follow. Her early years in downtown patrol were fast-paced and demanding, and she thrived in that environment. Later, she continued her frontline work on the south side before

finishing her career in Communications as an Evaluator - what she described as “the first of the first responders.”

Her peers recognized her dedication when she was voted Patrol Officer of the Year in 2010, and in 2020 she was honoured on International Women’s Day for her 40 years of service. She told the audience she would “do it all again in a heartbeat”, a sentiment that perfectly captures her character.

Now newly retired, Arlene has not slowed down. In true FCPO spirit, she has poured her energy into volunteer initiatives, including helping Ukrainian refugees settle into Alberta, supporting families in crisis, and offering practical assistance to newcomers navigating life in Canada.

Her commitment mirrors the themes highlighted in the May 2021 Peacemaker, which emphasized perseverance, faithful service, and the calling to be a steady presence in a turbulent world. Arlene embodies those values. Her career - and her retirement - demonstrate what it means to serve with endurance, compassion, and Christ-centred purpose.

As Director at Large, Arlene brings:

- Decades of frontline experience
- Deep FCPO institutional memory dating back to 1983
- A heart for mentorship and encouragement
- A proven record of servant-leadership

- Boundless energy and enthusiasm for advancing FCPO's mission

Her presence strengthens our national leadership team and ensures that the FCPO continues to be guided by individuals who

have lived the calling of law enforcement with integrity, courage, and faith.

We are honoured to welcome Arlene to the FCPO – Canada National Board. Her story continues - and we are blessed to have her helping shape ours.



United Way

REMINDER

We do not receive any direct funding from the United Way.

However, for those who will be participating in your local workplace United Way campaign this fall, please remember your charitable donation can be specifically designated to FCPO – Canada by using our registered charity number on the form (120365804 RR0001) in part B or C (depending on if you are a Federal, Provincial, or Municipal employee).

Other ways to donate, including online donations can be found on our [website](#). When you [donate online](#) you will be issued a tax receipt at that time.

Thank you for your financial support for this unique ministry.



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FIRST RESPONDERS APPRECIATION BBQs

September 19, 2026
12:00 - 7pm

Help Wanted

All FCPO members, please let us know if you can help out at one of these locations. We will have the first table supplying attendees with their plates and utensils. A great way to engage with our First Responder Community! fcpo.aapc@gmail.com

Peel Police 11 Division - 3030 Erin Mills Pkwy, Mississauga ON
Peel Police 12 Division - 4600 Dixie Road, Mississauga ON
Peel Police 21 Division - 10 Peel Centre Drive, Brampton ON
Peel Police 22 Division - 7750 Hurontario Street, Brampton ON
Toronto Police - 11 Division, 2054 Davenport Road, Toronto ON
Toronto Police - 23 Division, 5230 Finch Avenue W., Toronto ON
Toronto Police - 41, 42 & 43 Divisions, 4331 Lawrence Ave. E, Toronto, ON
York Police - 429 Harry Walker Parkway South, Newmarket, ON
Calgary Police - 7th District - 11955 Country Village Link NE, Calgary, AB

If All Else Fails...

C/Supt. Ronald Mostrey (Ret'd), President, FCPO - Canada



We've all heard the saying, "If all else fails... pray."

If we're honest, that's often exactly how we treat prayer - as the last resort rather than the first response. We exhaust every option, analyze every possibility, seek every solution, and only when nothing else seems to work do we finally ask God for help.

Here in Canada, we are truly blessed. We have excellent medical care, emergency services, trained professionals, insurance, social supports, and countless resources available to us. When problems arise, we instinctively turn to these practical solutions. There is certainly nothing wrong with using the gifts and resources God has provided. But I've often wondered if our abundance has unintentionally weakened our dependence on God.

In many parts of the world, believers don't have the safety nets that we enjoy. When illness strikes, when disaster comes, or when danger appears, their first instinct is often to pray because, humanly speaking, there are few other options. They have learned to trust God in ways that many of us have never been forced to learn.

As law enforcement officers, we are trained problem solvers. Every call or situation requires us to assess facts, analyze risks, formulate plans, and take decisive action. It is part of our calling and an essential part of serving our communities well. Yet that same mindset can quietly spill over into our spiritual lives. We become so accustomed to solving problems

ourselves that we sometimes forget to bring them first to the One who holds every answer. I confess that I struggle with this myself.

Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed... nothing will be impossible for you." (Matthew 17:20) What an incredible promise.

When I read those words, I have to admit that I don't possess that kind of faith. I want to - but too often I rely first on my own understanding, my experience, or my ability to work through a problem. Perhaps the disciples felt much the same when they prayed, "Lord, increase our faith." (Luke 17:5) That is my prayer today.

May we never stop using the wisdom, training, and skills God has entrusted to us. But may we also become people who instinctively turn to Him before we turn anywhere else.

Imagine what could happen if our first response to every challenge - whether at work, at home, or in our personal lives - was prayer.

May we become officers who not only protect and serve our communities but who also demonstrate unwavering trust in the God who called us into this God ordained calling.

Let us pray for greater faith.

Let us make prayer our first response, not our last resort. And by God's grace, may we see mountains move.

We Never Retire from God's Calling - Only Our Assignment Changes

“The gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.” — Romans 11:29 (NKJV)

Sgt. Dino Doria (Ret'd), FCPO – Canada, Ontario Director



As I prayed over this article, the Lord impressed upon my heart the importance of understanding the distinction between our calling, our assignment, and the gifts He has graciously given us to fulfill the work He places before us.

As I began to write, I sensed the Holy Spirit reminding me of the significance of our ministry within the Fellowship of Christian Peace Officers (FCPO). This is more than an organization - it is a God-given assignment entrusted to us for this season of our lives.

The Lord, in His wisdom and grace, has called us to serve Him faithfully within this

ministry, using the unique gifts and abilities He has placed in each of us to bring glory to His name.

May we never lose sight of the privilege of His calling or the assignments He entrusts to us. As long as God grants us breath, we are to serve Him diligently, faithfully, and joyfully, employing every gift He has graciously bestowed upon us for the advancement of His Kingdom and the encouragement of those He places in our path.

There comes a day in many professions when people congratulate us on our retirement. They celebrate decades of faithful service and wish us well as we enter a new chapter. While retirement may mark the end of a career, it does not mark the end of God's calling.

As followers of Jesus Christ, our identity has never been rooted in our occupation but in the One who called us. The Apostle Paul reminds us: “I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 3:14 (NKJV)

God's calling is lifelong. Assignments change. Seasons change. Responsibilities change. But His purpose for our lives remains.

The Calling to Serve

For those who have served as Christian peace officers, the profession is much more than

wearing a uniform or carrying a badge. It is a sacred opportunity to live out God's heart for justice, mercy, and protection. Paul writes: "For he is God's minister to you for good... an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil." Romans 13:4 (NKJV)

Peace officers stand in difficult places where brokenness, violence, and suffering are often encountered. Yet God places His servants there to preserve peace, protect the innocent, and uphold justice.

Every Christian officer understands that beyond enforcing the law is a deeper calling - to represent Christ with integrity, compassion, courage, humility, and hope. The Lord has uniquely equipped every one of us for that purpose. Peter reminds believers: "As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." 1 Peter 4:10 (NKJV)

If we are honest, throughout our years of service we begin to recognize the gifts God has entrusted to us. Some discover gifts of leadership. Others become encouragers. Some are gifted teachers, wise counselors, compassionate listeners, problem solvers, peacemakers, mentors, or shepherds of people. These gifts were never intended merely for a career. They were entrusted to us for the glory of God.

The Assignment Changes - The Calling Remains

As my own career of serving and protecting approached what many call retirement, the Lord began teaching me an important truth. He was showing me that retirement was not the end of His calling.

Throughout every assignment He entrusted to me as a police officer, He was quietly

shaping, refining, and revealing the gifts He had placed within me. Looking back, I now realize those thirty years were not simply about policing - they were God's training ground. The Lord was preparing me for another assignment. While one season was ending, another was beginning.

The same gifts He developed through decades of service - teaching, mentoring, leadership, discernment, encouraging others, and communicating truth, were now being redirected into a new mission: teaching future professionals in a university Criminal Justice program. God had not replaced my calling - He had simply reassigned me.

This reflects the pattern we see throughout Scripture. Moses led Israel after decades of preparation. Joshua stepped into leadership after years of faithful service. Caleb remained ready for God's work even into old age. Caleb declared: "As yet I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me... Now therefore, give me this mountain." Joshua 14:11-12 (NKJV)

Age did not diminish Caleb's calling. It simply presented another opportunity for faithfulness. Likewise, Paul encouraged believers: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." 1 Corinthians 15:58 (NKJV)

As long as God gives us breath, He has work for us to do. Ecclesiastes reminds us: "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NKJV) Each season carries a different assignment. Some serve in uniform. Others serve in classrooms. Some mentor younger officers. Others minister in churches, communities, or around the family table. Some write. Some teach. Some encourage.

Some quietly pray. None of these assignments are less important than another when they are offered to the Lord. Paul reminds us: “And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.” Colossians 3:23 (NKJV)

The Lord simply asks us to remain faithful wherever He places us. We Never Retire from Serving Christ. The world may retire our position. The government may retire our badge. Our employer may retire our title. But heaven never retires our calling. The gifts God has placed within us continue to mature and bear fruit for His kingdom. For as Scripture declares: “The gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.” Romans 11:29 (NKJV)

Until the Lord calls us home, we remain His servants. We press on to serve! Jesus Himself said: “Well done, good and faithful servant... Enter into the joy of your lord.” Matthew 25:23 (NKJV) Notice He does not say, “Well done, successful professional.” He says, “Well done, faithful servant.” That is our lifelong identity.

A Closing Challenge

Whatever season you find yourself in today, ask the Lord: “Father, what is my next assignment?” Perhaps your uniform has changed. Perhaps your title has changed. Perhaps your workplace has changed. But your calling has not.

Allow the Lord to reveal how the gifts He has faithfully developed throughout your life can now be used in fresh ways to glorify Him and bless others. As long as we have breath, we have purpose. As long as we have breath, we have opportunities to serve. As long as we have breath, God is not finished with us. May we embrace every new assignment with gratitude, humility, and joyful obedience, knowing that one day we will stand before our Lord - not as retired servants - but as faithful ones.

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” — Matthew 5:16 (NKJV)

God bless you,

Dino

Let your colleagues, family, and friends know about FCPO!

Membership is free! Members receive this quarterly newsletter. We have 2 types of membership: Regular Membership (voting) is for current or retired peace officers, while Associate Membership (non-voting) is for any Christian who agrees with our [Statement of Faith](#).

Join online at: www.fcpocanada.com

Broken & Beautiful: The Redemptive Work of Christ through [Jericho Road](#)

C/Supt. Ronald Mostrey (Ret'd), President, FCPO - Canada



Few ministries in Canada embody the transforming power of Christ as clearly and consistently as [Jericho Road](#), founded by my good friend and FCPO – Canada Associate Member, Ray Desmarais.

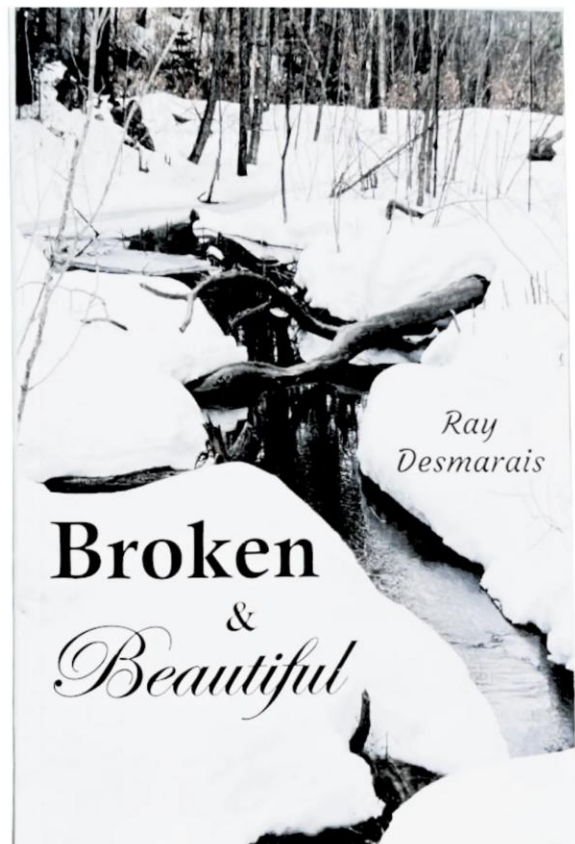
Ray's new book, *Broken & Beautiful*, is more than a memoir. It is a testimony of redemption, a catalogue of miracles, and a frontline account of what happens when Christ steps directly into the lives of people who have been written off by the world.

In *Broken & Beautiful*, Ray shares the raw, unfiltered stories of individuals who encountered Christ in the darkest moments of their lives. These are not sanitized testimonies - they are miracles, plain and simple. Stories of men who walked into Jericho Road addicted, defeated, and spiritually empty, only to walk out renewed, restored, and on fire for Christ. Stories of women who found safety, dignity, and hope

after years of pain. Stories of families rebuilt, faith rediscovered, and lives reclaimed.

For those of us who are or were in policing, corrections, and public safety, the work of Jericho Road is not just admirable - it is essential. Every officer knows the reality: addiction, untreated trauma, and mental-health crises drive a significant portion of the calls we respond to. These issues strain families, destabilize communities, and place enormous pressure on frontline personnel.

Jericho Road has helped countless individuals break free from addiction,



rebuild their lives, and rediscover their identity in Christ. These are real solutions, not band-aids.

When individuals find lasting recovery through Christ, officers see fewer repeat calls, fewer crises, and fewer tragedies. Corrections staff see men and women who return to society with hope, purpose, and stability. Communities become safer because lives are genuinely changed.

Jericho Road provides something the justice system cannot:

- Christ-centred transformation instead of temporary stabilization
- Long-term community instead of short-term custody
- Healing of the heart, not just management of behavior
- Spiritual discipleship and mentorship

Ray's ministry has quietly supported law enforcement for decades by doing the hard, daily work of helping people break free from the cycles that lead to criminality, victimization, and despair. Jericho Road is a partner in public safety - one rooted in compassion, discipleship, and the redemptive power of Christ.

Ray's commitment to serving Christ has always been marked by action. He has spent decades walking alongside men and women battling addiction, homelessness, trauma, and mental-health struggles. Jericho Road is not a theoretical ministry - it is a hands-on, Christ-centred community where brokenness is met with compassion, and where the Holy Spirit continues to produce real, measurable transformation.

Ray writes with humility, honesty, and deep gratitude for the God who still heals, still rescues, and still redeems. His book reminds

us that no one is beyond the reach of Christ, and that the Gospel remains the most powerful force for change in the world.

*One of the most remarkable aspects of Ray's book is his decision to donate all proceeds from **Broken & Beautiful** directly to the ongoing work of Jericho Road.*

One of the most remarkable aspects of Ray's book is his decision to donate all proceeds from *Broken & Beautiful* directly to the ongoing work of Jericho Road. Every book purchased becomes a seed planted in the lives of people who desperately need hope, structure, and Christ-centred community.

As members of the FCPO – Canada community, we know the importance of ministries that bring Christ's healing into places of deep suffering. Ray has been a faithful servant of the Gospel since Jericho Road's earliest days, and his work continues to bear fruit across Ottawa and beyond.

I encourage everyone to purchase *Broken & Beautiful*. You can purchase it here: <https://jerichoroad.ca/broken-beautiful/>

You will be blessed by the stories, strengthened by the testimonies, and reminded of the incredible things God is doing through ordinary people who say "yes" to His call. **More importantly, your purchase directly supports a ministry that is changing lives every single day.**

Ray's book is a celebration of grace, a reminder of hope, and a powerful invitation to partner in the ongoing work of Christ at Jericho Road.

Watch Ray's Testimony:



An Open Invitation



It's a tough time to be a law enforcement officer ... Scripture warns of a perilous hour such as this prior to Christ's return, "that day (Christ's return) will not come till the rebellion comes and the man of lawlessness is revealed. (2 Thes. 2:3)."

Scripture also admonishes us to "Encourage one another and ALL THE MORE as you see the day approaching". Hebrews 10:25 (Emphasis added).

What if there was a place where you and your family could get world class encouragement and training as a law enforcement family? A place where you were challenged with relevant teaching on how to be victorious over current day challenges? What if you found yourselves surrounded by 100s of people who lavishly serve, encourage and do all they can to strengthen you as a family? What would you think? If you're

What if there was a place where you and your family could get world class encouragement and training as a law enforcement family?

honest you probably think - "IT'S A SCAM! What are these people up to? What's their take? What do they want from us?"

We get it and for 32 years we have been proving it's not a scam. There ARE people who care. How? Through a special weekend of encouragement for law enforcement families that consists of two events ... The Friday, October 2nd, 2026 *Breaching the Barricade Conference* where we bring in speakers who have made the journey through hardship, loss and difficulty - Officers and their families that have discovered the richness of God and His ability to redeem the most horrible of circumstances.

The following day, Saturday, October 3rd, 2026 is the 32nd *Officer Appreciation Day* - A special day on a 300 acre campus filled with rifle, pistol, skeet, cannon, machine gun, .50 cal shooting and BB Gun Competitions. There's kids games and crafts, fishing competitions, children's inflatable bounce houses, slides and obstacle courses, knife/tomahawk/spear/battle axe throwing - An archery Range and all the food you can eat!!!

We're extending a warm welcome to our Canadian brothers and sisters in law enforcement! We'd be HONORED to prove that you ARE appreciated and loved – that your service and sacrifice IS appreciated!

For more information see www.breachingthebarricade.org and www.thankyouofficers.com.

Sincerely,

Jim Bontrager

Former National Board Member, FCPO - USA

Immediate Past President, The International Conference of Police Chaplains

BREACHING THE BARRICADE CONFERENCE

7 HOURS ILEA TRAINING CREDITS

FEATURING DYNAMIC SPEAKERS



WILLIAMS

RET. POLICE CHIEF



YANEZ

CHICAGO PD



LEMMER

RET. POLICE CHIEF



LANZEN

LEO FAMILY



BECKWITH

IN LT. GOVERNOR

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT: jimbontrager@icloud.com



PRICING:

\$45 Single

\$60 Couple

Alumni pricing available



VENUE:

Lerner Theatre

410 South Main Street,
Elkhart, Indiana



DATE:

October 2nd

8:30-5:00

Doors open at 8:00



INCLUDED:

Coffee cart and catered
lunch included



SPEAKER INFO

HOTEL PRICING - GROUP RATE

Staybridge Suites Elkhart North by IHG

Oct 1-4. \$104.00 nightly plus tax.

Group price ends Sept 24. Stay 1 to 3 nights.

Block of 20 rooms: 15 king, 5 double queens.

TO RESERVE: CALL 574-970-8488 & MENTION "BREACHING THE BARRICADE CONFERENCE"



32nd Annual LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER APPRECIATION DAY

All active duty law enforcement, jail, and safety officers and their FAMILIES are invited to a **FREE DAY** in their honor where we would like to express our gratitude for the many sacrifices they make on our behalf.

SATURDAY 10.03.2026, 11:00AM - 6:00PM

**Rife/Pistol/Skeet/Cannon/Machine Gun Shoot Rock Climbing Wall
Airsoft Mobile Shooting Gourmet Food Knife/Tomahawk/Battle Axe/Spear Throwing
Children's Bounce House, Crafts, and Activities Archery Door Prizes
Fishing Competition Obstacle Course Fun for the Whole Family!**

ULTIMATE WARRIOR COMPETITION

Shooting Stages, Knife /Tomahawk/Battle Axe
Spear Throwing, Archery
Winner: Floating Broad Sword Trophy
Reigning Champion: Ryan Lubben, Sault Tribe

INDIVIDUAL SHOOTING COMPETITION

5 Stages, Pistol, Cannon, Machine Gun,
Skeet, Rifle - 1st Place: \$200 Cash
Reigning Champion: Ken Ryan, South Bend PD

3 MAN SHOOTING COMPETITION

Same stages as individual competition
Winner: 6' Floating Trophy. Reigning Champs:
Kevin Bernard, Ryan Cummins, Kenny Steele



63412 Michigan 66
Sturgis, MI 49091



www.ThankYouOfficers.com

For more information contact: Jim Bontrager (574)536-9756

SPECIAL LODGING RATE

Staybridge Suites Elkhart North by IHG
Elkhart, IN (574)970-8488
(mention Breaching the Barricade Conference)

(email) jimbontrager@icloud.com

Living a God-Centered Life in a Tough Profession

S/Cst. Courtenay Mitchell, (Ret'd)
Ontario Legislative Security Service

As first responders and leaders in a service profession that puts incredible demands upon us, we must understand that we can't be successful in our calling by relying solely on our own strength and abilities. As Christian Peace Officers, we must rely on God for His protection from day to day. We must also draw upon His strength to be resilient, meeting each challenge that we face head-on and overcoming every obstacle in our way. (Ephesians 6:10).

In order to do this, we must adopt a lifestyle that is God-centered. In the midst of a world that is filled with information and many distractions, this is no easy task. However, it is absolutely essential for us to live this way if we are to represent Christ effectively to our families, our colleagues, and the communities that we serve.

Here are some practical steps that we can take on a daily basis, which will ensure our success:

1. Start each day with a time of personal study and communication with the Lord. We must understand that our Heavenly Father loves us, and as His valued sons and daughters, He desires to spend regular time with us (John 16:27). You can use a daily devotional as a guide or let the Holy Spirit lead you to a particular scripture for your study. Take time to ask Him for wisdom to understand what He is teaching you through His Word (James 1:5). Also, ask for direction



regarding any challenges that you may be facing (Matthew 7:7-8). Journal the impressions and answers that He gives (using either a journal book or voice recorder app).

2. Use your commuting time to get more grounded in God's Word, or just to enjoy His peaceful presence. Feel free to listen to teachings, audiobooks, or inspirational music. Be sure to use discernment and follow the direction of the Holy Spirit when listening to the news. The news media tends to propagate negativity and fear. If you find yourself experiencing negative emotions while listening to the news, turn it off and "press play". Our output is always based on our input, and as such, we must continually fuel our minds with thoughts that are positive and uplifting (Prov 4:23; Phil 4:8).

3. Take time to engage with the Lord, in between calls or assignments, throughout your day; just as you would with a trusted friend or colleague (Job 22:21).

4. Complete each day with a time of thanksgiving and reflection. Journal any insights that He gives. It is my hope and prayer that the Lord will reveal His love and grace to you in a greater way, as He continues to inspire you to serve and protect!

Court

A Different Kind of Mountain

Cpl. Bayden Austring, FCPO – Canada, Artic Representative



I almost didn't go.

Two years ago, my good friend Daniel invited me to a Christian mountain adventure event called Xtreme Character Challenge. I dismissed it as just another men's church retreat, and with the busyness of work and life, I quickly forgot about it.

That surprised even me. I love the mountains, especially sheep hunting with good company. The wilderness with God has always been one of my favourite places to be. Yet for some reason, I had no interest in the mountains without hunting.

The next year, Daniel invited me again. This time, without hesitation, I paid the fee and booked the time off. Looking back, I think I

made that decision so quickly for two reasons: first, the event wasn't during hunting season, and second, I now recognize the Holy Spirit's guiding hand. Before long, turmoil over that decision followed in the months leading up to the event.

In my policing world, between registering for XCC and the event itself, I responded to the [Tumbler Ridge School Shooting](#) and witnessed death, unimaginable loss, and mourning in the months that followed. It deeply affected me as a father, a police officer, and a Christian.

I was carrying things I did not know how to carry. I was off work for a lengthy time, and escapism crept into my life, gaining a foothold. Old habits die hard, as they say. Me, myself, and my addiction did well at stealing me from my wife, my children, and my friends.

Yet even when we are caught up in darkness, whether of our own doing or not, when we choose to enter the slough of despair, God's ever reaching, infinite love is still there. In an instant, with an about turn and a single stride back toward the narrow way, no matter how far we have fallen or run from His high ridges, He is there with arms open, His strong arm reaching down for us to grasp. That is our King. Our Shepherd.

Ninety days out from go-time, all 4M Canada sent us "trekkers" was a Bible reading plan, a daily workout plan, a packing list, and eventually a waypoint on the border of the Southern Alberta Rocky Mountains. That was it - that was all. I had no idea what I was getting myself into.

What I did know was that the weekend was called "Xtreme Character Challenge" (XCC), and the details included signing a no guff, death and dismemberment type waiver, along with intriguing statements in the description like:

"Friendships are forged, hearts cleansed, and relationships renewed. Now it's your turn." And, "The XCC is not simply an extended weekend; it is a journey of brotherhood to the foot of the Cross."

I did not follow the reading or workout plan as intended, almost in anticipation of finding an excuse not to go. I was comfortable, and so was the enemy. This challenge made me uncomfortable. In fact, I fought going altogether out of fear of the unknown. The fear of vulnerability. The fear of something hard.

Thoughts like, *I haven't trained physically enough for this*, and, *What's the difference between this and hunting in the mountains with other Christian men?* continually crept into my mind.

I was squirming in my skin; squirming in my sin. Each time I aired my grievances to my wife, she gently pushed back. "You should go. Maybe you need this. You'll have fun."

The day before I left for Alberta, my wife fell down the stairs with our two year old in her arms. My immediate, immensely selfish thought was, *If she's hurt badly, I don't have to go on this trip.*

Don't you see how much I need Jesus?

After a quick assessment, thankfully, she had only received minor bruises, and our two year old was, miraculously, unscathed.

The next morning, I awaited her diagnosis, but again, despite her aching knee, she

encouraged me to go. To leave her in the crippled chaos of our three young ones. She knew I needed to go more than I did at the time.

Go, I did. Glad I did. Praise God I went.

Within the first 20 hours, my team of seven was already planning a reunion for the following year. That eventually became a plan to reunite in six months, then three months, and finally all of us giving up a portion of hunting season to volunteer as crew for the upcoming British Columbia XCC in late September.



In less than a day, I realized I had grown closer to these complete strangers than I was to most of my closest friends. Why? Being vulnerable. This is difficult for many men, yet Scripture calls us to it.

At the end of the weekend, they asked us not to share the details. Much like RCMP Depot, surprise and the unknown held some of the most valuable lessons. Instead, one of the speakers suggested choosing two words to summarize the weekend and its effect on our faith.

My two words: Being vulnerable.

Being - *the state of existing.*

Vulnerable - *Susceptible*.

When you are vulnerable with others who not only believe in a loving Saviour who was brutally crucified, who cleansed us with His blood, and who conquered death, but people who also reciprocate and exist in that same vulnerability, something miraculous happens.

Where the world would condemn and judge, there is no harm, condemnation, or criticism. Instead, we, as like-minded believers, are exposed to grace, light, protection, and healing.

Only God can do this, and that is exactly what I experienced from my team. From my brothers.

"Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed." James 5:16

I came home with a repentant heart and a soul yearning for more. Praying this would not end, I had difficult conversations with loved ones and made necessary changes. More importantly, I was held to those changes, and still am, by my brothers.

Back home, I found Jesus waiting with love, grace, and forgiveness.

We don't have to do this alone. We were not created to do this alone.

It wasn't until I wrote these words that I realized vulnerability isn't the destination; it's the key that unlocks true Christian brotherhood.

In police work, much like responding to a serious call, backup strengthens the response, increases officer safety, and often leads to better outcomes. Backup saves

lives. Why would we expect the Christian life to be any different?

Someone I look up to immensely, who has walked through real suffering and grief, once told me two things I now understand deeply. They're not only true in marriage, they're true throughout the Christian life.

"Without total transparency, you cannot have true intimacy." And, "Marriage is voluntary participation in another human being's redemption arc. If you're not willing to live out the grace they don't deserve, it's probably not for you."

4M Canada has crafted an incredible event through which the Lord moved in my life more profoundly than at any other time since the day I first put my faith in Jesus Christ. Under the canopy of the night sky and among the mountain peaks, that weekend became a launchpad for what I hope and pray will be a fruitful future. A spiritual high? No, I pray for a new normal - a lush plateau. And I don't have to do it alone, and neither do you.

For me, XCC wasn't about surviving a weekend in the mountains. It was about learning that Christian brotherhood requires vulnerability, and that vulnerability, met with the grace of Christ, brings healing.

If any part of this story resonates with you, then maybe it's your turn.

As 4M Canada puts it:

"The 4th Musketeer (4M) is a men's movement that trains men to live for their King. Jesus gave all of Himself to us. Together we will give our everything to Him. Our service to Him is our highest honour. His struggle is our struggle. His passion is our passion. His goals are our goals.

“Are you a Christian but missing passion?
Do you read the Bible, yet its message
remains distant? Do you go to church, but
following Jesus is no longer an adventure?
Do you yearn for adventure deep inside?
Then you've come to the right place”.

4mca.org

arise.4mca.org (Women's ministry)

Hope to see you on the narrow trail,
brothers and sisters.

Bayden

Have You Got Yours?



Only 14 left!

A great way to show your support for FCPO – Canada. Only \$20.00 per coin. To order, simply email fcpo.aapc@gmail.com with the number of coins you'd like and your mailing address.



From our Vault

Articles from [past Peacemakers](#) make for a great second read. And for many of you - the first read. They are timeless. We opened the vault for this issue, and hope you will be blessed again by this contribution.

Police Chaplaincy in Canada

Hillar Alkok, RCMP Chaplain, Cochrane, Alberta

Reproduced from our Peacemaker archives: [February 2025](#)

[In Loving Memory](#)

Chaplain Hillar Alkok

Sept 24, 1954 - June 4, 2026



A few years ago, I spoke to a graduating class at Toronto Police HQ on the topic of Police Chaplaincy. I started by asking the class of smartly dressed individuals a simple question:

how many know what a Chaplain is? Of the approximately 70 recruits, only 2 raised their hands. I was surprised, but followed up with another easier (I thought) question: how many know what a pastor or priest is? Four people raised their hands.

I had helped establish police chaplaincy in Ukraine a year or so earlier when I travelled there with Bruce Ewanyshyn from the Brandon Police Service. The spiritual aspect was well understood, and we even had non-Christian officers promoting the idea of chaplains. Yet in the largest city in Canada, young officers had no idea who a chaplain was.

That is part of the issue facing police chaplaincy in Canada: few understand why we are even there. Chaplains themselves are part of the problem. I was a pastor for 14 years and I tell new police chaplains that a pastor and a chaplain are not the same thing. Far too many still think our role is to proselytize and preach to the rank and file. The other common mistake is that we think we are only there to perform ceremonial functions.

If you are around peace officers for any length of time you know that this is a recipe for a closed door. Yet, most officers would greatly benefit from the spiritual and emotional support offered by a seasoned chaplain. The question becomes: how do we reach these officers who face trauma, marital problems and other stressors?

Perhaps, our role as chaplains could also be seen as “conduits” to mental health professionals either within or outside the service.

From 2003 to 2005, my wife and three children lived in the country of Estonia as missionaries. I facilitated Ethics training for the National Police through a group called Pointman Leadership Institute, based in Los Angeles. It is an organization established and run by Christian peace officers. God gave me the only Christian contact within the Estonian Police, and she just happened to oversee training. No preaching was involved but everything taught was based on the Word of God. Remember, this country had been under Communist rule from 1944 to 1989.

While in Estonia, I got to play in a hockey league when they found out I was a goalie and Canadian to boot. Being a goalie opened many doors for me over the years and it did the same when I returned from Estonia and applied once again to be a chaplain for TPS. As we walked to the Unit Commander’s office for my

interview, he turned around and stated, “I hear you’re a goalie” - I got the job! This might not sound overly spiritual to you but hang in there for a minute. As mentioned, the Lord has a way of opening doors, and for me it was being a hockey goalie. I had played with guys at my first posting and even years earlier at Maple Leaf Gardens with peace officers who had the ice every Tuesday and Thursday morning. Now let’s get back to the term “conduit”.

The question chaplains need to ask themselves is how do we build relationships with those who I call a “gated community”? If the Lord has put us in a place to be a blessing to law enforcement and their families, how can that happen if they don’t know us? That is why ride-alongs are so vital and why sitting in on parades or bringing in snacks are ways in which we gain trust and even credibility. That is why the idea of simply being a “ceremonial” chaplain never works.

As Christian peace officers, you are in a sense “chaplains”. When the men and women you work with know that you care for them, they will be more likely to open up to you. Those that volunteer as chaplains, need your support because we know that cops like to “talk” among themselves.

I leave you with one last thought. Remember that those around you who may need help, want a safe place to approach. Their Wellness Units may not be that, so if a chaplain can be that person, they can help navigate to any resource that might benefit that cop in crisis.