

## From the President's Desk - "Membership Matters"



I hope everyone is enjoying the summer.

We are now well into the renewal of our membership list. Our old membership list which dated back to our inception in 1983, was not serving us well, as members had moved and not updated us. Now with our online registration, we are able to keep current, and our members are able receive the PeaceMaker at their email address. I note we still have some "old timers" who have not registered online, and perhaps that is because we have lost touch with them over the years. As such, if you

know of any "old timers" could you please let them know of the need to register online.

At this year's conference I laid out an aggressive challenge to have 1,000 members by our next Annual General Meeting. From there, we should look towards 10,000! Now more than ever, it is important that the Christian peace officer community be strengthened and encouraged through the bonds of fellowship.

Our FCPO family includes 2 types of membership: voting - peace officers (retired or serving); and, associate (any Christian who supports the aims of our ministry). On faith, I believe it is possible to have 2,000 peace officer members and 8,000 associate members in the coming years. Please join me in this vision and do your part to encourage membership in FCPO-Canada.

As always we would love to hear from you, and would welcome your thoughts and articles for this publication. Drop us a line at: fcpo.aapc@gmail.com

God bless,

Ron

## Conference 2015 – A time of renewal and challenge

At this year's national conference we saw a number of old and new friends meet at the Crossroads Centre in Burlington, Ontario. On our first day we received training on "Sharing Hope in Crisis "from Jeff Naber Manager of Chaplain Development & Ministry Relations for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA). We were joined by members of the BGEA - Canada Rapid Response Team, including

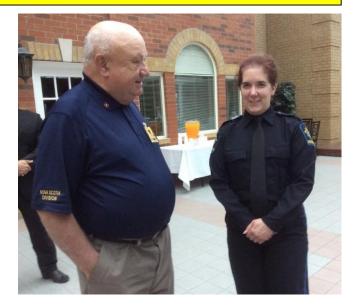


Merle Doherty (ex-Alberta FCPO Director), Manager of BGEA - Canada's Rapid Response Team. The <u>Rapid Response Team</u> is an ideal ministry for peace officers or ex-officers who have compassion for folks who are experiencing trauma (natural and man-made disasters).

The following day we heard some fantastic presentations from Colin & Catherine Nanton, Kent & Paulette Laidlaw, and a stirring testimony from Rob McKay (a retired Toronto Police Service officer). All the presentations centred on this year's theme "From Surviving to Thriving – Dealing with stress and trauma from the job". We were definitely blessed to have such high quality presenters – if you were there, you know exactly what I mean! Our weekend concluded with a church parade at Glad Tidings Church in Burlington. If you were unable to make it this year, do consider attending our next conference. It's a great occasion to meet fellow believers – you will not be disappointed!

## **Conference 2015**













## **The National Board**



Most of the National Board members were able to make it to this year's conference and annual general meeting (from left to right, back row: Henry (Hank) Harley, Dino Doria, Marvin Massecar; front row: Nicola Coulstring, Ronald Mostrey, Andrew Cowan, Jesse Weeks, and Ron Seney).



# Keep real current - we are now on Twitter!

Follow us at: @CanadianFCPO



# **Troubled Times**

In May, at the invitation of the North Syracuse Baptist Church, our president spoke at their 18th Annual Police Appreciation Service. Amongst other things, he spoke of the troubled times that law enforcement is currently facing. He reminded officers that *"The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him"* (Nahum 1:7). He also spoke of the need to hold strong in the faith and make "bold moves" to further the Gospel.

The service was well-attended with many local officers and some from Canada as well. The service was followed by a lunch sponsored by the Central New York FCPO Chapter.

His presentation was televised and can be viewed <u>here on YouTube</u>.



Henry (Hank) Harley

## Calling <u>All</u> Christian Peace Officers!

I am in daily contact with Christian peace officers who advise that they have never heard about the FCPO! Well they have now!

I encourage all of our members, of our mission...... "to spread the Word(s) of God the nation(s)". We, in law enforcement have a great opportunity to "share our faith with others", particularly with our colleagues. Do not let this opportunity get away.

I would also encourage our members to "get involved" in meetings of the FCPO-Canada. We have a great time discussing Christian activities and planning events. We also plan on how our funds will be distributed to officers and/or their families. Last year, FCPO-Canada made arrangements for 7 Moncton Mounties (and 4 wives) to attend the National Law Enforcement Retreat at the Billy Graham training Centre in Ashville, North Carolina, following the tragic murder of 3 of their comrades.



#### **MEMBERSHIP**

Do you know someone who may like to join us? We have 2 types of membership. Regular Membership is for peace officers, while Associate Membership is for anyone who agrees with our Statement of Faith and wishes to be a part of this wonderful ministry. Join online at: <u>www.fcpocanada.com</u>

## Mission Fest 2016 – Vancouver, BC



BC Director Russ Ideson and Ronald Mostrey

Again this year FCPO-Canada will have a booth at <u>Mission</u> <u>Fest</u> in Vancouver. It is estimated that over the weekend approximately 30,000 individuals will attend this event. A full spectrum of Christian charities are represented at this event.

Last year, Russ & Sharon Ideson and Ron Mostrey tended our booth and met many individuals who had never heard of our ministry and were thrilled that such a ministry existed. It was the first time we had taken such an outreach effort. *"It was absolutely fantastic to meet other peace* officers and relatives of peace officers and inform them about our unique ministry" said Russ after the weekend.

If you are in the Vancouver area or know someone who may be interested in our ministry, we hope you/they will stop by and meet us.

Mission Fest 2016 will take place January 29 -31, 2016 at the Vancouver Convention Centre.





Dino Doria

On Friday 15 May 2015, a team of FCPO - U.S.A and Canada officers were on their way to the Police Memorial gathering at U.S Capitol. It was a beautiful sunny day and the "Son's" rays were shining over us.

Being guided to where the best parking lot would be, and immediately connecting with a taxi driver was perfect timing not only to get to where we wanted to go but to meet Willie our taxi driver. As we entered the van Willie greeted us and the Lord led us to share a kind word about the Lord.

As we spoke about God's blessings and our FCPO outreach to Peace Officers - I heard Willie state "God is Speaking to me today" several times. I also noticed that Willie had a green pocket size New Testament that was on the dash of his vehicle.

The Holy Spirit was at work in Willie's heart and I truly believe that Willie's heart was being touched by God, however our entire team was also being ministered to by the Holy Spirit. En route to our destination the Lord spoke to my heart to give Willie some money - the interesting part about this is that all of us felt compelled to give Willie the exact same amount and without consulting each other we all pulled out the same amount that the Holy Spirit had quietly told us to give. Willie had shared that he was an army veteran and had been off work due to illness.

Willie's eyes swelled up in gratitude as he accepted to receive God's blessing for the day. This Divine encounter demonstrated how God is at work today if we **STOP, LISTEN and SEE** - we will see people who are in need of an encouraging word or some need that God is speaking to us about.

In Acts Chapter 3: we read how the Holy Spirit heals a crippled beggar through Peter. Verse 4, *Peter and John looked at him intently, and Peter said, "Look at us" The lame man looked at them eagerly, expecting some money. "But Peter said, "I don't have any silver or gold for you. But I'll give you what I have. In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, get up and walk!"* 

Silver or Gold we did not have nor did our giving make this person rich. Generosity isn't about money, it's about an attitude of the heart. Generosity is fueled by compassion and money.

Although Willie needed money that day the most important thing he needed was for him to **Stop, Listen and See** what the Lord was telling him through us. Willie was not crippled however sometimes it's not the physical attributes that need to be healed The Holy Spirit ministered to Willie's inner most being. In Acts 3: 7, *Then Peter took the lame man by the right hand and helped him up. 8 And as he did the man's feet and ankle were instantly healed and strengthened*. As Willie listened to us we noticed a beautiful smile come on his face. Willie's innermost belief in the Lord was instantly renewed as he recognized that this cab fare was not just a cab fare but God's way of shining his blessings on him to remind him that He has not forgotten Willie and that God is closer than we think.

This Divine encounter truly blessed us all - we were also reminded that obedience is better than understanding. Sometimes we don't know or fully understand all of the circumstances but the Lord reminds us that **He knows ALL**, and all we have to do is be obedient to His call.

We can always give an encouraging word and ignite hope in someone else's life. Remember **the same spirit that raised Christ from the dead dwells in you Romans 8:11.** 

#### Executive:

Don DesRoches

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V. President	Cyril Sweetville
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Treasurer	Andrew Cowan
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Dino Doria	Director, Ontario
Jesse Weeks	Director, GTA
Nicola Coulstring	Director, Alberta
Merv Tippe	Director, SK/MN
Russ Ideson	Director, BC
Provincial Pontoconstives	
Provincial Represenatives:	
John D. Allen	NS
Rob McKay	ON
Richard Begin	AB
Stephen Kolstad	BC
Eric Beauchamp	PQ

## **National Board Update**

We thank Donald Desbiens and Don DesRoches for their service on the national board. Don DesRoches remains as a Provincial Representative.

We welcome Andre (Andy) Bigras to the national board (Director, Quebec) and Welcome Eric Beauchamp as the new Quebec Provincial Representative and Rob McKay as our Ontario Provincial Representative.



Andre (Andy) Bigras



Eric Beauchamp



#### **Rob McKay**

## Editorial (by: Ronald Mostrey)

PEI

University of Cincinnati police officer Ray Tensing is currently facing a murder charge following the <u>July 19 shooting</u> <u>of Samuel DuBose</u>. Once a charge is laid it is usually the practice of all officials to refrain from commenting on the case. I was shocked to hear the prosecutor state the officer "purposely killed him" calling the officer's actions "asinine" and "senseless," and stating the officer "should never have been a police officer," as well as calling the stop "a chicken crap" traffic stop. I've never heard such comment before a trial – it is wrong!

First, let me comment on the traffic stop. If the law requires a front license plate, then the police are there to ensure the law is respected. Often a "routine" stop turns out to be something much more interesting! Next, although one can form an opinion by reviewing video, if you're a prosecutor, keep that opinion to yourself until the appropriate time. Finally, on the issue of whether or not officer Tensing ought to have ever been a police officer, I don't know, and I suspect the prosecutor does not know either. Whether this officer is guilty or not should be determined fairly and objectively in a court of law.

What I do know is we need to pray for officer Tensing and his family and loved ones as well as those of Mr. DuBose. I suspect officer Tensing never got up that morning intent on killing someone. This is a tragedy for him, his loved ones and the department. Likewise, I'm sure Mr. DuBose never anticipated dying on that day – a tragedy for his loved ones as well. We need to pray for justice, and to pray for all our comrades that they will be safe and discerning at all times. I would hate for officers to second guess their training and use of force continuum for fear of an outlandish public rebuke. For those who are believers, know that God is with you and trust he will give you wisdom and strength in the time of need. As I said in <u>Syracuse:</u> "The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him" (Nahum 1:7).

### NOVEMBER 4-6, 2015



#### **ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**

# NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT RETREAT

#### KNOWING THE GOD WHO PROTECTS AND SERVES

In appreciation for your service as a law enforcement officer, the Billy Graham Rapid Response Team invites you to the National Law Enforcement Retreat in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina. Officers participating individually or with their spouses will be encouraged by speakers with a law enforcement background to learn to trust God through traumatic events, stressful situations, and the unique issues faced by officers' families.

Location: The Billy Graham Training Center at The Cove \$225/individual • \$395/married couple (includes on-site lodging, food, sessions, and materials)

For more information, visit **BillyGraham.org/NLER**, or call 1-800-950-2092 to register today.

"HE GUARDS THE PATHS OF THE JUST AND PROTECTS THOSE WHO ARE FAITHFUL TO HIM." —PROVERBS 2:8, NIT





Eric Beauchamp

## Québec Update

#### Bonjour à tous!

Nous avons commencé nos rencontres en mars dernier et après 4 rencontres (1 par mois) nous étions environ près de 20 membres réguliers. Nous avons pris un congé pour les vacances de l'été et nous allons recommencer nos études bibliques le <u>26</u> <u>septembre</u> prochain en continuant de nous rencontrer à tous les mois. Le sujet sera: Pouvons-nous être policier et chrétien en même temps?

D'autres part, nous allons commencer à prier pour que Dieu nous envoie de nouveaux membres afin que d'autres agents puissent venir à la connaissance de Jésus-Christ. Pour ce faire, nous irons porter des invitations dans TOUS les postes de police dans un rayon de 100km autour de Montréal. Gloire à Dieu à l'avance pour tous ceux qu'Il nous amènera!

Passez à tous une super été!

#### Hi everyone!

We started our meetings in March and after 4 meetings (once a month) we had about 20 regular members. We took a break for the summer vacations but will be back on <u>September 26th</u> for our monthly bible studies. The subject will be: Can we be cops and Christians at the same time?

Also, we will start praying that God will send us more new members so more officers will come to the knowledge of Jesus Christ. In order to do this, we will bring invitation pamphlets to ALL the police stations within a 100K radius of Montreal. To God be the glory in advance for all the new people He will bring us!

Have a nice summer to you all!





# How Big?

As summer winds down I hope that many of you had the chance to spend time with family and enjoying all that this great Country has to offer. To answer the question, as some are no doubt wondering why I am standing beside a 4 ton Canada Goose, I spent 6 1/2 days solo round trip from Ontario to Manitoba and couldn't pass up the chance for a picture as I stopped for gas in the bustling town of Wawa, Ontario.

Having said that, this now leads me to how I see this picture fitting into the FCPO. While on my ride, I had many a mile to reflect, marvel at creation as I rode along Lake Superior and also be thankful for at least 1 close call that ended up in my favour. Being alone on the ride made me think about when we as an organization and board have put up our hands and said "how big can we go" that amazing things have happened. We as a board recently stepped outside the box and were able to support a number of RCMP couples from Moncton, NB to a retreat who were stationed there last year when the RCMP lost 3 of their own. You may also recall that back in 2005, we put up our hands and wondered how big it could get when the FCPO was involved with the rebuilding of police and firefighter homes in Gulfport, Mississippi; an amazing time that many of us who went can attest.

At our recent conference, Ron Mostrey challenged everyone to get involved and to see how big and far the FCPO could reach. It all starts

with you as an individual no matter what your role, rank, position or assignment may be. Will you approach your church to host an emergency services church service? Will you tell other officers about this great ministry? What can you do in your circle of influence to create the ripple effect that will make a difference? Those are my questions to you and the challenge from our President.

Finally and in closing, I wouldn't be a very good treasurer if I didn't remind everyone about the monthly donation option via Canada Helps on our <u>webpage</u> or with the fall coming up, that you can designate United Way payroll deductions to the FCPO so that we can be there with support and resources when we ask God the following: "how big can this thing get!"

Andrew Cowan

### **Calling All Prayer Warriors!**

There are many ways one can support the law enforcement community. One of the best ways is to pray for those who serve and protect, and pray for this ministry. We now have some dedicated individuals (prayer warriors) who do just that. These special folks have adopted our ministry as one to pray for. When we learn of an injured officer or a specific need, we send a message to this group. They are like our S.W.A.T or Emergency Response Team! These folks regularly pray for the FCPO, and our outreach to officers who do not know Jesus as their saviour. They pray for wisdom and protection for the law enforcement community. *"… If God be for us, who can be against us"*? Romans 8:31

If you are a "prayer warrior" or know someone who is, please let us know - we would love to add you/them to our "warrior" list.