

# Peace Officers' Memorial Ribbon Society



The Peace Officers' Memorial Ribbon Society is a not for profit society incorporated in 2000. The Society was established to honour and remember those Officers' who died in the performance of duty, serving their communities.

## “To Remember our Fallen Heroes”

### Mail:

Peace Officers' Memorial Ribbon Society  
PO Box 78022  
3295 Coast Meridian Road  
Port Coquitlam, BC; V3B 7H5  
PH: (604) 944-9753

### Website:

[www.memorialribbon.com](http://www.memorialribbon.com)

## The Society

The **Peace Officers' Memorial Ribbon Society** is a not-for-profit national society that has been in the making since 1994, and incorporated November 14, 2000. It is presently working on obtaining a national charity status. The executive is made up of active and retired police officers, a police chaplain, and has 'friends of the society' who are sheriffs, corrections officers' as well as other police officers.

The Society is using the Peace Officers' Memorial Ribbon, a blue over black ribbon looped at the top (similar to other commemorative ribbons) pinned in the middle with a generic badge, as a symbol of awareness and mourning for the death of Peace Officers, in general, while on duty. The black expresses the mourning of a loss, the blue stands for the 'thin blue line', and the generic badge represents all police and peace officers. The generic badge is emblazoned with a maple leaf, a Canadian symbol known and recognized worldwide. The Ribbon is generic enough to permit all uniformed and plainclothes police and peace officers to wear.

The Society hopes to not only make the Ribbon a national symbol, but also an international symbol of awareness and mourning, used whenever a Police Officers or Peace Officer dies in the 'line of duty'. The Ribbon is also used at the 'Police and Peace Officers Memorial Day' (last Sunday of September) much like how the 'poppy' is used to represent the sacrifices of our war veterans on Remembrance Day.

## Criteria:

The criteria of when the Ribbon is worn are similar to the criteria of when a fallen officer's name is placed on the Canadian Police and Peace Officers National Memorial in Ottawa. It is as follows:

1. The deceased officer must have been a sworn peace officer in Canada and died as a result of an external influence.
2. The deceased officer must have been on duty at the time of death, or if off duty, acting in the capacity of a peace officer, or the circumstances leading to the death must have been brought about because of the officer's official status.
3. The deceased officer must have acted in good faith in doing everything that could have been reasonably expected.
4. Notwithstanding the above, any set of circumstances that lead to the death of an officer, may be considered.
5. The Ribbon is worn from the preceding Monday leading up to and including the last Sunday of September (Police and Peace Officers Memorial Day).
6. In the event of an officer's death on duty, the Ribbon is worn from the time of the officer's death until his burial/memorial.

## Objective:

Police Officers, Peace Officers, family, friends and anyone who wishes to mourn and illustrate their support may wear this Ribbon. All monies collected through purchases of the Ribbon, the print, cards, pins, and donations, would go into the 'Peace Officers' Memorial Ribbon Society' trust account, which in turn would be used to accomplish the following:

1. National media awareness campaign through the use of pamphlets, posters, and the use of the Ribbon itself.
2. Pursuit of post-secondary education with the creation of school bursaries and scholarships in the fallen peace officer's name.
3. Donations to different trusts set up in the fallen officer's name.
4. Assistance to families and fellow peace officers in dealing with the grieving process.
5. Donations to assist in the building of Peace Officers' Memorials.
6. The manufacture and distribution of the Ribbon.

The Society has been able to make donations to a number of different trusts, bursaries, and memorials established for fallen Officers'. Some of these donations were:

- WTC Police Disaster Relief Fund
- RCMP 'E' Division Memorial Fund
- Wahl Audi Scholarship Fund
- Constable Ellis Trust Fund

## Products

The Peace Officers' Memorial Ribbon Society uses a number of products to raise money in order to realize our goals. The Memorial Ribbon is our main source of revenue, which is purchased with a minimum donation of \$5.00 (the picture of the Ribbon is on the first page).

The Society has expanded our source of revenue to include:

- ❖ 'Salute to our Fallen Heroes'  
A limited edition print commissioned by a local artist.



- ❖ Memorial Card depicting the Print.
- ❖ Memorial Ribbon lapel pin.
- ❖ Memorial stickers

All money collected through the purchase of these products and by donations is used to realize the goals of the Society. The executive of the Society are all volunteers and receive no money.

## The Executive of the Society

1. **President/Treasurer: G. Shawn Coady** is a 16 year member of the Vancouver Police Department, and presently a Sergeant in the City Gaol. He has held a variety of positions in patrol as well as a detective in the Domestic Violence Unit. He spent four years with BC Corrections prior to joining the VPD. Shawn is the creator of the Ribbon.
2. **Vice President: Ross M. Gulkison's** civil service includes corrections, sheriffs, police, federal investigations, and the militia. In 1993 he was appointed to Police Chief of the former Sto:lo Justice Service. Ross has since retired.
3. **Director/Secretary: Jean Galvin** retired from the RCMP in 1998 and now works as a civilian with the Langley RCMP detachment.
4. **Director: Mike McCarthy** is a 16year member of the RCMP spending that time all over the province of BC. He is presently working out of the Chilliwack Detachment.
5. **Director: Kelly Watson** has been a member of the RCMP for 29 years, having been posted around the province on general duties, Freeway patrol, Traffic, Admin Support, and presently to the Lower Mainland Staff Relations Representative position.
6. **Director: Chaplain Jim Turner** has served the law enforcement community in a voluntary capacity for over nineteen years. On October 23, 2000 Jim left full time pastoral ministry in the church setting and was appointed as the first Divisional Chaplain for "E" Division. Jim has also been appointed as Chaplain at Delta Police and Vancouver Police.
7. **Director: Michel Funicelli** has been an RCMP member since 1985 (worked in patrol, GIS, Customs & Excise, and Drugs in BC) and then transferred to Quebec. Michel was one of the founding members of the Society starting in 1998 and was instrumental in getting the RCMP involved. Upon his transfer Michel had to step down but has rejoined the Society executive as Quebec's Liaison.
8. **Director: James Pearson** has been employed by the Vancouver Police Department since May of 1992. He is currently appointed as Vancouver's Departmental Sgt/Major. James presently works out of the Patrol division, and prior to his enlistment with the VPD he enjoyed a career with the Canadian Military where he was a Commissioned Officer.
9. **Presently vacant.**

To obtain more information about the Society, the executive, contacting us, or to purchase any of our products please go to our website [www.memorialribbon.com](http://www.memorialribbon.com)