

RCMP PIPES AND DRUMS (NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION)

2001



Continued collaboration: the Ottawa Police Service. When the RCMP Pipes and Drums started their initial operations in the year 2000, there was a 3-year plan to transition from the support of the Ottawa Police Service Pipe Band to a fully functioning independent organization (see Annex A). Through its second year of operation the Band continued to benefit greatly from a working partnership with the Ottawa Police Service Pipe Band. This was both practical and desirable because of (a) shared resources, (b) expertise in musicianship, and (c) mentorship from a highly experienced and respected band management team. Both bands shared a common repertoire of tunes.

Under New Management. The transition continued to move forward with the establishment of a new RCMP management team with a mix of RCMP and OPS members, as follows:

- (1) Band Manager and Drum Major, Graham Muir;
- (2) Pipe Major Pat Hayes;
- (3) Pipe Sergeant Gilbert Young;
- (4) Marketing Director Donald Corbett; and
- (5) Convener Bill Stewart Jr.

Getting settled. The Band focused its second year of operation on identifying new musicians and building 'bench strength'. It saw small incremental growth in both the pipe section and drum corps, now numbering 19 and 9 respectively, for a total strength of 28. The band, however, was still primarily supported by the OPS with the only dedicated RCMP band members being Graham Muir (D/M), Donald Corbett (piper), Errol Schell (piper), Beau Schell (side), and Pat Gribbon (bass). Both Errol and Pat were RCMP civilian members. Beau was Errol's son. The summer season also witnessed the continued support of a dedicated group of four regular members as part of the Band's Honour Guard (colour party). The band sought to solidify its presence in furtherance of the Force's many requests for ceremonial support and assistance. Consistent with its mandate, the band garnered considerable experience and exposure in support of local, regional charitable and civic initiatives.

Pipe Band Kit. One of the issues considered in the early days of the band (and for the national program) was that of uniform badges, both for the grey shirt order and the red serge. The two badges below were early designs considered, but for a number of reasons were never pursued.



Performance highlights. Right from its start-up in 2000, the Band became exceptionally busy and a visible presence in not only the Ottawa area, but across Ontario. In April 2001, the band performed on Parliament Hill for the International Year of the Volunteer. In May the band participated in the Ontario Police Memorial at Queen's Park in Toronto, for the first time as its own Unit. July saw the first combined RCMP/OPS presence at the RCMP Sunset Ceremonies at the Canadian Police College. August was particularly active with high profile events at the Glengarry Highland Games (Friday night tattoo), the Kingston Heritage Tattoo at Fort Henry and Fortissimo on Parliament Hill with the OPS and combined bands of the Canadian Forces.

In the fall, the band performed twice with the OPS along side a Welsh Choir travelling internationally in support of local charities. Like the Ontario Police Memorial in the spring, the RCMP band performed for the first time as its own Unit for the National Police Memorial Service on Parliament Hill. In October the band was back on the road with the OPS to the Skydome in Toronto for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Convention in Toronto.

As well as RCMP medals parades and other formal functions, RCMP pipers were a common feature at many regimental weddings and funerals, retirements, citizenship courts, civic events, and a host of related ceremonial functions in support of "A" Division's Public Relations Unit. In furtherance of the Force's commitment accords to 'integrated policing', the RCMP and Ottawa Police Services Bands performed regularly together with combined Honour Guards. As a conservative estimate the band and Honour Guard logged well over 4,000 volunteer hours over the course of just its second season.

2001 Band and Solo Events
(number participating in brackets)

07 Jan 2001	Opening Ceremonies, Ottawa 67's Hockey, Lansdowne Park
22 Mar 2001	Toronto North Detachment, Regimental Ball (1)
24 Apr 2001	Canadian Club Lunch, Chateau Laurier Hotel (1)
26 Apr 2001	International Year of Volunteers, Parliament Hill (18)
05 May 2001	Ontario Police Memorial Service, Toronto (12)
01 May 2001	Canadian Club Lunch, Chateau Laurier Hotel (1)
15 May 2001	Citizenship Court, Leomont Building (1)
16 May 2001	Rendez-Vous 2001, Police Week, Parliament Hill (5)
30 May 2001	Medals Parade, "C" Division, Montreal (3)
31 May 2001	Medals Parade, NCR (15)
26 Jun to 01 Jul 2001	RCMP Sunset Ceremonies (with OPS) (12)
01 Aug 2001	Glengarry Highland Games, Grandstand (with OPS) (12)
04-05 Aug 2001	Kingston Heritage Tattoo, Fort Henry (18)
17-18 Aug 2001	Fortissimo, Parliament Hill (with OPS) (12)
06 Sep 2001	Accompany Welsh Choir (with OPS), Charity Food Bank (7)
08 Sep 2001	Accompany Welsh Choir (with OPS), Charity Big Brothers (7)
14 Sep 2001	Retirement A/Commr Pat Cummins (2)
22 Sep 2001	Rural Expo, Navan (with OPS) (12)
28 Sep 2001	National Police Memorial, Parliament Hill (18)
05 Oct 2001	RCMP United Way Kick-Off, CPC (6)
06-07 Oct 2001	MP Foundation, Horse Auction, CPC (2)
08 Oct 2001	American Academy of Medicine, Congress Centre (1)
11 Oct 2001	RCMP Long Service and Peacekeeping Medals Parade (15)
20 Oct 2001	HQ Sgts Mess Dinner (1)
26 Oct 2001	CPC 25 th Anniversary (2)
27 Oct 2001	Celebration "Research Excellence" Chateau Laurier (4)
27-28 Oct 2001	IACP Convention (with OPS), Toronto (15)
08 Nov 2001	CPC Tree Dedication (1)
11 Nov 2001	Remembrance Day, Winchester (1)
11 Nov 2001	Remembrance Day, Orleans Legion (with OPS) (4)
11 Nov 2001	Remembrance Day, Rockland Legion (2)
22 Nov 2001	National Org Crime Convention, Conf Centre (with OPS) (3)
28 Nov 2001	Regimental Funeral RCMP Insp Pratt (1)
11 Dec 2001	US Embassy WTC Memorial (1)

**16 May 2001
Parliament Hill**

A request came to the Pipe Band, through the RCMP Public Relations Unit, from the office of the Minister of Culture and Heritage (Sheila Copps) asking if the band could help create a bit of “fuss” for a celebratory event on Parliament Hill. The band was asked if it could contribute some “colour and sound” to the special occasion. Roxanne Ouellette, a photo journalist with Public Relations, and a huge friend of the band, was the one who captured this iconic photo, used for many years after as both the recruiting poster for the RCMP Pipes and Drums (NCR) and a banner for significant events.



**01 August 2001
Friday Night Tattoo, Glengarry Highland Games
Maxville, Ontario**



A wave of the Friday night tattoo massed bands being led on to the Games infield by RCMP D/M Graham Muir and OPS D/M Chris Renwick. Acting-P/M Kyle McIntyre (a serving OPS officer, and OPS piper) leading the RCMP file. Beside the RCMP file is the Rob Roy Pipe Band (Kingston) led by P/M Scott Bell, and to their left, the Glengarry Pipe Band led by P/M Ermis Durofil.



Acting-P/M Kyle McIntyre, Bill Stewart Jr and P/M Pat Hayes. Although P/Sgt Gilbert Young normally led the band during this timeframe if P/M Hayes was in his OPS kit, Gilbert was already busy with his job as the Tattoo Coordinator. Although he himself didn't make it onto the field, Kyle is wearing his tunic.

**26 June to 01 July 2001
RCMP Sunset Ceremonies, Canadian Police College**



FORTISSIMO - 2001

Rehearsals Aug. 14, 6:00 p.m. - Carleton University
 Aug. 16 (time & place to be determined)
Show Aug. 17 & 18 - Parliament Hill

OPS/ PIPERS

1. P. Hayes
2. K. Armstrong
3. L. Davidson
4. J. Gauthier
5. S. James
6. R. MacNeil
7. J. Ritchie
8. S. Forsyth

RCMP/PIPERS

1. G. Young
2. G. Ogilvie
3. W. Stewart Sr.
4. J. Yourt
5. M. Yuen
6. D. Corbett
7. E. Schell
8. B. Hampson

OPS/DRUMMERS

1. J. Mellon (Bass)
 2. M. Horton (Side)
 3. S. Bremner (Side)
 4. C. Munroe (Side)
- C. Renwick (D/M)

RCMP/DRUMMERS

1. K. Penny Sr. (Bass)
 2. K. Penny Jr. (Side)
 3. J. Sullivan (Side)
 4. R. Downey (Side)
- G. Muir (D/M)

**04-05 August 2001
Kingston Heritage Tattoo, Fort Henry**

The RCMP (through formal channels) had been asked to participate. It was an early [if not the first] version of what has now become their annual 'sunset ceremony' that we've participated in a number of times over the years. The 'Dismounted RCMP Ceremonial Troop' (marching Mounties with lances) was in its infancy as well, and this was effectively the same group that had performed that year at the Halifax Tattoo under the command of Insp Al McIntyre and SM Debbie Reitenbach. Although a number of RCMP and OPS members were committed to Maxville that same weekend, between Pat Hayes and myself, and a few others, we determined that we could field enough folks to do both.... with the assistance of some pipers and drummers from "J" Division Moncton. Kyle McIntyre was the designated P/M, me as D/M. There was a lot of senior RCMP Brass in the bleachers. The place was jam packed. The Pipe Band did very well. The Ceremonial Troop 'crashed and burned'. The RCMP contingent (band and ceremonial troop) were housed at RMC, and I recall that we were actually billeted in the 'Stone Frigate'. I have a vague recollection of a post-event pub crawl through downtown Kingston. Not surprisingly, Hampson was involved along with yours truly and few other stalwarts, with Steve McDermid piping us in/out of all and sundry venues. The ride back to Ottawa was harsh. [Graham Muir]



RCMP (NCR): Steve Douglas, D/Sgt Bob Downey, Jimmie Fraser, Brad Hampson, Steve McDermid, A/PM Kyle McIntyre, D/M Graham Muir, Keith Penney Sr, Beau Schell, Errol Schell, Bill Stewart Jr, John Sullivan, Sandy Turner, and Jack Yourt.

RCMP ("J" Division Moncton): P/M Malcolm MacAuley, Pat Fox, Phil Leblanc, P/Sgt Scott Murray, Donna Rainey, Maurice Richard.

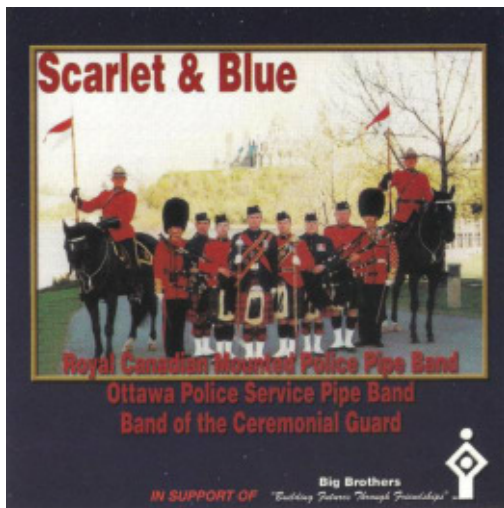
ADVERTISEMENT – PPBSO OTTAWA BRANCH NEWSLETTERS 2001



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Pipes & Drums (National Capital Region). Formed in the Spring of 2000, the Band now numbers 25 players. Wearing the newly-minted RCMP Tartan and the renowned 'red serge' tunic, the Band is comprised of regular members of the RCMP, employees and citizen volunteers. Be a part of this unique community policing initiative. The Band would like to hear from you if: you consider yourself a solid player; piper or drummer, you are available for practice on Wednesday evenings, and you can offer first allegiance to the RCMP Band. Contact: Inspector Graham Muir, Band Manager & Drum Major, phone - 613-993-4179, email - graham.muir@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.

CD Recording 'Scarlet & Blue'

A trilateral agreement was reached with the Scarlet represented by the RCMP and GGFG Ceremonial Guard Brass Band; the Blue was the OPS. The recording was made at the CG band room at Carleton University on the 3rd of June 2001. At that time, the RCMP crew were still very much an adjunct of the OPS operation so P/M Pat Hayes was the lead for both OPS and RCMP, with a small number of pipers and drummers actually participating in the recording. David Rennie coordinated the CG participation.



Production costs of the CD were borne by Guthrie Woods, the Mounted Police Foundation and the Canadian Tourism Commission. The idea was to create an appealing ensemble arrangement of brass, pipe and drums as a fundraising vehicle with a percentage of profits going to Big Brothers Ottawa, and the rest to the benefit of 'the scarlet and blue'. \$10,000 cash was raised from CD sales at the IACP Conference in Toronto that October. Graham Muir and Donald Corbett carried that cash in a gym bag the remainder of the weekend through the return home... even though there was plentiful whisky and beer along side, the bag was watched very carefully!!!



ANNEX A – RCMP PIPES AND DRUMS 3-YEAR PLAN

DEVELOPMENT PLAN - RCMP PIPES & DRUMS (NCR)

1 GOALS

- 1.1 Gain functional autonomy by April 2003.
- 1.2 Increase public visibility of the Band.
- 1.3 Increase visual connection with the RCMP icon.
- 1.4 Establish strategic partnerships for the future.

2 RELATED TASKS

2.1 Gain functional autonomy by April, 2003.

- 2.1.1 Establish “independence criteria”, e.g. The RCMP Pipe Band will be independent of the OPS Pipes and Drums when:
 - A separate and independent leadership hierarchy is in place and functioning.
 - Both bands practice separately.
 - At least thirty musicians have first allegiance to the “Red Serge” (critical mass).
 - The Band has established independent & sufficient funding sources.
 - Feeder mechanisms are in place & functioning (musicians/dancers).
- 2.1.2 Develop a recruiting programme to increase membership by 10 members per year. Initiatives to include:
 - Monitor/respond to queries from “Pipers and Pipe Band Assoc.” Newsletter
 - Advertise in local newspaper(s).
 - Establish & recruit via the website.
 - Offer incentive to Band members to attract new members, e.g. “Rugby shirt” reward
- 2.1.3 Establish independent funding source(s) for the Band, including:
 - securing an annual operating budget from the RCMP, “A” Division
 - securing a long-term corporate sponsorship arrangement via the HQ “Special Projects” Unit
 - securing “Not For Profit” Organizational Status (provincial) in order to receive provincial lotteries grant funding

2.2 Increase profile & visibility of the Band relative to three intended audiences:

- RCMP Leadership.
- Corporate Sponsors.
- Conferences & Conventions.

2.2.1 Related initiatives to include:

- Develop Power point presentations to promote the band - audience specific.
- Develop Conference/Convention list to include: Fed/Prov/Local government, Tourism, Conference facilitators & outsourcing agencies, Private industry (e.g. funeral).
- Determine fee schedule for band, small group, individual performances (percentage profit accruing to band?).
- Leverage the use/participation of small groups to show-case and increase band profile.

2.2.2 Build a Band web-site to:

- Provide general information.
- Provide a recruiting conduit.
- Provide for booking requests.
- Provide a system to track individual “gigs” - reports to spreadsheet (booking convenor to receive monthly report).
- Provide conduit for CD sales.
- Provide links to partner and related sites.

2.2.3 Improve marketing of the CD:

- Identify members for marketing team and provide training.
- Promote a team effort.
- Develop a standard sales-table layout.
- Acquire a cashbox and establish a standard cash float.
- Acquire a “marketing toolbox” to contain: tape, scissors, thumbtacks, pencil, pen, markers, 'featuring' sign, small white board, 'proceeds to BB' sign, batteries, CD player, extension cord, rate of exchange card, etc.
- Acquire display stands (check BUSINESS DEPOT as a source).
- Build network of retail outlets through RCMP Foundation contacts.
- Make initial donation to Big Brothers – encourage them to help themselves. (Get publicity photos).

2.2.4 Procure business cards for specific members.

- Graham Muir – Band Manager.
- Pat Hayes – Pipe Major.
- Gilbert Young – Pipe Sgt.
- Donald Corbett – Marketing Director.
- Bill Stewart - Convenor.

2.3 **Increase visual connection with the RCMP “Icon” by:**

- recruiting a “standing” RCMP Colour Party (stetsons, boots & breeches).
- partnering, where possible, with the RCMP Musical Ride, e.g. music and joint venues.
- working with HQ RCMP “Special Projects” to take advantage of partnering opportunities with Heritage Canada.
- working with “A” Division Public Relations Unit to maximize exposure to public venues with combined Pipe Band and other RCMP operational elements.
- pursuing proactive relationship with the MP Foundation to promote RCMP Tartan and “kilted” image via licensing agreements.

2.4 **Pursue selected strategic partnerships.**

- Air Cadets - piping tuition, feeder mechanism to the Band.
- Legion (Orleans) - possible practice venue for Cadets and eventually for Band - possible funding source.
- Highland Dance Group - long-term partnership to provide feeder mechanism to RCMP Band once autonomous (Mrs. Terri Kember).