

Vimy Officers' Mess  
PO Box 17000 Station Forces  
Kingston, ON K7K 7B4

5545-3 (Secy)

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Distribution List

**MINUTES OF THE VIMY OFFICERS'  
MESS GENERAL MESS MEETING –  
HELD IN THE KINGSTON ROOM AT  
THE VIMY OFFICERS' MESS AT  
1500 HRS ON 8 FEBRUARY 2024**

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**Executive present:**

LCol T.C. McMullen, President  
Maj M.C. Drover, Vice President

**Committee members present:**

LCol S.C. LeBlanc, Secretary  
Maj M. Peebles, Information Officer  
Capt J.A. Aguer, Finance Officer  
Capt B.C. Carey, Bar Officer  
Capt R.D. Grant, Housing Officer  
Lt(N) C.W. Davidson, Furniture & Effects Officer  
Capt A.R. Hoekstra, Infrastructure Office  
Capt A.S. Ji, Inclusivity Officer  
Capt G. Serjeantson, Entertainment Officer

**Ex-officio representation present:**

Erica Lambert, Deputy PSP Manager  
Veronica Ron, Mess Manager

1.	<u>INTRODUCTORY REMARKS</u>	<u>Action</u>
	These are minutes for the General Mess Meeting (GMM) of the Vimy Officers' Mess (VOM) membership. The intent of this GMM is to inform members of the progress of various initiatives, solicit nominations for vacant positions on the Mess Committee, as well as to propose new capital expenditures for the upcoming year.	Info
	The PMC offered a territorial land acknowledgement and called the meeting to order at 1505hrs. The A/DBComd confirmed that a quorum was established. The PMC then moved on to review the agenda.	Info
	Approximately 150 members were in attendance.	Info

	<p>Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call to Order, Quorum Establishment</li> <li>• Discussion of Previous Minutes</li> <li>• Updates to Mess Committee / Unit Reps / Ex-Officio</li> <li>• Review of Honourary and Associate Members</li> <li>• Mess Committee Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ PMC</li> <li>○ VPMC</li> <li>○ Fin O</li> <li>○ Ent O</li> <li>○ Bar O</li> <li>○ Info O</li> <li>○ Infra/Housing Rep</li> </ul> </li> <li>• New Business</li> <li>• Points from the Floor</li> <li>• Next GMM – June 2024</li> </ul>	Info
2.	OLD BUSINESS	
	<p>a. <u>Discussion of Previous Minutes.</u></p> <p>Maj Greg MacDonald motioned to accept the minutes from 28 Jun 23 GMM as a true record of events and discussion.</p> <p>Seconded: Maj Scott Chisholm  Discussion: nil  Opposed: nil  Abstained: 1  Motion carried; minutes from 28 Jun 23 GMM are accepted.</p> <p>b. <u>Updates to Mess Committee / Unit Reps / Ex-Officio.</u></p> <p>The VPMC highlighted that some positions are currently vacant with several others expected to become vacant at APS. The floor was opened for nominations to join the Executive Committee or to volunteer as a Unit Rep. No motions were made.</p> <p>c. <u>Review of Honourary and Associate Members.</u></p> <p>The list of current and proposed Honourary and Associate Members was displayed. Three new Associate Members were proposed: Mr. Darren Roberts, Colonel (ret'd) Mike Johnson, Colonel (ret'd) Stephen Saulnier</p> <p>After a brief description of the backgrounds of each proposed new Associate Member, the VPMC, Maj Matt Drover, motioned to accept the proposed list of Honourary and Associate Members as presented.</p>	<p>Vote</p> <p>Info</p> <p>Vote</p>

	<p>Seconded: Maj Mike Fitzerman  Discussion: nil  Opposed: nil  Abstained: 1  Motion carried.</p>	
3.	MESS COMMITTEE REPORTS	
	<p><u>PMC</u>. Mess Members were encouraged to leverage their Unit Reps and the Committee to have their voices heard. COs were asked to encourage volunteers for Unit Reps where there are vacancies. PMC asked Members to attend TGIT events, and for units to consider using the Mess as a venue for activities, PD, etc. prior to TGITs to further encourage participation. The Mess is open for business for private events and there is a great deal of white space on the calendar, so all were encouraged to think about using the VOM if planning an event. PMC is looking for a bit of risk acceptance on the budget, given how healthy the bank account currently looks. More joint mess events are planned occur moving forward. PMC welcomed the arrival of 21 EW and the CAIR to the VOM as of 1 April 2024.</p> <p><u>VPMC</u>. There is a plan to open the availability of taxi chits, initially for 5 large events over the coming year. The maximum amount per chit will be \$50, with any excess costs being billed to the Member's Mess account. The Committee will assess the budget, with \$5K initially allocated, and the uptake as the year progresses.</p> <p>Given recent interest in creating space for VOM musicians, some music equipment is being purchased for use by the Membership. An electric drum set has already been acquired, and a sound mixer, microphones, stands, cables, etc. have been authorized for purchase and will be acquired before the end of the fiscal year.</p> <p><u>Fin O</u>. An overview of the current budget was presented. The current year-to-date Revenue is \$398,192.01 and the Expenses are \$388,035.23, with the forecasted end fiscal year position being a deficit of \$26,024.92. As of December 2023, the unencumbered cash is at \$573,355.94 with an estimated \$90K of capital expenditures planned.</p> <p><u>Ent O</u>. The intended scheme of monthly activities was presented, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Wednesday: Hot breakfast</li> <li>• First Thursday: Family-friendly TGIT</li> <li>• Second Wednesday: Games night and jam session</li> <li>• Second Thursday: Trivia TGIT</li> <li>• Third Wednesday: VOM lunch</li> <li>• Third Thursday: Unit-hosted TGIT</li> </ul>	<p>Info</p> <p>Info</p> <p>Info</p> <p>Info</p> <p>Info</p>

	<p>It was reiterated that there will be more joint mess events (VOM, FFOM, RMC, WOSM, JRs') to come in the near future. Several upcoming planned events were presented (host mess if joint):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 21 Mar 24: Hot Ones + beer tasting</li> <li>• 23 Mar 24: Casino Night (VOM)</li> <li>• Apr 24 (TBD): Poker Tournament (WOSM)</li> <li>• 4 May 24: Latin Party</li> <li>• 24 May 24: RCAF 100<sup>th</sup> Gala (JR's')</li> <li>• Jun 24 (TBD): Battle of the Bands (JR's')</li> <li>• 1 Jul 24: Canada Day fireworks watch party (RMC)</li> <li>• Late Aug 24: Tri-Mess Golf (JR's')</li> <li>• Oct 24 (TBD): Whiskey Tasting (FFOM)</li> </ul> <p>The Leon's Centre/Slush Puppie Place is being well attended with many special events upcoming, in addition to the Frontenacs hockey games. The cost of the suite for Sep 23-Sep 24 was \$41K. The intent is to decide whether to renew the contract at the June GMM.</p> <p>The JRs' Mess in Trenton has expressed interest in conducting inter-mess Esports competitions. The Ent O will gauge interest from the VOM membership to determine if this is an activity worth taking on.</p> <p><u>Bar O.</u> The Bar O position will be vacated as of the June GMM. It was noted that this position is a great way to get started as a member of the Mess Committee. The new event costing model was proposed as per the attached slide. Some discussion about the proposed amendments followed, to gather feedback from the membership, but no vote was called as these changes are the purview of the Mess Committee.</p> <p><u>Info O.</u> The security system initiative proposed at the June 2023 GMM was raised as a point of discussion. The Info O noted that we are currently at the consultation phase, and the plan is to discuss further and propose a motion at the June 2024 GMM.</p> <p><u>Infra / Housing Rep.</u> A brief update was provided on the ongoing and future work to occur. Significant effort has gone into improving the method of tracking equipment maintained in the Mess, with a view to simplifying future DA verifications.</p>	Info
4.	NEW BUSINESS	
	<p>a. <u>Proposed Entertainment Program &amp; Budget.</u></p> <p>A proposal for the upcoming year's entertainment program and budget was laid out. Maj Greg MacDonald motioned to endorse the proposed budget for the 24/25 fiscal year.</p>	Vote

<p>Seconded: Maj Heron Li  Discussion: Questions were raised whether overplanning to this degree is permitted, and it was noted that this would be allowed. It was also asked how we would proceed if the BComd would not approve the proposed budget. An electronic vote by the Mess Membership could be an option, if not approved. Otherwise an extraordinary GMM would be called, whether virtual or in-person, to discuss an updated budget proposal.  Opposed: nil  Abstained: 3  Motion carried with a majority.</p> <p>b. <u>AV System Upgrade.</u></p> <p>There are four rooms within the VOM that have varying levels of existing and proposed requirements for AV equipment. This project is currently at the contractor consultation stage, with the intent to put forward a proposal at the June 2024 GMM.</p> <p>c. <u>Proposed Expenditure: Mercury Room Rug.</u></p> <p>The former rug in the Mercury Room was in poor condition and was disposed of prior to the asbestos remediation that took place last Fall. Quotes are being obtained for a replacement rug, with estimates varying between \$12K-\$22K. A replacement rug is needed to dampen the sound in that room and is expected to last for 10-15 years. Capt Sam Thivierge motioned to approve \$25K for the purchase of a new rug for the Mercury Room.</p> <p>Seconded: Lt Quinn Duncan  Discussion: nil  Opposed: 3  Abstained: 9  Motion carried with a majority.</p> <p>d. <u>Proposed Expenditure: New Draught Lines.</u></p> <p>The existing draught taps, lines, and tower in the Kingston Room bar should be replaced given their age. The addition of more taps, for a total of ten, would expand the number of products available, reduce product wastage, and improve overall taste. Capt Ryan Hoekstra motioned to approve \$25K for the upgrade and expansion of the draught lines in the Kingston Room bar.</p> <p>Seconded: Maj Michael Fitzerman  Discussion: It was asked whether this project will include upgrades to the Intrepid Room also, and the answer was that it will not.  Opposed: nil  Abstained: 4</p>	<p>Secretarial note:  Operating budget not approved by BComd as presented.  Budget to be resubmitted to a \$50k loss.</p> <p>Info</p> <p>Vote</p> <p>Secretarial note:  Capital expenditures at 4 c) and d) approved by BComd.</p> <p>Vote</p>
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	Motion carried with a majority.	
5.	POINTS FROM THE FLOOR	
	<p>LCol Nick Williams noted that wait times at the bar during events are substantial and more servers would help to keep the lines move more quickly. Propose more bar staff are hired. PSP staffing is not something that the Mess Membership can decide upon, but the Mess Committee will take this on as a concern and discuss options with PSP.</p> <p>Capt Sam Thivierge asked whether the Leon's Centre box contract will continue. As the contract runs until September 2024, it was reiterated that it will be a point for discussion at the June 2024 GMM.</p>	<p>Info</p> <p>Info</p>
6.	ADJOURNMENT	
	<p>The PMC thanked everyone for their attendance and participation. the team for their efforts. The next GMM will be held virtually in June 2024. Maj Scott Chittim motioned that the meeting be adjourned.</p> <p>Seconded: Capt Pierre Labbe  Discussion: nil  Opposed: nil  Abstained: 1  Motion carried with a majority; the meeting was adjourned at 1613 hrs.</p>	Vote

**MCMULLEN,**  
**THOMAS 305**

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T.C. McMullen  
Lieutenant-Colonel  
President of the Mess Committee  
2296

**Lambert,**  
**Erica**

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Lambert, Erica  
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E. Lambert  
Deputy Manager  
Canadian Forces Base Kingston PSP  
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C.I. Clark  
Lieutenant-Colonel  
Base Commander  
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Annex A – [General Mess Meeting Presentation](#), 8 February 2024

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## Distribution List

VOM Mess Committee

VOM Membership

PSP through Mess Manager