

# NATIONAL COUNCIL OF VETERAN ASSOCIATIONS IN CANADA

*1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Parachute Battalion Association*  
*14<sup>th</sup> Canadian Field Regiment Association*  
*435-436 & Burma Squadrons Association*  
*Air Force Association of Canada*  
*Aircrew Association*  
*The Algonquin Regiment Veterans' Association*  
*Armed Forces Pensioners' / Annuitants' Association of Canada*  
*The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada Association*  
*Bomber Command Association Canada*  
*Burma Star Association*  
*Canadian Aboriginal Veterans and Serving Members Association*  
*Canadian Airborne Forces Association*  
*Canadian Association of World War II Veterans from the Soviet Union*  
*Canadian Corps Association*  
*Canadian Fighter Pilots Association*  
*Canadian Merchant Navy Veterans Association Inc.*  
*Canadian Naval Air Group*  
*Canadian Naval Divers Association*

*Canadian Paralegic Association*  
*The Canadian Scottish Regimental Association*  
*Canadian Tribal Destroyer Association*  
*The Chief and Petty Officers' Association*  
*Dieppe Veterans and Prisoners of War Association*  
*The Dodo Bird Club of Ex-RCAF Flight Sergeants*  
*Ferry Command Association*  
*First Special Service Force Association*  
*Hong Kong Veterans Association of Canada*  
*Jewish War Veterans of Canada*  
*KLB (Koncentration Lager Buchenwald) Club*  
*Korea Veterans Association of Canada*  
*The Limber Gunners*  
*Métis Nation of Ontario Veterans Council*  
*The Military Vehicle Hobbyists Association*  
*National Prisoners of War Association of Canada*  
*Naval Association of Canada, Montreal Branch*  
*Nova Scotia Naval Officers Association*  
*Nursing Sisters' Association of Canada*  
*Operation Legacy*  
*The Overseas Club - Canadian Red Cross Corps (Overseas Detachment)*

*The Polish Combatants' Association in Canada*  
*The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada Association*  
*RCAF Prisoner of War Association*  
*Regimental Association for the Toronto Scottish Regiment (Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother's Own)*  
*Royal Air Forces Escaping Society*  
*Royal Canadian Air Force Pre-War Club of Canada*  
*The Royal Canadian Army Service Corps Association*  
*Royal Canadian Naval Association*  
*The Royal Canadian Regiment Association*  
*Royal Naval Association - Southern Ontario Branch*  
*Royal Winnipeg Rifles Association*  
*The Sir Arthur Pearson Association of War Blinded*  
*The South Alberta Regiment Veterans Association*  
*Submariners Association of Canada (Central Branch)*  
*Toronto Police Military Veterans Association*  
*The War Amputations of Canada*  
*War Pensioners of Canada*  
*War Veterans & Friends Club*  
*The Warriors' Day Parade Council*  
*White Ensign Club Montreal*  
*Wren Association of Toronto*

**MEMORANDUM: Executive Officers  
Representatives, Member-Associations**

**DATE: July 19, 2013**

**SUBJECT: New Minister of Veterans Affairs**

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On July 15, 2013, the Prime Minister significantly shuffled his Cabinet, resulting in the appointment of a new Minister of Veterans Affairs, Julian Fantino, moving Minister Blaney to the Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness portfolio.

Minister Fantino has a lengthy career in law enforcement, including as Toronto's Chief of Police, Ontario's Commissioner of Emergency Management, and Ontario Provincial Police Commissioner.

He was elected a Member of Parliament in November 2010 and was re-elected in May 2011. Mr. Fantino previously served as Minister of State (Seniors) from January 2011 to May 2011, and Associate Minister of National Defence, specifically responsible for military procurement, until July 2012.

Time will tell if Minister Fantino will change the course of Veterans Affairs administration. It remains our expectation that, given the substantial work-in-progress that has been carried out by senior Departmental officials, the majority of the initiatives that we are currently pursuing will remain on track and be appropriately prioritized by the new Minister. Hopefully, his many years of experience with the Police Forces in Ontario will provide him with the necessary

knowledge and sensitivity as to the plight of those Canadians who were asked to serve the country, often in harm's way, and at great risk to their own safety.

It will be our mission to ensure that Mr. Fantino recognizes the Canadian Government's obligation to veterans and their dependants, particularly those who have suffered disability or incapacity as a result of their military service.

I will be meeting with the new Minister in the near future once he has settled into his new portfolio to review our Legislative Agenda and the outstanding concerns of our member organizations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BNF', written in a cursive style.

Brian N. Forbes, B.Comm., LL.B.  
Chairman

BNF/sc