



Scholarships and Awards Committee Annual Report 2020-2021

PORTFOLIO OBJECTIVES 2020-2021

- To support the medals, awards, scholarships and bursaries requirements of both R.C.S.C.C Falkland and N.L.C.C Vice-Admiral Kingsmill as requested and required.
- To meet with officers and cadets of the two Corps for the above purposes if called upon.
- To encourage awards and expressions of appreciation to fellow members of the Navy League of Canada Ottawa Branch and arrange same as nominated and approved.
- To bring forth suggestions and recommendations to the Board of Directors of the Ottawa Branch to express appreciation and to encourage support from outside organizations and businesses who provide support in any form to the Ottawa Branch or the Corps.

Comments of Achievement Status

- I, like everybody else, has felt the effects of the COVID pandemic on the portfolio for which I am responsible. Much of my Navy League involvement over the last year has been outside of the scope of the Scholarship and Awards but not all:
 - The Commanding Officer Falkland requested that I require four brass bells for this years Bell trophy and for years to come. I purchased the bells and was reimbursed by the Branch.
 - I met (virtually) with potential scholarship applicants. This worked quite well and several of the cadets engaged with questions and there seemed to be a reasonable level of interest.
 - At time of writing, I believe we may have 3 applicants. This may change before the end of the month which has been designated as the deadline.
- My thanks to Acting Sub-Lieutenant Nathalee Jacques for her good work at the Corps level to ensure cadets are aware of the scholarships and bursaries available to them.
- Outside of my portfolio I was involved in the planning arrangements for the 125th Anniversary of the Navy League under the direction of Mark Viau. There were two main tasks:
 - I was tasked to contact many of the main sites in the city that could provide space and services for the planned Gala Anniversary Dinner. Information such as availability, menus, services, and quotes were gathered. Unfortunately, after much planning and work by all involved the endeavour was cancelled due to COVID.

- I volunteered to purchase/import an embossed stainless steel time capsule from the United States. This was received and it looks great! I am keeping this in storage until it is required.

Recommendations for 2021-2022 Objectives

My recommendations from last year still stand and are listed below:

- On the assumption that the organization returns to “normal” or in the hope of the “new normal” not being too restrictive it is hoped that the awards and scholarships program can be used to raise the branch’s profile with the Corps and the community.
- Dividends would be reaped if we are more active in recognizing outside support.
- That once meeting sociably in larger numbers is allowed perhaps, we can organize an event to present some awards and medals.
- Until the above can be accomplished perhaps arranging for virtual presentations would be considered.

Further recommendations:

- The 125th Anniversary initiatives mentioned above should be renewed at the earliest opportunity. I believe that everyone will “get it” and the events may even be more successful than if they had happened when everything was normal. On the assumption that the organization as a whole returns to “normal” or in the hope of the “new normal” not being too restrictive, it is hoped that the awards and scholarships program can be used to raise the branch’s profile with the Corps and the community.

ISSUES AND CONCERNS

- N/A

RECOMMENDATIONS (General)

- None.

SUMMARY

I’m sure I join everyone in looking forward to seeing the cadets on parade once again. It will be nice to meet everyone in the same room for a meeting as well!

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Cummings
Scholarships and Awards Chairperson