

# Sabretache

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CALGARY MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

w w w . c m h s . c a April Extra # 1 2022

Are you a collector of Police Badges and other Police collectables? New rules are coming.

This message comes from the editor of the SFC (Scarlet Force Collectors Organization) who sends the following:

Thanks to the *CPICA (Canadian Police Insignia Collectors Association)* I have been informed of changes that will or might affect our hobby. These are planned for enforcement in Nova Scotian at the moment but we can reasonably assume that as the informant says, they will probably be enforced right across Canada before long. At this point in time I merely want to make you aware of them and pass on the two links that I have been sent that refer to them. Our informant (a former Toronto Police Service officer) drew my attention to;

https://novascotia.ca/restrict-access-police-items-and-vehicles/?

NOVA SCOTIA Changes to restrict access to police items and vehicles

Nova Scotia is changing who can access police items (like uniforms, badges, crests and hats) and vehicle markings and vehicle equipment. The Police Identity Management Act will make it harder, create replica







A new battle for Juno Beach is underway. Member James Baldwin sent me notice of this problem awhile ago and I thought this would be a good opportunity to pass it on.

There is no better place to honour the courage of the Canadians who served in the Second World War than the Juno Beach Centre (JBC). Yet the museum is now facing its greatest threat in nearly 20 years of existence. Foncim, a French property developer, plans to erect

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Juno beach centre and encroaching developments.

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The Police Identity Management Act will make it harder to buy police uniforms, create replica vehicles and obtain other items that could be used to impersonate a police officer. The change takes effect 12 May 2022

And to the Federal law Criminal Code as it refers to the same or similar subject. To be found on;-

Criminal Code laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-46/section-130.html Personating a peace Officer

The original emails from the CPICA is shown below;- (PLEASE READ TOROUGHLY BRCAUSE THE LOWER PART WILL PROBABLY CONCERN ALL OF US)

Canadian Police Insignia Collectors Association https://novascotia.ca/restrict-access-police-items-and-vehicles/? fbclid=IwAR104EgJJOBRIZj59u\_ahvDnMk\_Z9SiAmOCUZt7BV1oCx0O3D13JWBUgJMA

Bob Pyefinch: Although this law right now is for Nova Scotia there is currently a Commission being held that could effect Canada wide. I was recently contacted and asked to attend. Due to the fact that I was leaving the country the same day I was asked to attend I made arrangements to have someone attend to speak from the collectors point of view.

Good Morning,

My name is Dwayne King, I am a retired Toronto Police Officer and now an investigator with the Mass Casualty Commission. The Mass Casualty Commission is an independent public inquiry created to examine the April 18-19, 2020 mass casualty in Nova Scotia and to provide meaningful recommendations to help keep communities safer.

If you are not aware of the events of April 18th and 19th of 2020 here is a quick summary.

A resident of rural Nova Scotia went on a 13 hour shooting rampage until he was finally shot dead by police. The rampage occurred over a large area of Nova Scotia and during a large part of the rampage the perpetrator was driving a Replica RCMP police vehicle that he had created. The perpetrator had bought a decommissioned Ford Taurus police vehicle from a Government of Canada Auction and then ordered and installed all the necessary Police equipment through Ebay. (lights, push bar, radio, siren etc)

As part of the Commission work we want to explore / discuss with individuals the Collecting of Police paraphernalia from several view points. The end goal of the Commission is to create informed recommendations that will help make communities safer. This may include recommendations regarding the collection of Police Paraphernalia.

The Commission does not wish to put recommendations in place that would adversely affect Canadians and do that effectively we need to gain an understanding of why people collect Police paraphernalia.

I am reaching out to try and find someone who would be willing to talk to the Commission and possible participate in a round table discussion with regards to the collection of Police Paraphernalia.

Look forward to chatting.

Feel free to call if you have any questions

Cheers Dwayne King

Retired TPS 1282

### Points of interest from Nova Scotia web site

The Police Identity Management Act will restrict the sale, reproduction, possession and use of police items, vehicles, vehicle markings and vehicle equipment to authorized individuals only (authorized individuals are defined in the act).

You're only authorized to possess police items that are currently in use by a police agency in Canada if you're an active member of a police agency or a police cadet and you require the police items for work.

If you have police items that are currently in use by a police agency in Canada and you're unauthorized to have them, you must forfeit them or make them unserviceable before the legislation comes into effect on 12 May 2022. You can keep ceremonial uniforms and police items that are not currently in use by a police agency in Canada.

To forfeit an item, you can turn in the item to your local police station or RCMP detachment.

Making uniforms (including hats) unserviceable means that you permanently alter the uniform so that it's unwearable. For police items (like badges and crests) this means permanently encasing the item in acrylic. Individuals may choose to do this to retain an item of high sentimental value.

What you need to do with police items, vehicles, vehicle markings and vehicle equipment

# Retired police officers

You need to dispose of or make items unserviceable if they're the same as items currently in use by a police agency in Canada. This includes police uniforms, badges and crests.

For example, you can only keep a police badge that's currently in use by a police agency in Canada if it's encased in acrylic. To keep a uniform, you need to remove all identifying markings and cut the items so they can't be worn.

You can keep ceremonial police uniforms.

# Collectors

You will no longer be permitted to buy or sell police items currently in use by a police agency in Canada. You will also no longer be permitted to possess police items currently in use by a police agency in Canada unless you make them unserviceable.

#### Enforcement

Police have the authority to search and seize police items if they have reasonable grounds to believe an unauthorized individual is selling, reproducing, possessing or using police items unlawfully.

Individuals can be fined up to \$10,000 or be sentenced to 3 months in jail if they're found guilty of an offence under the Police Identity Management Act. Business can be fined up to \$25,000. Tickets for offences under the act can result in fines ranging from \$352.50 for failing to report lost or stolen police items to \$1,475.50 for possessing police items without authorization.

These are just a few points. Make sure you go to website for complete review.

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# Juno Beach Centre Under Threat

<u>Foncim</u>, a French property developer, plans to erect a 70-unit condominium development on Juno Beach, just east of and between the museum and the Seulles River. The development is called *Domaine des Dunes*.

We are not generally opposed to projects like these on former battlegrounds; the French deserve to enjoy the freedoms our veterans' sacrifice brought them. However, the Dunes project was created without input from the community or from the Juno Beach Centre. Today, despite local opposition, the project has advanced to the point where the developer demanding use of the JBC's private road for access to the building site by construction vehicles and workers. We have great concern for the impact that this will have on the Juno Beach Centre.

For the last two years, the JBC has defended itself from legal actions filed against us by Foncim.

A recent legal decision concluded that Foncim's Dunes property is encircled, thereby granting the developer access to their build site through our road (*la Voie des Français Libres*). The JBC paid for



Infantrymen of The Royal Winnipeg Rifles in Landing Craft Assault (LCAs) enroute to land in France, 6 June 1944. The Winnipegs landed on Mike Red sector of Juno Beach on D-Day, near the present-day site of the Juno Beach Centre and the proposed site of the condo development (DND / LAC / PA-132651).

the construction of the road on land leased to us for 99 years by the town of Courseulles-sur-Mer for the sole purpose of providing visitors with access to the JBC. A bailiff could arrive any day to request that we open our barrier and provide Foncim with access to the road. They will be able to pass their construction vehicles over our road at will. According to the information available, the estimated number of vehicles is in excess of 850.

When that happens chaos will ensue. The JBC is now at serious risk of being overrun and severely damaged by this road opening. The length of the Dunes project is estimated at almost 22 months, meaning that it will have a prolonged impact on our memorial site on Juno Beach.

The legal decision comes with no guidance on what "rules of the road" might apply. It is impossible to organize sharing the road in a way which will not seriously impact the JBC commercially, economically, and in terms of security. The safety of our visitors, mingling on the road with construction vehicles, is of paramount concern. Traffic chaos, safety issues, and congestion impacting the itineraries of guests – among many other problems – will have grave repercussions for the Centre, particularly during a time where we have lost a significant number of visitors due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In combination with the Dunes development disruptions, these factors will lead to the decline and possibly the eventual closure of the JBC.

The high number of construction trucks using our road will make it extremely difficult to run the JBC's activity on a day-to-day basis (especially given the difficulty for tourism buses to access the JBC site). It will also make it difficult to carry out our own development works. These include an extension of the museum, the boutique, and the creation of a cafeteria, all of which are meant to boost the activity of the site in this difficult time for the tourism industry.

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The road itself was not created to accommodate such heavy construction equipment traffic. Maintenance costs will be borne by the Juno Beach Centre.

Foncim will drive their construction equipment – dump trucks, bulldozers, front loaders, cranes – over ground that France made available for Canadians to remember. In doing so, they will do real harm to Canada's primary Second World War site of memory.



Aerial reconnaissance photo of Mike Red sector of Juno Beach taken by an Allied aircraft on D-Day. The Juno Beach Centre sits in the triangle formed by the Seulles River and the entry to the harbour in the middle of the photo. This sector of beach was captured at great cost to "B" Company, The Royal Winnipeg Rifles and a party of engineers from No. 6 Field Company, RCE.

Les Amis du Centre Juno Beach and the citizens of Courseulles-sur-Mer understand and cherish the sacrifices Canadians made to liberate their town and country. They have been vocal in their opposition to this project over the last two years.

We have kept Minister of Veterans Affairs Lawrence MacAulay informed on these issues and have recently informed Minister of Foreign Affairs Mélanie Joly. We have called on them to make clear to their French counterparts that the investments Canadians and the Government of Canada have made over 20 years and the sacred ground on which the JBC is privileged to operate are now seriously at risk.

But we also need Canadians to join this fight for our history. French decision-makers need to see that Canadians will not abide this enormous insult to the memory of our soldiers – all volunteers and many as young or younger than 18 – who began the liberation of France from that beach.

Reporting out of France has already led a small but growing group of Canadians to organize Save Juno Beach. We thank them for their support and hope that you will join this citizens' campaign. Thank you to our donors and supporters who have already reached out to offer support.

We are rapidly approaching a point of no return. This is an existential threat to the Juno Beach Centre and the Canadian memorial presence in Normandy. Without your support, the legacy that our veterans built for future generations on Juno Beach may disappear entirely.

To join fellow Canadians in the fight to "Save Juno Beach", please go to

https://www.savejunobeach.ca.

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Aerial view of the Juno Beach Centre from 2014. The building behind the parking lot on the left no longer exists and is the site of the condo development. ©JBC

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY
The SOCIETY

is a non-profit registered society which fosters the study of the military and the police, and the heritage of Canada, the British Empire, and the world as well as the preservation of military artifacts and records.

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