



LAST POST FUND  
FONDS DU SOUVENIR

A Quarterly Newsletter from the Last Post Fund

# THE BUGLER

Vol. 1, No. 4 — September 2010

[www.lastpostfund.ca](http://www.lastpostfund.ca)

## TWO WOMEN NOW HEAD THE LAST POST FUND

A first in the history of this centenary organization, two women now lead its destinies.



Lieutenant Colonel (Ret) Evelyn Kelly, CD becomes the 29th National President of the Last Post Fund. She previously served the organization as Vice President West and as President of the Ontario Branch.

Holding a Masters Degree in Health Services Administration, LCol Kelly served with the Canadian Forces Medical Services as Nursing Officer, as Commanding Officer of 25 Medical Company and as Medical Advisor to the 32 Canadian Brigade Group.



Before taking office as Executive Director of the Last Post Fund, Ms. Carol Genest had enjoyed a 20-year career with the Government of Canada, mainly at Canadian Heritage, Parks Canada and Veterans Affairs Canada, working mostly

in official languages, funding programs and management.

A more complete biography of LCol Kelly and Ms. Genest can be found at [www.lastpostfund.ca](http://www.lastpostfund.ca).

## MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

As I begin my mandate as Last Post Fund National President and Carol Genest settles into her role as Executive Director, we have focused our attention on three major priorities regarding the Funeral and Burial Program that we deliver on behalf of Veterans Affairs Canada.

Our first priority refers to the maximum allowance payable to a funeral home. Now standing at \$3,600, it has not been increased since November 2001, failing to keep pace with the rising costs of funeral services. Both the RCMP and the Department of National Defence have recently raised their maximum allowance to \$12,700. We believe that our Veterans deserve an equal level of assistance.

Our second priority calls for an increase of the estate exemption for the Veteran's survivor or dependant. In 1995, this exemption was cut in half, down from \$24,000 to \$12,000. According to Statistics Canada, that amount is lower than the poverty level. For hundreds of Veterans, being denied funeral and burial benefits creates an additional burden on their families. Consequently, we are asking that the estate exemption be restored, with a cost of living allowance.

Funeral and burial benefits are not available to Canadian Forces members who have served after the Korean War, unless they receive a disability pension from Veterans Affairs. Extending eligibility to these members would create a pool of over 700,000 Veterans who might qualify for the Program. Therefore, as our third priority, we ask that eligibility requirements be extended to include all members of the Canadian Forces who are in financial need.

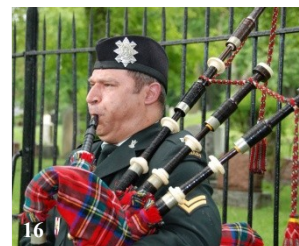
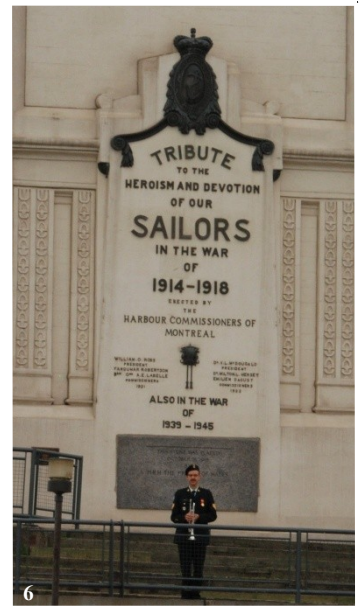
Needless to say that we count on the support of all Veterans organizations to help us bring about these important changes.

## LAST POST FUND 2010 COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONIES

Every year in June, commemorative ceremonies are held in Montreal to pay tribute to Veterans who served our country in times of war and peace. The following page shows pictures of ceremonies (captions below) on the St. Lawrence River, at the Notre-Dame-des-Neiges and Mount-Royal cemeteries and at the National Field of Honour, where a commemorative event will also take place on 11 November 2010. Everyone is welcome.

- 1 Review of the HMCS Donnacona Guard of Honour on the St. Lawrence River.
- 2 Marcel Belleau, President, LPF-Québec, Commodore Peter Ellis, Maritime Force Development, and Chip Hair, LPF Honorary President.
- 3 General Salute.
- 4 Delphine Ross, Silver Cross Mother, and Guy Rousseau, Regional Manager, LPF-Québec.
- 5 Mrs. Ross with guest of honour Commodore Ellis.
- 6 Tribute to our Sailors in the War of 1914-1918.
- 7 Robert Groulx, President, Royal Canadian Legion Québec Command and Commodore Ellis.
- 8 and 9 Commemorative concert at Saint Joseph Oratory, with Senator Pierre Claude Nolin as guest of honour.
- 10 and 11 At Notre-Dame-des-Neiges and Mount-Royal Cemeteries.
- 12 The 3rd Montreal Field Battery of Artillery, Côte-des-Neiges Barracks.
- 13 Parade of Royal Canadian Legion flag bearers at the National Field of Honour.
- 14 Chip Hair, grandson of Last Post Fund founder.
- 15 Grave markers decorated with small Canadian flags.
- 16 Piper playing *The Lament*.
- 17 Robert Groulx, President and Comrade Margot Arseneault, 1st Vice-President, Royal Canadian Legion Québec Command.
- 18 Musicians from the 34 Canadian Brigade Group.
- 19 Parade of the 34 Canadian Brigade Group Guard of Honour.
- 20 In front of the Cross of Sacrifice.





**THE BUGLER,**  
 A Last Post Fund publication  
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