



Submariners Association of Canada (East)

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting
Tuesday 03 June 2025 at
Somme Branch Legion &
Via ZOOM Conference Meeting



The Monthly Meeting of SAOC(E) was held at the Somme Branch Legion, Dartmouth and via Zoom. Emails had been sent out and a posting made on Facebook Group to inform everyone that the meeting would commence at 1830 Halifax time so members could attend or connect.

Opening. The President, Scotty Parsons brought the meeting to order (open up for dive) at about 18:35. He greeted all and those connected via Zoom and welcomed the SOMME Branch Legion President Velda Doucette to our meeting for a presentation. You can get your own drinks tonight. He asked that if you go to the Bar please sign in. We would like to welcome Anton Carter to the meeting. He joined about three months ago and then was shipped out to Corner Brook for workups. He just got back last week.

Attendance. 20 members & 5 were connected via Zoom. Those attending were Wayne Buzzard, George Byzewski, Jeff Cameron, Anton Carter, Terry Chatham, William Cleal, Robert Clements, Brian Cooper, Ron Cooper, Keith Estabrooks, Robbie Fraser, Brian Lapierre, Andy Lovasi, Jim Northrup, Marc Pallard, Scotty Parsons, Conrad Petrikowski, Sylvain Rouillard, JJ Surette & Brum Tovey. 5 connected via Zoom were Sherm Embree, Shaun MacDougall, John Meehan, George Roach & Mike Sylvain. Regrets received from Cliff Boettcher, Ron Butchart, Claude Gendron, Jim Gordon, John Gullion, Gord Hamilton, Jim Harris, Marc Osmond, Gilles Poirier & Willy Waugh.

Vice President. The Vice President would like to welcome everybody to the meeting. Before starting our meeting SAOC East President presented Velda Doucette of the Somme Branch Legion with a plaque completed by Andy Lovasi. Thanking the Legion for their support of our Association. Velda Doucette thanked the Association and welcomed us to the Legion.

Health and Wellness. A moment of Silence was held to honour fallen and ailing brothers. Our thoughts and prayers to everyone.

Luc Rollin, Willie Waugh, Gary Hopkins, Jon Carpenter, Brian Lapierre, Gilles Poirier, Rob Braye, Lloyd Dyck, Brian Cooper, Joe Haddock, Jim Gordon & Bill Medynski are all dealing with issues.

The Secretary received a phone call from Lloyd Dyck. He sounded very good and is undergoing treatment for the cancer they couldn't remove via surgery. He said one treatment a week for the next 33 months. He is feeling well and making progress. His workers on his farm are fantastic in helping and Barb his wife is a godsend.

I received an email from Jim Gordon indicating he is cancer free. Still has long road to recovery and the next step will be to find out when he can eat real food.

Received a text message from Neil Lake. He has not heard about the details of Rob Gray's Celebration of Life. The next day I received another text indicating that the family has not decided if they want it or not so it is in limbo until I am told.

Robert MacNeill passed away on the 02 May 2025. He served in HMCS Ojibwa.

Douglas Griffen passed away on the 21 May 2025. He served in HMCS Grilse, Rainbow, Onondaga & Okanagan.

For those who have passed away the Secretary does up their Obituary Profile and they are posted on

www.forposterityssake.ca. They are also sent to Barrie Downer in the UK and they end up in the Barrow Newsletter as well.

Minutes. The 06 May 2025 MGM minutes were distributed by email. There was one error which was corrected to do with the amount spent at the Beer Call. The corrected minutes have been adopted. They have been adopted as read & distributed at the MGM. The minutes for the AGM will be adopted at next years AGM.

Correspondence In. Emails received from various Submarine Organizations Newsletters. They have been forwarded to the Membership for Info.

Report from SAOC(W) that they are having a hard time filling Executive rolls in their Association. Everyone is getting older and time moves forward. No one is stepping up to the plate to fill the rolls.

Received an Email from Valerie Braunschweig about the new type of Newsletter. It is called "Run Silent". It is a shortened version now. She wants articles and dits to be published in the Newsletter. Her email is valerieanddick@telus.net. Again the Secretary wrote a report for the Summer edition and forwarded it to Valerie.

Correspondence Out Nothing sent out other than letters to members who do not have email. Emails sent out for any correspondence received. Brian continues to write a quarterly report that he sends to Valerie for the West Coast Newsletter.

Letters were mailed out to members who do not have email.

The Secretary sent out information to the Members on the 15th of May 2025 on the Submarine Gala that is being held on the 27 June 2025. Ticket purchase cutoff date is the 11th of June. I believe we will have a couple of members attend. It will be sent out again to the membership. The contact was MS Samantha Orianne-Walker. SAOC East will be represented by Scott Parsons and Robbie Fraser.

The Secretary has a good contact in the UK. Barrie Downer sends me the latest edition from the Barrow Association. All Obituaries are sent to Barrie Downer so they can be published in the Barrow newsletter.

President. Mentioned about the good turnout of members who attended the Celebration of Life for Ron Carrier in the Moncton area. Thanks to all who attended. The family was impressed by our turnout. Marie-Therese has been invited to the summer BBQ. Claude Gendron has stepped down as SLOPS Chairman. We have an itemized list and Scotty and Brian will handle it. The President mentioned that we had an Executive Meeting on the 27th of May 2025 to discuss various topics.

Vice President. Welcome everyone. Nothing to report.

Secretary. Brian Lapierre is recording the meeting and will transcribe it. Effective on the 21 April 2021 our mailing address is **73 Portovista Drive, Portuguese Cove, Nova Scotia. B3V 1P3**. Most everyone pays their dues with E-Transfers. Please note this and also the address has been changed on the website for the mailing address. Brian stated that his dialogue with the Submarine Force has been good in trying to establish a good working relationship for obtaining information on the Submarine Force and on serving members. Ted Hirtle continues to support the Website and is making progress on it. There are still a few issues that have to be resolved with the website. Sylvain Rouillard is supporting Ted in this process. Ted is having issues with his health. With respect to the website this needs to be addressed.

The feeling at this time is that the Somme Branch Legion has treated us well and we will continue to hold our meetings here.

The Secretary continues to send out letters to those who do not have email.

The Secretary stated that he had sent emails to SAOC(W) and Central Presidents & Slops Chairman about us

having Blazer and Beret Badges with absolutely no response from either.

SAOC East has been invited by John Dunn, PMC for the Snr Rates Mess (Escape Tower) in MOG 5 to an event to celebrate the birthday of Prince William on 20 June 2025 at 1200. Up to ten members are invited. Get your name to the Secretary to be put on the list. As of the writing of these minutes we have ten members on the list. John Dunn is away but a new contact is Mike Davis. John Meehan also mentioned that Princess Kate is also the Honorary Commander of the Royal Navy's Submarine Service.

Treasurer. Ron Cooper presented the following.

Financial Report for 03 June 2025.

06 May 25 – Closing Balance - \$17,215.03.

02 Jun 25 - RBC Fee \$3.75, Monthly Fee.

03 Jun 25 – Deposit of \$109.25. Dues \$60.00, Badges \$23.00, 50/50 \$46.25.

03 Jun 25 – Closing Balance - \$17,320.53.

The Treasurer said he still has cheques he has written which are not listed.

Proposed expenses for AGM & BBQ approximately \$1000.00

Balance for Blazer and Beret Badges (298.30) to be inventoried.

At next meeting need to approve the Budget for the AGM & BBQ in July.

We need to have in the minutes who had signing authority. This was discussed at the Executive Meeting and Ron Cooper has been directed to discuss with the bank to finalize this issue.

Buster Brown would be proud.

Social. Brian Cooper. We are looking at having the AGM at MOG 5 on the 18 July and the BBQ at John & June Meehan's on the 19th of July. There is help needed to set up the BBQ at the Meehan's. Brian Cooper would like to know what is in the magic bucket with supplies from last year. John will contact Brian Cooper with what he has. Brian Cooper stated that the price will increase in cost for the BBQ. The bottle of 110th Anniversary Rum donated by Bill Cleal and won at the Christmas event by Brian Lapierre will be raffled off at the AGM.

Slops. Claude Gendron has resigned and turned over all the items to Scotty Parsons. More in next meetings.

Membership The latest Statistics for our Membership is as follows:

An email has been out on 26 May 2025 on the informing Members who had not paid for 2025 that their dues are due. Only one member is outstanding.

The Secretary has posted a notice on the Facebook Group canvassing for new members.

The latest Statistics for our Membership is as follows:

Life Members = 49

Regular Membership to date = 89

Total Members = Total 138

We now have four serving submariners in our Association. Matt Larkin, Reggie Simmons, Anton Carter & John Dunn.

06 May 2025 – \$109.25 is held by Secretary to be passed to Ron Cooper for dues & slops received.

Send Dues via E-Transfer to: lapo48@gmail.com

Send Dues via Canada Post to: **Submariners Association of Canada East, C/O 73 Portovista Drive, Portuguese Cove, Nova Scotia. B3V 1P3**

All members are reminded that if your dues are up to date then you will not receive any emails about not having paid your dues.

SAOC Central is preparing for their AGM in August of 2025. It will be held on 22 to 24th. Ojibwa Museum has obtained Sea Cans containers which they hope to have in place and have a Grand Opening of displayed items. The 60th Anniversary of Ojibwa is in September 2025.

Old Business. The President has the By-Laws ready to be printed. They will be processed as required.

Ojibwa Work Period – Scotty received an email from Gerry Brown. They are renting a house which costs \$1300.00. At the Executive Meeting we discussed in giving them \$200.00 to assist in their costs. Scotty will contact Gerry Brown to send the money. Discussion at this meeting was where and how is the money spent. A lot is donated to them. A comment came up that they had asked Gary Hopkins for money for paint which is not fact. Although Gary Hopkins did donate to the Ojibwa Maintenance period. Our members do donate money to the project which is appreciated. Due to the lateness of our donation the money will be used during the September Maintenance period.

Rum Project 2025 for the 60 Anniversary of HMCS Ojibwa.

An email was received from Miranda Parker of Compass Distillers with the draft label they have designed. The label looks good, and the membership will vote on accepting it and to proceed. The only change I see is that SS72 has been added to below the graphic for an Oberon.

Again the date for sales to begin will be on 15 July and will run until sold out. Final date yet to be determined but a date of 15 August has been selected so far.

Posters will be done up to send to the other Associations and members. The code will be Ojibwa72.

1. Price per bottle is \$48.00 taxes included. Agreed upon at the meeting that SAOC East will receive back \$2.00 for every bottle sold.
2. The production is handled by Compass Distillers, all NSLC concerns are also handled by Compass.
3. Order online with a code and you get the preferred price. Compass also does ship for a minimal price. More details to follow.
4. The designated Promo Code for this Project will be Ojibwa72
5. Upon completion SAOC would purchase the remaining Rum.

If the membership agrees then we will proceed.



New Business. In SAOC(E) one of the items that keeps us focused is Anniversary dates of significance. One of these dates is the 60th Anniversary of HMCS Ojibwa on 23 September 2025.

Final information about the AGM to be held at MOG 5 will be confirmed by the Secretary and Brian Cooper will it be positively held at MOG 5. A Membership list will be given to MOG 5 for the gate. Also to confirm that WiFi is satisfactory for the Zoom.

Central is planning on getting a coin made for Ojibwa's 60th. I sent a picture to Pierre Bouchard as they were looking for a picture of Ojibwa Commissioning.

Blazer & Beret Badges. The remaining Blazer & Beret badges have been turned over to Claude for Slops inventory. Brian has 13 Blazer & 12 Beret Badges if someone orders he can fill the order. The Blazer Badge is now on sale for \$23.00 and the Beret Badge is now on sale for \$17.00. This includes Shipping and Handling. The Secretary is still being contacted about sales.



Around the Room. Sylvain brought up the issue about the website. In order to host the website with the two other Associations it costs \$502.17 per year split 3 ways. Our share is currently \$167.39. Central has stated that they are not doing anything with their website so will be opting out in 2026. So East and West will be taking care of it. SAOC East would pay one half of the bill. Ted Hirtle does our website now, but we need someone perhaps to assist. Sylvain made a motion that we handle it with the West Coast. Seconded by Robbie Fraser. Carried. Ted Hirtle is having difficulty handling the website because of health issues. This needs to be dealt with. George Byzewski mentioned that him and Terry Chatham will be going to Port Burwell for Central's AGM in August and if anyone wants to go with them there is room. They are leaving the Halifax area on the 21st of August. Also an extra room is booked. \$155.00 a night for a double room. Brum Tovey gave the Secretary a picture of Submariners gathered in MOG 5. He also brought up why we have to pay for Pizza. It was stated that we spent over a \$1400.00 on pizza last year and we were voted last year that members who stayed for pizza would contribute. Closed. George Roach mentioned that Geoff Mawdesley's grandson is at the Ojibwa chipping paint. Doing a good job. Sherm Embree mentioned he is interested in seeing who is attending the Submariner Gala.

50/50 Draw. Won by Jim Northrup. \$50.00 to winner, \$50.00 to SAOC.

Submariners Prayer. Was read by Jim Northrup.

Adjournment. There being no further business, it was moved by Bill Cleal and seconded by George Roach to adjourn the meeting at 1938 hrs. **Carried.**

The next Monthly Meeting will be held the AGM at MOG 5 on Friday 18 July 2025 at 1900.

Pizza tonight downstairs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott Parsons

President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'S. Parsons', written below the printed name.

Brian Lapierre

Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Brian Lapierre', written below the printed name.