

## **Korean War Veterans Appreciation Luncheon Report with Photos**

On November 16th, 2019 “The Korean War Veterans Appreciation Luncheon” was held at the Holiday Inn & Parkway Convention Centre in St. Catharines to honour and remember Canadian Korean War Veterans who fought during the Korean War (1950-1953) and the UN Peace Keeping Mission (1953-1955).

They served Canada proudly and helped to secure South Korea’s Peace and Freedom saving many innocent lives including my parents. They are the true pioneers and heroes of Canada-Korea’s diplomatic and economic relations (\$11 Billion Bilateral Trade) that has impacted largely in various sectors such as Defence, Education, Banking, Research, Science and Technology, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishery, Arts, Culture, Heritage, Tourism and Sports (The Republic of Korea hosted a successful 2018 Winter Olympics in South Korea on February 9 to 25, 2018).

At this luncheon, there were over 173 guests including 22 Korean War Veterans, 70 Veterans and Serving member including a RMC cadet. Our special guests were Tae-In Chung, Consul General, Hyeon Mi Lee, Vice Consul, Bob Bratina, MP Hamilton East, Jennie Stevens, MPP, St. Catharines, Mayor Wayne Redekop, City of Fort Erie, Councillor Carols Garcia City of St. Catharines and Deputy Chief Ryan Diodati of Hamilton Police Service. After the luncheon, there were video presentations (Thank You Korean War Veterans, and Canadians Our Heroes). Consul General Tae-In Chung presented the Ambassador for Peace Medal to Carsten McKay who served in the Royal Canadian Navy on HMCS Cayuga, George Charles, CD who served in the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals (RCCS), Jessie Green who is a Six Nations Veteran who served in the US Army, 25th Infantry (he received the United States America Presidential Citation, Bronze Star and Purple Heart) and Ewen MacDonald who served with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) in the British Army.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau sent his greeting letter stating that *“Today, you have gathered in solidarity to reconnect with friends and to honour all Canadians who answered the call to serve Korea. I join with you in paying tribute to all Veterans of the Korean War. We will never forget the 516 Canadians who died in that conflict or the 1,558 who came home wounded. I would like to thank the Korea Veterans Association of Canada Unit 26, Hamilton and Unit 15 Niagara for organizing this event and fostering fellowship amongst Veterans”*.

The 19th Annual Korean War Veteran Appreciation luncheon was organized by the Korea Veterans Association of Canada Unit 15 Niagara and Unit 26 Hamilton. The Roast Beef luncheon was sponsored by the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Toronto and the Canadian entertainment was sponsored by the Veterans Affairs Canada.

We send our special thanks to the Republic of Korea Consulate General in Toronto, Veterans Affairs Canada, Korean War Veterans, their family members, other Veterans, serving Military members, Korea Veterans Association of Korea, Eastern Chapter, Korea Tourism Organization, Royal Canadian Legion 163 Hamilton, Hamilton Police Service, Commissionaires Hamilton,

Access abilities, entertainers, guests, volunteers and Holiday Inn & Parkway Conference Centre, St.Catharines.

HooJung Jones Kennedy

Korea Veterans Association of Canada Unit 26, Project and Fundraising Director  
Korea Veterans Appreciation Luncheon Co-Chair

## **Korea Veterans Appreciation Luncheon**

**November 16, 2019**

**Photos by Elizabeth Daley**



**Veterans Affairs Canada Poster "Canada Remembers Korean War"**



**Volunteers at the Registration Table  
(Miles Ross, Elizabeth Daley, Jeong Hyun Lee, Emily Han)**



**Korean War Veterans gathered to march**



**Bagpiper Peter Schoeder and Major (Re'td) Don Kennedy leading the Korean War Veterans March**



**Major (Ret'd) Don Kennedy, KVA Unit 26 Hon. Member, Romeo Daley, Jim Morris marching**



**George Charles, Ron Zabrok, Ewen MacDonald, Ivan Ferrier, Andy Barber,  
Ron Kirk, Don Sudden marching**



**Rev. Don Glennie, Consul General Tae In Chung and Mayor Wayne Redekop Marching**



**Korean War Veterans with dignities group photo**



**Consul General Tae In Chung delivers his heart-felt greeting.**



**Mayor Wayne Redekop, City of Fort Erie delivers his greeting.  
Councillor Carlos Garcia, City of St. Catharines also delivered his greeting.**



**Bob Bratina, MP Hamilton East and a member of the Veterans Affairs Canada Committee delivers his greeting.**





**Cpl. Mike Barry, Royal Hamilton Light Infantry Bugler played “Last post”.  
Peter Schoeder, Bagpiper played “Lament”.**



**Romeo Daley, President of the Korea Veterans Association of Canada Unit 15 Niagara  
and MC reading “Act of Remembrance”.  
RMC Cadet Sejun Park delivered “Act of Remembrance” in Korean.**



**Major (Ret'd) Don Kennedy explains about the significance of the Ambassador for Peace Medal.**



**Consul General Tae In Chung presented Ambassador for Peace Medal to Carsten McKay, a Korean War Veteran. Royal Canadian Navy HMCS Cayuga**



**Consul General Tae In Chung presented Ambassador for Peace Medal to Jessie Green, a Korean War Veteran from Six Nations. US Army, 25th Infantry (he received the United States America Presidential Citation, Bronze Star and Purple Heart)**



**Consul General Tae In Chung presented Ambassador for Peace Medal to George Charles CD, a Korean War Veteran. Royal Canadian Corps of Signals**



**Consul General Tae In Chung presented Ambassador for Peace Medal to Ewen MacDonald, a Korean War Veteran. Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME), British Army**



**Wayne Redekop, Romeo Daley, Consul General Tae In Chung, Elizabeth Daley, RCM Cadet Sejun Park**



**Hoojung Jones Kennedy and Major (Ret'd) Don Kennedy enjoying the luncheon**



**Korean –Canadian Community Leaders and Directors of the Korea Veterans Association of Canada Eastern Chapter.**



**Korean-Canadian Community members and Volunteers.**



**Korean War Veterans and family members watching the Entertainers.**



**Korean traditional drum dancers performed beautifully.**



**Natalie Kum performed a wonderful Korean traditional dance.**





**A Canadian classical singer, Sara Paton sang “In Flanders fields” and “We will meet again” beautifully.**



**Toronto Male Singers sang “When we were young” with excellent harmony.**



**Heather Fischer danced Celtic dance which is Navy inspired.**



**Consul General “Tae In Chung” received the “Certificate of Appreciation” for his outstanding support from Romeo Daley, Andy Barber and HooJung Jones Kennedy.**



**Captain Kirk Campbell, a retired RCMP received the “Certificate of Appreciation” for his outstanding support from Andy Barber and HooJung Jones Kennedy.**



**Emily Han received the “Certificate of Appreciation” for her outstanding support from Romeo Daley, Andy Barber and HooJung Jones Kennedy. Her son RMC Cadet Sejun Park is a great volunteer to honour and remember the Korean War Veterans attending many Korean War Veterans events.**



**Bob Bratina MP of Hamilton East presented the Minister Karina Gould's congratulatory letter to Romeo Daley who received the Sovereign Medal for Volunteers from Governor General Julie Payette.**



**Bob Bratina MP of Hamilton East presented the Minister Karina Gould's congratulatory letter to Major (Ret'd) Don Kennedy who received the Sovereign Medal for Volunteers from Governor General Julie Payette.**



**Sarena Paton and Heather Fisher received the flowers as a gift.**



**Korean Traditional Dancers received the flowers as a gift.**





**Toronto Male Singers received the flowers as a gift.**



**Cpl. Mike Barry and Peter Schroeder received the flowers as a gift.**



**Rev. Bruce Lacillade provided the closing prayer blessing everyone.**





**The Korean War watches were generously donated by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 163 Hamilton Mountain where Major (Ret'd) Don Kennedy is a member of this legion for 45 years.**

**The Korean War watches were presented to the Korean War Veterans who attended the Luncheon as a gift because their sacrifice is timeless.**

*150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Canada*



**Thank you  
Korean War Veterans**