

DRAGOON REUNION: There was a mini-reunion of past and present members of the Royal Canadian Dragoons at the Acton Legion last Saturday. Presenting Branch 197 with a print of 100 years of the regiment from 1883-1983 was Norm Wood, far right, a former Dragoon member. Also present were from left, Captain Dave Muralt, an active Dragoon member and former members Frank Spielvogel and Legion president Frank Koen. (Eve Martin photo)

Coupon book for people to 'Shop Acton' proposed

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner

John McNabb of McNabb Graphics hopes that a "Shop Acton" coupon book campaign will help convince Acton residents to shop locally and forget about going to the mall.

"The downtown merchants' biggest complaint is that they can't get people through their doors," McNabb, a BIA member, explained during a recent interview.

"There is a Main Street business closing just about every week, so this coupon book is designed to stimulate business," McNabb said as he readily acknowledged that it is also a make-work project

for his own business.

"Our business depends on whether everybody else's business is doing well, so I'm trying to get people to shop in Acton instead of heading to a mall."

McNabb also said that the main reason people give for leaving town to shop - that they can't find what they want here - is not necessarily true, but local retailers haven't advertised the many items and services that they do have, or can get in a hurry.

McNabb pitched his plan to members of the Acton Business Improvement Area (BIA) at a recent meeting and he hopes that the BIA will supply a major prize.

"Anyone using a coupon in an Acton store can enter a draw at the end for a big prize," McNabb explained as he noted he was working with the BIA co-ordinator to publicize the plan to BIA members and other businesses in town.

McNabb plans to mail 1,000 copies of the coupon book to Acton, Rockwood, Limehouse, Moffat, Eden Mills and Ballinafad for a June to September campaign.

"If that book is successful and we can see that local people are shopping here, then I will print a second coupon book for Christmas," he added.

The BIA will decide what level of participation it will have in McNabb's campaign at its next meeting.

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Royal Canadian Dragoons visit Legion

LEGION NEWS
BY MIKE MANUEL
P.R.O. Branch 197

Last weekend, Branch 197 had the honour of entertaining a group of veterans from

the Royal Canadian Dragoons. I only wish I could have been there earlier to enjoy the comradeship and merriment. By the time I got there, things were already winding down. Comrade Frank Spielvogel introduced me to a number of the former Dragoons, some of whom came from as far away as Vancouver. The pride these gentlemen show in their regiment is just unbelievable.

A painting and an original pencil sketch was presented to the Branch by the Dragoons, both of which will be hung and exhibited with great appreciation. Comrade Frank

Koen extended an invitation for the Dragoons to return, and from what I hear this could very well happen during the summer months.

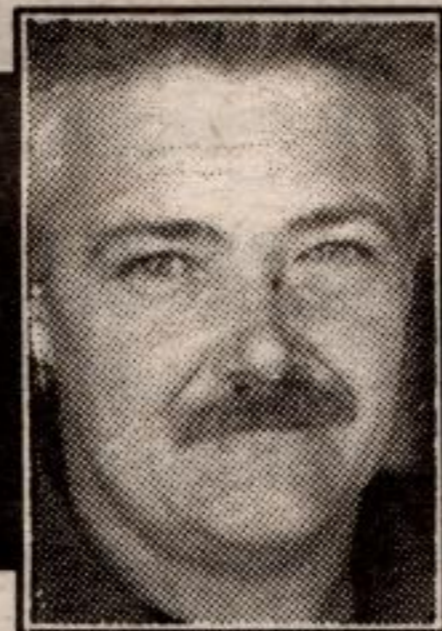
To all those members of the Royal Canadian Dragoons Association, thank you for making the weekend a memorable one.

May 13 will be the Branch election night and as usual there will be a meal prior to the elections. Tickets are available at the Branch for only \$5 each.

An open euchre tournament will be held on Friday night, with registration starting at 7 pm.

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