



## Royal New Brunswick Rifle Association Inc.

### 2014 RNBRA AGM opening remarks

On behalf of the Governing Board of the Royal New Brunswick Rifle Association welcome to the 2014 AGM.

As the Interim President I'd like to say thank you for coming here today and demonstrating your interest and commitment to supporting and strengthening the RNBRA.

As most of you are aware the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President and the Treasurer all resigned without notice or apparent justification just before Christmas last December, I want to thank the governing board for appointing me to be Interim President according to our Constitution. The Board then suggested people that I appoint to fill out the executive offices.

I assumed that these were good people and now I know that they are as they have worked hard for our Association and continue to promote and develop shooting sports in NB.

We are very fortunate that our Recording Secretary Lorraine Chapman has remained a supporter of the RNBRA and agreed to remain in an executive position and has offered much help and council to me and to the whole Board.

As you might imagine the sudden and unexpected departure of most of the executive left a great deal of unfinished business and created a great deal confusion and misunderstanding in the Provincial shooting community.

I now believe this action was intended to create havoc in our Assoc. and our provincial shooting community. As you may recall the president in his general email to the membership said he was retiring from shooting, it seems he is still active outside the Rifle Association.

I made the commitment to keep our members and clubs informed of what we the Board were doing and no call for a special meeting was received from our members so we have proceeded with the business of the Association.

Unfortunately we have lost the support of a few clubs two of which the departed president has close ties with and one of which left because of difficulties with him in the past and they are waiting to see how the RNBRA comes out. There has been much fence mending in the province and I am committed to trying to engage the gunclubs in the province to unite and strengthen the voice of our provincial shooting community by supporting the RNBRA with affiliate and regular membership to participate in our programs and our governance. Thank you

Michael Lutes  
Interim President

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

In closing I'd like to say thank you for your confidence, I hope that you didn't vote for us just because we were the only ones dumb enough to accept the nominations, as a matter of fact I was honoured to be nominated for the job and I know I can count on your help.

On behalf of the RNBRA I want to thank Board members Wayde Clifford and Ed Chapman for their long service and dedication to the goals of our Association they have decided to stand down from the RNBRA Board but I'm sure will remain ambassadors for shooting sports as long as they draw breath.

I must also offer the thanks of a grateful Association to Michelle Cormier who when asked if she would accept the most difficult job of the transition and accept the appointment of interim RNBRA Treasurer she did not hesitate. Michelle's work has allowed us to piece together the past financial business while keeping track and records of our daily business.

Unfortunately Michelle has other commitments and will only be able to continue as treasurer for a short time. Thank you Michelle for committing a large part of your time since last December to help the Association.

I'm looking forward to working with the other officers and directors of our Association in the upcoming year. We will need active participation in our committees and our coordination of various programs depends on your level of engagement.

The Officers and Board members of the RNBRA are making a huge time commitment to administer our programs and business but they alone cannot ensure the success and growth of the Association. You the members must all be active ambassadors for the RNBRA. We need to help people understand that with their support and participation the RNBRA will be a strong and united voice for shooting sports in NB.

I believe we must grow this Association from 70 or 100 regular members to a provincial collective community of shooters with 3500 regular members. When we do that we will have the people and resources to take the guns out of the closet. We must work toward this goal or continue to watch the slow death that has been destroying shooting sports for over 60 years. Once shooting sports are dead (which could easily take place unless we commit to doing something about it) the anti firearms people will quickly make the case that people should not have firearms as they serve no purpose and present a danger to society.

Please support your Provincial & National Associations with your membership as only with a strong and united voice will we be able to participate in preparing reasonable and effective firearms legislation and support shooting sport programs in NB and Canada.

Thank You &  
Good Shooting  
Michael Lutes  
President  
RNBRA