



**Dinner 2015 Debrief held at the Kensington Legion, Calgary, Alberta on Saturday February 7th
2015 at 12:00 noon**

Present:

Ian Denness, Paul Armstrong, Henry Cairney, Paul Kane, Tony Grace, Jim Hutchens, Bill MacLachlan, Maurice McAtamney, Colin Pinkerton, Stephen Nichol, Gordon McCulloch, Bill Laing, Trevor Ramage, Brian Lunan, Merv Howitt, Steven Campbell, James Osborne, Jim Osborne, George Muir, Ron Budd, Ron Pratt, Jim Little, Derek Larg, Mark Rowe, David Hood

1. Call to Order

Paul Armstrong called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

2. Dinner Pre-function

• **Proposals**

- Proposal of having 'Non-alcoholic' beverages
- Proposal for serving 'Free Pop' for designated drivers
- Proposal for sale of tickets earlier to event

• **Issues**

- Pre-dinner Piper delay in starting
- Guests did not know where they were seated, causing delay in sitting down
- No sign displaying bar hours of operation
- Delay in card machines for Visa operating on time
- Communication issues with ticket venders

3. The Venue

• **Proposals**

- None

• **Comments**

- Floor plan change was a good move, all agreed.
- Food
 - 1. Smoked Salmon good, all agreed
 - 2. Soup good, all agreed
 - 3. Beef still an issue, some say too big a portion, others say good
 - 4. Haggis varied comments, most complaints felt it was 'Paste-like'
 - 5. Trifle varied comments, too large a bowl, dry sponge
 - 6. Wines varied, Steward's choice good, unavailable from TCC, expensive
- Service
 - 1. Haggis serving varied, some were served, others not
 - 2. Haggis 'Slippy' on table plates when trying to cut and serve

3.

- Service
- Whisky good.
- Glasses generally good, one or two issues with quality defects
 1. Continue in 2016
 2. Thanks to the glasses donors with Bill MacLachlan and Gerry Wood
- Hospitality Suite still a good idea, improve communication availability

- **Issues**

- Meal plate size too small
- Meat and haggis quality
- A number of 'Burst' haggis
- Delay in serving meat and haggis in some areas of the hall
- Trencher required for carrying the haggis to 'The Address'

4. The Programme

- Generally good.

5. The Event

- **Proposals**

- Bar contingency plan if disruptions take place (e.g. Break earlier)
- Prepare 2016 speaker during this year by 1st VP
- Sound Monitor for Top Table
- Although slide show was good, proposal to 'Zoom' displayed words
- Reduce fiddlers to 15 mins
- Use small group of fiddlers for pre-function
- Purchase 'Own' tartan banners and donate to club

- **Comments**

- Holy Willie's prayer was excellent
- Speaker very good
- Slide show syncing/timing was good
- Fiddlers too late and too long
- Why need for extra tables?
- Singers 2 row line up was good
- Tartan banners good
- Photography generally good, ensure members tables are identified
- Event advertising, advised CBC is not allowed to advertise to general public at large
- Behaviour
 1. 8 Emptied tables at rear of hall by 'Toast to the Lassies'
 2. Incident with Evolution cameraman being investigated
 3. One or two minor infractions overall
- Financial state of our club discussed and possible implications for future events
- Numbers decrease from previous years caused by other competing events

- **Issues**

- Pipe band damaged sound system control box on stage
- Pipe band delay for performance, needs closer policing
- Function end time too late
- Lots of sound feedback
- Ordering wine for 2 or more tables, server's refused to do this, workaround required

6. Presidents Reception

- Venue and function good.
- Issue raised on free drink tickets.