

The Early History of the Canadian Pacific Police Association

On Tuesday, August 10, 1971, Canadian Pacific employees led by Brothers Bradshaw, Fisher, Stanford and Dargewitz and five other employees held the first meeting in Montreal, Quebec, in the movement to organize the employees working for the Department of Investigation.

On Friday, October 29, 1971, a second meeting of employees was held and forty-four employees attended and a collection was commenced to pay for unionizing and \$36.00 was collected.

On Thursday, November 4, 1971, a third meeting was held in Montreal and Brother Bradshaw was appointed Chairman and Brother Conway was appointed as Secretary. There were thirty-eight employees in attendance. Also a collection was taken and an additional \$34.78 was raised.

At the same meeting of employees of the Canadian Pacific Department of Investigation it was proposed by Brother James G. Conway and seconded by Brother Glen Holder;

“That it be resolved that such an Association be formed under the name of the Canadian Pacific Police Association and that the employees be asked to approve such a motion.”

This motion was unanimously passed by thirty-eight employees.

On Saturday, December 11, 1971, a meeting of the Association was held in Montreal at the Royal Canadian Hussars Armoury, Men’s Mess, and forty-two employees attended. An initiation fee of \$2.00 was established and monthly dues were set at \$6.00 per month. It was reported that in the Atlantic and Eastern Regions we had already signed up 128 members. Mr. Robert Skelly was introduced to the membership and was approved as attorney for the Association.

Elections were called for and Brothers Holder, James and Doucette were nominated for the position of President and Brother James was elected as the first President of the Canadian Pacific Police Association. Brothers Holder, Conway and Milne were nominated for the position of Vice-President and brother Holder was elected as Vice-President. Brothers Houle and Conway were nominated for the position of Secretary and Brother Conway was elected as the Secretary. Brother Houle was the only nominee for the position of Treasurer and he was acclaimed to that position.

It was agreed to proceed to Certification in Ottawa before the federal Labour Board.