



CFL Ottawa Alumni Newsletter

105th GREY CUP SPECIAL EDITION II | December 1, 2017

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ANOTHER RECORD SHATTERED BY THE CFLOAA

THE CFLAA LEGEND'S LUNCHEON WAS A COMPLETE SELL OUT & THE FIRST FESTIVAL EVENT TO SELL OUT!

1000 TICKETS SOLD

100 ALUMNI FROM ACROSS CANADA

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OUR ALUMNI FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT MAKING THIS A SUCCESS!



AVERY & CALCUTT TO BE INDUCTED INTO THE CANADIAN FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

The Football Reporters of Canada have announced their 2017 inductees into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame. Well-known Ottawa radio broadcasters Jeff Avery and Ernie Calcutt will be inducted during an FRC ceremony before the 105th Grey Cup game in the nation's capital.

Avery, a former Ottawa Rough Riders receiver, provided on-air analysis for all three incarnations of Ottawa's CFL franchise and continues to contribute with the current play-by-play team. Calcutt, a legendary play-by-play voice of the Rough Riders in the 1960s to the 1980s, is being inducted posthumously.

The ceremony begins following the FRC's annual breakfast at 9 a.m. on Sunday, November 26, 2017, inside the Novotel Ottawa (33 Nicholas St.) Morning Light Room. Tickets are \$40 per person. Details are available from: Darrell Davis, FRC Secretary-Treasurer – 306-596-450 or darddavis@hotmail.com.

JEFF AVERY

After graduating from the University of Ottawa, where he played football and earned an honours degree in physical education, Jeff Avery was a wide receiver with the Ottawa Rough Riders from 1976-82. He later became a financial planner and business owner before joining the media as a radio analyst.

Avery has covered all three incarnations of Ottawa's CFL team — the Rough Riders, Renegades and Redblacks — while working with three different stations. How did he get into the media? CFRA's play-by-play man, Dean Brown, was enjoying some beverages with Avery atop Hurley's rooftop bar in Ottawa's market when he asked Avery if he would be interested in becoming the colour guy. Said Avery: "See what happens when you buy somebody a couple of pints."

After three seasons working with Brown, Avery joined new play-by-play voice Dave Schreiber at The Team 1200. They worked together from 1991-96, an era that included the CFL's short-lived U.S. expansion, a freelance gig writing newspaper columns about the CFL team and the demise of the Rough Riders.

When Ottawa regained its franchise, Avery returned to the booth to cover the Renegades from 2002-05, allowing him to be part of the broadcast team for the 2001 and 2002 Grey Cup games. In 2014, TSN 1200 recruited Avery to work alongside Redblacks play-by-play man A.J. Jakubec, a duty he was handling with his familiar devotion, passion and knowledge upon induction.



Scott Grant Photo
cfphotoarchive.com

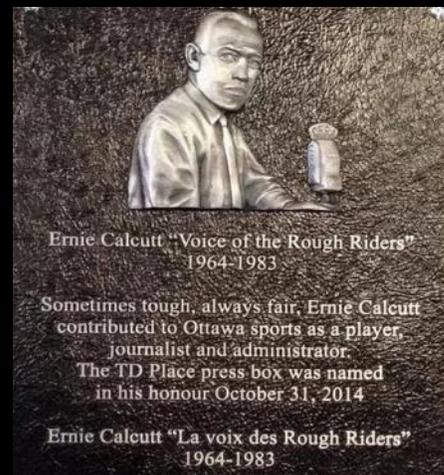
ERNIE CALCUTT

Born and raised in Ottawa, Ernest (Ernie) George Calcutt was known as the voice of the Ottawa Rough Riders from the early 1960s until his death in 1984.

He covered the Ottawa Rough Riders' golden years, which saw the team compete in six Grey Cups, winning four. In 2014, the press box and media centre at the new Stadium at TD Place were named in his honour. A founding member of the Ottawa Sport Hall of Fame and Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, he also served with the Ottawa Boys and Girls Club and regularly emceed the Ottawa Sports Awards and CFL's Schenley Awards. Calcutt was hired by CFRA as a sports reporter in 1961, eventually becoming director of news and sports.

In 1984, the artificial turf inside the refurbished Lansdowne Park was named in his honour, along with other civic distinctions that included a south-side Ottawa park. His name graces the Ernie Calcutt, Eddie McCabe, Brian Smith Memorial Award for Lifetime Achievement in Sports Media (Ottawa).

A 1988 inductee into the Ottawa Sport Hall of Fame, Calcutt is also on the Honour Roll of Sports Media Canada. Known for his sense of humour and tremendous rapport with his on-air cohorts, Calcutt coined phrases such as "leaning on the oars", "pulling an el foldo" and "being as wide open as a church door on a Sunday morning."



Sowieta Honoured with CFL Commissioner's Award

Article by Tim Baines | Sun Media



It was never about himself. That's not the way Rick Sowieta rolled.

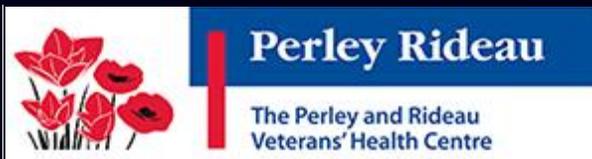
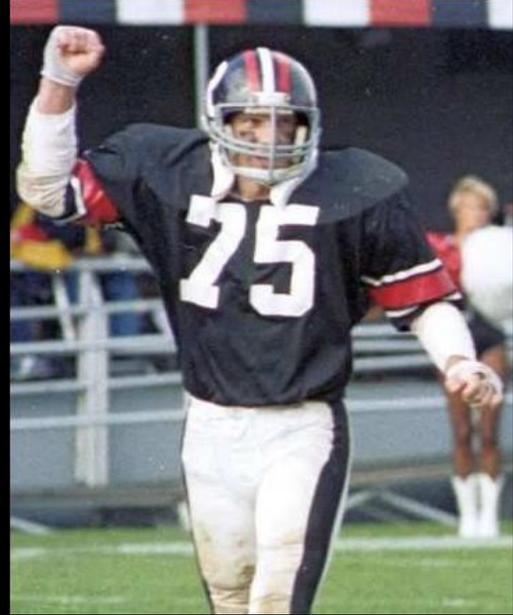
But it was fitting that on Thursday night at the Shaw CFL Awards, Sowieta, who died of pancreatic cancer in August, was named the winner of the Commissioner's Award.

"A wise man once said that the meaning of life is to find your gift, and the purpose of life is to give it away. As a young man Rick Sowieta found he had a gift for football, and he spent the rest of his life giving back to the game at every level," said CFL commissioner Randy Ambrosie.

Sowieta had an impact on football across the country, working with national and world teams, and serving as the Director of Sport with Football Canada. He played high school football at Glebe Collegiate, junior football for the Ottawa Sooners, and after playing at the University of Richmond, he played from 1977-86 with the Argonauts, then the Rough Riders. He later coached at several levels of football.

“Football was always Rick’s first passion and coaching was a huge part of his life,” said Sowieta’s wife Jenny. “Football shaped him into the strong man he was, it forged the strong will he had, and it created the incredible bond he shared with this teammates.”

The Commissioner’s Award recognizes dedication to Canadian football.



GREY CUP WEEK CELEBRATED AT THE PERLEY & RIDEAU VALLEY VETERANS' CENTRE



Some of our alumni visited the Perley & Rideau Health Centre on November 23rd to spend the day celebrating Grey Cup week in Ottawa!

The Redblacks, Randy Ambrosie and many other notables spent the day with those who might not have had a way to celebrate the festivities. Sharing stories and Grey Cup experiences...what a way to celebrate those who have given so much of themselves to us.

Thank you to the following alumni for representing us in such a fine way;

Pat Stoqua

Bruce Walker

John Krupse



CFL FANS FIGHT CANCER 2017 MEET & GREET

The CFL FANS FIGHT CANCER event held on November 25th raised \$15,000.00 for the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation's Maplesoft Cancer Survivorship Centre! Our alumni Pat Stoqua, Bruce Walker, John Kruspe, Glen Kulka, Steve Glenn, Mike Hendricks and Associate Member Mr. Dick Dinelle (auctioneer) showed their support on behalf of our alumni. Thank you very much gentleman and congratulations on being involved with such a successful event. The Redblacks' Ettore Lattanzio and Alex Mataes represented too! THANK YOU CFL FANS!!!





CFLAA LEGEND'S LUNCHEON REGISTRATION DAYS LOCAL HEROES November 21 & 22, 2017



CFLAA ALUMNI CATCH UP AT THE PRESCOTT TO PLAN THE WEEK AHEAD





**CFLAA LEGEND'S LUNCHEON 2017
THANK YOU TO ALL ALUMNI FOR COMING ...
WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU AGAIN NEXT YEAR!**

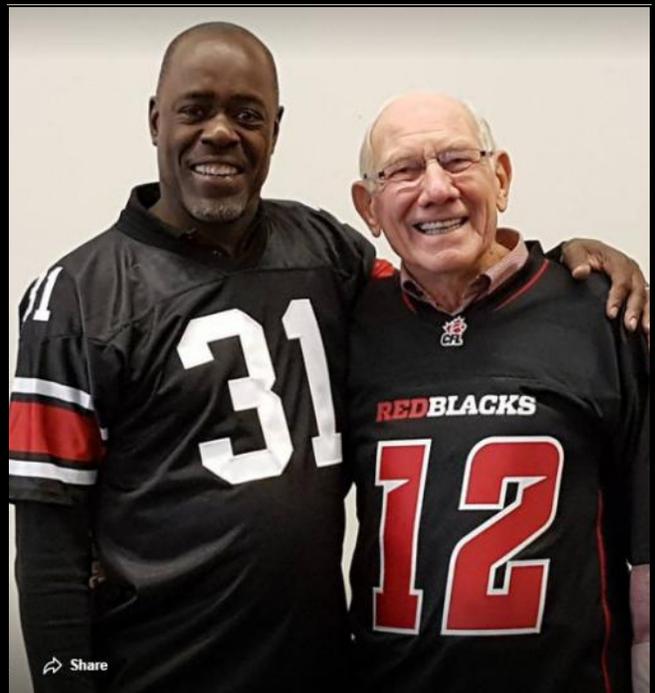


Photo Credits - Danielle Ryza

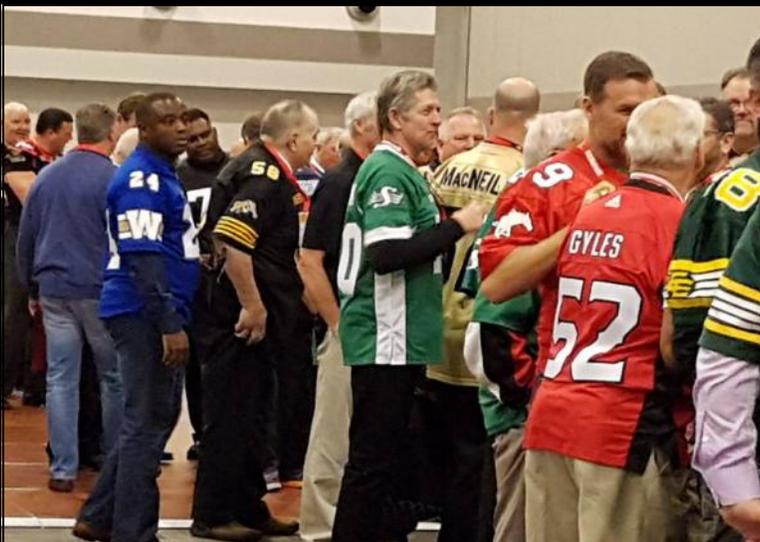
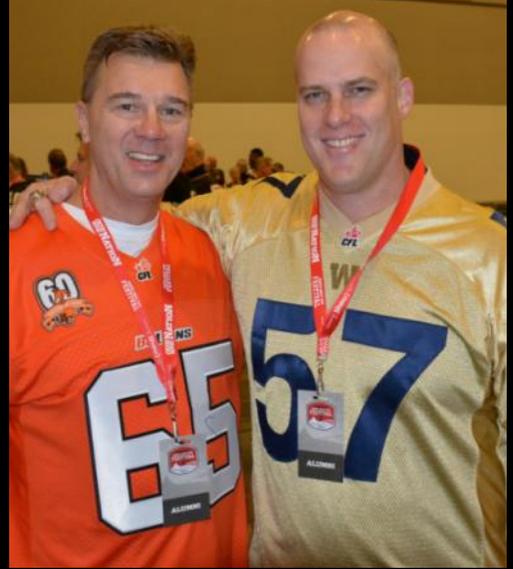




Photo Credits - Donn Smith & Danielle Ryza





Photo Credits - REDBLACKS.CA , Danielle Ryza & Donn Smith





Photo credits to CFLOAA Alumni Donn Smith





Photo Credits - Donn Smith





Photo Credits - Donn Smith







GORD WEBER.COM

A special thank you to everyone for your participation this year, from CFLAA staffers, CFLOAA alumni, The Grey Cup Festival organizers, featured sponsor Canada Post and TD Bank...we couldn't have organized this event without all your hard work and dedication! The initial stats are in the live auction \$18,050.00, silent auction \$13,200.00, Coin Toss \$7,714.85 (odd number is exchange from US cash) and TD Bank Miracle Match \$5,000.00 for a total \$43,964.85 raised for the CFLAA Support Fund. "It is by far the highest total ever for our luncheon" Leo Ezerins CFLAA Executive Director.

It was great to see so many alumni from across the country and the fans had nothing but positive things to say about the event! We spoke to some of them in the Luncheon and they were thrilled to see so many Legend's they watched through the years, formative times in their lives making it even more special.

A shout out of gratitude to our alumni Ted Smale and his family! They had quite an impact on the record breaking **9th Annual Legends Luncheon**. Ted is a former Ottawa Rough Rider for 7 years from 1956 to 1962 including winning the Grey Cup in 1960, and the long-time former Treasurer of the CFL Ottawa Alumni Association.

As for the Legends Luncheon, Ted and his wife Dot purchased a table for the event, then at the event, were the top bidder at \$11,000 for the VIA Cross Canada return train package plus their daughter Karen was the winner of the TD Miracle Match Coin Toss game (winning her choice of either a \$3,000 travel voucher supplied by Carlson Wagonlit Travel or \$2,000 in cash) plus one of Ted's guests was the top bidder for the Ottawa RedBlack's season tickets The only thing they did not win was the 50/50 at the Grey Cup game (their son had tickets).



From left, John Bassi and Paul McCarney strike a pose alongside Grey Cup-winning quarterback Henry Burris, Maria Bassi and Rick Iafelice at a reception held prior to the Grey Cup championship game on Sunday, November 26, 2017, for founding donors of the Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group's new charitable foundation. (Photo by Caroline Phillips)

OSEG'S NEW CHARITY TO KEEP KIDS ACTIVE EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS, RAISES \$1.25M

A new charitable organization launched by the same group of businessmen who brought professional football back to Ottawa has scored the equivalent of a 109-yard touchdown. In its first four months, the OSEG (Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group) Foundation has raised \$1.25 million with the backing of 25 community-minded business leaders and philanthropists. That's above and beyond the foundation's original goal of 20 donors and \$1 million.

"It's a fantastic start to the foundation; we really appreciate it," **Roger Greenberg** told those donors who attended a thank-you reception hosted prior to Sunday's snowy Grey Cup game at TD Place Stadium.

The funds will be invested in the community, helping to level the playing field so that more children and youth have the opportunity to benefit from the power of sport.

"We really want to try and focus on our goals in the foundation to helping those in the community who can't afford to participate in sports," said Greenberg, who donned a matching Redblacks cap and jersey. "We also want to try and train amateur coaches, individuals and volunteers who are helping kids get off the couch, so that they are active in sports."

Greenberg, executive chairman of Minto Group and of OSEG, was joined by two of his OSEG business partners, **John Ruddy** (Trinity Development), and **Bill Shenkman** (Shenkman Corporation). They are among the founding donors who have each pledged \$50,000 to the new foundation, which was started in July.

Also there were the foundation's new executive director, Janice Barresi, and its honorary president, retired Redblacks quarterback **Henry Burris**. He brought along his infectious smile and positive energy.

"He's such a shrinking violet," quipped Greenberg and its honorary president, retired Redblacks quarterback **Henry Burris**. He brought along his infectious smile and positive energy.

"He's such a shrinking violet," quipped Greenberg.

OSEG owns and operates the Ottawa Redblacks, the Ottawa Fury and the Ottawa 67's sports teams, as well as TD Place stadium and arena, at the redeveloped Lansdowne Park. **Bernie Ashe**, chief executive officer of OSEG, donned the Redblacks' trademark plaid lumberjack shirt. So did Redblacks head coach **Rick Campbell**.

More than half of the donors attended. They filed into the Minto office building on Bank Street and headed up to the Commissioner's Gameday Lounge overlooking the football field, where Toronto beat Calgary later that night. After the reception, the guests headed to the Aberdeen Pavilion for the VIP Tailgate Party.

Seen from the Ottawa construction industry were **John Bassi**, president of Bassi Construction; **Paul McCarney**, senior vice president at Tomlinson Group of Companies; **Robert Merkley**, president of Merkley Supply Ltd., and **Kathleen Grimes and Ersin Ozerdinc** from Site Preparation Ltd.

Real estate executive **Paul Hindo** (who became our city's most famous lottery winner this year) and his wife, **Alison**, are also behind the cause. So are **Gary Zed** and fellow founding donor **Liza Mrak**, co-owner of Mark Motors, an Audi and Porsche dealership.



Other founding donors at the reception were **Shawn Rivers**, president of Anish Branding; **Peter Hudson**, founder and CEO of HTG Sports Services; **Rick Lafelice**, president of Main and Main Developments, **Shawn Lamarche**, owner of Lamarche Electric, **David Maxwell**, president of La-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries, and **Kevin McCrann**, president of Shenkman.

The list of founding donors also includes the **Shabinsky** and the **Taggart-Parkes** families, lawyer **Don Bayne**, general contractor **Dennis Laurin** and his wife, **Andrea**, Greenberg's brother **Robert Greenberg** and cousin **Dan Greenberg**, with wife **Barbara Crook**, and OSEG partner **John Pugh** and his wife, **Christine**.

Unfortunately, the Redblacks didn't make it to the championship this year, following their spectacular Grey Cup win in 2016.

"Next year," said Greenberg, his voice sounding hopeful. "We can't win it every year, right? It's just not fair to the other teams."





REDBLACKS ANNOUNCE STAFFING CHANGES

REDBLACKS.CA

The Ottawa REDBLACKS today announced that the football club will not be renewing the contracts of Offensive Line Coach Bryan Chiu, Defensive Backs Coach Ike Charlton, Receivers Coach Travis Moore and Linebackers Coach Derek Oswalt.

“I’d like to thank Bryan, Ike, Travis and Derek for all of the hard work they put in for our football team,” said Head Coach Rick Campbell. “We wish them the best going forward.”



DON'T CHANGE MUCH

Where guys go to get healthy



Gene Mack's Jaw-Dropping Story We Can All Learn From

By Roberta Staley on November 1, 2017

Like many guys, former CFL linebacker Gene Mack has learned to dial back the excesses of his younger days. He still has the occasional light beer and a double scotch once a month. "Just take care of yourself," says Mack, 67. "Do your excesses in moderation." The thing is, living healthy can be really simple, but sometimes it takes a wake up call to realize that it's time to make some small changes. Read Mack's jaw-dropping story about where he went wrong, and how you can live healthier without changing much.

No one's invincible



Mack learned these lessons the hard way. Back in the 1970s — the glory days of the Toronto Argonauts — the team owned the city, Mack recalls. "I could park my Corvette on Yonge Street, leave it there for hours and nobody would touch it — not even the police," Mack, 67, says from his home in Toronto. "Because they all knew it: it was blue, same colour as the Argonauts colours, it had an Argonaut insignia on the fender, and we just ran this city. We were winning, we were boisterous and we were successful — on and off the field."

The Double Blue, as the Argos are nicknamed, had a winner in this lightning-fast young man from Greenville, Texas. Mack arrived in Toronto with his little blue Corvette and, that same year — 1971 — went to the Grey Cup. Mack was a dedicated athlete. He lifted weights and went running before going to a full-day practice with the Argos, followed by "dancing until 3am." A sharp dresser in bespoke suits and handcrafted alligator skin shoes, Mack developed a taste for quality Scotch and brandy, good cigars and 2am dinners. He had a good run, playing ball until 1977, when he finished his career with the Hamilton Tiger Cats. Football was over. But the lifestyle wasn't.

No one's invincible



Easy ways to live healthier



Photo Credit Vanessa Paxton

<http://dontchangemuch.ca/cfl/gene-macks-jaw-dropping-story-can-learn/>

A trained actor, Mack began getting roles in film, television and commercials. He kept his weight down with rigorous exercise. Then his knees started to go — the result of past athletic injuries — and he was forced to give up running. His weight crept up to 240 pounds and he was diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, ignoring his doctor's advice to cut back on the excesses. A year ago this November, Mack nicked a toe on his right foot. A side effect of type 2 diabetes is poor circulation, and when an infection developed, antibiotics couldn't thwart it. With his toes turning black, Mack went to hospital. The foot had to be amputated.

Mack reflects upon this game-changing event. "You still have your life," he muses, but he can't help thinking about what got him to that point, and how a few easy changes to his lifestyle could have made all the difference.

Easy ways to look after No. 1? Get enough sleep, he suggests, and eat properly by "staying away from sugar, carbohydrates like potatoes and processed foods. Eat fibre and food that has vivid, vibrant colours and you'll be fine.



CFL SCRAPBOOK PHOTO

Full Article

<https://www.argonauts.ca/2010/08/09/retro-70s-profile-gene-mack/>

While he may have been an actor off the field, former Toronto Argonaut linebacker **Gene Mack** (1971-75) was all business on the field.

"I think that Gene Mack was as good a linebacker that ever played in the CFL," says former Argo Head Coach **Leo Cahill**, who coached Mack in the 70's. "He reminds me of **Lawrence Taylor** of the New York Giants. He had great ability to rush the passer, was extremely strong and extremely quick. He was in the backfield before you knew it. The guys who played with him would all agree that he was a great linebacker."

During his five year career with the Argos, Mack got to the Grey Cup only once – in 1971 when the Argos lost 14-11 to the Calgary Stampeders. "We should have won that game hands down," he says. "We pushed them around like they weren't even in the game. It was like if you let a bad fighter, a journeyman, stick around he will beat you. That's what happened. We let them stick around. We had better players but they stayed in the game."

"They won the game and that's what really annoyed me," says Mack. "I was so disappointed I stayed in my uniform after the game. I was walking off the field down this tunnel; this guy in a bread truck drove through under the bleachers and offered me a ride. Still in my uniform I took it and he dropped me off at my hotel."

Strengthen Your Abs & Back with 1 Easy Exercise

By Daniel Palmer on July 12, 2017



When it comes to health, most men think they're invincible. In fact, a lot of guys don't visit the doctor unless they break a bone or need thirty stitches.

The truth is we don't need to be fitness superheroes to save ourselves. If you've been treating exercise like your Kryptonite, try this simple exercise next time you're streaming your favorite show: The Superman, an easy exercise that'll make you feel like the Man of Steel in no time.

Here's how it's done:



1. It's a bird, it's a plane ... nope, it's just you, face-down on the floor with your arms and legs fully extended.
2. From this position, lift your arms, chest and legs off the floor for two seconds at a time. In case you missed it, this is your Caped Crusader pose. Pro tip: This really works your lower back, so focus on squeezing those muscles for the best results.
3. Slowly lower your arms, legs and chest back to a resting position.
4. Repeat for a total of 5-10 repetitions (aka. reps).

For a greater challenge:

Try a single push-up between each Superman, and aim for three sets of 5-10 Superman reps. Give it a few weeks and the Lois Lane in your life won't be able to keep her hands off you.

Disclaimer: Remember to consult your physician or other qualified health professional for any changes to your physical activity. Only qualified health providers can provide health care by examining your health history, as well as your current physical, mental and emotional condition, and use their expertise and experience to advise you.

<http://dontchangemuch.ca/activity/the-superman/>





CFL ALUMNI SUPPORT FUND

The CFL Alumni Support Fund was established by past and current CFL players, coaches and executives, as well as CFL fans, to help improve the quality of life for retired players.

The fund assists to those who have made football an indelible part of Canadian culture and history. Every day we witness the physical stresses of the game through the debilitating residual problems affecting our former players and their families. Despite improvements in the industry and medical resources available to current players; head injuries, mental health management, and chronic pain are at the forefront of the football community.

The CFL continues to invest in ways to protect our stars and heroes of the future – but we can't forget to help those of the past. The CFLAA has heard many stories of former players unable to earn a living or who struggling with ongoing medical issues. Neither the CFLPA nor the CFL have any programs, plans or funds in place to assist past players. It's up to us to support those who gave – and continue to give – so much to the sport we love and to their communities.

The response and commitment to the CFL Alumni Support Fund from the Alumni Association and its members across Canada has been encouraging. The net proceeds from the fundraising auctions at the CFL Alumni Legends Luncheon are donated directly to the fund are the proceeds from our fundraising partnerships with the Never Alone Foundation.

It is through this type of commitment that the fund will move forward to garner support from CFL clubs, football fans and the general public. The CFL Alumni Support Fund will help our former heroes and legends get the help and resources they need to improve quality of life.

This is an excerpt from a thank you letter from our first ever Alumni Support Fund recipient: "This experience has been truly a blessing for us. We appreciate the board taking time to review our situation and providing the funds that were available. You will never know how much this assistance means to us. I feel honoured that the CFL Alumni Support Fund cared enough to help me. It has been a struggle this year because of the illness, and not being able to work. I really feel that even though you don't know me, you understand our hardship and honestly care; for that, we are grateful to you."

Donors

Whether you are a former player, a fan or simply interested in helping those in need, please consider donating. A career in the CFL is short and the salaries are small compared to other professional leagues. But the players and fan community are critical to us. We rely on your donations and the money raised from local Alumni Associations and events to help our past players. Donations can be made online at www.cflaa.ca

Applicants

Whether you are applying for assistance for yourself or on behalf of a friend or loved one, please complete the following application to the best of your knowledge and ability. This application will provide the CFLAA with the information needed to process your request for assistance.

For inquiries regarding the CFL Alumni Support Fund or for application assistance, please contact supportfund@cflaa.ca or 1-877-890-7272. If you are interested in getting involved with the CFLAA, please contact Leo Ezerins, Executive Director CFLAA at leo@cflaa.ca.



Renegades



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CFL OTTAWA ALUMNI MEMBER? WHAT TO EXPECT FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP

- * EXCLUSIVE ANNUAL REDBLACKS LUNCHEON in March - Coaches & MGT Update CFLOAA members about the team, drafts & the season ahead.
- * HALF PRICE on REDBLACKS SEASON TICKETS! | 40% OFF REDBLACKS SWAG!
- * FIELD LOUNGE ACCESS before REDBLACKS games; food, friends & fun!
- * 40% OFF ADDIDAS APPAREL AT ADDIDAS OULET STORES ACROSS CANADA.
- * MEMBERSHIP IN THE CFL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.
- * ANNUAL ALUMNI GOLF TOURNAMNENT - Great prizes and reduced green fees.
- * MONTHLY NEWSLETTER talking everything football, alumni, CFL, CFLAA and local football!
- * Monthly 'Huddle' Meetings - get together for lunch with former teammates and talk football!
- * ACCESS TO CFLAA EMERGENCY & SUPPORT FUNDS.
- * Access to the Canadian Sports Concussion research project | neuro cognitive Evaluation.

**BEING A PART OF A LEGACY ~ MEN THAT ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT THE GAME ,
FAMILY AND FRIENDS..PRICELESS.**



OTTAWA ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

Please note that your privacy is important to us and your information will be kept in the strictest of confidence. Contact information will be only used for internal distribution in order to keep you informed of alumni events and offerings.

Name _____ Partner / Spouse _____

Years with the Ottawa Rough Riders _____

The Ottawa Renegades _____

The Ottawa Redblacks _____

ANY CFL TEAM Name (s) / Years & Position

i.e. Hamilton -Player (4yrs), BC - Coach (2yrs)

Primary Contact Information

Mailing Address _____

Telephone (Home) _____ Cell _____

Email _____

Business Contact Information

Mailing Address _____

Telephone (Home) _____ Cell _____

Email _____

The 2018 dues are \$30.00 and cover the calendar year or you may pay \$75.00 and cover your membership fees for 3 years. Please see attached for Membership Privileges.

1. Please make your cheque payable to THE CFL OTTAWA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.
2. Address your cheque Attention Dan Dever 43 McLaughlin Crescent Kanata, Ontario K2L 2P9
3. If you do not have an Alumni ID card please provide us with a passport photo electronically or physically and we will ensure you receive your Alumni Photo ID Card.
4. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT DAN AT 613.254.5420 or email danwdever@msn.com



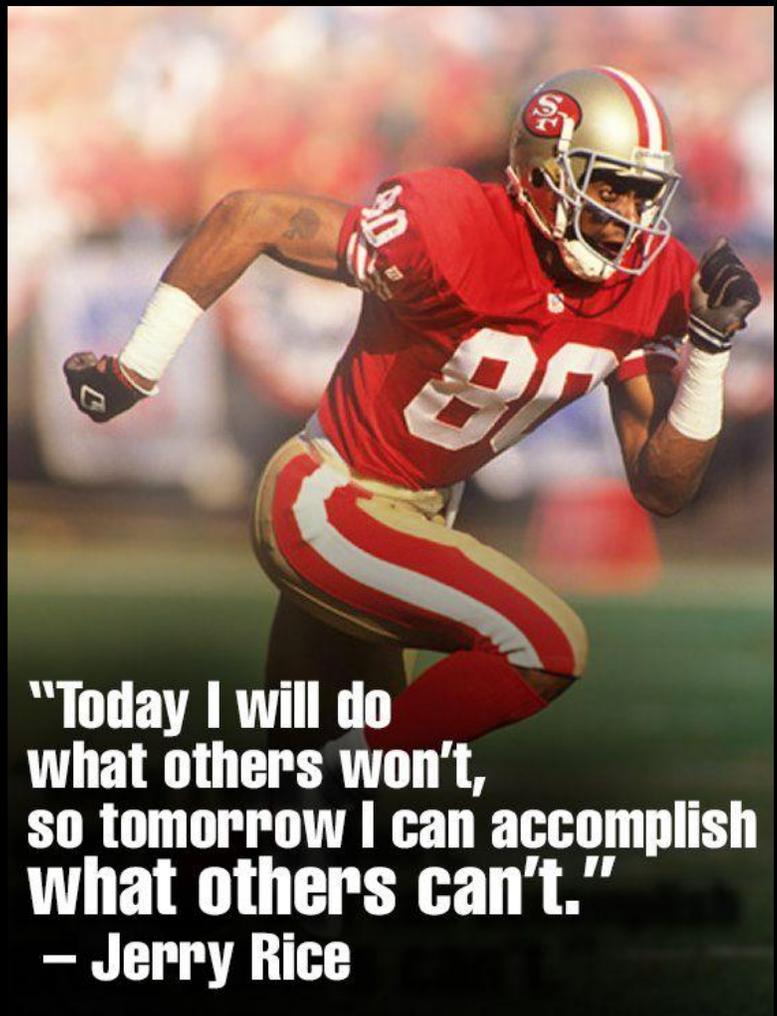
MONTHLY HUDDLE MEETING

Date: Tuesday December 5, 2017

Time: 11:30am - 1:00pm

Business 12:00pm sharp

1400 Clyde Avenue
(Bleeker Mall), Clyde & Merivale Rd.)
Nepean Ontario K2G 3J2 |
613.224.3873



**"Today I will do
what others won't,
so tomorrow I can accomplish
what others can't."
– Jerry Rice**



GREAT MINI DOC PRE-GAME GREY CUP ABOUT THE 1981 Grey Cup

with our own Alumni Gerry Organ,
Pat Stoqua, JC Watts,
John Glassford and Tony Gabriel .

<https://review.bellmedia.ca/media/videos/14586161/14586161.mp4/view>

What a difference a call can make...

WHAT A YEAR ITS BEEN FOR US...

The end of this most eventful 2017 is drawing near and what a year it was. In March we brought back the alumni luncheon where we once again hosted the coaches and executives from the RED-BLACKS which was a tremendous success. Every attendee walked away with some REDBLACKS gear after enjoying a most tasty lunch followed by a question and answer period with Head Coach Rick Campbell, G.M. Marcel Desjardins and C.E.O. Bernie Ashe.

In the summer we once again held our annual CFLOAA golf tournament out at Hylands Golf & Country Club with over 100 golfers and many more joining us after the round for a BBQ lunch and some story telling. Our monthly CFLOAA Huddles at Local Heroes on Clyde Avenue are growing in popularity so if you'd like to grab a bite to eat with some of your fellow alumni, the first Tuesday of each month is when you'll find us there.

Of course having OSEG along with the City of Ottawa host the 105th Grey Cup game at TD Place was what this year was building up to throughout 2017. The big event during Grey Cup week for our membership was the tremendous responsibility of hosting the 9th annual CFLAA Legend's Luncheon that we held at the Shaw Center. Your CFLOAA Executive certainly worked long hours to ensure the framework was in place for a successful event but I would like to personally thank each and every one of you, our CFLOAA members, who took the time to participate in the Legend's Luncheon. Whether it was attending as an ex-player in your game jersey or lending a hand where needed, you all were great hosts to the CFL fans and CFL alumni from across Canada that Friday. Record setting number of attendees, well over 100 alumni spread through out the room and record setting funds raised for our CFLAA Support Fund illustrate the success that was this year's CFLAA Legend's Luncheon.

In closing, I would like to wish you and yours all the best in this upcoming holiday season as we look forward to 2018.

Merry Christmas!

Jeff Avery
CFLOAA President

On behalf of the
CFLOAA
EXECUTIVE



CFLOAA BUSINESS DIRECTORY IN SUPPORT OF YOUR ALUMNI



ROBERT W. (Bob) PEKARCHUK

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CNWuoOyE0tYCFQIvaQodi88GhQ



JEFF AVERY

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