

TO: ANAVETS Unit #95 (Woodstock, NB)  
FROM: member Paula Hanson  
DATE: December 11, 2017  
RE: Bus Trip to Ottawa, Ontario

Dear ANAVETS Unit #95 members:

In the fall of 2015, I travelled to Ottawa, Ontario for training. On my down time, I had the opportunity to visit the Parliament, the National War Memorial, the National War Museum, the UN Peace Keeping monument, and more. While there, I was in awe of the beauty, art, and magnitude of these places. However, I was also struck with the thought that many people who serve (or have served) our armed forces likely never get the opportunity to see the monuments, memorials, and museums made in their honour of their service.

With this, and if the interest is there, I am proposing a 4 day bus trip to Ottawa for ANAVETS Unit #95 members. The bus trip can be whatever ANAVETS members want it to be. There are lots of possibilities with it. It could be open to ANAVETS members, with their spouses or adult children to accompany them. If ANAVETS members wished to, the invitation could be extended to other veterans/spouses in the area or adult members/spouses of the 89<sup>th</sup> Field Battery. The trip could be planned for any time in year 2018 or if inconvenient, even 2019. Again, it is whatever the group decides.

For more information, I reached out to Kim Culberson of Woodstock, NB, who plans yearly bus trips to NYC for Christmas for Xmas shoppers. She stated that she could assist in planning the bus trip and would attend also to help oversee the trip. She is very experienced in this area and said there is a lot of planning that goes into even a short trip like this.

Ms. Culberson recommended the following:

- a 4 day trip in total, the first day travelling up and the last day to travel home, breaks are taken along way and the bus follows a strict schedule
- Time can be allotted on the trip to visit the National War Memorial, Parliament, the National War Museum, Peace Keepers Memorial, Dominion Command, etc.
- booking a 56 seat coach tour bus with Trius bus, the seats are comfortable for driving long distances, the more seats booked, the less cost to everyone.
- attending in either spring or autumn when weather is cooler, the crowds are less, and the roads are still good for travelling.

-booking a hotel just outside of downtown Ottawa (which would be cheaper as opposed to a hotel right next to Parliament) and that offers breakfast to its customers (cost saving) and booking hotel rooms with two people to a room.

-having at least 1 group supper at a buffet style restaurant (or this could be arranged for more than 1 evening if the group wished). This is also a cost saving measure as groups can be booked at discounted rates, as well, the bus can travel everyone to/from dinners. Group meals can also be booked for lunch as well. For example, on the day the group would visit the National War Museum, a Café is on site that offers lunches on site.

-She did a preliminary cost based on 30 people alone and she estimated a 4 day trip would cost each person \$600 which includes hotel, meals, bus costs. Again, the more people who attend, the less the cost. There are no costs associated with the group visiting places like the War Memorial, Peace Keepers Memorial, or Parliament. There is a cost to visiting the War Museum; however (\$17 adults, \$15 for seniors) and further discount is given with CF1 cards.

Again, the trip can be what the members want it to be. If the group wishes to take time to fundraise and plan the trip for the following year, that is possible too.

If members of ANAVETS Unit #95 are interested in this, please let me know.

Regards,  
Paula