

# **Code of Conduct**

### 1. Preamble

The Code of Conduct is an extension of the Canadian Society of Military Medals & Insignia (CSMMI) By-Law No. 2024 and the CSMMI Constitution, as amended. In this Code of Conduct, reference to The Society shall mean the Canadian Society of Military Medals & Insignia. The Executive Committee / Board of Directors is defined in the CSMMI Constitution. The Ethics Committee is as authorized by the Executive Committee.

Members must adhere to the principles, regulations and guidelines outlined in the Constitution and the Society's Bylaws. These serve as the foundation for the Society's aims and goals to advance the understanding and significance of Canadian and international military medals and insignia.

#### 2. Purpose

The Canadian Society of Military Medals & Insignia shall promote the collection, preservation, and study of military medals and insignia related to Canadian and international armed forces. The Society provides a community for collectors, enthusiasts, historians, and vendors to share knowledge, collaborate on research, and engage in activities that advance the understanding and significance of military medals and insignia. The Society's primary goals include fostering a sense of common purpose among members, organizing educational events and exhibitions, and supporting initiatives that contribute to the cultural and historical heritage of Canada's and international military history.

### 3. Core Principles

- Ethical Behaviour: Act with integrity, honesty, and responsibility in collecting activities.
- **Respect**: Treat all others with dignity, understanding, and consideration.
- **Accountability:** CSMMI members take responsibility for their actions, decisions, and obligations, ensuring transparency and ownership of outcomes.
- **Professionalism**: Demonstrate courtesy and regard for colleagues, clients, and workplace norms. Support and collaborate with fellow members for mutual benefit.

### 4. General Expectations

- **Compliance with Laws**: Members must comply with all local, national, and international laws related to collecting, including ethical and legal guidelines for acquiring, preserving, and trading items.
- **Transparency**: Be honest and forthright about collecting practices, including identifying provenance and authenticity to the best of one's abilities.
- **Confidentiality**: Respect the privacy of fellow members and their collections and collecting activities.

• **Representation**: Act and communicate in ways that positively represent the CSMMI and uphold its reputation.

## 5. Interpersonal Conduct

- Mutual Respect: Avoid offensive, discriminatory, or harassing language or behavior.
- **Collaboration**: Share knowledge and resources openly and generously within the community.
- **Conflict Resolution**: Address disagreements constructively and seek mediation if necessary.

### 6. Collecting Practices

- Ethical Acquisition: Do not acquire items through theft, fraud, or exploitation.
- **Documentation**: Keep thorough records of all acquisitions, trades, and donations.
- Environmental Awareness: Engage in collecting practices that respect cultural heritage, minimize environmental impact, and promote sustainability.
- **Cultural Sensitivity**: Respect cultural artifacts and seek appropriate permissions when dealing with items of significant cultural or historical importance.

### 7. Volunteer Activities

- **Commitment**: Honour the responsibilities you agree to as a volunteer.
- **Professionalism**: Represent the Society with professionalism, reflecting its values during events, outreach, and public engagements.
- Training: Participate in training sessions as required to enhance your skills and understanding.
- Safety and Accessibility: Adhere to safety and accessibility protocols as mandated by law during all Society-sponsored activities.

### 8. Reporting and Accountability

- **Reporting Violations**: Members are encouraged to report breaches of this Code of Conduct to the designated Ethics Committee or leadership team.
- Fair Process: All reports will be reviewed confidentially and addressed impartially.
- **Consequences**: Violations may result in warnings, suspension, or termination of membership.
- **9. Review and Amendments** This Code of Conduct will be reviewed by the Executive Committee / Board of Directors biennially or sooner at the discretion of the Executive / Directors. Members may provide feedback and suggest improvements.
- **10.** Acknowledgment By enrolling in the Canadian Society of Military Medals & Insignia, the member agrees to follow the Code of Conduct and contribute to a positive and ethical community.