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“Keeping the  
Alpini Spirit Alive!”

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE CAPOGRUPPO DANILO CAL & YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dear members, DNA Alpini, Friends and Families, we hope all of you and your families are in good health during these trying times. We also hope that soon with the vaccine it will be possible, at least in part, to begin doing some association activities - always following all the precautions necessary to stay healthy.

### NEW GROUP INITIATIVE

We have fabulous news: do you remember in the last Christmas letter, where I encouraged you to use the internet to at least see and feel less isolated? In the same letter I did not want to mention that we had applied to both the provincial and federal governments to support a program to teach the use of computers and the internet to the elderly.

With great surprise, **New Horizon for Seniors Programs**, which is an initiative of the **Canadian Federal Government**, has made available a grant of \$23,300.00 to our group. These funds will be used to teach seniors how to use computers, tablets (I-pads) to search the web, communicate via e-mail, Facebook, and video conferencing. Our project is called **ALPINI FOR SENIORS TECHNOLOGICAL NETWORK PROJECT**.

We on the board are thrilled that the Canadian government agency has trusted our capabilities and reputation as the ANA group, and has granted this important sum. We must all be extremely proud.

The various application forms were very complicated, laborious and long to fill out, and we also have to thank my wife Loretta Cal, the Alpino Bruno Zuccato and Chiara Pastrello, wife of Alpino Gianandrea Biancotto, who has extensive experience in filling out these types of questionnaires asking for grants.

This program for seniors over 55 (members and non-members) will be published in the newspapers Lo Specchio, Corriere Canadese, and Vaughan Weekly and notification will also be sent to other Alpini Sections and Groups of Canada.

The individual benefits of this program for you/us seniors are: feeling and seeing each other and some of our friends and family in other parts of Canada, Italy, and around the world via video conferencing; communicate via E-mail, Facebook; being able to search the Web for anything else you want, news, movies, history, geography, and more. And, above all, it serves to keep the mind and memory active and healthy.

For our Group and our Association, this initiative will be a demonstration of the volunteer work of us Alpine to help others and to alleviate isolation, which in these times of pandemic will certainly be highly appreciated by the Italian community and beyond.

The success of this initiative will give us the opportunity to receive other help from Federal and Provincial agencies in other initiatives our Alpini group may come up with in the future. Success also depends on you, so we urge you to participate: Alpini, sympathizers, wives and friends. Remember **"IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW!"**, and for us Alpini **"THE IMPOSSIBLE DOES NOT EXIST!"** The lessons will be conducted in simple terms and in a family atmosphere without pressure.

The lessons will be conducted in two phases, facilitated by the Alpino Bruno Zuccato with assistance from Danilo Cal: the first phase for beginners in the afternoon during the week with 50 people in class, and the second phase in the evening during the week virtually On-line. Those who do not want to physically attend and have some knowledge of how to use the I-pad, have email and Wi-Fi can follow us in a video conference via the ZOOM format.

For now since we are still in this lockdown and red zone situation, the program will probably start with the second phase. The phase in the classroom can only begin when they allow it, always respecting the anti Covid rules and protocols, then finally we could also meet and share some time physically together, perhaps more relaxed if we have been vaccinated.

Classes will begin after Easter. Anyone interested can call Danilo Cal, 416-829-3731 or 905-851-3731.

Program information and updates can also be found on our new website [www.alpinivaughan.com](http://www.alpinivaughan.com)

## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY & 2021 MEMBERSHIP**

Due to the present restrictions of group gatherings, we have not set the date for the 2021 general meeting. The national office has granted permission to execute it to June 15. We will inform you when it will happen in time. This year a new council will have to be elected as well. If interested let it be known during the assembly.

Those who have not paid for their membership fee (2021) are kindly requested to send the amount of \$20.00 to Danilo (at the group address). Or via bank e-transfer to our email on letter head. Several members have not yet paid. The \$ is used to pay the membership dues to Milano. For those who have paid their fee you will find the stamp in this letter.

We have sent the list of members to Milan. We have 44 Alpini and 22 Aggregates (Friends of alpini) with a total of 66 members. One less than last year. Last year we lost two Alpini who passed on. (Giuseppe Bordignon and Renato Pighin) plus two aggregates, Daniele Visentin who we have no contact and Diego Zanatta who has returned to Italy. A welcome to a new Alpino member, Ciro Piacentini, and two aggregate members: Stefano Bordignon (son of Giuseppe) and Olga Pighin (wife of Renato).

## **GRUPPO AUTONOMO VAUGHAN**

**Il Consiglio Direttivo Augura  
A voi tutti ed alle Vostre  
Famiglie i Migliori Auguri di...**



**Happy Easter  
...Trascorriamola in Serenità  
e Gioia**

**KEEPING THE ALPINI SPIRIT ALIVE!**



## **2020 ASSEMBLEA GENERALE DELL'A.N.A. GRUPPO AUTONOMO VAUGHAN (CANADA)**

### **LIBERO VERDE 2020**

At the end of January the Autonomo Vaughan Group sent our volunteer hours and donations for the Green Book or Libero Verde. Last year, we donated \$100.00 to the Canadian Cancer Society and \$100.00 to the Heart and Stoke Foundation of Canada. We also donated 204 hours of volunteer work (to shop for the elderly), 174 hours of various church services activities, 20 hours of ceremonies and commemorations, 289 hours of streaming music to bring some cheer to people during the lockdown. Please let me know by the end of the year any volunteer hour you do during the year.

### **BERTAGNOLLI SCHOLARSHIP** (\$1,000.00)

These scholarships are awarded to descendants (children or grandchildren) of the Alpini of the sections and of the Autonomous Group whose ancestors are registered or have been registered on the date of death in the ANA. The applicant must be in their last year of high school.

Applications, a copy of their birth certificate, copy of the Alpinos' army discharge papers, and official school transcripts (grades over 75%) of the last year of attendance must be submitted to Danilo Cal by no later than June 22, 2021.

### **ADUNATA RIMINI AND NORTH AMERICA CONGRESS**

The annual Adunata in Rimini was postponed to September 2021 but the days have not been established. The North American congress in Montreal, which was supposed to be this year, has been postponed to August or September 2022.

We end with the hope of meeting again or seeing each other soon.

Danilo Cal, Capogruppo