



## **RAIL HEROES: 2005**

### **Ed Dodge**

Ed Dodge began his career at Canadian Pacific Railway on June 27, 1967. He enjoyed a distinguished career with CPR, having held executive positions in a broad range of operations and marketing areas within the company in both Canada and the United States. Mr. Dodge retired from company service on March 1, 2004.

"Ed Dodge brought energy and the relentless pursuit of safety and productivity throughout the company with outstanding results," remarked Rob Ritchie, President and Chief Executive Officer of CPR upon Mr. Dodge's retirement after 35 years with the railway.

His staff and industry colleagues have recognized Mr. Dodge's pursuit of improvements to CPR's safety record. After holding executive positions in the railway's marketing department, Mr. Dodge became a dedicated operating officer whose personal and demonstrative commitment to safety brought about a culture change at the company with respect to safety management. In addition to his implementation of processes designed to manage risk and to improve safety performance, Mr. Dodge ensured that the ownership of safety within the company was clearly placed at the operating Vice President and department head level, as well as with each individual employee.

Mr. Dodge became determined to improve safety, take the actions to do so, and ensure that the results were measurable and added value. His efforts and those of the CPR team in the ensuing years proved to be highly successful. From the base year 1995 through 2004, CPR's personal injury frequency ratio as measured by industry "FRA" standards was reduced by 67 per cent. Train Accidents - again as measured by industry "FRA" standards per million train miles were also reduced by 59 per cent over the same period. To those who understand the railway environment in North America, these safety improvements and corresponding measured results are considered remarkable.

Safety is a team effort, and the CPR managers and employees who supported Mr. Dodge are also to be commended for their role in bringing an increased focus on safety responsibility within the company, and for the results that were achieved over a nine year period. Today, the CPR remains an industry leader in safety performance, and many of the processes led by Mr. Dodge remain in place. In fact, as of 2005, CPR had further improved its personal injury ratio to 2.32 per 200,000 hours worked ratio, and remains an industry leader in safety from both a train accident and personal injury perspective. This outstanding leadership in safety was a primary factor in the selection of Mr. Dodge as an inductee to the Canadian Railway Hall of Fame.

### **The Railway War Effort (James Peter Robertson)**

Awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously for his heroics at Passchendaele during one of the bloodiest battles of all time, James Peter Robertson was one of thousands of Canadian railway employees who served their country in war efforts during the terrible conflicts of the last century.

Mr. Robertson was born in Albion Mines, Pictou, Nova Scotia in 1883. In 1899, the Robertson family moved to Medicine Hat, Alberta and "Singing Pete" as he became known joined the



Canadian Pacific Railway where he worked his way up to locomotive engineer. His cheerful singing and whistling in the locomotive cab or in the roundhouse was fondly remembered.

In 1915, he joined the 13th Canadian Mounted Rifles and later, while in England, transferred to the 27th Battalion where his bravery during World War I earned him the Victoria Cross. This honour made him a legend among the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers the world over and at a postwar international convention in Cleveland Ohio, 77,000 delegates rose to their feet to salute his gallantry.

Robertson is buried at the Tyne Cot Commonwealth war cemetery at Passchendaele. In Medicine Hat , the local branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, a swimming pool, and a street are named for him.

Canada 's railways and their employees were instrumental in victory in both world wars. Key railway shops were converted to turn out tanks, guns, munitions and ships, in addition to keeping locomotives, freight and passenger cars rolling. The railways also set up pilot training schools, and pioneered transatlantic ferrying of bombers to Britain . They helped Canada and its allies win the war.

During the Second World War, almost 43,000 CN and CPR employees enlisted and some 1,500 of them were killed in service to their country.